

AboutTown Magazine

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AboutTown

Official Magazine of the City of Edina



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AboutTown

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About Town is published quarterly by the City of Edina. The
purpose of the magazine is to keep Edina residents informed
of news, activities and programs that are important to them.
We include articles of interest about our citizens and
community history as well.

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conservation guidelines.

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Special Pull-Out Section: Edina Community
Resource Directory

Park & Recreation Insider To Be Mailed Separately From About Town

Each quarter, the Park and Recreation Department produces
a catalog of offerings, *Park & Recreation Insider*.

Park & Recreation Insider includes information about
recreational facilities, youth sports, adult athletics, family
activities and Adaptive Recreation. Programs for which
registration is imminent are featured in the publication.
Because registration for summer programs begins
Wednesday, Feb. 1 for residents, the winter *Park &
Recreation Insider* features summer facilities and programs.

For the past two years, the catalog has been distributed
as an insert in *About Town*. To increase visibility for the Park
and Recreation Department's programs and promote greater
participation, the *Park & Recreation Insider* will be mailed
separately beginning with the winter 2006 issue.

Extra copies are available at Edina City Hall, 4801 W.
50th St., or online at www.CityofEdina.com under "Press
Releases & Publications." For more information, please
call the Park and Recreation Department, 952-826-0367.

About Town Calendar						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 New Year's Day observed. Most City offices closed.	3 1:30-3:30 p.m., Hearing tests by appointment, Edina Senior Center. 7 p.m., HRA & City Council, Edina City Hall.	4	5 5-8 p.m., Gallery opening, Edina Art Center. 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	6	7
8 7 p.m., Eden Prairie Community Band, Edinborough Park.	9	10 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Amy & Adams, Edinborough Park.	11	12 7 p.m., Youth Sports Taskforce, Edina City Hall.	13	14
15 7 p.m., Golden Valley Orchestra, Edinborough Park.	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Most City offices closed.	17 7 p.m., HRA & City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Scott Frasier Guitar Duo, Edinborough Park.	18 7 a.m., Recycling and Solid Waste Commission, Edina City Hall.	19 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. 6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	20	21 6 p.m., Feds Fest, "A Cabaret Evening," Interlachen Country Club.
22	23	24 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.	25	26 4 p.m., Edina Art Center Board, Edina Art Center.	27	28
29 7 p.m., First John Phillip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.	30 5-8 p.m., Spring skating class registration, Braemar Arena.	31				

1 • W I N T E R 2 0 0 6

About Town Calendar						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	2 5-8 p.m., Faculty Exhibit opening, Edina Art Center. 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	3	4 10 a.m.-Noon, Art for all Ages Valentine- Making Workshop, Edina Art Center.
5	6	7 7 p.m., HRA & City Council, Edina City Hall.	8	9 7 p.m., Youth Sports Taskforce, Edina City Hall.	10	11
12 7 p.m., Stan Bann Big Band, Edinborough Park.	13	14 1-3 p.m., Blood Pressure Clinic, Edina Senior Center. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall.	15 7 a.m., Recycling & Solid Waste Commission, Edina City Hall.	16 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. 6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	17	18
19 7 p.m., Hopkins Westwind Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	20 Presidents' Day. Most City offices closed.	21 7 p.m., HRA & City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Cathy & Tom Platenburg, Edinborough Park.	22	23 4 p.m., Edina Art Center Board, Edina Art Center.	24	25
26 7 p.m., First John Phillip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.	27	28 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.				

2 • W I N T E R 2 0 0 6

March 2006

About Town Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	2 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	3	4
5 7 p.m., Star of the North Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	6	7 1:30-3:30 p.m., Hearing tests by appointment, Edina Senior Center. 7 p.m., HRA and City Council, Edina City Hall.	8	9	10	11
12 7 p.m., Jazz on the Prairie, Edinborough Park.	13 Edina Unplugged. No community activities scheduled.	14 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Wolves & Ravens, Edinborough Park.	15 7 a.m., Recycling and Solid Waste Commission, Edina City Hall.	16 5-8 p.m., Gallery opening, Edina Art Center. 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. 6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	17	18
19 2 p.m., "Mozart Festa," Edina High School auditorium.	20	21 7 p.m., HRA & City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Community Health Committee, Edina City Hall.	22	23 4 p.m., Edina Art Center Board, Edina Art Center. 5-8 p.m., Gallery opening, Edina Art Center.	24	25
26 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.	27	28 Northwoods Boutique opens at Braemar Golf Course. 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.	29 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	30	31	

Winter Calendar Highlights

Other Dates To Remember

Jan. 10 1-3 p.m., Blood Pressure Clinic
Edina Senior Center

March 14 1-3 p.m., Blood Pressure Clinic
Edina Senior Center

Feb. 2 7 p.m., Northeast Edina Traffic Study Advisory
Committee, Edina Senior Center

Edina Chamber of Commerce Emerald Gala

What: The Edina Chamber of Commerce will hold its largest fund-raising event of the year, Emerald Gala 2006. The "black tie admired, but not required" event will feature a silent auction, dinner and dancing, among other things. A portion of the proceeds from a raffle will provide scholarships for Edina High School students.

When: 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11

Where: Edina Country Club, 5100 Wooddale Ave.

Info: Edina Chamber of Commerce, 952-806-9060

"Mozart Festa"

What: The Edina Chorale, in collaboration with the Edina Senior High School Concert Choir and Orchestra, will present a "Mozart Festa" to celebrate the 250th birthday of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Twelve professional musicians will be embedded in the orchestra and four local professional singers will be featured. Tickets

are \$12 for adults and \$8 for students. A discount will be given to families of four with at least one adult in attendance.

When: 2 p.m. Sunday, March 19

Where: Edina High School auditorium
6754 Valley View Road

Feds Fest

What: The Edina Federated Women's Club will host its sixth-annual Feds Fest, "A Cabaret Evening," to raise money for two area charities, Tasks Unlimited and the Edina Crime Prevention Fund. The Cabaret Evening will include silent and live auctions, dinner and entertainment by jazz pianist, composer and educator Laura Caviani. Black tie dress is optional. Tickets cost \$75 each, \$30 of which is tax deductible.

When: 6 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21

Where: Interlachen Country Club
6200 Interlachen Blvd.

Info: June Smith, 952-941-6767 or Susan Smith
952-941-6663



Laura Caviani, who has recorded four albums – "Dreamlife," "As One," "Angels We Haven't Heard" and "In Your Own Sweet Way" – will perform at the sixth-annual Feds Fest.

A Word From The Mayor

Recent natural disasters such as hurricanes Katrina and Rita and the devastating November tornado in Indiana are reminders of life's uncertainty. In the blink of an eye, homes, businesses, and entire cities and lives were destroyed.

For many years the City of Edina has had in place an Emergency Response Plan to prepare for the aftermath of a natural or human-caused disaster or a public health dilemma. The Emergency Response Plan outlines basic procedures and command structures for such situations. The procedures in the plan can be used for any type of emergency, ranging from a natural disaster to a man-made hazardous material spill.

The City Code provides the legal basis and format for emergency operations in Edina. The plan is updated and tested regularly. The Police Chief serves as Civil Defense Director in an emergency and works with the State and County divisions of Emergency Management to maintain a plan that coordinates activities at all three levels of government. Areas of responsibility are assigned to City departments within the Plan to ensure that adequate resources are available if a disaster should occur. An Emergency Operations Center could be set up in City Hall if a disaster of significant proportions occurs. A central part of the plan is dedicated to communications so that residents always have up-to-date information about public security and the condition of City infrastructure.

While we believe that the City is prepared to respond to a disaster, it is important for our citizens to also be prepared for a disaster. Query: What would you do if you suddenly became the victim of a natural disaster, terrorist attack, fire or other unexpected event? Joseph Hearn, co-author of *If Something Happens to Me*, offers several ways to prepare for the unexpected:

- **Prepare a grab-and-go case or folder.** Organize your family's important documents into a file that you can grab if you need to flee your house. Consider including birth and marriage certificates, estate planning and financial documents, insurance policies, Social Security cards, list of prescriptions you are taking and a list of checking and savings and credit card numbers.

- **Make a list of contacts.** If a disaster occurs, you will want to be able to contact friends or relatives to let them know you are safe.

- **Prepare a household inventory.** After a major disaster, most homeowners cannot remember all of their many belongings to list on an insurance claim. A household inventory will help avoid this problem. Make a written list, take photographs or document a walk-through of your home on video. Keep the inventory somewhere other than your home and keep a copy in your grab-and-go case.

- **Meet with your advisers.** When you have sewage in your basement is not the time to discover you don't have insurance for sewer back-ups. The emergency room is not the place to learn you need a medical power of attorney. Meet with your advisers to cover all possible areas of risk, both personally and to property.

- **Update your plans.** Review and update your affairs at least annually. Ask yourself: Has your marital status changed? Has the value of your assets changed significantly? Have you altered your insurance policies? Have you changed jobs? Has your health recently changed? If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, you need to update your plans.

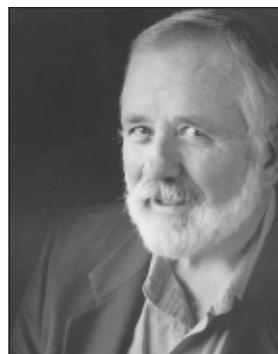
- **Have a backup.** You might not be able to escape your home with your important paperwork. For example, some fires occur when the homeowners are away. To protect yourself, store backup copies of important documents in a safe-deposit box or with a trusted friend or relative. Keep in mind, though, that most safe-deposit boxes are not available 24 hours per day or seven days per week.

In summary, in the event of a disaster, natural or man-made, or a public health crisis, the City will employ its Emergency Response Plan to assist the citizens in our community as quickly as possible.

All of us also need to have engaged in our own emergency planning. Putting our personal affairs in order after an event will be easier if we've thought of and dealt with these things in advance.


James B. Hovland
Mayor

Two Historians Deserve Our Special Thanks And Appreciation



By Joe Sullivan
Contributing Writer

In a growing body of historical writings and reports about Edina's earlier days, the names and writings of two local historians stand out unmistakably. Both have shared with us the benefits of their knowledge and hard work. They have become two of my personal heroes:

- Former Edina resident and historian Paul D. Hesterman grew up in a Lutheran missionary's family during the 1950s, 60s and 70s on Tingdale Avenue. He was educated in Edina schools, Luther College, St. Paul and the University of Minnesota—Minneapolis. In 1973, as a graduate student he researched and wrote what I consider to be the most comprehensive history of Edina ever published. The first edition of his book *The History of Edina Minnesota—Settlement to Suburb* was published by the Edina Historical Society in 1988. An updated second edition came out in 1993.

After receiving bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in history, Paul's professional career over the past 30-plus years has focused on various phases of college administration at the U of M and Metropolitan State University in Minneapolis, where he is currently Director of Advising for Metro State's College of Management.

- Longtime Morningside and Edina resident E. Dudley Parsons Jr. was born to a family of teachers and Methodist/Episcopal missionaries. He began his education in an Edina elementary school, but transferred to Minneapolis public schools, when he was in the third grade. He graduated from Hamline University, St. Paul, with a Bachelor of Science degree and became a science teacher in outstate Minnesota, in India and at Washburn High School in Minneapolis. In 1941, Parsons earned a Master of Arts degree at the U of M and joined the staff of the Minneapolis school system as administrator of audio-visual education, a position he held until his retirement in 1970. His many writings include *The Episcopal Church In Edina* and frequent articles about Edina's history that have appeared in magazines, newspaper columns and scholarly journals.

Author And Historian Paul Hesterman Grew Up In Edina

One of my heroes, Paul Hesterman grew up in Edina. His family lived on Edina's Tingdale Avenue until 1979 when his parents relocated to Bloomington. As a boy, he attended Edina's Valley View Middle School and graduated from Edina High School in 1969 as a National Merit Scholar. In addition to American history classes, as a graduate student at Luther College and the University of Minnesota, Hesterman's studies also included policy analysis, planning, geography, political science and higher education.

Back in the early 1970s, Hesterman developed a particular interest in local history. At Luther College, St. Paul, he set out to do research for a credible, professional history of Edina. He recalls that when he began his research in 1973, "the sum total of historical information about Edina

was in two boxes—none of it organized or categorized." From the outset, he planned that his sources would be well-documented and meticulously cited, in order to encourage his readers to continue their research. Realizing that much of what had been written on the subject was written in a pedantic style, he vowed to make his history of Edina enjoyable reading by using a less formal and more conversational style of writing.

Later that year, as a graduate student at Luther College, he submitted a draft of his book about Edina's history—*The History of Edina Minnesota*, which was subtitled *From Settlement to Suburb*—as his honors thesis. After graduating summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Luther, he continued to work on his seminal narrative about Edina while studying for a Master of Arts degree in American history at the University of Minnesota, which he received in 1977. (He was also awarded a Ph.D. in American History at the U of M in 1985.)

Hesterman developed a particular interest in the incredible growth of suburban population that had taken place during the post-World War II years. He quickly discovered that not much had been published about local history in suburban communities. He also learned that local history was not highly respected within the history profession at the time.

'History Of Edina, Minnesota' First Edition Published In 1988

The first edition of Hesterman's history was published by the Edina Historical Society in 1988. It covered Edina

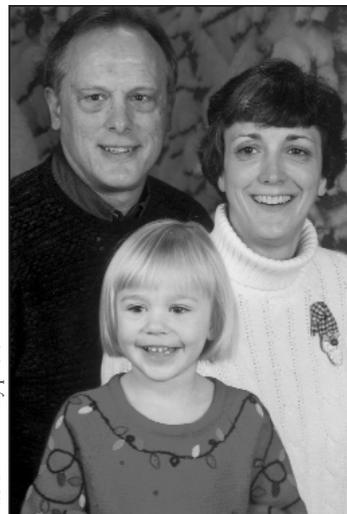


Hesterman family photo

The Hesterman family is pictured here at their Edina home on Tingdale Avenue in 1974. (From left) Paul Hesterman's mother, Claire Hesterman, a vice president at Richfield Bank & Trust; Edina High School student Paul Hesterman; Paul's father, the Rev. Lowell Hesterman, assistant director of missions for the American Lutheran Church; Paul's brother, Dan; and sister, Beth.

from the arrival of the earliest settlers in the 1840s to the end of the post-World War II years of the late 1940s. In 1993, an updated second edition of the book was published. It included a new chapter covering the development of Southdale Center in the mid-1950s and other developments that had taken place in the years since the original book was written. To date, its two editions are the only definitive histories of Edina and Morningside ever published and they have provided an invaluable source of information that has launched hundreds of term papers and newspaper and magazine articles.

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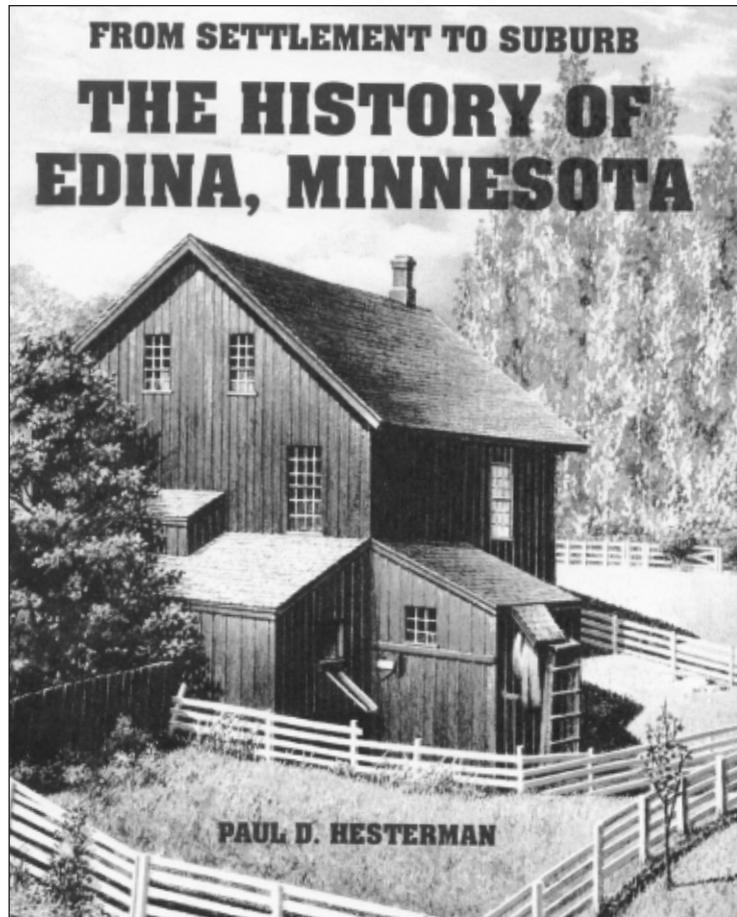


A recent photo of Paul Hesterman's family: (from left) Paul, his daughter, Meghan, and wife, Colleen McLaughlin.

Hesterman cites his own home church, Edina's new Lutheran Church of the Master at France Avenue and Hazleton Road as an example of the demographic changes that were taking place in Edina. In spite of the strong efforts and support of the congregation, which included several members of the Minneapolis-based headquarters staff of the American Lutheran Church. The changing generational dynamics of Edina toward "empty nester" families, led to the eventual disbanding of the church. The size of the congregation had shrunk

to a point where it was no longer economically viable.

Later, Hesterman considered the possibility of a different look at Edina's history for his doctoral dissertation at the U of M. "There were interesting things going on in the development of Edina ..." he said. "Thousands of former city dwellers had moved into the Village during the 1950s and 1960s. My approach would have tracked the movement of people into, out of and within Edina over time." However, he later reconsidered and decided to address a different local history subject for his Ph.D. dissertation, which he completed in 1985 under the title:



The first edition of Paul D. Hesterman's book *The History of Edina, Minnesota—Settlement to Suburb* was published by the Edina Historical Society in 1988. This updated second edition came out in 1993. Copies are available at the Edina Historical Society for \$11.

Can A Suburb Have A History?

The following is an excerpt from the "Author's Preface" Paul Hesterman wrote for the second printing of his *History of Edina, Minnesota* in 1993:

" ... When people hear about researching the history of a suburb, they often ask, "Why should anyone be interested? ... Isn't Edina just a wealthy suburb like other suburbs? Wasn't it built in the 1950s and 60s? How can a suburb have a past?"

My immediate response is that Edina does have a past, that it was a farming community in the 19th century and has been incorporated as a municipality since 1888. . . Though some people may be interested in Edina's rural past purely for nostalgic reasons, the most important aspect of Edina's history is the change from a rural area to a fully urbanized suburb. That change didn't happen overnight, or even in one decade. The process of change started at a time well into the 19th century, almost as soon as the area was settled, and it may not be completely finished today.

The effects of [Edina's] proximity [to] Minneapolis and the pressures caused by [the latter's] rapid growth were very evident when the Village of Edina incorporated in the 1880s. The entire first quarter of the 20th century saw Edina continue to struggle with the demands of the encroaching city. Since then, the people of Edina have tried to keep control of the [possibility] of becoming part of [Minneapolis]; to remain a distinct community while becoming part of the metropolis.

A History of Development Along the Mississippi River in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

In 2000, after 27 years at the University of Minnesota as a graduate student and Senior Professional Adviser for its College of Liberal Arts, Paul accepted an assignment as Director of Advising for Metropolitan State University's College of Management. Since then, he has split his time between the college's downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses. He and his family reside in Roseville, where he says he is "ideally located for someone who works in both Minneapolis and St. Paul."

Parsons Family Among Morningside's Earliest Residents

Another of my heroes is Edina/Morningside author, historian and community leader E. Dudley Parsons Jr. whose family was among Morningside's earliest residents. Dudley Jr.'s grandparents, the Rev. Henry W. Parsons and his wife, Sarah Bennett Parsons, were among the first couples migrating to Morningside in 1906.



Parsons family photo

The Rev. H.W. Parsons and his wife Sarah, E. Dudley Parsons Jr.'s, grandparents were dressed in their "Sunday best" in this 1910 photo. Henry and Sarah Parsons were two of the founders of the Morningside Congregational Church, which later became today's Edina-Morningside Community Church UCC.

(continued on next page)

According to Marjorie Myers Douglas in her 100-year history of Edina Morningside Community Church UCC, the Parsons had brought their large family to America from England in 1883. As minister and helpmate, the couple had served small struggling churches in South Dakota and southern Minnesota, and in 1905 sought a quiet retirement from a lifetime of missionary fieldwork in a house built on five lots facing the new France Avenue South near 42nd Street. (The house still stands at 4232 France.)



The Rev. Ernest Dudley Parsons Sr., and Clara D. Parsons, E. Dudley Jr.'s, parents, lived at 4220 Alden Ave. in Morningside for many years.

E. Dudley Parsons Jr. was born Dec. 26, 1906, at Brookings, S.D., where his father, the Rev. Ernest Dudley Parsons Sr. was principal of the high school. In 1907, the family moved to north Minneapolis where Ernest Dudley Sr. had accepted a new teaching position at North High School. Soon afterward, they purchased seven lots, amounting to some 3.5 acres, in the newly-platted Morningside neighborhood of Edina. Their house, located near the crest of a hill at 4220 Alden, was near the

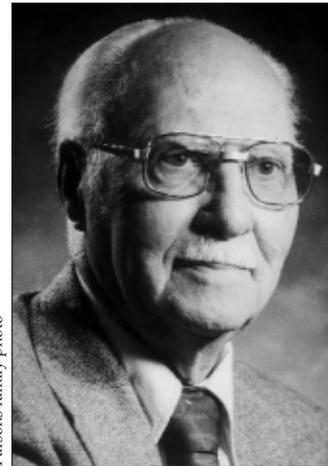
five lots owned by Dudley Jr.'s grandfather. (The house stands in that location today.)

There, they pastured cows and raised chickens and gardened vegetables to provide a significant part of their subsistence. "We used to cut all of the wood necessary to cook with and for winter heat," Dudley Jr. remembered. "[And] we sold milk to the neighbors. I delivered the milk in shiny tin pails with tight-fitting covers."

James Parsons, Dudley Jr.'s son, learned in a 1994 interview with his father that the Parsons family lived in the "small, easily heated, but as quickly chilled" house for two years. By frugal, careful living, and with income from his father's new position as a teacher of literature at West High School in Minneapolis, the family enjoyed the small but comfortable house.

Dudley Jr. Attended Schools In Edina, Minneapolis And St. Paul

Dudley Jr. said his first school was a kindergarten held in a house on Morningside Road at the end of Alden. "I attended [the] Edina Elementary School—near the American Legion Post behind Edina Village Hall—for only two or three years," he recalled.



E. Dudley Parsons Jr. was an author, teacher, historian and community leader.

Then, young Dudley changed schools and attended Lake Harriet Elementary located at West 42nd Street and Upton Avenue in Minneapolis. Lake Harriet School was closer and a lot more convenient for Dudley. And, because his father was a teacher at West High School, he was allowed to send young Dudley to Lake Harriet School tuition-free.

"I attended the Lake Harriet School from the third-through the eighth-grade," he said. "We had an hour-and-a-half for lunch, so in good weather I walked to school in the morning, walked back home at noon, walked back again to school after lunch and in the evening, I walked home again. The school was about a mile from home, so I was [walking] four miles a day. I used to read my books as I walked back and forth. On cold or rainy days, I rode the streetcar to school and back."

In 1919, Parsons entered Minneapolis' West High School, graduating with honors in 1924. That fall, he enrolled at St. Paul's Hamline University. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1928. Dudley's first job following his college days was as a science instructor in Barnum, Minn. Later, he took a similar job in Aitkin, Minn., where he met his future wife, Luella Austin, an arithmetic and home economics instructor from Georgeville, Minn.

A Great Adventure In India

In 1930, Dudley Jr., received a missionary appointment from the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist/

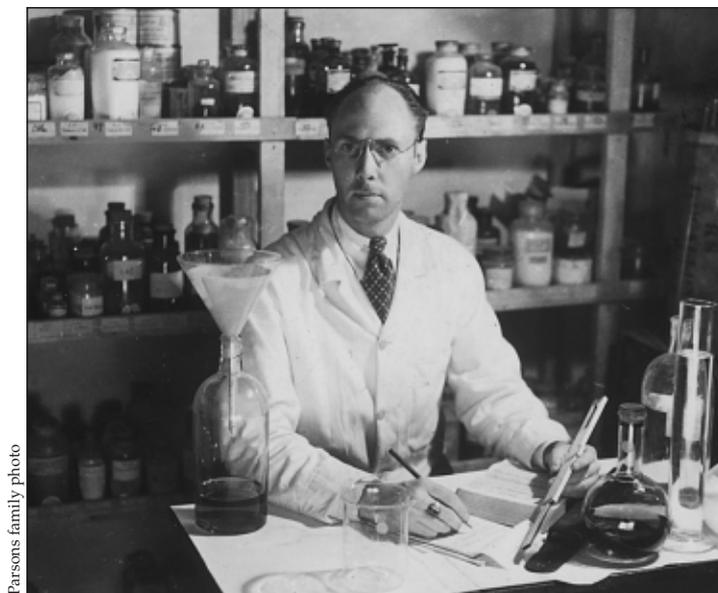


Edina Historical Society photo

During the "deep snow" portion of the winter, Edina farmer George Code was hired by the school district to transport the children to school. E. Dudley Parsons Jr., rode to and from Edina's 1888 elementary school in this "covered wagon school bus"—a converted hay wagon on runners that was pulled by a team of horses. Parsons described the wagon as "the first bus service in Edina."

Episcopal Church. At the age of 24, he was posted as a science instructor, teaching the children of other missionaries at the Woodstock School in Musoorie, United Provinces, in the highlands of India. It was one of the greatest adventures of his life, memories of which entertained many family and Boy Scout gatherings.

(continued on next page)



Parsons family photo

E. Dudley Parsons Jr., was in his science laboratory in this 1930 photo taken at the Woodstock School at Musoorie, United Provinces, in the highlands of India, where he taught science to the children of other missionaries.

Luella Austin was also able to obtain a teaching position at Woodstock School and in 1933 she joined him in Musoorie. On July 21, 1933, Dudley and Luella were married in Bombay.

The family returned to the United States in 1936. Immediately Dudley Jr. began teaching chemistry and physics at Marshall and Washburn high schools in Minneapolis. He was very involved with his Washburn students in theatrical stage lighting and set construction for

student productions. That year, Parsons also completed work for a Master of Arts degree at the U of M. In the 1950s, Dudley Jr. transferred to the Minneapolis school system's staff as coordinator of audio-visual education, a position he held until his retirement in 1970.

Dudley Jr's. wife, Luella, died in 1946. A year later, he was married to Margaret Larson of Belgrade, Minn. That same year, the family moved to 4437 Brookside Terrace, Edina, less than a mile from his father's original Morningside house on Alden Drive.

Charter Members Of Edina Historical Society

Dudley's lifelong attachment to his community was



Edina Historical Society photo

As a charter member of the Edina Historical Society, E. Dudley Parsons, Jr., fervently opposed the demolition of Edina's Wooddale school building in 1985, but he accepted its eventual demise with his characteristic grace.

All You Can Eat—25¢

[In the early days of the Morningside Congregational Church, the women of the church raised money with] all-you-could-eat church dinners—seconds included—for 25 cents [a person]. After a time, the ladies decided they should charge more—35 cents! The Rev. Dudley Parsons, Sr., was appalled. No one had ever charged more than 25 cents for a church dinner, and he came on a special visit to plead ... not to change the custom. ... But the ladies persisted and found that just as many came at the new, higher price as had come before. His son, the younger E. Dudley Parsons, Jr., commented, "The ladies who defied that formidable Englishman included nearly every woman then living in the area, for the little Morningside Chapel was a community center of growing significance."

- Excerpt from *History of Edina – Morningside Community Church – UCC.*

intertwined with the formation of the Edina Historical Society, of which he and his father were both charter members in 1969. When the Edina school district closed Wooddale Elementary School, Parsons was instrumental in establishing and organizing the Edina Historical Society's first museum there. He also assisted Foster Dunwiddie, Kay Brown and others in establishing the Frank J. Tupa

Historical Park where the restored one-room Cahill School and Minnehaha Grange Hall now stand near City Hall. Dudley's son Jim recalled that "Near the end of his life, when I asked how he felt about his illness, he responded weakly, but with a smile and said 'It's an adventure.'" E. Dudley Parsons, educator, world traveler and respected historian, passed away quietly on Feb. 4, 1996, at the age of 89.

Background material and photographs for this article came from the collections of the Edina Historical Society and the Hesterman and Parsons families; personal interview with Paul D. Hesterman; interview with E. Dudley Parsons Jr. by his son James D. Parsons; biographical sketches of Paul D. Hesterman and E. Dudley Parsons Jr. and the following publications: *History of Edina, Minnesota* by Paul D. Hesterman, *Edina Sun-Current*, *Edina Sun* and *The Gathering Together—100-Year History of Edina-Morningside Community Church UCC*, by Marjorie Myers Douglas.

Joe Sullivan is an Edina resident. He can be contacted by sending an e-mail to edinamail@ci.edina.mn.us.



Thos G. Grace Advisors

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John Everett	952-927-1646	johneverett@edinarealty.com johneverett.edinarealty.com
Ted Field	952-927-1650	tedfield@edinarealty.com tedfield.edinarealty.com
Jackie Goodlund	952-927-1647	jackiegoodlund@edinarealty.com jackiegoodlund.edinarealty.com
Ruthann Holetz	952-927-1624	ruthannholetz@edinarealty.com ruthannholetz.edinarealty.com
John McDonald	952-927-1197	johnmcdonald@edinarealty.com johnmcdonald.edinarealty.com
Joan E. Mitchell	952-927-1147	joanemitchell@edinarealty.com joanemitchell.edinarealty.com
Jude Dugan Olson	952-927-1186	judeduganolson@edinarealty.com judeduganolson.edinarealty.com
Linda Platt	952-927-1179	lindaplatt@edinarealty.com lindaplatt.edinarealty.com
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Kevin Ries	952-927-1196	kevinries@edinarealty.com kevinries.edinarealty.com
Margie and John Sampsell	952-927-1195	margieandjohnsampsell@edinarealty.com margiesampsell.edinarealty.com
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About Town Redesigned For The Aging Eye

About Town has been redesigned for ease of reading. Most changes were made particularly for those readers with “aging eyes.”

In the general population, one in 20 people has partial sight, according to the National Eye Institute. More than half of visually impaired people are over the age of 65 – and that number rises as our population lives longer. Age-related vision losses, particularly the loss of close-up vision, begin at about the age of 40.

Of Edina’s residents, 64 percent are over the age of 35, according to the 2000 census. The community’s median age is 44. These figures suggest that the majority of Edina’s population might be dealing with age-related vision issues.

Orono-based Elder Eye Design late last year completed an audit of *About Town* and made suggestions for improving the publication. Elder Eye Design focuses on the design of visual materials to achieve maximum legibility for the age-compromised eye. Elder Eye has the expertise, through the study of eye physiology and the review of current vision research as it relates to aging, to make recommendations for the best use of graphic materials for the aging eye.

“When a person reaches the age of 40, their eyes begin to show signs of aging and the act of reading becomes more difficult. Those older eyes need to receive their information without visual clutter and with consideration to their changing needs,” said Elder Eye founder Wendy Johnson. “Elder Eye’s principal concept is when you design for the aging eye, you design for all generations.”

“Elder Eye Design provided valuable information every graphic designer should be aware of when selecting type for readers who are over age 40.”

Cindy Martin

Many of the changes made to the design of the quarterly newsletter are subtle. Among them:

- The main typeface was changed to Palatino Roman. The font previously used was too light and narrow for the aging eye to read well.
- Headlines were changed from an italicized font to a bold font, Korinna. Italicized type is harder for an aging eye to read. For that same reason, “call-to-action” paragraphs such as those that begin with “For more information, please call...” are also now presented in a non-italicized font.
- The winter issue was changed to a darker color. Colors should be used that are dark enough to provide good contrast with the paper background. The metallic blue with its silver sheen previously used for the winter issues did not provide good contrast to the white paper.
- Colored text on a colored page is no longer used as often. Using colored text over a screened background of the

same color does not provide enough contrast for good legibility. This change will be most noticeable on the calendar. Now, the calendar is white. Additionally, the use of all capital letters on the calendar was eliminated, as all caps is difficult for the aging eye to read.

- The font used in charts is sans serif, which is easier to read.

“The changes may seem subtle – some readers might not even notice a change – but they should make a dramatic difference in the ease of reading,” said City of Edina Communications Director Jennifer Bennerotte. “The design changes were made to encourage residents to continue reading *About Town*, with the ultimate goal being the encouragement to participate more fully in the services and programs that the City of Edina offers.”

COLOURS Marketing Communications, designer of *About Town* echoed those comments. “Elder Eye Design provided valuable information every graphic designer should be aware of when selecting type for readers who are over age 40,” said Cindy Martin, Art Director of COLOURS and designer of *About Town*. “Based on their recommendations, we switched to fonts that are easier to read, and we eliminated elements such as upper case headlines and large amounts of italics, which are sometimes difficult to discern by the mature eye.”

For more information on the redesign of *About Town*, contact Bennerotte, 952-833-9520. For more information on Elder Eye Design, call 612-817-8222 or visit www.ElderEye.com.

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Peddlers And Solicitors

Peddlers and solicitors are allowed to sell their wares or services in Edina by going from door to door. Residents who do not want such entrepreneurs to knock on their doors must place a printed placard or sign reading "Peddlers and Solicitors Prohibited" on or near the usual entrance to their homes.

Under a new ordinance that will go into effect Jan. 1, 2006, peddlers and solicitors must obtain a permit from the Edina Police Department. The permits are valid for 14 days. Peddlers must wear an identification card issued by the City and conduct their business between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. They must go to the front door of a residence and are not allowed in residents' side or rear yards. Peddlers and solicitors must promptly depart a property after completing business.

Non-profit organizations established for philanthropic, religious or educational purposes do not have to obtain a permit, but must register with the Police Department. Some people do not have to register or carry a permit to go door to door. Those people include:

- Those selling personal property at wholesale to dealers of such articles
- Newspersons
- Merchants delivering goods to established customers in the regular course of business
- Farmers or gardeners
- Students in kindergarten through Grade 12 who are selling items to benefit programs or activities in which they are involved

- Bakery, dairy or grocery deliverers who make an uninvited initiatory visit in an effort to establish a regular route service for future delivery of perishables

Political and religious canvassing or campaigning is not prohibited.

Remember, you do not need to answer a knock at your door.

For more information, contact the Edina Police Department, 952-826-1610. Please report suspicious activity by calling 911.

Pets

The City of Edina not only cares about protecting its residents, but also for protecting the pets residing in the community. It is important for owners to keep their pets safe and protected.

All dogs 6 months and older residing in Edina must have a license permanently affixed to their collars. Cats do not have to be licensed. Rabies vaccinations are required on all dogs and cats 6 months and older. Dogs are required to wear vaccination tags at all times.

Remember, all 2005 City dog licenses expired Dec. 31, 2005. Licenses can be renewed at City Hall, through the mail or online.

For more information on licensing, contact Judy Laufenburger, 952-826-0417. For more information on laws pertaining to pets, contact Edina Animal Control Officer Tim Hunter, 952-826-0494.

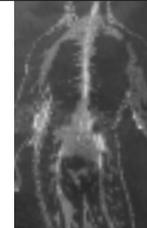


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Edina Community Resource Directory

2006

We are pleased to bring you this resource directory in partnership with the City of Edina. If you are new to Edina, welcome! Our hope is that this directory will introduce you to commonly requested resources and to the service the Edina Resource Center provides. Our goal is simple – to make getting any kind of information and support as easy and effective as possible. Stop in and see us, send us an e-mail or give us a call – we look forward to serving you.

“Our goal is simple—to make getting any kind of information and support as easy and *effective as possible.*”

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www.edinaresourcecenter.com
contact@edinaresourcecenter.com

Emergency Numbers

Crisis Connection	612-379-6363
Emergency Response	911
Edina Animal Control	952-826-0494
City Emergency Preparedness Questions	952-826-1610
Poison Control	1-800-222-1222

City of Edina Services www.CityofEdina.com

City Offices - main line	952-927-8861
Edina Police (non-emergency)	952-826-1600
Fire (non-emergency)	952-826-0330
Edina Aquatic Center (municipal pool)	612-928-4582
Edina Art Center	612-915-6600
Park & Recreation	952-826-0367
Adaptive Recreation	952-826-0433
Recycling	952-826-0381
Voter Registration	952-826-0363

Edina Public Schools – www.edina.k12.mn.us District #273 & Other Education Resources

Edina School Registration	952-848-4585
District Offices	952-848-3900
Community Education Main Office	952-848-3952
Edina Family Center - <i>Parent/child-PreK</i>	952-848-3980
Edina Kid's Club - <i>School-aged child care</i>	952-848-3975
Edina Pre-School Screening	952-848-4232
Edina Education Fund	952-848-4222
SHAPE (South Hennepin Adult Programs in Education)	952-681-6170
Volunteer Connection & Learning Exchange	952-681-6109
Pacer Center - <i>Advocacy for families of youth with disabilities</i>	952-838-9000 www.pacer.org

Edina Community Services

Edina Athletic Association Information	952-826-0367
Edina Newcomers Information Hotline	952-942-7414
Edina Chamber of Commerce	952-806-9060
Website	www.edinachamber.com

50th & France Business & Professional Association	952-922-1524
Website	www.50thandfrance.com
Edina <i>Sun-Current</i>	952-829-0797
Edina Community Foundation	952-833-9573
Edina Public Library	952-847-5425
Southdale Hennepin Area Library	952-847-5900
Website	www.hclib.org

Employment & Housing Resources

Employment Action Center	612-752-8800
Website	www.eac-mn.org
Minnesota Workforce Center	952-346-4000
Website	www.mnwfc.org
Minnesota Housing Link	612-522-2500
Website	www.housinglink.org
City of Edina Housing & Planning	952-826-0369

Legal Information & Services

MAO Legal Services for Seniors	612-676-6300
Homeline Tenants Rights	612-728-5765
Hennepin County Bar Association	612-752-6699
<i>Free legal info by phone</i>	
<i>Hennepin County Bar Association</i>	612-752-6666
<i>Lawyer referral info services</i>	
Website	www.hcba.org/legalservices/LRIS.htm

Medical Services

Hospitals

Abbott Northwestern	612-863-4000
Hennepin County Medical Center	612-873-3000
Fairview Southdale (Edina)	952-924-5000
Methodist & Park Nicollet (St. Louis Park)	952-993-5000

Urgent Care Centers & Health Care Program Info

Fairview Southdale	952-924-5030
Family Convenience Care	952-985-8155
St. Mary's Clinics - <i>For uninsured care</i>	651-690-7029
Minnesota Dept. of Human Services	651-431-2478
<i>Health Care Programs Application</i>	
Website	www.dhs.state.mn.us

Government & Motor Vehicle Services

Services such as Minnesota identification card; certified copies of birth, death and marriage certificates; passport; car tabs; and hunting licenses can be obtained.

All Hennepin County Service Centers	
Website	www.co.hennepin.mn.us
Southdale Service Center	612-348-8240
7009 York Ave. S.	

For more information on how to obtain a driver's license

The nearest exam sites are:

Chaska	952-448-3740
Eagan	651-688-1870
Plymouth	952-476-3042

City of Edina Curfew

The curfew for minors in Edina is:

Under 12 years	Sun – Thu	9 p.m.
	Fri – Sat	10 p.m.
12 – 14 years	Sun – Thu	10 p.m.
	Fri – Sat	11 p.m.
15 – 17 years	Sun – Thu	11 p.m.
	Fri – Sat	midnight

Mental & Chemical Health Resources

City of Edina Chemical Health Coordinator	952-929-7627
Edina Public Schools Chemical & Mental Health Coordinator	952-848-3028
Hennepin County Front Door Social Services	612-348-4111
Website	www.co.hennepin.mn.us
Chrysalis	612-871-0118
<i>Outpatient chemical & mental health services</i>	
Website	www.chrysaliswomen.org
Family & Children's Service	952-884-7353
<i>Outpatient mental health services</i>	
Website	www.famchildserv.org
The Storefront Group	612-861-1675
<i>Outpatient mental health services</i>	
Website	www.storefront.org

Immigrant & Refugees Information & Resources

Hennepin County Multi-Cultural Services	612-348-2193
Website	www.co.hennepin.mn.us
World Relief	612-866-0462
<i>Employment & immigration assistance, citizenship classes & healthcare advice</i>	
Website	www.minnesota.wr.org

ESL Programs (learn English as a Second Language)

School Readiness - Edina Public Schools	952-848-3985
<i>For adults & children 3 – 5 years of age</i>	
SHAPE (South Hennepin Adult Programs in Education)	952-681-6170

Senior Information

AARP (American Association of Retired People)	952-858-9040
Website	www.aarp.org
Edina Senior Center	952-833-9570
H.O.M.E.	952-888-5530
<i>Outside maintenance & small chores</i>	
Meals on Wheels	952-292-2579
Minnesota Senior Federation	651-645-0261
Website	www.seniorfed.org
Neighborhood Partnership	952-922-1110
<i>A block nurse program</i>	
Normandale Ministry for Healing & Wholeness - <i>Support for seniors & their caregivers</i>	952-929-1697
Senior Community Services	952-541-1019
Senior Dining (7151 York Ave.)	952-893-1448
Senior Linkage Line	612-333-2433
Social Security	1-800-772-1213
Volunteers of America Senior Services	612-331-4063
Website	www.voamn.org
Store to Door - <i>Grocery delivery for aging</i>	651-642-1892
Website	www.storeto-door.org
VEAP (Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People)	952-888-9616
<i>Medical appointment rides</i>	
Website	www.veapvolunteers.org

Social Service Agencies Serving Edina

Bloomington Public Health	952-563-8900
Website	www.ci.bloomington.mn.us
CAPSH (Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin)	952-933-9639
<i>Energy assistance, homeowner & budget counseling</i>	
Website	www.capshenn.org
Cornerstone - Domestic violence services	952-884-0330
Website	www.cornerstonedv.com
Edina Resource Center	952-848-3936
Website	www.edinaresourcecenter.com
Family & Children's Service	952-884-7353
<i>Outpatient mental health & counseling services</i>	
Website	www.famchildserv.org
Hennepin County Eligibility Support Services	612-596-1300
<i>Cash, food, financial assistance</i>	
Hennepin County Front Door Social Services	612-348-4111
Hennepin County Aging & Disability Services	612-348-4500
Website	www.co.hennepin.mn.us
The Storefront Group	612-861-1675
<i>Outpatient mental health & treatment programs & counseling services</i>	
Website	www.storefront.org
VEAP	952-888-9616
(Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People)	
<i>Provides food, emergency assistance, transportation & seasonal programs to those who qualify</i>	
Website	www.veapvolunteers.org

Transportation Information

Edina Dial-A-Ride - <i>Door-to-door in Edina only; must make an appointment</i>	952-474-5398
BE-Line - <i>Bloomington/Edina local bus service</i>	612-373-3333
Metro Mobility Service Center	651-602-1111
<i>Call to receive applications for disability transportation services</i>	
Metro Mobility Transit - <i>Reservations for service line - must complete application first</i>	612-332-7161
Metro Transit - <i>Metro-wide bus service</i>	612-373-3333
Website	www.metrotransit.org
VEAP	952-888-9616
(Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People)	
<i>Application and reservation required</i>	

Waste Disposal

Information Line for Environmental Services 612-348-6509
 South Hennepin Recycling & Problem Waste Drop-off Center
 1400 W. 96th St., Bloomington

Websites

City of Edina	www.CityofEdina.com
Edina Schools	www.edina.k12.mn.us
League of Women Voters	www.lwvmn.org
Housing Link - <i>Housing referral service</i>	www.housinglink.org
Hennepin County	www.co.hennepin.mn.us
Free Translation	www.freetranslation.com
Metro Transit	www.metrotransit.org
Parent Communication Network	www.edinapcn.org
Edina Resource Center	www.edinaresourcecenter.com

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Edina Resident Pat Greer Paints The Town With Her Creativity

By Kathleen Sovell
Contributing Writer

Edina resident Pat Greer is proud to say she's "done art all my life," embracing and sharing the beauty around her.

When she attended Washburn High School, she took many art classes—fashion art, drawing and painting." After graduation, she became a secretary. "That lasted one summer," she quipped.

She returned to school to study art education at the University of Minnesota, but realized she "didn't want to teach art – [she] wanted to create it." Changing her major and changing schools, she attended the Minneapolis College of Art and Design where she was inspired to create art and found she enjoyed commercial art. For the next 10 years, she created fashion illustrations for newspaper advertisements for area department stores.

She married Bill Greer, a writer, photographer and fellow Washburn graduate. When the first of their four children arrived, Pat decided to stay home, but she "never

stopped doing art. ... I created many flyers, brochures and posters for various events for church, schools and other organizations. People recognized my work by my lettering." She entered an art contest sponsored by Courage Center and for six years, her beautiful batiks were selected as Courage Center holiday cards.

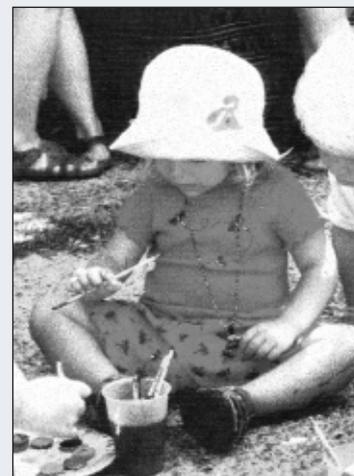
She always enrolled in and taught various art classes. A group of 10 women opened a studio in Anita Beck's group of stores on 44th Street and Beard Avenue in Minneapolis and named it "Studio II." They took turns working in the studio and keeping the storefront where they sold their work.

Pat taught children's clay classes there and fondly remembers the children. "They are so free and jump right into it," she said. Pat taught a watercolor class up north to a group of friends and they were amazed to "learn to see." She said, "If you teach people to look at things differently, it stays with them forever."

Pat worked on the Bicentennial Ball in 1976 with Marion Ward. The ball included an art show and auction of artwork donated by local artists. The event was the beginning of the Edina Art Center, which was founded shortly thereafter.



Pat Greer, one of the Edina Art Center's original co-directors, poses with an acrylic painting of an archway in Greece.



A young artist whips up a masterpiece at the Art in the Park Event in 1983.

In 1977, Marion and Pat were named co-directors of the new Art Center and both worked there on a part-time basis. Pat feels that all her previous art, work and volunteer work gave her the experience she needed to do the job. They interviewed almost 80 local artists to find teachers for the Center. She feels they hired the top area artists: Maureen Brockway, Bill Dietrichson, Jo French, Harry Heim, Judy Lieber and Kay Sharkey were among them. Pat said the teachers didn't

care how much they were paid because they were so excited about being involved in the creation of the Art Center.

Pat wanted to create a gift shop in the Center to help raise funds. Mollie Paulson volunteered to help and ran the gift shop for many years. "Pat is the reason I became so close to the Art Center. She has such enthusiasm and faith in people that I just wanted to help," Paulson said. "She is courteous and has a kindness that is special. In all the years I've known her, she just doesn't change."

Marion and Pat worked well together from the very beginning. When they were organizing the Art Center, they went to the Minnetonka Art Center for advice. They

had lunch with the director who recommended starting small. Pat said this was "very good advice and they were a big help to us." Marion's husband, Al, said, "Pat was a key leader of the group responsible for the early growth of the Art Center."

She did not want to work full time so when the Art Center grew to the point when a full time director was needed, Diana Hedges was hired.

"When I first started working here in 1986, Pat stayed by my side to show me the ropes and made sure that I understood the mission and spirit of the Edina Art Center," Hedges said. "She was a part-time co-director, which meant she only worked 60 hours a week. Pat's dedication to the Arts in Edina is constant and we will

[\(continued on next page\)](#)



Aspiring young artists take lessons at the Edina Art Center in 1979, under Pat Greer's leadership.

always be grateful to her and Marion Ward for founding this amazing place!”

Continuing her mission of bringing fine art to Edina, she joined the Edina Public Art Committee in 2005. This committee began informally in 2004 when the group



Pictured at the Edina Art Center is this 1981 photograph are 1981 Edinamite Ball chairwoman Betty Hemstad and Art Center Co-Directors Marion Ward and Pat Greer.

assembled to help choose two-dimensional art for Edina’s new City Hall. The City Council approved a resolution that made EPAC a standing committee of the Edina Art Center Board whose task is to inform the City Council on the incorporation of visual arts throughout the community.

According to Pat, Grandview Square’s new park contains three pedestals and she hopes there will be donations to contribute art objects to this park. She also said EPAC received approval from the City Council to find an artist to create glass art for some of the windows in City Hall in order to create a feeling of warmth in the building. Eleven artists submitted work to the committee, three were chosen to prepare proposals and one will be recommended. Pat believes that Edina lags behind other communities in this area and funds cannot all come from the City. They must also come from individuals, corporations, developers and community foundations.

“Pat really has the community at heart,” said Linda Kieffer, EPAC chairwoman. She’s lived many years in Edina, is a wonderful public servant and always volunteering. She doesn’t stop giving. She is very compassionate and interested in people.”

Acrylic is Pat’s medium of choice now. Pat paints with a group of women and also goes on location with them. They call themselves the “Monday Monets” because years ago they traveled to Giverny, France, for a workshop with Gale Bennett. Ten of them stayed in a house that was one block from Monet’s garden. On Monday, the gardens were not open to tourists and the group would paint in the garden, hence the name, “Monday Monets.”

“Art has always been a part of my life and I use it to convey my appreciation of the beauty around me so that others may also enjoy it.”

Pat Greer

many volunteer projects for the League of Catholic Women. A member of St. Patrick’s Church in Edina, she was a trustee and is currently involved in the environmental design of her church’s worship space.

Their four children and two grandchildren all live in the area and creativity is a part of their lives, too. David is a writer and runs the Lake Home and Cabin Show. Lee Ann is a hair stylist. Robin is an architect and Nancy is an advertising writer.

“Art has always been a part of my life and I use it to convey my appreciation of the beauty around me so

They’ve also taken a trip to Italy with Dorothy Odland and one to Greece with Rose Edin.

“Painting is so much a part of who I am,” Pat explained. “Many of my friends are artists. We often go to a cabin to talk, to paint, to discuss art and to share favorite recipes.”

Her volunteer work extends beyond art. For the past 12 years, she has been a guardian ad litem for Hennepin County. She also does

that others may also enjoy it,” Pat said, summarizing her life’s ambition.

Visit the Art Center’s website, www.EdinaArtCenter.com for a complete class and event listing or call 612-915-6600 for information, to request a class schedule or register for classes. The Edina Art Center is located on the northwest corner of Rosland Park.

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Performing Sister Duo From Edina Wins International Accolades, Releases New CD

By Cheryl Anderson

Amy and Sara Hamann's ever-growing list of musical accomplishments generates as much excitement as their bright, cheerful personalities. Even their conversational style resembles their performances – well-timed, complimentary and high-energy.



Now duo concert pianists, Amy and Sara have experienced one musical success after the next since graduating from Edina High School in the 1990's. They recently won the first prize at the International Grieg Competition in Oslo, Norway, along with a prize for best performance of a Mozart composition. This past spring, the MacPhail Center for Music awarded them a \$27,000 prize through the McKnight Foundation Fellowship for Performing Musicians. And they have just released their first CD on the Schubert Club's "Ten Thousand Lakes" label.

Growing up together in Edina, the performing sister musicians attended Countryside Elementary, Valley View Middle School, Edina High School and the University of Minnesota. Amy now lives in southwest Minneapolis, while Sara lives at Edina's Edinborough.

The sisters began their successful musical journey together at the Yamaha School of Music. There, they were introduced to "Four-Hands" playing, or duo piano playing.

"We felt it was important to get them introduced to music at a young age," said their father, Dr. Arlyn Hamann, who describes Amy and Sara as being "more like twins" than mere siblings in their thought processes and how well they work together. "They always seemed to have a natural talent, or a natural drive, since the beginning."

Reflecting on his daughters' work ethic during their young years, he added, "Just when you would expect young kids to lose interest [in piano], they became more interested in it. They've been so successful not just because of their talent, but because they were really willing to work hard at it, which is sometimes difficult for some kids to do."

At ages 7 and 8, they began admiring and following the Lebreche sisters – duo piano performers from France. When the Hamanns were 8 and 9 years old, the Lebreche sisters released recordings through the Schubert Club's International Artist series, all of which they listened to. History changed for them when they were able to meet the French musicians backstage at a Minnesota performance.

"That was a turning point for us," Sara said.

Although they are only 17 months apart in age and play so well as a duo that listeners sometimes cannot tell one from the other, Amy and Sara acknowledge that they are different.

"We compliment each other well," said Sara.

"We balance each other out," added Amy.

The results of the 2005 International Grieg Competition in Oslo, Norway clearly demonstrated this, as Amy and Sara played the first prize-winning performance. Leading up to the momentous experience, Sara said, "We felt as well-prepared as we could possibly be."

Reaching this level of preparation takes significant dedication. For the talented sisters from Edina, a typical day is spent keeping their piano talents in tune and perfecting their passion for musical performance. The women practice four to six hours per day. The morning begins with each working individually; they later join each other for practice in the afternoon.

Their current teacher, Alexander Braginsky, decides which pieces to practice; and they usually practice specifically for their next performance. Interestingly, they did not have Braginsky as a teacher while at the U of M but learned from him after graduation "for a different viewpoint," said Amy.

As far as what they spend the rest of their time doing, and the interests they have, Sara said that music is "pretty much all-encompassing" in their lives. The two enjoy attending Minnesota Orchestra performances and arts



Edina natives Amy and Sara Hamann recently won first prize at the International Grieg Competition in Oslo, Norway, along with a prize for best performance of a Mozart composition. The duo pianists also recently released a new CD of their works.

organizations' shows, art fairs and other art-related events.

Currently, Amy and Sara are artists-in-residence at the International Piano Institute and say they are "looking

(continued on next page)

forward to a busy season." The CD they have just released, "Jeux d'enfants and Other Works for Piano Duo," is a live recital program.

Presently, the sisters are working on two recording projects. They are studying early period instruments, such as those from the Baroque, the harpsichord and various keyboarding instruments. And, according to Amy, they might produce a duo harpsichord and piano recording in the future. This would be the first performance of its kind – by women using such instruments in a duet.

"They are so dedicated to music and their career as performers," says Sara's best friend of 12 years, Laura Mullin, who met the sisters at the University of Minnesota. "When they commit to something, they put their whole hearts into what they do, and believe me, it shows!"

They take their work very seriously, but these multi-talented sisters also have a great sense of humor – a virtue that has helped them maintain their composure amidst the unexpected. Amy recalled a memorable moment during a concert performance years ago, describing it with amusement as "just one of those nights when everything seemed to be falling apart." Sara's earring fell out during their performance; and as Amy reached out to strike one of the keys on the "gorgeous old Steinway" they were playing, it fell completely off and onto the floor. With a laugh, they said they promptly practiced "the art of recovery." Sara also recalled a time when they were playing and one of the pedals on their piano fell off and "slammed to the ground."

"Both Sara and Amy are delightful to be around," said Mullin.

Surprisingly, their musical passion is not rooted in their immediate family. Amy and Sara say they have two younger sisters – one who sings and another who dances – neither of whom shares their love for piano. Neither do their parents ("They were not concert pianists," said Sara, dispelling an assumption that might have existed over the years about their influences). They said that this was what made the bond between them so strong – why they grew up so close, and still are. They had only each other with which to share their strong interest.

"We always felt we were destined for this," began Amy.

"We never questioned it," Sara agreed, completing Amy's thoughts.

It is no small wonder that their captivating performances are like a beautiful conversation between two pianos that combine perfectly as one.

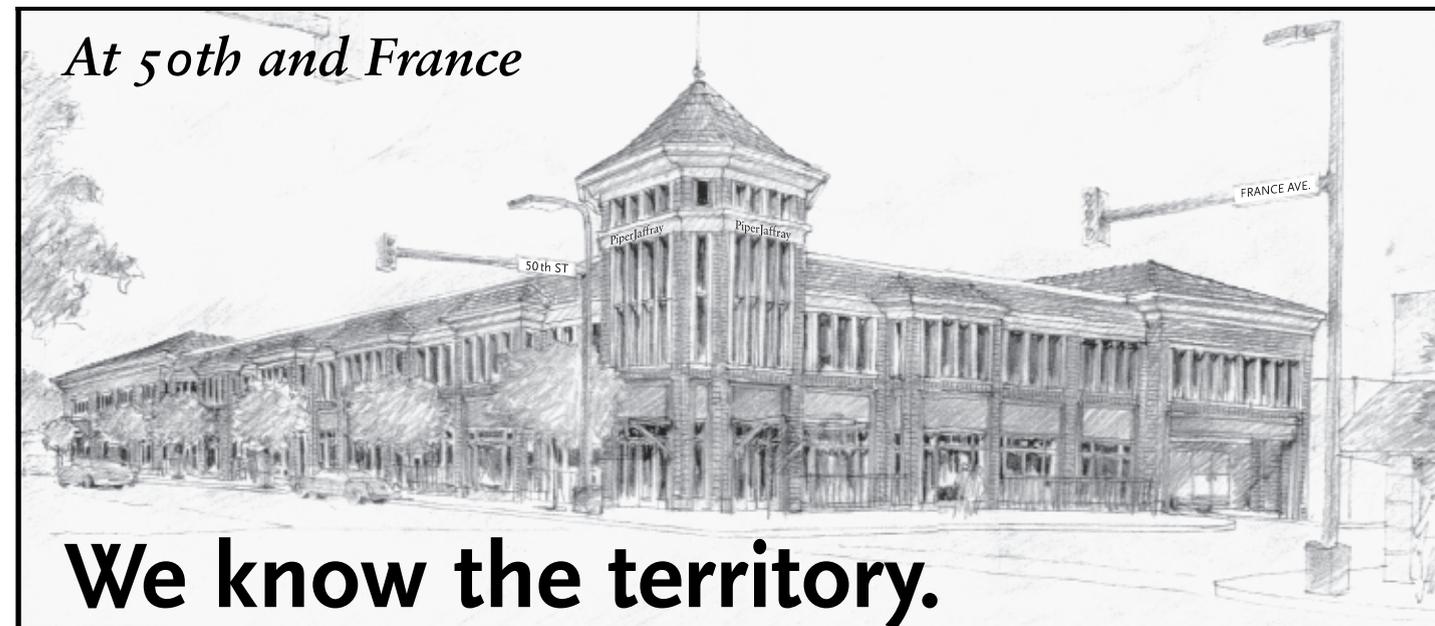


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Longtime Golf League Takes New Name

By Laura Fulton

With the sun rising in the east, four men stand ready at the first hole of the regulation course at Braemar Golf Course. It is a Monday morning, and, as with every Monday, the group leads off, starting their week in the normal routine.

The first man takes a practice swing, with beautiful follow-through and form. He knows that a well thought out shot has the power to win a hole, as well as conquer a game. The ultimate dream is a hole-in-one which leads to not only a congratulatory handshake, but also an engraved plaque on the wall, celebrating the accomplishment. He steps up to the tee, swings and hits the ball with an ideal "clink."

The ball lands off the fairway, but the tee-off met with group approval. As the man places his club back in its bag slot, a team member pats him on the back and says, "Nice way to start the game."

For the Golden Agers, a league that plays at Braemar Golf Course each Monday during the season, the key to a perfect game is not always how well they do on the fairway. Rather, it revolves around how much fun they have on and off the course.

"We don't always have to have a good score to have fun," said Dale Greer, who has been playing with the Golden Agers for four years. Apprehensively, the three players around him murmur their agreement. "He's right," said Larry "Da Norwegian" Peterson, who has been playing with Greer since 2001. "But if they drain the lakes around here, our game would improve tenfold!"

The Golden Agers are a league of roughly 90 members, 78 of whom play each Monday and 12 who choose to play only when substitutes are needed, but still join the others in the Clubhouse for lunch and conversation. The rich history behind the league and the friendships that have developed over the years keep each man coming back week after week, whether to play or converse.

In 1964, Braemar Golf Course was a fledgling public golf course. Henry Peterson, the contractor who won the bid to build the new Clubhouse at Braemar did not play golf, but was convinced by Harry Cooper, the Head Golf Pro at Braemar, to join the Men's Club and learn. Instantly, Peterson was hooked and for the rest of his life dedicated time and effort into creating a top-notch program for the men of Braemar.

As the Men's Club aged, they began to consider a new league, especially for those who were retired and free in the mornings. Led by Peterson, a group of 16 retirees requested a tee time at Braemar for Monday mornings, beginning at 6:30 a.m. With some strict guidelines put in place, the league was granted permission to tee off each Monday. In 1982, the Golden Agers Golf League came into being.

Over the years, the Golden Agers league has grown, adding vastly to the original 16 members. Though initially the league was "never to surpass 20" members, the Golden Agers league once boasted 120 players. Numbers were down in 2005 as membership fluctuated due to life changes, but course administrators remain positive that numbers will rise again this year.

In addition, the restrictions regarding residency are beginning to ease. In the past, only those who lived in Edina were allowed participation in the Golden Agers league. If the league does not fill this next year, those from around the area will be invited to join the group. "The league is an enjoyable way for these guys to get out and network with other retirees," said Braemar General Manager John Valliere. "By opening it up to non-residents, we are adding even more variety to the group."

Another factor that might influence possible candidates is the change in the league's name. In 2006, the league will be known as the Braemar Senior Men's Golf Club. "Some felt that the name 'Golden Agers' was offensive to those of us playing in the league," said Frank McGoldrick, treasurer of the league. "By changing the name, we hope to sway those retirees who felt the league was named inappropriately to join the Braemar Senior Men's Golf Club."

For those who have played on the league in the past, however, a name is just that, the real point behind the league is the game and socializing factors. "I have been in the same foursome for the past six years," said Herb Royce, member of the Golden Agers. "I remember one Monday morning, it was raining and I figured I would be the only one out here playing, but when I got to the Clubhouse, the rest of the guys were standing around, waiting for me."

Friendship and dedication run deep within the groups of the league. Many of the men who play in the league have committed themselves to the sport for more than half their life. Not only is the game important to them, but



Photo by Laura Fulton

During prime vacation months, foursomes are known to take on a straggler or two. From left: Gary Rooney, David Garvin, Paul Curran, Gene Clifford and Dick Rooney tee off from hole No. 6.

their fellow foursome mates keep them coming back repeatedly, challenging their skills on a weekly basis.

"Some guys rush back from their cabins on Sunday night, just to be here early on Monday to play with their group," said Valliere. "Foursomes get more important as the years go by. To miss a tee time is to cry that you want the phone to ring off the hook for the rest of the day. Friendship runs deep with these guys."

Jack Yarger, Mike Harrel, Jim Blewett and Hal Peterson make up one such group. Playing together as a foursome for the past eight years, they spend hours together every Monday morning in the summer. "We are all so ornery," said Yarger, "that it is hard to believe we have been together this long! Ah, that's what makes it so fun, though," retorted Peterson.

(continued on next page)



Photo by Laura Fulton

Golf takes time, patience and plenty of practice. A good swing and decent clubs are just two of the many factors taken into account while playing the game.

Monday mornings represent to many of us an early morning that brings the weekend to a close. To the members of the Golden Agers, now the Braemar Senior Men's Club, however, Monday mornings represent a day of friendship and sport.

And each Monday morning, the men of the Braemar Senior Men's Club step up to the tee and swing, hoping not only to hit the elusive hole-in-one but also for the fun and company of those who will pat them on the back when the game is complete and say "nice game" every time.

Fees change yearly. For more information on the Braemar Senior Men's Club, contact McGoldrick, 952-920-4560.

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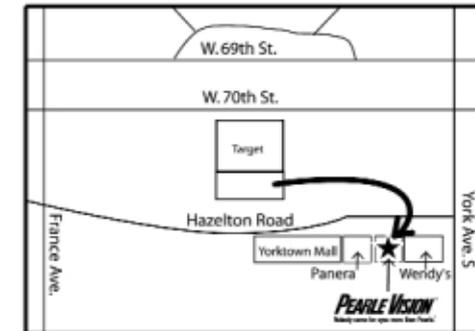
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The Edina Community Foundation: Our 2006 Calendar



By Dick Crockett
Executive Director

The Edina Community Foundation is committed to four focus areas in its program services and grantmaking – *Bringing People Together, Helping Our Neighbors, Beautifying Edina and Enhancing Our Safety*. As we begin a new year, we look forward to a full calendar of events that the

Foundation supports in order to achieve the first of these, with the hope of creating a stronger sense and spirit of community in Edina.

We begin in **January** with this article, as part of our continuing effort in each quarterly issue of *About Town* to build community awareness of the Foundation and its programs. During the last year, our articles have featured the community members who serve on our Board of Directors, some suggestions on how to enjoy living in Edina, our Community Partners program to help low-income residents (in collaboration with the Southdale YMCA and VEAP) and the value of investing in our community.

By **February** we will have completed our Annual Report for the Foundation's 2004-05 fiscal year. This includes a list of donors, a summary of our grants awarded during the year and a copy of our audited financial statements, all as part of our official accounting to our many constituencies, and it will be distributed with the spring issue of *About Town* to some 25,000 homes in the community.

March 19 is the date set for a special concert by the Edina Chorale, accompanied by the Edina High School Chamber Orchestra and Concert Choir. A Foundation grant will help bring this celebration of the 250th birthday of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart to our community.

On **April 25**, we will co-host an Edina Senior Health and Resource Fair with the Edina Federated Women's Club and the Edina Resource Center. The event will be at Colonial Church of Edina and its exhibits, health screening stations and workshops are intended to help seniors maintain active and independent lifestyles.

We host a Donors Reception every **May** to thank major gift donors to the Foundation and brief them on the programs they have helped support. Last year's event at Interlachen Country Club was underwritten by Excel Bank and featured presentations by the Edina Chorale, the City's Adaptive Recreation Program and CommonBond Communities.

June 30 is the end of our fiscal year and one of three months (along with February and October) in which our Board of Directors awards grants from our general funds. (Grants from our Designated Funds are made throughout the year.)

The **4th of July** parade in Edina provides a wonderful opportunity for many community groups to come together and provide fun and entertainment for people of all ages. As my then-2-year-old granddaughter Catherine observed after just a few minutes of watching the parade (her first last year, "Maybe it's a birthday party")

August features the annual Torchlight Concert in Centennial Lakes Park by Edina's First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band. After funding uniforms for the Band in the past, the Foundation became a Concert sponsor last year and expects to continue that role in the future.

September will bring another Edina Reads one-book reading program. Last year's inaugural effort was jointly organized by the Edina Community and Southdale-Hennepin Area libraries and their Friends groups, Edina's Senior Center and Human Rights and Relations Commission, Edina High School and the Foundation. Our intent was to bring people together to discuss the very popular novel, *The Kite Runner*, and the Foundation hosted two events—a panel discussion on Character and Courage in Personal and Professional Life and an intergenerational discussion following the author's presentation at a Hennepin County Library Pen Pals lecture. Both of these events involved students from Edina High School as part of the Foundation's ongoing commitment to the Connecting With Kids youth asset-building initiative in Edina.

The Foundation's fall mail campaign each **October** involves a letter to approximately 5,000 homes in the community, with information about our programs and a request to join the community of donors who are helping us achieve our mission of Strengthening Our Community.

November brings us to the season of Thanksgiving and our annual Foundation effort to bring together its Founders Club members, who have made substantial multi-year gifts to support the Foundation's endowment,

program grants, and operating budgets. Last year's event was a dessert reception hosted by Mayor (and our Board President) Jim Hovland and his wife, LaRae, and we look forward each year to honoring those people who have made a substantial investment in our community.

The Foundation's third-annual Holiday Home Tour will take place during the first weekend of **December**. After featuring homes in the Country Club and Indian Hills neighborhoods in prior years, we will be looking for another of Edina's many quality neighborhoods to showcase in 2006. With homes decorated by local merchants and financial support from many other businesses in the community, the Tour offers a fun and interesting opportunity for all of us to mingle with our neighbors at the beginning of the holiday season.

Bringing People Together is truly an appropriate description of the Edina Community Foundation's many efforts throughout the year to provide and support programs that Strengthen Our Community. With thanks to all those individuals and organizations that make these programs possible as donors, partners and grantees, we welcome the New Year with great enthusiasm.

Questions about the Foundation may be addressed to its Executive Director, Dick Crockett, at 952-833-9573 or edinacommunityfoundation@ci.edina.mn.us. Additional information about the Foundation and links to other articles about the Foundation may be found at its website, www.edinacommunityfoundation.org.

Edina Paramedics Team With Local Hospital To Use Innovative Digital System To Aid Heart Attack Patients



Photo by Polly Norman

When a person suffers a heart attack, every moment counts. Quickly restoring blood flow to the heart saves lives and improves survivors' quality of life. That is why the City of Edina's paramedics, Fairview Southdale Hospital and Medtronic have come together to be the first in Minnesota to pioneer time-saving digital technology for emergency heart care.

Beginning in October, Edina Fire Department paramedics began sending a real-time digital snapshot of a heart's rhythm (a 12-lead electrocardiogram) by cell phone to Fairview Southdale Hospital's new Medtronic LIFENET RS receiving station. Instantly, emergency room physicians and cardiologists are able to look at the information as if they were right there with the patient. And they can make decisions about the best treatment and be ready to provide care immediately upon the patient's arrival at the hospital.

Typically, paramedics transmit information through telephone conversations with physicians. Some other services fax information to the hospital while in transit. Now, with digital technology, the entire process takes approximately one minute and the clarity of the data is greatly improved.

"This is state-of-the-art technology and it will help us save lives," said Dr. Stephen Battista, cardiologist with Minnesota Heart Clinic, part of Fairview Southdale Heart and Vascular Center.

The heart is a muscle and, according to Battista, "when you have a heart attack, we always say time is muscle. The faster we can assess the patient and get the patient into



Photo by Polly Norman

our catheterization lab to open the artery(s), the more heart muscle we can save."

Fairview Southdale Hospital ranks among the fastest hospitals to treat patients having heart attacks in an ongoing Medicare quality study and also is rated in the top 100 hospitals for cardiovascular care in the country by Solucient, a national health care quality organization. "We open blocked arteries in approximately 70 minutes

from the time a patient enters the emergency room. This is almost one-half hour faster than the national average," said Battista, who estimates that implementing this new Medtronic technology could save up to another 20 minutes.

Edina Fire Chief Marty Sheerer is equally excited about this advance. "Our paramedics' ability to transmit patient electrocardiograms instantly to the hospital dramatically improves overall patient care and outcomes," he said. "This is an investment in our community as we seek innovative ways to serve the people of Edina and our surrounding communities."

Fairview Southdale Hospital is an innovative leader in heart, stroke and vascular care. "We are striving to bring the latest technology and innovations to our patients.

This partnership with Edina and Medtronic furthers our goal of providing the best heart and vascular care in the state," said Bradley Beard, President of Fairview Southdale Hospital.

For more information, contact the Edina Fire Department, 952-826-0330. Fire Station No. 1, headquarters of the Fire Department, is located at 6250 Tracy Ave. Fairview Southdale Hospital is located at 6401 France Ave. S.



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Unplug From It All March 13

When Steven and Shannon were little, their parents would sometimes order pizza for dinner and build a fire in the basement fireplace. The family would reconnect, eating pizza and watching movies together in front of the warm blaze.

Today, Steven and Shannon are in their 20s and live on their own. But when they both happen to be visiting Edina at the same time, the family often ends up in the basement eating pizza in front of a fire – even during warm months like July.

“When the kids were younger, my wife and I would look at each other and think ‘it sure doesn’t take much to please our kids’ and it sure was simple to do,” said their father, Greg. “It turned out to be a very special time for our family – spending that time together, simple and secure at home.”

Times have changes since Steven and Shannon were growing up. There are now more extracurricular activities; recreational, athletic and music programs; and religious activities. Many families struggle to schedule a special family activity that doesn’t conflict with something else on the calendar.

A 1999 study by the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan shows that between 1981 and 1997, children between the ages of 3 and 12 saw their free time decline by 12 hours per week, their play time decrease by 25 percent and unstructured outdoor activities reduced by 50 percent. Meanwhile, structured sports time doubled from 2 hours, 20 minutes per week to 5 hours, 17 minutes per week and studying has increased by 50 percent.

For that reason, Edina families are encouraged to ‘unplug’ from it all Monday, March 13. The Edina City Council, along with the Edina Board of Education and many community

organizations, have proclaimed the night as “Edina Unplugged Night.”

Developed under the concept of Family Night Out, Edina Unplugged is meant to encourage families to spend time with each other. Residents are asked to block the night out on their calendars now, before something is scheduled that would prevent them from being part of Edina Unplugged, a Connecting With Kids youth asset-building initiative project.

“One of the strong messages to emerge from Connecting with Kids’ Intergenerational Dialogues is that kids want more unscheduled time to spend with their families,” said Doug Johnson of Edina Public Schools. “Edina Unplugged is part of our community’s response to that request.”

‘Unplugged’ Family Activity Ideas

- Eat dinner together.
- Sort family photos or go through old albums.
- Watch family videos.
- Play board games or cards.
- Visit a neighborhood park.
- Go for a walk in your neighborhood.

If you’re not sure what to do, ask your kids! They will have plenty of ideas!



For more information on Edina Unplugged, contact Johnson, doujohnson@edina.k12.mn.us.

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For more information, call Edina Public Works, 952-826-0311.

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