

## The view from here

There's a lot going on in the city of Falcon Heights right now: A new farmer's market on Tuesday mornings (in the Twin Cities Co-op Credit Union parking lot); Groundbreaking on the new Larpenteur and Snelling development project beginning this fall (check out the progress at [www.ci-falcon-heights.mn.edu](http://www.ci-falcon-heights.mn.edu)). You can even volunteer to be a Falcon Heights firefighter (call city hall at (651) 644-5050).

We may live in the University Grove, but also we live in the city of Falcon Heights. Falcon Heights provides for public safety, maintains neighborhoods, roads and infrastructure, and works to expand opportunities for its residents. Right now, the city government is planning some activities with important implications for the Grove.

For example, the City of Falcon Heights is working with the St. Paul Water Utility to replace a substantial portion of

the water main on the north side of Folwell Avenue between Coffman and Fulham. Significant parts of the main date from the 1920s, as shown in the frequent breaks recently. There will be major inconveniences with this work. City officials will be available to answer questions and discuss the work at 6:30 P.M. on Thursday, June 12 at the Falcon Heights City Hall.

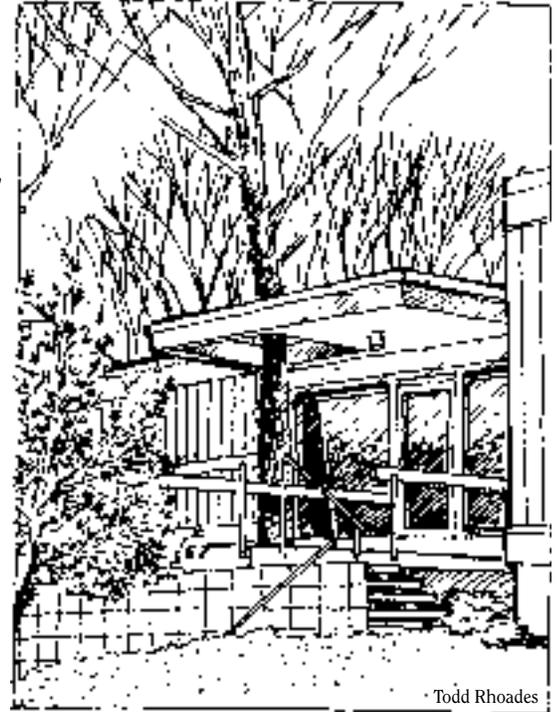
At this meeting, there will also be a discussion about upgrading the Folwell Trolley Path. This project is still its early phase, so your input about the condition of the path and its safety is very important.

Please attend this important meeting on June 12. The Grove – and Falcon Heights – needs your participation and insight.

— Nevin Young

# University Grove News

June 2003



## We're live at [www.umn.edu/ugrove](http://www.umn.edu/ugrove)

The new University Grove web site is now online. The web site design spotlights the Grove's architecture and contains all the previous web site information plus much more.

The real estate section is greatly expanded and includes individual pages on:

- Homes for Sale
- Rentals
- Purchasing and Selling Your Home guidelines
- Hot link to the Real Estate Office

## Grove oaks under assault

Imagine the Grove without its majestic oak canopy. The aggressive oak wilt disease is now in the Grove. The City removed one red oak tree on the traffic triangle of Vincent and Folwell in May. Red and pin oaks are highly susceptible to the oak wilt fungus infection. Once infected, the tree will generally wilt completely in two to six weeks from the top down. Infected white oaks die slowly, a branch at a time, surviving for many years. Unlike Dutch elm disease, oak wilt can be controlled (although there is no known cure) through identification and removal of diseased trees.

Identification is key to saving our oak

- Mailing list for email notification of newly listed homes for sale

The three most recent issues of the newsletter are online as PDF files. There are hot links to the Falcon Heights and 1666 Coffman web sites and related University online information.

Thanks to **Meredith Anderson** for help with web site development and to **Nevin Young** for getting it on the U server. Any feedback would be appreciated to the Webmaster Karen Kloser.

landscape. City Forester Anita Twaroski is keeping a close watch on oak wilt in the Grove. If you want help, call her at (651) 644-5050 and leave a detailed message about the tree's location. She works Tuesday and Wednesday. The University has good information about oak wilt at: [www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD3174.html](http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD3174.html).

**Falcon Heights Ice Cream Social**  
**Thursday, July 31**  
**6 - 8 P.M.**  
**Community Park**  
**at Roselawn and Cleveland**  
**Fun for all ages.**

## Important Grove meeting this Thursday - June 12

The city will hold a meeting for Grove residents on the water main replacement this summer on Folwell Avenue on Thursday, June 12 at City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Avenue. We will also devote approximately one-half of the meeting to discuss issues related to the Folwell Trolley Path. Residents have raised concerns in recent months about the condition of the trail, personal safety in that area, and buckthorn. The city is prepared to look at options for that trail, but we need your input on whether or not you wish to go forward with addressing those issues. This is a listening session for city staff and commissioners — *no decisions have been made for any specific project*. Please plan on attending this important meeting. Call Heather at (651) 644-5050 if you have questions in advance.

— Heather Worthington, city administrator

## Home for sale

2202 Folwell Avenue  
Contact: Mary Cooper  
(612) 821-4240

# What are you wearing today?

For most of us, getting dressed each day is simply choosing what clothes we wear. For Joanne Eicher, a Regents professor in the department of design, housing and apparel, getting dressed is much more: It's a daily ritual involving all five senses on how we modify and supplement the body. And it's just as important for men as women, she's concluded. Serious identity issues relate to dress, as controversy about Somali women's veils attests in the Twin Cities, a recent area of Joanne's research. She's also conducted research on the significance of male and female dress for the Hmong American New Year.

Joanne sees dress as a form of nonverbal communication and we're often judged by our appearance. Add to the mix the overwhelming popularity of tattoos, body piercing and rainbow hair color and you're labeled instantaneously.

Like all new things, Joanne takes these expressions of individual freedom in stride. After almost 40 years in the field, she's seen it all. Plastic surgery was once radical, too, she recalled. It's now mainstream judging from the barrage of ads offering surgery to sculpt practically every part of the body. What was once shocking, often is eventually adopted and ends up defining attractive. As an associate editor of, "*The Encyclopedia of Clothing and Fashion*," she is overseeing entries to cover tattoos, implants and branding (as in burning of flesh!). These topical newcomers to the field underscore the message in one of her undergraduate classes where she teaches that "you can be dressed and not wear any clothes."

Her pioneering work in cross cultural dress and its social significance began on her first trip to Nigeria in 1963 where she lived until 1966. This experience thrust her into a lifelong study and interest in African culture. Joanne is particularly close to the Kalabari group of Nigerians in the Niger Delta. She was given some fabric indigenous to this subgroup of one million people when she befriended a family. It was a very unusual fabric design created by removing threads. Known in her field as

"design by subtraction," the Kalabari work was an uncommon textile art. Nigeria is rich in textile arts having been a part of the British Empire trade routes. The Kalabari use textiles in many celebrations. For instance, the funeral bed of the deceased is elaborately decorated in textiles folded into exotic shapes. "It looks like a giant origami design," said Joanne, "people pay their respects and look at the textile artistry on the bed."

She's made 10 trips to Nigeria since she lived there and spearheaded much of the research in African dress as well as written several textbooks. Her work

earned her a Regents professor title in 1995 and she is one of the three faculty women out of 20 Regents professors total. (Grove residents Margaret Davis and Phil Raup are Regents professors' emeriti.)

Although her research focus is on dress, she collects textiles. Lots of textiles. Her airy, light-filled Ralph Rapson home is a perfect setting to display her African art. Joanne's collection

of more than 500 African textiles, primarily Nigerian, was the focus of an exhibit at the Goldstein Gallery in 2001, appropriately titled, "*Cloth is the Center of the World*." It featured the art-thread cloth of the Kalabari, tie-dye and weaving examples. Scholars wrote essays on specific exhibit pieces and published a catalog. The exhibit will travel in 2005 to galleries across the United States.

On May 31, Joanne was the mistress of ceremonies for a gala event at the Goldstein Gallery. This little gem on the St. Paul campus houses a 22,000-piece collection of costumes, decorative arts and textiles. The Friends of the Goldstein hosted this 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in homage to the innovative designer, Bonnie Cashin, whose clothing and accessories are on exhibit there through Sept. 7. The event kicked off a campaign to raise a \$1 million endowment for a permanent Gallery director chair. As former Goldstein Gallery director, Joanne dreams of a whole building to house the collections and several display galleries — instead of a room.



Joanne Eicher's research on dress, society and culture reveals we're just as exotic as others.

## Kudos to:

**Sean Cudeck**, son of Trish Beuhring and Bob Cudeck, graduated from RAHS and plans to attend the University of Minnesota this fall. He has been in the district's honors math program since seventh grade.

**Kristen Stoeckeler**, daughter of Marty Klager, graduated from Como Senior High and will attend the University of Southern California in Los Angeles as a theater major. Kristen is a national AP scholar, a jazz choir member and regional solo singing contest winner. She's performed in every high school theatre production while at Como and was a director this past spring.

**Nancy Taff**, daughter of Susan Hoyt and Steve Taff, graduated from RAHS and will attend Macalester College this fall. She went to state for the high school swim team and plans to swim for Macalester. She graduated in the top 10 percent of her class.

**Sarah Chambers**, history, was awarded a Fulbright grant for her project, "*Letters and Petitions: Voices of Chilean Women Between Colony and Nation, 1770-1860*." She and her family are currently spending a year living in Chile.

**Bob Gehrz**, astrophysicist, was featured in the *StarTribune* Variety section for his 20-year work on the development of an infrared space telescope. He will be on the Cape Canaveral VIP platform for the rocket launch of the telescope planned in August.

## New neighbors

**Anne Kapuscinski and Wayne Barstad**, [REDACTED]

Anne is a full professor in the College of Natural Resources. Wayne works at the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. They previously lived in St. Anthony Park for 15 years.

## University Grove Newsletter Board

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www.umn.edu/ugrove