



Chili taste testers

Above: Judges, from left, former City Council member Tom Frazer, King Boreas Rex LXXV Keith LeBlanc, Queen of the Snows Madalyn Dosch, State Rep. Carol McFarlane and White Bear Lake City Manager Mark Sather sample and take notes during the benefit Chili Cook Off at Cerenity Senior Care Center Saturday, March 26. Dan Jones, at left, is congratulated by fellow City Council member Renee Tessier after his chipotle chili was awarded first place by the judges. Heidi Mueller won the "People's Choice" award.

- Photos by Paul Dols

anist's latest accomplishment: ng on film soundtrack

ine Goodrich

riter

NAIS HEIGHTS growing up in gton D.C., pianist Bynum performed pope, president and ther politicians.

g in Times Square, ked in-studio and with big-name

ng in Vadnais, he now gives pri- ersions, performs the Twin Cities in ad at two churches en returns to New ity to work for re- els.

m, 28, is a full-time u. Principally

st, he is also flu- organ, percus- d bass guitar; and in several other ents.

e you master pia- can pick up any nstrument pretty he said.

m started hitting

the ivories at age 4. He was tempted to quit a few times in his youth but his parents challenged him to continue.

"They made me stick with it and I'm thankful for that to this day," he said.

By his early teens, Bynum knew he wanted to be a professional musician. He was accepted into the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, an elite public high school in Washington, D.C. He received invitations to perform for Pope John Paul II and for many political gatherings, twice including President Bill Clinton.

Bynum first came to Minnesota in 2004 to study at the McNally Smith College of Music in St. Paul. There he met his future wife, Amaris Phillips-Barnum, a part-time singer.

After college he visited New York City and was offered a job on his first day.

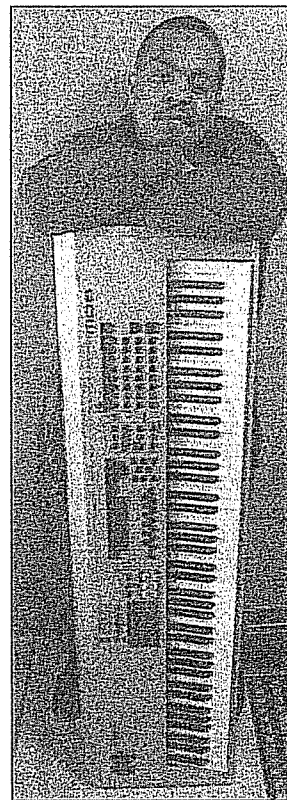
He worked for Bang Out Records, living above the recording studio in Times Square. He played on and/or helped produce songs with a number of artists and played with several on tour. Among the most recognizable names were 50 Cent, Timberland, Ashanti and Mob Deep. He also produced an album for comedian Joe Clair.

Tired of the concrete and chaos of the big city, he returned to Minnesota and started a family. He is stepdad and dad to two girls ages 6 and 2.

He gives private lessons to pupils ages 6 to 70 and plans to teach at music camps this summer.

Most Wednesday nights Bynum plays in a band with Fred Steele and Eric Gales at Arnella's in St. Paul. He also plays intermittently with a number of other bands and artists.

Bynum/see page 10A



— Photo by Paul Dols

Along with the piano, musician Ryan Bynum plays organ, percussion and bass guitar.

school district liaison alerted St. Andrew's Lutheran Church about a single mom living in her car with her two sons.

The church secured temporary shelter for the family, then helped them get into an apartment that was within the correct boundary so the son could remain in the same school.

"Stability is so important for children," said Kellie Cardinal, the church's director of local missions and outreach.

The Mahtomedi church also provided the family with food, furniture and household goods and helped the mother prepare for job interviews.

*St. Andrew's/
see page 9A*

Rambler remodeler selected

by Mark Nicklawse

Regional Editor

WHITE BEAR LAKE — Ambitious homeowners and potential home buyers will see full-scale, environmentally correct building work as city officials authorized additional money to showcase rambler remodeling techniques.

The White Bear Lake City Council, acting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA), unanimously approved a \$74,800 contractor bid and a \$3,600 GreenStar certification process for its "Rambler Revolution" project March 22.

*Rambler remodeler/
see page 7A*

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Rambler remodeler

Continued from page 1A

The construction work and certification pushed the project over its original \$70,000 renovation budget.

"I know it's a project that looked pretty small when it started and got to be more detailed, but it's a good learning experience," said HRA President and City Council member Bryan Belisle. "Maybe we can take another project on in another part of the city."

The HRA planned to use \$175,000 plus a \$25,000 Community Development Block Grant to buy and remodel a south side Rambler for a home remodeling demonstration project. It purchased a McKnight Road Rambler last fall for \$117,000 and spent \$3,500 for architectural design work.

White Bear Lake has approximately 3,500 Rambler-style homes built in the 1950s and '60s, many in need of building updates.

Officials hope to showcase Rambler remodeling options to current property owners and potential buyers and then sell the home for approximately \$190,000.

The city planned to hold an open house this month to show off the house before remodeling.

But Associate Planner Samantha Crosby said higher-than-expected remodeling costs led the city to delay the project so the HRA could determine the level of construction. Six contractors bid on the project.

"The main concern was cost," said Crosby.

Crocket and Crocket Builders supplied a \$66,000 base bid that kept the project within its budget. The base bid included a full kitchen addition and two large main floor bedrooms, but failed to provide any basement work.

Crosby said a third bedroom in the basement and

environmental certification was critical to the project. The demonstration project needed to show homeowners as many remodeling options as possible, she said.

"The more we do the better chance we have of inspiring people," she said.

Building Official Ben Eggan said the environmental certification costs could be added to the sale price of the remodeled home. "I'm sure we could recoup the costs at the point of sale," he said.

Council members agreed and authorized a bid option that included a basement bedroom and a finished basement living area.

Crosby said the city will begin planning for an April open house. Remodeling will begin shortly after the event.

Mark Nicklawske can be reached at news@press-pubs.com or 651-407-1231.

"It's not like you were being picked on personally," said board member Bob Kermes.

At the time of the cuts, officials said some of the Community Counseling Center services could be shifted to Ramsey County social services.

Williams said Community Counseling Center clients do not qualify for Ramsey County programs. She said most of counseling center clients need individual or family therapy and do not have severe

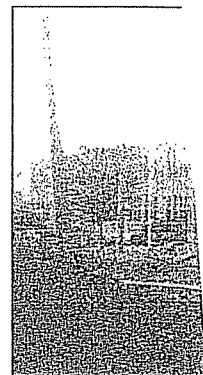
Matoska Memories

LOO

March 27 -
April 2, 2011

1911

Bargain in improved and vacant White Bear properties...Large 8 room house, good barn and sheds, large grounds with Lake frontage. The house has bath, furnace, electric lights and other modern conveniences and the grounds are planted to shrubbery, fruit trees, etc. with fine garden and lawn. Location Lake avenue between 9th and 10th streets. \$4,500 - easy terms...



- Photo courtesy

Lincolntown H
1935

man and will co
her postgraduate
at the University
consin...

1936

Mahtomedi news - The Lincolntown high school alumni will sponsor a dance in the gymnasium Friday evening, March 27. Everyone is welcome. The admission charge will be 35 cents a couple...Hoffman Corner news - We understand that Mr. and Mrs. A. Scheuneman of the Corners have rented their store for the summer to a party in Stillwater. However, they will have the fruit and vegetable stand... "A Durned Good Garage In Durned Good Town" Everybody's Auto Headquarters - J. A. Reed Motor & Oil Co. - Phone 376...

1961

Mary Sue Anderson, 20 years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O.H. Anderson, of Mahtomedi, is one of the national winners of a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation scholarship, it was reported

1986
An ice arena proposed by hockey enthused received "concealment" from the Bear Lake School last week, but r... doubts about the also were voiced construction of arena on school property, most at the North C where the existing door ice rinks station been proposed White Bear Ice Association. The cost to build the a budgeted not to \$1.1 million. ... Junior High School a 30 terminal col lab and another, p ily for math st with 17 terminal years ago only computers dotte huge building. curriculum teach "touch method," keys and tests and accuracy with minute tests

TOWNSHIP NOTES

The White Bear Town Board discussed the following issues at its March 25 executive session:

- Approved a request from the Tri-Fitness sporting goods store to hold a half-marathon, 10K and 5K race from 8 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 9 in the Bald Eagle Lake area. Each race will use a separate course. Tri-Fitness race director Dave Mooney said the store expects between 75 and 100 participants, up from 31 in 2010.

- Restricted public works employee access to its salt shed. The salt shed, approximately 50 feet tall, is similar to several structures made by the same manufacturer that have collapsed under heavy weight and high winds recently. Engineer Larry Bohrer recommended an inspection to ensure employee safety. He said the inspec-

tion would cost \$8,050. Town officials will attempt to find other metro area communities with similar sheds to share inspection costs. Only employees operating heavy equipment will be allowed inside the shed.

- Referred a Rice Creek Watershed District request for a study grant application for Bald Eagle Lake water management program to the utility commission. Bald Eagle Lake is on a state list of impaired lakes for its high phosphorus content, a condition brought on by excessive weed growth. Study grant would look into a treatment designed to seal the bottom of the lake and prevent curly leaf pond weed. The project would also include construction of a Stillwater Avenue stormwater retention pond on township property south of Stillwater Court.

CITY COUNCIL NOTES

The White Bear Lake City Council discussed the following issues at its March 22 regular meeting:

- Authorized a feasibility report on a mill and overlay repair program for streets that are deteriorating faster than expected. City Engineer and Director of Public Works Mark Burch said streets like Stewart Avenue and Orchard Lane are in need of repair despite being rebuilt less than 10 years ago. A mill and over-

- Authorized a feasibility report for a proposed Birch Lake Boulevard South improvement project with White Bear Township. The township is planning to reconstruct several streets in the area and would like to include Birch Lake Boulevard in the project. The two communities share financial responsibility for maintaining the border road. The study would determine the best way to fix the streets and how to fund the project.