

Coldwell Banker Burnet Manitou Days Treasure Hunt
Rutherford Park, White Bear Township

Clue #1:

*With Manitou Days we're hopelessly smitten
Where being a sourpuss is strictly forbidden.
From land and on sea, let us now formally decree:
The CBBurnet treasure has officially been hidden.*

*So, arise my Captain and savor the thrills
Maneuver rocky narrows and watery stills.
In township and city, in parks large and itty-bitty
Rely on your chutzpah and sleuthing skills.*

Explanation:

This clue welcomed searchers to the 2013 hunt. The second stanza set a nautical theme for the hunt as the medallion was hidden near White Bear Lake. It also mentions "watery stills," a subtle reference to nearby Stillwater Avenue.

Clue #2:

*Trees provide sanctuary and place of grace
Rings few and many define the space.
But those of smaller size do shelter the prize
Safekeeping the coin we did well to efface.*

*While we paint our place as quiet and serene
Hear laughing kids or catch a whiff of sunscreen.
Play some tag or just wander around stag
An unpaved trail is for you to careen.*

Explanation:

Many trees can be found at Rutherford Park. Older trees are found near the old shoreline and saplings are seen where the waters have receded. "Those of smaller size" hinted that hunters should look among the younger saplings with smaller/fewer rings. "Laughing kids" and "whiff of sunscreen," referred to the playground and outdoor activities at Ramsey County Beach, visible from the spot. Nearer yet is the Community Beach (private), which was once called "Tag" Beach. The "unpaved trail" is that which runs through the sand near the treasure's location.

Clue #3:

*Think of mode of journey from the days of yore
One thousand is a digit you shouldn't ignore.
Rest your dogs with the help of manufactured logs
Confine your search to District 624.*

*Course with high power toward the Golden Fleece
Or count the bugs if you so caprice.
When the temperature's high there's relief nearby
Follow the advice of this press release.*

Explanation:

"Mode of journey" and "days of yore" pointed to the old rail tracks that used to pass through Rutherford Park (a clearing in the trees can still be seen). Grand is slang for "one thousand" – Grand Avenue was just northwest of Rutherford Park. A lonely park bench ("manufactured logs") is one of the only landmarks in the park. The first stanza ends by limiting the scope of the hunt to School District 624 (White Bear Lake). In the second stanza, "high power" referred to the high voltage power lines seen on the southern horizon. Many, many grasshoppers reside in the sandy portion of the park ("count the bugs"). The lake is a relief for those feeling toasty from the summer weather.

Clue #4:

*The knight would bow down and kiss her glove
They'd start a medieval dance of courtly love.
First study the length of the park – then embark
And soon you'll find the solution to all above.*

*At the online directory we were a bit taken aback
Could it be that they just stopped keeping track?
Take a certain ID and with some imaging you'll see:
The original and its reversed standing back 2 back.*

Explanation:

The first stanza hinted at objects that could be found just north ("above") the site of the medallion. "Courtly love" spoke of the tennis courts a few blocks north at Longville Park. "First" and "Park" gave the intersection of the tennis court. The "online directory" in question is the White Bear Township website, which doesn't list Rutherford as one of its parks. The "certain ID" would be 96, assigned to the highway bordering the park. The number six, in "imaging" terms, is a "reverse" of the number nine.

Clue #5:

*"Betcha it's yours!" -- We utter with play.
"Duh, I am a genius!" -- You optimistically say.
Err will the fool who dismisses the legendary Thule
For it hints at a general region you should survey.*

*Objects of brown shouldn't escape your detection
One might even provide you a lucrative direction.
Think evergreens, beavers, and Bigfoot believers
We trust you'll be able to make the connection.*

Explanation:

The first stanza holds a helpful anagram. The first word of each line (“betcha,” “duh,” “err,” and “for”) all spell out “Rutherford Beach,” the home of this year’s hunt. “Optimistic” subtly pointed at nearly Memorial Beach – formerly named Optimist’s Beach – seen to the southwest. “Thule” is a Danish word for a legendary region of the north. The medallion was hidden on the very northern tip of White Bear Lake. The “objects of brown” are White Bear Township street signs. Northwest Street is tipped off in lines two and three – with reference to the Pacific Northwest; Washington is the Evergreen State, Oregon is the Beaver State and both host many Bigfoot claims.

Clue #6:

*After a bitter fight, into the role he dove
And took to travel from a northern grove.
Promises were said in a chamber of red
Solve this and find our treasure trove.*

*And she could stomach a slew of quarrels
Especially on issues of discipline and morals.
To sobriety she’d cheer, “Choose lemonade over beer!”
Rest you, too, upon her personal laurels.*

Explanation:

Know your history of Rutherford B. Hayes? “Bitter fight” highlighted the tumultuous 1876 election where Hayes lost the popular vote but won the electoral vote. He traveled to Washington from his home in Ohio, named Spiegel Grove (“northern grove”). Contrary to the norm, he took the Oath of Office in the Red Room of the White House. His wife, Lucy, was popularly nicknamed “Lemonade Lucy” for her strong support of the temperance movement.

Clue #7:

*Open your eyes and take a careful scan
You’re sure to spot an iconic span.
It connects public and not, stay where you ought
Launch ahead in solving our diabolical plan.*

*On yonder drifting triangles you may transfix
As clew and foot figure into our bag of tricks.
Try to carry on, they say – they’ll show you the way
Turn your attention to the musical sticks.*

Explanation:

From the medallion’s hiding spot one could see the Manitou Bridge (“iconic span”). The clue warns not to go onto the island. “Launch” pointed to another feature at the visible Matoska Park, its boat ramp. The second stanza spoke of sailing. “Drifting triangles” referred to sails. “Clew and foot” are sailing terms. The band Styx (“musical sticks”) sang the song “Come Sail Away” which repeated the line “try to carry on.” If “musical sticks” alone couldn’t get you the band, the

line "show you the way" also revealed another of the 80's hits. It also hinted at the large stick in which we hid the medallion.

Clue #8:

*A governor of the land we must also import
He will inch you closer and closer to our port.
It's not just his name that you will bring you fame
Consider, too, one with whom he did consort.*

*Far more than the smallest of trivialities:
Seek a beach with the most peculiar of actualities.
If the haze has cleared, one can easily peer
At the soil of four other municipalities.*

Explanation:

The "governor" would be Alexander Ramsey, the first governor of the state and name of the nearby Ramsey County Beach. With Clue #7 pointing primarily at Matoska Park, this brought you closer to Rutherford Beach. The clue says to go beyond Alexander Ramsey as Ramsey was part of the Hayes Administration from 1879-1881 when he served as US Secretary of War. The last stanza pointed to a very unique feature of Rutherford Park: it is one of the few places on the lake that affords views of all of the other cities on the lake: Dellwood, Mahtomedi, Birchwood Village and White Bear Lake.

Clue #9:

*Before sweat, tears and frustration begin to conflate
Make your way through the site's entrance gate.
Park sign in view, but also helpful to you
Is an outline of our beloved North Star state.*

*Far you've roamed to find something plastic and shiny
And resisted the urge to grow cranky and whiny.
Please find it today, there's little more to say:
We've simply run out -- this place is just so dang tiny!*

Explanation:

The first stanza points to some features seen at the entrance to Rutherford Park: the park sign, gate and sign with the image of the state of Minnesota. The last stanza put the medallion in a very small public space.

Clue #10:

*Friends, it's a disappearing act so ugly and severe
Frightening citizen, visitor and civil engineer.
The studies have been done, one after one
We shouldn't be able to hide a medallion here.*

*Yet we did (perhaps to just drive the point home)
The ever-growing Rutherford Park has the beach to comb.
Start yourself at a rocky ridge, then 55 steps toward the bridge
But don't pace so far as the lake's lapping foam.*

*There amid saplings rests a log once drifting
It is barren of bark and requires no heavy lifting.
Carefully look for a slit with a size befit
Not there? Then try some light sand sifting.*

Explanation:
Final directions to the 2013 Manitou Days Medallion.

Exact Location of the Treasure:

