Kasota Ponds needs you
to help with the annual cleanup
April 8.

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Remember the stores at Bandana Square?
Roger Bergerson looks back.

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School news
Como kids get an up-close view of government.

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Poetry contest to 8

A window into poetry

By Kristal Leebrick

Naomi Cohn sometimes uses tiny windows to help her poetry students choose what to write about.

Her tool is a simple piece of paper with a hole cut out of it that students look through to narrow their field of vision. Whether the writing group is inside a room on the 10th story of a senior high-rise or a basement with opaque windows, using this “viewfinder” can give participants a tool to focus on subject matter.

Cohn, a St. Anthony Park poet and creator of Known by Heart, an enterprise that specializes in providing writing experiences with older adults and people with disabilities, says the first time she tried this was at Ebenezer senior living complex in Minneapolis. She assumed her students would take the viewfinders to the windows and look at the street or up into the sky or at a tree or the city skyline, but “people wrote about a hand or their friend’s face.”

“That’s one of the things poetry does is it takes a specific,” Cohn says. “We might be writing about the universal theme of love or loss or winter or whatever, but we take a particular twig with ice on it or a particular gesture that our friend does, and that’s our window into that writing.”

Cohn is bringing her writing work to St. Anthony Park in April with a series of workshops through St. Anthony Park Area Seniors (SAPAS), a nonprofit that provides a variety of services to seniors, and to Seal Hi-Rise in South St. Anthony this summer. Workshops with Hamline Midway Elders are in the works.

These workshops are part of a 2015 Knight Arts Challenge grant Cohn received to develop arts activities for older adults. Additional funding for the project has come from Saint Anthony Park Community Foundation, Trillium Family Foundation and Friends of the St. Paul Public Library.

Cohn, 53, studied genetics, history and visual arts as an undergraduate at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. Her post-college work

Poet Naomi Cohn uses a simple piece of paper with a hole cut out of it to help her poetry students narrow their writing subjects. Photo by Kristal Leebrick

Cohn’s poem, “Dementia,” was stamped into a Carter Avenue sidewalk in St. Anthony Park in 2008.

Poetry contest to 8

One vibrant volume of verse: It’s the spring poetry issue!

By Kristal Leebrick

Como Park writer Joel Van Valin’s poem “Fairy Tale” is the winning entry of the 2017 Park Bugle poetry contest.

Our judge, poet John Krumberger of Prospect Park, chose a first-, second- and third-place poem and two honorable mentions out of the 29 entries.

“In the way it combines playfulness with seriousness, the poem ‘Fairy Tale’ can be compared to the work of the Metaphysical Poet,” Krumberger said, “as it both subverts and invigorates a clichéd form by introducing an unexpected twist of plot. The reader is challenged to consider his or her elusive notion of happiness.”

Van Valin, who lives with his wife and “a few assorted pets near the entrance to the State Fairgrounds,” works as a writer at a small software company. In 2013, his novel The Grand Dissolute, a time-travel novel set in St. Paul, was published by 5 Prince Publishing. His poetry has appeared in the journals Talking Stick, The Anaba Review, Rochester Post-Bulletin and (forthcoming) Knockout. What does he do for fun? “My hobby is Whistling Shade, a semi-annual literary journal I’ve published since 2001,” he said. You can learn more about him at his webpage, www.whistlingshade.com/joel.html.

Krumberger chose St. Anthony Park writer Garvin Davenport’s “Souvenirs,” as the second-place winner. “The poem ‘Souvenirs’ accumulates interesting, accurately observed details the way a narrative poem does but then surprises us with what the poet

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Poetry contest to 8
Como Park
The District 10 Como Community Council meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Historic Starket Station, 1224 N. Lexington Avenue. Here’s how to connect: 651-644-3889, district10como.com or district10como.org or Como Community Council on Facebook.

Survey participants say Como needs improvements. Participants in a District 10 survey overwhelmingly support a range of ideas—for changes big and small—to address traffic, bicycle and pedestrian safety issues along Como Parkway. More than 700 people took the online survey, the largest response in District 10’s history.

Though the survey is not “scientific,” the preferences of residents who participated are clear. Five of the ideas got more than 80 percent support. They are:
• Changing lane markings to eliminate the “weave” that northbound Como passes under the railroad tracks and heads toward the Wnyee/Como intersection; 90 percent of participants support this idea.
• Creating a safe way to get to the golf clubhouse, ski center and Como’s Pub on foot or by bicycle; 89 percent support this idea.
• Creating specific left-turn-only, straight and right-turn-only lane markings on northbound Como at the Como/Horton intersection; 88 percent support this idea.
• Installing a pedestrian-activated, flushing warning light where the existing path crosses Como at East Como Lake Drive; 86 percent support this idea.

D10 supports Sholom Home request for tax-exempt financing
The Como Community Council board voted in February to support the request by developers of Como Park Senior Living for $18 million in tax-exempt revenue bonds through the City of St. Paul. The bonds would provide about half the funding and leverage additional private financing to redevelop the former Sholom Home property at 1554 Midway Parkway.

The new owners hope to convert the abandoned nursing home into 168 units of assisted living and memory-care apartments, most of which would classify as “affordable” housing for seniors. The bond request will now enter a competitive process before the city’s Housing Redevelopment Authority. If the bonds are approved, developers say construction could begin as soon as May.

D10 board opposes longer patio hours at Gabes by the Park
The Como Community Council board voted Feb. 21 to oppose a request from Gabes by the Park to expand patio hours outside the restaurant at 993 Lexington Parkway.

The new owners of Gabes, as part of their liquor license application, want to keep the patio open until 12:30 a.m. daily and to install speakers on the patio. The current liquor license forbids outdoor music and requires the patio (which is on the Lexington side of the business) to close by 11 p.m.

The District 10 board voted to oppose any changes after hearing from nearby residents who say loud patrons and current patio hours already are too disruptive. The St. Paul City Council will make the final decision on which conditions are allowed under the liquor license.

Join the District 10 board Nine positions on the Como Community Council Board will be up for election at District 10’s annual meeting on Tuesday, April 18. The positions are:
• Chair
• Secretary
• One representative from each of the four geographic sub-districts
• Three at-large representatives

Any resident of District 10 who is 18 or older is eligible to run. So are authorized representatives from a business or nonprofit organization located in District 10.

Candidates interested in running for a board position must submit their name and a brief biography by Tuesday, April 11.

Nominations submitted after that date will be treated as write-in candidates. Send nominations to district10district10como.org. You can find a map of the four Como Community Council Board: Tuesday, March 21
• Environment Committee: Wednesday, March 29
• Neighborhood Relations and Safety Committee: Tuesday, April 4
• Land Use Committee: Tuesday, April 5

Falcon Heights
The Falcon Heights City Council meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7 p.m. in Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave. Contact information: 651-792-7601 or falconheights.org.

Community Conversations seeks input on building inclusion here The City of Falcon Heights Inclusion and Policing Task Force is seeking input from residents and guests who visit the community in developing recommendations on how to build a more inclusive and welcoming community and develop policing practices that reflect the values of the community.

A series of five Community Conversation sessions was launched Feb. 16 and will continue through May or June (to be determined). This meeting will take place after the Falcon Heights City Council has acted on the task force’s recommendations.

Questions? Contact Falcon Heights City administrator Sack Thongvahn, 651-792-7611 or sack.thongvahn@falconheights.org.

AARP offers free tax assistance at Falcon Heights City Hall AARP will provide free tax assistance for low-income, elderly and handicapped individuals at Falcon Heights City Hall, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave., on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. -noon, through April 13.

Volunteers will be able to help complete and electronically file basic state, federal and rental/property tax refund returns.

Please note: individuals will need to provide a valid driver’s license or official ID card and last year’s tax returns. The IRS also requires the verification of tax documents with a Social Security card.

This is a walk-in service only.

St. Anthony Park
The District 12 Community Council meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Jennings Community Learning Center, 2455 University Ave. The council offices are located at 2195 University Ave., Suite 300 E. Contact information: 651-649-5992 or www.uspc.org

St. Anthony Park... I have many buyers who would like to do just that, but our inventory is down by 25% as compared to last year at this time. If you would like to jump into this sellers’ market please give me a call for a free market analysis.

Nancy Meeden Coldwell Banker Burnet Office: 651-282-9650 Mobile: 612-790-5053 nmeeden@cbburnet.com

Come home to St. Anthony Park...

Family Concerts 2017 for children of all ages & their families
Friday, March 24 • Ross Sutter Scandinavian Trio
Friday, April 21 • Deodakan String Quartet
Saint Matthew’s Episcopal Church • 2036 Caster Ave [at Charles St]
schubert@schubert.net

Schubert Club Music in the Park Series
Alina Ibragimova, violin Cedric Tiberghien, piano
Sunday, March 26 • 4 PM Pre-concert talk at 3 PM Saint Anthony Park UCC 651.292.3268 • schubert.org

Chiara Marano
New staff member
In February, St. Anthony Park Community Council hired Chiara Marano as its new representative. Marano, who recently completed her master’s degree in Advocacy and Political Leadership at Metropolitan State University, will work full-time at the council. She grew up and still lives in Como Park. She attended City Files to 5
Window from 1

included community organizing, copropediting at Encyclopedia Britannica, nonprofit communications and grant writing. She became more interested in doing her own writing in her late 20s, as writing tasks became more complicated when she began to lose her eyesight from myopic degeneration, a condition that damages the retina.

“At first, [creative] writing was kind of a way of exercising a different muscle, and then I got addicted to it,” she says.

In 2010, Cohn went back to school for a degree in psychotherapy. In 2014, she enrolled in a master’s program in family therapy. An internship at Ebenezer was the spark that ignited her writing workshops with older adults.

“I was there as a family therapist intern, but they have great lifelong learning programs, and I realized that I love working in that capacity with older adults,” she says. “I think family therapy and psychotherapy can be useful,” yet the people she worked with “didn’t feel broken, but they were perfectly willing to come to a poetry or creativity group and through that process build relationships.”

Which is essentially what you aspire to do in a family therapy session, Cohn says. That made her realize that poetry is a powerful intervention, and she began to look for ways to use it in her work with older adults.

Cohn wanted to bring the work into her own community and reach the “80 to 90 percent of us who are aging in our homes, often isolated, often with mobility issues. How do we serve those folks?”

“From a gerontology perspective, you are on the spectrum from isolation to connection is indicative of outcomes in terms of quality of life,” Cohn says. “Social connection and reducing isolation is incredibly important in the mental and physical health of older adults. I certainly have seen that anecdotally in how people come into a [writing] session and how they leave.”

People offer “incredible support” to each other in these groups, Cohn says. “Poetry gets personal pretty fast.”

Society has internalized ageism, she says, “so to empower older adults to authentically share their experience feels important to me.” And a gathering of people learning, writing and sharing their creations “is a powerful form of community.”

The SAPAS classes will be held four Mondays in April and May, 10 a.m.-noon, at Centennial United Methodist Church, 2200 Hillside Ave. The first class, “Writing Home: Building Blocks of Poetry,” will be held April 3. Subsequent classes will be held April 17, May 1 and May 15.

The classes are free, but registration is required and space is limited. You can call the SAPAS office at 651-642-9052 to register.

Chocolate Kiss

What are you made of, oh package of purple? Shall I pull on your string or leave you?

How sweet you are. Unwrapped you become a memory.

—Fran Nelson

This poster was created in one of Naomi Cohn’s workshops at Ebenezer in Minneapolis.

Want to write a poem?

Here’s your prompt: A Sidewalk Poetry discovery walk

Naomi Cohn’s poem about memory is stumped into a sidewalk on Carter Avenue just south of Keston Street in St. Anthony Park. That poem, “Dementia,” was placed there in 2008 as part of Everyday Poems for City Sidewalk, the brainchild of Marcus Young, a former artist in residence for the City of St. Paul. Since 2008, some 950 poems have been stumped into St. Paul sidewalks and there are a number of them in the Como Park and St. Anthony Park neighborhoods.

Cohn suggests using the city’s Sidewalk Poetry as your prompt to write a poem. First, seek a poem.

Take a walk along these St. Anthony Park streets—Valentine Avenue, Keston Street, Chilcomb Avenue, Carter Avenue or Bourne Avenue—or, in Como Park, walk along Victoria Street between Larpenteur and Arlington avenues and or on Arlington just east of Victoria. There, you’ll find a number of poems stumped into the walks.

If you want to venture elsewhere in the city, check out the poetry location finder at publicartstpaul.org/project/find-poetry-locations.

While you’re on your walk, Cohn suggests you pay attention to what you are noticing along the way. What do you see? What do you hear? What do you smell on this April walk?

If you’d like your shares of sidewalk walk poem, send it to the Bugle and well publish it in our Letters section next issue: PO Box 8126, St. Paul, MN 55108 or editor@parkbugle.org.—Kristal Latnik

“Tadpoles” by Dallas Crow is stumped into a sidewalk on Hythe Street in St. Anthony Park.
By Ryan Flynn

A community exists wherever people share a connection. It is more than a collection of homes near one another. It is a bond we form through the blessing of sharing expertise and experience.

So many examples occur so often that we frequently overlook their significance. Examples can be as small as shoveling a neighbor’s sidewalk while they’re away or as prominent as planting a community garden or hosting a block party. Community is formed through calls to catch up and visits to welcome new neighbors.

In the Como Park neighborhood, the District 10 Como Community Council is simply an extension of our shared experiences and efforts. Our purpose, since 1975, is to continually bring our community together while working to improve the quality of life here. We do this by hosting engaging events, undertaking meaningful projects and advocating for residents. To that end, we’ve been busy.

We encourage community involvement and do our waterways and wildlife a favor. Help with the annual cleanup on Saturday, April 8, from 9 a.m. to noon.

To protect our neighborhood’s Kasota Ponds, volunteers gather each spring to pick up debris that would otherwise make its way into the Mississippi River. All ages are welcome. Kids, K-12 can join local entomologist Margot Monson, whose microscopes and expertise will help them discover what critter live in the ponds.

Volunteers meet at 9 a.m. at EPA Auto Parts on Lexington, 2930 Kasota Ave. (just west of the Highway 280 overpass and the railroad tracks, take a left). We’ll strategize there, then walk to the ponds.

Get outside, meet your neighbors, and do our waterways and wildlife a favor. Help with the annual cleanup Saturday, April 8, from 9 a.m. to noon.

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Volunteers meet at 9 a.m. at EPA Auto Parts on Lexington, 2930 Kasota Ave. (just west of the Highway 280 overpass and the railroad tracks, take a left). We’ll strategize there, then walk to the ponds.

Refreshments will be provided. Bring gloves; extras will be available. Reflective vests will be provided for safety.

Dress for the weather. In light rain, wear a poncho and boons. If it is raining or snowing hard, we’ll postpone the cleanup to Sunday, April 9.

You can find more about it at www.sapcc.org/kasota-ponds-clean-up-2017.—The St. Anthony Park Community Council Environment Committee

The events, projects and advocacy that District 10 undertakes are possible because of community-oriented grants, the support of our three City Council members and our county commissioner, and the ideas and energy of numerous committed volunteers. In fact, it is because of residents who join our board and committees that we as a community council can effectively do so much work. Some of the examples described above came from an idea from a Como resident. We were happy to recognize these residents by adding them to the annual St. Paul Neighborhood Honor Roll in January.

If you have an idea that you think would benefit your neighborhood or a concern that we should address on behalf of the community, please reach out to us. In the same way that weeding a neighbor’s garden or shoveling a sidewalk makes a difference in their lives, your ideas and energy make a difference in our entire community.

With your help, we can always do more together.

Ryan Flynn is chair of the District 10 Como Community Council.

St. Anthony Park residents: help clean Kasota Ponds April 8
Scandinavian Trio Daedalus String Quartet in Family Concert lineup

The Schubert Club’s Music in the Park Family Concert series will host performances March 24 and April 21. The Family Concerts are held at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave., and include two performances each night at 6 p.m. and at 7:15 p.m.

The Scandinavian Trio will perform Friday, March 24. The trio features Ross Satter, guitar; Cheryl Paschke, nykelharpa and fiddle; and Marya Hart, piano.

Daedalus String Quartet will perform Friday, April 21. The quartet includes Min-Young Kim and Matilda Kaul, violins; Jessica Thompson, viola, and Thomas Kraines, cello.

Family Concert attendees can choose their own pricing. Tickets are $8 to $18 per person. Advanced ticket reservations are strongly encouraged (no tickets required for babes in arms up to age 1). You can order tickets online at schubertclub.org or call the box office, 651-292-3268.

Daedalus String Quartet will also perform at a Music in the Park Series concert Sunday, April 23, at 4 p.m. at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave. A pre-concert talk will begin at 3 p.m.

The Daedalus String Quartet—Min-Young Kim and Matilda Kaul, violins; Jessica Thompson, viola, and Tom Kraines, cello—will be joined by Twin Cities cellist Wilhelmina Smith and actor Linda Kelsey for the April 23 performance. The quartet will also perform for St. Anthony Park Elementary School students and residents at St. Anthony Park Home on Monday, April 24.

City Houses from page 2

Murray Middle School and Como Park Senior High School.

Find out more about District 12 Community members are welcome to attend District 12 meetings. Here is a list of the monthly meetings, the times and where the various committees meet.

• Land Use Committee: first Thursday of the month, 7-9 p.m., Jennings Community School, 2455 W. University Ave.
• St. Anthony Park District 12 Board of Directors: second Thursday of the month, 7-9 p.m., Jennings Community School, 2455 W. University Ave.
• Transportation Committee: first Monday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m., District 12 office, 2395 W. University Ave., Suite 300E
• Environment Committee: fourth Wednesday of the month, 7-9 p.m., District 12 office, 2395 W. University Ave., Suite 300E
• Equity Committee: first Friday of the month, 12-2 p.m., District 12 office, 2395 W. University Ave., Suite 300E

City of St. Paul plans park area near Weyerhaeuser site

The City of St. Paul has bid to purchase 2.25 acres near the Weyerhaeuser development off University Avenue, as reported last summer. The land is in St. Anthony Park and Prospect Park neighborhoods. The St. Anthony Park and Prospect Park neighborhoods purchased by the city, the developers, and the St. Anthony Park and Prospect Park neighborhoods.

The land purchased by the city at the border of Minneapolis’s Prospect Park neighborhood. The St. Anthony Park Community Council’s Land Use Committee worked closely with developers and the City of St. Paul in this process.

Last summer, Plymouth-based developer Dominium bought the 13.3-acre site next to 808 Berry Place, a mixed-income rental property that Dominium opened in 2004. The developer has proposed a 600- to 700-unit apartment complex.

The land purchased by the city will be set aside for a park area. Dominium also agreed to donate additional land for new streets. The St. Anthony Park Community Council plans to be an integral part of the planning as it moves forward.

Help create St. Anthony Park’s Comprehensive 10-Year Plan

Join the St. Anthony Park Community Council steering committee, which is tasked with creating the neighborhood’s Comprehensive 10-Year Plan. The committee will meet monthly to set the direction of the neighborhood. If you don’t have time for monthly meetings, contact Caitlin Rogers, cailin@sapcc.org, for more options on how to be involved.

Firing It Up In South Como!

Fine Craft Invitational Exhibit & Sale
St. Paul Art Crawl Free Workshop!
289 Front Ave., St. Paul, MN 651-449-4774

Built in the fall of 2017, this custom home is in the heart of Como Park. Just a block from Como Conservatory and a short walk from Como Lake, this home offers all the amenities you would expect from a new custom home.

Features include:
- Open concept floor plan
- Hardwood floors
- Custom kitchen with stainless steel appliances
- Master suite with en-suite bathroom
- 3 additional bedrooms
- 2 full bathrooms
- 2-car garage
- Beautifully landscaped yard

For more information or to schedule a showing, please contact me.

Barbara Swadburg
651-271-8919
barb@lyndenrealty.com

Travels

Don’t forget to plan your 2017 getaways!

Stop in at our office. Browse travel brochures. Ask us about tailoring an itinerary for you. Call on our experience creating travel memories.

Wine • Beer • Spirits
The best little wine shop you’ve never heard of...
—Twin Cities Metro magazine
2326 Carter Ave., St. Paul 55105
651-665-5170
M-Th 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., F-Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
www.thelittlewineshoppe.com

Rental

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St. Anthony Park filmmaker John Whitehead’s documentary on the African-American string band, the Carolina Chocolate Drops, will be shown at a free pre-release screening on Thursday, April 13, 7–9 p.m. at the Heights Theater, 3951 N.E. Central Ave., Columbia Heights.

Whitehead, a musician and roots-music fan, has been working on “Don’t Get Trouble in Your Mind: The Carolina Chocolate Drops” for more than 10 years. The documentary tells the story of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, a string band from Raleigh, N.C., and their mentor, fiddler Joe Thompson, who died in 2012. The film captures how three African-Americans from the hip-hop generation embraced a 19th-century genre and took it to new heights, winning a Grammy in 2010. You can view the film’s trailer at https://vimeo.com/207367294.

Whitehead’s film is an outgrowth of his obsession with the origins and evolution of roots music, he says.

“Filming the Drops playing in Joe Thompson’s living room or backstage at the Grand Ole Opry, these were once-in-a-lifetime experiences that more than compensate for the effort of getting the film made,” Whitehead says.

Whitehead has produced a number of documentaries for PBS and other outlets, including the Midwest Emmy Award-winning series “Minnesota: A History of the Land,” “Wannabe: Life and Death in a Small Town Gang” and “Make ’Em Dance: The Hackberry Ramble’s Story.”

You know there’s trouble when the owner of a shopping center says it was a mistake to build it and tenants take out an ad assuring the public that they’re still in business.

That’s what happened in 1989, when the Sherburne H. Wilder Foundation said enough was enough at Bandana Square in the St. Paul Midway district’s Energy Park.

By then, just six years in to the deal, Wilder had lost $9 million on the retail mall. Foundation president Leonard Willmar said the drain on the nonprofit’s resources was threatening its ability to fund the health and social service programs that were in core mission.

Multiple restaurants and shops—Mama Lu’s Barbeque, Teasley’s—had come and gone, but Mullarky’s, the Briar Patch and to be the Gallery of St. Paul,” is the owner Michael Jaruch, his reference a very visible location,” he said.

Commercial real estate firm Wellington Management now owns the complex, but in the early 1980s, principal Steve Wellington was deputy director of the City of St. Paul’s Planning and Economic Development Department. As such, he was familiar with the discussions and negotiations involving Energy Park.

It was an era of big projects intended to revitalize the city and Energy Park was an ambitious effort to develop a 210-acre parcel between Lexington and Snelling avenues on the east and west and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad tracks on the north and south.

Along with Wilder, a key player from the beginning was the St. Paul Port Authority, a government agency originally established to manage the St. Paul harbor. In 1955, the state Legislature authorized the agency to engage in economic development elsewhere in the city, which it proceeded to do by issuing tax-exempt bonds to finance projects.

Energy Park was initially envisioned as a business/industrial center, but evolved to include retail and housing, Wellington said.

“Both the Port Authority and Wilder had reservations about retail, but the mayor’s office and City Council pushed hard for mixed use,” Wellington said. He noted that it was a time when the specialty retail concept was in vogue across the country, Minnesota’s St. Anthony Main being a local example.

Bandana Square occupied a complex of buildings constructed in 1980 as the Northern Pacific Railway’s Como Shops. There, passenger trains were repaired and maintained for much of the 20th century.

Wilder spent $17 million converting the site to a shopping destination, retaining the brick walls and exposed wooden beams that harked back to its beginnings.

The new mall got off to a shaky start in late 1983, behind schedule and only partly finished. Occupancy was 20 percent, with Jaruch and a dozen other tenants on board. Within six months, the mall’s management team had been replaced.

Slowly, things got better. The Dakota Bar and Grill opened in 1985, as did the Minnesota Children’s Museum. The following year a motel, the Sunwood Inn, began operating next door.

By 1987, occupancy was at 90 percent.

“Things looked promising for a little while,” Jaruch said. “There was a Victorian Christmas promotion and a beer festival in the summer, and you couldn’t get near the place at those times.”

Attracted by the prospect of a wider customer base, room to grow and lots of free parking, he had moved his gift shop there from Milton Square in St. Anthony Park. But Jaruch never was able to turn a profit. He eventually left retail and today is an analyst with a state government agency.

Occupancy started to slide, dropping to 65 percent by 1989, with fewer stores attracting fewer and fewer customers. Wilder wanted out, asking the Port Authority to take over, which the agency did, reluctantly. Developer had defaulted on eight other Port Authority projects since 1984 and now the commercial real estate market was depressed.

Undeterred, there was unease among the remaining tenants. Richard Henke, owner of the Malt Shop restaurant, told the St. Paul Pioneer Press that he worried about the mall’s future.

“The tons are too high for the volume of traffic out here,” he said.

The Port Authority considered converting Bandana Square entirely to offices but chose instead to concentrate retail on the first floor, offices on the second.

In 1991, an investors’ group paid $3 million for the property and made several attempts to rejuvenate it. Wellington Management bought it in 2003 for $6.1 million, eventually investing another $11 million to convert it into an office and medical center.

“It took us quite a while, and there was some pain involved,” Wellington said. “Some of the retail tenants didn’t necessarily want to leave.”

Today, an Allina Health Clinic is the anchor tenant, occupying half of a complex that is 96 percent occupied, the only empty space being the former home of the Twin City Model Railroad Museum.

“I love the historic connections that the building has, even though we have to get approval for every structural change we want to make because it’s on the National Register of Historic Places,” Wellington said.

“An office building may be as exciting as a building collection of shops would be, but clearly that’s the best use for the site,” he added. “Bandana Square has a long and useful life ahead.”
Poetry contest from 1

sees and how the poet then connects this to the name of the city in the poem,” Krumberger said. Davenport’s poem “Winter’s Edge” was last year’s second-place contest winner.


Two poems received honorable mention, “Something There Is,” by Dave Healy of St. Anthony Park and “Poem” by Andrea Blain, also of St. Anthony Park.

Van Valin will receive $50 for his first-place win. The prompt for this year’s contest was the word “walls.” Contestants were not required to use the word in their work and the poems were judged anonymously.

We have printed the three top poems, two honorable mentions and a poem by our judge here. All entries can be found online at www.parkbugle.org.

Krumberger’s poem “Breakfast at Colossal” was the first-place poem in the Bugle’s 2015 contest. A psychologist in private practice in St. Anthony Park for 26 years, Krumberger has published a chapbook and two full volumes of poetry, the latest one, Beamer Dreamer, was published by Main Street Rag in 2016.

1. Fairy Tale

After their fairy tale has ended, how do they dream our prince, our young princess as, arms entwined, they share a lover’s sleep? He has brought her through the dark forest to the gray-walled castle and now they have won a welcome bed.

Still, there’s that wind on the casements always a fugitive, and the hiss of a guttering candle calling elsewhere . . . Perhaps in her slumber she’s a married doctor in suburban Cleveland with two kids. Perhaps he is a taxi driver, prowling the New York streets.

—Joel Van Valin

2. Souvenirs

I’m off the Metro and onto the 980 West Falls Church, Virginia, the last leg of my tourist day. I’ve seen the Bill of Rights, the Presidents, museums and monuments all verified with itemized receipt in a plastic bag of souvenirs laid out across my seat.

Not yet time to pull away for Home where son and grandson wait to meet our driver steps down to stretch his legs and take a smoke.

His weathered face and paunch remind rumpled D.C. taxi drivers I used to see on the corner. They all spoke English then, and lots between old National and your hotel could give the real inside on any bill or bargain.

“Hey, Joe,” our driver calls across the taxi to a younger man also in transit unlike our driver a little hefty, wearing a small black cap. Joe waves back, smiles, calls something I can’t hear.

Our driver boards again and puts the bus in gear. Where exactly are the falls, I’ve always wanted to know? Where sits the church that named this place? Who knelt here first in powdered wig or sweater to pray or take the sacred bread?

All I’ve seen these twenty minutes are revolving lights and a man called Joe whose words I can’t hear but who with perfect grace kneels in West Falls Church which may just say it all.

—Garvin Davenport

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Night Windows
Six houses and one stand between and his- and not. my son I read Six houses and one I cradled my son, silenights his windows all rooms keeping company, Six houses and one I cradled freshly breathing, soothing. My his bright, walls between there that trap one of walls city street our house between living That summer was born his wife In dark that summer would shine; less empty, more alive. (all asleep) street away my son, for midnight house dark, So many here and work to small lullaby.
—Sarah Clark

Honorable mention
Something There Is
If we build it, will they come? If we build it, how high and long? High enough to shut out the sun? Long enough to enclose our fear? Will one be enough? Will it ever be enough? Can a partition admit contrition? Can we safely hedge our bets? Who will watch o’er this rampart? Who will help us unlearn long division? Can we call them out without walling ourselves in?

When our progeny orbit this lonely planet how many Great Walls will they see?

Hand me another brick. I can still hear a heart beating.
—Dave Healy

Poem
Donard is the highest peak in mountains called The Mournes along the east-edge of the North, on Ireland’s other side. One climb to the top follows the bed of a creek up the mountain’s grainy slope. Another route traces a well-worn path of smugglers from the Newcastle coast. A third inanimate climber’s guide is a wall built for cattle and sheep—or rather, against them: to guide them like ghosts through inevitable mist and the water’s glide to the flooded Silent Valley.

These days the wall, kept to right or left, will take you upwards by tracks less steep through fans of heather and clouds of gorse. The living granite’s weave of warp and weft your stony sail to steer a course to the shoulders of Mourn from its belly.

Ulster has been no stranger to fear or force and borders line her beauty-beggared face But this long wall tracing peak to peak speaks less of prison than holy sweet release And less of war than earth-hewn, heart-high peace.

—Andrea Blain
classes Without Quizzes offers real science in real language for all.

The St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota will offer Classes Without Quizzes, a morning of learning for participants old and young, on Saturday, April 1. Hosted by the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Sciences (CEANS) Alumni Society, workshops will be led by faculty and experts who present the latest research in real-world language to adults while children can participate in a concurrent Kids’ Edition.

Professor Michael Boland will present the keynote, “The Geography of Food,” which will focus on trends linked with the geographic origins of foods and increasing consumer demand for information about food. Breakout sessions will cover how nature affects the corn we eat, adaptations of plants in lakes, rivers and wetlands; and trends that lead to future food security. Participants will also learn about environmentally friendly dairy production, what’s going on in Minnesota’s woods, racing chickens in a backyard and hydroponics.

The concurrent Kids’ Edition will allow young students in grades K-6 to explore animal adaptations, tapping maple syrup and the up-close differences between many live reptile species.

For registration and details, go to z.umn.edu/cwq.

Metro Deep School to hold spaghetti dinner and silent auction
Join the Metro Deep School for its 23rd annual spaghetti dinner and silent auction fundraiser on Friday, April 21, 4:30-8 p.m. at the school, located at 1471 Biewster St., St. Paul.

Metro Deep School is a 24-year-old charter school for Deaf and hard-of-hearing children from pre-school to grade 12. The school provides students and their families with a bilingual approach to education, using American Sign Language and English for instruction. Ninety-five students from 30 Twin Cities-area school districts attend the school.

The public is invited to attend the dinner. You won’t need to know ASL to attend.

Cost of admission is $8 for adults and $5 for kids. Children 2 and under are free. The cost for families won’t exceed $25.

‘Mask Theatres’ offered at North Dale Rec Center
Homeward Bound Theatre Company will offer “Mask Theatre” for students ages 12-15, at North Dale Recreation Center, 1414 N. St. Anthony Blvd., Thursdays, April 6-27, 6-7:30 p.m. Participants will make a mask of their own face and use it to perform a drama together. Family and friends will be invited to attend the theatrical production on the last day of class.

For more information or to register, call the school, 651-558-2329 or register online at www.uper.gov/activiteregistration.

Concert series to benefit Lutheran Social Services refuge programs
The InVocation Singers, a volunteer choir in its 13th season, is partnering with Lutheran Social Services Refuge Services, located in St. Anthony Park. Each year, the choir raises funds for a charity partner.

The concert theme is “Unchanted Waters” The concert schedule is:
• Sunday, March 25, 7 p.m., Macalester Plymouth United Church, 1608 Lincoln Ave., St. Paul
• Sunday, March 26, 4 p.m., Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church, 501 S. 31st Ave., Minneapolis
• Friday, March 31, 7:30 p.m., Spirit of Hope Catholic Community, 2035 Chalfont Road, SanSft Lake
• Saturday, April 1, 7 p.m., SpringSfoot Mosque Center, 610 W. 28th St., Minneapolis

For more information, visit www.invocationsingers.org.

CRAFT AND BAKE SALE AT JEHOVAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas Ave., St. Paul, will host a craft and bake sale Saturday, April 8, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The sale will be on the main floor of the church building. Items left after entering the Thomas-side doors.

A share of the proceeds will go to the church and to Central Lutheran School. Students are asked to pay $10 per table for their display.

For information, contact Dawn Johnson, dawn@culdfuller.com, or the church, 651-644-1422.

Time to register for St. Paul rec and summer programs
Summer camps and classes at all St. Paul recreation centers will begin Monday, April 3. Register online at stpaul.gov/activiteregistration or at the closest recreation center.

Here are some of the upcoming activities at Lutheran Northwest Como and North Dale.

Call the rec centers to find out specifics about times, dates and costs.

LUTHERAN NORTHWEST COMO AND NORTH DALE

Spring Break Tennis Lessons, ages 5-10, April 4, 5, 6, 7

Adult Tai Chi, ages 50 and older, Thursday, April 6-27

Lutheran Northwest Como and North Dale.

For more information or to register, call the school, 651-558-2290 or register online at www.uper.gov/activiteregistration.

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Urban Growler expansion under way

By Alex Lodner

After just a couple of years in business, St. Anthony Park’s Urban Growler, Minnesota’s first women-owned brewery, has hit maximum capacity. The popular brewery and taproom, which also houses the Twin Cities’ first taproom with a full kitchen, is now in the process of increasing in space.

The expansion comes after a successful fundraising campaign that helped owners and partners Jill Pavlak and Deb Loch get additional room adjacent to the original brewery, and begin the build-out of a new canning line.

“We ran the campaign for two reasons,” said Loch, the master brewer at Urban Growler. “One was to help fund the canning line. It didn’t cover the whole cost, but it definitely helped ease the burden. The other was to raise awareness for the new capabilities.

“We’ve always been a community-based brewery. Our founding members helped raise the funds we needed to get the original bank loan. We’ve had a lot of support.

The pair recently took the Park Bugle on a tour of the new space, and it is easy to see why it was so badly needed. A hallway that extends past what was the end of the brewery’s space leads to an expansive area that once housed a consignment warehouse. It will soon be home to the new canning facility, which the owners hope will be up and running by summer.

The newest arrivals to the Urban Growler family: giant, shiny tanks, including four 40-barrel fermentors and bright tanks used for storage, have been placed in the there, and the canning line itself should be on its way soon.

“The goal is to increase our capacity,” Loch said with a smile. “In order to can, first we need more beer.

“We can’t take on anymore outside accounts right now,” Pavlak added. “Clients like golf courses have been asking for cans, and we are so excited to expand what we can do for them and to be able to take on new clients.”

The first brew to run through the new lines will be Cow Bell Cream Ale. “It’s our biggest seller by far,” Loch said. The beer will be packaged in four packs of 16-ounce cans and sold to bars and liquor stores. Minnesota state law prohibits sales of cans directly from the brewery, although Urban Growler will begin bottling some of their featured beers in 750-ml bottles, which will be available for sale at the taproom.

Earlier this winter, Urban Growler brought on Jeremy King as its new head brewer and added a second event area, the Barrel Room,

for larger events. Things are definitely happening in this corner of the brewing world.

Urban Growler proprietors Jill Pavlak (left) and Deb Loch show off their new cans. The brewery will start canning their own beer this summer. Photo by Alex Lodner

Alex Lodner writes about food and community news regularly in the Park Bugle.
2 SUNDAY
North Schuerman Evening Lions Club
“All The Waffles You Can Eat”
Bandhurain, 8 a.m.-10:30 p.m., John
Rose Hotel, 2363 1st Cross rains,
Roseville. Supplies, coffee, milk &
courage juice included. Face-painting
and balloon animals. Free for 5 and
under; $8 for 6 and older. Bring old
and balloon animals. Free for 5 and
under, $8 for 6 and older. Bring old
eyeglasses and hearing aids to donate.

3 MONDAY
SAPAS Writing Workshop with Naomi
Roseoval, 2661 Civic Center Drive,
Centennial United Methodist
Church, 10 a.m.-noon. Registration
required. Call 651-642-9052.

Maked Bash. Clay to Go, a workshop
with Northern City Ceramics, 8 a.m.-
12, St. Anthony Park Library, 1-3 p.m. Free.
Registration is limited to 20 kids.
Call 651-642-0411.

Middle School Book Club, grades 6-
8, St. Anthony Park Library, 6:30-
7 p.m. Pick up a copy of “Some” by Iva
Buzan at librarians desk beforehand.

4 TUESDAY
Baby and toddler story time, ages 0-
2, storytime welcome, noon Tuesday,
St. Anthony Park Library, 9:30-10 a.m.
and 10:30-11 a.m.

SAP Gardens Club “Hydroponic
Courtyards,” presented by Larry
Chippendale, Hennepin County Master
Gardener, St. Matthew’s Episcopal
Church Fellowship Hall. Refreshments
and social time, 7 p.m. Parmiwc, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

5 WEDNESDAY
English Conversation Groups, every
Wednesday. St. Anthony Park Library,
4 p.m.

St. Anthony Park Adult Book Club,
will discuss ‘The Cale’ by Evan’s Clinic, St.
Anthony Park Library, 6:30-8 p.m. All
are welcome, no registration
required.

“Hello: A Conversation About
Living, and Dying Will,” Huckle-

Parsons Como Clinic, 7-8:30 p.m. The
circle helps make conversations
about end of life more comfortable and
tos. Bring a partner at
contactus@hellohrc.org.

6 THURSDAY
Community Support Group. St.
Anthony Park United Church of
Christ, 10-11:30 a.m.

Bereavement Support Group, St.
Anthony Park United Church of
Christ, 10-11:30 a.m.

Preschool story time in Mandarin
Chinese, St. Anthony Park Library,
10:30 a.m.

Dialogue for Teenagers meets every
Thursday, U of M St. Paul Campus,
11:30 A M -12:30 P M .

7 FRIDAY
Preschool story time, every Friday,
St. Anthony Park Library, 10-11 a.m.
Walking in the Langford Park gym, 1-
2 p.m. every Friday. Free and open to
all.

8 SATURDAY
St. M N A C at the first family movie
night, Centennial United Methodist
Church, 4 p.m.

13 THURSDAY
St. Anthony Park Area Seniors cinema
series “South Side With You,” by Evan’s Clinic, St.
Anthony Park Library, 2 p.m. All
welcome. Free.

14 FRIDAY
SAPAS Story Day. City Colleges, 10
amoon. Free. No registration
required.

21 FRIDAY
SAPAS Book Day. City Colleges, 10
am-noon. Free. No registration
required.

17 MONDAY
SAPAS Writing Workshop with Naomi
Roseoval, 2661 Civic Center Drive,
Centennial United Methodist
Church, 10 a.m.-noon. Registration
required. Call 651-642-9052.

Community String, college campus,
6:30 P M gathering, 7:30-8:30 P M . The event is
free, but a hat will be passed for the
music lesson and to make the soup-
possible. Children’s welcome.
Sponsored by the District 12
Community Council.

28 FRIDAY
SAPAS speaker: Exercise planning with
Lisa Piercy, a talk about wills, powers
of attorney and health care directives,
Liz Pierce, a talk about wills, powers
of attorney and health care directives,
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Liz Pierc
Como Park Cougars

Boys’ swimming—The Cougars had a Splaud City Conference with a tremendous team accomplishment. All swimmers achieved personal bests at the St. Paul City Conference meet. Sophomore Joel Miller, junior Cole classification. Honourable mentions were achieved by junior Andrew Barnard at 145, sophomore Morris Walker at 182 and sophomore Alex Pauro at 220. Seniors John Barton and Kayode Ajaoo provided steady leadership, inspiration and solid splits in the lineup.

Como swimmers Cole Napierala, Josef Miller and Joe McCune-Zeiath supported Jared Czech in the Section 4A Meet at St. Catherine University, where the Cougars’ 4 x 100 freestyle relay team qualified for the state tournament.

Napierala and senior Joe McCune-Zearath all earned All-Conference. Juniors Jared Czech and Noah Frese, along with sophomore Frank McGuire, earned honourable mentions.

The 4 x 100 freestyle relay team of McCune-Zeiath, Napierala, Czech and Miller swam the fastest time for Como in the last 15 years at the conference meet. The boys carted that momentum to the Section 4A meet at St. Catherine’s University Feb. 24. They had a goal of a top-three finish in the section, which would fulfill a dream by qualifying for the state tournament.

Executing a strong and steady clip, Coach Steve Conrey and the Cougars celebrated as the team touched the wall in third place. Medals were awarded on the stand and Como was represented in the Minnesota State High School League swim meet on March 3. While there were no medals at state, the experience of swimming in the premier event was a reward. The 2016-17 swim season was a well-earned success, and with more miles in the pool, the goal of state will remain in place for next year.

Wrestling—Como coaches and alumni Tim van der Wagt (2002) and J Frail (2010) led a young team, focusing on fitness and technical moves. Many wrestlers continued to improve and be competitive in the Splaud City Conference.

Sophomore Mu Ku Shi earned All-Conference in the 126-pound weight class. He was available at the Como Golf Course for practice over winter break, the team took a three-day trip to ski in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. The fastest skier for the boys this season was sophomore Antero Sivila, followed closely by junior Eli Parison. They served as team captains along with junior Dominick Wolters. The girls’ team was captained by junior Eisa Hanson, and seventh-grade phenom Naylor Landrum was the team’s top racer. The season was deemed a success; team participation was high, and parental support and fundraising were strong.

The team, which will not lose any skiers to graduation, has a bright future. Nordic skiing is thriving at Como and the Cougars are excited for next season.

Girls’ basketball—For the third consecutive season, the Como girls were the St. Paul City Conference basketball champions. In the last three years, the Cougars have achieved a conference record of 35-1. Como also won its third straight Twin Cities title game, defeating South, the Minneapolis champ.

The Cougars had a goal of returning to the state tournament after their debut in 2016; however, a loss to St. Anthony Village in the Section 4 semi-finals ended the season on March 4.

Junior Makayla Van Net pulled the Cougars in scoring. Juniors Autumn Tucker and Raeyne Adams provided strong guard play, and sophomore Elaina Jones was a tenacious rebounder and defender.

Seniors Aizha Shepperd and Aartrzhia Jackson will graduate, but the team’s core will be back to defend their titles.

Girls’ hockey—The St. Paul Blades are the cooperative hockey team for St. Paul Public Schools. Coached by Como alumni Ryan Patrick (2001), the Blades lineup featured Como girls in prominent roles.

Junior Maria Meggitt was a dependable defender bringing speed and grit to every game. Sophomore forward Gianna Gabrielli became a significant offensive threat, rallying 8 goals and adding 14 assists.

Freshman Asia Smith stepped up to be an offensive contributor, skating on multiple lines to fill in gaps and help out on the power play.

The Blades were the top team in a three-day holiday tournament in Austin over winter break, which helped this team of girls from different schools bond.

Gymnastics—Como gymnasts blended talents from the two schools. Nordic skiing—The boys’ and girls’ teams trained together when snow
Legal Senior Issues Workshop
Apr. 28 1:30-2:30 p.m. at SAP library (2245 Como Ave.)
May 1 1-2 p.m. at Lauderdale City Hall (1891 Walnut St.)

This class is ideal for seniors without estate plans or wills. Liz Pierce, a will, power of attorney and health care process and explain why you might need a local attorney with 33 years of experience will walk you through the directive. You will receive handouts and questions.

May 1 1-2 p.m. at Lauderdale City Hall (1891 Walnut St.)

School News

NEW JERSEY SEN. COBY BROOKER SNAPPED THIS SELFIE OF HIMSELF AND ERIC EICKSON’S AP GOVERNMENT AND AP MACROECONOMICS STUDENTS WHO HAPPENED TO MEET HIM WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNUAL WASHINGTON, D.C., CLOSE UP PROGRAM ON CAPITOL HILL.

THE BUGELE WELCOMES NEWS ABOUT STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS IN THE AREA. THE DEADLINE FOR THE MARCH ISSUE IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5. SEND YOUR NEWS TO: SCHOOLNEWS@PARKBUGLE.ORG

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651-644-8300

D-I TEAMs HEADING TO STATE
Two Destination Imagination teams are heading to the state tournament Saturday, April 22, at Champlin Park High School in Champlin. The two teams are fifth-graders, the Nightmare Hashbrown, managed by Sara Law and Stacy Noll, and fourth-graders, Awesome in a Jar, managed by Jessica and Greg Deegan.

THE NIGHTMARE HASHBROWNS ARE LILLIAN BULL, KYLIE KOSIAL, SORIN LOFGREN, ANNA LOVAR, MADLEY NOLL, BEN STROMBERG AND SOPHIE WARD. AWESOME IN A JAR IS MADE UP OF CALVIN UST, NISHA HAYES, NORA HOEN, KEEGAN SCHOU, MASON DEEGAN AND SOPHIE KOEHL.

COMO PARK SENIOR HIGH
740 ROSE AVE., 651-293-8800
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Music in the Park March 26 concert to include Bach, Brahms, Schumann
The Schubert Club will present a concert with violinist Alina Ibragimova and pianist Cédric Tiberghien as part of its Music in the Park Series on Sunday, March 26, at 4 p.m. at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave. A pre-concert talk will begin at 3 p.m.

John Cage and Robert Schumann. Ibragimova has established a reputation as an accomplished and intriguing violinist of the younger generation. She had a prominent presence at this year’s BBC Proms. Tiberghien’s international career spans five continents, taking him to Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center in the U.S. and concert halls in London, Paris, Berlin, Salzburg, Sydney, Australia, and Tokyo.

To purchase tickets, go to schubert.org/musicinthepark, or call 651-292-3268 to find out about ticket availability.

School News from 14
Minnesota State Science Fair Competition: Anna Gaudio, Amen Gidwani, Tana Oosuki, Mira Seeba, Sam Skinner, Natai Thomas, Peter Wengert, Sebastian Zuckower, Owen Finlay and Annalise Purcell.
Broadcom Masters: Anna Gaudio, Amen Gidwani, Tana Oosuki, Peter Wengert and Sebastian Zuckower.
Specialty Awards: Owen Finlay, ASM Award; Michael Guervara Sanchez, Owen Finlay and Mira Seeba, East Side Science Club Award; Marit Isaacson, Stater Sales Group, Kaden Wambier-Lemm, TCRFB Excellence Award; Bridget Lee, U.S. Air Force Award; Peter Wengert, 3M Film and Manufacturing, Inventor Recognition Award; and Owen Finlay, 3M Commercial Solutions Division Award.

Writer gives tips on creating a story
Local author Matt Burgess visited April Vaughn’s Creative Writing Class in March. He engaged students with tips on how to develop a character and story. Vaughn and her students are planning a trip in April to Open Book in downtown Minneapolis to cruise book covers for the books they are writing. Vaughn is seeking to raise funds for this project. For more information, contact her at april.vaughn@spps.org.

Four DI teams are going to state
Four St. Anthony Park Destination Imagination teams will compete at the state tournament Saturday, April 22, at Champlin Park High School in Champlin. The school had 10 teams compete at the regional competition in March, along with a St. Anthony Park alumni team. A big thank you goes to teacher Nancy Haasman for coordinating the program at the school.

Here are the teams that are going to state:
Over the Rainbow, grade 5, second place at regionals: Siri Parson, Ella Prach, Alice Wegner, Hemstad, Ashley Harwitt, Kiki Ruddy, Maia McKane and Naomi Koepke.
The 7 Songs That Get Stuck in Your Head, grade 5, first place at regionals: Sonat Krauska, Louis Figgis, Elise Dumez, Liam Donegan, Hayden Ambriz, Gigi Becerra and Alvin O’Leary.

Sports roundup from 13
Haasman, Morgan Nichols, Demya Riley, Iyyana Kelly and Mary Holm.
Boys’ basketball—With a younger team that was playing without some superstars from the past couple of seasons, the boys worked to improve and be a competitive team in the city. There were ups and downs, but growth definitely occurred and the improvement was evident with more wins in the last half of the schedule. The Pilots always played hard and represented Murray with their best effort. Team leaders included Jalen Thomas, Donovan Clinton, Dylan Aarness and Jarvis Atkinson.

Spring sports—Murray baseball, softball, badminton and track will begin practice on March 27.

Eric Erickson is a social studies teacher at Como Park High School and a longtime coach of school and youth sports in St. Paul.