



‘Where the biggies leave off...’

Hill & Lake Press

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JANUARY 15, 2010

Wi-Fi Network Update

By Sharon Burriss Brown

The \$20 million dollar Wi-Fi Network is largely completed and is now live. According to the Minneapolis Tribune article on Jan. 5, the network has been 99.5% completed since the end of December. The completed network services will cover the whole city of Minneapolis—some 59 square miles. The Wi-Fi network was created to provide a fast and seamless system that would service city workers as well as residences and businesses. Residences and businesses can choose to purchase wireless services of varying speeds and monthly fees. USIWireless offers connectivity speeds up to 6 Mbps.

In a public/private partnership, the city chose the Minnetonka company, USIWireless from nine vendors who submitted proposals to build, manage and own the network using Minneapolis’s assets such as light poles and stop lights and other facilities to mount the equipment. Minneapolis decided to use a private vendor over the public option to avoid using tax money to build the network. In addition, Minneapolis sought to avoid litigation that has occurred in other cities attempting to build Wi-fi networks themselves from companies arguing that governments should not compete with private interests.

The city of Minneapolis is now USIWireless’s anchor customer and has negotiated a 10 year contract that ensures rates remain the same during this period of time. In addition, part of the contract offers free wireless services to non-profits that provide computer training and free access to computers and to the internet to

low income individuals.

However, one of the network’s main purposes is to provide complete coverage for city communications such as for fire and police. Lisa Goodman stated at the January Lowry Hill Neighborhood meeting, that the use of the network will provide a cost savings ultimately replacing more expensive communication systems such as radio and cellular services. At this point, however, according to the Jan 5 Tribune article, police and fire will switch to Wi-Fi only for data communications. More testing is needed before the Wi-fi network can be used for emergency services.

Lisa Goodman mentioned during the LHNA meeting that three areas in the city remain “problem” areas where Wi-fi is not currently working. One area spans several blocks in the Lowry Hill and Kenwood neighborhoods. According to a memo from Lynn Willenbring, Chief Information Officer for the city of Minneapolis, USIWireless is waiting for Xcel Energy to fix some power issues, and these should be addressed the week of January 18.

Minneapolis has committed about \$1.25 million dollars annually for city coverage. Upgrades to the system every 3-5 years will be needed according the City of Minneapolis website. Minneapolis states that it is one of the first cities to have this kind of system and hopes to draw business, conventions and visitors with this convenience. For more information, visit the City of Minneapolis website: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us or contact Lisa Goodman’s office.

LHNA to Host MN House of Representatives Candidate Forum January 26

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA) will host a candidate forum on Tuesday, Jan. 26 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church for declared candidates seeking election to Minnesota’s House of Representatives for Seat 60A. The seat held by Margaret Anderson Kelliher since 1998 is up for grabs as Kelliher makes a run for the governor’s seat in the upcoming fall election.

The candidate forum will take place at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, located on the corner of Logan Avenue and Franklin Avenue, and will be moderated by the League of Women Voters. Declared candidates Marion Greene, Katie Hatt, and Tom Nordyke, all members of the DFL party, will respond to moderator-prepared questions. Audience members can also submit questions for consideration from the candidates.

“This is a very important election for residents in Lowry Hill, East Isles, Kenwood, CIDNA, and Bryn Mawr.”, said LHNA president Janet Hallaway. “Minneapolis has a tradition of electing highly effective leaders to this seat. Dee Long, who held the seat for 20 years, and Anderson Kelliher both advanced to become Speaker of the House. Ideally, residents will elect a candidate capable of continuing this leadership tradition and enhancing Minneapolis’ position at the bargaining table.”

The candidate forum will provide voters with solid background on candidates and their positions just prior to the Precinct Caucus, when residents identify candidate preferences and elect delegates to the district convention held in the spring.

All residents are invited to participate in precinct caucuses. The DFL, Green Party, Independent Party, and Republican Party caucuses will be held on February 2 at 7pm. For further information, contact the Minnesota Secretary of State office. The caucuses are an example of the political process in its most raw form. Sufficient mayhem exists, local politicians mix with regular folk, and the usual hob-nobbing and political persuasion is evident. Residents declare their sup-

Candidate Forum to page 8

BUILDING A HOCKEY RINK ON ISLES

Photo by Dorothy Childers



Chris Guertin, of Sports Resource Group, helping with the installation of the hockey rink at Isles.

ProWall™: A PERFECT SOLUTION FOR RECREATION DEPARTMENTS

By Chris Guertin

Sport Resource Group and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Team Up To Bring ProWall® Rink System to Famed Lake of the Isles Rink Location for Second Year.

South Minneapolis-based Sport Resource Group is excited to announce that for the second consecutive year its ProWall®-Ice Rink Containment System will be the rink system of choice for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board’s Lake of the Isles location.

“The Lake of the Isles rink is very heavily skated by some talented, aggressive hockey players of all ages and

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ProWall’s lightweight molded plastic boards held up extremely well. ProWall is very durable and it is a very cost-efficient alternative to wood boards in terms of set up and take down time, painting, and repair/replacement of wood boards,” said Bob Nielsen, Maintenance Foreman, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. “Rink patrons loved the new boards

Ice Rink to page two

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lunch with Lisa

January 27 at noon at St. Thomas University
Mike Christensen, Director of the city's Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED), will be discussing his recent presentation on job creation in Minneapolis and the region.

Future dates: Feb. 24, March 24, and April 28.

The US Census Bureau's Minneapolis office is hiring temporary positions as Census takers this spring. The positions are part-time, the schedule is flexible and the pay is \$16.50/hr. This position is great for retirees, students, part-time workers, unemployed or anyone who is looking for some additional income. The first step for Minneapolis residents is to call 612-216-6170 to schedule an appointment to take their standardized field test. If you would like more information about the Census, please refer to www.2010censusjobs.gov.

MINNEAPOLIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Minneapolis Audubon Society, Bryant Square (31st & Bryant Avenue S) Friday, February 12, 2010 1 p.m.

Dr. Scott Sharkey will share some breathtaking photography from his Minnesota River world. Please join us for the program and refreshments. All are welcome.

Please join us for the program and refreshments. All are welcome. For more information please call 952-926-4205.

Candidate Forum at St. Paul's Episcopal Church January 26, 7-9 pm

Learn about the candidates seeking election to Minnesota's House of Representatives for Seat 60A.

Precinct Caucuses, February 2, 2010.

Attend! Be represented!

Check your party's website for precinct locations.

Turn to page two for website addresses.

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JANUARY 2010

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Rates: \$7.00 for two lines, \$4.00 for each additional line. Send ad and check to Hill & Lake Press, c/o Jean Deatrck, 1821 Dupont Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55403, payable to Hill & Lake Press. There are approximately 48 characters (letter, punctuation, space, number) per line.

The annual Ice Skating Social for Lowry Hill, Kenwood, and East Isles neighborhoods will be held on Sunday, January 24th, 2010, from 1pm to 3pm at the Lake of the Isles Ice Rink.

LOVE LORING

The Annual Benefit: Citizens for a Loring Park Community

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

6:00-9:00 pm

Heavy Hors d'Oeuvres, Desserts and Cash Bar

Silent Auction

Music by Local Artist

\$50.00

The Woman's Club has developed a strong partnership with the Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC). As two nonprofit organizations whose interests involve protecting and enhancing the Loring Park community, we invite our good neighbors to attend the CLPC annual benefit held at the Club this year.

Call CLPC at 612-874-9002 to purchase tickets.
Advance ticket purchase required.

This notice is sponsored by Media Express

The Birchbark Books Reading Series hosted by Michael Kiesow Moore, features new, emerging, and established writers presenting their work at Birchbark Books and the Isles Deli on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, from September through May. Full deli menu is available at Isles Deli, 6:15pm (the location of the reading). 2115 West 21st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55405 (612) 374-4023

<http://birchbarkbooks.com/Directions>
For more on the BBB Reading Series see:
<http://www.michaelkiesowmoore.com/BBBreadingseries.html>

You can also find the Birchbark Books Reading Series on Facebook. Invite your friends!
<http://www.facebook.com/inbox/?tid=1312022081463#/event.php?eid=380488470396&ref=ts>

HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARIES WILL BE OPEN THEIR REGULAR HOURS ON DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Four Programs Will Honor Dr. King's Legacy

Hennepin County libraries will be open their regular hours on Monday, Jan. 18, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. For library locations and hours: <http://www.hclib.org/pub/info/locations.cfm>

Free programs for children, teens, and families will celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. King:

Ice rink from page one

and we are very pleased with the product. This has been a win-win collaboration for us."

ProWall is a rotationally-molded plastic dasherboard system customized for hockey, lacrosse, soccer, football and other enclosed sport activities. ProWall can be designed for permanent or portable applications and can host a variety of upper containment options. In previous years due to the laborious nature of wood boards, the overall set up and dismantle time of the Lake of the Isles rink ranged from hours to days. With ProWall's exclusive locking mechanisms, a full 200' x 85' rink system can be set up in merely one hour. For any further inquiries or questions about ProWall or Sport Resource Group Contact:

Email: chris@sportresourcegroup.com
www.sportresourcegroup.com
2751 Hennepin Ave. S.; Suite 279
Minneapolis, MN 55408



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And don't forget to do your homework before you show up:

www.CarondeletCatholicSchool.com

Lower Campus: 2900 West 44th Street Upper Campus: 3210 West 51st Street

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR, TOM NORDYKE

Craig Wilson interviews former Minneapolis Park Board President Tom Nordyke about his decades of advocacy for the arts, environment and affordable housing, and his recent fight to maintain an Independent Park Board.

You grew up in South Dakota, what brought you to Minnesota? It was the closest, biggest city I could find! I had never been to Minneapolis before I enrolled at the U of M and started to work my way through school. Actually one of my first jobs was at the State Capitol where I worked for a company that did daily legislative updates. I also interned for Senator Durenburger, and taught music and theater to kids at MacPhail. I fell in love with the City and never left.

You are an 'Artspace' pioneer. When did you found it and what does Artspace Projects do exactly? I started at Artspace in 1987 when I was 23 and Artspace was a very small non-profit. I think the budget was \$60,000 or \$70,000, and it was focused on finding rental space for artists in the Twin Cities. With a little vision and a lot of hard work we transformed it into what it is today: the nation's leading, and by far the largest, non-profit developer for artists and arts organizations. Artspace owns properties that are dedicated to arts uses in over a dozen states at this point. The biggest project they've done locally is the move of the Shubert Theater—a project that, by the way, was my idea.

So how do the Arts help revitalize communities? Can you give an example? Well Northeast Minneapolis is an example of how the arts and artists can help to transform a community. Individual artists started moving up there awhile ago, not only as residents, but with working studios in places like Northrop King and Grain Belt. Eventually, the Ritz Theater was restored and there has been a real rebirth in Northeast with a lot of it having to do with the arts.

What was your position? When I left Artspace I was Vice President in charge of real estate development, consulting and property management. I traveled a lot back then, which can be tough.

You're at Aeon now? What is your position and what does Aeon do? I am now the Chief Operating Officer for Aeon, which was created back in 1986 as the



Tom Nordyke

operates. They changed the name to Aeon when they started doing work all over the Twin Cities and today Aeon owns and operates over 1,700 affordable apartments and town homes in the Cities. Aeon, like Artspace, is a great success story in the non-profit community, growing from almost nothing to have a very substantial impact. It's a wonderful story.

You were President of the Park Board during very tumultuous times when some City Council Members tried to eliminate the Park Board. Many people believe you were instrumental in keeping the Park Board independent. What happened? I think it is absolutely appropriate to look at the relationships between the Park Board and the City and look for efficiencies in the way we work. It has been done before and it should be done continually to make sure we are delivering good value for the people of Minneapolis. What happened this past summer? I think a few folks got ahead of that policy discussion and yes, I worked very hard this past summer to ensure the independence of the Park Board. Unfortunately my work on these issues took a lot of time away from my campaigning for my own re-election, which is always difficult when you run city-wide. I think a great deal of good came out of the tumultuous summer and the people of Minneapolis made it clear they want an independent Park Board. Also, there is a renewed commitment on the part of City Hall and the Park Board to work together.

I'm told by other Park Board Commissioners that being President is at least twice the work. If the Park

Central Community Housing Trust and started in the Elliot Park neighborhood as a non-profit developer of quality affordable housing. Their early development work preserved a lot of historic properties in Elliot Park that Aeon still owns and

Board is 'officially' a part-time job, what was being President like? It was twice the work! There is no question it is a big commitment, but also rewarding and very worthwhile. I look back on this past summer, fulfilling the duties of being President, fighting to turn back the Charter Amendment to eliminate the Park Board AND running my own campaign for re-election... I didn't think I would want to try that again because it was such an insanely busy summer. But looking back at it I was able to do a lot of good things on the Park Board this past four years, particularly for our neighborhoods. I lead the Park Board's efforts to finish the restoration of Lake of the Isles, address invasive species in our lakes and parks, find funding for jewels such as the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, fight an inappropriate development proposal at Parade Stadium, repave Lake of the Isles and Kenwood Parkways, and work to protect neighborhood interests in the development of the Southwest Transitway. We did a lot of good stuff.

You're running for the 60A State Representative seat being vacated by Margaret Anderson Kelliher? I am! I've actually been talking about it for quite some time, but wanted to see how the elections turned out this past November and, of course, wait and see what Margaret was going to do. My decision to run was based very much on conversations with neighbors and leaders in our community like Lisa Goodman and Anita Tabb, both of whom are supporting me. I'm ready and excited about working in a broader public policy role than what I have been in for the past four years at the Park Board. I have a great deal of experience in politics and policy work, which is what I think sets me apart from the other candidates. It's what I think our district can contribute at the Capitol. Margaret's are very big shoes to fill and we will need someone with experience on issues like property tax relief, secondary and higher education and transportation issues such as the Southwest Transitway/Kenilworth Alignment. We clearly have some battles ahead at the state and we're going to need someone who can protect the interests of this community and work with a new Governor in 2011. It's going to be a lot of work, but, I've been in a few political "battles" before and I can handle it.



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Minneapolis Minds

By Steve Kotvis

It seems we can't pick up a newspaper or magazine recently without reading some kind of "predictions for 2010" article. So here it is, my personal gaze into the public education crystal ball for the year 2010.

Schools will become greater recognized for their value of social diversity. Just today, Minneapolis Mayor Rybak emphasized this point in his inauguration address. Like the city itself, our public schools continue to become more socially diverse. We have more than 100 languages spoken in the homes of students attending Minneapolis Public Schools. The uniqueness of each student and their family contributes something special to our classrooms, helping to prepare all our children to become better students, better prepared and better citizens.

Students will become greater thinkers and producers of knowledge. Research shows that students from diverse social backgrounds perform better academically when classroom features include analytical thinking, substantive conversations with real world audiences, and connections to the world beyond the classroom. That means less of teachers lecturing at students and more of teachers facilitating and engaging students in hands-on learning. The value of experience-based problem solving over testing will need some more time to prove its effectiveness, but increasingly the push-back to the narrowly focused test-driven model will progress. For those who wish to read an interesting article on this topic, please feel free to contact me for a copy of "Redefining Academic Report: Documentary Film Making in the New English/Language Arts Classroom." (CURA reporter, Fall 2009)

Educational leaders will become creative in addressing class size. Let's face reality. Education is a highly labor-intensive industry. Labor costs have grown in part because we have a lot of highly experienced teachers and because the exacerbating growth in the costs of what we use to think of as "fringe" benefits. Class sizes have expanded because we seem to resist altering how we approach the classroom paradigm. Classroom aides are rarely used effectively. Parents as volunteers in the classroom seem almost a burden for teachers to manage. And the use of technology seems only to be limited to the "cool" interactive whiteboards that have no noticeable impact on affecting the scale of teaching. We need to recognize that the current model of teaching has in some ways already reached a breaking point. It can no longer be a matter of class size, but rather how class size will be creatively addressed with the resources available. The word "creative" seems to be the operative here. This year we must demand our educational leaders to put their bright minds to the task of creating new ways to address class size.

Teachers and school leaders will recognize the importance in marketing their schools. Those who follow this column will recognize this as one of my pet mantras. I used to think asking teachers to market their schools was asking too much of them, in addition to all they already do. But then I ran into a parent with whom I served on the Southwest High School PTSA. She explained how she's now become a part-time teacher at a parochial school and how she recognized with other teachers how important it has become to market and promote their school if they wanted to attract students and keep their jobs. Having teachers promote their schools is one of many important actions teachers will need to assume as they work to attract and retain students and families in this arena of education choices.

Education minded legislative leaders will strive to make public education more relevant in light of compelling public priorities. Legislative funding support of public education is an obligation that represents the single largest share of the state budget. As a bi-annual expense, it requires a short-term investment in, depending upon how well the investment is working, what becomes either a long-term benefit (kids who become productive and independent adults) or long-term cost (kids who become unemployable and dependent adults). How will the support of long-term benefit minded public education fare when paired with the immediate needs to fund health care of a burgeoning aging population? How does an urban public education district remain relevant among its tax paying public when just one of six of its households have children of school age living in them? Schools cannot rely solely on the support of the parents with children. Schools must become more relevant to our general public for them to gain adequate funding by the State and local taxpayers.

Okay, maybe this is more of a wish list than a crystal ball. But they say successful people can see what they want in order to make them real. I hope others will join in wishing for some of these things for 2010. May you and your family and friends have the best of new years.

Steve Kotvis, a Kenwood resident serves on a number of boards and committees relative to public education and offers a monthly perspective in the Hill & Lake Press "Minneapolis Minds" column. He can be reached at stevek@elemenop.us.

Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher Minnesota House of Representatives

Contact: Sandy Connolly
District 60A (651) 296-0171 (651) 296-8877
463 State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155
sandy.connolly@house.mn

For nearly 12 years, I have been proud to work side by side with the people of our district on the issues we care about. From good schools for every child, to safe neighborhoods and roads, adequate and affordable health care, and a cleaner environment, we have worked together on issues that are important not only to our district, but transcend to the entire state.

As you know, I have entered the race to be the next Governor of Minnesota. With this decision to run for Governor, I also made the very difficult choice not to seek re-election as your Representative. I can truthfully say this was one of the toughest decisions I have had to make in my professional life. I have valued every day of my service to our district, and am grateful for the confidence you have shown in me. From the early days of knocking on doors in my first election bid, to the honor of being chosen as Speaker of the House, the residents of our district have supported me and challenged me.

We've had many good successes. Together we secured funding for the Lake of the Isles restoration and funding to complete the Cedar Lake Trail. We moved the Northstar Commuter Rail and Central Corridor light rail transitway forward, and funded the Lowry Avenue Corridor and I-35 Bus Rapid Transit stations. We passed a nation-leading Renewable Energy Standard and legislation to reduce mercury pollution from coal-fired power plants. And, despite challenging budget years, we worked hard to protect our students, beginning with their critical early childhood years all the way through college, and expanded health care for thousands of Minnesotans.

Finally, with your support, we succeeded in overriding Governor Pawlenty's veto of the transportation funding bill, creating safer roads, highways and bridges across our state, and setting the stage for 21st century transitways.

The Minnesota House is an extraordinary and diverse body, made up of part-time legislators who hold other jobs and roles as leaders in their communities. I see the advantage to our system with every election cycle, when new, enthusiastic legislators with different backgrounds step up to serve their district and our state. I am confident there is someone living in our district ready to take up the mantle and serve, someone who will vigorously continue the work we have done together.

I'm looking forward to embarking on a new journey. I want to thank every resident in District 60A for your friendship, guidance and support over the last 12 years. Please stay in touch, and keep working every day to make our community great.

Sincerely, Margaret

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2010 Caucuses are Feb. 2

Please check by telephone or website to determine your caucus location.

Constitution Party *

23078 21st Ave.

St. Cloud, MN 56301

Phone: 763-227-4359

Toll Free: 1-800-354-8494

E-mail: infor@cpmn.org

Web site: www.cpmn.org

(Caucuses: To be determined)

Independence Party

P.O. Box 40495

St. Paul, MN 55114

Phone: 651-487-9700

E-mail: karijohnson.robinsonip@gmail.com

Web site: www.mnip.org

Caucuses: February 2, 2010 at 7 p.m.

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party

255 E. Plato Blvd.

St. Paul, MN 55107

Phone: 651-293-1200

Toll Free: 1-800-999-7457

Web site: www.dfl.org

Caucuses: February 2, 2010 at 7 p.m.

Libertarian Party *

1201 42 1/2 Ave. N.E.

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

Phone: 763-561-8038

Web site: www.lpmn.org

(Caucuses: No caucuses in 2010)

Green Party *

2395 University Ave. W

Suite #224

St. Paul, MN 55114

Phone: 651-288-2820

Web site: www.mngreens.org

Caucuses: February 2, 2010 at 7 p.m.

Republican Party

525 Park St., Suite #250

St. Paul, MN 55103

Phone: 651-222-0022

Toll Free: 1-877-467-6466

Web site: www.mngop.com

Caucuses: February 2, 2010 at 7 p.m.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board first meeting of 2010



Newly elected Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb

Photo by Dorothy Childers

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for State Representative 60a mariongreene.org

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NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Gary Thaden, Gthaden at Gmail dot Com

Walker Library Community Advisory Committee

The Walker Library Community Advisory Committee participated in a library visioning exercise at its fourth meeting on Dec. 17, 2009. A word document is available for committee members or the community-at-large to add comments about their vision for a new Walker Library: <http://www.hclib.org/cac/>. My suggestion: ignore the January 5th deadline and comment anyway.

Age: Wide Angle Lecture Series

The Library Foundation of Hennepin County and Mill City Commons are presenting a new lecture series, Age: Wide Angle. Held every Tuesday evening in February and March, the series offers a fresh perspective on the topic of age and aging by prominent arts leaders who will explore the role age plays in their field of expertise or their own artistic lives. Held at the Central Library in Pohlad Hall (300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401), the programs are free and open to the public. Seating is first come, first served. Doors open at 6:15 and programs begin at 7 PM. February's lectures are:

February 2: "Visual Trends", with Will Hopkins and Mary K Baumann, Hopkins/Baumann Design

February 9: "Age in an Ageless Art Form", with James Sewell, James Sewell Ballet

February 16: "How Did I Get Here?", with Philip Brunelle, VocalEssence

February 23: "Turn the Key: A Collaborative Experience", with photographer Laura Crosby, composer Libby Larsen, writer Marisha Chamberlain

St. Paul's 16th Annual Fireside Literary Readings Series

Now in its 16th season, the Fireside Literary Readings Series is one of St. Paul's oldest and most popular events. The series annually highlights the work of some of Minnesota's finest writers who have published a new work in the previous year. The author readings take place in the cozy atmosphere in front of the hearth at the Hamline Midway Branch Library and include free coffee, cider and cookies. Fireside readings occur on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. This year's authors are:

February 5: Eric Dregni, *Never Trust a Thin Cook and Other Lessons from Italy's Culinary Capital*

February 11: Sarah Tonich, *Ice Chorus and These Granite Islands*

February 18: J. C. Hallman, *The Hospital for Bad Poets*

February 25: Marisha Chamberlain, *The Rose Variations*

Pen Pals Lecture Series: Hopkins Center for the Arts (\$35-\$45)

Sarah Vowell

Thursday, March 11, 2010, 7:30 PM Friday, March 12, 2010, 11 AM

Is there anything Sarah Vowell hasn't done? Contributing editor to Public Radio International's *This American Life*, a regular on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, music critic and author of audio books featuring the likes of Norman Lear, Vowell is also the acclaimed author of five books, including *Assassination Vacation*, a road trip to the tourist sites devoted to the murdered presidents. Her most recent book is *The*

Wordy Shipmates, a history of American Puritans. Vowell also happens to be the voice of Violet in the Pixar Film, *The Incredibles*.

Michael Chabon

Thursday, April 22, 2010, 7:30 PM Friday, April 23, 2010, 11 AM

Washington D.C. native Michael Chabon has wowed the literary world almost since he left the cradle. The novel he wrote for his Masters Thesis at U.C. Irvine, *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh*, became a New York Times bestseller. His second book, *The Wonder Boys*, became a feature film starring Michael Douglas and Toby Maguire. *The Adventures of Kavalier and Clay* won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2001. In 2007 he released the wildly popular novel *The Yiddish Policeman's Union*. He has appeared before audiences in nine countries and lectures widely on what is clearly his favorite topic, the art and craft of fiction.

William Kent Krueger

Thursday, May 13, 2010, 7:30 PM Friday, May 14, 2010, 11 AM

The north woods of Minnesota are the setting for William Kent Krueger's eight-book mystery series, featuring Cork O'Connor - the part Irish, part Ojibwe, part-time P.I. A resident of St. Paul, Krueger has received numerous awards, including four Minnesota Book Awards and the Loft McKnight Fiction Award. Before becoming a full-time writer, Krueger logged timber, worked construction and, he says, got himself kicked out of Stanford University for radical activities. Krueger does his writing in Booth #4 at the renowned St. Clair Broiler in St. Paul.

BYE BYE BIG BANG

By Elmer Hankes

Cosmologists regard 'Dark Matter' as absolutely imperative for the stability of the universe. Although they ascribe a tiny density to it (the equivalent of one sixteenth of an aspirin tablet in a 20,000km cube) they don't know what or where it is. 'What' is moot and very complex, but 'where' is surprisingly evident.

All stars, under $E=mc^2$ convert tiny bits of matter into vast quantities of energy which are, and have been for eons of eons, continuously radiated into space. The resultant dynamic flux permeates the universe (universes?)*. All around the Earth are such transients, some hot and just minutes old, from the Sun, to rays over 14 billion years old from far distant Galaxies. It is known that this radiation has some gravitational aspects because the rays are bent by strong gravitational fields. The modicum of mass described in my opening para-

Hankes to page 7

CENTRAL LIBRARY HAS A NEW PHONE NUMBER AS PART OF ONGOING CONSOLIDATION OF HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

As part of the ongoing consolidation of the Minneapolis Public and Hennepin County library systems, phone numbers for all Minneapolis libraries have now changed to Hennepin County Library's 952-847-#### numbers.

The new phone number for Hennepin County Library - Central, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, is 952-847-8000. Customers who dial the old phone number will automatically be forwarded to the new number.

Phone numbers of Roosevelt, Southeast, Webber Park, Linden Hills, Pierre Bottineau, Washburn, Sumner, Walker, East Lake, Hosmer, Franklin, and North Regional libraries have already been changed. The final two libraries — Northeast and Nokomis — are closed for renovation and will reopen in 2011. Nokomis' new phone number is 952-847-2800. Northeast's new phone number is 952-847-2775. Customers who dial the old phone numbers will automatically be forwarded to the new numbers.

Customers can expect to hear standardized voice messaging at the libraries.

"Customer calls can now be transferred directly to any Hennepin County Library for more efficient and seamless service," said Library Director Lois Langer Thompson. "Completion of the phone number changes concludes our network consolidation project, and with the elimination of a duplicate phone system our operating costs for infrastructure have been reduced."

Also as part of the network consolidation, Hennepin County Library now has one phone number for centralized reference service: 952-847-KNOW — 952-847-5669. The Infoline phone reference service formerly provided by Central Library staff has been combined with 952-847-KNOW.

In addition, black-and-white printers at libraries in Minneapolis were replaced with color printers, as is standard in most Hennepin County libraries.

The merger of the two library systems has provided other opportunities to reduce overall operating costs and increase efficiencies by eliminating duplicate technology systems, such as the two websites, which converged into one on Jan. 1, 2009, and the two public catalogs, which merged in August 2009. In 2009, there were more than 15.5 million visits to Hennepin County Library's website. Hennepin County Library now has the 12th largest public library collection in the U.S.

For library names, locations, phone numbers, hours, access to the catalog and online databases, and other information about Hennepin County Library: www.hclib.org

LIFELONG LEARNING VIA HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

Hennepin County Library is nationally recognized as one of the top libraries in the United States. The 41-library system serves 1.1 million residents in Hennepin County and offers more than 5 million books, CDs and DVDs, materials in more than 40 languages and 1,750 public computers. The library's award-winning website, www.hclib.org, receives more than 1 million visits each month. The library is a service of Hennepin County.

HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY - CENTRAL IN DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS TO BE OPEN MONDAYS BEGINNING FEB. 8

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners is pleased to announce that beginning Monday, Feb. 8, Hennepin County Library - Central, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, will be open Mondays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The library's new Monday hours are made possible by revenue from the ballpark sales tax.

Children, teens, and adults are invited to be in the "opening day starting lineup" at a "Ballpark Mondays" kickoff celebration at Central Library on Monday, Feb. 8 at 9:30 a.m. A former Twins star player will be there to sign autographs (bring items for signing) and pose for

Library to page 12

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JOIN US AT THE 2010 LOPPET
By Brian Meeker

Hankes from page 6

One of the things my family enjoys best about living in Lowery Hill is joining our neighbors in all of the community activities. Whether it is drinking hot cocoa while skating on Lake of the Isles, or welcoming in the winter solstice at the Kenwood Deli, we look forward to these seasonal activities. Our favorite neighborhood event is coming up in February. The City of Lakes Luminary Loppet is scheduled for February 6th from 6 to 9PM. For all who have attended this event I don't have to tell you what a fun and unique night this is. For those who haven't, stop now and put it on your calendar. The Luminary Loppet takes place on lake of the Isles where thousands of ice luminaries line the path for skiers of all ages. From the flame spinning acrobats to the towering luminary sculptures, this is an event not to be missed. You don't have to ski to participate in this family paced event. You can also walk down to the lake and cheer on the skiers.

Last year our family and neighbors decided to take it a step further and volunteer for the Loppet. We handed out cups of hot cocoa to the skiers and it remains one of the highlights of our year. The Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association working with REI this year and sponsoring a beverage stop. We are looking for volunteers to help hand out beverages at the tent by the Lake of the Isles skating rink. This is a great way to connect with neighbors and take part in this event. We are also looking for volunteers to help out at the City of Lakes Loppet food stop at the Lake of Isles Kenilworth channel. This is a great way to get the kids involved. They may even get to hand out a cup of Gatorade to Mayor Rybak like my son did last year.

I hope you get a chance to partake in the entire weekend of City of Lakes Loppet events this year. If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact me at bbmeeker@msn.com.

graph can exist in the passing flux and, considering the great volume of the universe(s), it is likely that at any given instant the transient mass may well exceed that of all the solid objects in the same universe(s) So the Dark Matter flux is just where it should be; somewhat uniformly distributed in space amongst the galaxies; to stabilize and hold it all together even though that flux is simultaneously helter-skelter in all possible directions. So much for WHERE; How about WHAT? That is the challenge for new generations of scientists. The clues may lie in the fact that stellar radiation is created from matter and if it had no mass whatsoever its velocity would be infinite,(which it isn't) so perhaps, at sub atomic levels, during and at the end of its life, there may be a retro-formation to subatomic particles that can conglomerate to form matter and eventually dust-clouds that may produce new stars, nebulae or galaxies. This sort of supposition is warranted because astronomical observations by Hubble etal definitely indicate that the universe is regenerative. So it comes down to—CREATIO CONTINUO vs CREATIO EX NIHILIO

Ex nihilo (out of nothing) is the Biblical version and in some ways describes the Big Bang too (almost nothing).

I think that CONTINUO is the sure winner. More to come. Please write to me or Jean Deatrck and give your input. Next we'll touch on Dark Energy, spin and rotation, space exploration and invaders,

* Big Bang would limit us to a limited universe about 28bly in diameter but stars at the edges of our universe shine into adjacent ones too and the radiational density in the outer areas of our universe is maintained in part by radiation from adjacent universes..

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MINNESOTA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CANDIDATES

Marion Greene has organized with Quakers in Washington D.C., lobbied for national organic standards and children's nutrition, and rallied Hispanic and Native American voters for Clinton-Gore in New Mexico.

Marion has also served District 60A: coordinating DFL volunteers, influencing Medicare policy, managing Speaker Margaret Anderson Kelliher's re-election campaign and co-chairing the SD60 DFL. "I will fight for excellent health care for all, schools before stadiums, transportation that betters our city and region, and civil rights for everyone regardless of sexual orientation." Marion wants to continue to be a hard-working advocate for the issues that are important to progressive Minnesotans, this time as 60A's State Representative.

Marion bought her home in Uptown 10 years ago, drawn by extended family and Minnesota's reputation for progressive leaders and civic engagement. She loves walking the lakes district with her husband Bart Cannon and his two teenage daughters. Marion can also be found at the YMCA serving as a literacy tutor or at her "office," Spyhouse Coffee Shop.

Marion is closely involved in health care professionally. She currently analyzes Medicare payment policy for St. Jude Medical. "The first step to controlling medical costs is to pay for healthy outcomes rather than procedures." Marion sees first hand how people struggle with health costs volunteering at the Neighborhood Involvement Program's clinic.

As the daughter of Foreign Service officers, Marion spent a large part of her childhood in India, Morocco, Pakistan and Brazil. This allowed her to experience life in uncommon ways and has shaped her commitment to diversity.

She attended Swarthmore College; worked at the Center for Science in the Public Interest; joined the Friends Committee on National Legislation; and, in 1996, organized New Mexico voters and was an aide in the state legislature. She earned an M.B.A.; her first job in Minnesota was working for General Mills.

Marion Greene Candidate for State Representative, 60ACampaign: 612-374-8728, Cell: 612-910-8728
www.mariongreene.org



Marion Greene

A lifelong advocate for progressive issues, Katie Hatt has dedicated her life to livability, environmental, non-profit, transportation and community-based causes. She is seeking the DFL endorsement for District 60A's Representative in the Minnesota House, bringing her career of tackling tough challenges and improving the quality of life in our community.

Hailing from the Loring Park neighborhood, Katie serves as the Principal Aide for Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin (4th District), where she works with federal, state and local partners to improve transportation choices, social services and environmental initiatives in our region.

Katie was the Executive Director of the Longfellow Community Council from 2005-2007, where she guided the LCC's \$2.3 million neighborhood action plan and organized a coalition of residents, businesses and advocacy organizations to successfully negotiate one of the first Community Benefits Agreements in the state.

A committed community volunteer, Katie was also the economic development coordinator for Minneapolis' Elliot Park neighborhood, and a board member of Citizens for a Loring Park Community—only one of many community organizations to have benefited from Katie's leadership, including Transit for Livable Communities, the Minnesota Center for Neighborhood Organizing, and Restorative Justice in Community Action.

Katie is available at katie@katiehatt.org or 612-986-0564.



Katie Hatt

Tom Nordyke was President of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and elected as a DFL-endorsed, city-wide commissioner in 2005. He focused on all of Minneapolis but also worked on many issues in District 60A: restoration of Lake of the Isles, invasive species, funding for the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, inappropriate development proposals at Parade Stadium, repaving of Lake of the Isles and Kenwood Parkways, and protecting neighborhood interests in the development of the Southwest Transitway.

Tom has made notable contributions to the quality of life here in Minneapolis as Vice President of Artspace Projects where he was a leader in building a small local organization into a national non-profit developer, and championing projects such as the Shubert Theater. Tom is now Chief Operating Officer for Aeon, formerly Central Community Housing Trust, that started in Elliot Park in 1986 as a non-profit developer of affordable housing. Today, Aeon owns and operates 1,700 affordable homes in the Twin Cities.

Tom has a long history of community service including chair of the Minneapolis Arts Commission, member of the Minneapolis Planning Commission and board member for the Minneapolis Institute of Art, Intermedia Arts, Frank Theater and Zenon Dance.

Contact Tom at (612) 802-3046 or Nordyketom@aol.com.



Tom Nordyke

Candidate Forum continued from page one

port for candidates, a straw poll is taken for candidate preferences, and delegates are elected to the district convention held in the spring. It's a terrific opportunity to participate in the political process. For more information, visit www.lowryhillneighborhood.org.

District 60A is bordered by France Avenue and Lyndale Avenue, to the west and east, and by Lake Street to the south. 60A includes approximately 35,000 households from 394 in the North, south to Lake Street, west to France Avenue, and east to Lyndale Avenue.

HERE WE GO AGAIN

By Beth St. John Kehoe

Hey, did you know that I'm from Minneapolis?

Those of you who have followed this column may have gotten nauseous from the number of times I previously mentioned that I'm "from Chicago" . . . Chicago this . . . Chicago that. . . blah blah blah, Chicago.

Well, if there's one thing that moving to NJ did it was to teach me that I am now "from Minneapolis." You can't really say that you're from Chicago if you have lived in Minneapolis for the past sixteen years.

So, being that I'm from Minneapolis, and am still keeping my official residency there since we will ultimately be there more than here (long story), I'm very excited about . . . Minnesota politics!!!

I learned an interesting lesson recently.

When I was in town I had coffee with all three candidates who are running for the District 60A House seat (Margaret Andersen Kelliher's old job). I know, I know . . . kinda zany. Nowadays I'm pretty much embracing the "zany" side of my personality.

In the past I would have simply supported a friend running for office, or the woman, or whoever a friend of mine told me to support. But that gets kind of tricky when one friend who's opinion you respect is supporting one candidate, and another friend who's opinion you respect is supporting another candidate, and yet another friend who's opinion you respect just as much as the other two is supporting the third and final candidate.

Whew! Who to choose? What to do?

I decided to get to know the candidates myself. And, I must tell you that all three of them (who I will now list in alphabetical order): Marion Greene, Katie Hatt and Tom Nordyke; are fabulous in different ways.

I met with one and thought "I'm totally supporting you." Then I had coffee with the next and it was "Dang, I'm totally supporting him/her now." Then coffee again . . . "Oh, #%*&\$!!!, I like this one the best." How embarrassing.

Not-A-Candidate
Beth Kehoe

Kehoe to page 9

Valentine's Celebration

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Katie Hatt Announces Candidacy for House District 60A

By Bob Corrick, CIDNA resident

Katie Hatt has announced her candidacy to succeed Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher in District 60A of the Minnesota House of Representatives: "I am



Katie Hatt

entering this race inspired by the belief that the voters of our district, indeed across our entire state, have a fundamental commitment to investing in people and places, fostering strong communities, and promoting the well-being of residents and businesses. I am dedicated to ensuring that this commitment, the very spirit of our DFL Party, continues as we face extraordinary financial challenges at all levels of government and difficult choices about how we invest limited resources."

A lifelong Minneapolis resident, community activist and advocate for progressive causes, Katie Hatt has dedicated her life to livability, environmental, nonprofit, transportation and community-based causes. Katie attended Jefferson Elementary School, Anwatin Junior High, South High School and graduated from the University of Minnesota—Twin Cities with a degree in Urban Studies.

She presently serves as the Principal Aide for Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin. An

Beth St. John Kehoe from page 8

I mean really embarrassing. But hey, you know, if I let all the seemingly embarrassing things that I do stop me from doing more potentially embarrassing things in the future, I would have to become a complete recluse. And if there is one thing that I am 100% absolutely certain that I do not have the power to become, it would be a recluse.

This column, yes here I am again. . . sorry, it was harder to leave than I had originally thought it would be (which is another interesting and meaningful life lesson). . . This column, is not meant to tell you who Beth Kehoe will be supporting to replace Kelliher, because you really should not care.

This column is to plead with you to figure out, first hand for yourself, who you think is the best candidate. I implore you to open your hearts and minds to all three candidates, check out their websites, attend their Meet & Greets if you hear about them and really make up your minds for yourself.

I took the time to do my own personal due diligence on the candidates and was surprised by the outcome. Plus, it's just plain fun to meet new people.

I love it.

The more people that you meet and really get to know. . . I mean REALLY get to know by putting your entire blemished, nonconventional, outrageous, tattered, injured, confused, unpredictable, zany self out there . . . the more chances you'll have to meet a few folks with whom you really connect.

Real friends.

advocate for the 4th District's 160,000 residents in 31 neighborhoods, Katie works with federal, state, and other local partners to improve transportation choices, social services, and environmental initiatives.

Katie was the Executive Director of the Longfellow Community Council from 2005-2007, where she guided the process to develop LCC's \$2.3 million neighborhood action plan for community-based capital investments and program activities and organized a coalition of residents, businesses, and advocacy organizations that successfully negotiated one of the first Community Benefits Agreements (CBA) in the state of Minnesota.

Prior to her tenure at Longfellow, Katie worked as a project manager for the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), where she managed grants awarded to cities and counties for remediation of polluted land.

From 2002 through 2004 she was economic development coordinator for the Elliot Park neighborhood, leveraging federal and community grants to improve community programs and businesses. In 2003, she was awarded a federal George T. Knight scholarship to participate in a weeklong NeighborWorks Training Institute training in New Orleans, Louisiana. Her deep roots in the community served her well during her time at the Whittier Alliance, where she organized citizen reviews of development proposals and partnered with state, federal, and local officials on neighborhood revitalization projects.

Katie was a board member of Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC), the neighborhood where she grew up and lives today. Several community nonprofit organizations have benefited from Katie's leadership: Transit for Livable Communities, the Minnesota Center for Neighborhood Organizing, and Restorative Justice in Community Action.

Katie's lifelong connection to the community, her advocacy for its residents, businesses, and community groups, and the partnerships she's nurtured and strengthened throughout her career make her an ideal choice to represent our District in the Minnesota House. Katie is available to discuss any issue, any time, at katie@katiehatt.org or 612-986-0564.

Marion Greene for the Legislature

By Don Ostrom

Marion Greene has earned my support to represent our district in the Minnesota House of Representatives. Marion brings excellent credentials as an effective leader, negotiator, and policy analyst. This is a critical time in Minnesota history when legislators will be challenged to devise creative solutions to our budget crisis, to save us from the fate of California. Marion is superbly qualified candidate to lead that change.



Marion Greene and her husband Bart Cannon

After living in St. Peter for 31 years, where I served four terms representing the area in the Minnesota House, my wife and I moved to Minneapolis a few years ago, ending up in the legislative district of one of my former students, Margaret Anderson Kelliher.

I got to know Marion in 2006 when she was tapped to lead Margaret's re-election campaign, a critical year when Margaret would be the House DFL leader for the first time and had state-wide responsibilities that often took her away from the local campaign. Marion's work required stamina, excellent organizational skills, and diplomacy. Margaret made a sound choice. The campaign was well run and Margaret was re-elected by a wider margin than in any year prior.

Marion's success in business and politics has been influenced by her upbringing. Her parents served in the U.S. Foreign Service and as child, Marion lived in India, Morocco, Brazil and Pakistan. She attended a Quaker high school and Swarthmore College, getting schooled in the art of consensus building, and solidifying her progressive point of view. After college, she worked in Washington, D.C. for the Friends

Marion Greene to page 18

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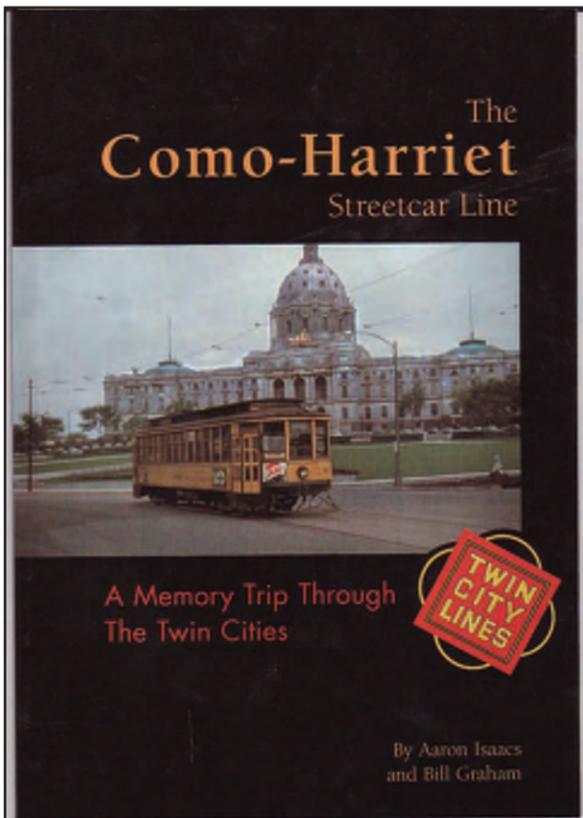
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The Como-Harriet Streetcar Line

Review by John Gridley



The Como-Harriet Streetcar Line

A Memory Trip Through The Twin Cities
Aaron Isaacs and Bill Graham
Donning Company, Virginia Beach, VA

As Minneapolis celebrates the success of the new Hiawatha light rail line, and debates the routing of the proposed Southwest LRT line between Eden Prairie and downtown Minneapolis, it's engaging to read what an extensive and efficient streetcar system we had in the early Twentieth Century, providing reliable service to almost every neighborhood in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

This book, published under the auspices of the Minnesota Transportation Museum, operator of the restored streetcar line running from 36th Street to Linden Hills, traces the history of the Como-Harriet line and its connecting lines. More than a dry tome for rail buffs, it is a wonderful, well illustrated trip through the past that ranks with "Lost Twin Cities" and local historian Bob Glancy's calendars as a reminder of how much we have lost, as well as what we have saved of our

heritage.

The book approaches its subject from two angles, a history of the Como-Harriet route, and highly personal reminiscences of childhood experiences by two contributors. From the turn of the century to the early Fifties, the route ran from downtown St. Paul, northwest through Como Park, through the Dinkeytown area of the University of Minnesota, through downtown Minneapolis on Hennepin to Uptown, along the eastern shore of Lake Calhoun, through Linden Hills, then to France Ave. Connecting routes mentioned heavily in the book included the Como-Hopkins route and the Oak-Harriet line. Briefly in the Twenties, a connection ran as far west as Excelsior, from which point ferry boats fanned out over Lake Minnetonka. A significant portion of the Como-Harriet line ran over private rights-of-way, at which times the streetcars were able to increase their speed substantially over that on congested city streets.

Throughout, the book is illustrated with historic photos, many taken in or near the Hill & Lake Press footprint. Having ridden the Como-Harriet line countless times in my youth, I found it in agreement with my fading memories, as well as emotionally accurate. I never rode all the way to St. Paul, because when we wanted to go there, we invariably took the more direct Selby-Lake line which ran down Lake Street and Marshall Avenue, but to go downtown Minneapolis, we always took the Como-Harriet or Como-Hopkins line. I still remember sitting on the hard woven cane seats, watching the motorman deftly accelerate and decelerate, making as good time as he could while avoiding cars and pedestrians. End of the line for us was the turnaround loop at 44th and France, now site of France 44 Wines & Spirits. End of the line for the streetcars came in 1954, when they became completely replaced by busses, a project rumored to be underwritten by bus manufacturers, and also providing large profits to Twin Cities Rapid Transit from land sales.

Ironically, I lived in Newark, NJ in the Sixties, and wound up riding some of the last surviving TCRT streetcars in service. I'm glad light rail is coming back, and grateful to the Minnesota Transportation Museum for preserving a portion of the historic Como-Harriet line. A bargain at \$10, the 64-page book is available through the museum, www.mtmuseum.org.

Winter Solstice Celebration Delights Residents

By Amanda Vallone



The 2nd annual Winter Solstice celebration took place at the Isles Deli (soon to be Kenwood Deli) on Sunday, December 20th. After getting inquiries from Kenwood and Lowry Hill residents after a successful solstice celebration last year Catherine Veigel and Amanda Vallone decided that they would work quickly to make it happen. Amanda Vallone went to the KIAA's board meeting on December 7th with a proposal for the event and to ask for financial assistance to help offset the costs for the event. Mike Bono, KIAA president made an offer to contribute \$250 which the board approved. The Lowry Hill Board who helped organize and fund last year's solstice event also contributed and matched KIAA's contribution of \$250. Cotty Lowry, resident and neighborhood realtor also sponsored the event with a financial contribution which helped us offset our costs for this year's event. A huge thank you goes to these three sponsors who believed in this event and who quickly made the decision to contribute with only two weeks till the proposed event.

The evening started with a Kenwood School Sword Dance lead by Julie Young and Bob Walser. Students performed an impressive routine while Bob entertained the crowd with his accordion. Kenwood students also entertained the crowd with lively music.

Our solstice celebration also had the honor of having guest musician, poet, playwright and storyteller, Cochise Anderson, share his poetic words with the crowd. Cochise's performance centered around Native American culture and the importance of the different seasons and the return of the sun. He ended the performance with asking everyone to join in and help chant a song to the beat of his drum.

Amanda Vallone with ARTrageous Adventures provided a "Creation Station" where children had a chance to get creative with scissors and make unique snowflakes to celebrate the season. Children also were able to get their faces painted and some were even magically transformed into snow fairies.

Catherine Veigel, owner of the Deli offered a solstice menu that included chili with cornbread, hot chocolate, apple cider and other treats for all to enjoy. Jeff Veigel, kept the fires burning outside the deli for solstice participants to write their wishes for the New Year and throw into the fire.

Throughout the evening, neighbors enjoyed each others company and took pride in their community and the winter season. "This is a neighborhood event that I feel can grow into a winter tradition that delights all ages and sparks the holiday spirit within our creative and wonderful community. Each year I hope that more people will participate to include storytelling, sing-alongs and even a horse drawn carriage ride to view holiday lights in the neighborhood." says Amanda Vallone, co-organizer of this year's event.

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A PAGE FROM THE KENWOOD SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK SHOWING CHILDREN LEARNING IN THE PRESENT TO PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE."

Photos by Courtney Cushing Kiernat



More Winter Solstice photos



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In less than 2 weeks on the market, we entertained multiple offers on our house! We cannot recommend Kevinn's and James's services enough. They were professional, knowledgeable, and thoughtful from our initial meeting and throughout the negotiations and closing. What a difference their services made!

” - Chris and Stacy L

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EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

By Michael T'Kach, Board Secretary/Membership

Minutes of the Board of Directors
Tuesday December 1st, 2009, 6:30p.m ~ 9 p.m.
Grace-Trinity Community Church
Our Website is:
<http://eastisles.org>

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Everyone is welcome at our neighborhood meetings; you do not have to be a registered "member" to participate. If you would like to join and become a member, please send an email to: Michael.Tkach@gmail.com

A quorum was present, and the meeting was opened by President Nancy Johnson.

Attending: President Nancy Johnston, Vice President Mark Lofstrom, Treasurer Peter Levine, Jerome Ryan, Harvey Ettinger, Amy Sanborn, Ginna Portman, Helen Ackerman, Karen Carney, Sue Durfee, Ross D'Emanuele and Secretary / Membership Chair Michael T'Kach.

The minutes of the November 2009 meeting of the East Isle Resident's Association (EIRA) board of directors were approved by a Board vote online and were published in the Hill & Lake Press newspaper. These and all previous meeting Minutes are available for public viewing on our website.

Treasurer's Report:

Peter Levine submitted a report showing all account balances: Checking \$3786, NRP \$5702, Savings \$2902, and a CD \$7085 (on 1/11/2010). No debts outstanding. A motion was made to accept the report as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Zoning Committee – Karen Carney and Sue Durfee, co-chairs:

Sue and Karen attended another hearing on the Midtown Greenway Corridor rezoning effort to increase density along this East/West bicycling and pedestrian path. The consensus was that a new City Council for Minneapolis will be seated in January and

the issue was tabled until that new body could look at the multiple issues caused by a rezoning effort. This Board sent a letter to the City requesting more neighborhood meetings and a slowed pace for this rezoning action to proceed orderly.

Walker Library reconstruction project news was sparse. Hennepin County member Gail Dorfmann is present at these neighborhood meetings and discussions are still very broad for financing efforts and location choices. \$12 million dollars is stated as earmarked for this project. Discussions have included alternative uses for this current location, the 'old' location and new potential locations. Further meetings are scheduled and on the Hennepin County Website.

Social Committee - Amy Sanborn:

Amy announced the Lake of the Isles Ice Skating event to be January 24th. Lowry Hill and Kenwood neighborhoods will join and have OK'd the date. The event is 1~3pm at the warming house on the lake. January 24th

A motion was made to authorize a budget of not-to-exceed \$200 was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

A motion was made to authorize an expense of \$50 for advertising to thank each of our community sponsors with an advertisement in the Hill & Lake Press; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Board Discussion: - Board Terms, Term Limits and Dues

The board discussed the purpose, spirit and goals of our current bylaws and dues schedule from the historical perspective of an organization that is 50 years old. Suggestions were put forward to extend the current terms to allow five years of service with a rotation to keep the Board fresh, but with a sense of the recent historical activities undertaken by this Board. Business matters such as NRP funds distribution are an example of multi-year events where a longer term-limit would improve an understanding of actions taken.

A motion to propose an amendment of our bylaws,

at the Annual Meeting, to extend our Term Limits from three one-year terms, to four years, consecutively. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Ross, Peter and Linda agreed to review the actual language in our current bylaws and provide recommended text changes for the February Board of Directors meeting.

The board discussed eliminating annual dues to prevent any barriers to participation and learned that such previous efforts failed to increase attendance and in fact, had the opposite effect with very low attendance. As part of this 'free' policy a brochure was sent out to encourage attendance and remind neighbors of Crime & Safety key points to ponder. The Board determined that a designated Membership Chairperson would be important to have in place to represent our neighborhood at our social activities and at other community gathering events. The designated Membership Chairperson will seek to increase participation and promote the activities of this Board.

NRP:

The Board tabled discussion of distribution plans of our newly printed Historical Guide to the East Isles Neighborhood*

Crime & Safety Committee – Chairperson OPEN:

Please do what you can to help keep our crime numbers low by NOT leaving valuables inside your vehicle, especially GPS units, any sort of handbags or laptop bags.

Be additionally cautious to ensure your garage door is closed when you intend it to be.

And always - if we see suspicious activity do two things:

- #1 Call 911 (it's not a problem)
- #2 Get as much detail as possible

Our next big neighborhood event is the Ice Skating Party on January 24th, 2010.

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:

The next EIRA Board of Directors meeting is Tuesday January 5th, 2010, 7:00 p.m. at Grace Church.

A motion to adjourn our meeting was made, seconded and passed.



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Library from page 6 photos (bring your camera). Hennepin County commissioners and Library Board President Therese VanBlarcom will welcome the crowd with brief remarks and at 10 a.m. join TC Bear in the official ribbon-cutting to launch Monday hours at Central.

Said Sam Grabarski, president and CEO of the Minneapolis Downtown Council: "Central Library is truly everyone's library, and it is a particularly special resource for the business community. It is where we access corporate annual reports, patent files and a host of other reference documents that are valuable and essential information. Having this library open seven days a week — and particularly restoring a week day important to commerce — is a wonderful decision and we applaud those responsible."

Tours of the Cesar Pelli-designed library will be available for those interested.

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You may notify the Foundation of any friends' hits and misses--no medical details please. If warranted, a professional board will be established for detailed physiological evaluations. The medical profession will arrange to collect and evaluate data.

KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION (KIAA)

By Amy Lucas

January 2010 KIAA Meeting Minutes
KIAA meeting was held on January 4, 2010.

Chair Michael Bono called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Michael Bono, Chair, Terry Campbell, Jeanette Colby, Jordan Hart, Eric Lind, Amy Lucas, Sam Murphy, Josine Peters, Ed Pluimer, Pat Scott, and Roy Williams.

Others present: Lisa Goodman, City Council 7th Ward; Maggie Mercil, Kenwood Rec Center Director; Dylan Thomas, Southwest Journal; Katie Hatt, candidate for State Rep, District 60A; Kathy Low, Brian Hols, vice-chair of LHNA, Anthony Waldera.

Treasurer's Report – Roy Williams

Expenses for Dec: \$250 for Winter Solstice. Income from interest and member contributions totaled \$126. Account balance as of 12-31-09 is \$35,549.

KIAA Board moved to apply for a Citizen Participation Program grant for 2010.

Legislative Race for 60A – Katie Hatt

Katie Hatt introduced herself as a candidate running for State Representative for District 60A. She is a lifelong resident of the Loring Park Neighborhood and has staffed a number of Minneapolis neighborhood groups. She is currently the Principal Aide to Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin.

Local precinct caucuses will meet Tuesday, Feb. 2 and the DFL endorsing convention for our area is Saturday, Feb. 27.

Visit www.katiehatt.org to learn more about the candidate.

Kenwood Park Trail – Brian Hols

Brian Hols is the Vice-Chair of the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association. Lowry Hill has committed \$30,000 in NRP funds towards construction of a bituminous path in Kenwood Park along the north side of Franklin Ave to avoid the dangerous pedestrian crossing at Franklin near the lake.

Brad Agee, a Lowry Hill resident and a landscape architecture professor at the U of M, has offered his design assistance.

The path is proposed between the baseball field and Franklin Avenue with a landscape buffer. The estimated cost is \$40,000-45,000.

Brian Hols plans to meet with affected residents

along Franklin Avenue and other stake holders including neighborhood groups and Park Board personnel.

Variance Requests – Sam Murphy

Rafaela Salido and Carlos Tolmasky, owners of 1811 Kenwood Parkway, are converting a duplex into a single-family house with one central entrance instead of the former two side entrances. These owners have lived in one side of the duplex for 16 years. The neighbors on either side are selling and have not expressed concerns with the variance. KIAA Board will send a letter to the City indicating no objection to the variance of the front yard setback requirement to allow for a new entrance.

Scott Ritter, landscape architect, representing Ann and Frank Taylor at 1961 Kenwood Parkway, presented a request to vary the front yard setback requirements to allow a front terrace. The proposed terrace will have an impermeable surface and will follow the measurements of the previous terrace that was permeable. KIAA will send a letter to the City indicating no objection to the variance request.

City Council 7th Ward Update –Lisa Goodman

Next Lunch with Lisa is January 27. Mike Christensen, Director of the city's Department of Community Planning and Economic Development (CPED), will be discussing his recent presentation on job creation in Minneapolis and the region.

Wi-Fi is active in Minneapolis except for a small section in Lowry Hill and areas along West River Road.

The Minneapolis Telecommunications Network (MTN) board has three vacancies and the City is currently seeking city residents for the public service communication board. Visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/citywork/clerk/boards/open for an application or contact City Clerk Julie Meintsma at 612-673-3358. Deadline ends 1/18/10.

Snow Plowing rules were reiterated: residential sidewalks must be plowed within 24 hrs of snowfall. Commercial properties must be plowed within 4 hours of snowfall. Citizens with sidewalk snow/ice complaints should call 311.

Update on the restoration work in Lake of the Isles (LOI) Restoration – Pat Scott

The Park Board forester confirmed the success of the water drip irrigation bags a.k.a. tree "gators" bought with KIAA's NRP funds. The gators saved staff time

and few new trees were lost along Lake of the Isles. The gators are reusable and will be reinstalled at LOI for at least two more seasons; and then will be used throughout the Park Board system.

The State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the LOI restoration. Three issues of concern include: 1) the bush height along the shore is not in keeping with the historic landscape; 2) an interpretive panel must still be installed at the lake and will probably be located on the kiosk at the north end; 3) the turf is rough and needs improvement.

Announcements

Pat Scott continues as the KIAA representative on new Walker Library construction planning and will provide an update report in Feb.

The owners of 2358 West Lake of the Isles Parkway have filed for a demolition permit; it is being processed through the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission.

Discussions will be held with Park Board staff in Jan regarding possibilities for neighborhood-sponsored repairs to the Kenwood Park playground equipment with a report back to the KIAA board in Feb.

Jeanette Colby provided copies of the CIDNA resolution regarding the Southwest LRT Transitway. A potential KIAA resolution will be discussed at the February KIAA meeting.

Metropolitan Council has provided a copy of the Facility Plan for a major sanitary sewer project (Hopkins System Improvements Project #8041) that runs along Highway 7 from Minnehaha Creek at Blake Road to Uptown at Irving Avenue. The plan notebook can be viewed at the Kenwood Rec Center and interested citizens should contact Tim O'Donnell at Met Council Environmental Services (MCES) at 651-602-1269 for more information.

The Annual Ice Skating Social at Lake of the Isles on Sun., Jan. 24 with Jan. 31st as back up day. Snow shoes may be available at the warming house courtesy of the Park Board. Contact amysanborn18@gmail.com for more info.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Reminder: The next KIAA Board meeting will be

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CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (CIDNA)

By Gail Lee

CIDNA Board Meeting Notes – January 5, 2010

Councilmember Goodman Update:

Going forward, Council members Lisa Goodman (Ward 7) and Meg Tuthill (Ward 10) will each be attending 5 CIDNA Board meetings throughout the year and will both be in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

Lunch with Lisa will be held on Wednesday, January 27. The topic this month will be City of Mpls job creation and economic development.

Minneapolis WiFi update: only one area in the 7th Ward is yet to go live. Complete coverage of the Ward is expected later this month.

Snow: Dangerous ice and snow is on the roads and sidewalks. With the extremely cold temperatures, salt and chemicals are not only not recommended, but ineffectual. Residential sidewalks need to be cleared 24 hours after a snowfall. Commercial sidewalks need to be cleared in 4 hours. To assist the sidewalk inspectors in Minneapolis, please report unplowed or icy sidewalks to 311.

Councilmember Meg Tuthill Introduction: Meg Tuthill was present to introduce herself and staff members Leslie Foreman and Breanna Patsch. Councilmember Tuthill encouraged calls to her office with concerns and questions. Her staff would do their best to return all calls in a timely manner. Councilmember Tuthill has been assigned to the Zoning & Planning, Ways & Means and Public Safety committees.

MN House District 60A Candidates: Marion Greene and Katie Hatt were present to introduce themselves as candidates seeking the DFL endorsement as candidate for Representative of 60A.

Land Use and Development Committee Update: The Planning Commission voted on the Greenway Re-zoning plan on December 14, 2009. Council Member Schiff, who sits on the planning commission made the motions to deny the staff recommendations and keep the existing zoning on the parcels identified by CIDNA. Unfortunately not all the motions were supported by the Commission:

- Motion to keep Cedar Lake Townhomes as R1 PASSED

- Motion to keep Dean Court as is (aka Calhoun Isles Association) PASSED

- Parcels on Xerxes Ave S north of 29th St as is PASSED

- Motion to keep parcels between Chowen Ave S, Chowen Pl and St. Louis Ave as is FAILED on a tie

- Motion to keep parcels on the corner of Drew Ave S and W Lake Street as is FAILED

Variance Request: 3422 St. Paul Ave. has applied for a variance to reduce the set back of the new detached garage from 25' behind the property line to 6'. CIDNA took a position of no opposition to the variance request on the property at 3422 St. Paul Ave.

Transit Committee Update: The Transit Committee met on 12/15 to draft a resolution on mitigation measures along the proposed SW LRT route. After a motion to revise wording regarding the proposed 21st Park-and-Ride; a motion was made to approve the CIDNA Resolution Regarding Mitigation Measures along the Proposed Southwest Light Rail. Motion passed.

This Resolution contains mitigation measures such as establishing a “no freight” baseline, grade separation at the Cedar Lake Parkway intersection, preservation of walking and biking paths, and reconfiguration of road and trails surrounding the proposed location of the West Lake Street Station. Please go to: <http://www.cidna.org/transit.html> to see a pdf of the full Resolution.

NRP Committee Update: NRP and Land Use Committees chairs are continuing work on sourcing firms and developing an RFP for a Small Area Plan for the CIDNA neighborhood. This Small Area Plan would focus on areas affected by an LRT line running on the Kenilworth trail.

The Phase II development online survey will go live at the beginning of February. A postcard alerting the neighborhood to the survey will drop within the next couple weeks. Go to

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/KS55JJP> or www.cidna.org to complete the survey. The survey only takes about 10 minutes to complete. Please take this opportunity to let your vision for our neighborhood be heard!

Regional Sanitary Sewer Improvements: The Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) prepared a draft facility plan of alternatives studied and resulting recommendations for upgrading the regional wastewater force main sewers to provide sufficient capacity and reliable service to the cities of Hopkins, St. Louis Park and Minneapolis.

The Minneapolis Force Main Sewer Segment of the draft facility plan includes:

Phase I: Relocating the existing force main sewer in the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood.

Phase II: Constructing a new force main sewer parallel to the existing force main sewer from the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood along the Midtown Greenway to the East Isles Neighborhood to provide redundancy in the system.

The Met Council will be hosting the following public meetings:

Public Meetings

Weds., Jan 13 (6:30 – 8:00) St. Louis Park City Hall

Weds., Jan 20 (6:30 – 8:00) Kenwood Rec Center

Thurs., Jan 21 (6:30 – 8:00) Hopkins City Hall

Public Hearing Thurs., Jan 28 (6:30 – 8:00) City of St Louis Park Rec Center

All comments and concerns must be received by the Met Council no later than Feb. 8.

Next Meeting Tuesday, February 9: Due to Caucuses on Tuesday, February 2, the CIDNA Board will be meeting on Tuesday, February 9. Also, meeting time has been moved back to 6:00pm. CIDNA Board meetings are held at the Jones-Harrison Residence. All are welcome!

ASK DIANE...A DAY -BY- DAY EXPERIENCE

By Diane Woelm

On January 15, 2010 the date that The Hill & Lake Press comes out, Paul Revere on this same date in 1776, rode to Philadelphia with orders to learn an exact plan of the best constructed gun powder mill, the quantity that can be made in one day, and the expense of it. From my recollection of grade school history Paul Revere will be forever remembered as the Patriot who in the company of William Dawes, aroused the Minutemen who drove the Redcoats from Concord and Lexington on April 19, 1775. He was often the messenger for important projects like this because he was to use an old expression a “Jack -of-all-trades,” and a master of many. He was sent to Philadelphia to visit a mill

owned by Swell Eve who refused Paul's request to send the revolutionary movement a skilled person to help make the gun powder but Mr. Eve, not wanting to appear rude or impolite, did offer to take Paul Revere on a tour of his mill. Mr. Eve, as it turned out was probably supplying gun powder to The British and The Patriots. Paul thanked him and took advantage of this opportunity to make a mental note of all that he saw as Swell took him through his plant so that he could return and ‘superintend’ the mill at Canton as well as another mill at Andover.

Fortunately for our customers, many of whom are “masters -of-many trades,” we do not have to go

through the manufacturing factories of Benjamin Moore and those of our other products that we sell at Savitt Paint because they send us their formulas and paint that we can custom color to your needs right here in our store, the downtown paint store on 15th and Nicollet. What we inherited from our ancestors, The Patriots, is the confidence and willingness to learn how to help you achieve your goals in a timely manner and we are committed to it because home improvement is a day-by-day story that we each of us live out in our homes and in our communities. The following is a guide to help you make your decisions when you are selecting paint and color for your project.

To begin with you must first determine the function of the room you are going to paint. Color can energize or calm a space, open it up, or create greater intimacy, so it is important for you to determine how you are going to use the space before you choose the color. Color can be used as a focal point in order to bring drama into a space. A focal point also helps you introduce bolder colors that might otherwise be overpowering if used on all four walls.

Walls and windows are focal points and so is color alone which by itself can create an accent wall. Just remember that the key to working with stronger colors is balance. Try painting a single wall a striking hue, then repeat the color with room accessories such as throws or pillows. Good advice from Benjamin Moore. Use an accent color in adjacent spaces such as shelves in an adjoining room to keep the look balanced in order that it does not overwhelm.

Some tips to remember about color from Benjamin Moore:

1. A cool color placed next to a warm color will make the cool color look “cooler,” and the warm color look “warmer.”

Ask Diane to page 17

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LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (LHNA)

LHNA MID-YEAR REVIEW

By Janet Hallaway

Former board members, Friends of Thomas Lowry Park, and neighbors gathered round the table at the Kenwood Rec Center for LHNA's January meeting. With a packed room, we hope this is a harbinger of things to come. A key goal for our board is to involve more residents in the board and neighborhood activities and it looks like we were successful this month!

LHNA will co-host the annual ice skating social on Sunday, January 24 from 1-3PM. This is one of the most colorful events of the season. Once again East Isles resident Bob Walser will provide live music. Can't skate? C'mon down for hot cocoa and a seat by the fire.

Thanks to the Rev. Marlene Jacobs of St. Paul's Episcopal Church for co-hosting the upcoming Candidate Forum for Minnesota House of Representatives race. St. Paul's continues to be a generous neighbor and always steps forward in support of the neighborhood. Join us at this event on Tuesday, January 26 to learn more about candidates for this seat.

Once again we are fortunate to have hard-working and creative board members working on behalf of the neighborhood. Craig Wilson leads the Environment

Committee. The committee is partnering with Friends of Thomas Lowry Park to beautify and maintain the park. In the next few months, LHNA will consider making additional investments in the park. Are you a regular visitor to this park? If so, we want to hear your feedback on proposed plans.

Anita Tabb and David Weinstein have ambitious plans on the table to explore implementing design guidelines for the neighborhood. The Planning & Zoning Committee is researching what happens in Historic Districts and in Conservation Districts in other neighborhoods and cities. How might design guidelines benefit our neighborhood. Fran Davis and Jackie Mattingly are regular attendees at early morning committee meetings. We appreciate all the work they do.

Marty Broan has been our diligent representative at monthly meetings of a multi-neighborhood group examining the Lake of the Isles Restoration Plan. The group has a detailed plan to present to the Park Board in early Spring. The plan will be shared with the board in March.

Brian Hols is re-energizing the plans for completing the missing link in the sidewalk at Kenwood Park along Franklin Avenue. He has enlisted the support of a

noted landscape designer and the Minneapolis Park Board. Community meetings will be held this Spring to outline design criteria.

We appreciate the contributions of Jackie Mattingly, Sharon Burris Brown, and board member Melissa Townley in submitting articles to Hill and Lake Press so residents continue to be informed about what we're working on. Madeleine Lowry faithfully executes LHNA's monthly e-blast. Not on the list? Send an email to lowryhillneighborhood.org

Thanks to LHNA Treasurer John Gridley for keeping our finances in order. We are pleased to welcome Jimmy Fogel to the board. Jimmy and Barbara are regular attendees at LHNA Board meetings. Now Jimmy can cast his vote at the table!

Brian Meeker is spearheading plans to recruit new board members for the new term beginning in May.

What's ahead? After successful events led by Rob Reul and Jolane Jones, plans are underway for an Arbor Day celebration. Board members will continue to evaluate opportunities to invest NRP dollars in the neighborhood.

Thomas Lowry Park

From: barry lazarus <barrylaz@gmail.com>

Happy New Year everyone from friends of Thomas Lowry Park. Friends hopes this year you will experience enjoyment when you view and use the park. Friends of TLP wants your input on what events you would like to take place in the park this spring, summer, and fall. For examples, please consider the following: (i) an exhibit of art from neighborhood children, teens, and adults. We could show off paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, or designs. We will need some of you to volunteer as judges. Hopefully the Hill & Lake Press will print the winners and their respective submissions; (ii) a dress up your dog or yourself or both parade. We will need volunteer judges to award gold, red, and blue ribbons. We could serve cold drinks and some sort of snack; (iii) an orators day for all who desire to recite poetry or dialogue from a play; (iv) a soapbox day for anyone who chooses to spout off on any topic with a chance for others to respond; (v) a day of music where neighborhood children and adults can play a musical instrument (alone or in a band). We could have judges and award modest prizes; your ideas or suggestions needed.

We also are asking neighborhood gardeners to volunteer to work in the park to help weed, water, and plant. All of you with a green thumb, please let us help you get it dirty. We are grateful to the MPRB for what it does on behalf of the park. Friends, with assistance from LHNA and Tangletown Gardens, and with neighborhood volunteers, can supplement what the MPRB does to enhance the park's aesthetics and usefulness. Friends welcomes your ideas. Please contact us: friends@thomaslowrypark.org or Madames Payne, Peterman, or Fogel or Mr. Lazarus.

2010 Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board Convenes



Park Board President John Erwin and Commissioner Anita Tabb

Photo by Dorothy Childers



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Ask Diane from page 14

2. More muted tones in both warm and cool colors tend to work better than brighter hues with strong color intensities.

3. Take a look at how the rooms in your home flow - do you have large open spaces with no architectural delineation between rooms or a series of separate rooms that share a common hallway.

4. In an open floor plan, define spaces with color, but keep the colors similar to maintain visual harmony. Separate rooms should still include a sense of color cohesiveness, but each can maintain a more distinct color identity.

5. Choosing the right white.

When using white for a ceiling, use a warm white in rooms painted in warm colors, and a cool white for rooms that are painted in cool colors.

By using the same color white but in different sheens will add subtle interest to a room: a flat or matte on the ceiling, eggshell on the walls and a gloss on the trim.

If you are going to use several tints of white in a room keep them in the same color temperature -warm or cool.

To determine the undertones of various whites, begin by painting a large swatch of Decorator's White and surround it with smaller swatches of other whites to see their underlying colors. That way you will be able to determine which white is right for you based on its undertone.

What we do in our homes and in our workplaces will affect how we see the world around us which is why color, shape, and function are so important in our daily lives.

Happy New Year Neighbors of Loring Park.

Resources for this column: 1. "1776" by Jonathan Dawson, published by Stokes & Company 1927.

2. Designer Tips on Color & Paint by Benjamin Moore Paints at Savitt Paint, 1515 Nicollet Avenue. Tel: 612-871-1155, email: info@savittpaint.com. Website: www.savittpaint.com

The Day of Wine and Chocolate
By Glenna Case

Looking for something romantic but a little different to do on Valentine's Day weekend? Interested in having fun and doing good at the same time? Join Minneapolis Uptown Rotary for an evening of wine and chocolate at the beautiful Minikahda Club on Friday, February 12th at 7:30 pm for a scrumptious evening of wine and chocolate tasting.

The event is a fundraiser to help build a high school on the Central Plateau in Haiti. Uptown Rotary is partnering with several other Rotary Clubs and Haiti Outreach to build a public high school on the Haiti's Central Plateau. Despite a population of over 500,000 people, the Central Plateau has only three public high schools. All of the other high schools in the region are private, leaving less than wealthy children with few educational opportunities beyond grammar school. Most children have no opportunity to continue their education past the 6th grade. Haiti's Minister of Education has committed to providing teachers if we can build the school.

One might ask what Uptown Rotary knows about building schools. The answer is not much. That's why we team with Haiti Outreach. Together, and with the support of other organizations and individuals, Haiti Outreach and Rotary Clubs have been working in partnership with local Haitian communities for many years to build wells, latrines, housing, and two elementary schools on the Central Plateau of Haiti—a rural impoverished area with few resources. If you have read Tracey Kidder's Mountains Beyond Mountains, you understand what we are talking about.

So come and learn about the many luscious kinds of chocolate that exist in the world. The chocolate we see in stores doesn't begin to reflect the rich variety of chocolates that aficionados have discovered. Your chocolate palate will never be the same. Of course there will be wine in simple and sophisticated varietals to sample as well. Tickets are \$45.00 at the door. For more information, contact Glenna Case at glcase@comcast.net.

REAL ESTATE NEWS

HILL LAKE PRESS
Real Estate Sales
December 2009

STREET ADDRESS	LISTING PRICE	SELLER CONTIN	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT
1425 W. 28th St	\$ 99,000		27	\$ 94,000	C	1/1	780	\$ 112,000	\$ 1,385	1986
3121 Excelsior Blvd #306	165,000		107	143,000	C	2/1	800	182,500	2,688	1938
1425 W 28th St #209	199,900		53	186,000	C	2/2	1200	210,000	2,933	1986
2867 James S #2	329,900		451	228,500	C	2/1	1200	277,700	3,969	1915
2520 Upton S	339,900	1,000	42	317,500	H	2/2	1326	345,000	5,020	1955
2900 Benton Blvd	364,900	7,000	82	335,000	H	2/2	1869	429,800	6,331	1953
3104 W Lake St #301	499,900		133	460,000	C	2/2	1697	447,000	6,586	2008
2507 Burnham Rd	674,900		213	475,000	H	3/2	2100	429,500	6,327	1960
2950 Dean Pkwy #1701	589,900		57	590,100	C	3/2	1920	478,000	7,041	1977
2115 Emerson S	639,400		68	615,000	H	3/2	2779	577,500	8,755	1909
2812 Dean Pkwy	799,900		480	600,000	H	3/3	2541	538,000	8,046	1955
3525 W 24th St	849,900		177	642,580	H	3/3	2967	774,500	12,284	1986
2517 Irving S	750,000		16	705,000	H	5/4	3171	711,000	11,304	1909
1200 Mt Curve	1,295,000		512	950,000	TWN	3/4	3000	773,500	12,316	1982
1921 Franklin Ave W	1,950,000		653	1,350,000	H	4/4	4729	1,165,100	19,284	1914

Sources: Harvey Ettinger
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County
C Condo
H Home
TWN Townhouse
(TBD - To be Determined)
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There's Nothing More Past Than a Past President

By Steve Havig

Hello, dear reader. This is my final opportunity to address you directly in print as MAAR President. They told me when I started that they kept it biweekly rather than weekly so I couldn't spout off every Sunday. They said it would ruin paper sales!

I'm joking, of course. It's been a busy year for sure. In the first half of 2009, we were thinking a lot about foreclosures. Those properties have been selling through the market quickly. And as we tracked that activity, we learned that we also needed to make a distinction between foreclosures and short sales.

The second half of the year was dominated by the first-time home buyer tax credit. We saw an uptick in sales that we believe can be attributed to the credit. The extension and expansion of the tax credit is sure to continue to make headlines into 2010.

For those of you who aren't tracking everything we produce at MAAR on the Twitbook and the Faceblog, I'll finish with a rundown of the latest stats for the metro. The most recent numbers we have for this article are through November, which was marked by heavy buyer activity and shrinking inventory leading to strengthening Twin Cities home prices.

The November median sales price of \$170,000 was a slight increase from October—a rare occurrence in a month typically marked by the beginning of a winter price swoon.

We see it as the surest sign that we're on recovery road. We've seen sales growing for almost a year and a half, and prices are starting to reflect that, particularly in the lower price ranges.

The median sales price of traditional homes (excluding foreclosures and short sales) in November was \$190,000, down 15.6 percent from a year ago. Since a heavy share of buyers in November were likely first-timers who typically buy in the more affordable price

ranges, prices in the traditional segment have been weighted downward. Foreclosures posted a November figure of \$127,500, up 2 percent from a year ago, while short sales prices were at \$143,500, down 15.6 percent from last year.

There were 2,987 signed purchase agreements in November, a big dip from October due to seasonal trends and to the tax credit's initial expiration date. That's still up 10.2 percent from a year ago—the 17th consecutive month of year-over-year increases in pending sales. Closed sales posted a whopping 67.0 percent jump from last year, again due to the tax credit.

The Month's Supply of Inventory for the Twin Cities area has dropped to 5.7 months, the lowest mark since April 2006. Traditional homes have 7.6 months of supply, foreclosures have 1.4 months and short sales have 12.8 months. Short sales are stagnant because of the headaches involved in purchasing them. Industry and government efforts that are coming soon could help.

That's it for me. I hope you have a prosperous 2010. It's been a pleasure writing to you this past year.



Steve Havig

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Hill & Lake Press has a new email address:
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HLP's new telephone number 612-377-5785 has not been working properly. Qwest has been very slow at solving the problem. In fact, it has taken many long waste-of-time phone calls with Qwest to solve the problem. We apologize for the inconvenience. That number now works!

Thank you Barry Lazarus for your very generous contribution to Hill & Lake Press and for your timely wisdom.

WHERE WE ARE NOW

By Jean Deatruck, Editor

Get your H1N1 flu shots! I procrastinated and as a result, suffered through two weeks of flu unlike any I can remember. Experiencing the flu along with all this ice, snow, and cold is not a pleasant way to spend January.

We are fortunate to live in an area where so many people are willing to give of their time and their talents and often their money. The volunteers led by Barry Lazarus who are improving our beautiful Thomas Lowry Park deserve our support. Please contribute. And with another election season ahead, The Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association is sponsoring a candidate forum on January 26 at St. Paul's Church that will be led by the League of Women Voters who have led so many similar events through the years. It is an event not to be missed if you want to learn about our three fine candidates for the legislative seat that has been held by Margaret Anderson Kelliher: Marion Greene, Katie Hatt, and Tom Nordyke. So many community events in our neighborhoods are worthy of our support and participation. Ahead is the Ice Skating Social on January 24th which is always popular. Please check the calendar section and your neighborhood minutes for news of upcoming events. Happy New Year to all our readers and to our advertisers.

BILL HOLM HAS THE LAST WORD

Well, yes, I am dead—there is that.
Don't think for a minute I've gone away just because you can't see the big pink "polar bear of poetry". That body is gone.
Now that I don't have to lug it around anymore, I can go anywhere.

In Iceland, when friends heard the news, they traveled up to Brimnes, gathered flowers, left them on the doorstep, watched the sea a while, read a bit of poetry, and sang.
I was there; I sang with them.

At a St. Paul theater, friends gathered on stage to make music, read poems, drink a vodka toast with the audience—Robert Bly, Phebe Hanson, Bart Sutter, Freya Manfred.
I was there too, up in the balcony behind the stage lights.

In Minneota, I stopped at the old house where prairie wind, blowing across bookshelves, started silent piano strings humming.
As for those books, friends should come by, choose 20 each. Both friends and books might come out even.

Where I am now is a lot like Minneota, open horizons in all directions. A few boxelder bugs are here too. My theory is when they die they dry up, turn into light. There's a lot left to be said for light. Like light and Boxelder bugs, I'll be around.

Ann Bushnell, 5-4-09



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Readers!

When you read through Hill & Lake Press, please take note of the advertisers. When you need a new roof, a realtor, a painter, or have other needs, please call our advertisers. Most of them have advertised in our neighborhood newspaper month after month, year after year and continue in this bad economy. When advertisers discontinue their ads because of insufficient business, it is disappointing.

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Our goal is to make our neighborhoods stronger and better by providing information about the residents and the issues that are important to the residents. Read our website at www.hillandlakepress.com. Perhaps you can support our newspaper with a contribution of \$10, \$25, \$50, or \$100 or more. Make checks payable to **Hill & Lake Press, c/o John Gridley, Business Manager, 1821 Dupont Ave S. Minneapolis, MN 55403.** Please include name, address, and Email/Phone. Thank you.

BILL HOLM REMEMBERED

By Jean Deatruck

Poet Bill Holm died nearly a year ago, February 25, 2009. His many fans remember him with sorrow. In October 2009, his latest book of poetry was published: *The Chain Letter of the Soul*.

In these new poems, Bill Holm reflected on the old and on the new, on the past and on the present. He wrote *Typhoid Albert* as he ruminated on the disasters wrought by invasives that are brought from other environments only to cause ruin in the new environment. Holm wisely and humorously wrote, "Leave your opinions and your pets at home. On this planet, neither everything nor everyone belongs everywhere even if they have money to get there." Protectors of our Great Lakes who are fighting to keep Asian Carp out of Great Lakes waters would be sympathetic to Holm's wise views. In *Spinoza's Bed*, he wrote of the union of the mind with the whole of nature.

"He was blessed by name in all his languages
And so his work blesses us; for that we owe him praise.

He gave us the only God we will ever have."
Holm lived in Minnesota and in Iceland where his forebears originated. He regularly spent his summers at his house on a North Iceland fjord in Hofsos, Iceland and the rest of the year in Minneota, Minnesota. A gifted man. So much to read...so much to ponder. After I read these poems in October, I knew that I had to read them again. Although I was aware of his fame and his gift, I am new to Bill Holm's writings and sorry he is no longer with us.

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Hill & Lake Press welcomes stories, poetry, articles, photos, and ideas. Please direct contributions and advertising queries to Jean Deatruck at 612-377-5785 or hillandlakepress@bitstream.net

Hill & Lake Press is a volunteer newspaper. We appreciate your patience when calling or emailing. Although we do not keep traditional office hours, we will return your calls and messages.

Please email hillandlakepress@bitstream.net immediately if you do not receive your newspaper.

Where to find HLP

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Sebastian Joe's	Green Mill
Tuthill's	Walker Library
Hennepin Lake Liquor	Lowry Hill Liquor

CANDIDATE MARION GREENE FROM PAGE 9

Committee on National Legislation, a Quaker organization, helping craft legislation and connecting the organization with its grassroots membership. Marion later earned an MBA from the University of Texas at Austin. She has been a highly regarded business leader at General Mills, Boston Scientific, and St. Jude Medical where she works today as a policy analyst, advising the CEO and his team on health care policy.

Marion is committed to developing sound budget solutions that balance spending reductions with new revenue. She sees health care as a first area for the state government to continue to become more efficient. Spending efficiencies achieved in that area and elsewhere will help us pay for education, transportation and other needs that have been short-changed in recent years. As a ten-year homeowner in Minneapolis, she is committed to working closely with civic leaders to ensure that more dollars are earmarked for Minneapolis. She is also a wife (husband Bart Cannon is a public school teacher) and step-mom to two teenage girls.

Minnesota's District 60A has a history during the past generation of electing exceptional leaders to the legislature—Tom Berg, Dee Long, and Margaret. Marion will continue that tradition.

WINTER WONDERLAND

By Madeleine Lowry

Welcome to the frigid days of a Minnesota winter. There is nothing like the month of January to separate the men from the proverbial boys.



Madeleine Lowry

At this time of year my long underwear has molded into a protective second layer of skin. My well-used shovel stands at attention at the back door. My upper arms are starting to look as shapeless as Michelle Obama's. Well, maybe one of them, my dominant shoveling arm.

I no longer listen to the weather forecasts. It's darn cold and that is all I need to know. I follow a temperature indicator of a different kind. When I flush the toilet on the highest floor of our house and hear that other-worldly gurgle from the shower drain that seems to originate from the center of the earth, I know that it is below zero outside.

Above zero, below zero—that is all anyone needs to know about the weather at this time of year.

My birthday falls at the end of the month and this is the present I routinely receive: two weeks where the high for the day is negative 10 to negative 20. Don't you wonder sometimes why we live here?

My husband brought me here from my newly adopted home of northern California where I thought I'd be happy spending the rest of my days. When he asked me to marry him it was a compound question, only one answer required. "Will you marry me and move to Minnesota?"

I was in head-over-heels in love and no one, nothing and certainly no mere geographical barrier would stop me. "Yes!" I shouted. Thirteen-and-a-half-year age difference? No problem. Spend the rest of my life in the icy tundra of a place called Minnesota, a place I had never been? Sure. How bad could it be? The sun shines everywhere, does it not?

As for him, he was merely fulfilling some kind of biological destiny unique to men born in Minnesota,

that as soon as they find the person they want to spend their life with they beat a path back to the place of their birth.

He cannily waited until February to introduce me to our new home. But first, we went on an expedition to REI in San Francisco where he bought me a down ski jacket, a hat with earflaps, heavy mittens, overpants, gators, and Sorrel boots, the same ones I still have sixteen years later.

I remember being fluffed out in all this gear and driving with him down 35W toward Minneapolis from his parents' home in Edina. There had been a snowstorm overnight and the roads were white. We seemed to be snow-surfing towards our destination. I was watching the downtown come into view and saw what looked like about six tall buildings in the skyline. "Is that all there is?" this girl from NYC wanted to know.

No matter, I was sold on him and we married seven months later in Stillwater on a much warmer day. Fortune smiled on me and that winter was one of the mildest on record.

The next winter, in sharp contrast, was one of the coldest on record. I began to acquire the survival skills I would need to master this environment. How a sandbag in your trunk would help a small, light car like my Mazda 323 hatchback stay on the road. How the locks on your doors could actually freeze over and require treatment with a special spray. How you had to be meticulous in removing the snow from the line where your garage door met the driveway or risk having it freeze solidly in place.

This was a dangerous cold, but Phil never saw it that way. As long as the sun was shining he'd insist we take the dogs out. We walked them on Lake Harriet, and let them romp all over, a 300-acre preserve that disappeared as soon as the ice melted.

I can remember him taking me cross-country skiing on the St. Croix River on sunny day when the temperature was a record-setting negative 44 degrees. Without

the wind chill, naturally. Only wimps talk about wind chill, though sometimes we mention it to impress folks from out-of-town.

He claimed that he still loved me, though it seemed like he was trying to kill me at the time. I can remember the horrific cracking sounds that the ice made as it shifted infinitesimally beneath our feet. I skied quickly with the jerky motions of a beginner, leaving my laughing husband behind, panicky that if I stayed in any one place too long I would be swallowed into the maw of an icy crevasse. My mind was occupied with calculations of how many minutes a skinny chicken like me could stay out in that weather before freezing solid. Sure, he could laugh. He weighed thirty percent more than I did.

But over the years, I have come to appreciate the marvels of this winter wonderland: the beauty of a snowy morning with little clumps of snow hanging in the trees, the quiet and pristine beauty of a new snowfall. And every year there is the miracle of a new snow dragon on the west side of Lake of the Isles, sculpted by unseen hands. And the surprise of a glorious snow gorilla in the Kenwood neighborhood appearing mysteriously after the holidays, rivaling the mass of the house beside it.

And soon, very soon, the days will lengthen and warmth shall return. The shower drain will stop gurgling. My four-year old asks, "When will this snow melt, Momma?" "May," I answer honestly, "in about four months."

But it is best not to dwell on this thought. Take it one day at a time. This is the only way. And make a mental note to yourself not to let anyone talk you into skiing when it is negative 44 degrees. Not for love or money.

Madeleine Lowry is mother of three and a member of the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA) Board. She makes a mean snow angel. Find her on Facebook.

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- Oppose further funding of the Kenilworth LRT line until neighborhood concerns are addressed
- Work to streamline the ways we deliver housing and health care services

sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

In My Life

*There are places I'll remember all my life,
Though some have changed
Some forever, not for better
Some have gone and some remain*

—Lennon/McCartney

The daily newspaper is a shell of its former self. If you hold the *Star Tribune* up to your ear you can almost hear the ocean. I have clearly not gotten smarter, but I can now finish the morning paper before a cup of tea. A friend suggests that she is paying 50 cents a day for a hand delivered sudoku. The paper has become an advertisement for its website. The few stories I am interested in are teased in print but only available online, which means going into the other room and wrestling the computer from JoAnne. Invariably she is doing something important with megapixels that makes my curiosity about Alex Rodriguez and Kate Hudson's relationship seem almost trivial.

Smart, literate, young people of my acquaintance look at me as if I still have a telephone landline (which I do) when I suggest subscribing to the paper. My generation is the boorish guest, finally herded to the front door but still in search of their keys and fiddling with their galoshes. *There may only be 87 of us, but we want our newspaper, by cracky!*

I will miss the daily paper if it goes before I do. I am nostalgic for the days of a morning and evening newspaper with actual news in it. I even miss the printers ink that in my youth found its way up my elbows and face while I poured over the sports section. As a kid, I was a fan of the Philadelphia Phillies. The morning *Philadelphia Inquirer* went to press before the conclusion of night games played on the West Coast. There would be a hint: After three innings the Phillies trailed

the Dodgers 5-1. It did not look good for the "Fightin' Phils," but they did not lose until the *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* arrived at 2:30 PM.

It was summer and no school and the wait was somehow enjoyable. If I finished my chores and walked Smokey (the first in a long line of insane boxers) perhaps the Phils would rally. In hindsight the Phillies were by far the worst team in the National League when I was growing up, and they lost a lot. But I believe the wait helped me learn to delay gratification. That came in handy when I got my first thirty-year mortgage.

In those days, some news stories were slow to develop and filter down to us. If a celebrity had a satanic navel ring collection or was involved in a steamy affair with a notary public, we were blissfully unaware. If there was a problem in Borneo or Tierra del Fuego, eventually the local paper might pick it up from the *New York Times*, or the AP, or UPI. As it turns out the Fightin' Phils fought mostly with each other. They were racially polarized, hard-drinking carousers. Fortunately, the stories of my heroes heartlessly taunting Jackie Robinson did not become common knowledge until my illusions had been shattered in other places.

There was a not-so-benign paternalism at work in my youth, and it is good that there is no returning. I do not want that country back. Now we are exposed to much more information in a seemingly instantaneous manner, and that ought to render us not only better informed, but somehow smarter. However, speaking only for myself, I find the drumbeat of a 24/7 news cycle more overwhelming than helpful. I have more "news" than I have places to put it. I am also troubled that a decent web design can neatly mask quackery. Those prone to illogic and xenophobia seem to be able to access "information" that allows them to get crazier faster. This is progress?

Tom H. Cook would like to remind everyone that the last day to wish someone a Happy New Year and mean it is January 27th.

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