



‘Where the biggies leave off...’

Hill & Lake Press

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CONGRATULATIONS ! AFTER A HIATUS OF MORE THAN 20 YEARS, LOWRY HILL’S ELIZABETH QUINLAN RESIDENCE HAS BEEN FINALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE MINNEAPOLIS HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC).



Elizabeth Quinlan Residence

Photo by Lowry Hill History Committee



Portrait by F. Post of Elizabeth Quinlan from Elizabeth C. Quinlan Foundation

By Diane Montgomery and the Lowry Hill History Committee

The Elizabeth C. Quinlan Residence (1711 Emerson Avenue South) was first nominated in 1986 as a Minneapolis Heritage Resource. In 2009 its owners and the Lowry Hill History Committee revived the nomination. At the public hearing of March 4 2010, the HPC finally voted to recognize the Historic Designation of the property.

Elizabeth C. Quinlan was an early Minneapolis retailer of specialty women’s wear. Arriving with her family in Minneapolis in 1876, she began working in fashion as a retail clerk. At that time women had their

clothing sewn to order, or they purchased yard goods for home sewing. “Miss Quinlan”, as she preferred to be called, along with her mother and sister, changed that; she went into business to offer ready-made clothing. First she was in partnership with Fred V. Young, then after buying out his interests, she was a single woman entrepreneur and sole owner of her firm. She built a thriving business on her own (hard to do in pre-World War I Minneapolis). Elizabeth Quinlan went on to develop the first, and largest ready-made women’s fashion shop in Minneapolis. She specialized in bringing French and Italian designs and then New York fashion to a local and regional clientele. As she expanded, she

built the five-floor Elizabeth C. Quinlan building at 901-915 Nicollet in 1926; this property is already on the National Register of Historic properties and was designed by the same architect as the Quinlan Emerson Avenue residence. The high point of Elizabeth Quinlan’s pioneering entrepreneurial business was between 1900 and 1940. She was named by Fortune Magazine in 1935 as “foremost women’s specialty executive.”

She purchased the 1711 Emerson property in 1925. This was her residence, but also a statement of her liv-

Elizabeth Quinlan to page 4

2358 West Lake of the Isles Parkway



Photo by Dorothy Childers

2841 East Lake of the Isles Parkway



Photo by John Gridley

Two vastly different houses on opposite sides of Lake of the Isles. Will they suffer the same fate? Do these houses deserve to be destroyed?

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fundraiser for Joyce Food Shelf Set for April 11th

By Gary Farland

The second annual Springfest fundraising dinner for the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf is set for Sunday, April 11th, 4 to 7 pm at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, 35th St. and Irving Ave. It will once again feature a regular and vegetarian old-fashioned church hot dish dinner with fancy desserts donated from area restaurants. And once again music and dancing, comedy and stump speeches will take place. It will cost \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, with children 12 and under admitted free. Donations of food and money will be accepted.

We all know the state of the economy. In 2009 the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf gave 316,019 pounds of food to 16,026 persons. It did this with a budget of only \$165,000 and the dedicated work of 5 paid part-time workers and a host of volunteers, including the Uptown Rotary members who staff the Food Shelf every Thursday evening. The Food Shelf is sponsored by the Joyce United Methodist Church and serves a large area from France Ave. to Lyndale Ave., and from 25th St. to Highway 62.

The fundraiser is co-sponsored by the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf Board, the ECCO Board and St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church. For tickets, information or to volunteer, call Becky at the Joyce Food Shelf at 612-825-4431 or email joyce@visi.com .

BIRCHBARK BOOKS

Birchbark Books continues its monthly reading series on April 14, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Reading will be William Reichard, Pamela Gemin, and Michael Walsh. The series is curated by Michael Kiesow Moore. Full deli menu at the Kenwood Cafe prior to the reading (next door to the bookstore, and location of the reading).

This ongoing series features new, emerging, and established writers presenting their work at Birchbark Books on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, from September through May. For more information, see www.michaelkiesowmoore.com.

MINNEAPOLIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Minneapolis Audubon Society Bryant Square (31st & Bryant Avenue S) Friday, May 14, 2010 1 p.m.

Jerry Bahls will update us on the Redheaded Woodpecker Recovery Program. Please join us for the program and refreshments. All are welcome. For more information call 952-920-0176.

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

Spring into the Garden with Blooms Day 2010

Please join Metro Blooms as we kick off the gardening season with one of the most celebrated spring garden events in Minneapolis. Blooms Day returns on Saturday, May 15, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Kenny Community School, 5720 Emerson Avenue South, Minneapolis. The event is free.

Gardener and former host of "Garden Bite" on 102.9 LITE FM. Terry will address this year's Blooms Day theme: "Beauty Boosters."

An awards ceremony honoring top Minneapolis gardeners will follow Teri Knight's keynote speech. The popular Blooms Day plant sale follows the awards program. This year's sale will feature native perennial plants with a selection of Rusty Schmidt's favorite raingarden plants.

Hosted by Metro Blooms, formerly Minneapolis Blooms, this year's event will also feature four FREE 25-minute seminars on (1) designing for foliage, (2) garden design styles, (3) fast landscape plantings in the aftermath of emerald ash borer, and (4) raingarden maintenance. These mini-seminars will take place throughout the morning.

Representatives from Metro Blooms, plant societies, the Hennepin County Master Gardeners, and garden/landscape businesses will be on hand to answer your questions. Enjoy refreshments while perusing silent auction items and shopping at exhibitor booths.

For more information about Blooms Day 2010, visit www.metroblooms.org.

No Lunch with Lisa in March

Join Lisa on April 28th for a presentation on plans for Orchestra Hall and Peavy Plaza renovations.

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MARCH 2010

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The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, A Century-Old Tradition of Community Service

By Helen Kuehn, Woman's Club Member since 1968

The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, founded in 1907 announces its Annual Estate Sale. The Estate Sale is one way of supporting the Club as it continues its proud history of community service. The Club has been a solid presence in the neighborhood since 1913.

In its early years, members looked to reforms needed in the city with "No kindergartens, no drinking fountains in schools, dust in the streets, impure milk, and even disappearing wildflowers." * They worked through the School Board, the State Legislature, Associated Charities, Hennepin County Medical Association, and any other groups that could further their mission. And they were successful.

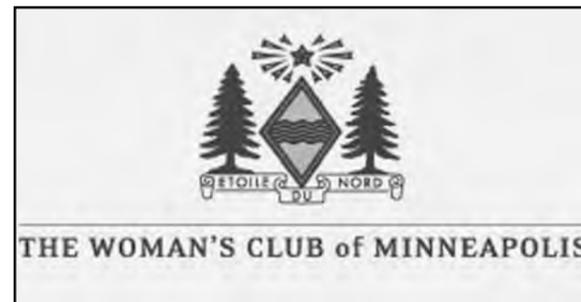
The Needlework Guild, formed during the First World War, is still active. Our connection with the visually impaired goes back to those same early days.

The restoration of the Godfrey House stands out as an important contribution to the city. The Club's Godfrey committees have worked steadily to repair, maintain and furnish it in its 19th century style—and they conduct public tours of this historical house.

Current charitable emphasis continues to be on agencies that benefit women and children, the Club giving both volunteer and financial help. Every year Community Outreach scholarships and grants are awarded to a number of local agencies that meet our criteria.

Other continuing volunteer activities are the blood drives, three times a year, and hosting National Night Out at the Woman's Club. Many others are interspersed depending on special needs during the year.

We have been a Loring Park neighbor since 1913 when the Woman's Club moved into its first permanent quarters at 1526 Harmon Place, right across from the Ole Bull statue. In 1928 the new building, designed specifically for the Woman's Club, was ready. At 410 Oak Grove Street, we again faced Loring Park on the 16th Street side of the Club. Members serve on Loring Park committees and the Club provided suggestions and funds for its viewing pier.



We invite you to come to our Annual Estate Sale at the Woman's Club on Saturday, April 10, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. There is a \$5.00 entry fee and the opportunity to win raffle items! We look forward to seeing you here.

* Bingham, Marjorie, page 6, As We Move Forward, Beaver's Pond Press, 2007

Sustainability and the Natural Step Framework Seminars

Two Seminars on Sustainability and the Natural Step Framework will be held this spring: one a two evening seminar in Minneapolis (March 25 and April 1) and the other a two morning seminar in St. Louis Park (April 1 and April 8). AFS website, www.afors.org

Both will be led by Terry Gips, an economist, ecologist, Adjunct Faculty member at the Minneapolis College of Art & Design, author (*Breaking the Pesticide Habit and The Humane Consumer and Producer Guide*), President of the Alliance for Sustainability, and head of Sustainability Associates, a Minneapolis sustainability consulting firm. Terry is one of the first US NSF trainers and served as a White

House and Congressional aide, Aveda Corporation Director of Sustainability, Cargill economist, and Co-founder/Director of the Sacramento Community Garden Program.

Seminar Two in 2 Parts: Mar 25 & April 1 6-9:30 pm, 5:30 pm Registration, Networking, and Dinner available from Lunds-Uptown Community Room, 1450 West Lake Street, Minneapolis.

Seminar One in 2 Parts: Thurs April 1 & 8 8:30 am Noon 8 am Registration & Organic Continental Breakfast Early RSVP Required, Banquet Room, St. Louis Park Recreation Center 3700 Monterey Drive, St. Louis Park (East of Highway 100 on West 36th St).

Cost: \$95 Early Registration Discount (\$75 for contributing members of the Alliance and other sponsors) one week in advance. Add \$20 after early registration and \$10 more at door (if space). A limited number of scholarships are available on request.

Info/RSVP: Alliance for Sustainability, www.afors.org 612-331-1099 info@afors.org

Sponsors: The City of St. Louis Park, Environmental Assistance MN Pollution Control Agency, Responsible Minnesota Business, MN Renewable Energy Society, EarthSave Twin Cities and the Alliance for Sustainability



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Josh Zuehlke

Michael Wille

Marcy Libby

Elizabeth Quinlan from page one



EAST ISLES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (EIRA) SEEKS NRP CONSULTANT

The East Isles Residents' Association, the governing board of the East Isles neighborhood in Minneapolis, is in search of a contract consultant who will work with the Association to plan and implement programming for the NRP Phase II for EIRA.

CONTRACTUAL DUTIES:

Participation Agreement

- Organize the election of NRP Steering Committee according to the EIRA Participation Agreement approved by the EIRA Board 2-9-2010 and the NRP Policy Board
- Assist the Committee in developing its responsibilities and the Phase II action plan
- Develop the NRP budget and accounting procedures for Phase II funds

Phase II Plan

- Draft the plan to be approved by the Steering Committee and the EIRA Board
- Develop and implement the outreach plan, including but not limited to publicity, recruitment of volunteers, surveys, neighborhood involvement and meetings, etc.
- Develop a process for developing and deciding on priorities
- Write the Phase II Plan
- Ensure processes are in place to carry out plan
- Submit completed plan to city of Minneapolis

Supervision of Consultant

- The consultant will work directly with the NRP Steering Committee and be supervised by its chairperson, with consultation and approval as appropriate by the EIRA Board.

Job Requirements

- Knowledge of NRP and the EIRA neighborhood
- Experience in writing plans and proposals
- Experience working with neighborhood groups and volunteers
- Experience working with budgets, surveys, and publicity

Compensation

The contractor will be expected to work 10 hours/week and will be paid on an hourly basis commensurate with experience, between \$15.00 and \$18.00/hour. There are no benefits attached to the appointment. Contractor will be expected to have their own workspace and computer.

To Apply: Application should be received by April 15, 2010. Submit a cover letter, resume, and names of 3 references to:

Nancy Johnston, President, EIRA
2751 Hennepin Ave S, Box 294
Minneapolis, MN 55408

ing style. Her personal role in developing the property is reflected in correspondence at the extensive archives of the Elizabeth C. Quinlan Foundation, a charitable foundation she established that is still active today. Original receipts and accounts, drawings and letters indicate that Miss Quinlan selected her architect, New York's Frederick L. Ackerman. With the assistance of Miss Quinlan's friend, early Minneapolis Interior Designer, Mary L. Bookwalter (former Minneapolis Handicraft Guild Director), the residence was filled with unique Italian and French antiques as well as custom-made fixtures and details.

Features that specifically are included in the designation include, not only the residence exterior facades, but also the interior public spaces: the dramatic stone and marble entry, and the vaulted two-story living room and dining room with their original stone and ironwork. American Master Ironworker, Samuel Yellin of Philadelphia, designed and crafted wrought iron balustrades, balconies, lanterns, radiator screens, wall sconces and fireplace work. Though of national reputation, Yellin work is found locally in few buildings (see the George H. Christian Residence, current home of the Hennepin County Historical Society). The Emerson Avenue Quinlan residence is built in the Italian manner, as a duplex, with the owner's residence not at street level, but on the second floor. This owner's unit has large windows, French doors and ornate balconies that open on three sides of the building, onto gardens. The original parterre interior courtyard is accessed by a circular ironwork staircase descending from the second floor dining area down to the central fountain area that is filled with an ornate pebble-designed mosaic.

The property is the artwork Miss Quinlan intended. She lived here from its completion until her death in 1949. The property retains its originality due to the watchful care of its current owners, Dr. and Mrs. Mahmoud Riaz. This family is only the second owner after the Quinlan family of this property. They should be congratulated as well for their wardship of this Minneapolis historic and artistic resource. No unsympathetic additions, excessive modifications, stripping of original fixtures mar this residence. It remains a lasting tribute to Minneapolis' early "grande dame" of elegance and fashion, "Miss Elizabeth Quinlan."

Birds and Kids, in the yard, seen through the window.

Spring has come.

Life is good.

Be grateful, be quiet, be fulfilled.

Stephen Alderson
April 13, 2008

KidSki Gets Students Out of the Classroom

The past week of rain has all but melted away many of the memories of last month's City of Lakes Loppet; its magical luminary, the skiers tied to happy dogs, the radical icecyclers, and the kids tripping over themselves in the MinneLoppet among the many attractions. But wait. Why am I recounting our recent neighborhood skiing event in this monthly column dedicated to public education?

MINNEAPOLIS MINDS

By Steve Kotvis

It's because of KidSki, one of Minneapolis Public Schools' many private partnerships. KidSki is program brought to students by the non-profit organization City of Lakes Loppet Foundation. KidSki adds to the classroom experience by getting students out of the classroom on onto the trails for fitness, fun and education about healthy choices.

KidSki began in 2004 with a single program at Bryn Mawr Elementary sponsored by North Memorial Medical Center. Today the program serves more than 300 students across Minneapolis at four school sites, which also operate at Anwatin Middle School, Andersen Open Elementary (sponsored by Medica), and Pillsbury Elementary (sponsored by UCare). The program's success is dependent upon the Loppet building winning partnerships with its growing sponsor base. Rossignol and Pure Mountain Company provide the ski equipment. The Loppet continues to seek more sponsors to expand the programming to more Minneapolis schools.

Students of all ages and backgrounds get exposed to an experience many have never had or would never had without KidSki. My favorite conversation I heard while taking pictures at Pillsbury school last year was from a girl from Egypt who explained how before moving to Minnesota that she rarely ever saw rain and certainly never before snow. And then there were the girls at Anderson skiing dressed in burkas. And hey, I also learned kale is a great source of vitamin K for strong bones!

KidSki is truly a great partnership in how it develops skills and active and healthy lifestyles. In addition to creating new skiers for this year's record setting MinneLoppet, look to the programming to expand participation beyond the school year in June's paddle, run and bike Tri-Loppet!

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 also serves as volunteer photography coordinator and member of sponsorship committees of the City of Lakes Loppet organization. He can be reached at stevek@elemenop.us.



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EARTH DAY 2010

By Amy Lucas

The Minneapolis "Earth Day Watershed Clean Up" will be held city-wide on Saturday, April 17 from 9:30-noon. In the past, there has been little participation at the Kenwood Recreation Center, but we are hoping for a better turnout this year. This year's goal of twenty teams with at least three people per team will be able to cover not only Kenwood Park, but also Hidden Beach and the trails around Lake of the Isles. We are encouraging groups of school children, scout troops, neighborhood block residents, families and friends to organize teams and register with the Kenwood Park volunteer site coordinator, Amy Lucas at amylucas@gmail.com, by April 15. The Park Board provides the bags, gloves and maps, but we need you!

The Minneapolis Recycle Run (5K) and Kid's Half Mile Run around Lake Harriet will be on Sunday, April 19. Visit www.minneapolisparcs.org to register.



Earth Day volunteers April 2009

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to begin planning additional beach and picnic area improvements at Theodore Wirth Park

Visitors to Theodore Wirth Park can look forward to enhanced recreational offerings in coming months as part of the continued revitalization of one of the Twin Cities' premier regional parks. From innovative play features to trail connections, the enhancements will add to the outstanding amenities that have made the park a popular recreation destination.

Phase III planning will update the 1980 Wirth Park Master Plan, envisioning facilities that will encourage family and group use, support youth programming, and invite park users to connect with the natural resources of the greater park. A revitalized picnic area with state-of-the-art facilities, innovative play features, water-based recreational activities, and trail connections are some of the components that will be included in the plan.

Plans will encompass the areas surrounding Wirth Lake and bounded by Theodore Wirth Parkway on the west, Highway 55 on the north, the railroad tracks on the east, and the picnic pavilion area on the south. (The picnic pavilion will not be included in the scope of this planning effort.)

Phase I Wirth improvements were completed in 2005 and included a beach house and utility replacement. Phase II, currently underway, includes a new playground, four-court sand volleyball, a half basketball court, new trails, sidewalks, site furniture, shade shelters, plantings and themed play areas.

In its commitment to the 2007 Comprehensive Plan goal to focus on northside parks, the MPRB has continued to seek funding for Theodore Wirth Park improvements. In 2009, funding in the amount of \$2.19 million was awarded for the continued development of Theodore Wirth Park. This funding was made possible through bond funding from the Metropolitan Council as well as through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment passed by Minnesota voters in 2008. The amendment increased the general sales and use tax rate by three-eighths percent, and 14.25 % of the revenue generated by this increased sales tax is dedicated to the Parks and Trails Fund to support parks

and trails of regional significance. The MPRB will continue to seek additional funding for Wirth beach improvements from the Parks and Trails Fund, as well as bond funding from the Metropolitan Council this year and in 2012.

The largest park in the Minneapolis Park System, Wirth Park is well-known for its year round recreational activities and natural resource treasures. Amenities include the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary, 18-hole and 9-hole golf courses, a winter recreation area and an off-road cycling trail. In 2009, Wirth Park was named "Best Park" in City Pages' Best of the Twin Cities edition.

Mothers Take the Gold at Lake of the Isles.



Photo by Josie Madden

Lake of the Isles drew a large crowd on the final day of the skating season. Three mothers were awarded trophies for achievement in the freestyle program.

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NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Gary Thaden, Gthaden at Gmail dot Com

New Library Board Members

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners appointed Caitlin Cahill of Plymouth and Gary Thaden of Minneapolis (yours truly), and reappointed Claudia Kelly of Medina to the Library Board on March 2. Their terms end on Dec. 31, 2012. Cahill and Thaden are replacing Cynthia Steinke, whose term ended Dec. 9, 2009, and David Pratt, whose term ended Dec. 9, 2009 and who passed away last month. Cahill is a technology integration specialist with the Orono School District, Thaden is an attorney and former Minneapolis Library Board member, and Kelly is a playwright and aspiring novelist.

Age: Wide Angle

"Wide Angle" is a lecture 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 at 7 PM.

March 16: The Influence of Life Experience on the Literary Perspective with Loft director Jocelyn Hale, author Fred Amram, poet Philip S. Bryant, poet Phebe Hanson, novelist Faith Sullivan.

From a writer's perspective, more years give you more material and deeper insights. This program, moderated by the Loft Literary Center's Executive Director Jocelyn Hale, will include short readings, musings, and lively conversation about the role of age and long-term perspective in literary work. Acclaimed

panelists will include Loft Mentor Series winner Fred Amram, poet Philip S. Bryant, poet Phebe Hanson and novelist Faith Sullivan.

Talk of the Stacks: All Events are free at the Pohlad Room, Central Library

David Lipsky: *Although Of Course You End Up Becoming Yourself: A Road Trip with David Foster Wallace* Thursday, April 15, 7 PM

Although Of Course You End Up Becoming Yourself



Gary Thaden

is a fascinating new book about the legendary author David Foster Wallace, who committed suicide in 2008. Based on the largely unedited "road trip interviews" by David Lipsky, contributing editor at Rolling Stone magazine, this work offers an intimate portrait of Wallace during his 1996 book tour for *Infinite Jest*. From struggles with fame and mental illness, to getting high and getting laid, to the nature of art itself – Lipsky allows Wallace to speak for himself. Winner of a National Magazine Award for his commemorative article on Wallace in Rolling Stone, Lipsky is a frequent commentator for NPR's All Things Considered and the author of several works including the best-selling non-fiction book *Absolutely American*. Lipsky has appeared on the Today show, Charlie Rose, and elsewhere.

Anchee Min: *Pearl of China* on Thursday, April 29, 7 PM

Barbara Graham, Sandra Benitez, and Judith Guest: *Eye of My Heart* on Thursday, May 6, 7 PM

Krista Tippett: *Einstein's God: Conversations about Science and the Human Spirit* on Tuesday, May 18, 7 PM

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

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

A Night at the Opera on Irving Avenue



Photo by Kevinn Tam

Kenwood realtor Kevinn Tam and James Waterhouse of Tres Jolie with host Paul Mazio honored James Valenti at a merry dinner party in Lowry Hill. James Valenti sang Rodolfo recently in *La boheme* at The Minnesota Opera. Among other guests were James' parents Barbara and Joe. James Valenti will make his debut in early April at the Metropolitan Opera when he appears as Alfredo in *La traviata*. James is the handsome tall man in the photo.

Ask Diane About Our America in Color.

By Diane Woelm

On March 19, 1776, General Washington sent his official report on the evacuation of Boston; rather than expanding on his own successes he congratulated President Hancock upon the good condition of his furniture and family portraits, and treated the going of the enemy as a matter of course. He went on to report that the evacuation took place without endangering the lives and property of the remaining unhappy inhabitants. He further stressed that the President's home received no damage worth mentioning. Washington said, "Your furniture is in tolerable order and the pictures are left entire and untouched."

As I read about Jonathan Rawson's accounting of our 1776 Revolutionary War I thought, what colors did our ancestors use in their homes? And, were their family portraits displayed on their walls?

The Northwest Valley Republic reported on decorating in the March issue. They said that designers have layered window treatments for centuries, and now that same treatment is moving from windows to floors. Area rugs are everywhere. They are used to cover wood or tile floors and are now even acceptable over carpeting because it adds instantaneous visual interest. It can also give tired carpeting a fresh look to go with some of the new color trends for walls. Grey has become the new beige and purple continues to be a hot accent color.

For more information on paint colors please call Savitt paint 1515 Nicollet Ave S. 612-871-1155. Web Site www.savittpaint.com.

Resources for this column: Jonathan Rawson '1776', Northwest Valley Republic 3/26/2010.

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What happened to the Lake of the Isles Dragon?



Photo by Dorothy Childers

Every winter, many of us see the dragon with the green eyes on the snow covered lake. Now that the snow and ice have finally disappeared, does anyone know where the dragon is living? Where is he when the sun is shining, the leaves are on the trees, the grass turns green, and the temperatures are up in the 80s?

Acknowledge
the
Spirit of the Lakes
and
give thanks

a Minneapolis Millfoil Project (AMMP)
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or contact Mary (612)822-8604

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1212 Dupont S #303	\$ 174,900	9,912	144	\$ 165,200	C	2/2	1000	\$ 201,500	\$ 2,946	1960
2421 Emerson S #109	187,900	6,000	163	164,000	C	2/2	1300	239,800	3,392	1908
			cume	Condo Home Townhouse	C H TWN					(TBD - To be Determined)

Sources: Harvey Ettinger
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County
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REMEMBERING HELEN PORTER

Helen Porter

Celebration of a Remarkable Life

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Saturday March 6, 2010

My name is Mark Oyaas; it is my honor to participate in this service this morning. When Angie (Lundin, Helen's daughter) first broached the subject over the phone, I must say it was my life that passed before my eyes: "we were wondering if you might say a few words..." the gulp must have been audible. Helen Porter was a woman of great accomplishment, a woman of purpose, in each waking hour, of each day of every one of her remarkable 97 years there lays a story and a lesson...a few words? Normally, I am not a man of few words and certainly the subject of Helen Porter trumps that phrase...Angie's soothing voice found its way through the chaos in my head "the article you wrote for the Hill and Lake Press about Dad (William 'Bill' Porter) when he passed hit the bull's eye in so many ways. What we are wondering if you would share some of your personal memories and reflections of Mom as a neighbor and most of all as a friend." A reprieve, it seemed, but not much.

At the outset let's acknowledge that most of you here today (at the service) no doubt could be here in my place and share your stories. They will all include food, mostly likely baked goods, a helping hand lent without ego or strings, ice cream pails and discussions of basic rights and wrongs ending in a good laugh.

My family moved to 1984 Sheridan in 1964. At the time Roger and his family were next door and two more houses down, on the grand lot in the wonderful white house where God meant them to be, 2000 Sheridan Ave S, lived Helen and Bill Porter. I was eight, soon to be nine when we moved in and remember my grandfather, a carpenter/contractor from North Minneapolis talking, with admiration, about Belden Porter the commercial plumbing and heating company which bore the family name and of course where Bill and Helen worked together for so many years. He mentioned reliability and integrity, no surprise to those of us here today. My Mom, who also worked outside the home, marveled at Helen's energy and abilities to lend those energies in so many ways.

Growing up we built forts, played army and just sat and stared in wonderment at the switch yard down below from those wonderful woods that line the west side of Sheridan. Whether it was hide and seek in younger days or slinking off to private beach in adolescence we were all wary and in some awe of the bee hives along the fence in the back of Porter's yard. It was only later as I got to know Helen as an adult, such that I can yet lay claim to that descriptor, that I realized what a metaphor those bees and their queen were



Helen Porter, A Remarkable Woman

for life in and around 2000 Sheridan.

I returned from playing Army 'for real' in the late 70s and resumed school at the University of Minnesota while working at the Red Owl grocery store on 24th and Hennepin. Weekly, Helen, her beautiful hair piled carefully as it always was on her head, would appear through the door on a mission. With coupons clutched in one hand she would grab a cart and zip through the store. No sooner than I saw her disappear around aisle one, there she would be rolling through the frozen section into the check stand. "You guys had some great bargains this week, 20 lbs of flour for a dollar!" Looking down I noticed there were about four hundred pounds of flour in the cart. "Oh I do a lot of baking, and they never have enough in St. Paul's kitchen. The last time I made gravy there it was almost hopeless. If there is an extra bag Bill and I can drop it off at Camp Lawton". Pointing down to a roast wrapped in plastic she asked, "have you tried the porketa? It is fantastic, it's Larry the meat man's own recipe. I asked him for it today, I couldn't make it for what you sell it for, I stopped and checked the spice rack". That was Helen on a mission, 20 bags of flour, an exchange with the meat man, checking prices and out the door in oh, 11 seconds.

It was about that time that there was a neighborhood kaffuffle around rerouting of Franklin Avenue at Penn to accommodate a recreation center for Kenwood Park. There was much hand wringing over the need to take down some elm trees along the street and at the corner. Helen who was active as a voice for the new Rec Center would ask, "Do you know why those trees were planted in the first place? I will tell you. The kids always gathered on that corner to play. It was several old biddies from across the street that cared nothing for kids who had these trees planted; I know—Bill was one of those kids. Knock 'em down, we can always plant more. Trees grow you know."

When Joanie and I bought our house from my Mom in 1987, Andy our oldest was just a baby. We were both working so there wasn't a lot of time for visiting. My most frequent contact with Helen was when she would be unloading stacks of magazines, AAA travel guides, National Geographics and scores of road maps against Alwin's garage. Can I help you with those Helen? "No thanks I got 'em, I have been saving these for a while and now I am glad. See, Ross is a teacher and he can use these at school." That scene must have been repeated fifty times over the years. Thinking about it how many of these materials she collected over time could boggle the mind, once I got a sense of the many

other treasures that Helen held in safe keeping I stand before you officially boggled.

It was in large part through our children that Helen drew closer into our concentric ring. There was a birthday party for Andy with neighbor kids one June. They were playing a rousing game of "hit each other on the head with the wooden stick, never mind the paper horse on the string" when Helen pulled up in the alley. "Whose birthday, is it Andy's? Oh honey you must have one of my dirt cakes." Not two hours later Helen appeared with a marvelous concoction of chocolate cake and gummy worms flowing from an ice cream pail. The other kids were gone but Helen settled in. As Andy and brother Sean topped off their sugar high, she pointed over to Sean and asked, "when is that little chunk's birthday?" "Well not until April 9th" We don't recall a pencil or paper and didn't give it another thought until the night before Sean's birthday the next April when the phone rang. "Hi its Helen Porter. I have cake for Sean, is he having a party? Oh he is, six kids you say. I will bring the cake over in the morning." The next day there was Helen and six individual dirt cakes in small kid sized pails. The tradition was cemented. Helen and Bill graced us from then on, kids parties, St Patrick's parties, graduations and showers - even "oh heck" lets have a party parties. We were always the better for their company and who ever had a chance to engage in conversation with Helen would leave with a piece of history, always about something that pertained to life in the here and now.

The Sheridan Avenue irregulars among the assembled know I can't go without making mention of our annual night out block party. There was good reason we set up with 2000 as the main stage. It was there Helen would meet and greet the neighbors in the company of her beloved family; kids, grandkids, great grandkids and even a smattering of great-great grand kids. Helen would beam in their presence. If love were dirt cake you would find several thousand ice cream pails worth in that yard.

One Sunday last fall I called Helen's familiar phone number to follow up with her about splitting some day lilies and getting a couple of peonies for my yard, I also had a Pyrex pan to return. It had contained a dirt cake honoring Andy's June birthday, his 22nd. She invited me over, where I joined her at her post around the kitchen table. She was in the midst of the grand fruit cake baking extravaganza. "I am baking 80 lbs this year; I want to know that anyone who has ever wanted a chance at my fruit cake will get one. Thank goodness for that wonderful Doug next door, he is always there to help, especially in the heavy lifting." I arrived at noon. The Vikings were just kicking off on the TV. We had the most wonderful conversation, covering a host of topics ranging from life in the hard scrabble of North Dakota 90 years ago to the disposition of some of the treasures in her care for these many years. "My relative, an aunt I think, was a seamstress and a hat maker. I kept this beautiful case of some her materials including a load of feathers. Boy, was the historical society glad to get that box!" At one point Helen asked me to walk with her out in the garden. Let's look though the day lilies while there are still blossoms left. She pointed out vivid reds, bright yellows, combos, "You know Bill highbred these himself, pointing to some velvety deep purple lilies." I offered to grab a shovel, "no I see what you like, Susie will help me split them." We went back into the house and talked some more. The 'Sixty Minutes' clock was ticking on my TV by the time I got home. The last thing we talked about was her birthday party. "Yes I am pulling it together, 97 you know and who knows what comes next? I really am looking forward to this. We'll have plenty of food and baked treats and just get a chance to visit. I don't want to be the center of attention, in charge, yes, center of attention not so much.

Two days later, you should know, I came home to find my deck covered with plants in plastic grocery bags. Each one carefully marked. I planted into the night and grow eager to see these living memories

Helen Porter, A Remarkable Woman, to page 9

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ADRIENNE DIERCKS OF PROJECT SUCCESS NAMED WINNER OF ANN BANCROFT AWARD

13th annual event to be held April 29, 2010

The 13th annual Ann Bancroft Awards, to be held Wednesday, April 29, 2010 at the Hyatt Hotel in downtown Minneapolis, will recognize four recipients for their accomplishments and support of girls and women. The four winners are: co-winners Jazzmin Brooks and Dafina Bobo; Adrienne Diercks; Cindy Reuther; and Women's Environmental Institute (WEI).

Proceeds from the event will further the efforts of the Ann Bancroft Foundation. Event sponsors include Best Buy Women's Leadership Forum, Imation, Dunn Brothers Coffee, Women's Foundation of Minnesota, KARE 11 and Minnesota Women's Press. For ticket information contact www.annbancroftfoundation.org or call Tracy Adams at 763 479-4499. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner and the awards program.

The Ann Bancroft Foundation (www.annbancroftfoundation.org) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support girls and women in realizing their highest dreams and potential. The ABF endeavors to recognize individual achievement and promotes initiatives that inspire courage, risk-taking, integrity and individuality in girls and women. The ABF exemplifies the spirit of explorer and educator, Ann Bancroft. Bancroft organized and led the first all-woman expedition to Antarctica, becoming the first woman to reach both Poles across the ice. In 2001 Bancroft and Norwegian Liv Arnesen became the first women in history to cross Antarctica's landmass.

Winner of the 13th annual 2010 Ann Bancroft Awards Adrienne Diercks – Dream Maker Award winner “Individual” category (leadership and achievement)

Adrienne Diercks grew up in the Hill & Lake Press area and has many friends in the neighborhood. Since graduating college, Adrienne Diercks has had a dream of her own: to help young people believe in their dreams, to envision a future for themselves, and to take positive steps toward making their dreams become reality. In 1994, Diercks created Project SUCCESS, a model that uses goal-setting workshops, live theater and one-on-one support to help youth plan their paths before they graduate. Project SUCCESS, which serves over 10,000 young people and their families every year, discovers and reveals the possibilities that exist for students, ensuring they have the tools and vision needed to prepare for their future.

Knowing that live theater could inspire young people, offer fresh insights and open new doors, Diercks began conceptualizing a new program idea. She brought together Sheila Livingston, from the Guthrie Theater, and George Roberts, a former North High English teacher, to develop what is now Project SUCCESS. The curriculum underscored the themes of the plays, and asked local theaters to partner with Project SUCCESS and generously donate tickets. Diercks used



Adrienne Diercks

her skills as a listener, collaborator and leader to work with the school communities to give her access to students in the classroom. With patience and through the extraordinary results her approach received, she won the trust of students, teachers, principals and families.

Diercks began the workshops with the students discussing the play and its characters that resonated with their own lives. Soon those comparisons led to talking about setting goals and achieving them. Diercks saw the students open up in ways that surprised and impressed their teachers. For the past 18 years, she has worked tirelessly to see her vision become a reality and to transform lives on a daily basis.

Diercks' capacity as a leader is demonstrated by her commitment to truly work hand in hand with all partners in serving students and families. Each of the 10,000 public school students in the 17 schools Project SUCCESS serves has at least seven classroom workshops per year. The students continue to be involved in the program as they move up in grades from 6th to 12th for up to seven years. The trust that the teachers, administrators, students and families have in Diercks is exceptional. Similarly, she treats the funders who support the organization's \$1.2 million budget as true partners, along with the 27 local theaters that generously donate the tickets and 70 volunteers who help the program.

“As a mother, I have been inspired every day by Adrienne's persistence, clear vision and commitment to do whatever it takes to help young people achieve their dreams,” said Karla Ekdahl, Project SUCCESS board member and parent. “As a caring adult, leader and role

Helen Porter, A Remarkable Woman, from page 8

appear in the yard as spring unfolds.

We all know that it was not long after the party that Helen's health started to take a dive. It is so clear to me now something you, Fritz (Helen's grandson who lived with her at 2000 Sheridan), and the rest of the family no doubt knew in your hearts. Helen was getting ready to leave. Only someone this remarkable could proceed with such grace, taking care of business and wrapping up with a final fruitcake.

We in the Christian faith believe in the promise that those who live as we were taught will find reward at the end of this rainbow. Many of us like to extrapolate from that promise that our reward comes in a reuniting with the ones we love. I choose to see Helen and Bill on their special cloud, 2000 Heavenly Drive. A cloud and a half actually, Bill's Dad would have seen to that. In the back, there is a grand garden festooned with peonies and lilies bursting with color; brighter than any fireworks we know. In the front there are some huge shade trees and some saplings beginning to grow. The street glows with a reddish golden hue, reflecting the value of friendship and the warmth of love.

Helen we learned so much. Yes hearts ache, there is less golden glow on our Sheridan Avenue but you taught us that trees grow, cakes get baked and mixed in among the candied fruit and the gummy worms will be the memories. Rest assured, the joy will be found again.

model, Adrienne has had an extraordinary impact on my own daughters and their friends.”

Project SUCCESS' proof is in the numbers. More than 85 percent of the Minneapolis middle school students indicated that Project SUCCESS “helped me think about my future;” nearly 75 percent of high school students said the programs “helped me create a plan after graduation;” and 82 percent said they were “inspired and motivated to pursue my dreams.” More than half of Project SUCCESS' alumni from Minneapolis high schools said that the program “has had an impact on what I have been doing since graduation.” And when asked who assisted them in future planning, 88 percent rated Project SUCCESS second only to parents or guardians.

Diercks' success is best expressed through the thousands of lives she has touched and changed, through the many thousands who have imagined new possibilities.

Sheila Livingston, Director of Artistic Relations at the Guthrie Theater says “Adrienne has helped young people walk a road of dignity and achievement and belief in themselves.”

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An Open Letter To the Uptown Community

Uptown Community Partners would like you to consider Greenway Center as a preliminary design concept for the new Walker Library reconstruction.

Our Objective

Persuade the Hennepin County Library Board to seriously consider a mixed use redevelopment to incorporate the new Walker Library vs. simply building a new library on the existing site. The Greenway Center concept is entirely about sustainable urban design, synergies of use and economics—bringing pedestrian life and fresh vitality to the center of Uptown.

The Process

This is a private not-for-profit initiative to interact with the community and demonstrate that the mixed use concept plan has sufficient community support and regulatory compliance to merit the Library Board's serious consideration before the County Library Board proceeds with building a new library on the present site. These are design concepts only.



Possible Outcomes

(A) Library Only

Without demonstrable support for a mixed use redevelopment option such as Greenway Center, the County is most likely to demolish the existing Walker Library and re-open its replacement about 24 months later on the same site.



(B) Greenway Center

With demonstrable support from the community, the County may consider a mixed use redevelopment of Hennepin Avenue from 28th Street to Lagoon Avenue which would (i) save money, (ii) create jobs, (iii) prevent Library service interruption, (iv) generate substantial new real estate taxes and (v) create a dynamic landmark development connecting Hennepin Avenue with The Greenway.

Additional Benefits of a Greenway Center

- Improved access to and from the Midtown Greenway in the heart of Uptown
- Enhanced Community Services: new Walker Library, updated YWCA, expanded health services, new hotel and retail
- Funds from the sale of the present Walker Library site, estimated at \$2.0-2.5 million would go back to the county.
- \$600,000 in new annual real estate tax revenue from the new development
- 320 New parking spaces without dedicating any land area to new parking lots
- No disruption in library operation or health care services during construction

Please visit www.GreenwayCenterMPLS.com for more information and to contact us with any comments, inquiries or suggestions.

Planning for this project is being done by Uptown Community Partners, LLC, in consultation with various regulatory agencies and civic organizations.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR, KERRY CIARDELLI

Craig Wilson interviews Mount Curve resident Kerry Ciardelli about growing up “wild”, her fight with breast cancer and her impeccable style at “VICTORY” in Linden Hills.



Kerry, daughter Madeline, and Wheaton “terrors” Lucky and Mr. Big.



VICTORY at 44th and Beard in Linden Hills

You grew up in Bloomington the fourth oldest of 11 children. What was that like? I absolutely loved my childhood. We ruled the neighborhood like a pack of wild animals. In the winters we skated and sled till our fingers and toes froze off and in the summers we biked and walked everywhere together. I think that is why I feel so at home in this beautiful community. When I see all the active families it reminds me of my youth.

You're infamous on Mount Curve for your Wheaton “terrors”? Oh yes, I know! I think I hear them barking right now! Fortunately most passersby, even the dogs, get a good laugh at their crazy behavior.

You were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2005. How did it change you? I don't think you can go through something as devastatingly challenging as breast cancer without some type of a major shift happening in your life. I am just so thankful for family, friends and neighbors who stood by my side.

Did you find a way to apply your fabulous sense of style and terrific sense of humor to your battle with breast cancer? As far as style is concerned I always feel better with my best foot forward and that, in turn, can get you through a tough day. A good laugh, even at your own expense, is the best medicine.

What is “VICTORY”? VICTORY is my enchanting little store on 44th and Beard near TURTLE BREAD. I opened it in 2003 as a way to be creative, travel and bring beautiful goods back to Minneapolis from around the globe.

How did you become a designer? I fell in love with designing interiors while renovating many homes over the years. My mother taught me the importance of

creating a beautiful home and now in these challenging times I understand why it is so crucial to create a special haven.

VICTORY carries amazing and unusual textiles. Where do you find them? My best and most amazing resource for antique textiles is a dealer I met in New York. She travels throughout Uzbekistan and along the Silk Road and offers vibrant silks, ikats, and heirloom suzanis. Many of these amazing pieces have been turned into pillows and are available at VICTORY. When I travel I am also on the lookout for unusual textiles and recently brought back an amazing vintage window panel from Morocco; soon it will be dismantled and turned into floor pillows.

What is your favorite neighborhood restaurant? RINATA on Hennepin. I especially love their date night menu along with great prices on bottles of wine. For a glamorous evening out there is nothing more elegant than the bar at 510 Groveland, LA BELLE VIE.

Where is the best place to find local vintage? I love to visit the antique stores along Hennepin Ave, close to Lowry Hill. The dealers are so knowledgeable and helpful and their stores are packed full of all types of collections.

As a trend setter and style diva, what are five things you can't live without this Spring? Spring flowers—especially fragrant and flowering white lilacs and peonies.

Recovering my outdoor furniture in vibrant stripes and ikats—there are so many great choices available

now in outdoor fabrics.

The ritual maiden walk around Lake of the Isles to TIN FISH for dinner.

Big beautiful coffee table books on design and art—there is always something new and exciting to learn and inspire.

Chinese lanterns hanging from blooming trees—they are so magical and festive.

SEE YOU IN THE PARKS

“See you in the parks” is a 28 minute program that is back on the schedule of City cable channel 16 during the month of March.

Anyone who had the pleasure of meeting Theodore J. Wirth (Ted) during the 10 years that he gave tours while trying to open the historic home of his Grandfather for public use, may want to tune in.

Cable Channel 16 dates and times follow:

Wed, March 3, 7:30 p.m.; Fri, March 5, 11:30 p.m.; Fri, March 12, 10 p.m.; Sun, March 14, 8:30 p.m.

“See you in the parks” illustrates the loss of Ted Wirth last September and his 10-year-efforts to implement a living history interpretation with learning programs — especially for our Minneapolis children — within his grandfather's historic home at 3954 Bryant Avenue South in Lyndale Farmstead Park.

Ted Wirth followed in the footsteps of his grandfather, the pioneer Landscape Architect and park planner who was largely responsible for the design and development of the Minneapolis Park System; and in the footsteps of his father Conrad L. Wirth, the Landscape Architect who was our country's longest serving director of National Parks.

Ted himself was an award-winning Landscape Architect of international acclaim who designed and

By Joan Berthiaume



Ted Wirth at his grandfather's historic home

created city parks, state parks and national parks across the country and around the world.

Ted referred to the Wirth House as, “My last big project.” The program illustrates the importance of park planning to the history of our parks and our City. This is why it is important that the Historic Wirth House be opened for public access and learning.

As Ted would say, “See you in the parks!” Joan Berthiaume <http://forums.e-democracy.org/p/joan-berthiaume>: co-founder with Ted Wirth of Minneapolis Parks Legacy Society

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EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

By Mark Lofstrom

Minutes of the East Isles Residents Association Board of Directors

March 2, 2010

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: Johnston.Nancy06@gmail.com

Board members present were: Nancy Johnston, President, Mark Lofstrom, Vice President, Rosita Acosta, Ginna Portman Amis, Karen Carney, Sue Durfee, Harvey Ettinger, Jerome Ryan, and alternates Helen Ackerman and Jane Schommer.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

The minutes of the East Isles Residents Association (EIRA) board of directors meeting of February 9, 2010, were circulated and approved online.

Comments were made about the motion to move money from NRP's Phase I to Phase II. Residents will be notified of the motion in advance of the April annual meeting. A forthcoming announcement will be made about a hazardous waste pick-up scheduled later this year in the area for East Isles and several other neighborhoods.

District 4 Parks and Recreation Board Presentation

Recently elected District 4 Park and Recreation Board (the Board) Commissioner Anita Tabb made an appearance at this meeting. She reported that since she joined the Board it has held six meetings, three per month. (1) Emerald ash borer has been found on the east side of Minneapolis. Up to 20% of the urban forest consists of ash trees vulnerable to the pests. To slow the advance, hopefully to several years, a quarantine on moving wood has been put in place and many potentially vulnerable trees will be removed. Residents may see blue kite-like tests in trees. If residents discover that a tree in their yard or on a nearby boulevard has been infected, please notify the Forestry Department of the Board or call the general switchboard for the Board: (612) 230-6300. (2) Local government awards from the state are, again, in limbo. On top of last year's decrease

in the Board's budget of \$2.5 million, this could result in an additional loss to the Board of \$3.5 million. The total two-year loss would be about 10 to 12 percent of the Board's budget. Losses may be partially offset by additional funds from elsewhere. (3) The parking lot on the south side of Lake Calhoun is being reworked. Plans are to leave some grass for overflow parking and that the parking lot will incorporate pavers. The Lakes District Council and other entities are involved, and a CAC (Citizens Advisory Council) will be formed in connection with the entire Lake Calhoun project. (4) The Board is looking at ways this season to redirect cars and mitigate traffic issues associated with the very popular sailing school. (5) The Board is considering ideas to establish a new park downtown as a next and appropriate step given the growing population living downtown. (6) A downtown "tot lot" may be established this summer and fall near the river. (7) The Board is aware that the Parade area road is a "disaster" and that the area's baseball field is in need of repair and maintenance. Also known is that the Byrn Mawr playing fields need attention. Six fields will be refurbished this year using the ballpark tax. (8) A pedestrian causeway is planned between Brownie and Cedar Lakes. (9) Wirth Park will receive regional park development funds and is slated for improvement. A spectacular cross country skiing destination, the park will also feature volleyball courts and a circular dock in an effort to bring more people to the park and to remove some of the congestion on the recreational areas associated with the Chain of Lakes. Appointment of a CAC will be the next phase of this project. Appointments to the CAC will be made in the next four to six weeks.

Meeting attendee and neighborhood resident Linda Schutz asked about plans for the Joanne Levin Triangle Park. Commissioner Tabb, reporting that this had been inadvertently omitted from her report before EIRA, noted that "thorough community engagement process will be employed" and that neighborhood input would be sought, including from nearby neighbors, those using the park with young children, and interested residents. Another question from an EIRA board member had to do with the timetable for the Triangle Park project. The refurbishing of the park is slated for 2011. As long as the process is going smoothly, Tabb anticipates she will not be involved in the process; a staff person from the Board will facilitate meetings. Tabb can be reached by e-mail at her address on the Board web site or at anita@robtabb.com (to which her Board e-mail is forwarded).

Ward 10 City Council Presentation

Ward 10 Council Member Med Tuthill also attended the meeting. (1) She reported that it is hoped that the "parking ban" put in place this winter (and still in place on the date of the meeting) after 9 years will be lifted soon. (2) Rezoning of parcels along the Midtown Greenway is almost complete. She thanked her aide Leslie for her copious work on the project and Council Member Gary Schiff, who helped slow down the process. (3) She spoke about the (then) forthcoming vote on reconfirmation of Police Chief Dolan. (4) With a \$29 million cut to the City of Minneapolis, Tuthill warned that an escalation of property taxes is inevitable. There will also be major cuts downtown, she warned. Tuthill spoke about some areas where budget savings could be realized, specifying an infrequently claimed transportation allowance from Council Members. (5) She also spoke a bit about the new "social host" ordinance recently passed by the city. The state has not addressed this issue, but several communities adjacent to Minneapolis have. Students from local colleges voiced concerns about the ordinance, noting the potentially deleterious effects (of having been an incident of underage drinking on their record) on students when later applying to graduate school or for post-college employment. The ordinance provides that if someone so tagged has no other record for the next year, the infraction would be eliminated from his or her public record. (6) Tuthill detailed her recent vote to eliminate four of 10 artist fountain projects from a project for

which a RFP was presented in 2007. The four fountains eliminated (two at the recommendation of the Arts Commission and two upon recommendation by Council Member Tuthill) were for budget reasons and because none of the eliminated projects had been started. While one fountain has been installed and another is ready to be, savings from the remaining four fountains in process would only amount to a few thousand dollars total. Each fountain has a budget of about \$50,000. (7) The Uptown Association recently received funds to improve facades along Hennepin Avenue. (8) Calhoun Square has applied for a variance to allow more signage space to its tenants. (9) One of the main sewer lines goes through East Isles. There are plans to "branch" the line. This should alleviate recent concerns and back-ups. Root growth affecting sewer lines has been a concern in the neighborhood as well, though there are accompanying concerns related to gas lines that run through the sewers and, in winter, freezing. Tuthill is on the Ways and Means Committee, the Zoning and Planning Committee, and the Public Safety Committee. Like all Council Members, she is also on the Elections Committee. Tuthill can be reached by phone at her office 9 to 5 o'clock every weekday or by e-mail.

Zoning Committee

Karen Carney and Sue Durfee presented a brief report of the Zoning Committee. Architect Representative Ed Briesemeister is meeting with the town-home association (on Humboldt Avenue behind the YWCA) about his concept for the new Walker Library in a mixed-use building over the Midtown Greenway. The meeting will be at Bruce Neil's house on March 9. Mark Lofstrom noted that the CARAG, ECCO, and LHENA boards have been reported to have declined to meet with the gentleman at least until an RFP for the new library has been issued.

Sue spoke briefly about the proposed demolition of the house at 2841 East Lake of the Isles Parkway. The EIRA Zoning Committee had toured the house the Saturday before the meeting and agreed that renovation of the site was cost-prohibitive. Sue introduced Saleem Karmaliani, the current owner of the house, who made a presentation about the proposed demolition decision after a second opinion showed the potential renovation cost would be \$350-\$400 per square foot, identical to the prior estimate, and showed that issues in the existing house include mold and structural damage to the foundation. Though the house is in an historic district, it itself has not been designated of notable historic value. Plans for the newly constructed house presented in a front elevation drawing show a similar profile to the existing house. The footprint of the new home will be slightly larger through expansion afforded at the side and rear of the house. (The size of the house, not counting the basement and space allowed in the attic if it is less than half the square footage of the floor underneath, will increase from about 2,000 square feet on a 5,000 square-foot lot to about 2,500 square feet.) The new home will be slightly repositioned on the site, affording a better view of the lake for the house behind 2841 East Lake of the Isles Parkway and from the neighbor's kitchen. Setbacks will be six feet from property lines on the sides and 25 feet from the front. Karmaliani is applying for a demolition permit soon, and the application will come up for public hearing in April. He plans to get a demolition plan from his contractor and to meet with immediate neighbors about the demolition plan. Jerome Ryan advised that in such situations potentially affected neighbors may want to collectively hire a consultant who can appraise the "before" conditions of their properties. Karmaliani said he would be interested in this process, and would request his contractor make similar assessments prior to commencing work on the site. Karmaliani noted that he hopes the demolition will start in April and that the new construction will be completed within six or seven months so his family can move into the new home before next winter.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed without

**EIRA
ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING**



**Tuesday, April 6, 2010
7:00-9:00 PM
Grace Trinity Church**

**Annual Election of Officers & Board
Refreshments, elected officials, frivolity.
Join us to learn more about your
East Isles Residents' Association
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Meet your neighbors.**

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KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION (KIAA)

By Amy Lucas

March 2010 KIAA Meeting Minutes

KIAA meeting was held on March 1, 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, Martha McLaughlin, Sam Murphy, Pat Scott, Kathy Williams, and Roy Williams.

Others present: Lisa Goodman, City Council 7th Ward; Maggie Mercil, Kenwood Rec Center Director; Kenwood resident.

Treasurer's Report – Roy Williams

Expenses for Feb: \$96 for annual post office box.

City Council 7th Ward Update – Lisa Goodman

Crows are abundant in Mpls during February because it is breeding season and Mpls is part of the migratory pattern; they will leave the region when the weather warms.

The City is adjusting the budget for the most recent \$30 million cut in Local Government Aid (LGA) funds.

Emerald Ash Borer has reached Mpls near Prospect Park. The MN Dept of Ag website has a treatment check list. Do not import firewood. Visit www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/pestmanagement.

Visit the City's website www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open. to review the spring open appointments for boards and commissions.

There is a scam with a fake water softener company calling to check water quality. Call 911 if you believe you've received a fake call offering to check your water quality.

The winter parking restrictions were lifted March 5.

Southwest Transit Corridor station area planning is underway for five stations. CM Goodman is recommending more neighborhood involvement on the plans. Amanda Arnold, CPED planner, 673-3242 is the lead planner for the transit station area planning. KIAA may ask Amanda Arnold to speak at an upcoming meeting.

A resident near 24th and Sheridan, described his 911 calls regarding a basement window break-in. When the intruder was discovered in the basement, several attempts were made to get through to 911. Police responded quickly to the call when it was dispatched.

Annual Meeting May 3rd – Mike Bono

The Annual Meeting will be held Monday, May 3 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Kenwood Cafe. Kenwood resident, Beth Dooley, is the guest speaker and the café will provide a \$10 meal. Annual board nominations and elections will take place. The meeting is open to all Kenwood residents. Please contact KIAA chair, Mike Bono at mbono@brocade.com, if you are interested in joining the board.

Board members will ask local businesses for items and gift certificates to give away at the annual meeting.

Crime and Safety Committee Update –

Jordan Hart

The committee met with Chelsea Adams, 5th Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist, on Feb. 22. Crime is down 31% in Kenwood and there were 44 reported crimes in 2009; mainly theft. Adams also reported that there was an increase in identity theft.

The crime and safety committees of Lowry Hill and

KIAA have merged; one goal is to train more block leaders to increase communication about crime and general neighborhood concerns.

Kenwood Park Trail Update– Terry Campbell

The committee met Feb. 10 to discuss a potential trail along the north side of Franklin Avenue in Kenwood Park.

The Park Board cannot fund the trail, but has offered to maintain and plow the trail. Trail must be bituminous and 8' wide with a 2' clearance on either side.

Lowry Hill has committed \$30,000 for the trail and is seeking a volunteer licensed landscape architect.

The committee will meet again in April to discuss further.

Kenwood Rec Center Spring Activities – Maggie Mercil

Baseball registration has begun.

Club Run has help fund the bathrooms on Saturdays when the Center is closed.

Kenwood Rec Center will be closed during spring break due to budget cuts.

Amy Lucas will meet with Lowry Hill, East Isles and CIDNA chairs to discuss the Rec Center budget and priorities for next year's special events.

Southwest LRT mitigation resolution –Jeanette Colby/Eric Lind

The resolution will be available for discussion at April's KIAA meeting.

Two items needing discussion are: 1) proposed "Park and Ride" lot at 21st and Upton; 2) potential for 21st Street to bridge over the tracks at Upton Ave.

Other Business

2010 Hill Lake Press bill for \$750 is due soon.

2010 Loppet donation of \$200 was approved for payment.

KIAA may commit \$10-12K of NRP funds to repair the Kenwood Park "Tot Lot", but will wait to commit the funds until the costs are finalized.

The Committee for a new Walker Library is underway and Henn County is working toward architect selection. Pat Scott is KIAA's rep on the committee.

Minneapolis City Council approved crossing arms at the railroad crossing at Cedar Lake Parkway and Burnham; installment scheduled for 2010.

EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP: Saturday, April 17, 9:30-noon. Kenwood Park Staff is hoping for more participation than in the past and wants to add clean-up of Hidden Beach and Lake of the Isles if possible. Organizing teams of scout troops, book clubs and families is encouraged. Please contact Earth Day Volunteer Site Coordinator, Amy Lucas at

amymlucas@gmail.com. to register your "trash team."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Reminder: The next KIAA Board meeting will be held on Monday, April 5 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Recreation Center. The public is welcome to attend these monthly meetings.

KIAA ANNUAL MEETING/DINNER

All Kenwood residents are invited to the KIAA (Kenwood Isles Area Assoc) Annual Meeting to be held on Monday, May 3 from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Kenwood Café in the heart of Kenwood. Beth Dooley, Minneapolis-St. Paul magazine food editor and author of six cookbooks (Savoring the Seasons), is coming to speak about her career and involvement with Community Supported Agriculture (CSA). The café is preparing a homemade soup/salad/bread combo for \$10 and Kenwood businesses have donated items/gift certificates to give away. The KIAA will hold the board nominations and elections at 7:00 p.m. followed by our guest speaker. Please come and enjoy the grub, hear from Kenwood's own food expert, and think about getting involved with KIAA. Contact amymlucas@gmail.com for more info.

MDA confirms emerald ash borer infestation in Minneapolis trees

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) today confirmed an emerald ash borer infestation in four trees in the Prospect Park East River Road neighborhood of Minneapolis within Tower Hill Park. This infestation is within a mile of the St. Paul neighborhood in which the tree pest was found last year.

The infestation was discovered through an ongoing survey of ash trees in the vicinity of the South St. Anthony Park neighborhood, where EAB was found in May 2009. While this marks the first time emerald ash borer has been found in Minnesota outside Ramsey County, state officials said the discovery was anticipated. Last fall, scientists determined that the St. Paul infestation had been in place for about three years prior to detection. Since the adult beetles can fly up to 2 miles each year, officials expected that the bug had spread into Minneapolis.

The EAB quarantine in place for Ramsey and Hennepin Counties prohibits moving from the counties any items that may be infested with EAB, including ash trees and ash tree limbs, as well as all hardwood firewood. This quarantine remains in effect in 2010.

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Spring EGG HUNT




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10:00 AM - Meet Peter Rabbit & enjoy coffee & donuts
10:30 AM - Egg Hunt (3 categories: 2-3, 4-6, 7-8 yr. olds)
10-11:30 AM - Face painting, REC art project, gift bags
No need to RSVP. Just come and enjoy!



Spring egg hunt
KENWOOD REC CENTER, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

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CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (CIDNA)

By Don Ostrom, Associate Secretary

GATES, PARKING, POTHOLES, AND PESTS

A safety gate will be put in place on Cedar Lake Parkway where the railroad crosses the road, the winter parking restrictions on residential streets might be removed soon, the street potholes will be fixed in stages, and the emerald ash borer is heading our way. These were four of the announcements at the March 2 meeting of the Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA) board of directors.

City Council member Lisa Goodman of the 7th Ward attended the meeting and said the crossing gate has been in the planning stage for some time, dating back to a decision in 2004 by the city government. The new development had nothing to do with the much more recent decision to build a light rail line along the same corridor at a future date. The federal and state governments have been involved in the decision, which has contributed to the multi-year delay in getting the safety measure in place. The planners hope that the new gate will not only improve safety for vehicles, pedestrians and bikers, but that it will also result in a reduction in noise from train whistles. There are still some decisions to be made, such as whether the crossing gate will remain up when the freight train is simply stopped near the intersection, whether a bell will accompany the lowering and lifting of the gate, and whether the bike lane will be accommodated. If and when the light rail trains start coming through, everything about the crossing gate will have to be reconfigured.

Winter snow and ice has been especially burdensome this winter, with the city deciding in February it was necessary to eliminate parking on the even-numbered sides of residential streets except for the designated snow emergency routes. However, if the snow and ice kept melting as fast as recently the winter parking restrictions could be lifted soon. And that's what happened—on March 5, only three days after the CIDNA meeting, the city announced that the winter parking restrictions were no longer in place.

But the potholes are still with us, worse than they have been in many years. Goodman said that the hot mix asphalt is already being prepared in St. Paul, and intermediate patches will soon be applied on Minneapolis streets. More permanent repair will be done when the weather gets warmer.

The emerald ash borer, a visitor from abroad, has devastated the ash trees as it ate its way through Michigan and Wisconsin. Last year the pest was found in trees in St. Paul and this year in the Prospect Park

neighborhood of Minneapolis, which means it is probably heading toward the CIDNA neighborhood soon. In the meantime, everybody should refrain from buying firewood that comes from ash trees. Any infested trees will be removed in the upcoming fall and winter seasons.

Following Goodman's presentation there were two other reports. First, the NCEC (Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission) District 2 held its initial leadership meeting on Tuesday, February 9. Due to the rescheduling of the February board meeting, CIDNA was unable to send a representative. Future meetings will be attended by Art Higinbotham, Chair. The CIDNA board briefly discussed whether our neighborhood was better suited to be in District 6 than in District 2. This question will be addressed in the future.

Second, CIDNA Transportation Chair Matthew Dahlquist announced that Xcel's high voltage power line extension in the Midtown Greenway area east of CIDNA probably will be put underneath 28th Street. There would be too many problems if either of two possible alternatives were adopted—putting the lines above ground in the Greenway could preclude future building construction in the area, and underground lines in the Greenway would complicate building the proposed streetcar line.

CIDNA's annual meeting is planned for Tuesday, May 4 at the Jones-Harrison residence, 3800 Cedar Lake Avenue. The issues facing the neighborhood will come first, followed by addresses by local elected officials. In the meantime, the next regular meeting of the CIDNA board will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 6 at Jones-Harrison.

SPRING THAW MEANS MINNEAPOLIS WATER GETS EXTRA TREATMENT

Minneapolis Water Works is taking added steps to treat the city's water, due to the spring thaw. Each spring, many water customers notice a change in the taste of our tap water, which is expected because of the melting snow that makes its way into the Mississippi River, which is our water source.

Those changes typically only last a short time. Water Works staff have begun adjusting treatments at the City's water plants to better absorb or destroy materials that cause undesirable tastes and odors. Water customers can be assured that the water is safe to drink and that it meets or is better than all the regulatory requirements on water quality.

One substance that the City uses is called powdered activated carbon, or PAC. In water it acts like a microscopic sponge, absorbing the smallest of particles that can affect taste and smell. Water quality experts add PAC to our water when needed during the treatment process to help improve the product for customers.

PAC is especially important this time of year when the chemical composition of river water changes due to the spring thaw. There's a physical limit to how much PAC water plant workers can put into the water, and sometimes it's not enough to eliminate all factors that affect taste. Although the tastes and odors are not pleasant, they are not harmful, and the water is completely safe to drink.

Public safety is the top priority for the crews who work in the City's Water Works division. They put the river water through a battery of treatments and extensive filtering before it reaches customers. Thousands of tests are performed to make sure the drinking water we get is clean and safe.

City of Minneapolis water goes to customers in Minneapolis, seven neighboring cities, the airport and Fort Snelling, reaching more than half a million people per day.

Earl Van Norman celebrates his 7th birthday with friends at ARTRageous in Kenwood.

By Jean Deatrick



Photo by Heather Deatrick

What a great place in which to turn seven: ARTRageous in Kenwood. Amanda Vallone led Earl Van Norman and his birthday party guests through numerous games and activities. When I visited, children were laughing and singing and making a lot of noise, yet being respectful of Amanda's rules. She knows a lot about children and how to make playtime fun. A great place for a party for children!

ArtRageous enriches the lives of children by providing them with an inspirational, hands-on, culturally

diverse learning experience through art.

Owner Amanda Vallone has worked in the arts field for fifteen years creating art-based curriculums, teaching preschool, leading an arts program at a charter school and managing a children's art museum in South Florida. She has lived in Minneapolis for five years and is a Kenwood parent of a third and fourth grader. Amanda is a leader of a Brownie Girl Scout troop and is Vice President of the Kenwood PTA. ARTRageous Adventures encourages children to express themselves through the arts while discovering where they come from and who they are. Creating art cooperatively encourages children to problem solve, socialize and build self confidence while learning to work together on a common goal.

Amanda has partnered with a non profit organization that also believes in building a stronger community through the arts. Birchbark House operates under the direction of Louise Erdrich and Heid Erdrich and is associated with Birchbark Books, a Native American focused, independent bookstore.

Contact: artrageousadventures.net or (612) 423-7554.

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LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (LHNA)

Minutes from LHNA Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 2, 2010 7:00 – 9:00 PM Kenwood Recreation Center

Present: Jimmy Fogel, Madeleine Lowry, Brian Meeker, Marty Broan, Kathy Byrn, Janet Hallaway, Craig Wilson, David Weinstein, Anita Tabb.

Absent: Brian Austin, Melissa Townley, Jolane Jones, John Gridley, Rob Reul

City Councilmember Lisa Goodman provided an update to board members prior to the start of the meeting. She stated that Emerald Ash Borer had been found in the area and discussed the potential impact on the city's urban forest. She also encouraged residents to explore vacancies on city boards and commissions. Those listings are on the city's website. Lisa distributed an article about a fire that took place at a Mt. Curve residence this past February.

At 7:30PM, a quorum was noted and Janet Hallaway called the meeting to order.

Brian Meeker made a motion, seconded by Mary Broan to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

Hallaway reported that LHNA received \$2,000 from the City of Minneapolis from the 2010 Citizen Participation program.

Craig Wilson provided the report from the Planning & Zoning Committee. (Chair David Weinstein was still at the city's Heritage Preservation Committee meeting downtown). The committee will review existing zoning laws and how they support preservation of size, scale, setback, and community fabric. Also the group will meet with a city planner as part of this discussion. The Prospect Park neighborhood is applying for historic designation or a conservation district. The committee will gather information on this process.

Craig Wilson provided a report from the Environment Committee. He provided an update on plans for an LHNA Arbor Day event. The board discussed details for LHNA to co-host an event with Friends of Thomas Lowry Park on Saturday, May 1. The event would include planting of trees provided by People for Parks, a demonstration on the proper way to plant trees, park clean-up, and other events. Details will be provided at the next board meeting.

Marty Broan is spearheading Lowry Hill's Earth Day Clean-up on Saturday, April 17. LHNA will support this effort with publicity and board member participation.

Janet Hallaway reported from the Communications Committee. Jolane Jones is adding new content and minutes to the LHNA website. Melissa Townley will write an article for the Hill and Lake Press, and the group will plan communications for Arbor Day.

In unfinished business, it was noted that Brian Hols provided the Kenwood Isles Area Association with an update on the Kenwood Trail (sidewalk) project. Brian Meeker continues to recruit new board members for the 2010-11 term.

Planning for LHNA's annual meeting is underway. Marty Broan will secure a speaker for the event, focusing on the topic of trees.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM. A social gathering followed at the home of Brian Meeker.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Hallaway

Next meeting Tuesday, April 6, Kenwood Rec Ctr 7-9 PM

EIRA from page 12

opposition and with one abstention that EIRA would support the demolition application contingent upon approval of the demolition plan by potentially affected neighbors, several of whom attended the meeting. Nancy Johnston agreed to write the letter of support from EIRA. Karmaliani noted that he would set up a meeting with the potentially affected neighbors soon. Karmaliani was thanked for his forthrightness and for talking with EIRA throughout this process and the care he has taken to consider how his project may affect the neighborhood.

Walker Community Library

Mark Lofstrom and Harvey Ettinger attended a recent community meeting sponsored by Hennepin County (the County) about the new Walker Community Library. Mark reported on the meeting, at which, in response to a question posed by Harvey near the end of the meeting, it was disclosed that current plans are to build the new library on the site of the existing library. (At a prior meeting about the library,

the community audience was told that the County was not ready to issue a RFP for the project and that the County would remain open to ideas about other sites. Now the project seems to be moving ahead very quickly.) Mark and Harvey also reported that at the recent meeting appointments of four individuals to a subcommittee of the CAC to recommend an architect were announced. None of the four have been active with EIRA, and it was not known whether any of the appointees reside in East Isles. Concern was voiced that EIRA, in whose territory the library currently is located and where it is likely its replacement will be located, should have a representative on the CAC. An e-mail will be sent from the City to the County about this matter.

Other Business

EIRA's annual neighborhood meeting will be held at Grace-Trinity Community Church on Tuesday, April 6. Chairs from the various EIRA committees will present reports, a vote will be taken on proposed bylaw changes to allow up to four one-year consecutive terms (as opposed to the current three-years limit), a vote will be taken on the motion to move remaining NRP funds from Phase I to Phase II and to hire a staff member for about 10 hours per week to manage NRP funds and processes (potentially someone with prior or concurrent responsibilities and familiarity with NRP), and new members of the board of directors and officers for EIRA will be elected. Three current members of the board of directors—Nancy Johnston, Karen Carney, and Jerome Ryan—are slated to step down. One EIRA board of directors alternate has agreed to become a board member. The Nominating Committee is seeking to identify candidates for the two remaining vacant spots on the board and the empty alternate position. The committee also hopes to complete the slate of proposed officers, as the secretary and president positions currently will become vacant. If you (or someone you know and can encourage to serve) both reside in the neighborhood and are interested in being on the EIRA board of directors, please contact Nancy Johnston at Johnston.Nancy06@gmail.com.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Next Meetings

EIRA's annual members' meeting will be Tuesday, April 6, 2010, at Grace-Trinity Community Church beginning at 7 p.m. The next EIRA board of directors meeting will be Tuesday, May 4, 2010, at Grace-Trinity Community Church beginning at 7 p.m.

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- And create a more inviting mood in our listing's photographs.**

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- Chris and Stacy L

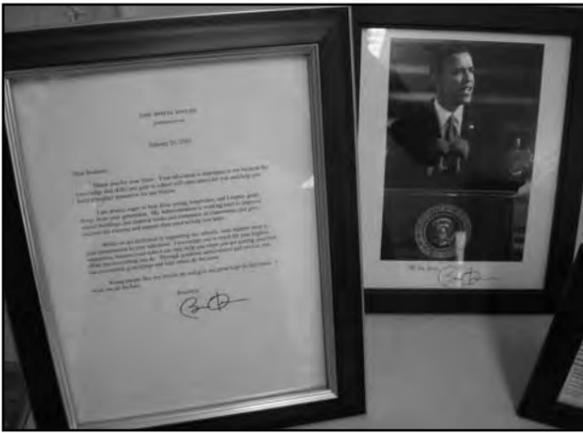
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Kenwood Room 224 Receives White House Mail



President O'bama's letter and photo sent to Kenwood School.

Kenwood Room 224 Receives White House Mail
By Cecilia Michel

Her hand reached in to withdraw the large, hand-addressed envelope from her faculty mailbox at Kenwood Elementary School one early March morning. What made her excited about the mailing was not so much its size or handwritten address, rather it was the short four word return address, belying its very significance by its brevity.

"The White House, Washington," read the upper right hand corner of the envelope resting in her hands. Ms Susan Ferrell excitedly carried the "First Class Do Not Bend" letter to her second grade classroom. As she assembled her students to open and read the contents of the White House mail, she cried when she announced that they had received a letter from the White House.

The White House mailing received earlier this month was the fitting culmination of a lesson well learned by second graders in Room 224 at Kenwood School. The lesson began the first week of September when new pencils were sharpened and desks filled with students as the school year began. Ms. Ferrell and her class listened to President Obama on September 8th as he spoke to the nation's students about education. Afterwards, students discussed the President's advice and produced a two-page list that guides their classroom focus each day. "Don't talk back



Kenwood School Room 224

Photos by Cecilia Michel

to your teacher," and "Don't ever give up on yourself," made the list, as did "You become good at something through hard work." Each student reflected on the President's admonition that each individual is responsible for his or her education.

Next the students focused on their own hopes, dreams and goals for their education. Each wrote a page in response to the speech, complete with illustrations. One student suggested the pages be made into a book. The book entitled Our Hopes, Dreams and Goals, was dedicated to the President "because the speech encouraged us to set goals." Some one else said, "We should send this to the President, it's what he's talking about." So, early last September, the lesson continued and the book was mailed to the President at the White House. Other lessons began and the wait for a presidential reply became routine.

Fall leaves turned to snowflakes which began to melt by the time Ms. Ferrell reached for the large envelope in her mailbox that early March morning and the wait was over. The class was "so excited to see the

letter from the President because it's not every day the President gives Kenwood a letter," noted one student. "It was such a touching letter our teacher cried," exclaimed another. "All the students believe they can do something great when they grow up," summarized another.

The President's letter noted, "Your education is important to me because the knowledge and skills you gain in school will open doors for you and help you build a brighter tomorrow for our nation." These words encouraged the students and gave them hope for their dreams explained Mrs. Ferrell. Not only that, but as one student exclaimed, the letter contained a picture of the White House dog, well known as "Bo." "We knew we'd probably get a letter back but we didn't expect a letter and a picture of the dog!" That, apparently, is what put "The White House, Washington," mail to Room 224 right over the top and helped make the opening of the mail so special one early March morning.

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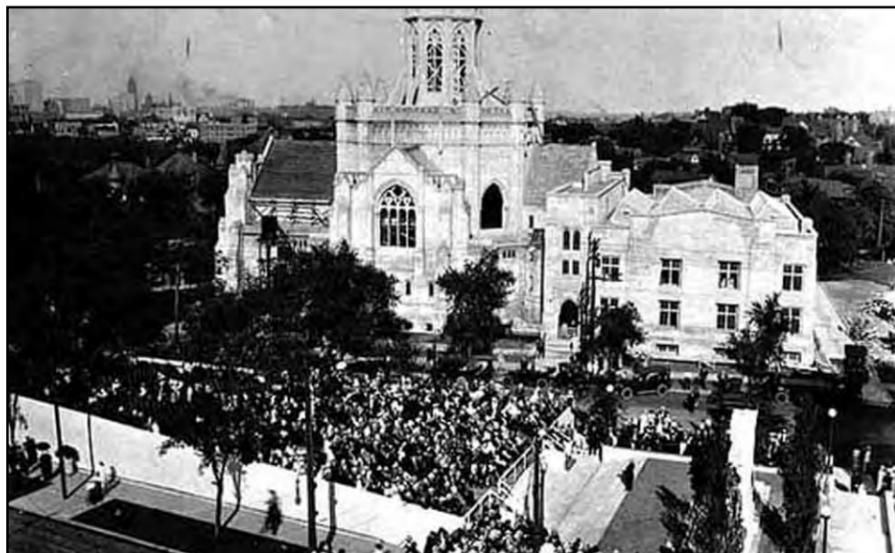
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THOMAS LOWRY PARK

By Barry Lazarus



Thomas Lowry Statue in 1936



Thomas Lowry statue ceremony.

Statue Recognizes Philanthropist

Minneapolis, May 4, 1915 – Thomas Lowry, the man who gave his name to his own neighborhood and who gave freely of his land and wealth was honored yesterday. At a ceremony attended by hundreds of appreciative Minneapolitans just a hundred yards from the house he built in 1874, a statue of the man who gave so much was unveiled.

The Lowry Memorial is located in the middle of the city's busiest intersection – Hennepin and Lyndale. It seems a most appropriate location, for there, thousands of users of the street railway system he founded pass by every day.

Lowry died five years ago, ending a career that set a new high in civic responsibility. To many, he was considered to be the city's No. 1 citizen.

He came here from Illinois in 1867, establishing himself first as a lawyer, as a developer of land and finally as a caring philanthropist.



The Lowry house at 2 Groveland Terrace.

Photos from the collection of the Minnesota Historical Society.

was originally located in the middle of Hennepin and Lyndale which was then one of Minneapolis' busiest thoroughfares. The memorial was done by Karl Bitter. It was meant as a welcome to the southwest neighborhoods of the city. In the 1960s, this intersection was reconfigured as part of the construction of the Lowry Hill Tunnel. The memorial was moved temporarily to Smith Park in this process. Friends of TLP hopes to someday raise the funds required to relocate the memorial to the most logical location in the city-Thomas Lowry Park.

Mr. Lowry was and is an important part of the history of Minneapolis. He was born on a farm in Illinois in 1843. He died on February 4, 1909 and his obituary notice was published in the February 5, 1909 edition of the New York Times. He was admitted to the bar in 1867 and practiced law in Minneapolis for 16 years. He was also a businessman. In 1884 he, with others, organized the Twin City Rapid Transit Company out of the old St. Paul and Minneapolis Street Railway Companies. In 1892, with additional capital he was able to secure, Minneapolis and St. Paul were connected by an electric line. The New York Times called the resulting public transportation system "one of the greatest city and interurban transportation systems in the United States".

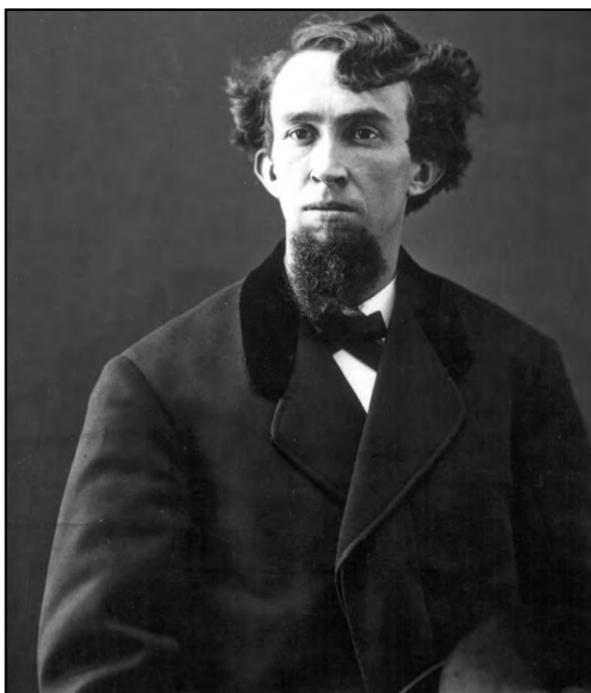
Not everything Mr. Lowry invested in was a great money maker. He needed to reorganize his business investments during and after the 1873 recession (then called a "panic") and had to move his family out of his mansion to a smaller, cheaper house and rent the estate to someone who could afford to live in this luxury. By virtue of his continued faith in his business, he once again became prosperous and wealthy. At the time of his death, his Lowry Hill mansion (originally on the site of what is now the new Walker addition), was a repository of rare collections of books and paintings, many by well known artisans, from around the world. Mr. Lowry was also known as a man of integrity and generosity. At the time of his death, many regarded him as the most illustrious citizen of Minneapolis.

In 1870, Mr. Lowry married Beatrice Goodrich.

They had three children: Horace who went into the family businesses; Mrs. Harry Robinson whose husband was at one time an editor of a well known railroad magazine; and Mrs. Percy Hageman of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Ms. Goodrich was also highly respected for her work with Mr. Lowry and her dedication to civic projects.

Because of all the Lowry family has done for Minneapolis, Friends of TLP wants to do the best it can to maintain the Park as a place of beauty and serenity which bears the name of this famous and important citizen of Minneapolis. Friends of TLP cannot do so without your help of time and dollar donations.

Next month Friends will relate plans for plantings in the Park, Arbor Day in May, and a fun, neighborhood fund raiser. Please save the morning of Saturday, May 22.



Thomas Lowry at age 32.

FRIENDS OF THOMAS LOWRY

By Barry Lazarus

Barbara Fogel last month provided some history. Friends of Thomas Lowry Park thought more history would be of interest. The background segues into Fact #2. The statue of Thomas Lowry is currently located at Smith Park (across from Temple Israel), which was not intended to be its permanent location. According to a Minneapolis newspaper article published May 4, 1915, when the memorial was dedicated, the Lowry Memorial

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Thank you Annette and Stephen Alderson and also Elmer Hankes for your generous contributions to Hill & Lake Press.

Spring has Arrived. And the wild



bunny who lives under our porch is happy and hungry.

Historic Designation soon?



1900 Colfax Avenue South

Where we are now...

By Jean Deatruck, Editor

Delivering our newspaper is not an easy task, especially this winter when the snow has been heavy. Dorothy Childers photographed one of Lloyd Smith's delivery persons as he went door to door in February. Roger is Lloyd's very reliable employee and we are happy he continues to be available.

We now provide plastic bags for homes that don't have covered front porches so I hope to hear fewer complaints about wet papers.

The best part of managing Hill and Lake Press is that I learn about neighborhood issues. I continue to be aggrieved when I hear that beautiful old houses are to be destroyed because the owner would rather build new than spend money on restoring the old. Both houses on page one may be destroyed because the owners supposedly can build new more cheaply than preserving the old and nearby neighbors and neighborhood associations apparently don't care if the houses are destroyed. New houses do change our neighborhood and if the trend continues, we will no longer be considered a historic neighborhood. We must support efforts to officially designate houses and areas as historic. Do we want to save only the mansions or do we want to save smaller less grand houses too? Do we really want our



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Since March 1976, Hill & Lake Press has served the community as a non-profit newspaper staffed by volunteers. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Hill & Lake Press.

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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.

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Isles Market & Deli	Kenwood Barbers
Calhoun Vision	Kenwood Rec Center
Dunn Brothers	The Woman's Club
Quality Coaches	Uptown YWCA
Mainstreet Bank	Framestyles
Sebastian Joe's	Green Mill
Tuthill's	Walker Library
Hennepin Lake Liquor	Lowry Hill Liquor

Roger Carlson delivering Hill and Lake Press on a cold Friday morning in February.



Photos by Dorothy Childers

four neighborhoods to serve only the very wealthy where most of the children go to private schools and the public schools such as our beloved Kenwood School are no longer supported?

We congratulate the Quinlan house owners on Emerson, Dr. and Mrs. Mahmoud Riaz, and Natalie and Gil Westreich, also on Emerson, for their historic designations. Please support neighborhood efforts to give historic status to the F. E. Day house at 1900 Colfax Avenue South. The public hearing for historic

designation is to be heard by the Historic Preservation Committee on April 6 at 4:30 at City Hall. Please attend and help us save this home from owners who want to tear it down, build an unneeded condominium, and further damage our beloved neighborhood. We live nearby and are directly affected, but the loss of this home that is a gateway to Lowry Hill from Franklin Avenue affects all in the HLP area. Our neighborhood is devalued when owners exploit it for personal financial gain.

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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.

LHNA HOSTS MEETING FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

By Janet Hallaway, LHNA President

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA) will host a public meeting on Wednesday, March 23 at 7PM at First Unitarian Society at 900 Mt. Curve Avenue to present improvement plans for Thomas Lowry Park. All residents are encouraged to attend to learn about ongoing beautification plans for the park.

The board will present the Park Board approved planting plan for the park. The planting plan, created by Tangletown Gardens, an urban garden store located on Lyndale Avenue, furthers the work of a planting plan created about ten years ago by Damon Farber & Associates, another landscape design firm.

Plans for installation of an irrigation system will be discussed, with proposed funding coming from neighborhood NRP funds and the new non-profit organization, Friends of Thomas Lowry Park.

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association has provided ongoing stewardship for Thomas Lowry Park including financing creation of an earlier master plan, perennial plantings, hardscape improvements, and relocation of an ugly electrical box away from the park's entrance. More recently the board provided funds for a dramatic and stately urn now installed at Colfax and Douglas entrance.

Thomas Lowry Park, situated at the corners of Douglas, Colfax, and Mount Curve is commonly referred to as Seven Pools Park because of the seven cascading pools that meander through the park's interior.



Urn at Thomas Lowry Park Photo by Dorothy Childers

RAIN DANCE

By Madeleine Lowry



Madeleine Lowry

That darn groundhog! Even when he doesn't see his shadow you know we're in for another six weeks of winter. At a minimum.

It is March and the charming part of winter is past. Outdoor ice skating is long gone. It's too slushy to ski, too muddy to sled. Now we have to slog through an indeterminate number of weeks of melt and drip. Then mud and rain

and finally – green!

It is the first week of March as I write this and I hope to see the surface of my driveway very soon. A week of sun and highs around forty degrees have melted away roof caps of snow, icicles, and parking restrictions.

Many of us cannot wait for May to arrive, heralding the season of green. We mark time with spring-begetting rituals of our own design

Personally, I have been doing rain dances in the shower since the end of February. I think I am not alone in this. Tap tap tappity tap.

I have also been buying stems of daffodils and coaxing them into bloom on my kitchen counter. Next to those is a miraculous ever-blooming amaryllis and a pot of Gerbera daisies. They are doing their best to create the ambiance of spring inside. If I fill the house with flowers, will it come?

I tempt fate by taking my winter coat to the drycleaner. I look longingly at swimsuits, t-shirts and

shorts in catalogs. If I wear polka dots, will it come?

I take a mental trip to Florida as I clean the second floor bathroom, the one we call 'the sauna.' It has a broken radiator that pours out heat so that it is always in the mid-eighties in that room. If I meditate on heat, will it come?

I pack away the kids' snow pants, their thermal underwear and ski goggles. In their place I put rain boots, rain jackets and umbrellas. Hint, hint.

I buy leeks and mangoes at the grocery store. I dig out my recipes for Pasta Primavera, minted pea soup, lemon meringue pie. If I cook like it is spring, will it come?

Is it a form of insanity to do these things? I think not. We don't have control over groundhogs, but we can exert our will over the small things in our lives. How can it hurt? And if I keep doing my job here with this rain dance (tap tap tappity tap) we might even have a little green to look at on St. Patrick's Day.

Our babysitter had a daisy-shaped pin on her coat the last time she was here. My son fingered it longingly.

"Do you like that?" she asked.

He nodded hypnotically.

"It's a bit of spring. It's like a rain dance," she whispered.

See?

I'm not the only one.

Madeleine Lowry is the mother of three and a member of the Lowry Hill Residents Inc. Board. She is zero percent Irish. Find her on Facebook.

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sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

But you got to have friends
The feeling's oh so strong
You got to have friends
To make that day last long

—Friends written by Klingman and Linhart, sung by Bette Midler

In our lives we cross paths with thousands of people. At some level, particularly when we are young, we seek to define ourselves by those who will be our friends. We have childhood playmates, school chums, Little League teammates, Camp Kowahitchi sisters, fellow thespians, fraternity brothers, work cube colleagues, or next door neighbors. We meet through our children, the Twirling Circles (square dance) Club, Young Life, Habitat for Humanity, Girl Scouts, Kiwanis, B'nai B'rith, the Junior League, the Anchor Bar bowling league, Toastmasters, the Army Reserve, or a county-run third strike diversion program.

We may find each other on-line, or at an Anti-Satan Book Burning and S'mores Rally, or while attending a local school fundraiser on "All You Can Eat Kelp Night". There are many occasions to meet new people, but the pace of change is daunting. We grow up, enroll, matriculate, transfer, graduate, re-up, remarry, resign, relocate, and retire. Alas we grow apart.

In my twenties it felt like there would always be a new crop of people to meet and annoy. As I get older, even without altering my routine in any way, budding relationships tend to expire. Months after an initial meeting, if I see my new friend out of context, there is usually mutual confusion, guilt, and a wane awkward handshake followed by uneasiness and painful banter. We frequently part ways with each of us muttering, "Who the hell was that?"

I am not a socially adept person. To learn the name of a new acquaintance, I will need to give up something, perhaps the words to the Kingston Trio song Tom Dooley, my locker combination at the "Y" I no longer belong to, or Chico Fernandez's lifetime batting aver-

age. Consequently most of my friendships predate 1995. I use that year because it is approximately the time we began forwarding pictures of cats doing the backstroke to each others' personal computers.

Since my friendships were essentially set in the pre-Internet era, I had no way of telling who would emerge as a Facebook friend, a Twitter devotee, or a fanatic forwarder of Congressional ineptness. I am uncomfortable with upbeat, well-scrubbed, self-righteous, glass is half-full, Hummel figure-loving, whistle a happy tune people. Thankfully, I receive very few too-cute-for-Hallmark messages reminding me of my specialness.

I seem to have always been attracted to wary, sarcastic, cynical, black humored, glass is half dirty types. We have enjoyed many years of gallows humor over fools in high places and, until recently, the wardrobe of Emperor Bush. It is no surprise that most of what I receive from friends is skeptical, irreverent, sardonic, or about dogs.

Now I worry that because I rely so much on my peer network, I am not receiving a good cross section of the really cool and hip stuff being forwarded on-line these days. JoAnne urges me to quit complaining and strike out on my own. Find what interests me, and not wait for others to send me the link. Do not be a passive receiver, but an explorer! I've done some poking about on the Net, and let me tell you, it is not all rainbow colored ponies. As much as I want to be "out there," I am more comfortable with prescreened forwards from old friends. So keep those links coming.

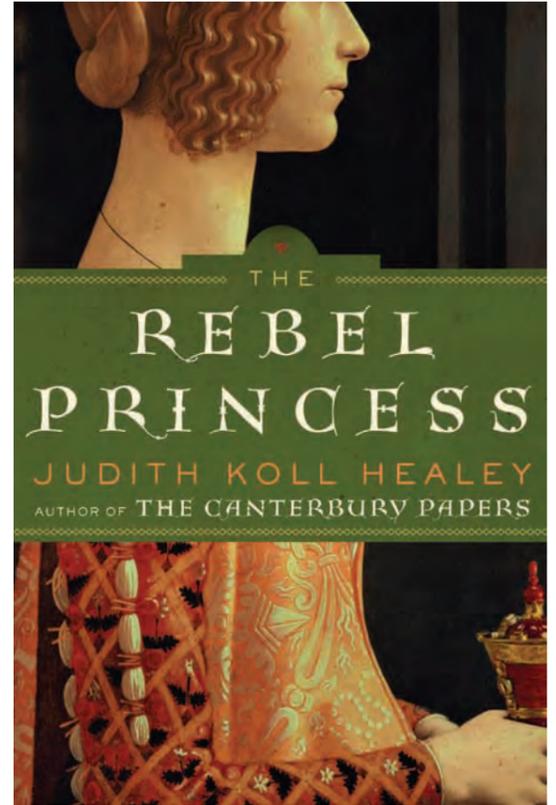
Tom H. Cook is more Internet savvy than he lets on, but then he would have to be.

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