



'Where the biggies leave off...'

Hill & Lake Press

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APRIL 15, 2011

A CALL TO ACTION _ TRAILS

By Dr. Keith Prussing

On Tuesday April 5, the Cedar Lake Park Association hosted its 22nd annual meeting. Jones-Harrison Residence overlooking Cedar Lake graciously donated the use of their large meeting room. They also provided good food service at a reasonable cost.

The Cedar Lake Trail extension to the Mississippi River is almost a reality. The trail is open to Washington Ave, including the 775-foot Chunnel under the Twins Stadium. There will be two grand opening celebrations coming, one the official ribbon cutting hosted by the City, and the other a festive gala for the community. CLPA is organizing and partnering with other groups to make a special day to honor all those who have carried the 100-year vision to fruition.

Once again, CLPA partnered with the City of Lakes Loppet to run the end of race food service, providing warming energy foods for thousands of racers. The Burnham Woodlands Restoration, near the Burnham Bridge, is beautiful. The Memorial Cedar Grove north of Upton Avenue South will see buckthorn removal and other gentle enhancements in 2011. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has a comprehensive plan for Brownie Lake, hoping for Legacy Fund dollars. CLPA is represented on the MPRB Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) studying SWLRT impacts.

Look for Cedar Lake Park on Facebook. Like us, and you will receive updates on the trail celebrations, volunteer activities in the park, and the Southwest Transitway. Add those things that reflect how Cedar Lake is special to you. Our website, www.cedar-lakepark.org, is the home of all our efforts over 22 years, and a treasure trove of photos, maps, and information, including the concept master plan that is guiding the development and preservation of Cedar Lake Park.

At the meeting, it was announced that a Corridor Coalition has been formed, comprised of all the Minneapolis neighborhoods adjacent to the transit corridor, along with CLPA. The coalition includes North Loop, Harrison, Bryn Mawr, Lowry Hill, Kenwood, CIDNA and West Calhoun, along with CLPA. We believe that in unity we will be able to speak with a strong voice. We are determined to protect the parks, trails and neighborhoods through mitigation.

County Commissioner Gail Dorfman was present. She provided the latest news, and understands our concerns. Gail offered to help set up a trails group, including CLPA, that would bring ideas forward to be incorporated into the preliminary engineering drawings, a key step before construction documents. A Design Charette was held in November 2010 to develop concepts and drawings. 12 prominent landscape architects donated their time and talents.

As the 2-track line comes through the Kenilworth corridor and into Greater Cedar Lake Park, it will run smack dab into the Cedar Lake Trail. Trail users must act.

How important is the Cedar Lake Trail? It connects the western suburbs and the City. It's a gateway to the Chain of Lakes. It links the Grand Round, Kenilworth, Midtown, West River Rd, Luce Line...the list goes on and on. Over 450,000 people use it each year. As the nation's first federally funded, non-motorized commuter route, the CLT is the linchpin of our superb bicycle transit system.

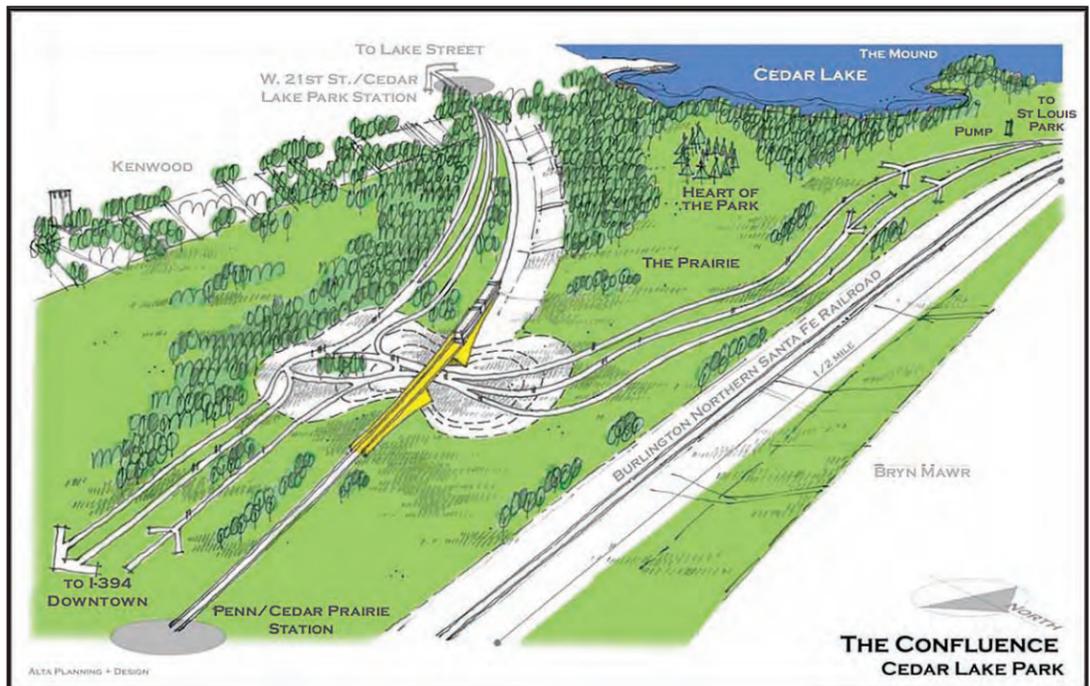
Now, here's the rub. We've heard of plans for the

CEDAR LAKE PARK ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING



Photo by Dorothy Childers

Left to right: Jim McPherson, Commissioner Gail Dorfman, and Bob Day, socializing before the meeting.



Confluence chart by Steve Durrant/Alta Planning + Design

light rail line to cross the trail at grade. Now imagine a major motorized highway crossing a rail line at grade: no one would even think of it. Well, we think the same should hold true for a bicycle/pedestrian freeway and a light rail line.

Well, there's a simple solution. We need an underpass. Having the Cedar Lake Trail pass under the light rail line would respect the integrity of the trail, ensure safety, promote connectivity, and even increase usage for both.

The current freight line crosses the trail at grade. Sure. But that freight line runs six times per day crawl-

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CALENDAR & EVENTS

Minneapolis Audubon Society

Bryant Square (31st & Bryant Avenue S)

Friday, May 13, 2011 1 p.m.

Stephen Saupe, professor of biology at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University will whet our appetites with "The Natural History of Edible Wild Plants." Please join us for the program and refreshments. All are welcome. For more information call 952-926-4205.

Birchbark Books

On May 11, 2011, the Birchbark Books Reading series will present "Voices of the North", featuring poets Lucille Broderson and Roslyn Nelson. The reading will take place at the Kenwood Cafe at 7:00 p.m.

Lucille Broderson was born in Willmar, MN, April 1916. (She'll be 95 by the time of the reading!) Her poems have been published in Poetry, TriQuarterly, Nimrod, Agassiz Review and Ironwood; and have been read by Garrison Keillor on The Writer's Almanac. Her book, Selected Poems of Lucille Broderson, was just recently published by Nodin Press (<http://www.nodinpress.com/>).

Roslyn Nelson, lives in the forest near Washburn, Wisconsin where she enjoys the company of deer, racoons, porcupines, ravens, crows, bluejays, doves, fishers, weasels, squirrels, voles, mice, bees, bears; the occasional human being and three cats. She is a graphic designer, artist, and poet. She has become increasingly involved with publishing, creating "Love Stories of the Bay" which was presented as a stage performance in February, 2011.



Louise Broderson

ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Time: Sunday, April 17, 2011, from 8 am to 1 pm

Place: Roosevelt High School, 4029 28th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55406

Purpose: To raise funds for scholarships for Roosevelt students.

To bring old friends, community members and alumni together for a morning of fun, friends, and food.

Cost: Breakfast tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ten and under. The delicious breakfast consists of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, orange juice, milk and coffee. The breakfast is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children ten and under.

Raffle tickets for the best raffle in town are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Lunch with Lisa April 27, 2011

Join council Member Lisa Goodman for lunch and conversation. Come hear about all the great things to do in Downtown this summer – a summer full of activities!

St. Thomas University-Minneapolis Opus Hall 202
\$10 Lunch is offered.

Come early to get your lunch and a good seat. Discussion starts promptly at noon.

PULITZER-PRIZE WINNING POET GARY SNYDER AS LITERARY WITNESS, MONDAY APRIL 18, 7PM AT PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Prize-winning poet and essayist Gary Snyder, who lives in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in California, will read his poems at Plymouth Congregational Church in Minneapolis, on Monday, April 18 at 7 p.m. Part of Plymouth's Literary Witnesses series, co-sponsored by The Loft Literary Center, the event is free with plenty of free parking. For more information, visit www.plymouth.org/calendar/calendar.php, or www.loft.org, or call 612-871-7400.

'23rd Annual Dandelion Day Celebration At the historic Ard Godfrey House

Minneapolis' Oldest Surviving Wood Frame House

Sunday, May 15, 2011 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

The GODFREY HOUSE, built in 1849, is located at the corner of University & Central Avenues SE, in Chute Square in Minneapolis.

√ Dandelion Day celebrates Harriet Godfrey's introduction of dandelion seeds to the St. Anthony Falls area.

√ Learn how to make dandelion necklaces, bracelets and crowns, just as Helen Godfrey did as a child.

√ Have a dandelion painted on your cheek or chin, or get a temporary tattoo!

√ Take home a complimentary recipe booklet which includes recipes for dandelion coffee, tea, salad and wine, and find out about other ways "teeth of the lion" were used throughout history.

√ Free Godfrey buttons for the kids.

√ Tour the charming yellow Ard Godfrey house, with hostesses dressed in 1850s period costume.

√ Admission is FREE, but donations are welcome.

√ Restored by The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, it has been open to the public since 1979.

Dandelion Day marks the beginning of the summer tour season at the Ard Godfrey House. Tours are available June 4 – Aug. 28, Saturdays and Sundays, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. No admission fee is charged, but donations are welcome. Special group tours may be arranged year 'round by calling The Woman's Club of Minneapolis at 612-813-5300, or visit www.ardgodfreyhouse.org for

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APRIL 2011

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HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

April 16 9:30 am Earth Day Cleanup Day Kenwood Rec

April 16, 9:30-noon EIRA Earth Day cleanup LOI/27th

April 17th, 11-3 pm Blood Drive Kenwood Cafe.

April 17 8 am to 1 pm Roosevelt High Pancake Breakfast

April 18, 7 pm, Poet Gary Snyder at Plymouth Church

April 19 7 pm The Kenwood free concert Phil Mattson

April 26, 7 pm Arthur Phillips reading at Coffman Union

April 27, noon, Lunch with Lisa

April 29 2 pm Thomas Lowry Park program, The Kenwood

April 30, 1-22 pm, Coffee with Marion Greene

April 30, 1-4 pm Artrageous Adventures

May 9, 7 pm Robert Bly at Plymouth Church

May 11 7 pm Birchbark Books Reading

May 13, 1 pm, Audubon Society, Bryant Square

May 15 1-4 pm Dandelion Day at Ard Godfrey House

Neighborhood meetings:

May 2, 6pm KIAA Annual Meeting Kenwood Cafe

May 11, 6pm CIDNA Annual Meeting Jones Harrison

May 17 6:15 pm LHNA Annual Meeting Walker Art

CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday at Jones-Harrison

EIRA: 1st Tuesday at Grace-Trinity Church

KIAA: 1st Monday at Kenwood Rec Center

LHNA: 1st Tuesday at Kenwood Rec Center

Arthur Phillips Local Author

Meet best selling author Arthur Phillips and his rollicking family in his fifth book, *The Tragedy of Arthur*.

Tuesday April 26, 2011 7:00 pm, University of MN Bookstore, Coffman Union, Minneapolis 612-625-6000

Parking at East River Road Ramp, behind Coffman Union, on Delaware, or Weisman Art Museum Ramp

Check out Arthur's web site: www.arthurphillips.info

The book is part family memoir/ part Shakespeare/ part play and is very amusing, - even the "memoir" about his family. The book can be found at Birchbark Books, and all other nearby bookstores.

Arthur Phillips attended Kenwood School and lived in Kenwood until he graduated from high school. He returns often, especially to take his sons to the Mn State Fair. His parents continue to live in the Hill and Lake area, now for 46 years in the same house!

Community Clean-Up Day, Sat, Apr 16, 9:30-12 PM

This annual event will be held on Saturday, April 16 from 9:30 AM until noon. Pick up garbage bags at Kenwood Recreation Center. Contact Amy Lucas at amylucas@gmail.com for more information or to register volunteers

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR LHNA PRESIDENT JANET HALLAWAY

Craig Wilson interviews Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA) President Janet Hallaway about what type of car she would be, her favorite ice cream flavor and the upcoming LHNA annual meeting on May 17th at 7:00 PM at the Walker Art Center.

The Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA) annual membership meeting is coming up. What's the agenda?

Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb and City Council Member Lisa Goodman will talk about the latest news from City Hall and Park Board Headquarters. They face big challenges with budget cuts but there are bright spots. We've got exciting news to share about developments in the business district and we'll showcase innovative projects the board's been working on this past year. Philip Bahar from The Walker always gives a great update.

You're in your final term as President. How long have you been a board member and what's the state of the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association?

I signed on as a board member six years ago when I showed up at the annual meeting and someone talked me into serving. It's been a great ride since then. Every year LHNA makes improvements in the neighborhood. Over the years, the board's installed historic light poles, contributed to rebuilding the tennis courts, funded new playground equipment, and solidified relationships with police. The board is ready for new leadership and new energy. I'm excited to see that evolve.

What motivated your 'block club' goal for Lowry Hill?

I place a high value on knowing who my neighbors are. I feel safe and connected. The Block Leader project is a crime prevention program. If we can recruit one person from every block to receive and disseminate emails when a crime occurs in the neighborhood, we'll have a fast, powerful tool that helps police gather information. It's the modern day telephone tag put to good use. Sign up at www.lowryhillneighborhood.org.

What about the annual meeting are you most look-

ing forward to?

Sara Peterman's dad playing the accordion. Did we book him?

Both of your kids attend Kenwood School, where you and your husband Phil have been active volunteers. What's going on at Kenwood School?

Incredibly talented parents wrote a script, lyrics, and an original musical score for the school play, "Pinocchio." I'm convinced they should sell the rights to Broadway. It was that good. Did I mention we raised \$90,000 to fund full day kindergarten?

One of your greatest passions (and time commitments) has been coordinating Palio. What's the history of Palio and will it continue this Fall?

Local residents visited Sienna, Italy over 25 years ago and brought back the idea of creating a neighborhood festival based on Sienna's own Palio celebration. Historically, Palio has included parades, costumes, live music, games, and food. What's most important is gathering people together. The event is ready to evolve. What could it be? A great music festival? A celebration of arts? A day of fierce neighborhood sports competition? We have money in the bank and simply need volunteer leaders to continue this event.

You recently served on the Lake Harriet Band Shell CAC. What was involved and what was the outcome? Meetings, meetings, and more meetings. A passionate group of people mapped out criteria to select a new concession vendor at Lake Harriet. The outcome will be unveiled this season. Look for new menu items, return of favorites like popcorn and ice cream, and preservation of the waterfront.



Janet Hallaway

I asked Marion Greene last month what type of car she would be and what her favorite ice cream flavor is. How would you respond?

Toyota pickup. Small, versatile, can carry the cargo. Sebastian Joe's Pavarotti.

How did a nice Irish-Catholic girl from Boston end up in Minneapolis?

Selling shoes for G.H. Bass. They made terrific hand-sewn shoes in the northwoods of Maine. Dayton's bought a lot of those. Bass shipped me out here to manage that business. I was the first female sales rep in the company's history and they named a shoe after me.

Any opinions on whether we should fund a Vikings stadium or not? How does Phil feel about it?

Phil's a sports fan. He understands that returning Minnesota to the ranks of a great state will be by investing

Meet your Neighbor to page 14

LOWRY HILL MEETING SET FOR MAY 17

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA) will host its annual meeting on Tuesday, May 17 at The Walker Art Center. A social hour with cash bar will take place from 6:15 to 7Pm in the Vineland Avenue lobby. The meeting will take place from 7:00 - 8:30PM. All Lowry Hill residents are welcome with each household eligible to vote for new board of directors.

The evening's agenda will include a look at issues impacting the Lowry Hill neighborhood. These include updates on transportation issues and the design for Light Rail Stations servicing Lowry Hill residents, changes to the Hennepin Avenue business district, and plans to add green space along Hennepin Avenue. LHNA will also launch a new program to recruit block leaders willing to receive and disseminate electronic information pertaining to crime prevention in the neighborhood.

City Councilmember Lisa Goodman and Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb will address the audience on issues of interest to the neighborhood.

Visit www.lowryhillneighborhood.org for additional information.



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A CALL TO ACTION__TRAILS

Cedar Lake Park Association from page one

ing along at 5 MPH. The Southwest LRT will run close to 200 times per day zipping through the Park at speeds up to 40 MPH. Comparing the two is like comparing apples to oranges. An underpass, what we are calling the Confluence, is the only solution that will ensure a safe, free flow of commuters and recreational users.

Where's the Kenilworth Trail in all this? With over 600,000 users per year, it is the busiest trail in the city. And it is in trouble. For the trail to co-exist with light rail in the area from Lake Street to north of the Cedar-Isles Canal, the freight line needs to go. Now, there's some talk of moving the Trail out of the corridor to allow the freight line to remain. Break up the primary off road north south route? CLPA has been involved in the planning and design input for the SWLRT since its beginnings to preserve the trails, protect wildlife and the natural environment, and preserve neighborhood livability. Let's make sure the Kenilworth Trail stays in the corridor and the families who use the trail remain safe.

How do we make the Cedar Lake Trail Underpass become a reality? How do we protect the Kenilworth Trail? Shortly, the Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS) will be released by the federal Department of Transportation. There will then be a comment period for up to sixty days. This is the critical time for individuals and communities to provide their input into describing the impact of the SWLRT on the neighborhoods, parks, and trails. Decisions are being made that will affect the Cedar Lake parklands far out into the future. We need to talk to our neighbors, contact our elected officials, and join with other citizens working in the Cedar Lake Park Association's steering committee meetings.

Coffee with Marion Greene, Sat, Apr 30, 1-2 PM

Representative Marion Greene holds regular constituent meetings to discuss state and community issues. Join her at the Kenwood Cafe.

Superintendent focused on improving district's culture MINNEAPOLIS MINDS

By Steve Kotvis

A few Saturday mornings ago, on one of our first beautiful spring days, I found myself stepping into a conference room at the American Indian Center on East Lake Street. Turning my back to the early morning sun, I admittedly felt a sense of hesitation. Why am I going to spend the next seven hours of this glorious day at a School Board Retreat?

My doubts quickly dissipated as I took my seat and listened to Superintendent Bernadeia Johnson as she had already begun her presentation to the School Board. She discussed the findings of an organizational audit commissioned with an outside educational consultant to help define and focus her new job. She was taking a hard look at how the district was functioning and how she needed to address the structure and staffing to create a more effective district. Much of what she addressed was not entirely new to me. I had, after all, just had a one-on-one coffee meeting with Bernadeia earlier that week, and months before I was invited as an interested community member to share my perspectives with the organizational auditor.

Admittedly, the 87-page report is a bit too much for me to digest. Small bites. Even the items listed in no particular order on the first few pages are a bit overwhelming and include, among many, issues described as dysfunctional and associated with uneven or unsuccessful implementation of district-wide initiatives, poor service delivery and execution, uneven accountability and

lack of clarity of roles and communications.

What resonated most was Bernadeia's conceptual discussion of the needed organizational cultural change. The study report noted that due to the turnover in the past 10 years of its superintendents, the culture has not necessarily reflected the influence of the superintendent but more so has reflected the attitude by employees that "this too shall pass." This culture has led to an organization that is considered disconnected from the community and schools.

The report might need to be taken in small bites. But it surely has sharp teeth. Superintendent Johnson's commissioning the report was courageous. Holding up a mirror and bravely asking, "How do we look?" was an act of leadership I can appreciate. Mind you, Bernadeia is not a new hire from outside the district coming to see what wrong with "that" old administration. Rather, she's been a part of the system and today in her new role she's reflecting to assess where things need to be, who needs to be there, and what systems need to be in place to responsively and proactively manage.

Systematically, one perspective I am advocating for in this new culture is the belief that MPS needs to operate in such a way that its decision-making process appreciates, values and is actually dependent upon input of audiences. Most specifically, the audiences decisions need to be concerned with are those it is reliant upon to take something from plan to implementation, from concept to reality, from idea to implementation. Today's decision-making processes at "807" seem to place limited value on these "external" audiences. Solutions seem to be getting "sold" to the public, and while I have not experienced it firsthand but hear from teachers, programs and initiatives get pushed onto schools with little regard to their impact. Public input meetings appear at best as administrative "check the box" obligations, and at their worst a distraction or irritant to "getting things done."

Not only as a public entity, but also as a very large organization, our district would seem to benefit from systematically building into the process the notion that trust and partnership are imperative to effectively carry out its plans. A tightly wrapped plan handed off with not enough recognition of what it takes to implement it has led to (as described in the organizational auditor's report): low employee morale, people not feeling valued, sense of top-down decision-making, the central office as the driving force for decisions, and a historical lack of teamwork, cooperation and openness.

What might a culture look like if planning and decision-making recognized those it relies on in executing its plans be a part of the designing the solution, be they community members, parents, students, teachers, principals, school staff? I can only imagine the culture might result in improved trust, connections and support among schools and communities.

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

From Cam Gordon City Council

The current house tax bill calls for cutting Local Government Aid for Minneapolis, Saint Paul and Duluth (LGA would be entirely eliminated for these three cities by 2014). In 2010, the State of Minnesota sent: \$64.4 million in Local Government Aid to Minneapolis (including pass-through dollars to the Park Board & Municipal Building Commission); \$50 million in Local Government Aid to Saint Paul; \$27 million in Local Government Aid to Duluth;

At the same time, in 2011 the State of Minnesota will collect: \$456 million in sales and commercial industrial property-tax revenues in Minneapolis;

Cam Gordon to page 7

HILL LAKE PRESS Real Estate Sales March 2011										
STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	Seller Contrib	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT
2733 Girard S	49,900		34	52,202	C	1/1	624	117,300	1,709	1923
2885 Knox S #603	149,000	3,500	397	100,000	C	1/1	900	159,400	2,103	1979
1425 W 28th St #321	174,900	3,500	351	155,000	C	2/2	1,200	212,000	2,919	1986
1819 Colfax S	499,900		351	370,000	TWN	3/3	2,220	450,000	6,573	1987
2011 Girard S	599,900	14,436	563	481,200	H	4/4	3,565	586,000	8,811	1900
1631 W 26th St	749,000	16,000	214	545,000	H	5/3	3,473	846,500	13,542	1910
1805 W Lake St #203	1,119,900		472	600,000	C	1/2	1,646	750,000	11,721	2005
112 Groveland Terrace	2,250,000		1225	1,325,000	TWN	4/5	5,290	1,141,500	18,719	1990
2100 W Lake of Isles	3,495,000		266	2,610,000	H	4/5	5,502	1,750,000	29,692	2005
					C					
					H					
					TWN					
* Bank Owned				cume	Condo					
Sources: Harvey Ettinger - Steve Havig					Home					
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MARRIAGE

By Beth St. John

It might have been the twelve disco balls that pushed me over the edge.



Beth St. John

As we walked from the coach bus up to the palace, followed the walkway around the building to the back terrace where they would be serving appetizers, I turned the corner, looked up through the windows, into the room in that palace that would serve as our dance floor. I actually gasped when the twinkle of one of those suspended silver balls hit my eye. It was as if the heavens opened up and all the angels who could bust a move smiled down on me at that very moment and said “Go little Bethy . . . try the various amuse-bouches . . . drink that champagne . . . and then, take off those darn high heels and dance your heart out.”

Or, it could have been the Palacio Sans Souci itself with its fabulous grounds and black and white checkerboard tiled entry, or all the interesting and friendly people, or the free flowing champagne, or Rick Astley “Never Gonna Give You Up,” or those Ecuadorian men with their mysterious tan lines on their left ring fingers.

It could have understandably been any one of those things that left an indelible mark on my brain that says “That was the most fabulous wedding that has ever been or that ever will be.” Any one of those things could have ultimately transformed my passive support of gay marriage into one of those intense personal ideals that make you the person you are — a better person than you were before.

I used to say that I was “a supporter of gay marriage.”

But, you know what I say now? . . . “I’m an extreme fan of equal marriage. . . and to me it’s “equal” not “gay.” I’m a drop dead, vocal advocate of humans having the right to choose the person that they would like to marry, and that they should simply call it “MARRIAGE” and they should have exactly the same equal rights as male/female couples who choose to get married, and it should not be some second-class kind of classification, like a “civil union” that allows for any smidgen of a lower level of respect for the couple.”

Before “The Wedding of the Century” I used to think that everyone was entitled to their own opinion but, actually . . . um . . . they’re not. Because now it is incredibly obvious that those who disagree with my point of view on this matter are narrow-minded, self-righteous, prejudiced, or hateful. Or, they are all of those things.

I know, I know . . . “Tell us how you really feel, Beth.”

It’s okay, I get that a lot.

As I write this, it has been thirteen days since I returned from my friend Humberto’s wedding in Buenos Aires. He married the love of his life, his partner for the past six years, Max. They exchanged the same rings that they privately exchanged after the first year of their relationship, which symbolized their love for one another in light of the fact that they were not able to officially legally marry at that time.

I am still flying high from the experience. Many of us who attended cannot stop going over and over each other’s photos from the ceremony and reception. We are attempting to prolong the magic, I guess . . . continue to ride the high.

Humberto and I met on one of the very first days at Wharton, ended up in the same academic cohort, and thankfully on the same learning team. He is from Ecuador. We took all of our first year classes together, worked on all of our school projects together, and even travelled through Southeast Asia together. Humberto is one of those people you meet every once in a while who is so similar to you in thoughts, beliefs and values that all of their close friends easily become your close friends as soon as you meet them. I love Humberto’s new husband, Max, and I love Humberto’s two fabulous friends from college, Martha & Debbie. And, of course, I love Humberto, as many people do.

Love. It’s all about love, really. A plethora of disco balls is fabulous and all but, really, it’s all about love.

It’s about Humberto nervously greeting guests to the civil ceremony, and seventy plus friends and family



The Grooms

Photo by Beth St. John

members sitting behind the couple in support of their decision to share their lives together. It’s about all of us sitting there watching, some of us not understanding the words of the Spanish ceremony but, nonetheless, comprehending the meaning of it all. It’s about the look on Humberto’s parents’ faces as he and Maxi exchanged their vows, and the kiss, and the hug. It’s about the palpable sense of sheer happiness, relief, and validation that we could all feel right along with Humberto and Maxi. It’s about the tears that I cried in that room along with most of the wedding ceremony attendees, because we were so happy they had found each other. It’s about all the same things that heterosexual marriage is about.

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Now's the time to sign up for \$10 rain garden workshops

You can help keep our lakes, rivers and streams clean by starting a rain garden using native plants. If you want to learn how to do it, sign up for one of the upcoming rain garden workshops. These workshops offer a do-it-yourself approach combined with expert help to put rain garden planting in the hands of gardeners and non-gardeners alike.

Workshop dates and locations in Minneapolis:

April 19 - Northrop Environmental Learning Center; April 30 - Audubon Park; May 5 - Nokomis Community Center; June 4 - Phelps Park

For more information and to register, visit the www.metroblooms.org/workshops.php webpage or call (651) 699-2426. Please note that space is limited.

Learn more about property tax refunds.

There are two types of property tax refunds available to homeowners from the State – the regular property tax refund and a special property tax refund. Homeowners may be eligible for both depending on their income levels and the size of their property tax bill.

The regular property tax refund is for people who owned and lived in their home on Jan. 2, 2011. If the home is not “homesteaded,” the application for homestead must be made before Dec. 15, 2011. There are income requirements for the regular property tax refund. For the special property tax refund, there is no limit on household income. For more information on property tax refunds and to find out if you qualify, please visit

taxes.state.mn.us/prop_refund/pages/refund_information_content_homeowners_refund.aspx

Free Home Energy Workshop

Did you receive a flyer with information about a FREE workshop to learn about rebates for making home energy improvements? This is a great deal! Community Energy Services, CES, is a one-stop residential energy program designed to help homeowners

save energy and money in their homes. CES begins with FREE educational workshops where homeowners can schedule a customized home energy visit. The visit includes a blower door test which measures for air leaks in the home, as well as the installation of energy and money saving materials. These materials may include compact fluorescent light bulbs, low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators, pipe wrap, a programmable thermostat and more! Up to \$400 in services and materials for a co-pay of only \$30! You must attend a workshop to sign up for the custom home energy visit. You can attend a workshop in any neighborhood. For information on upcoming workshops contact Kyle Boehm at 612-219-7334 or kboehm@mncee.org

CES has a Neighborhood Energy Challenge underway. The neighborhoods can earn various grants based on highest percentage of eligible participants, greatest upgrade implementation rate, individual's efforts and contributions, etc. More information can also be found at www.mnenergychallenge.org/Community-Energy-Services.aspx.

Need help with energy bills? Funds available for qualifying residents

For residents who need assistance paying their gas or electric bill, or even making their home more energy efficient, help may be a phone call or mouse click away. The City of Minneapolis is helping spread the word that federal aid is available to income-qualifying households. Low-income homeowners or renters who meet the eligibility requirements can receive help with their energy bills by having their grant money paid directly to the utility company. Homeowners or renters who qualify for energy assistance may also be eligible for weatherization, which provides \$6,500 worth of energy saving improvements to a home free of charge.

Community Action of Minneapolis is accepting applications for energy assistance. Funding is limited and available first-come, first-served. Community Action of Minneapolis uses a household's past three months of income to determine eligibility. For more information including detailed income guidelines, call 612-335-5837 or visit www.campls.org.

New City website sends a message to substandard landlords

The City of Minneapolis has launched a website aimed at sending a message to rental property owners who don't follow rental licensing standards. The new site posts the names of property owners who have had their rental licenses revoked, properties condemned or

demolished, and those who have been ruled ineligible to hold a rental license for five years. The website also posts lists of condemned, vacant, and demolished buildings.

The City of Minneapolis continues to find ways to increase enforcement of those who own substandard properties and consume city resources. In response to these owners the City of Minneapolis has recently launched a tiered approach for inspection of rental properties based on severity and history of code compliance. Rental properties will be placed into three categories - 1, 2 & 3 - which will be based on a scoring system to determine the inspection cycle. The properties that require more city resources based on the history of property will be placed in Category 3 and will receive an annual inspection. Marginal properties will be placed on a two to five year cycle and properties with proactive management will be rewarded and placed on a longer inspection cycle. Visit

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/inspections/accountable.asp for more information.

Looking for a dog or cat? Check out the City's "Pet of the Week"

Minneapolis Animal Care & Control wants pet lovers to know that there are many dogs, cats, rabbits, ferrets, and other animals available for adoption every day. More than 500 animals are adopted to the public every year.

Each week, Minneapolis Animal Care & Control posts a "Pet of the Week" on the City's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/cityofminneapolis). See a picture and description of an animal that is available for adoption. Those interested in adopting the featured pet should contact Minneapolis Animal Care & Control by visiting the shelter or calling 311. Minneapolis Animal Care and Control encourages everyone thinking about adopting an animal to be a responsible pet owner: before you look for a pet, think about what type of pet will fit your lifestyle. This will ensure a happy home for you and your new companion. For more information on what is required to adopt a pet, please visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/animal-control/PetAdoptions.asp.

Meet with Meg!

Join us for Meet with Meg for lunch on Tuesday, May 10th from 12 pm to 1 pm at the 5th Precinct's Community Room (3101 Nicollet Ave S). Meet with Meg is a time for you to talk with her, ask questions, and voice concerns. Bring your sack lunch! Cookies and lemonade are provided! Meet with Meg is held the second Tuesday of every month.

We want to hear from you! We are looking for your input on who you would like to see/hear from at Meet with Meg for Lunch. We would like to start inviting local and city officials to Meet with Meg in the new year and we need your help! If you have any ideas of whom you would like to hear from or of a topic that is of interest to you, please email 10th ward associate Breanna Patsch at

breanna.patsch@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

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“\$2,000,000 13 Story Apartment Hotel Planned for Site at Douglas and Mount Curve Avenues”

By Suzanne C. Payne

Present day Thomas Lowry Park was the site chosen by prominent developer John Friedman for a building that was to be “the most pretentious of its kind west of Chicago.” That description was written in the Minneapolis Morning Tribune, September 16, 1922. The news of this near catastrophe was brought to light recently by local historian Peter Sussman, who shared some of his extensive research, including a copy of this headlined article with Friends of Thomas Lowry Park. Fortunately, the necessary permit was not granted by the city council, as others pursued a different vision for the land.

1922 was a pivotal time in the history of this choice triangular property, as it was the year that A. C. Loring petitioned the Minneapolis Park Board to acquire the land for a public park. Since neighbors would be assessed for the costs, it was controversial. However, the Park Board voted to purchase the land for \$76,000 in 1923, and the total cost (over \$100,000 with the improvements included) was assessed on area property owners over ten years.

In the October 2010 issue of the Hill and Lake Press, the 1922 plans for the park were featured including a unique color rendering that appeared in the Park Board annual report that year. The plans were prepared by Phelps Wyman, a park commissioner and landscape

architect, at the invitation of Theodore Wirth, superintendent at the time. The design incorporated the pergola and water cascade features that are the distinctive characteristics of Thomas Lowry Park.

It is likely that current Hill and Lake area residents agree with Wirth’s assessment, included in the Park Board 1924 annual report, that the park is a “gem” and “the location of this small park at the entrance to one of the very finest residential districts of the city furthermore justifies the expenditure.”

Friends of Thomas Lowry Park invite you to join neighbors in preserving the history and care of the park by volunteering to garden on the second Saturday of each month, weather permitting, from 10-12 a.m., or by making a tax deductible donation, which permits improvements and upkeep of park plantings and amenities beyond what the park board budget can provide. You are also invited to participate in two special upcoming park related events, details to be announced soon. For further information on Friends of Thomas Lowry Park, contact Barb at bfogel@comcast.net

More local history on this park and others may be found in Parks, Lakes, Trails and So Much More: An Overview of the Histories of MPRB Properties (2008) compiled and written by David C. Smith.

On April 29th at 2:00 pm Barbara Fogel and Barry Lazarus will present a program at The Kenwood about the history of Thomas Lowry Park. Peter S. Sussman, AIA, architect and historian with extensive knowledge about Thomas Lowry Park will speak. A social gathering will close the event. Please call The Kenwood at 6122-374-8100 if you wish to attend.

Cam Gordon from page 4

\$250 million in sales and commercial-industrial property-tax revenues in Saint Paul; \$89 million in sales and commercial-industrial property-tax revenues in Duluth; Cuts to state aid shift the burden of paying for public safety, public works and other core services onto property taxpayers.

In 2003, state aids (mostly Local Government Aid) accounted for 40% of Minneapolis General Fund while property taxes make up 29% of the Fund. In 2011, state aids make up just 23% of General Fund revenue (based on certified LGA) while property taxes made up 44% of the Fund.

If Minneapolis is faced with another cut by the State, the pressure to levy back a portion of that cut will be enormous. It could potentially result in a 21.14% increase to Residential, Apartment and Commercial/Industrial property taxes.

As a City Council member from a large City, I know that we need strong and healthy suburbs, small towns, farms and other rural areas if we are to have a strong and healthy state that works for all Minnesotans. We need strong and healthy cities too.

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JONES-HARRISON CELEBRATES COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT WITH WELLNESS WEEK

By Rosie Viaz

Jones-Harrison Residence once again celebrated a long history of community involvement with Wellness Week, an annual event that encourages our residents and staff to make healthier life decisions and to participate in community outreach.

For the outreach portion of Wellness Week, we focused on the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf. Located on the corner of 31st Street and Fremont Avenue South, this local food shelf has been caring for the community for more than 40 years by serving approximately 1,400 friends and families every month. It was an easy decision by our staff to help this valuable community institution.

We formed a goal to collect at least 1,000 pounds of food for Joyce Uptown, and surpassed that mark with flying colors. Before three weeks of tough departmental competition was over, we had collected more than 1,800 pounds of food!

Delivering all that food was truly the highlight of Wellness Week. Upon delivery, we were met by a group of extremely hard working dedicated women who showed us the "ropes." We learned how to slide the bags of food down the chute, how to "rebox" the boxes that were too big, as well as other useful tips. Most of all, we learned how much our community means to everyone. We thank everyone at the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf for the opportunity to serve.

In addition, Wellness Week presented the chance for Jones-Harrison staff and residents to learn about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Our team of fitness specialists, led by Wasie Wellness Center Manager Tony Mrnak, educated us about healthier food choices and the importance of regular exercise while challenging everyone to take better care of their bodies.

It was a great Wellness Week at Jones-Harrison Residence. We can't wait for next year.

17th Annual Minneapolis Earth Day Clean Up

– Hundreds of volunteers are expected to remove thousands of pounds of garbage from 40 sites (listed below). The Clean Up is a collaborative effort of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) and City of Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling.

Saturday, April 16, 9:30 a.m.-noon.

For more about Earth Day visit www.minneapolisearthday.org.



Photos by Dorothy Childers

Left to Right: Kelly Hyvare, Chelsea Hubred, Jody Pozinski, Rosie Viaz, Sue Haldeman, Sandy Schulz, Major Bowen, Carl Horton, Cindy Feyder, Tony Mrnak, JoAnn Richardson, JoAnn Buytendorp, Judy Christopherson, Brian Moline.



left to right. Carl Horton, Tony Mrnak, Major Bowen.

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Celebrate the colorful season of spring with May Day family traditions that all ages will enjoy.



Poet Laureate Robert Bly Photo Ann Arbor

Minnesota Poet Laureate and Hill and Lake Press neighbor Robert Bly, widely viewed as one of the most influential poets of the last fifty years, will read from his latest collection, *Talking into the Ear of a Donkey*, on Monday, May 9 at 7 p.m., at Plymouth Congregational Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave. South. The free event, part of Plymouth's Literary Witnesses poetry series, is co-sponsored by the Loft Literary Center. Birchbark Books will sell books at the event.

Robert Bly, 84, is the author, editor, and translator of more than fifty volumes of essays, poetry and prose, including the New York Times bestseller *Iron John*. He won the National Book award in 1967 for *Light Around The Body*, received The McKnight Foundation's Distinguished Artist Award in 2000, and the Maurice English Poetry Award in 2002. In 2008, he was declared Minnesota's first Poet Laureate.

TALKING INTO THE EAR OF A DONKEY

I have been talking into the ear of a donkey.
I have so much to say! And the donkey can't wait
To feel my breath stirring the immense oats
Of his ears. "What has happened to the spring,"
I cry, "and our legs that were so joyful
in the bobblings of April?" "Oh never mind
About all that," the donkey
Says. "Just take hold of my mane, so you
Can lift your lips closer to my hairy ears."

(From *Talking onto the Ear of a Donkey*, W.W. Norton, ©2011, used by permission of the author).

May Day Celebration & Spring Open House at ARTrageous Adventures SATURDAY, APRIL 30th 1:00-4:00pm

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One block from Lake of the Isles, this 4BR/2BA home has classic details and a surprisingly open floorplan. Enjoy all the amenities of Uptown and proximity to the Lake, or just relax in the lush backyard.



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PARK SIDING PARK – CIDNA'S GEM NEEDS YOU!!

By Monica Smith

Spring is here, and it's time to get outdoors and enjoy our beautiful parks. Park Siding Park (located at 28th Street and Dean Court) is a hidden gem in the midst of the city. This park is an ideal spot for play or relaxation featuring a wonderful playground, picnic area (picnic tables and BBQ grill), open green field, tetherball, and shaded benches.

And did we mention the gardens? The gardens in Park Siding Park are maintained entirely by volunteers. Leading the charge (as she has done since the park renovation was complete in 1996) is CIDNA resident Cher Simer. Cher and a group of volunteers (including Nancy Green, Kathy Hendricks, Sandi Larson, Pat Shirley and Carol Shorrock) maintain the gardens throughout the season by weeding, watering and pruning. CIDNA extends a big thank you to these volunteers for their commitment to the park.

CIDNA is in need of additional volunteers to help maintain the gardens. No gardening expertise is needed, just a willingness to help keep the gardens beautiful. Here's how you can help: send your e-mail address and contact information to Monica Smith at info@cinda.org or 612-821-0131. A spring garden clean-up and maintenance date will be held soon (if we know the date we can include it here). We are also looking for volunteers to help throughout the season (watering etc.)

Please join other CIDNA volunteers in this effort. Send your e-mail address to Monica today!

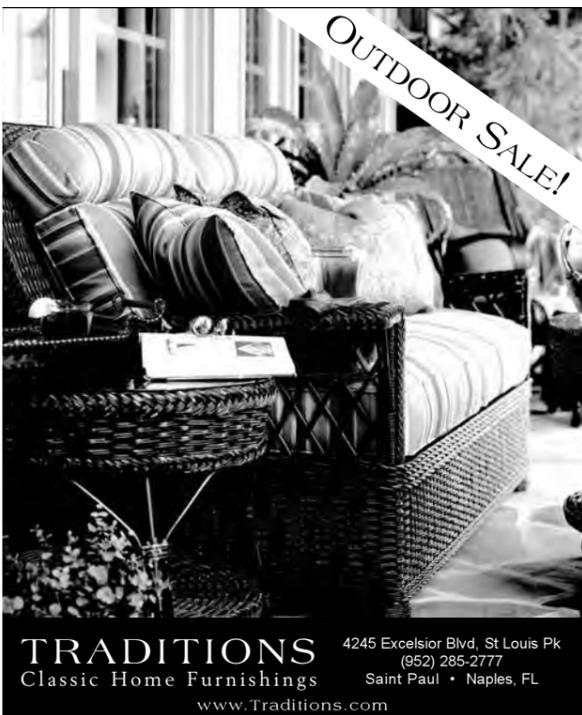
Life In Sun City

By Diane Woelm

In light of the earthquake in Japan our life inSunCity seems like a small island of Paradise out here in the Arizona desert. When my husband and I decided to become snowbirds for the winter I thought about all that I was leaving behind, a whole life really.

Then I began to discover the opportunities open to people who make Sun City their home, and I find there is a lot to do besides just enjoying the climate, which is amazing in and of itself -all that sunshine every day. There are the food shelves, church group activities and state clubs. There is a Minnesota Club that meets regularly for breakfast, a stained glass club, computer club, a group called Circle of Caring Friends who raise money for assisted living residences, and The Sun City Home Owners Association. You have to be fifty five to live here and there may be a vote to lower the age to fifty.

My neighbor volunteers at the Hospital Day Care for their employees. She invited me to The Oakmont Recreation Center exercise class Tuesday and Friday mornings after which we all go out for coffee. It was at coffee that I met Emma who has been a volunteer for the Fire Department in Sun City for seven years.



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CIDNA ANNUAL MEETING!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2011

6:00 P.M. SOCIAL HOUR, MEETING BEGINS AT 6:30 P.M.

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- NRP/NCR Neighborhood Programs
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- Mayor R.T. Rybak
- Hennepin County Commissioner Gail Dorfman
- Minnesota State Representative Marion Greene
- Minnesota State Senator Scott Dibble
- Congressman Keith Ellison's District Office representative

HAVE AN INTEREST IN CIDNA?

Would you like to make an impact in your neighborhood? There will be open positions on the 2011/12 CIDNA Board. Throw your hat in the ring! Board elections will be held at the Annual Meeting.

EMAIL info@cinda.org for more information.

www.cidna.org

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Before that she served with the Sun City Sheriff's Posse under the watchful guidance of Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio. She signed up with the Posse after her husband died. She for six plus years and cannot say enough good things about the Posse. The Posse volunteers are in Emma's words "The Eyes and Ears" of the Sheriff. "We do not make arrests," she said. "If anything looks suspicious the Posse reports it immediately to the Sheriff's Department." And the Posse operates on private donations. They patrol the neighborhoods and check front and back doors of vacation homes. One day Emma noticed someone skateboarding and called it in because in Sun City skateboarding is considered dangerous to the safety of pedestrians. "An officer was there within five minutes," said Emma.

Emma retired from the Posse to become a volunteer with the Fire Department. She works one day a week as a house inspector and may inspect up to five houses a day to make sure that toasters are unplugged, area

rugs without rubber backing are removed, and that the house has a fire alarm. If a home owner does not have a fire alarm that works the Fire Department will install one free of charge. Emma also promotes the "Lock Box" system for emergency situations. The Lock Box is a small metal black box that is secured to the home with screws and is wired into the Fire Department only for 911 calls. I told Emma that in our condominium association it is suggested that one leave a key to one's home with the chairman for emergency situations. "Yes," she said, "but what happens if the chairman is not home?" The Lock Box Program is not mandatory but does insure safety and peace of mind.

"The Fire Department is excellent," said Emma, and "They are all trained medics who have chosen not to take their mandatory raises this year because of the economy." On March 5th our next door neighbor fell and hit her head on the coffee table in her home and the Fire Department was there in minutes. The Fire Department that operates out of Sun City is looking for community grants to build a new fire station. The one they have is a converted old house and has only one restroom for men and women. When I read this in the Sun City Independent Newspaper I suggested to my husband that perhaps I could help find a community grant for them. "Diane," he said with a sweep of his hand around the house, "why don't you just volunteer around here?" So, I did. I walked into the kitchen and unplugged the toaster. Today I am helping Jim paint our house.

There are four houses in our immediate complex, and we are all working together to improve how our property looks. During Citrus Days people pick their fruit and give it to the food shelves. And the coyotes control the rabbit population. We live on a golf course so we see a lot of wild life. Sun City is what it says it is - the City of Volunteers.

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EAST ISLES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (EIRA)

Minutes from the EIRA Annual Members' Meeting April 5, 2011 Grace-Trinity Community Church Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder

Board members present: Jane Schommer (President), Al Rodriguez (Treasurer), Rosita Acosta, Ginna Portman Amis, Harvey Ettinger, Rose Matthys, Tina Frontera, and Michael T'Kach. East Isles residents and invited guests were also in attendance.

EIRA President Jane Schommer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. followed by introductions of each attendee.

President's Report, Jane Schommer

Jane Schommer gave a report on EIRA's activities for the past six months:

The Zoning and Land Use committee were involved with several projects in the area: CB2, US Bank relocation, Lake of the Isles Renovation Project report, Walker Library, Midtown Greenway and flooding issues in the neighborhood. Jane thanked past EIRA President Mark Lofstrom and the Zoning and Land Use Committee for their work.

The Social Committee worked on several events the past year including the Uptown Art Fair pop booth, Ice Cream Social, Wine Tasting and Ice Skating Party. Thanks to Social Committee Chair Amy Sanborn and all the volunteers.

A bylaws committee was formed to review and propose minor changes to the bylaws for operational issues and to comply with new funding requirements. Thanks were extended to the bylaws committee and its Chair Tina Frontera.

The NRP Committee has been working on planning for Phase II and helped organize an energy efficiency workshop in March. Thank you to Monica Smith, NRP Consultant; Jerome Ryan, NRP Committee Chair and the entire NRP committee.

Upcoming events include Earth Day clean up at Lake of the Isles on Saturday, April 16th from 9:30 a.m. to noon and Bastille Day Block Party /Kids Parade on Sunday, July 17th.

Jane thanked the following board members who will not be returning in the coming year: Helen Ackerman, Rosita Acosta, Peter Levine, Mark Lofstrom, Rose Matthys, and Michael T'Kach.

Treasurer's Report, Al Rodriguez

EIRA Treasurer Al Rodriguez presented a financial report.

Bank balances as of 4-5-11 are:

Checking	\$4,954.05
Savings	\$10,37.96
NRP Checking	\$8,219.15

Al provided a handout of account activity for the past six months.

NRP report, Monica Smith, East Isles NRP

Coordinator

EIRA has started a new e-newsletter that is currently being sent to members. Please let Monica know if you would like to be added to the distribution list.

Monica thanked Lunds Uptown for the generous donation of refreshments for the meeting.

Community Energy Services

A Community Energy Service (CES) workshop was held in East Isles in March. CES offers a free workshop to teach low-cost, no-cost ways to save energy and money in your home, followed by a customized home visit by two energy professions which includes a blower door test and installation of energy saving materials for a co-pay of \$30. The program is highly recommended by the board. \$5,000 in grant money is being offered to the Minneapolis neighborhood with the highest participation rate. East Isles residents who have not yet participated are encouraged to attend an upcoming workshop in CIDNA or Lowry Hill East.

Earth Day Clean up

East Isles is hosting an Earth Day clean up site at Lake of the Isles and 27th Street on Saturday, April 16 from 9:30 a.m.-noon. Please bring your own work gloves, bags will be provided at the registration table. Please let Monica know if you can help staff the registration table that morning.

NRP Phase II plan

The NRP Steering Committee has been working on the Phase II plan to present for a neighborhood vote at tonight's meeting. For context, Monica mentioned a few of the larger East Isles Phase I projects: \$375,000 toward Lake of the Isles restoration, \$225,000 for pedestrian level lighting on residential streets, and \$118,000 for pedestrian lighting and new trees along the west side of Hennepin Ave.

Monica introduced the NRP Steering Committee members: Jerome Ryan (Chair), Betsy Allis, Judy Enenstein, Harvey Ettinger, Nancy Johnston and new committee members Nate Maschke and Dan McLaughlin.

The committee has been meeting monthly for the past year to plan for Phase II. The meetings were advertised in the Hill and Lake Press and the Southwest Journal. Committee members solicited ideas from residents at social events (National Night Out, Ice Cream Social and Palio) and a survey was mailed to every address in East Isles. The ideas and feedback were used to formulate the plan being presented tonight. The EIRA Board approved the plan in March 2011. A summary of the plan was published in the March Hill and Lake Press, included in an e-newsletter to the distribution lists and is posted on our website.

In December 2010, the City Council voted to freeze 50% of un-contracted Phase II money. NRP is fighting

this action. Until it is resolved, we have been advised to plan for our full allocation. If the City is allowed to freeze the funding, the neighborhood will re-prioritize the spending in our plan.

Monica noted that East Isles Phase II plan was purposely written without a lot of specifics because a lot of detail can make the plan too restrictive for future needs. Money can easily be shifted between strategies if some programs are more successful than others.

Monica reviewed a summary of the plan.
Total East Isles Phase II Allocation: \$387,253
Housing \$262,000
Housing initiatives are required to be 70% of allocation.

Goal 1: Improve the housing stock in East Isles.
Home improvement loans \$110,000

Provide below-market interest rate home improvement loans for energy efficiency upgrades and projects that rehabilitate and/or upgrade the exterior of existing residential structure in East Isles. When loans are repaid, the revenue generated may be reinvested in East Isles NRP initiatives.

Improve home security \$15,000
Subsidize the purchase and installation of exterior lighting for residential properties to increase safety by providing grants up to \$250.

Goal 2: Assist in increasing affordable housing within the City of Minneapolis and support non-profit housing projects in East Isles.

Affordable housing loans \$110,000
Provide loans for affordable housing development. When loans are repaid, the revenue generated may be reinvested in East Isles NRP initiatives.

Support capital improvements at The Bridge for Youth \$27,000

Support additional capital improvements at the Bridge.

Special note: Upon direction from NPR Specialist Robert Thompson, a line item needs to appear in our plan that in 2005, EIRA supported the Bridge in its application for a \$500,000 Affordable Housing Reserve Fund grant. The grant was offered by NRP using funds dedicated to affordable housing (and prior to the calculation of the Phase II allocations). NRP expenditures are required by law to be connected with a neighborhood plan however, the funds did not come out of EIRA's allocation nor did these funds run through EIRA's books.

Crime and Safety \$23,000
Goal: Increase safety and prevent crime in East Isles.

Improve the security of residential property.

EIRA to page 12

Join your neighbors for these East Isles events!

EIRA Board of Directors Meeting
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 7:00 P.M.
Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th Street
Meet the newly elected EIRA Board members and hear about events and issues in the neighborhood.
For more information, please contact EIRA President, Jane Schommer at president@eastisles.org or 612-804-1197.

East Isles NRP Steering Committee
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 7:00 P.M.
Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th Street
Congratulations! The East Isles Phase II plan was approved by East Isles residents at the April 5th Annual Meeting. The committee will be planning for NRP Policy Board and City Council approvals.
Contact Monica Smith at nrp@eastisles.org or 612-821-0131 for details.

 Sign up for our monthly e-newsletter! Send a request to nrp@eastisles.org.
www.eastisles.org



Spring EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 • 10:00~11:30 AM
Kenwood Rec Center

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

Bring Your Baskets! No need to RSVP. Just come and enjoy!




SULLIVAN & KYLLONEN

EIRA continued from page 11

See housing for details and budget.
 Improve safety for walking/bicycling \$20,000
 Support the installation of light fixtures and traffic safety on the Greenway.
 Implementing Crime prevention strategies \$3,000
 Increase participation in crime prevention activities.
 Community Building and Services \$17,800
 Goal 1: Increase community building within the East Isles neighborhood.
 Communication \$10,800
 Increase communication with residents through Hill and Lake Press, Constant Contact, our website, and U.S. mail (funding for three years).
 Social events \$3,000
 Support social events to encourage community building.
 Goal 2: Provide services to assist seniors and residents in need.
 Services \$4,000
 Provide support for agencies that offer services to East Isles seniors and residents in need to maintain independent living.
 Environment \$10,000
 Goal: Improve the quality of the environment in East Isles.
 Green Team, Budget to be determined
 Build an East Isles Green Team to initiate and coordinate sustainability efforts in our community. No direct costs anticipated this time.
 Sustainable practices \$10,000
 Help East Isles residents to embrace sustainable practices by offering workshops and community events. Also, offer matching grants for implementing sustainable practices such as rain gardens.
 Public Land \$38,000
 Goal: Improve the quality of public land in the East Isles neighborhood.
 Natural landscape \$17,000
 Partner with Park Board to replace diseased or threatened trees along residential streets.
 Improvements to The Mall/Greenway \$21,000
 Create a reforestation plan to replace evergreens with canopy trees to improve sight lines and safety. Work to obtain matching funds to replace park benches.
 Joanne R. Levin Park (Triangle Park), Budget to be determined
 The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is planning a renovation of Triangle Park. MPRB feels they have sufficient budget for the project. This category is a placeholder in case we need to supplement where MPRB's budget may fall short.
 Lake of Isles, Budget to be determined
 No specific plans to date but the Steering

Committee wanted to include this in the plan if a need arises in the next few years. Money can be shifted to this strategy if necessary.

Implementation Plan \$36,453

Goal: Plan and implement the East Isles Phase II plan in a timely and efficient manner.

Administration \$36,453

Provide staff and administrative support for planning and implementation of the East Isles Phase II plan.

Voting was open to East Isles residents, property owners and business owners. A motion was made and seconded to approve the plan as presented. The plan was unanimously approved (24-0, with no abstentions).

Bylaws Committee

Tina Frontera, Chair of the Bylaws Committee outlined the proposed changes to the bylaws:

Members are no longer required to pay dues (to meet requirements for NCR funding).

Change from one vote per household to one person, one vote.

Change the wording regarding the date for the Annual Meeting from specifying that the meeting be held in the third week of April to "during the month of April".

Change from requiring four officers to "there may be up to four officers."

Inserting a clause that the EIRA Board will choose its officers.

Inserting a clause to allow for electronic voting of EIRA Board meeting minutes.

Specifying that committee members must be residents (with the exception of the NRP Steering Committee where non-residents are allowed to serve).

Specifying that board members may not be compensated for their work on the board.

Clarification on wording regarding financial oversight of contracts.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed changes to the bylaws. Motion carried unanimously.

Meg Tuthill, Ward 10 Councilmember, City of Minneapolis provided the following report:

The City has eight crews working to repair potholes. The City recently received \$1 million for this purpose. Please call 311 to report problem areas.

Street sweeping will begin the week of April 12th so watch for no parking signs to be posted.

The Minneapolis Charter Commission is accepting application (deadline April 8th). Check the website or call the Clerk's office at 612-673-3358.

In December, the City Council froze \$12.7 million in NRP Phase II funds. They recently released \$2.7 million back to NRP to be equitably reallocated to neigh-

borhoods.

Regulatory Services approved the Mobile Food Vendor ordinance. It goes to the full Council later this month. This would allow for mobile food vendors on private lots in Uptown (locations: Mosaic, Cowboy Slims and the lot behind TCF bank Lake Street).

Amendments for Urban Agriculture will be reviewed by Zoning and Planning on April 6.

The next lunch with Meg is Tuesday, April 12th, 12-1 p.m. at 5th Precinct.

Meg encouraged people to call her office with questions or concerns.

Brian Elliott, District Director for Congressman Keith Ellison

Brian Elliott stated that the purpose of Congressman Keith Ellison's District Office is to help 5th District constituents navigate federal bureaucracy as well as to actively support the work of Rep. Ellison. Please contact the office by phone (612-522-1212), via the website or visit the office in NE Minneapolis.

Congressman Ellison has been serving on the Financial Services Committee as well as working on housing programs and working to avoid a shutdown of the federal government when the current budget is set to expire on April 8th.

Anita Tabb, Commissioner, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board provided the following information:

Maps for proposed milfoil harvest for 2011. Lake of the Isles is included.

The Park Board is working on a long term plan for transforming the Mississippi riverfront. A firm has been selected to work on the framework and to select the initial project to begin the transformation.

An upgrade on the Park Board website features a combined listing of activities happening in all of the parks.

Parade Road will be repaved this year.

Triangle Park renovation: The Park Board is in the process of hiring a consultant to help with the \$250,000 renovation of the park. Community engagement will be included in the planning process. The community will be invited to a visioning session to share ideas. Commissioner Tabb is gathering email addresses of residents interested in being involved in the process.

Tim Springer, Executive Director, Midtown Greenway Coalition

The Midtown Greenway Coalition has been meeting with neighborhood organizations regarding the new Walker Library as it relates to the Greenway. The Community Advisory Committee for the new library created a visioning document that calls for a site design that incorporates green space and enhances the connection to the Mall Greenway.

The Greenway Coalition is asking the Board to consider a resolution stating "East Isles neighborhood rec-

EIRA to page 13



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Kenwood Isles Area Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (KIAA)

By Larry Moran

APRIL 2011 KIAA MEETING MINUTES

KIAA Board met February 7, 2011 at Kenwood Rec Center. Chair Sam Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Chair Sam Murphy, Michael Bono, Kathy Low, Larry Moran, Ed Pluimer, Pat Scott, Eric Sjoding, Kathy Williams, Roy Williams, and Josine Peters.

Others present: Lisa Goodman, City Council 7th Ward; Dylan Thomas, Southwest Journal; Maggie Mercil, Kenwood Rec Center; and Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park Board.

City Council 7th Ward Update – Lisa Goodman

The next "Lunch with Lisa" at the University of St. Thomas will take place on April 27 and will highlight "Great Minneapolis Summer Activities."

A "Lunch with Lisa" planned for May 25 will focus on the great work of the community catalyst on redevelopment efforts on West Broadway.

The City, during this time of year, is focused on activities at the state legislature. This session poses a particular challenge for Minneapolis, as bills have been proposed to reduce Local Government Assistance (LGA) to Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth by significant amounts (despite the fact that the all three cities send much more in sales/property taxes to the state than they receive back in LGA).

A request was made that, if funding is cut, any budget decisions receive input from a citizen panel.

Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park Board

The Park Board has approved milfoil cutting plans for the summer, including Lake of the Isles. Cutting should start some time in June.

Design bids have been returned for the reconstruction of Parade Road. The timeline for construction is uncertain, but money is budgeted for the project. Parking lots may also be included in the project.

Earth Day cleanup is 4/16/11.

The Park Board website now has a list of events happening at each park.

The project to redevelop the Mississippi Riverfront (mostly north of St. Anthony Falls) is moving forward with the choice of the firm to lead the project.

The project to renovate Triangle Park is about to begin with meetings of neighbors to set priorities.

Pat Scott, KIAA Board Member, discussed NRP Funding

The NRP spending freeze, passed by the City Council during its budget negotiations, is affecting many neighborhoods in the city (though not Kenwood).

Some neighborhoods (including CIDNA and ECCO) have passed resolutions supporting legislation meant to clarify the NRP situation. Pat Scott moved that the KIAA also support this legislation. The proposal was defeated. Board member Josine Peters expressed dismay that the board did not support the proposal that was meant to help clarify the NRP funding situation.

Annual Meeting – Kathy Williams

The annual meeting is set for May 2 at the Kenwood Café. Timing and the agenda were discussed.

Treasurer's Report – Roy Williams

Roy presented the association's current financial condition. He plans to present a summary at the annual meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Reminder: The KIAA Annual Meeting will be Monday, May 2 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Kenwood Café. All are welcome to attend and enjoy a dinner of soup, salad, and bread (\$10 charge) and socialize with neighbors. The business part of the meeting begins at 7:00.

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA)

By Janis Clay

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Minutes Tuesday, April 5, 2011, Kenwood Recreation Center

Attendees: Janet Hallaway, President; David Weinstein, Vice President; Dan Aronson, Treasurer; Janis Clay, Secretary; Mark Brauer; Maggie Thurer; Kathy Byrn; Jimmy Fogel; Marty Broan; Craig Wilson; Brian Meeker.

Guests: Lisa Goodman, Seventh Ward City Council Representative; Ruth Shields; Maureen Sheehan; Jim Leighton.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Janet Hallaway, noting a quorum was present.

Introductions: Board members and guests introduced themselves.

Distribution/Approval of Minutes/Agenda:

Marty Broan moved and Jimmy Fogel seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, March 1, 2011, Board Meeting. Motion passed.

Community announcements and updates from the last board meeting:

The Board, at last month's meeting, approved sending a letter in support of the Blue Plate Restaurant Company's proposed restaurant, which would occupy the vacant Hollywood Video site. The letter has been sent. The Board discussed efforts underway by some neighborhoods to organize and protest the City Council's freeze of Phase II NRP funds. Janet Hallaway invited anyone interested in representing LHNA to attend a meeting on April 16, 2011.

Block Captains:

The Board discussed LHNA's goal of getting a "block captain," basically a contact person, for every block or apartment/condo building in the neighborhood. A request for volunteers could be included in the neighborhood wide mailed notice of the annual meeting coming up on May 17th. The block captain's primary function would be communication. This would be helpful to notify residents of incidents such as a recent luring incident near Thomas Lowry Park.

Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman.

Lisa discussed proposed legislation cutting, and over four years eliminating, Local Government Aid for Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth, and described potential highly negative effects on functioning of the cities and on property taxes. Lisa distributed handouts further detailing the budget issues. She invited everyone to attend the monthly Lunch with Lisa. On April 27th various groups will present information about summer programs, events, and activities. On May 25th, Susan Wollan, of Catalyst Community Partners, will speak about efforts to revitalize West Broadway.

Planning & Zoning:

David Weinstein gave an update. The Hennepin

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East Isles Residents Association

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ommends physical connections that seamlessly integrate the following four public places should be thought through before changes to any of them move forward: the proposed Walker Library, a future rail transit station down in the Midtown Greenway, Hennepin Avenue, and The Mall." The Board will review this request at the May meeting.

Election of Board of Directors, Nominations Committee Chair Linda Schutz

Linda Schutz thanked 2011 Nominations Committee members Jane Schommer and Nancy Johnston for their service and introduced the candidates for positions of Director on the Board of Directors and Alternate to the Board of Directors for the 2011/12 EIRA Board. Linda also presented a hand out with information about each candidate. The candidates for Board Member are: Sue Durfee, Tina Frontera, M. Vaughn Emerson, Harvey Ettinger, Dan McLaughlin, Ginna Portman Amis, Al Rodriguez, Ramon Ramirez Quintero, Jane Schommer, Linda Schutz and Joe Sinnott. Candidates for Alternate are Rosita Acosta and Laura Rosenthal.

According to protocol, EIRA President Jane Schommer made three calls for floor nominations. There were no floor nominations at which point the nominations were declared closed by the president. Jane Schommer made a motion to accept the list of candidates for election to the EIRA Board of Directors; the motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Jane congratulated the new board members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.



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Sebastian Joe's	Green Mill
Corner Balloon Shop	Walker Library
Hennepin Lake Liquor	Lowry Hill Liquor

Meet your Neighbor continued from page 3

in education and training young people, not by investing in sports teams and their owners.

What's your hope for the future of the Hill Lake community?

I'd like to see Lowry Hill evolve as a vibrant community with its own personality, distinct from adjacent neighborhoods. I hope the vitality of the business district can be restored, that Thomas Lowry Park becomes a more utilized neighborhood destination and gathering spot, and that Lowry Hill's historic architecture be preserved for future generations.

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association

From page 13

Avenue Douglas Greening Project is waiting for plans and a budget from MNDOT. St. Marks is putting together a plan to add parking along Hennepin Avenue. We will seek a presentation from them on this. The Prospect Park neighborhood is holding a meeting April 20th regarding the Conservation District concept they have been exploring.

Environment:

Marty Broan updated the Board on the final Lake of the Isles renovation project report, prepared by representatives of the four neighborhoods bordering Lake of the Isles. The final report evaluates the ten-year improvement project, including a few remaining problems and inconsistencies, such as poor quality turf and fill on the north side of the lake, some shoreline planting issues, work remaining on the light poles (which are not yet consistent), and some 125 trees still to be planted. Water quality was not a part of this report. The LHNA environment committee has approved the report. Marty Broan made a motion, seconded by Brian Meeker, that the Board approve the Report as approved by the committee. We will send copies of the final report to the Walker and Downtown libraries. The Board thanks Marty Broan for his lengthy and much appreciated work over the last two and a half years on this report.

New Business:

Plans were discussed for the upcoming Annual Meeting, Tuesday, May 17, 2011, at the Walker Art Center. Janet Hallaway passed around a sheet listing meeting prep tasks and a draft agenda. The Board discussed Board vacancies and potential new Board members. Brian Meeker will bring a music system. Mark Brauer moved and Jimmy Fogel seconded a motion to approve up to \$2500.00 in expenses for the Annual Meeting. All approved.

Everyone is encouraged to visit the LHNA website at www.lowryhillneighborhood.org, where they can sign up to receive LHNA's monthly E-Blast about events in the neighborhood.

There will be no regular meeting in May. Everyone is encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting May 17, 2011, at the Walker Art Center. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.



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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

Since March 1976, The 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.

We appreciate your patience when calling or emailing. Although we do not keep traditional office hours, we will return your calls and messages as soon as possible.

Where We Are Now

By Jean Deatruck

We were shocked and saddened to learn of the death of a small dog by two coyotes. The dog's owner let the dog out in the yard before bedtime where it was immediately attacked by a coyote who then ran off with the dog in his mouth followed by another coyote. The owner ran after them and retrieved his dog, but the dog was severely injured and had to be put down.

Several people have reported seeing coyotes in or near their backyards. Be particularly watchful around Cedar Lake and Brownie Lake. Please watch your pets when walking the on the trails and even in your back yard. Perhaps the harsh winter has driven wildlife closer to the city.

We lived in Los Angeles in the 80s where our neighborhood backed up to Griffith Park. We often saw coyotes walking down the street outside our house. A coyote killed our neighbor's cat. Although we had a fenced yard, raccoons occasionally tried to drink from our swimming pool and twice, skunks sprayed our large dog. Our urban neighborhoods are attractive to wildlife as they search for food.

On a brighter note, I, along with many of my acquaintances, have enjoyed watching the live cams of the eagles in their nest high in a cottonwood tree near Decorah, Iowa. My two old cats enjoy lying on the desk while I work at my computer. When I turned on the sound for the eagles' webcam, Socks jumped up from a sound sleep when he heard the chirping of the little eagles. He went from window to window desperately trying to find the source of the bird chirps. Fletcher, a little wiser, immediately looked at my computer screen and beat on it with his paws. He quickly learned that the only thing to do was to sit and quietly watch mother and father eagle and their little ones. And he did. Cat television I guess.

And don't forget to send me news of your spring adventures. Your neighbors want to know.

Spring is here. Enjoy!

Unfortunately, some residents of our Hill and Lake Press area have built fire pits close to neighbors' homes and used them with blatant disregard for the comfort and safety of their neighbors. 311 receives calls about this fire nuisance as does Hill and Lake Press and City Council from residents who have suffered from this flagrant disregard for rules. We urge residents with fire pits to obey the rules and to consider the comfort of their neighbors in the future. Building a firepit close to a neighbor's home is clearly a careless and selfish act. Please respect our neighbors. We live in the city, friends, not in the country.

CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS FIRE CODE

The City of Minneapolis revised fire code states that recreational fires be at least 25 feet from a nearby structure.

The City Council of the City of Minneapolis ordains as follows:

Section 1. That Title 9 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances be amended by adding thereto new Chapter 178 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 178. RECREATIONAL FIRES

178.10. Definitions.

Recreational fire. A small outdoor fire burning approved materials for pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

Approved materials. Fuel for a recreational fire consisting solely of unpainted wood which has not been treated in any manner with chemicals or preservatives.

178.20. Applicable rules. Every person starting, engaging in, conducting or hosting a recreational fire shall observe and comply with the following regulations, which are reflected in or are in addition to those imposed by the Minnesota State Fire Code:

(a) The total fuel area being burned in any recreational fire shall not exceed three (3) feet in diameter and two (2) feet in height.

(b) **Recreational fires shall not be conducted within twenty five feet of a structure or combustible material.**

(c) A surrounding fire barrier of non-combustible material that is at least six (6) inches in height must be used.

(d) Only approved materials may be burned in a recreational fire.

(e) Recreational fires shall be constantly attended by at least one competent person eighteen (18) years of age or older and shall be completely extinguished before being abandoned.

(f) On-site fire-extinguishing equipment such as operable garden hoses, sand and shovels, water buckets or barrels, or a portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating shall be readily available for use at recreational fires.

(g) Recreational fires shall only be conducted between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

(h) Recreational fires shall not be conducted if prevailing wind conditions exceed 10 m.p.h.

FOOD BLOGGER

By Madeleine Lowry

A few months ago I started a food blog. I thought it would be a nice little project, a record of the successful recipes I have tried over the years. I thought it might be a fun way to collaborate with a few friends who are excellent home cooks.



Madeleine

I never thought it would make it devilishly difficult to get anyone to give me a recipe.

When my friend Diana took me to lunch for my birthday she presented me with a cake. A rum cake. Diana and I have been friends since fifth grade and both of us have made the improbable journey from NYC to Palo Alto to Minneapolis. We understand each other in the way only childhood friends can.

I told Diana about my blog, since she is also an avid cook. She made careful note of the web address (fancifulfig.blogspot.com) and said she would check it out. I asked her if she'd consider contributing a recipe occasionally, perhaps the one for the rum cake?

She demurred, saying, "Taste the cake and see if you still want the recipe." I failed to see the necessity of such caution. She had made the rum cake herself—of course it was good!

A few days later, after I (with the help of my family) had devoured the rum cake and she had perused the website, I sent her an email. "Diana," I wrote, "rum cake is good, please post the recipe to my blog."

She replied, "Oh, no, I can't do that. I've been on your blog and everything looks wonderful. That rum cake is made with (cringe) yellow cake mix. It doesn't

belong on your blog."

What? Why was she worried that her recipe wouldn't uphold the standard? I have a recipe for a very pedestrian tuna casserole on there, for goshsakes!

"Diana," I wrote back, "we love yellow cake mix. Post the recipe!"

Silence.

At about the same time my friend, Cherry, who is working on expanding her cooking repertoire, mentioned that she had made an excellent lobster risotto.

"Great!" I emailed, "Would you be willing to share the recipe and post to my blog?"

Silence.

Finally, knowing that she would be running into me twice a day at school pick-ups and drop-offs, she replied, "Oh, no, I couldn't possibly. I'm not up to the level of someone who does her own YouTube videos on cooking techniques."

Huh? That was a 60 second video on how to zest an orange or something. Not intimidating. And, the only reason I posted to YouTube was as a preparatory step to linking it to my blog; the file was too large to upload directly.

"Cherry," I wrote back, "don't be silly. All you have to do is type up the recipe!"

I asked my friend Marguerite (an award-winning cook) for her jam recipe. Nothing. I asked my sister-in-law for a recipe, any recipe. Nothing. (Probably too busy, I decided.) I asked my friend Julia for her rum cake recipe. Nada. Of all the friends I invited to be collaborators, only Barb posted. (Lamb stew).

What was wrong with these people? Was my teensy food blog really that intimidating? How was that possible? I'm not even that accomplished a cook! The photos were done by my 13-year old daughter. The videographer is my 11-year-old son. The whole thing fairly screams "completely novice venture"!

Clearly, something had to be done to take down the perceived haute standard on the site. This called for decisive action! I decided to post something uncontroversially lowbrow. I pulled out my recipe for chocolate-chip tahini cookies, which uses (gasp) Betty Crocker chocolate chip cookie mix, butter, tahini and an egg. Perfect!

I have high hopes that this will work. I just know that this one recipe has the power to change the karma on my blog.

And, in fact, my luck is starting to change. When I took Diana out to lunch for her birthday last month she handed me a copy of the recipe for her rum cake. (No, she didn't post it to the site, but she did write it down and give it to me, which is a step in the right direction.)

Cherry still hasn't added her risotto recipe, so I posted one of my own. It was for Mushroom Risotto, which I'm sure you would agree cannot really hope to compare with Lobster Risotto. But, I hope to have that recipe for you very soon.

I'm just sitting patiently by the computer here, waiting for her to come to her senses.

<http://madeleinewrites.blogspot.com/2011/03/state-of-potholes.html>

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, April 17th 11-3 Kenwood Cafe

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If not for a cookie then do it to save lives. One pint of blood can save up to three lives! 60% of the population will need blood in their lifetime yet only 5% of us donate. Blood banks are at an all time low. For decades the largest donor group has been "the greatest generation", considering it to be their national duty. That generation is quickly disappearing and new donors are not stepping forward to replace them. Donating is safe and healthy. In fact for men there is a potential life saving benefit to donating blood. Men have a higher risk for hemochromatosis, or "iron overload". If too much iron builds up in the blood it can lead to heart disease and other health problems.

Research shows that if men give blood three times a year they can reduce iron overload, and therefore their risk of heart attack by 50%. The actual donation takes only ten minutes, the entire process about 45 minutes. You can resume normal activities immediately. Bring your ID and eat before donating. If not now, when?

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GRAMMY-NOMINATED MUSICIAN TO PERFORM STANDARDS FROM THE GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK

Free concert on April 19 at The Kenwood

Although Grammy-nominated musician Phil Mattson lives at The Kenwood Retirement Community, the esteemed musician—who's been called a jazz arranging "guru"—is far from retired. Phil will perform an evening of popular standards from the Great American Songbook at a solo concert on Tuesday, April 19 at 7:00 pm at the Kenwood Retirement Community, 825 Summit Ave., Minneapolis. The performance is free and open to the public.



An award-winning musician, conductor and music educator, Phil has arranged works for the Manhattan Transfer, the Four Freshman, Chanticleer, Dale Warland Singers and others. He was nominated for two Grammys for vocal performance with his own vocal ensemble, the P.M. Singers, and for his arrangement of "I Hear Music." In addition, he has served as the conductor-artistic director for many years for the Carnegie Hall Vocal Jazz Festival, held each spring in New York City.

Phil recently came back to Minnesota after teaching in other states. He continues his dream job in music — performing, arranging and conducting — from his Minneapolis base.

Originally from Brainerd, Phil started his music career right after high school when he joined the U.S. Navy Band. After his Navy stint, he wasn't sure about the working musician's life so he resumed his music education and eventually taught at colleges in California, Washington and Iowa.

He segued into arranging, an interest he developed through Curt Hansen, his Brainerd High School choir director, who published Phil's first arrangement. One thing led to another, and while in San Francisco, he arranged "Body and Soul" for the Manhattan Transfer, which led to multiple other arranging gigs.

"Teaching is my big love," said Phil. "But to be able to combine that with performing and arranging is a musician's dream." His love of music clearly influenced his offspring as four of his seven children are in the music field.

Staying busy doesn't seem to be a problem for Phil, and perhaps that's one reason he likes the Kenwood. He originally signed on for just a short-stay but found the numerous activities, plus being around many former teachers, music lovers and bridge players suited his lifestyle perfectly.

Phil's April 19 concert is free, but reservations are recommended.

Please call 612-294-1683.



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sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

Whither goest thou, America, in thy shiny car in the night?

— Jack Kerouac from "On The Road"

Road rage is the expression of the amateur sociopath in all of us, cured by running into a professional.

— Robert Brault

The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, is that deep down inside, we ALL believe that we are above average drivers.

— Dave Barry

Hey! Let's be careful out there.

— Sargent Phil Esterhaus (Hill Street Blues)

Could the fault lay in our Google-driven need for immediate (though incomplete) answers and instant gratification? Maybe we can saddle the blame on the coming of age graduates of a sabotaged public education system. Perhaps the anomie and stark realization that we are a polarized, hopelessly divided nation facing a grim future of diminished expectations is getting to all of us. Some suggest it is the powerless grasping for any semblance of control. Whatever the reason, whether inane or tragically poignant, the roads are becoming more dangerous, and our fellow motorists less civil. Rather than attempt to understand or make a citizen's arrest, here are my "fab five" of least favorite transgressors.

Right turn tinted window guy. You are approaching an intersection at the posted speed with a green light beckoning. At the crossroads is an impatient cretin who remembers something from driver training class about being able to make a right hand turn on a red light. Forgotten is the part about proceeding only if no one coming. The light is green and there will not be a better or more legal time for you to cross, and besides, the driver in the car behind you seems to have his heart set on both of you making the light. Right turn guy is a sphinx with his tinted windows. The front third of his car is directly in your path as he decides whether to jack

rabbit before you get there, or watch you frantically navigate oncoming traffic. Neither he nor his car have a reverse gear. He will not retreat; failure is not an option! Either way, your rigid adherence to the law is a terrible inconvenience to him.

The tailgater/weaver. Put simply, their life and time is more important than yours. Every second counts, and they are losing valuable billable hours marooned behind you on a one lane road. Their design of an information retrieval system that will render the Internet obsolete is behind schedule. Some are on the med/surg. team at the Mayo Clinic doing groundbreaking research on the use of hamster bile to treat post myocardial infarctions. One can feel the telegraphed shaming vibe and aggravating vitriol emanating as they race ahead like Pac Man in search of their next morsel. If they are so important, why do they tend to drive rusty Dodge Chargers? (I believe when they get to their destination they scratch themselves, turn on the tube and grab a "brewski.")

The four way non-stopper. It doesn't matter who goes first — perhaps it's the car closest to the equator — but once begun there is a natural and legal order: counterclockwise. I suspect the same rascals who budgeted the lunch line in grade school are still doing it today. Perhaps they are unaware or scornful of the corollary to the counterclockwise rule which states "something before nothing." In our social contract, we pass to the right but a late arriver must wait for a full rotation to go. The egregious will "me too" or "piggy back" behind a crossing vehicle.

The "It's like barely red" dude/dudette. Red is stop; green is go. Wrong! After the light turns from red to green, do not proceed with caution but with trepidation. You may even consider getting out of the car or at least taking a long look to your left and right. The odds are good that a barreling "entitlement express" will be trying to make the light that has already passed through the autumn colors of yellow and red. Since it was only yellow/orange the last time they peeked, it seems reason-

able that accelerating will get them through the pesky intersection. Fortunately there is often the sound of a pounding bass guitar to signal their arrival. Their logic (using the term loosely) seems to be, "I came through this light yesterday at this time and it was green, so I should be able to go, and besides, if I am late again, my manager will kill me." The same applies for long left turns across four lanes of traffic.

The "What's it to you?" non-turn signaler. You would like to make a left turn before all the traffic on your right is unleashed, but there is a vehicle approaching from your left at a speed that would make crossing in front dicey. Waiting patiently you hope the car will pass before the onslaught. Oh wait, they are turning right just in front of you. Miffed or a bit stronger, you look at the driver as he/she completes the turn. You are feet away, close enough to read their look. Between arrogance and cluelessness, implied is "Where and when I choose to turn is none of your business." There is ample time to mull this affront as the window for a left turn has closed and the gaggle of autos, ox carts and rickshaws streaming past right to left now appears to be unending.

Tom H. Cook is aware that he sounds like an old crank. His defense is that he has always been like this. He remains an above average driver and vehicular parliamentarian.

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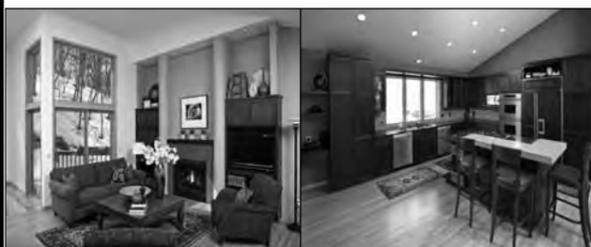
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