



'Where the biggies leave off...'

# Hill & Lake Press

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JUNE 17, 2011

## The Dream Comes to Pass: Ribbon-cutting Marks Completion of the Trail to the River

By Neil Trembley

Cedar Lake Trail nears completion in April



Photo by Bob Day

Minneapolis dignitaries including Mayor R. T. Rybak and Council Member Lisa Goodman cut the ribbon to the newly opened Cedar Lake Trail.



As I rode my bicycle through downtown Minneapolis, the aroma of fresh tar waft through the air. My nose led me to the construction area of the Cedar Lake Trail: the final section between 1st St. North and West River Road. And there...was a sight to behold. The trail was paved. May 24, 2011 should be remembered as the day, to borrow Abraham Lincoln's wonderful phrasing, "the Cedar Lake Trail flows unvexed to the Father of Waters."

The rains held off long enough on Tuesday evening, June 14 for a ribbon-cutting ceremony marking the completion of long-awaited, last segment of the Cedar Lake Regional Trail to the Mississippi River. The event took place across from the terminus of the trail at West River Parkway, in the shadow of the Federal Reserve Bank in downtown Minneapolis. There, speaker after speaker lauded the Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA) for their vision and perseverance in sustaining this twenty-two year effort to create the first free-flowing, federally funded bicycle commuter trail in the nation. As Mayor R.T Rybak stated in his brief remarks, "Citizens' groups like the Cedar Lake Park Association hold [public officials'] feet to the fire, to make sure projects like this get done." For many of those gathered for the ceremony, this marked the culmination of a long and ardu-

ous effort that combined a multitude of forces: public and private.

After the ceremony, Jack Yuzna, chief engineer of the project since 2005, talked about some unsung heroes in this endeavor—the lawyers. As the final one-mile segment plowed through dense urban infrastructure, it impacted the design of the new Target Field, the alignment of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail lines, the security concerns of the Federal Reserve Bank, and the land use of several private corporations along the trail. Lawyers from these differing entities were able to unravel the bewildering land acquisition and easement issues and keep the plans for the trail from becoming hopelessly entangled.

During the ceremony, one speaker recognized two contributors who were unable to attend. Long time cit-

izen-activist John Richter (who was ill) spent countless hours working on the trail. His negotiating and fundraising skills were crucial to its completion. And the late Theodore Wirth III, the grandson and namesake of the legendary Minneapolis Park Board Superintendent, executed the first feasibility study for the trail way back in 1989. During negotiations with the Minnesota Ballpark Authority in 2005 about placing the trail under the Twins stadium, Ted With was said to have whispered, "This is a trail for the ages. This trail will be here for a hundred years, long after the ball park is gone."

As the rains came and crowd scattered, many used the new trail to bicycle home. For some, it wasn't just the sky that was crying. Many shed tears of joy for a dream that has come to pass.



Photo by Dorothy Childers

### PARADE ROAD UPDATE

By Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb

What many consider to be the worst road in Minneapolis is slated to be reconstructed this season. The road between the Parade Ice Arena and the Football/Soccer field, locally known as Parade Road, was funded as a part of this year's Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) budget for repaving. Well, repaving may be an understatement! The road was rated on the city's road condition index to be a "3" on a scale of "1 – 100", with

"100" being the best possible condition. No other road in the city came even close to that condition - though there are several roadways that are rated in the "40s". Last paved in 1958, residents and visitors who use that stretch often have to swerve to avoid large, axel-bending potholes. And that is why merely repaving is not enough. The road will be fully reconstructed to ensure that it is properly built.

But the wait is almost over! A bid for redesign was accepted and approved by the Park Board and the detailed specifications are being written. So if you see any strangers doing surveying or taking soil borings, rest assured that they are gathering the engineering data necessary to construct the road. Tentatively, it is expected that the design and construction bids will finish up by the end of the summer and the road construction will be completed in the fall.

This project is a highly visible neighborhood project and all of us are anxious to have it behind us. So MPRB is making a strong effort to complete the project this season. A public meeting will be held shortly but at the time of this article, the final date had not yet been established. If you would like to be notified of the meeting, please let me know by email and I'll make sure a notification gets to you. My email address is: atabb@minneapolisparke.org .

**SCULPTURE AT KENWOOD SCHOOL**



Photo by Dorothy Childers

Bockley Gallery in Kenwood installed a sculpture by Zoran Mojsilov at the Kenwood Elementary School. It is situated in the grass among the trees at the North end of the school property near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Penn Avenue South, facing the playground in the park. The sculpture is titled *Grandma's Magic* and is inspired by the mountains surrounding his Grandma's village of Vlasi, Serbia. The piece is carved from Morton Gneiss, some of the oldest stone in the Northern Hemisphere. The sculpture doubles as a seating area for three people.

**Artist Zoran Mojsilov: *Grandma's Magic***

**Opening Reception: Friday, June 17, 6 to 9 pm**

**Exhibition: June 18 through July 16, 2011**

**Gallery Hours: Wednesday through Saturday, Noon to 5 pm**

Bockley Gallery is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibition of sculpture and drawings by Twin Cities-based artist Zoran Mojsilov, titled *Grandma's Magic*. Raised in Belgrade before moving to Minneapolis in the mid-1980s, Mojsilov is known for his powerful, rough-hewn sculptures, large and small.

Bockley Gallery, 2123 w 21st Street | Minneapolis mn 55405 | 612 377 4669 | [www.bockleygallery.com](http://www.bockleygallery.com)

**9th Annual Bastille Day Block Party Sunday, July 17 at Barbette, Irving and Lake Street**

The annual free block party will take place rain or shine on Sunday, July 17th from 2pm-10pm outside at Barbette. A portion of the event proceeds will benefit People Serving People. Bastille Day Website: [www.bastilledayblockparty.com](http://www.bastilledayblockparty.com)

Barbette Facebook: [www.facebook.com/barbette-mpls](http://www.facebook.com/barbette-mpls)

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***Uniting for Minneapolis:  
How each of us can heal  
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Thursday, June 23, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.  
Linden Hills Recreation Center  
(in Linden Hills Park)

Moderated by Betsy Hodges,  
Minneapolis City Council Member

**Panelists participants from:**

- Church of St. Thomas the Apostle • Third Church of Christ, Scientist •
- Lake Harriet Spiritual Community • MN chapter of Council on
- American-Islamic Relations • St. John's Episcopal Church •
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

**Yale goes to Cedar Lake Park!**

***Burnham Woodlands Restoration Project***  
By Vicky Stoneman

On May 14th, a group of 15 Yale alumni and family members descended upon Cedar Lake Park as part of the global Yale Day of Service.

This was Yale's third annual Day of Service where it promotes and helps organize alumni groups around the world to partake in community service in their local areas.

There were over 250 sites worldwide this year promoting Yale's belief in "giving back". Cedar Lake Park was one of three sites in Minnesota.

Despite the cold, rainy weather, the Yale group showed up in force and worked alongside six Cedar Lake Park Association volunteers from 9 am to noon, pulling out garlic mustard, motherwort, and burdock from various areas throughout the site, freeing trees from the aggressive buckthorn choking them, and sawing and cutting up large downed trees and using them to construct trail borders. Taking out the invasive plants allows the native trees and herbaceous plants in these areas a much better chance of thriving and proliferating. Constructing trail borders with the downed trees not only uses the trees in a productive manner, allowing them to biodegrade and feed the cycle of life at the site, but keeps walkers on the trails.

The group worked hard and they were completely muddy, wet, tired, and happy by the end of the time spent.

All 21 working at the site could see the visible progress made which was very rewarding.

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**HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

- June 17, 6-9pm Bockley Gallery opening reception
- June 22, noon Lunch with Lisa honoring Doug Kress
- June 22 6pm Kenwood Rec Ctr public hearing Re: Lowry Restaurant
- June 22, 7pm Linden Hills Rec Ctr, Panel takes a spiritual approach to high taxes and othe problems.
- June 25 Uniting for Mpls, 7pm Linden Hill Rec Ctr, 3100 W. 43rd St.
- June 28 6:30 pm Kenwood Rec Ctr Joann Levine Park renovation meeting
- July 26 6:30-8pm Lowry Hill Ice Cream Social
- August 1-4 Temple Israel Garage Sale
- First Tuesday in August, National Night Out
- August 5-7 Uptown Art Fair
- August 17 EIRA Ice Cream Social Triangle Park
- Neighborhood monthly meetings:
- CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday 6pm at Jones-Harrison
- EIRA: 1st Tuesday 7pm at Grace-Trinity Church
- KIAA: 1st Monday 7pm except for July 11, Sept. 12, & Jan 9. No mtg in August, Kenwood Rec Center
- LHNA: 1st Tuesday 7pm at Kenwood Rec Center

The Yale alums also learned a lot from the very committed and knowledgeable Cedar Lake Park Association volunteer organizer, Ruth Jones, about invasive plants and their harmful effects.

Ruth showed them the areas that had been cleared out previously and where now the native plants are thriving, a great education.

There is still plenty to be done, so if you are interested in becoming part of the effort to make Cedar Lake Park a more vibrant and thriving area for all to walk and use, call the Cedar Lake Park Association at 617/377-9522. Yale alums will be back there next year for the fourth annual Yale Day of Service!

Contact: [www.cedarlakepark.org](http://www.cedarlakepark.org)

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## Meet Your Neighbor Barbara Fogel

Craig Wilson interviews Lowry Hill resident Barbara Fogel about her history in Lowry Hill, her family, and her dedication to Thomas Lowry Park.

**Where did you grow up?** I grew up in the Highland Park area of St. Paul. I went to a convent girls' high school, Our Lady of Peace, on Summit Avenue in the Crocus Hill district. My old campus is now the William Mitchell College of Law. All of my friends went on to St. Kate's. I went to the University of Minnesota.

**When did you move to Lowry Hill?** I moved to Lowry Hill in 1976. I purchased a duplex at 2120 Emerson Avenue South as a newly single woman with two small children. That duplex saved my life. It was one of the best things I ever did.

**What was the neighborhood like in the 1970s?** The neighborhood was just recovering from the 1960s exodus from the city into the suburbs. There were many rooming houses and prices of homes were dirt cheap. It was a great time to buy! My parents had a fit when they saw my "animal house" duplex. When I fixed it up and the neighborhood changed in a positive way, everyone was happy. So instead of being "so close to Hennepin Avenue", I was suddenly "eight blocks from Lake of the Isles".

**Rumor has it that you were a radical activist mom?** Let's see. I wore long hair parted down the middle, bell bottom hip huggers, burned my "unmentionables", marched in protest during the Vietnam War, ran around the house singing "I am Woman Hear me Roar" by Helen Reddy, started a Betty Friedan Book Club, renovated houses for a living when few other moms were working, pioneered for joint custody in the State of Minnesota through the court system, and was written up in Time magazine. Does this make me a radical activist mom?

**How many children do you have?** I have two daughters. My oldest daughter Jen (age 42) is a veterinarian in Boston and Amy Jo (age 40) is a French teacher at Benilde St. Margaret. Each has two sons.

**When did you meet Jimmy?** I met Jimmy in 1986. He answered an ad I had placed to rent the upper apartment of my duplex on Emerson. He did not rent the apartment, but we started dating and that was that...and I inherited three more children.

**How long have you been a designer?** I started working with my next door neighbor in Tangletown in the early 70s. She had a small interior design business called *Attractive Interiors* on the corner of Diamond Lake Road and Nicollet.

**How would you describe your style?** Eclectic, unexpected, non-contrived. I love antiques, old rugs, and found objects.

**Where is your favorite place to shop in Minneapolis?** International Market Square, of course.

**If you were to retire out of state, where would you go and why?** New York City. Jimmy and I love the energy, the architecture, the shopping, the food, the theatre. What's not to love? We don't golf and we would never own a boat, but we have tons of friends in Florida whom we visit with some frequency, so why retire there? We also have a daughter who lives close by and Jimmy's son is in Chelsea.

**What's going on with Thomas Lowry Park these days?** Good things. The Park looks wonderful. People for Parks donated 15 trees last spring, many of them flowering, which makes a huge difference. The urn in the triangle bed at the entrance to the park always looks great with seasonal plantings by Tangletown Gardens. We installed an irrigation system throughout the whole park with the help of LHNA, donations, and the



Barbara Fogel

MPRB. We have new plantings on the east end by the TLP sign and the brick wall, which will eventually fill in. It doesn't look like much now but be patient.

**Do you like being treated as Park Board staff when park visitors see you weeding?** Well it wouldn't be so bad if all of the comments were positive. It's when someone criticizes our efforts and tells us what a lousy job we are doing and how awful things look. At least they could write a check to Friends of Thomas Lowry Park while they are talking.

**What is Friends of Thomas Lowry Park?** FTLP is 501(c)3. All donations are tax deductible and there are five members: Barry Lazarus, myself, Suzanne Payne, and Sara and John Peterman. There is a change coming—we are about to vote in Dr. Eric Schned who lives on Colfax across from the Park, but he doesn't know it yet. We all take care of the park with the help of Tangletown Gardens, MPRB, and volunteers.

**What is your vision for the Thomas Lowry sculpture?** There has been an on again, off again conversation about moving the Thomas Lowry statute and memorial monument from Smith Triangle Park across from Temple Israel to Thomas Lowry Park. It was "temporarily" moved there in the 60s when the Hennepin corridor and Lowry tunnel were under construction. Currently, we are leaving Tom Lowry alone. It would be just a massive undertaking surrounded by controversy. We wouldn't mind our own version of Thomas Lowry in front of the brick wall at the east end overlooking the last of the seven pools. At the very least, we are currently working on getting the original two stone benches that were carved with the original monument and became separated. They have been found and could be donated soon.

**What will Thomas Lowry Park be like in 50 years?** Hopefully, not too different from how it looks at the present time, but the trees will be even more mature and beautiful and the plantings will be bigger and better. Oh, and there will be no weeds and dandelions!



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THOMAS GOETZ IS SPEAKER AT BLUE CROSS SUMMIT

## MINNEAPOLIS MINDS



Photo by Dorothy Childers

Former area resident Thomas Goetz was the keynote speaker at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota's Annual Health Summit on June 2, 2011. His topic was "The Decision Tree: why smarter patients make better choices."

Goetz is the author of "The Decision Tree: Taking Control of Your Health in the New Era of Personalized Medicine" and executive editor of WIRED magazine. At WIRED, he writes frequently on the confluence of medicine, health and technology. A former reporter for the Wall Street Journal, his work has appeared in the New York Times.

Goetz, the son of Dr. Frederick and Mary Rose Goetz, was born and raised in Lowry Hill. He now resides in San Francisco with his wife and two sons.

While the budget battle of titans between the legislature and the Governor over how much, to whom, and even when funding is committed to supporting public education, the financial leadership at our Minneapolis Public Schools is trying to manage the many unknowns.

**Strong Schools Strong City Referendum proves a critical support to classrooms**

By Steve Kotvis

Honestly, using the word "manage" hardly seems fitting. Half of the \$512,209,000 that comes into the MPS general fund comes in as "categorical aid," meaning that its uses are already directed or mandated for some kind of restricted use such as Special Education (11%), grants (10%), and Compensatory Aid (10%). And 83% of expenditures is committed to Salaries and Benefits, most often controlled by contractual agreements.

Moreover, there are constant concerns about expenditures. It's a sensitive issue, but Special Education accounts for 21% total expenditures (but 11% of revenues) and the Legislature's education funding proposal is to cut Special Ed funding (without changing its mandates for services). Regular Education instruction accounts for less than half (46%) of total general fund expenditures. And please, let's not go to the district having a bloated bureaucracy. While some people may have had their individual experiences and frustrations when dealing with "807" (the inhumane moniker of MPS headquarters), the financial figures might suggest that it's because the folks doing that work are spread so thin. Administration and District Support Services represent

a mere 5% of the General Fund expenditures.

Thanks to Minneapolis voters and taxpayers, one coveted slice of the General Fund pie comes from the voter-approved Strong Schools Strong City Referendum. Passed in 2008 by 72 percent of all voters, the Referendum has proven to be a certain and extremely valuable revenue source to educate the children in our schools. That Referendum slice of the pie represents a critical 12 percent of the total General Fund monies. And while directive (not restrictive) in how those monies are to be spent, the critical difference is that these investments are being directed to address the district's self-identified greatest needs.

As a member of the Referendum Oversight Committee (ROC), I participated last week in our semi-annual review of how the funds are being used. The ROC was formed as a part of the Strong Schools Strong City campaign to help create a greater sense of transparency and accountability, to ensure that the funds our local citizens support through their property taxes are being invested as promised. I am pleased to report that, yes, Referendum funds are going specifically to support classroom reading and early childhood learning, math and science, textbook and technology. Moreover, it is more than exceeding in its promise to invest at least half (50%) of the Referendum revenues to manage class size. I have asked for a specific count for which the district is calculating, but from my hand tabulations, it looks like about \$40 million of the \$57 million (70% of total) in Referendum revenues were used to support some 500 classroom teachers and specialists to our classrooms! And while it's still too early to be able to quantify the effectiveness of these critical resources, there will be some of that information coming out in the future. In the meanwhile, it's hard to contemplate our schools without these critical resources targeted to address our needs to educate all children.

For that, we cannot thank our fellow voters and taxpayers of Minneapolis enough!

Steve Kotvis, a Kenwood resident, serves on a number of boards and committees relative to public education, including appointment to the Minneapolis Public Schools' Referendum Oversight Committee. He offers a monthly perspective in the Hill & Lake Press "Minneapolis Minds" column and welcomes feedback at [stevek@elemenop.us](mailto:stevek@elemenop.us).

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Friday, June 24, 2011 at noon  
Lake Harriet Bandshell

by Betty Jean O'Neal, C.S., of Lynn, MA



Ms. O'Neal is a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship. In case of rain the talk will move to Third Church of Christ, Scientist, 42nd St. and Xerxes Ave. S.

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# Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association

By Janis Clay

## Board Minutes Tuesday, June 7, 2011, Kenwood Recreation Center

Attendees: David Weinstein, Vice President; Janis Clay, Secretary; Mark Brauer; Maggie Thurer; Kathy Byrn; Jimmy Fogel; Craig Wilson; Sherie Tazelaar; Ruth Shields; Maureen Sheehan; Marc Tomlinson. Guest: Lisa Goodman, Seventh Ward City Council Representative.

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

Board members and guests introduced themselves. **Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman**

A public hearing will be held at the Kenwood Rec Center, Wednesday, June 22nd on the Blue Plate Restaurant's Company's application for a liquor license for a restaurant occupying the vacant Hollywood Video site. Lisa discussed a proposed outdoor patio ordinance regulating amplified music after 10:00 p.m. and occupancy. Lisa's policy aide, Doug Kress, will be leaving for a Bush Fellowship. Lisa urged everyone to attend Lunch with Lisa on June 22nd to wish him well and meet her new aide Patrick Sadler. There will be no Lunch with Lisa in July, August and September.

### Proposed Outdoor Patio Ordinance

The Board discussed the outdoor patio ordinance. In the interest of full disclosure, David Weinstein mentioned that he is working on a proposed restaurant in Lowry Hill with a patio, but has no plans for amplified music. After discussion, Craig Wilson moved, Jimmy Fogel seconded, and all approved, that the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association express its position as follows:

*As a neighborhood Board, we are concerned that the proposed outdoor patio ordinance is overly broad and restrictive and would negatively impact many well-operated businesses necessary to a vibrant community.*

### Blue Plate Restaurant Company

The Board discussed the upcoming public hearing on the Blue Plate Restaurant Co.'s liquor license application for The Lowry restaurant at 2112 Hennepin Ave. Dave Weinstein proposed, and Kathy Byrne seconded, a motion to express the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association's support for the liquor license and patio application. A letter of support will be sent to Lisa Goodman's office.

### Officers

Mark Brauer nominated and Jimmy Fogel seconded election of the following Officers: David Weinstein, Vice President; Dan Aronson, Treasurer; Janis Clay, Secretary. All approved. The office of President will remain vacant

over the summer.

### New Board Member

Brian Meeker is stepping down as a board member due to time issues. The Board is very appreciative of his service. Kathy Byrn moved, and Dave Weinstein seconded, a motion to appoint Marc Tomlinson to the Board. All approved.

### David Weinstein gave an overview of the committees. Public Safety Committee

Maggie Thurer gave an update, and mentioned that there will be a social on June 16th at Kenwood Park for those who have expressed interest in becoming block captains.

### Communications/Events

We have a website, and need to get a system in place to assure it is updated. Madeleine Lowry has been sending out E-Blasts. Marc Tomlinson and Mark Brauer expressed interest in this committee. Mark Brauer will organize the ice cream social at Thomas Lowry Park, set for Tuesday, July 26th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Kathy Byrn volunteered to scoop ice cream.

### Environment

Craig Wilson gave an update. There are some issues with the irrigation system in Thomas Lowry Park, and some perennials need to be replaced. We are first on the list for installation of bike racks through a cost sharing program approved last fall. Copies of the final Lake of the Isles renovation project report are available on CD from Marty Broan. The report is complete and has been submitted to the Park Board. Marty incurred about \$150.00 in printing costs, and will submit a receipt for reimbursement. The Board discussed the possibility of merging the environment committee with the zoning and planning committee.

### New Business

We will communicate with Jack Whitehurst, our NRP contact, to clarify what remaining NRP money we can spend. The Board discussed putting together a contact list of landlords/building managers and possibly an interactive map for the website. Mark Brauer moved and David Weinstein seconded a motion to authorize up to \$2000 to work on this. The Board discussed the past history of Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association as a home-owners association, and the importance of more representation for residents who rent.

Approval of Minutes: Jimmy Fogel moved and Mark Brauer seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, April 5, 2011 Board Meeting. Motion passed.

Everyone is encouraged to visit the LHNA website at [www.lowryhillneighborhood.org](http://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 meetings in July and August. LHNA's next Board meeting will be held Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at the Kenwood Rec Center. All residents are welcome. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

## FRIENDS OF THOMAS LOWRY PARK

By Barry Lazarus

Friends of TLP hopes you are enjoying the Park. If you have any comments, please send an email to [friends@thomaslowrypark.org](mailto:friends@thomaslowrypark.org). Please save the date and evening of September 10, 2011 for a fun party to benefit the Park. It is with great pleasure Friends presents an article by Dr. Jennifer Holm, Friends' first guest columnist and the daughter of Barbara Fogel.

### Common Outdoor Toxins for Pets

By Jennifer Holm, DVM, DACVECC

Spring has sprung! Warm weather means people will be outside tending their gardens and many people enjoy the outdoors with their pets. There are several possible pet toxins to be aware of as you head out this summer. Common clinical signs of toxin ingestion include salivation, vomiting, diarrhea, hyperactivity, weakness, rebling, or seizures. Please contact your veterinarian immediately if you believe your pet has been exposed to a toxin.

**Toxic Plants:** For a complete list of potentially toxic indoor and outdoor plants visit [aspc.org/pet-care/poison-control](http://aspc.org/pet-care/poison-control). Lilies, tulips, daffodils, lily of the valley, oleander, rhododendron, rhubarb leaves are some of the more common potentially harmful plants. Members of the lily family including the easter lily, day lily, asian lily and star gazer lily are highly toxic to cats and ingestion of a small amount of a toxic lily could cause fatal kidney failure if not treated.

**Toxic chemicals:** certain chemicals used in our yards may be toxic to our pets. Use caution when using fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides, and pesticides (such as rodent bait). These products can contain chemicals that could potentially be harmful or fatal to our pets. If you chose to use these types of products, always follow the package directions and keep your pet away from these products.

Automotive products, especially those that contain ethylene glycol such as antifreeze, could be fatal to your cat or dog.

Swimming pool products also could pose a threat to your pet. Cocoa Bean Mulch has become popular in recent years and contains cocoa bean hulls, a byproduct of

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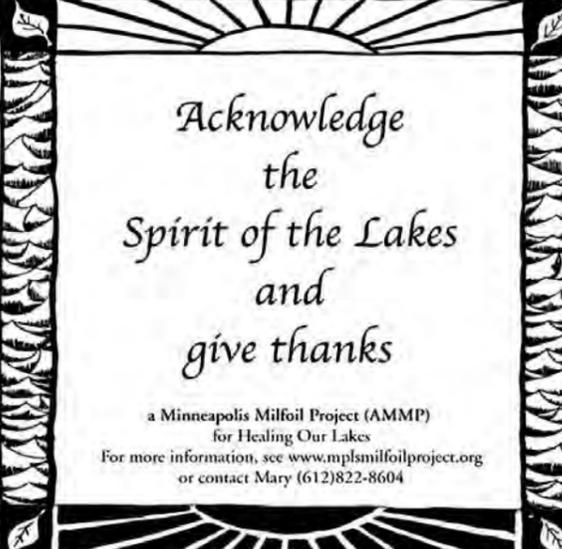




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## LOWRY HILL WALKING TOUR

By Dorothy Childers

On June 5, 2011, Bob Glancy, local historian and *The Sherlock of Homes*, led a group of twenty-seven on a walking tour of Lowry Hill. The theme of the tour "Where the Elite Met - Lowry Hill in the 1890s," covered the Mount Curve and Groveland Terrace area of Lowry Hill. The homes were built there by the city's rich and famous families, including the Lowrys, Glueks, Donaldsons, Partridges, and Notts.

Glancy will lead another tour "Loring Hill - From Farm to Fabulous" on Saturday, September 10, 2011. To check out information for this tour and many other tours sponsored by Preserve Minneapolis and to register for tours, please go to <http://www.preserveminneapolis.org>.

### Way to Go, Dad!

By Barbara Pratt

Four years ago my 96 year old Dad moved in with my husband Alan and me, and became a huge fan of the neighborhood. He'd enjoy watching all the walkers, bikers, kids, and dogs passing by our corner of 24th and Humboldt from his 180 degree view from "cabin" room. He'd often take up his post sitting on a chair on the front steps and made frequent walking trips around the block pushing his great-granddaughter, Veronica, in her stroller, a real traffic-stopper sight! He retained his inherent curiosity about everything and all my friends' lives, often including family and friends in his daily cooking of our morning oatmeal, taking careful count of how many prunes each person requested. This was very important as his medical regimen included 3 prunes, a half beer, and a multi-vitamin. He often expressed his intention of "making it to 100 years" and we'd always cheer him on as he made the best housemate ever. He helped with craft projects that our folks would encounter as he had brought his shop and skills with him.

Dad was born in a house his father had built in the Powderhorn Neighborhood, grew up in Minneapolis, and served 8 years in the Army. During his service in Omaha, he courted my Mom, Peggy, an Italian immigrant, and brought her back to Minnesota. He truly loved, cherished, and laughed with her for the 64 years they were together until her death in 2004. He took an



Bob Glancy leading a tour group at Mt. Curve Avenue and Groveland Terrace, where the Mt. Curve Place townhouses were built in the 1980s. High-rise apartments were proposed for this site in the 1960s after the old Dunwoody mansion was demolished. Neighborhood residents fought such plans for more than a decade until these low-rise red brick townhouses were finally built.



Photos by Dorothy Childers

Robert Blake Pratt's last dance.

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early retirement in order to care for her during her last 30 years of multiple illnesses and disabilities and you would have thought they were still newlyweds; their love just grew. He did enjoy his work years at Minneapolis Honeywell and commuted from our home in St. Louis Park, also built by his father, via streetcar along the 44th Street line.

As his 100th birthday approached, excitement grew. I arranged for him to receive a congratulatory letter from Michele and Barack Obama; a friend had her council member request a Mayoral Proclamation for a Robert Blake Pratt Day Monday, May, 16, 2011, and Dad, Alan, and I went to council chambers to receive it. Dad was very proud and we were touched by the gesture. At the last minute someone reminded me to contact the Hill and Lake Press. I called Dorothy Childers and invited her to drop by the open house reception Sunday, May 15th. She most graciously did along with her husband Roger and she captured fabulous shots of our family and friends. I will treasure them for the rest of my life. An accordionist friend of ours showed up to play Happy Birthday. Dorothy took the most priceless photo, of Dad dancing with me under the gigantic 1-0-0- balloons. It was a magical celebration. He told stories and fully embraced every moment of the excitement and attention. Whew!

On Monday, his actual birthday, I called a few friends to come over and finish up the cake and champagne. Dad bowed out to stay in his room to watch TV. I cut up the Svenske Torte and passed it out and brought a piece to Dad, leaving it at his table. My friends and I made merry until everyone left at 9:45—so I went back down the hall, noticed Dad had eaten his cake, put the empty plate on his dresser, and went back to watch the news. There he was, my magnificent father, an everyday hero and wonderful gent, eyes closed as if in sleep—he had made it to 100, bless his dear heart!

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Lunch with Lisa, June 22, Join us for an Open House as we bid a fond farewell to Doug Kress and a warm welcome to Patrick Sadler. St. Thomas University-Minneapolis, 2522 Terrace Murphy Hall. \$10 lunch offered. Come early to get your lunch and a good seat. Discussion starts promptly at noon.

A unique event on Thursday, June 23, brings together area religious organizations and spiritual thinkers. The goal: to exchange ideas to support our community spiritually as our property taxes climb and the economy continues to struggle. "Uniting for Minneapolis: How each of us can heal financial lack through prayer," is presented by Third Church of Christ, Scientist, Minneapolis. Free and open to the public, the panel discussion begins at 7:00 P.M at the Linden Hills Recreation Center, 3100 West 43rd Street, Minneapolis. The panel will be moderated by Minneapolis City Council Member Betsy Hodges. For more information, please call 612.805.1154.

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## EAST ISLES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (EIRA)

By Monica Smith, Recorder

Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors Meeting June 7, 2011. Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Linda Schutz (Chair Pro Tem), Al Rodriguez (Treasurer), Ginna Portman Amis, Vaughn Emerson, Tina Frontera, Harvey Ettinger, Tina Frontera, Dan McLaughlin, Jane Schommer, and Joe Sinnott.

EIRA Chair Pro Tem Linda Schutz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Meg Tuthill, Ward 10 Council Member, City of Minneapolis provided the following report:**

Young trees on Irving Ave S. were vandalized over the weekend. The police caught the suspect. Impact statements from residents are encouraged.

Uptown is adding 21 taxi stands in the Henn-Lake-Lagoon bar/restaurant area.

Open Street Minneapolis will take place on Sunday, June 12, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Lyndale between 22nd and 42nd.

Uptown Market opens this weekend.

Meet with Meg is Tuesday, June 14, 12-1 p.m. at the 5th Precinct.

Mesa Pizza would like to open a location at 1440 W. Lake St. They will meet with the East Isles Zoning Committee June 14 to ask for support to be open until 3 a.m. daily.

CM Tuthill authored an ordinance amendment about outdoor dining: requiring that establishments turn off amplified music by 10 p.m. (patios can, however, remain open until their allowable closing times) and set and

enforce capacity for their patios. This will allow better enforcement by police and Regulatory Services. Please email opinions to CM Tuthill and Mayor Rybak before the June 17th City Council vote. If residents notice restaurant seating blocking sidewalks, contact CM Tuthill's office.

CM Tuthill offered to help obtain information about a new restaurant opening in Lowry Hill (in Ward 7). Addendum to 6/7/11 meeting minutes: (Lowry Restaurant, 2112 Hennepin, proposes 167 customer seating inside and 36 outside on seasonal patio, proposed daily hours 6:00 a.m. -2:00 a.m. inside and 6:00 a.m.-midnight outside. Public hearing June 22, 6:00 p.m. Kenwood Rec Center gym, contact

Greg.Buenning@ci.minneapolis.mn.us 673-3851).

**Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Commissioner Anita Tabb**

(1) Based on receipt of online survey results, concepts were developed for Triangle/Joann Levin Park renovations and introduced at a June 6 kick off meeting. Concepts will be further refined for the next meeting; June 28, 6:30 pm, Kenwood Rec Center (information on the Park Board website); (2) Parade Road is scheduled for repaving Fall 2011; (3) Met Council work on a sewer project will include deepening the channel between Isles and Calhoun; (4) Park Board resources have focused on clean up from May's tornado on the North Side, delaying routine maintenance elsewhere.

Lois Lenroot-Ernt, Capital Projects Office, Hennepin County Library

**Hennepin County Commissioner Gail Dorfman presented information on three topics:** (1) the new Walker Library; (2) its integration with the Mall and the Greenway; and (3) transit options (SW LRT, streetcars, and busses).

Hennepin County has \$12 million for a new Walker Library. The County asked for citizen input by forming a Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC created a vision for the new library that was used by the Designer Selection Committee's architect selection process. Vincent James and Associates was selected and is now in the preliminary design phase.

The new building will be a single level with a two-story presence and underground parking. There will be a multi-purpose room incorporated into the library.

A County project team is working on traffic management, site planning, and demolition studies. The team is cooperating with the Park Board on access-egress and easement matters involving parkland (the Mall). Park Board will coordinate, publicize, and hold meetings regarding parkland changes. No funds are currently identified for development of the Mall area, only for restoration.

The design team is considering how the library will relate to the Mall and the Greenway. Access to the library is important, and may need to accommodate future access to the Greenway.

The next meeting of the CAC will be in September followed by October community-wide Open House to present design concepts for feedback from neighborhoods. Construction will begin mid-2012 and the new library will

open in late 2013.

The federal government has not yet approved the Southwest LRT. The County expects a federal decision in late July, release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in Fall 2011 and needs approval to begin preliminary engineering.

The SW corridor was the selected route for LRT based on the condition that there will be a cross-city connection to the Hiawatha line. The County purchased the Greenway for the purpose of transit.

The Met Council is studying transit possibilities. An Alternatives Study will begin year-end 2011 to consider streetcars on the Greenway or on Lake Street along with bus-related improvements, and to obtain public input.

Residents expressed concerns about livability issues regarding transit on the Greenway. Commissioner Dorfman reported that nothing is certain about the future of transit on the Greenway. Options are being considered but no agency (City, County, Met Council) has committed to taking the lead as owner/operator. LRT is not cost effective on the Greenway and buses and streetcars present other challenges.

Resident Melissa Anderson wants to be a part of any ongoing discussion, committee process on transportation matters.

### Committee Reports

Al Rodriguez, Crime and Safety Committee Chair welcomed everyone's attendance at a Block Leader Social on June 16th at Kenwood Park, 6:00 p.m. The EIRA Board of Directors approved a \$50 donation for refreshments.

Amy Sanborn, Social Committee Chair reported that the committee met to begin planning the Ice Cream Social for Triangle Park (Wed. Aug. 17, with rain date of Aug 18). The BOD approved up to 15 hours of staff time to support the event efforts and a membership drive. Al Rodriguez will maintain the membership list. The Committee will be scheduling volunteers to staff the pop booth at the Uptown Art Fair (Aug 5-7).

Monica Smith, NRP Coordinator encouraged attendance at summer Community Energy Services workshops; it helps East Isles compete for participation grant dollars.

The NRP Policy Board approved our Phase II plan on May 23. The plan will go to City Council for approval in June. The NRP Policy Board is proposing that the \$2.6 million in previously frozen funds be divided among neighborhoods previously restricted to 50% of allocation. There is a 45-day comment period. The NRP Committee will make a recommendation at the July BOD meeting.

EIRA received a \$5,000 advance on its NCR contract. Al Rodriguez (Treasurer) and Monica Smith will review expenses and present a report at the July BOD meeting. **Harvey Ettinger, Zoning and Land Use Committee Chair**

The Committee will meet Tues, June 14, 5:00 p.m. at Grace Church to review a request from Mesa Pizza, 1440 W. Lake St., to remain open until 3 a.m. daily. Reapplication for a nonconforming use certificate (1521 27th St W.) is scheduled for public hearing, June 9 at City Hall. (Addendum to 6/7/11 meeting minutes: approval

EIRA to page 10

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### Join your neighbors for these East Isles events!

#### EIRA Board of Directors Meeting\*

**TUESDAY, JULY 5, 7:00 P.M.**

For more information, please contact EIRA Chair Pro Tem, Linda Schutz at 612-374-9266 or kitchizibi@yahoo.com.

#### Zoning and Land Use Committee\*

**TUESDAY, JULY 12, 5:00 P.M.\*\***

Contact Co-Chair Harvey Ettinger at hgetting@aol.com

#### NRP Steering Committee\*

**TUESDAY, JULY 12, 7:00 P.M.**

Contact Monica Smith at nrp@eastisles.org or 612-821-0131 for details.

#### National Night Out

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 2**

Plan an event for your block! Register by calling 311.

#### SAVE THE DATE!

#### Ice Cream Social

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 6:00 P.M.**

Levin Triangle Park

Volunteers needed. Please contact Carla Pardue at carlapar@mac.com to help.



\* Meeting location:  
Grace-Trinity Community Church  
1430 W. 28th Street

\*\*Tentative date: check web site for confirmation.

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## KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION

By Kathy Low

### June 2011 KIAA Meeting Minutes

KIAA Board met June 6, 2011 at Kenwood Rec Center.

Chair Sam Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board Members present: Chair Sam Murphy, Jeanette Colby, Kathy Low, Larry Moran, Pat Scott, Mike Bono, Eric Sjoding, Kathy Williams, and Roy Williams. Others present: Lisa Goodman, City Council 7th Ward, and Maggie Mercil, Kenwood Rec Center.

### City Council 7th Ward Update – Lisa Goodman

Doug Kress is retiring on July 1st. His service to the 7th Ward will be honored at a special “Lunch with Lisa” on June 22nd. Her new assistant Patrick Sandler, formerly of Coldwell Banker, will be introduced at that time. He will attend neighborhood association meetings in September.

Call 311 to report potholes. Four new crews and \$1 million have been added for repairs.

Following a break from July-September, “Lunch with Lisa” will resume in October.

The Cedar Lake Regional Trail grand opening is on June 14th at 5 p.m. between the Federal Reserve Bank and the river on W. River Pkwy.

### Election of Officers and other KIAA

KIAA Officers for 2011-12 are Sam Murphy, Chair; Pat Scott, Vice-Chair; Kathy Williams, Secretary; and Roy Williams, Treasurer. Roy and Kathy will no longer serve in these roles after the current year. Current Board members should come to the next meeting with names of three people to be contacted for possible participation. All KIAA residents are encouraged to volunteer for committees! There are a number of interesting opportunities, especially on the Communications Committee.

KIAA meetings will continue to be the first Monday of the month from 7 – 8:30 p.m. except for the following dates: July 11, September 12, and January 9. There is no meeting in August.

Welcome Kit production expense of \$53 to reimburse Kathy Williams was approved.

### SW LRT/Freight Rail Relocation – Larry Moran

Larry Moran reported that the city of St. Louis Park passed a resolution opposing the relocation of Freight Rail to SLP. It is their position that it should remain on the Kenilworth Trail alongside the planned LRT line. KIAA continues to be interested in having the City of

Minneapolis take a public stance supporting the removal of the freight line from the Kenilworth corridor to provide for the planned LRT. Jeanette Colby will follow up on this and also get more information on the SW Community Works Partnership grant re: land use planning around LRT.

### Treasurer’s Report – Roy Williams

Recent expenses include annual insurance (\$219). Income for May was \$2,642 consisting primarily of \$2,300 for Kenwood’s 2011 community participation grant from the NCR program (successor to NRP).

### Palio Update – Kathy Williams

Despite Amy Lucas’ best efforts, no one has been identified to lead Palio this year. Unless someone volunteers soon, it will be necessary not to hold the event this year and it is recommended that funds remaining in the Palio bank account go to the Kenwood Rec Center for its needs (determined in consultation with neighborhoods’ representatives.)

### Block Leader Social – Kathy Williams

All are welcome at the Block Leader Social in Kenwood Park on June 16th at 6 pm. In case of rain, it will be held in the Rec Center.

### Communications Committee Update – Kathy Williams

Kathy Williams will further investigate working with Bruce Camp to provide updates to the KIAA website and re-design the website to allow easy updating by KIAA by August 1.

### Kenwood Rec Center – Maggie Mercil

Per new MPRB policy, Rec Center hours will be 7 days a week (except for three holidays during the year) as follows: Monday – Thursday, 12 – 9 p.m.; Friday 12 – 6 p.m., Saturday 11 – 6 p.m. and Sunday 12 – 4 p.m. Maggie will monitor use during these extended hours. Once again Maggie is requesting support from neighborhood associations, Club Run and WESAC for extended summer bathroom hours (9 a.m. – 9 pm. Friday, Saturday and Sunday). to serve the needs of the park users. KIAA approved \$180 and the possibility of additional funds, up to total \$300, if needed.

### NCR and Lakes District Council – Pat Scott

The Lakes District Council is discussing ways to go forward, now that MPRB has discontinued use of the dis-

tricts in its organization.

Once expenditure of 2011 NCR funds is documented, Pat will apply for second round of funds on behalf of KIAA, to be used for various communications efforts.

Pat will inform other KIAA members who are interested re: an administrative adjustment to the tax increment statute that the City Council is discussing. It could have a profound impact on property taxes.

### Updates

Community Energy Services has invited residents to sign up for a valuable home energy audit. See mnecs.org.

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

**Reminder: The next KIAA Board meeting will be Monday, July 11 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Rec Center. The public is welcome to attend these monthly meetings.**

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CIDNA from page 10

approved.

**National Night Out**

National Night Out (NNO) is held the first Tuesday of August. The CIDNA Board would like to encourage participation in NNO. Information on organizing an event will be publicized in our e-newsletter. Please let the CIDNA Board know if you are hosting a NNO event.

**New business:**

The Capstone final report is now posted at [www.westcalhoun.org](http://www.westcalhoun.org). Ed Ferlauto presented a draft letter prepared by Art Higinbotham thanking the U of M (Civil Engineering) Student Capstone Team. The Board unanimously approved the letter (correcting one typo) and requested that the following people be copied on the letter: Council Members Goodman, Tuthill, Hodges; Mayor Rybak; Commissioner Dorfman and the department heads of traffic for the City and County. Monica Smith to work with Rhea Sullivan (West Calhoun) to obtain the proper mailing addresses for all recipients (including the students and their professors).

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

**Next meeting Wednesday, July 13, at Jones-Harrison, 6:00 p.m. (note new time)**

**Thomas Lowry Park from page 5**

chocolate production. It smells wonderful but ingestion of cocoa bean mulch could be harmful to your pet in the same way chocolate ingestion can be harmful or fatal to your dog. Grapes/raisins can be toxic to dogs.

Compost pile ingredients such as leaves, grass clippings, etc, can be toxic to your pet. Mushrooms can also be toxic to dogs. Please contact your veterinarian immediately if you believe your pet has been exposed to a possible toxin.

- Pet poison hotlines (a fee will be charged for every consultation): Pet Poison Helpline 800-213-6680 ASPCA Poison Control Hotline 888-426-4435
- Websites: [Petpoisonhelpline.com](http://Petpoisonhelpline.com).
- [Aspca.org/pet-care/poison-control](http://Aspca.org/pet-care/poison-control).

Dr. Jennifer Holm is a Board Certified Specialist in Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care. She grew up in the neighborhood and frequently played at Thomas Lowry Park. She lives near Boston and is Chief Medical Officer at Angell Animal Medical Center. She frequently returns to Minneapolis with her kids to visit her mother, Barbara Fogel and enjoys bringing her kids to the Park.

Thank-you Dr. Holm. If any of you wish to do a guest article, please contact Barry Lazarus at [barrylaz@gmail.com](mailto:barrylaz@gmail.com).

**Eating NYC**

By Madeleine Lowry



A week ago I had a hot piece of heaven in my hands—in the form of a knish from Zabar’s. We were on our annual weekend trip to New York. We arrived not knowing exactly what our activities would be, but the eating had been planned out well in advance.

Zabar’s, the Upper West side gourmet market, figured prominently in those plans. Our hotel was conveniently located two blocks away, close enough to eat there daily. In our eating tour of NY we breakfasted at Le Pain Quotidien, had coffee at Café Lalo, dim summed at 88 Palace, and had surprisingly good Chinese at Ollie’s near Lincoln Center. But, what saddened me most, stepping onto the plane in LaGuardia, was that I’d eaten my last authentic knish for a year.

If you’ve never had a really good deli knish you probably won’t understand this craving. In Manhattan knishes are readily available and not just in delis. Around town you’ll find street carts selling them—soft, hot and fragrant. (They are not those hard dense things that you find in the freezer section of the grocery store.) They can be square or round and have fillings like potato or kasha. They are often served with yellow mustard (yum!) and make a cheap hot lunch at about \$2 a pop. The best I’ve ever had are the ones at Zabar’s: round with a tender golden dough wrapped around fillings that come in ten flavors. My new favorite this time was spinach.

When we landed in Minneapolis, I was going over all the sights and tastes from the weekend and wondering how we could find a little NYC here at home.

I poked my husband, the native Minnesotan, “Phil, what do have that’s like Lincoln Center?”

He thought for a second. “We have Orchestra Hall.”

I nodded. It was not quite the same, but it would have to do for the next twelve months. “What do we have that’s like the Guggenheim?”

He said, “If you want modern art, there’s the Walker.”

Well, sure. The Walker’s art collection may be larger, in fact, but the building can’t compare. But, then again, the Walker has a sculpture garden and a splendid

glass fish. I guess it’s a toss up.

“But, Phil what do we have that’s like Zabar’s?”

He thought for a bit. “Lunds?”

I pursed my lips then shook my head. No, as much as I like Lunds it is not a substitute for Zabar’s. For one thing they lack authentic knishes. For another they lack cinnamon rugelach. And chewy bagels. (Note for the uninitiated: a real bagel is chewy, not bready.)

We were both quiet for a moment. This was going to be hard.

“Well,” I said bravely, “we used to have the Lincoln Dell...”

“Yeah.”

“But, now that’s gone. And that other place, you know, Fishman’s or something. That’s gone, too.”

He nodded.

“Well, we still have Surdyk’s,” I said in a tone that was brighter than I felt. I was thinking of the gourmet market and the hot Panini sandwiches. But, it still did not offer a solution for the knish and rugelach deprivation I was facing. I suddenly realized that it had been foolish of me not to have stuffed my suitcase full of H&H bagels and Zabar’s knishes and rugelach. Enough to last a year.

It was a sad moment.

Which is why, when I read in the Star Tribune that David Weinstein, our own David Weinstein of the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Board (I think), is plotting to open a deli in the space formerly occupied by Auriga, I cheered! Real deli food? In our neighborhood? Seven blocks from my house? Hurrah!

But wait—what was this? It says they’ll feature Montreal deli specialties. What would that be? (The article says pastrami.) Oh.

I whipped through the rest of the article. Okay, things were looking up. They’re going to be making their own bagels. Yay! And rugelach! Double yay!

But, (gasp) there is no mention of knishes—spinach, potato, kasha or otherwise. No mention at all.

So, David, I am logging in my wish list right now, as one of your soon-to-be regular customers. I beg of you: please, please with a cherry on top...

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# sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

Three can keep a secret if two are dead.

—Ben Franklin

To keep a secret is wisdom, to expect others to keep it is folly.

—Samuel Johnson

Listen, do you want to know a secret, do you promise not to tell...

—Lennon/McCartney

Details, including Rodriguez's denial, were disclosed by a person familiar with the meeting who spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcements were authorized.

—ESPN April 2, 2010

Is it just me, or are an increasing number of news stories littered with disclaimers? "A source with intimate knowledge of the negotiations but not given permission to speak publicly because of the sensitivity of the subject revealed under condition of anonymity..." The unconfirmed rumor could be that Moammar Gadhafi is condo shopping in Miami Beach, or Apple's futuristic iPhone 7 will run on grass clippings, or the Minnesota Vikings will play four home games in the Mall of America parking lot in 2014.

A half-century ago in Mrs. Reese's third grade class at Roosevelt (Theodore, not FDR) Elementary School (Pennsauken, New Jersey) we had a "source" who ratted us out on a regular basis. Enough time has passed that I am, while noting the irony, going to reveal his name! Tommy Connors (the other T.C.) was the snitch who told on us to Mrs. Reese. He supposedly had asthma and often stayed in at recess to (allegedly) erase the boards and clap the erasers — although neither activity was good for an asthmatic.

This gave him the opportunity to snitch on us. We are sure he spilled the beans on whose idea it was to lead a class cough at 11:00 AM (Jerry Chicone). He probably told about dropping our pencils at the stroke of nine when we had a substitute. He also refused to back us up when we attempted to convince the same substitute that

we routinely got an hour for recess.

We did not like Tommy because he ate paste and stuff he found in his nose, but his worst trait was tattling. Being a fink (thank you, Mad Magazine) got him pummeled on a regular basis by Mike Fawn and Jimmy Esposito, who were fifth graders but always up for a melee. Mrs. Reese would give us ultimatums: "You have till the end of the school day to tell me who left the lid off of the tempera paints and dried them all out. If you don't want to say it to my face leave the name on my desk, or the whole class will be punished." Tommy would always crack at the threat of after-school detention or a parent phone call. I was not as angry at him as some of the vigilantes, but we all knew squealing was against the code.

Newspaper stories have become a gauntlet of legal catechisms. The modern day Lois Lane and Jimmy Olson need to write with a lawyer on their shoulders. Is the unnamed source a whistle blowing patriot or merely someone with an axe to grind? Are we suckers, receiving only the supposed "inside information" the principles want us to know? Are we being fed a steady diet of trial balloons and limited hang-outs? The original Deep Throat was a hero, but I question the motives of some anonymous tipsters.

I admit I am a fan of gossip, but I am concerned that many modern day leakers are simply self-serving opportunists. Leaks happen so routinely now, I have trouble believing that an insider who has been vetted to the inner sanctum would leave a top secret meeting, have an attack of conscience, and go rogue. More likely what happens in the boardroom is a clandestine confab devoted to deciding how much has to be divulged and who can get the company the most sympathetic spin.

Applying revisionist history, perhaps the other Tommy C. was merely an information sharer, ahead of his time and not the two-faced rat, suck-up, wimp, snitch, stoolie teacher's pet we thought he was.

Tom H. Cook is a fairly local writer. He knows who wrote the note Mrs. Reese has weasel breath that found its way to her desk.

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