



'Where the biggies leave off...'

Hill & Lake Press

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Congratulations to our favorite writer, Louise Erdrich!

Louise Erdrich won her first National Book Award for fiction Wednesday night for "The Round House," her second in a planned trilogy set on a North Dakota Indian Reservation.

Louise Erdrich grew up in Wahpeton, N.D., but lives in Kenwood, where she owns Birchbark Books. "The Round House" is her 14th novel.

She was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in 2009 for "The Plague of Doves," the first book in the trilogy. She has been a finalist for the National Book Award twice before — in 1999 for a children's book, "The Birchbark House," and in 2001 for a novel, "The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse."

Louise Erdrich's many books are available at Birchbark Books in Kenwood across the street from Kenwood School. Hike on over and get a signed copy of "The Round House".

Southwest Light Rail DEIS statement released.

By Jeanette Colby

After more than two years in the works, the proposed Southwest Light Rail (SWLRT) project released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on October 12th. The DEIS evaluates all the proposed alternative routes, and provides a justification for the \$1.3 billion, 15-mile line that would run between Eden Prairie and the Twins' ballpark via the Kenilworth Corridor (referred to as route 3A (LPA)). The DEIS also supports relocation of freight rail through St. Louis Park rather than "co-locating" it in the Kenilworth Corridor. To view video of the proposed route, search "Southwest LRT Alignment" on YouTube.

The DEIS documents potential social, environmental, economic, and other impacts to the areas through which the line would run. The public can view and comment on the DEIS at the southwesttransitway.org home page. It's intimidating — over 1,000

pages — but it is searchable by key word and divided into chapters. The Kenilworth Trail area is covered under the "A" or "3A" and "co-location alternative." It also includes an executive summary.

The SWLRT project office will disregard "votes" — simple statements in favor or against the proposed line. Public comments need to address specific findings (or omissions) in the DEIS using supporting evidence where possible. The Metropolitan Council is required to respond to all substantial comments and concerns submitted by December 11th, 2012. These responses will come in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

In addition to analyzing the environmental impacts,

the DEIS characterizes the benefits of the proposed line, primarily to "improve access and mobility to the jobs and activity centers in the Minneapolis Central Business District (CBD), as well as along the entire length of the corridor for reverse-commute trips to the expanding suburban employment centers." The diagonal route should offer fast and reliable service that is integrated into other rail and bus services downtown.

Volunteers from Hill & Lake neighborhoods most affected by the SWLRT — West Calhoun, CIDNA, and Kenwood — have joined forces to tackle the DEIS with the goal of preserving and improving our unique urban assets. This task force is now preparing responses, including a joint response and separate responses by each of the neighborhoods. Led by Ed Ferlauto of CIDNA, about 20 people have met several times and will continue to meet through November.

Several issues top the list of concerns that affect all of our neighborhoods. In West Calhoun, a proposed stop behind the Whole Foods store could bring increased traffic and parking problems to an already saturated area. A thorough study of circulation in the area — including pedestrian, bicycle, and motorized traffic — has not yet been conducted, and transit-oriented redevelopment isn't likely to occur unless traffic patterns are

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Pumpkin Carving by Greg Froehle



Poets at Bockley Gallery: Sharon Suzuki-Martinez, Leslie Adrienne Miller, Heid E. Erdrich

Photo by Dorothy Childers

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Lunch with Lisa

No Lunch with Lisa in November due to Thanksgiving. Later with Lisa will take place on December 13 at the Normandy.

Minneapolis Audubon Society
763-657-1907

bbfrankli@gmail.com

Friday, December 14, 2012 1 p.m.

John Arthur will speak on Dragons and Damselies. Please join us for the program and refreshments at the Bryant Square Neighborhood Center, 31st & Bryant Avenue S, just one block south of Lake Street, easily accessible via the #4 bus, which runs every 15 minutes! All are welcome. For more information call 952-926-4205.

Elizabeth Simonson

Opening Reception: Friday, November 16, 6 to 9 pm
Exhibition: November 17, 2012 through December 22, 2012

Bockley Gallery is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibition of mixed media sculpture and drawings by Twin Cities-based artist Elizabeth Simonson. On view will be five of her signature globes crafted from strands of filament wire and glass and acrylic beads. Suspended from the ceiling, these ethereal but animated pieces were inspired by molecular structures. The largest, Instar 3, was the third element in her acclaimed 2011 installation in the atrium of Walker Art Center. For the show, Simonson has created two new, helix-like works from beads and red and brown threads that express a more restrained aura.

"Each hanging piece has its own character, its own personality," says Simonson. "I embrace these globes as individual entities, as creatures in their own right."

Rounding out the exhibition will be several of Simonson's richly hued ink on paper drawings, and a temporary installation constructed from beads and wire sited in one corner of the gallery. "I truly embrace the concept of beauty in my work. It is not intended to be political or profound, but actually to celebrate beauty," comments Simonson. "I am trying to make intimate, beautiful structures at a time when beauty is not so easily apparent."

Informing all of Simonson's work is a dynamic sense of movement and the meticulous choreographing of multiple, overlapping elements into a visually cohesive whole. Given such a lively expression of her ideas, it is not surprising to learn that the artist was a professional dancer with the Field Ballet New York from 1987-1999.

A Minnesota native, Simonson has resided in Minneapolis since 2007. She was a 2011 McKnight Visual Artist Fellow and she will be featured later this fall in a "Minnesota Originals" segment produced by Minnesota Public Television. In addition to Walker Art Center, her work has recently been exhibited at the Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, and the Minnetonka Art Center, Minnetonka, MN. Simonson's work is found in the collections of Walker Art Center, the Museum of Modern Art, NYC, and numerous private collections.

For further information contact [Todd Bockley](mailto:Todd.Bockley).

Gallery Hours: Wednesday through Saturday, Noon to 5 pm



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Minneapolis Uptown Rotary

www.clubrunner.ca/mplsuptownrotary

Uptown Rotary meets at the Minikahda Country Club 7:30 to 8:30 am on Thursdays.

Hennepin County budget (Truth in Taxation) meeting is Nov. 27

Hennepin County will hold a public meeting on the proposed 2013 budget and property tax levy – commonly called the Truth in Taxation meeting – at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 27, in the County Board Room in downtown Minneapolis.

Hennepin is proposing a 2013 budget of \$1.75 billion—1.2 percent more than the 2012 budget – and a .93-percent increase in the net property tax levy.

The budgets and levies for the Hennepin County • The next meeting of the CIDNA Board has been changed to the first Wednesday (December 5) for further discussion on the response to the Southwest LRT Draft Environmental Impact Statement before the deadline of December 11. Regional Rail Authority and Hennepin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority also will be discussed at the meeting.

For more details, go online to www.hennepin.us/hcbudget. Contact the Hennepin County Clerk's Office to sign up if you wish to speak: 612-348-4019.

Izaak Walton Chapter. Lee Barthel 6128727516
Neighborhood Monthly Meetings
IWLA 3rd Tuesday 7:9pm, Linden Hills Park Rec

December Exhibition at Groveland Gallery

Exhibition:

Sare in

The regional landscape as seen by six Groveland Gallery artists: Dan Bruggeman, Larry Hofmann, Mark Horton, Tom Maakestad, Rod Massey and Meg Ojala

Dates:
19, 2013

December 1, 2012 – January

Saturday Opening

Reception: Saturday, December 1st, 2-5 p.m.

Gallery Hours: Tuesday through Saturday 12 - 5 p.m.

Groveland Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of regional imagery by six Groveland Gallery artists: Dan Bruggeman, Larry Hofmann, Mark Horton, Tom Maakestad, Rod Massey and Meg Ojala incorporate the landscape into their work. From the shrinking southwestern prairies to the freeways of south, this exhibition portrays the rural and urban faces of this state. Both exhibitions continue through January 19, 2013.

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HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Nov. 7, 6-9PM, BOCKLEY GALLERY OPENING

Nov. 26, 5-9pm MPRB SWLRT Community Advisory Committee Workshop, MPRB headquarters

Nov. 27, pm, Truth in Taxation mtg downtown

Nov. 29 5-8pm portrait party

Dec. 1, 2-5pm Groveland Gallery opening

Dec. 11 DEIS Comment period closes

Dec. 13 Later with Lisa, Normandy

Dec. 14, 1pm, Audubon Society, Bryant Square

Neighborhood monthly meetings:

CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday 6pm at Jones-Harrison

EIRA: 2nd Tuesday 7pm. Grace-Trinity Church,

KIAA: 1st Monday 7pm Kenwood Rec Center,

LHNA: 1st Tuesday 7pm at Kenwood Rec Center

The next meeting of the CIDNA Board has been changed to the first Wednesday (December 5) for further discussion on the response to the Southwest LRT Draft Environmental Impact Statement before the deadline of December 11.

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NOVEMBER 2012

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ARTrageous Holiday Portrait Party

Thursday, November 29th
5-8pm

Get a jump start on the holiday season with a unique kind of family portrait for this year's holiday cards at ARTrageous Adventures. Enjoy a cup of cocoa and holiday cookies while creating a unique holiday frame that you will leave with a family photo in it.

Local photographer Samantha Fronck will set up a holiday photo booth and will dazzle you with her way of capturing your true spirit. You can call ARTrageous Adventures studio to set up a photo session at (612) 423-7554 by November 26th to guarantee a space. The cost for the family event is \$25 and includes one photo, a frame and a fun creative holiday experience.

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR MARTIN TRIMBLE

Craig Wilson interviews Martin Trimble about his band and his passion for music. What is your band's name? Tell us how it all started.

We're called 22-20s - named after a Skip James song called "22-20" blues. I play guitar & sing and we started playing ten years ago in our bassist's mum's garage - just blues covers initially and then we started writing our own songs and ended up being lucky enough to get signed and make a living through music. Essentially though, the writing process is as it always has been...Glen Bartup and I getting basic ideas down together: the only difference being the upgrade from a garage to a living room!

Where do you play? Do you tour? Any amusing anecdotes about touring? Tell us about your performances in Japan and Russia.

First of all Minneapolis is a great music town. We've appreciated first hand playing the Finline, First Avenue, and 7th st entry. Until my daughter Evie was born fourteen months ago we were pretty much touring constantly for three years, mainly as support for bigger bands in the U.S and headlining our own shows in the U.K and Japan. The thrill of playing in places like Russia and Japan is more the chance to look around cities like Moscow and Tokyo. And coming from a provincial little town in England, I don't think we ever contemplated having a passport to do that through playing music. As far as anecdotes go, it's the grizzly aspects that spring to mind. Roaches in my shoes in Southern motels, three of us in a bed - a single portaloos in the middle of the Arizona desert was definitely a low. Actually our drummer fell over his kit in Osaka as he was leaving the stage. That was funny. For the rest of us.

Tell about your background...your family in England.

My Dad is an Archaeologist and my Mum teaches

Art so I can accredit my interest in the Arts and History to them. I also have a much younger brother Thomas who at 13 has already surpassed my musical ability. He's also more academic and a better soccer player than I ever was so maybe I need to find a new niche! I was also blessed with wonderful grandparents and spent a lot of time with them as a child. My Grandfather on my Mum's side was a proper outdoors type who was passionate about birds, fishing, and nature in general. He was also an expert on consuming vast quantities of beer. In fact he would have adored Minnesota for all these reasons! Sadly he passed without getting the chance to visit and is greatly missed. My Grandmother on my Mum's side is a Church of England deacon. We traveled to England in September and Evie was baptized at her church, St. John the Baptist, in South Witham.

Why did you move to the US?

For my wife Katie! But I love it here. She has a wonderful tight-knit family (especially Jean & John from HLP!) who make it feel like home for me too. There also seems to be a real emphasis on culture and the arts in the Twin Cities and a more progressive political outlook more similar to Europe than in some parts of the United States. I also inherited my Grandfather's love of the outdoors and it really is a beautiful part of the country. I spend a lot of time at Hidden Falls on the St. Paul side of the river and you wouldn't even know you were in the city. We also enjoy walking around Lake of the Isles. The winter hurts though. Scandinavians are definitely harder than the Brits.

You are married to Katie Deatrick. How did you meet?

We met in New York. Katie was (and still is) working for the record company (Astralwerks) our band signed to in America. She cooked me an amazing meal on our very first date and I was sold!



Martin and Eve Marie Trimble

We actually married at St Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Minneapolis.

You have a baby girl. How old is she? Evie is fourteen months now - walking and talking. Into everything!

You recently bought a house. Are you renovating? Do you enjoy it?

I enjoy it - I'm not sure Katie enjoys me doing it! Unfortunately I didn't get my Mother's eye for color so I've already repainted our living room twice. It's been a lean year in terms of writing so learning some practical skills has provided at least some sense of accomplishment!

What is your goal in life? Do you plan to keep playing?

In the immediate future my main goal is to finish a record by summer. My goals in general are simply to be happy, to be a good dad & husband, and to one day write something I'm truly proud of.



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District 4 Elects a Collaborative Leader to the School Board

MINNEAPOLIS MINDS

By Steve Kotvis

It became one of the more talked about election races in the city. Getting the results to the seat on "District 4" of Minneapolis School Board was extended a couple days following the general election because of some problems with printers and scanners in three precincts. Candidates and voters held their collective breaths before the final tally was in for District 4, an area that stretches east to west from the Downtown East and Downtown West neighborhoods across to Bryn Mawr to the northwest and Cedar Dean Isles and ECCO neighborhoods to the southwest.

In all, 34,851 voters registered in the 20 precincts and 14 neighborhoods that comprise this area. Josh Remnitz won the popular vote 12,241. Patricia Wycoff earned 11,512 votes. Write-ins accounted for 200 votes. To help understand the results, I pulled the precinct figures from Secretary of State web site. With my phone calculator, a couple of maps, and a few colored markers, I started to break down the data into ways that meant something more, results by neighborhood. Here's what the data revealed.

Josh won 10 neighborhoods, listed in order of percentage of vote: Kenwood (63%), Lowry Hill (62%), East Isles (59%), East Calhoun (57%), Loring Park (55%), Downtown East (54%), Lowry Hill East (52%), Cedar Isles Dean (51%), and Whittier (50%). Wycoff won in four neighborhoods: Bryn Mawr (67%), Elliot Park (57%), Stevens Square/Loring Heights (54%), and Downtown West (53%).

I believe Minneapolis Public Schools will benefit with whom we are sending to represent District 4 on the School Board. He represents our District 4 as someone who was elected from across our District, from east to west and by many neighborhoods. I can't help but think it says that many have found him to be a breath of fresh air, an open, positive communicator who can relate to the diversity of needs and issues across our part of the city and throughout the whole city's public school district.

Our elected officials' attributes have never been more important than they are today. Yes, there is the seemingly omnipresent volatile political atmosphere that seems to have choked us into frightful tears. And I keep cheering for a guy who's kept things positive throughout the campaign. But more tactically, I'm referring to a need for a District 4 representative on the School Board who I believe just might show us that we have a newly emerging generation of collaborative leaders.

Collaborative skills will be critical as Josh steps into his seat in January 2013 when for the first time the Minneapolis School Board will include an expanded nine members; six from neighborhood-geographically-defined Districts and three elected at-large. The new Board structure is a result of legislation introduced by State Representative Jim Davnie (62A), and passed by

Being Connected: A Human Condition

By Steve Kotvis



Steve Kotvis visits with Brian Meeker and Gary Colacino at the opening reception of "The Human Condition" at Mpls Photo Center (PHOTO: Mpls Photo Center)

Some 300 folks gathered Saturday November 10th in a discrete warehouse space on Minneapolis' near north side of downtown to attend the opening reception for three exhibits at the Minneapolis Photo Center. One of them, "The Human Condition" was a collection of photos judged by National Geographic photographer Annie Griffiths-Belt by photographers from around the nation. "Pairings" the photo I submitted was included in the exhibit, offering me a first-time

voters alongside the Strong Schools Strong City Referendum in 2008. The intent of the Davnie Bill was to create a Board where all people from all parts of the city would genuinely feel represented, and where the power would not be controlled by the few who could afford to influence it.

The democratic concept is wonderful. We want and need people from across the city to be and feel engaged in the political process for our governance to be of the people and by the people. And this new board structure relies heavily on respectful collaboration. We simply can't afford local representation to get played out as neighborhood parochialism. We have entrusted Josh to represent us and wish him success as he works with all of our School Board members: re-elected Carla Bates (at-large), newly elected Kim Ellison (District 2), and Tracine Asberry (District 6), and seated Board members. You counted on us to get where you are today. Now we are counting on you to function productively as a Board.

Steve Kotvis, a Kenwood resident who is an active volunteer in community and education issues, has written Minneapolis Minds about public education since January 2008. Please feel free to share your comments, opinions or insights with him at stevek@f-go.us.

opportunity to experience real life connections through the hanging of a photo on the wall for the public viewing.

Photography by its very nature seeks to find connections and tell stories. "Pairings," represents how one-on-one, personal, and physical connections are inherently valued and part of the human condition.

This event offered connections on so many levels, starting with inviting friends to the event, friends I've come to know over the past three decades of living in Minneapolis. Relying on virutality of an email list, my invitation list was regrettably less than complete. But it was diverse. What fun it was to make connections with friends out of context from our past, even those who sent their regrets. How generous it was for those who could show. One friend, Brian said, "I don't know about you but I'm here because Steve is my friend. And if this is important to him, it's important to me." The unlikely intersections between friends were a treat. What good humor it was to have Scott my identical twin fly up from Chicago for the weekend to help add confusion for some. How satisfying it was for connections to be made between friends and family, or some who hadn't seen my kids since they were . . . kids! One of my favorite parts of the evening was to watch strangers connect with the image itself. And then to engage with them in what they saw in the photograph. It was also nice to hear so many express a wow for becoming aware of the Minneapolis Photo Center that before they had otherwise not known.

"The Human Condition" exhibit along with "When They Came to Take My Father," and "Nobel Laureates 20 - Portraits by Doug Knutson," are on display through January 4th, 2013. For more info on hours and directions: mplsphtocenter.com



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THE URBAN COYOTE GOES SWIMMING

By James P. Lenfestey <http://www.coyotepoet.com/>

It is late October. Robert and Ruth Bly's new boulevard maple across Girard Avenue has finally shed its crimson crown. The yellow leaves of our boulevard Norway maples, branches recently trimmed by the Park Board into a semblance of elegance, blanket our yard into a lake of deep yellow. These are the kinds of leaves one stoops to pick up and admire, in disbelief at the density of the intense palette of fall.

The temperature has been rising and falling with the slow breath of change, even in this year of record heat and drought, with evening lows in the twenties forecast for the weekend.

With Mrs. Coyote out of town on generous errands with our son and my sister, who is ill, I take the time to bike around the lakes, the kind of activity my now lame knee still allows.

In our busy urban lives, how easy it is to forget the foresight of our forebears – the mothers and fathers of Minneapolis who willed the chain of lakes into public, not private hands. They created the most intensively used parks in the state, ones ripe for further improvements as described at last month's article on the Lake Calhoun design charette.

My rumbly old bicycle and I rode down Lincoln Avenue toward Kenwood Park through a corridor of golden afternoon light, then along the shore of Lake of the Isles where a few hardy sunbathers soaked up the last seasonal rays on the broad lawn.

I passed the construction tangle at the south end of the lake and around the east side of Calhoun, where a sailing class came about in tight circles like a gyre of white butterflies.

Then around Lake Harriet's forested shore, looking in vain for the eagle once resident there. I stopped for

conversation with two friends walking hand-in-hand the pedestrian path. They inquired of a water bird they had seen, with a long, snakelike neck. I later saw it as I rounded the south end, an unusual western grebe among the coots and mallards, her long neck swanning in and out of the water. A placid loon idled her singular way in deeper water.

The shores of Harriet and Calhoun sheltered many more coots and resting gulls, and a population of remarkable human beings - runners, bikers, skaters, roller skiers, photographers, strollers with friends and children, and those who simply communed with water, our ancestral home.

I pulled into the beach at Cedar Lake at Akerburg Point. Alone in fading light, I quickly stripped to my suit and waded into the icy waters. Wind out of the south, the beach was sheltered to a mirror sheen. I waded fast, the only way to deal with brisk water, and at waist high dove once, twice, three times. I emerging like a seal, noticing on the sheer surface a quiet fisherman in a canoe and two kayakers stroking silently, the lake otherwise empty, a penny-colored disc inside the colorful frame of forested shore.

Then my neck began to ache, meaning time to head for shore, not far.

A friend in Michigan has developed a rich vocabulary for swimming in northern fresh water lakes: Balmy, Almost Balmy, Nice, Almost Nice, Refreshing, Invigorating, Bracing, Bearable, Cold and Freezing (for which ice must be present). This was "bearable," like a cold plunge after a hot shower or sauna, meaning the neck aches if one stays in the water more than a minute or two.

"Cold" is indicated when the ankles ache immedi-

ately upon entering the water – meaning the plunge should be immediate, the return fast, like fastened to a bungee cord, water immersion measured in seconds. "Freezing" means the same bungee cord action, only measured in nanoseconds – in and out.

I returned toward the shore, letting the cold water bathe my ailing knee, then plunged fully two more times. Three times always feels necessary, after which the skin glows with radiant appreciation but before the chill gets too far inside.

As I dried off on the darkening shore, the fisherman beached his quiet canoe. He showed me iPhone photos of the five pound bass he caught, then released, and others from other days – tiger muskie, pure muskie, a northern pike half as long as he was. When not working his two jobs, he comes to the lake. The giant fish he finds with his homemade lures, then releases, give him the tug of comfort of another life, as my swims do for me.

Then home along the bike trail to 21st Street, bike lights shining bright at me, mine at them, down toward Birchbark Books, around Kenwood School and back up Lowry Hill to home.

I did this same excursion several times in late October, would have done it more if not away myself, tending my sister in San Francisco.

The gratitude I feel in my entire body for these lakes preserved for all of us I can barely say, except to describe one golden late afternoon when a loon idled, a grebe hunted, a fisherman praised his fish, and I plunged deep into the dark well of sweet release.

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SWLRT DEIS from page 1

improved. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) has also indicated an interest in a study that would cover traffic flow and linkages to area parkways.

In CIDNA, a proposed bridge over Cedar Lake Parkway (between approximately Lake Street and the Kenilworth Channel) would have huge noise impacts on area residents and visitors, not to mention creating a terrible eye-sore in a key part of the Historic Grand Rounds and National Scenic Byway. The joint neighborhood task force will request a feasibility study of tunneling, trenching, or depressing the train. No such study has yet been done by the SWLRT project, though the MPRB has engaged landscape architect Steve Durrant of Alta Planning + Design to begin the process. Steve has worked extensively with the Cedar Lake Park Association as well as on the Hiawatha LRT.

In Kenwood, concerns center on preserving the quality of the Kenilworth Trails, Cedar Lake Park, and adjacent residential areas – including around the proposed station area at 21st Street. The DEIS documents substantial visual and noise impacts to trail users and residents, with no specific design or mitigation plans. Some (but not all) of the problems could be solved by landscaping – the use of berms, a mix of evergreens and deciduous plants, and hardscape elements. The DEIS includes a surface parking lot at the station, which is contrary to City of Minneapolis policy and not favored by residents.

The task force will also prioritize security issues, including public safety at stations and ensuring emergency access to Cedar Lake Park and isolated residences along Burnham Road and Upton Avenue.

The DEIS comment period closes on December 11th. Before then, it is likely that Preliminary Engineering (PE) contracts worth about \$100 million will be signed. The PE work covers 30 percent of the design, and should be completed by the end of 2013. The project plans to obtain 10% of funding from the State of Minnesota (not yet secured), 30% from the Counties Transit Improvement Board (county sales tax), 10% from the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (county property tax), and 50% from the Federal New Starts program (likely but not guaranteed). The DEIS does not provide detailed analysis of the costs of project elements, such as proposed bridges and tunnels.

The Metropolitan Council hopes to undertake construction between 2015 and 2017, and begin operation of the SWLRT in 2018. Minneapolis neighborhoods adjacent to the line hope the design studies and solutions will be resolved well before those dates so that the new light rail line will preserve and even improve some of our city's best assets.

Family Activity Night Draws Crowd to Kenwood; School Garden Wins Award

Text and Photos by Nicole Valentine



Kenwood Students at Family Activity Night

“History Day Hullabaloo” Begin in December at Hennepin County Libraries

Students: need help with your National History Day projects? Experts will offer their assistance at free “History Day Hullabaloo” scheduled in December, January, and February at two Hennepin County libraries. Last school year, about 300 students participated in the “History Day Hullabaloo.” National History Day is an inter-disciplinary research project for students in grades 6-12 (<http://education.mnhs.org/historyday/events>). This school year's theme is “Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, Events.”

Hennepin County Library – Minneapolis Central, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis Saturdays, Dec. 1, Jan. 26, and Feb. 16; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Hennepin County Library – Ridgedale, 12601 Ridgedale Dr., Minnetonka Tuesday, Jan. 15, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

On a recent fall evening, Kenwood School families gathered for Family Activity Night. The popular annual event drew hundreds of students and family members with dinner and fun activities for all. “Family Activity Night is a great opportunity for our families to visit with each other while supporting our school. I want to thank the PTA and the many parent volunteers that helped to make this fun night possible,” said Principal Cheryl Martin.

The evening's activities included a free pasta dinner supplied by The Lowry, a book fair to support the school's media center, spirit wear sales, a food collection drive, a volunteer sign up station, and a barn dance in the gymnasium. The dance gave the students an opportunity to don their cowboy and cowgirl attire and show off what they learned during the recent all-school Roots Dance Residency taught by East Isles resident and ethnic music and dance expert Bob Walser. Walser said this is the eighth year his group, Shake These Bones, has taught the popular residency at the school. The Scholastic Book Fair raised over \$2,200 for the media center and over 245 pounds of food were collected for Second Harvest Heartland.

Kenwood's Student Council is in place for the 2012-2013 school year. Each of the six fourth and fifth grade classrooms elected two representatives to the group. Candidates were required to deliver speeches within their classrooms explaining their interest and goals. East Isles resident Levi K. said he “wanted to be the voice of the students,” while ECCO resident Julia W. is interested in Student Council “because kids in school need to have a chance to share their ideas.”

In the spirit of the national election, on November 6th a school-wide election was held to determine a President and Vice President of the Council. Congratulations to fifth grader Carly M. for being elected President and fourth grader Miranda S. for being elected Vice President. As part of the election, Kenwood's kids were polled on whom they would vote for for U.S. President and incumbent Barack Obama won an overwhelming victory among the students.

Earlier this month, Kenwood's volunteer-supported garden was designated as an “Exceptional Garden” by Metro Blooms. Kenwood's garden was among 140 “Exceptional Gardens” in the public space category. Garden organizer and Kenwood parent Angie Erdrich said “we were in the company of some amazing gardens.”

Erdrich took on the young garden last year in an effort to further improve the new green space, but also to serve as an educational tool for the school. Erdrich, a pediatrician, had started community gardens at several of her rural Native American Indian clinics in the past and now has quite a garden in her own Kenwood yard. She noted that about 25 families took turns caring for the garden over the summer and due to donations, growing plants from seed, and volunteer efforts, the costs for this past season were kept under \$200. Erdrich would like to expand and create a rain garden under the trees at the corner of Penn Avenue and 21st Street. This plot is just south of the school's playground and would help with water runoff.

Tours of Kenwood Elementary School will begin after Thanksgiving. The parent-led tours take about an hour and will be held most Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8:00 a.m. Contact Community Liaison Chris Madden at 612-668-2778 or kenwoodpta@yahoo.com to schedule your tour. Come and see why “Arts+Smarts=Kenwood.”

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Thrill Kenwood Halloween

Block Party By Amanda Vallone

Many families came out to celebrate the 4th annual Halloween themed party on Saturday, October 27th. This year we had more community support with the Kenwood Park staff participating in the event as well as the Kenwood Isles Area Association, which contributed financially to help offset some of the event costs. Some of the highlighted event activities were the strolling performers which included a Father/Daughter Fiddling Duo (Larry & Hannah Greenstein); The Creepy Creature Feature show that brought live animals including a Raven and Tarantula; Bryce Davidson our Zombie Caricature artist and Amy Bloss who dazzled us with a fire dance performance once the sun set. A special thanks to Todd Bockley who opened up his gallery to host these strolling performers and their animals and to Stephanie Shimp who catered food for all the dancers and volunteers who helped with Thrill Kenwood.

ARTrageous Adventures provided Creation Stations for kids and Make-Up Artists who zombified many people throughout the day. The Kenwood Restaurant provided hot cider and treats on the sidewalk and The Kenwood Pet Clinic hosted a Costumed Pet Parade around the block. Framestyles donated a Holiday Door Prize and Birchbark Books hosted local author Elizabeth Foy Larsen's book signing of Unbored. Food Donations were also collected for the Joyce Food Shelf.

And of course the event would not be complete without the simultaneous dance of Michael Jackson's Thriller that happened worldwide. 14 brave zombies strutted their stuff on the Kenwood School basketball court at 2pm, later in the day more joined in at the 7pm evening performance. Next year we hope to recruit more zombie dancers of all ages by teaching the dance starting in August at the Kenwood Recreation Center. Our goal is to have 50 dancers, so anyone wanting to participate in the largest simultaneous Thriller dance will have plenty of opportunity to learn the dance and be part of this thrilling event!

If you are interested in helping out with this event or learning the Thriller dance, please contact Amanda Vallone at (612) 423-7554 to be put on the contact list for when planning begins for Thrill Kenwood 2013.

Thrill The World is an annual worldwide simultaneous dance of Michael Jackson's "Thriller." Every October, since 2006, Funky Zombies across the globe gather to synchronize their watches and dance to the greatest selling record of all time - Michael Jackson's Thriller! Come be part of the next one in 2013!



Thriller party

Photo by Samantha Fromek

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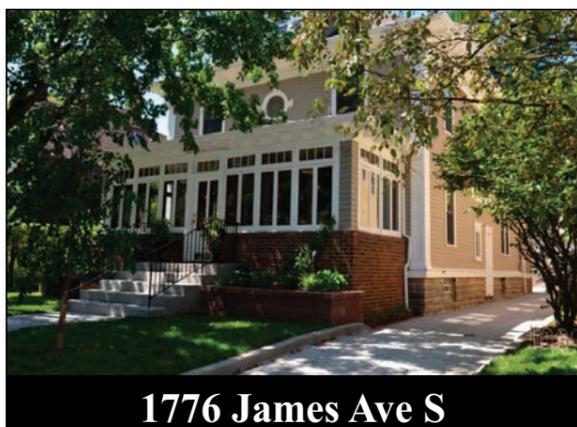
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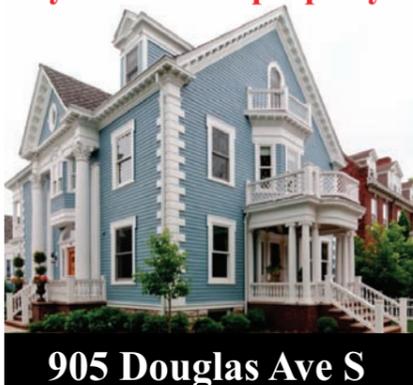
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November 2012

Mark your Calendars for Public Hearings on City's Budget

The City Council is now in the process of considering Mayor R.T. Rybak's recommended 2013 budget for the City of Minneapolis. Along with budget hearings, there will be two public meetings before a final budget is approved.

Public hearing on tax levy and 2013 City budget:

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 6:05 p.m.
City Hall (350 South 5th Street), Council Chambers (Rm 317)

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 6:05 p.m.
City Hall (350 South 5th Street), Council Chambers (Rm 317)

Departmental budget hearings are taking place over the next two months. For a schedule of these hearings, visit

www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget/index.htm. All hearings will be broadcast live (and rebroadcast) on Minneapolis 79 (the City's cable channel). You can find the rebroadcast schedule and view the hearings online at www.minneapolismn.gov/tv/79.

For more information and to view the Mayor's recommended 2013 budget, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/finance/budget/WCMS1P-097420.

Calhoun/Isles Sewer Improvement Project

Work related to the Met Council sewer improvements project will require the closure of a section of the Mall through approximately the end of November. The westbound lane of The Mall will be closed between E Calhoun Parkway and James Ave. westbound traffic on The Mall will be detoured south on James Ave and west on Lagoon Ave to access E Calhoun Parkway.

Detours will be posted. For more info and to view a project map, visit www.metrocouncil.org/environment/Construction_Updates/index.htm.

Nicollet Ave Construction Update

I am very happy to report that Nicollet Ave from Lake St. to 36th St. is now completed and open!!

Nicollet-Central Transit Study

The City has begun a study of the Nicollet-Central corridor to identify the preferred enhanced transit mode through the area, including a modern streetcar and enhanced bus options. The corridor being studied extends from Nicollet Ave and 46th St on the south, through downtown Minneapolis on Nicollet Mall, and up Central Ave to the Columbia Heights Transit Center on the north. For more info, visit the Nicollet-Central Project website.

35W/Lake Street Transit Access Project Moves Forward

On September 25th, the City Council voted to support a significant transit improvement – a transit station at Lake St and 35W. This transit station is a crucial missing link in the 35W Bus Rapid Transit system stretching from Lakeville to downtown Minneapolis. The other components of the project are a high quality connection from the Midtown Greenway to the transit station, an exit ramp from southbound 35W to Lake Street and an exit from northbound 35W to 28th St W. Planning on the project continues.

There will be another Public Open House held on Tuesday, November 13th from 5:00-8:00pm at the Whittier Community Center (425 26th St W). Everyone is welcome to attend! Attendees will have the opportunity to comment on the Lake Street improvements, new freeway ramps, the transit station and the connection to the Midtown Greenway. Design concepts will be presented along with recommendations for next steps in the design process.

For more information visit the 35W/Lake Transit Access Project website.

Meet with Meg!

Please note: There will be NO Meet with Meg in December! I will go back to our regular schedule in January 2014.

Kraus-Anderson repurposes historic 430 Oak Grove building at Loring Park

'Do-over' is not a term generally embraced by a construction company that prides itself on getting it right the first time, but when the do-over is the 'repurposing' of the 88-year old 430 Oak Grove building, Kraus-Anderson (KA) is happy to make an exception.

In 1924, Kraus-Anderson, then known as the J. L. Robinson Company, completed the 4-story, 90,000 s.f. building at 430 Oak Grove St. in Minneapolis, to serve as headquarters for Northwestern National Life Insurance (NWNL), then one of the preeminent life insurance companies in the Midwest.

Since NWNL's departure in 1961, the building was converted into a multitenant office space. Today KA is back on the job site, renovating the historic structure into 72 upscale rental apartments.

"It's rewarding to work on a project that KA originally built so long ago, repurposing it for today's market," said Michael Korsh, director of development for Kraus-Anderson Realty Company, developer of the project. "It isn't often we get to work on a project that predates my grandfather, Lloyd." Lloyd Engelsma joined Kraus-Anderson in 1932 and remained at the helm of the company for over 60 years, until his death in 1997. Today one of the largest privately-held construction firms in the nation, Kraus-Anderson is led by a second and third generation of Engelsma family members.

Since May 2011 KA has been working with the historical consulting firm Hess Roise to pursue a designation on the National Register of Historic Places; and to earn the Minnesota Historic Structure Rehabilitation Tax Credit toward the renovation for 430 Oak Grove.

"I have had my eye on this building for a longtime," said Charlene Roise, president, Hess Roise. "It has a very elegant design that makes great use of an unusual and very visible site."

"But looks alone do not an historic designation make. It takes commitment and perseverance to research and put together the case for historic designation. From initial research through federal approvals, the entire designation process for 430 Oak Grove took about 14 months," Roise said.

"A developer has to appreciate the charms and challenges of older buildings and have patience for the process," said Roise. "It's a time-consuming and complicated process, but the result is a cultural resource that has been recognized as worthy of preservation," said Korsh.

"The project team at KA has been great to work with," said Roise. "They appreciate the building's history and are creative about addressing the inevitable challenges of adapting an historic building to anew use," Roise said.

Renovation is being carefully undertaken to preserve 430 Oak Grove's historic Beaux Arts limestone exterior, designed by prominent local architects Hewitt and Brown.

"We're 'listening' to the building," says Mike Engel of Elness Swenson Graham Architects, Inc., the design team for the renovation. "Sensitivity is being given not only to the building itself, but to how the change in occupancy will affect the surrounding urban park and residential environment."

Most of the building's limestone and tile exterior is being left intact, including windows, skylights, and an original exterior bronze circular light fixture depicting native wildlife (bear, buffalo, wolf, moose) and crafted by renowned Minneapolis interior designer John Bradstreet. A five-panel wrap-around lobby mural depicting historic scenes from early Minneapolis is also being preserved.

Along with its clearly vintage charms, other features of the original design have a very contemporary, sustainable, approach. The skylight system originally served an open office area, flooding workers with ample

Voting: Our Voice' on display in Hennepin Gallery

"Voting: Our Voice" will be on display in the Hennepin Gallery from now until November 28.

The exhibit, a historical look at local and national elections and the evolution of voting, combines campaign and voting ephemera from the Hennepin County Elections Office, the City of Minneapolis Elections and Voter Registration, the Hennepin History Museum and private collector Paul Bengston.

The display includes historical materials from the 1880s including voting machines, iconic images of past elections, and books on the women's suffrage movement.

The Hennepin Gallery is free and open to the public Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., at the Hennepin County Government Center, A Level, 300 S. Sixth St., Minneapolis. The exhibit is sponsored by and the Gallery is a project of Hennepin County Public Affairs.

Look for more news on the Hennepin County website – www.hennepin.us/news.

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430 Oak Grove to page 11

FRIENDS OF THOMAS LOWRY PARK

By Barry Lazarus

“Hello Mr. and Mrs. America and all ships at sea” said Walter Winchell. That would include those of us in the hood, the near hood (Kenwood), and other persons lucky enough to have visited Thomas Lowry Park this summer past.

The Park had a glorious year and there is more to come. Gray Gardens, thanks to Andrew Kruger, has agreed to redecorate the urn in the southwest corner of the Park for the winter. Thank you Gray Gardens and Andrew. Friends is sure you have seen the wonderful landscaping created by Gray Gardens in the Lowry Hill neighborhood. (Full disclosure-that includes this writer’s home).

Please say a silent thanks to Bill Payne and Commissioner Anita Tabb and her fellow commissioners at Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for all the work undertaken in the Park to make it shine as the jewel of Minneapolis parks.

Friends also has sad news. Sara Peterman, one of the founders of Friends and a board member from its inception, has resigned to pursue other interests, which will take most of her time. She will be missed as will the services to Friends of husband John. As you read this, please give each of them a silent “ATTAGIRL”/“ATTABOY”.

The neighborhood also owes Bill Payne our thanks and gratitude for all the time and hard work he donated to the park. Who knows what the park would have looked like, given the drought from midsummer to fall without Bill’s dedication.

As of October 31, the irrigation has been turned off and Seven Pools has been drained and cleaned. Notwithstanding how beautiful the park presented itself, next year will require even more attention from the MPRB because the upkeep needs continue to increase as the park ages. PLEASE ALL OF YOU

WHO READ THIS PAPER. FRIENDS AND THE PARK NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER TO WORK IN THE PARK NEXT SPRING, SUMMER, AND FALL. AND TO DONATE TO FRIENDS OF Thomas Lowry Park! YOU CAN SEND YOUR NAMES OR YOUR MONETARY DONATION, OR BOTH, TO THIS WRITER. Friends will contact you about your working in the park and put your donation to good use. Remember Friends is a Section 501(c) (3) non profit corporation making your contribution tax deductible. Volunteers are needed next Spring for pruning, fertilizing, applying herbicide, plantings, moving mulch, and requesting (bugging is ok as well) the MPRB to do the work, plantings, repairs, and watering, which are the responsibility of the MPRB in the first place.

Friends would like to add two new directors to its board. Is there a master gardener reading this article or do one of you Lowry Hillites/Kenwoodians know of a master gardener? He or she does not need to do the work but can, hopefully, coordinate volunteers, provide guidance and suggestions on what to do or what to plant or not plant, and prioritize what and when work or other actions need to be undertaken.

The other director Friends needs is someone who has expertise finding community volunteers. The only community organizer known to this writer was just reappointed to his position.

Friends has asked for volunteers in this column and Friends has the same results most of you have in training your cat. If you do not want to get your hands dirty, find Friends persons who want to have dirty hands (in the good sense, not in an attorney’s lingo). Please contact this writer ASAP. Thanks.

Friends wishes all of you a Happy Thanksgiving and a refreshing walk in the park.

A volunteer event on October 26th at the Peavey Lake of the Isles Fountain planting. Volunteers from the LOI neighborhood planted approximately 450 purple allium and species tulip bulbs. The bulbs were intermingled with the existing native and nonnative grasses/perennials.



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Tom Berg drew large crowd to the Hubert Humphrey Institute

By Harriet Horwitz

“Obama, GOP call for compromise. Sides signal willingness to work together as fiscal crisis looms”

Headline of StarTribune, Nov. 8, 2012

Tom Berg’s smile was one of optimism, not cynicism. “Government can do its job,” said the former legislative representative and U.S. Attorney from the District of Minnesota. Publication of his new book “Minnesota’s Miracle: Learning from the Government That Worked,” could not come at a better time.

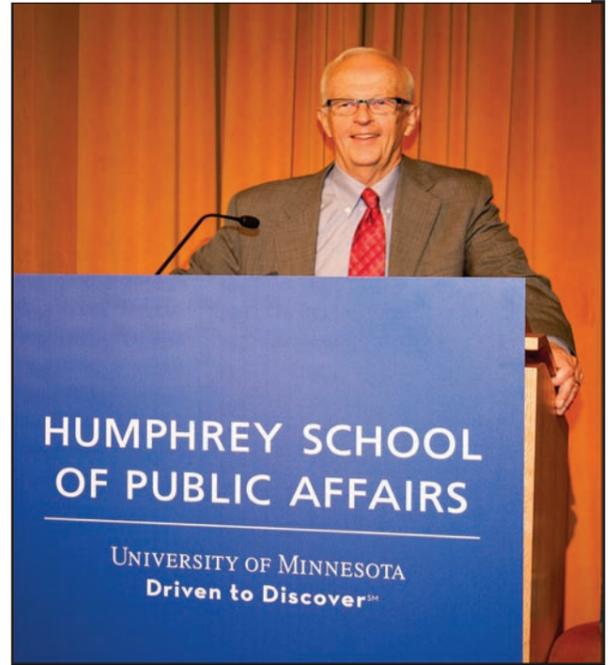
Speaking at the Hubert Humphrey Institute’s Sabo Lecture Series, the Kenwood resident reflected on his term at the Minnesota House of Representatives from 1971 through 1978. It was the Golden Age when Gov.

Wendell Anderson and his fish made the cover of Time Magazine.

Encouraged by Martin Sabo and the Minnesota Historical Society, what began as a history project evolved into a civics lesson and primer for today’s thoughtful citizen by connecting Minnesota to the national political environment. Published by the University of Minnesota Press, Berg’s book looks back at those years when America was in social upheaval and political gridlock, burdened by controversies over taxes, the environment and an unpopular war. At the Minnesota capitol, the DFL Party came to occupy a majority in the Senate and House and Governorship.

In a rare behind-the-scenes look at legal sausage-making, he tells the stories behind policies and pro-

On December 11 at 7:15, Tom Berg will be speaking at Kenwood-Isles Condominiums, 1425 W. 28th Street. The public is invited.



Tom Berg read from his new book and answered questions. Photo by Dorothy Childers

grams, describing the key players, the deal-making, arm-twisting and just plain hard work leading to historic political shifts.

“The best advice I can give legislators is talk to each other!” says Berg. “I can’t emphasize that enough. The first thing to do is foster an atmosphere of goodwill. It is the job of leadership to change a culture from competition to cooperation.” He explained that previous legislatures had treated their minorities badly. When the new, young leaders took charge what they did was unheard of: included in the 1973 rules of the DFL legislative session was a commitment to treat Republican minority legislators fairly, allowing them to serve on the powerful Rules Committee, and to open all committee meetings to the public.

What influenced Berg’s thinking? “I graduated from college when Kennedy was inaugurated. [His] notions of political courage, intelligence, humor and grace in governing continue to resonate with me.”

Former U.S. Senator and Vice-President Walter Mondale says, “In view of today’s divisive political arena, we have a lot to learn from the legislators who worked across the aisle in Minnesota. For a glimpse into the inner workings of Minnesota’s government, read this book.”



Photo by Dorothy Childers
Enjoying the event were Margit Berg, Vivian Mason, former Park Board Commissioner, and Meg Tuthill City Council Member.



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CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Monica Smith

CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES, November 7, 2012

The November meeting was held at the Jones-Harrison Residence. Board members in attendance: Chair Craig Westgate, Treasurer Ed Bell, Secretary Ryan Fox, Ed Ferlauto, Stephen Goltry, Ray Greco, Rosanne Halloran, and Art Higinbotham. Committee Chair: Bob Corrick and neighborhood residents. Staff: Monica Smith

Chair Craig Westgate called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Announcements

One Sort Recycling is coming to most of Cedar-Isles-Dean later this month. Residents will receive instructions one week prior to implementing the new system. For more information: www.minneapolismn.gov/onesort.

Two public meetings will be held regarding the proposed 2013 City budget: November 28 and December 12, 6:05 p.m. City Hall, Room 317, 350 S 5th St.

Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

Park Siding Park

Park Siding Park playground equipment update:

The SurveyMonkey questionnaire received 36 responses. The results will be provided to CIDNA. The next step is to obtain design proposals from several manufacturers.

Two more community meetings will be held for the playground equipment selection. The next meeting will be held after Thanksgiving (date to be determined) and the purpose will be to present design proposals for comment.

The existing playground equipment is scheduled for removal the week of November 5, along with paving a temporary road in Park Siding Park.

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) will attend CIDNA's December meeting to give an update.

Residents attended the meeting to share their ideas for improvements to the park, including ideas to make the entrance from the Kenilworth Trail safer and more inviting.

NRP/ CPP Committee Report

The paperwork for creating a Neighborhood Priority Plan (NPP) has been submitted to the City. The plan will address coordination of Southwest Light Rail Transit (LRT) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) response and potential efforts to mitigate adverse impacts.

MCES Sewer Update

Ryan Fox has been in communication with residents on 28th St regarding the petition to add a sidewalk to Sunset Blvd. All but seven of the households have agreed to the sidewalk. Fox will send a letter to Council Member Lisa Goodman asking her to direct Public Works to approve the sidewalk installation and traffic

calming techniques when the new roadway is constructed. This will increase pedestrian access, green space, traffic calming, intersection safety, and reduce parking within the corridor.

Transportation Committee

A Task Force of neighborhood associations has been meeting to draft a response to the Southwest LRT DEIS. An Executive Summary will be prepared, followed by specific comments on each chapter of the DEIS. The next meeting is November 17.

There are two main areas of concern: noise and the impact of the proposed bridge over Cedar Lake Parkway.

A proposal of professional services from a sound engineering firm (ESI Engineering, Inc.) was presented.

The Board unanimously approved a motion to hire ESI Engineering, Inc for a negotiated fee of \$5,000 for items #1, 2, and 5 of their proposal (review reports, maps, and drawing related to noise and vibration in the neighborhood to determine how the DEIS predicts noise and vibration levels; review FTA rules to determine if the Met Council used proper methods to evaluate noise and vibration impacts; and prepare a report of findings, assessment, calculations, measurement data, and recommend action).

A second motion was unanimously approved to allocate an additional \$1,500 to the above proposal, if needed.

The Board approved a motion to hire NVizeon for \$725 to create an electronic 3D model of the proposed Cedar Lake Parkway bridge to be completed by November 16 for use in the DEIS response. Video and photos will be provided and show views of the bridge from various vantage points in the neighborhood.

The proposed bridge over Cedar Lake Parkway exceeds high limits set by the Shoreland Overlay District.

Art Higinbotham reported that Rep Frank Hornstein shares concerns about mitigation for LRT and may introduce a bill to have the state help fund mitigation if not included in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Public hearings on the DEIS will be: November 13, 4:30 p.m. at Hennepin County Government Center; November 14, 6:00 p.m. at St. Louis Park City Hall; and November 29, 6:00 p.m. at Eden Prairie City Hall.

Chair Craig Westgate will make a statement on behalf of the CIDNA Board at one of the public hearings.

Midtown Greenway Coalition (MGC) Report

MGC is drafting a letter of response to the Southwest LRT DEIS. They will state that they: oppose co-location of LRT and freight; oppose the bridge Cedar Lake Parkway (preference is for a tunnel); have concerns about congestion on the Lake St bridge; and will advocate for mitigation along the Kenilworth corridor.

The MGC newsletter features an article about the

booming development along the Greenway.

Land Use & Development Committee

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board will continue to study the area between Lake Calhoun and Lake of the Isles and explore the idea of a land bridge.

New Business

The next meeting of the CIDNA Board will be changed to Wednesday, December 5 for further discussion on the DEIS response before the due date of December 11.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Next meeting

Wednesday, December 5 at Jones-Harrison, 6:00 p.m.

430 OAK GROVE FROM PAGE 8

natural (and shadow less) light from the north, which would not greatly vary in brightness during the work day. The skylights still remain, serving new central atrium area. Oversized windows, complete with original hardware, will also be retained, allowing residents to catch a breeze. The building's proximity to bike trails and downtown will also appeal to residents looking to pedal more, drive less. But the greenest aspect of the construction project is the recycling of the building itself.

"It's one of the most sustainable building technologies we have today," says Engel. "The reuse of an existing building is far more sustainable than demolition and creation of new buildings."

Engel says the renovation will take advantage of the building's distinctive wedge shape and other assets to create distinctive living environments, including two units with mezzanines accommodated by 15-ft, 6-inch ceilings. Of the 72 apartments, 35 will become one-of-a-kind in configuration. Other building amenities include a spa/fitness center, lounge, and hearth room, all fostering opportunities for neighbors to interact. A two-level parking garage with 88 spaces will also be created from the existing basement level and surface lot.

"It was a fabulous office building in the 1920s and it will be a very sought-after apartment building after the current rehab project is done, and it will be far more unique than anything new being built these days," Roise said. Construction will be completed in November with occupancy available December 1, 2012.

Leasing information is available at 612-767-8780 and www.430oakgrove.com.

Breakdown of the 72 apartments: 8 studio; 43 one bedroom; 2 one bedroom plus den;

17 two bedroom; two live/work units.

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KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION (KIAA) LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (LHNA)

By Janis Clay, Secretary

November 2012 KIAA Meeting Minutes

KIAA Board met November 5, 2012 at Kenwood Rec Center.

Chair Larry Moran called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Chair Larry Moran, Mike Bono, Jeanette Colby, Angie Erdrich, Jack Levi, Amy Lucas, Kathy Low, Ed Pluimer and Bob Tennesen.

Others present: 7th Ward Council Aide Patrick Sadler, Dylan Thomas of Southwest Journal and Kenwood residents: Sam Murphy, Bret Rekas, Courtney Kiernat, Pat Scott, Ernest Lehmann, Sally Lehman, Adam Platt, Horace Devoto.

7th Ward Update-Council Aide Patrick Sadler

No "Lunch with Lisa" in November due to Thanksgiving holiday. "Later with Lisa" will be Thurs. Dec 13 at 4:30 at the Normandy Inn.

Single Sort recycling is beginning to roll out; Kenwood will be spring 2013.

"Conservation Districts Committee" is being looked at in Mpls; Amy Lucas, Kenwood resident, is a representative on the committee.

Southwest LRT public hearings will be held: Nov. 13, 14, 29. Visit www.southwesttransitway.org to learn more.

The City of Mpls will hold two public hearings for the proposed 2013 property tax: Nov. 28 and Dec. 12 in Room 317 Mpls City Hall at 6:05 p.m.

Lake Calhoun Design Charette – Sam Murphy, Kenwood resident and KIAA rep. at charette

Sam Murphy attended the recent (Oct. 9 and Oct. 13) vision meetings on the design charette as KIAA rep.

Sam learned that Lake Calhoun is the most visited park in MN and the Lake Street intersection is one of the heaviest used roads in Henn Co.

Design charette, by Mpls Park Board, identified a number of issues: 1) dangerous road/path intersection; 2) congestion; 3) unimpressive park entry; 4) Need for better connection between Lake Calhoun and Lake of the Isles

For more info contact Deb Bartels, project manager, at dbartels@minneapolisparcs.org

Team will return to Mpls Park Board with recommendations

Southwest Corridor LRT DEIS – Jeanette Colby

DEIS comments are due on December 11. Visit www.southwesttransitway.org to review the DEIS and learn about upcoming public hearings.

KIAA's draft comments will be available on the KIAA website (kenwoodminneapolis.org) before the Dec. 3 KIAA meeting. Kenwood residents should feel free to email KIAA officers (emails on website) with their comments/issues. kenwoodminneapolis.org. KIAA will update Kenwood residents signed onto the KIAA newsletter. Contact Kathy Williams at kathyroyw@gmail.com if you would like to receive the KIAA newsletters.

Mpls Park Board has hired a designer to look at the proposed fly-over bridge at Cedar Lake Parkway. It was noted that the bridge design is inappropriate in size and design at that location.

Jeanette Colby is composing the main draft of the KIAA comments.

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Minutes

Tuesday, November 13, 2012, Kenwood Recreation Center

Present - Board Members: David Weinstein, President; Maureen Sheehan, Vice President; Janis Clay, Secretary; Dan Aronson, Treasurer; Phil Hallaway; Jimmy Fogel; Ann Seltman; Rebecca Graham; Sherie Tazelaar .

Present – Guests and staff: Lisa Goodman, Seventh Ward Minneapolis City Council Representative; Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board; Robert Thompson, Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations Department; George Puzak; Chris Madden, LHNA Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President David Weinstein, noting a quorum was present.

Community Announcements - Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman: Single sort recycling is coming to Lowry Hill, beginning in some portions of the neighborhood from November 26th through December first. Other portions will wait until spring. Residents will receive a new recycling container. Fall leaf sweeping has another week to go. Lunch with Lisa is finished for the year. "Later with Lisa" will take place December 13th from 4:30 to 7:00 at the Normandy. Discussion is starting about Conservation Districts. Lisa discussed the proposed 2013 property tax and budget and circulated a handout. Public hearings are being held on the Southwest Light Rail Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Parking changes have been implemented in connection with the Burch building renovation and planned restaurant. Parade Road is open again.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Phil Hallaway moved and Jimmy Fogel seconded approval of the September 4, 2012, and October 2, 2012, minutes and tonight's agenda. All approved.

NRP and Grant Funding Decisions: Robert Thompson, Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations Department, discussed additional reporting LHNA needs to do regarding Community Participation Program funding and also discussed housing funds LHNA has that are currently held by the Nonprofit Assistance Fund. These can be rolled over or reclaimed for another purpose.

Treasurer's Report: Dan Aronson reported that we

Residents noted that the elected officials should be advocating more for the residents affected by the rail especially in relation to traffic, design, noise, etc.

CM Goodman will be copied on the comment letters and issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

The December 3 meeting will include:

1. KIAA's final comment on the LRT DEIS will be discussed.

are in good shape financially.

Election of Board Officers: David Weinstein moved and Ann Seltman seconded election of the following officers:

Maureen Sheehan – President
David Weinstein – Vice President
Dan Aronson – Treasurer
Janis Clay – Secretary

All approved.

Committee Reports:

Zoning and Planning Committee:

David Weinstein will head up this committee.

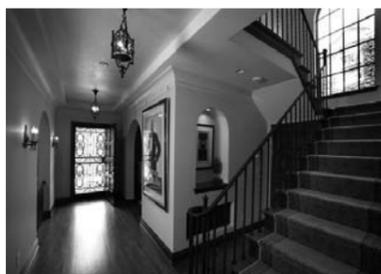
Environment: Because the bids we received all exceeded the amount budgeted for the Kenwood Park Landscaping Plan, we approved a trees-only version of the plan. Craig Wilson will interface with the Park Board to monitor this process.

Crime and Safety: There have been numerous reports of home and auto break-ins, and violent crime in the neighborhood. David Weinstein moved and Phil Hallaway seconded a motion to allocate up to \$3000 for a crime prevention mailing, incorporating tips such as leaving a porch light on, quick removal of graffiti, and appropriate calling of 911. David Weinstein will be the LHNA representative on the Bridge's Good Neighbor Group, a working group of staff from the Bridge and representatives from surrounding neighborhoods.

Presentation on Southwest Light Rail Planning: The Southwest Transitway Draft Environmental Impact Statement was released for public review on October 12, 2012. The deadline for submission of comments is December 12, 2012. Anita Tabb and George Puzak provided an overview of the large and complex document, the purpose of which is to assist decision-makers in assessing the impacts associated with the Southwest Light Rail project. A coalition of neighborhoods affected by the project will be putting together a letter, which should be available for review, and possibly signing, by the LHNA Board at its December meeting.

LHNA's next Board meeting will be held Tuesday, December 4, 2012, at the Kenwood Rec Center. All residents are welcome. 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.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



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EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (EIRA)

By Monica Smith, Recorder

East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)

Minutes from the Members Semi-Annual Meeting October 23, 2012 Grace-Trinity Community Church

23 East Isles residents and invited guests attended the meeting.

EIRA President Dan McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Guest Speaker David C. Smith

David Smith, author of *City of Parks: The Story of Minneapolis Parks*, spoke about the history of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MRBR) and the parklands in and around East Isles. Smith has also written a brief history of every Minneapolis park for the MPRB website (www.minneapolisparkehistory.com) and continues to write on the subject of parks and Minneapolis history at www.minneapolisparkehistory.com.

Meg Tuthill, Ward 10 Council Member, City of Minneapolis

Residents are invited to participate in Minneapolis City Academy, a five-week program (beginning the week of October 29) designed to give residents an introduction to the various City functions.

Membership Vote

The Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) department of the City of Minneapolis has asked EIRA to revise its bylaws to better comply with the guidelines for the Community Participation Program (CPP). Copies of the proposed Amendment #1 were made available to members. Changes to the bylaws require approval of 2/3 of members present at a general membership meeting.

Amendment #1 relates to EIRA Bylaws Article VI, Committees, Section 2, on Qualifications. It is intended to amend something previously adopted, by dropping a single sentence, to eliminate nine (9) words, and strike this language from the bylaws: "All committee members must be approved by the board."

Members present unanimously approved the motion that "EIRA members amend the language of the EIRA bylaws as proposed in Amendment #1, and that this be done by 2/3 affirmative vote of those EIRA members tonight."

Smith Triangle Park Survey results

Renee Gust, Chair of the Smith Triangle Park sub-committee gave a report. The Zoning Committee was discussing Smith Triangle Park, 2330 Hennepin Ave S, and the possible request that the Thomas Lowry statue be moved from Smith Triangle Park to Thomas Lowry Park. A sub-committee was formed to study this issue further. A survey was created and sent to all East Isles resident; it included a one-page history of Thomas Lowry and the statue (researched and written by Linda Schutz) and the following three questions:

- Please describe what you think about Smith Triangle Park?
- Please describe what you think should be done to enhance the park?
- Do you have any comments, suggestions, or ideas regarding the monument?

Thirty-seven surveys were completed and returned. Most respondents reported that they think the park is neglected and unkempt and efforts should be made to improve landscaping. Many respondents mentioned that the park should have more inviting amenities. Most respondents supported the statue and monument stay in Smith Triangle Park but that it needs cleaning and maintenance.

It was suggested to use NRP funds to make improvements to the park.

The committee will check with the Park Board about their plans for Smith Triangle Park.

Special thanks to committee members: Helen Ackerman, Rosita Acosta, Renee Gust, Donna Jansen, Linda Schutz, and Richard White.

Announcements

• Fall street sweeping is scheduled in East Isles for the weeks of October 29 and November 5. Watch for No Parking signs.

• The Park Board recently conducted a design charrette for North Lake Calhoun and South Lake of the

Isles. For more information, see the article in the October issue of the Hill and Lake Press and go to www.minneapolisparkehistory.com/default.asp?PageID=1398.

• The Walker Library has closed and will not be a polling place this year. To confirm your polling place, go to www.MNVOTES.org.

Neighborhood Priority Setting

Monica Smith gave an overview of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), a 20-year City of Minneapolis program that provided funding to neighborhoods to make improvements based on the needs of each neighborhood. The NRP program is phasing out; there is no new funding for this program. East Isles is spending down its NRP funds and continues to offer programs to help residents: low-interest home improvement loans and home security grants (for more information, go to www.eastisles.org).

As NRP was phasing out, the City started the Community Participation Program (CPP) in January 2011 to keep neighborhood organizations functioning. The funding was for communications, outreach, and administration. EIRA received \$30,000 for the first 18-month cycle. The second 18-month cycle started July 1, 2012 and EIRA received \$53,000. In this cycle, neighborhoods are allowed to set aside funds for Neighborhood Priority Plan (NPP). Each neighborhood is required to submit a NPP to the City by December 2013. A Neighborhood Priority Plan is a neighborhood-generated initiative for improvement. Partners will be identified and the City must approve a formal application. EIRA has allocated \$18,000 to a NPP.

The EIRA Board identified some potential NPP projects and members were invited to offer additional suggestions. Ideas were presented and members were allowed three votes on the ideas. The results:

- 12 votes: Beautification of "The Mall"
- 12 votes: Lake of the Isles, parkland clean-up and reduce milfoil
- 6 votes: Revitalize Smith Triangle Park and the Lowry statue/monument
- 5 votes: Create more social events
- 5 votes: Create Transportation Committee
- 3 votes: Create Hennepin Ave traffic management plan
- 4 votes: Develop legal capacity for EIRA
- 3 votes: Parks & green space: develop projects to encourage a more walkable community
- 3 votes: Environment: work with partners to engage residents in improving energy efficiency and water quality (i.e. rain gardens)
- 3 votes: Environment: Organize by blocks to reduce, reuse, and recycle waste including food and water.

The results will be reviewed at an upcoming meeting of the EIRA Board to establish the next steps.

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

The evening concluded with socializing and refreshments. Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder Next EIRA Board of Directors meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th St.

"Due to publication deadlines, the minutes from the November 13th EIRA Board meeting will be published in the December edition of the Hill and Lake Press. The November meeting minutes will be available at www.eastisles.org on Friday, November 23."

Meet the New MPS School Board Members

What do the newly elected Minneapolis Public School Board members hope to accomplish in their new term? And what will that mean for you?

AchieveMpls' November "Our City, Our Schools" community forum will offer community members an opportunity to meet the newly elected MPS school board members, learn more about each member's priorities for the new term, and have their questions answered in a safe, supportive environment. This free event will be held on Wednesday, November 28 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm at the Thomas Edison High School Media Center, 700 22nd Avenue Northeast, Minneapolis.

Newly elected board members Tracine Asberry, Carla Bates, Kim Ellison and Josh Reimnitz will speak about how they view the role of an MPS board member, what skills and experience they bring to the board, and their priorities for the new term. Community members will have a chance to speak with each school board member to pose their questions, express their concerns, and relate the issues most important to them this school year. Come prepared to ask your specific questions about the members' plans for the new MPS school board term.

Our City, Our Schools forums are designed to help our local community get better informed about current – and often very complex – public education issues and get engaged as volunteers, community partners and advocates. Open to the public, forums are held in a variety of Minneapolis locations and light refreshments are provided.

Click here to reserve your spot or contact Marika Pfefferkorn at mpfefferkorn@achievempls.org or 612.455.1570 for more information.

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LETTERS

Dear Hill and Lake Neighborhood,

I would like to make a formal apology for some of my actions in the past while enjoying the surroundings you have to offer. To clarify, last summer I was enjoying some time at Cedar Lake also known as "Hidden Beach." I was walking along a trail and decided it to be a good idea to open and drink a beer from my backpack. During that time I was approached by some park patrolmen, who then told me to empty the beverage.

I did so and told them I was aware of the open container law and received a citation. I am here to simply apologize for my actions. What I did was wrong, and it affects the well being of your community. As part of my retribution I am currently working with the Restorative Justice Community Action group to find ways on giving back to the community. Efforts will include volunteering at local food shelves and art centers. These areas are closest to my heart in the community, and through my actions I have seen someone else's fracture.

For this I apologize, and wish nothing but the best for the Hill and Lake Community.

Sincerely,
Daniel Hoffstrom, Northeast Minneapolis



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Please direct contributions and advertising queries to Jean Deatruck at 612-377-5785

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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.

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Please patronize these businesses and while doing so, get a copy of Hill and Lake Press. If you cannot find a copy, you can get one or several from my porch at 1821 Dupont Avenue South.

The Minneapolis Area Association of Realtors released its October housing report this morning, here are the highlights.

Pending sales: 4,483, 34 percent higher than October 2011.

Closed sales: 4,262, a 15.1 percent increase over last year.

Median sales: up 14.8 percent to \$175,000.

10K Housing Value Index (factors in changes in the kinds and prices of sales): up 7.4 percent increase to \$172,804.

New listings: 5,301 homes were placed onto the market, 7.5 percent more than last year.

Total active listings: 15,002, down 29.7 percent — the lowest since at least January 2003.

HILL LAKE PRESS Real Estate Sales October 2012											
STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	Seller Contrib	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT	
1912 Dupont S #305	\$ 144,900		92	\$ 86,500	C	1/1	675	\$ 112,500	\$ 1,824	1960	
1901 Emerson S	209,000		159	103,000	C	1/1	760	140,000	2,334	1964	
52 Groveland Terr #A113	149,900		52	134,900	C	1/1	733	142,100	2,148	1966	
1770 Bryant S #310	139,900	4,000	10	139,000	C	1/1	727	131,000	2,299	1968	
741 Kenwood Pkwy	449,000		16	450,000	H	3/4	3,960	700,000	12,318	1919	
2913 Drew Ave S	485,000	5,000	266	420,000	H	3/3	2,241	454,000	7,569	1951	
1214 W 22nd St	625,000	5,000	178	542,000	H	4/4	2,240	565,500	9,666	1913	
2904 Ewing Ave S	586,000		22	545,000	H	4/4	3,431	531,111	9,004	1932	
2700 Sunset Blvd	789,000		125	707,500	H	4/4	3,732	870,500	15,327	1997	
2818 Sunset Blvd	999,900		140	855,000	H	4/3	3,600	875,000	15,951	1930	
1815 Humboldt S	995,000	18,480	174	924,000	H	5/5	4,630	1,056,000	19,101	1909	
1900 James S	1,160,000		361	873,000	H	5/6	4,453	1,186,000	22,086	1903	
Sources:	Harvey Ettinger	Steve Havig		cume	Condo	C					
					Home	H					
					Townhouse	TWN					
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County											(Go to mplsrealtor.com for additional info)

Sen. Franken Op-Ed: Putting Minnesotans back to work and investing in our future

This fall, with our economy slowly improving and creating good-paying, high-skilled jobs, many Minnesota manufacturers face an emerging challenge: they cannot find employees with the right skills to fill those jobs.

The challenge reminds us that in this increasingly competitive world, U.S. industry leaders and policy makers must to work together to produce enough well-trained workers to enable employers to continue to expand and innovate. In short, without action to better prepare our work force for 21st Century jobs, we'll be left behind.

Our state's manufacturers employ nearly 300,000 Minnesotans, and manufacturing exports brought over \$18 billion into Minnesota's economy last year. And our manufacturers lead the nation in the design and production of incredible high-tech products like airplane components, computers, electronic products, and medical devices.

But a report by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development showed that about half of the state's manufacturers said they had positions they couldn't fill. That means these companies can't grow as much as they should be able to, and it means our economy suffers as a result.

Earlier this month, I visited Heraeus Medical Components in White Bear Lake, where I talked to the

Franken to page 16

Where we are Now

By Jean Deatruck, Editor

Just when we thought we couldn't take another minute of election news and advertising, suddenly it was over. I attended a neighborhood party that excelled in good taste in decorating, delicious food, and interesting guests, some of whom were Republicans. Conversation was so interesting that we forgot to watch the returns regularly. As a long time liberal, when I returned home in time to hear President Obama reelected, I felt great joy, a relief, one less thing to worry about, our future is secure, or so I thought.

And then we shifted back to scandals. Much easier to listen to or dismiss.

Last night's news that Louise Erdrich won the National Book Award for fiction for her new novel "The Roundhouse" was welcome to the many of us who share her world emanating out from Birchbark Books in Kenwood. If you haven't shopped at Birchbark, you really ought to go there. The bookstore is filled with all the books I want to read, but don't have time to do so, so I choose carefully. And jewelry. Lots of jewelry, most of it Native American beautifully hand-crafted pieces. My book club plans to have a jaunt to Birchbark Books after Thanksgiving where we can peruse at our leisure before we stop for an early dinner at The Kenwood, the new restaurant.

I have read most of Louise Erdrich's books, but my favorite remains "The Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse". And "The Master Butchers Singing

Club" is a masterpiece.

My daughter Heather reminded me that even though William Alexander, a young adult author, doesn't live in our neighborhood, he deserves acclamation for his win for "Goblin Secrets". To think that two writers from Minneapolis won in this prestigious event is very exciting.

It is opera season. This weekend we plan to see Anna Bolena at the Minnesota Opera. As a board member of the Twin Cities Opera Guild, I encourage readers to support opera in its various capacities. Twin Cities Opera Guild provides opera and music education to school children around the metro area. We also support smaller opera companies and events and the Met Opera auditions. For information check out the Twin Cities Opera Guild website at www.twincitiesoperaguild.org

I hope that everyone has a wonderful and relaxing Thanksgiving Day and that you spend it with people you love. I expect that my husband will be out of the hospital again and we will celebrate around our diningroom table with my children, their spouses, grandchildren, and also with my sorrowing brother whose wife died in August. Everyone except my son Steve and family who live in Los Angeles, but who will be here for Christmas. Young Andrew likes the snow.

Happy Thanksgiving Season.

Good Eats

By Madeleine Lowry

You may have moved to this neighborhood for its proximity to downtown, or for the access to the Lakes, or even for the beautiful historic architecture. But I think that, by now, any of us could legitimately say that we moved here for the food.



Not only are we ringed by some of the Cities' best grocery stores- Lunds, Kowalskis, The Wedge, and now Lunds downtown—but also several Farmer's Markets (Minneapolis, Downtown and Mill City). No food desert here!

Most of us are within walking distance of notable longstanding neighborhood eateries like Lucia's, French Meadow, Café Barbette, Café Lurcat, D'Amico and Sons, and La Belle Vie.

Now, a new crop of restaurants has sprung up around us. Weren't you ecstatic when Rustica moved into Calhoun Village? A European-style bread bakery and coffeehouse was just what this neighborhood needed. (Of course, Wuollets is still our favorite for cakes.)

But, back to restaurants, The Lowry has been a very welcome addition and Rye has brought a taste of Jewish deli to our area. Recently The Kenwood opened next to Birchbark Books and it is a wonderfully cozy space with surprisingly upscale food. And let's not forget the new restaurant at the Walker Art Center—Gather. We have some great choices for date night!

We are also spoiled by our access to the best ethnic cuisines—our counterparts in the suburbs could only dream about this! With Eat Street only minutes away we can enjoy Vietnamese at Quang and Chinese at Rainbow Chinese. There are several Thai places in Uptown, but my favorite is Tom Rup Thai on Lake Street. Craving Japanese? Head to Fuji Ya at Lyn-Lake. A trip to Little Tel Aviv or Falafel King will satisfy, if your tastes run to Middle Eastern food. Did you say Greek? Try It's Greek to Me. For Mexican head downtown by Orchestra Hall to Masa, or for French simply cross the street to Vincent. Oh, and for the best fish 'n chips in town with a side of lawn croquet there's Brit's Pub, too.

Less than ten years ago for a night on the town, we could walk to Auriga and then over to the Guthrie for a show. Now this routine involves driving, but the dining options have multiplied. We've had great meals at Sea Change and Kindee Thai. We're also excited about the new Zen Box Japanese eatery nearby.

New additions I've yet to try include Birdhouse on Hennepin, La Belle Crepe on Nicollet Mall, and the Smack Shack food truck's lobster rolls.

Let's not forget ice cream at Sebastian Joe's, sinful iced cinnamon rolls at Isles Bun and Coffee, or the

wonderful summer vibe at Tin Fish. For breakfast all day, visit the Uptown Diner. If you'd like to combine your eating with bowling, give thanks for Bryant Lake Bowl.

It's truly an embarrassment of riches. I've only scratched the surface of our eating options because there are far too many restaurants to possibly name here.

As I'm sure you've heard, Isaac Becker is opening a restaurant in the old Burch Pharmacy location to be called, uh, Burch. So, if you haven't been able to get

reservations at Bar La Grassa or 112 Eatery, two of his other restaurants, since the James Beard Foundation named him Best Chef-Midwest, then hoof it over to his new place. It'll be a steakhouse, with a menu that extends far beyond steak, and it will have a smaller casual eatery on the lower level.

No word on when they might open, but when they do (probably early next year)—date night may only involve stepping into your boots for a short snowy stroll over to Hennepin.

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Franken from page 14

sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

general manager, Keith Foerster. He said that Heraeus should be able to expand and increase production – and create even more jobs – but they just don't have enough qualified applicants.

I've heard the same thing from manufacturers all over the state: they just don't have enough qualified applicants to keep growing.

And while we need to invest in training our existing workforce, we also need to invest in education so that tomorrow's workers— our students – are ready to join this high-tech economy when they're done with school.

I've been going around to schools across the state – high schools, junior highs, and middle schools. I bring manufacturers with me to talk to the kids and tell them that much of today's manufacturing is not dark, dirty, and dangerous, and that there are good paying, high skilled jobs waiting for them where they can be creative, work with their hands, and design cutting-edge products.

One way to make sure our students are prepared to lead the world is to educate them in the so-called STEM fields – science, technology, engineering and math. Sixteen of the 20 fastest-growing jobs in Minnesota require STEM skills, but our kids are falling behind in many of these key areas. That's why, as a member of the Senate education committee, I've been doing everything I can to strengthen STEM programs for our nation's students.

But it's important that we educate our kids outside the classroom as well. Last year, in Bemidji, I had the chance to meet with Andy Wells at Wells Technology. Andy started something called the "Wells Academy," a unique program that works with kids from Red Lake High School to give them access to apprenticeships – including two hours of hands-on training every day – while they're still in high school.

The goal is to get these kids connected to the business community, and to get them the skills they need to succeed. It's good for Andy because he can count on a steady supply of smart, educated, local students coming

It would be convenient to blame age for my initial wariness and reluctance to try new things. Unfortunately it is more a lifetime pattern. A local fast food restaurant nearly ground to a halt because as a seven year old I would not abide even the hint of a condiment on my hamburger. In those days special orders did upset them, as well as my parents who were less than pleased when I, years later, not only saw the light but became a ketchup pusher, extolling its virtue at nearly every meal. Not only am I late getting into the pool, but once I am wet I become a secular Billy Graham urging others to join me.

So how about that Twitter! Now that there are over 500 million users I have decided to tweet. Previously the few social media comments I read were hopelessly banal: "I just had a peach, yum!" T.S. Eliot mused about daring to eat a peach in "The Lovesong of J. Alfred Prufrock"; everyone else need not bother. If someone had told me that Twitter is a way to make snarky irreverent comments about fools in high places without getting punched in the arm I would have joined years ago. The haymaker came from a self righteous classmate at Pennsauken High. The PA had come on in homeroom and the office secretary began, "May I have your atten-

tion please...Mr. P___ has an important announcement." "Yeah," I said, "if he doesn't spill it."

It was fairly well known that our principal liked to drink, and this was before the era of political correctness. Most of the class broke up which helped ease the pain of Donnie Cutler's fist on my bird-like bicep, and the detention I received. My career of slipping banana peels under the feet of jack bootied lock-stepped conformists was born.

I am a long time commentator on the wardrobe of various emperors. Having worn out most of my friends and family I am delighted to have a new vehicle and hopefully an audience for smart-aleck remarks, wry witticisms, petty digs, and wrong-headed yet trenchant observations. I will of course save my scurrilous and borderline libelous remarks for The Hill and Lake Press. If you are willing to indulge me, I am untethered, but my twitter handle is @tomhowardcook.

Tom H. Cook is (despite the continued presence of Michelle Bachmann) a proud Minnesotan stationed in Southern California. He hopes that you will friend, follow, or at least attempt to understand him

out of school ready to work. And, of course, it's good for students because they're qualified for a great career in manufacturing the moment they're done with school.

In order to make sure our nation's economy can continue to lead the world in the decades to come, we need to invest in our workforce. We need to invest in education so our kids have the tools they need to enter the job market and start a successful career. And we need to invest in workforce development programs so that people who are looking for work can get the training they need for the jobs that are available right now.

People interested in a manufacturing career can learn more by visiting dreamitdoitmn.com or the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development's website, www.MNManufacturingCareers.org.



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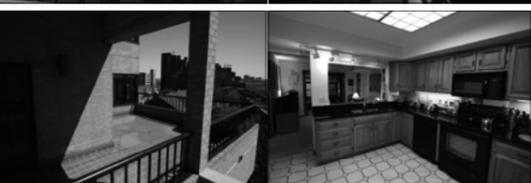
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