



'Where the biggies leave off...'

# Hill & Lake Press

Published for East Isles, Lowry Hill, Kenwood Isles, & Cedar Isles Dean Neighborhoods

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MARCH 18, 2016

## SWLRT, the Met Council, and Mitigation: "Not Our Problem" – an Exercise in Futility

By Marion Collins

Recently, Met Council members came to my house to discuss mitigation, as we will be severely affected by SWLRT. Their response to many of my concerns? "Not our problem."

### "Not Their (the Met Council's) Problem:"

**Noise:** After noise testing is briefly conducted inside our modest home, they get to determine what mitigation, if any, they will be responsible for. They decide, period. Our views on what is needed are "not their problem." Even though the Cedar Lake Park area is supposed to be a quiet zone, there WILL be a bell sounding as EVERY train approaches – every 5-7 minutes for nearly 24 hours, as there will be constant overnight trains! The entire neighborhood will have to listen to a bell regularly ringing day AND night. As for outdoor mitigation of this incessant ringing as trains criss-cross through parkland where we walk and bike: "not their problem."

**Safety:** Especially with overnight trains, there are huge Hidden Beach safety concerns for the park and the neighborhood. The station will be taken care of by transit police, but extra police presence to help empty Hidden Beach and keep it empty at night is "not their problem." And the potential catastrophic event of ethanol-carrying freight trains derailing or leaking next

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## 'Save Our Minneapolis Parks' Supports Joint Park Board, City Compromise

by Craig Wilson

On Wednesday March 16, 'Save Our Minneapolis Parks' announced their support for a resolution brought forth by Minneapolis City Council Member Lisa Goodman and Council President Barb Johnson at the City Council Committee of the Whole meeting. If passed, the resolution would set the stage for a concurrent ordinance between the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (Park Board) and the Minneapolis City Council. This ordinance would provide 20 years of new funding for the neighborhood parks system.

Council Member Lisa Goodman, who represents the Hill Lake Community on the City Council, gave an impassioned explanation for the evolution of her thinking about the funding gap for neighborhood parks. She commended the Park Board for its sound due diligence evaluating and determining the funding gap for neighborhood parks, which was presented to the Council in fall 2015. Goodman said that after learning about the funding gap, she approached Council President Barb Johnson about the historic opportunity for the City and Park Board to work out a compromise to fund the gap

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## 40 years of Hill and Lake Press Issue #1 March 1976



## Hill & Lake Press celebrates 40 years of service to our neighborhoods

By Michael Wilson

Forty years ago this month – March, 1976 – Lowry Hill and East Isles residents looked out their windows and watched neighborhood girls and boys drop something entirely new on their porches: a copy of Hill & Lake Press.

"Neighborhoods Join To Publish PRESS," the front-page headline declared. With the touch of irreverence that would characterize the paper for years to come, the story began, "The paper you are holding in your hands (or resting on your knees, or putting under

a dripping pipe) is the result of the merging of the communication efforts of two neighborhood associations: the East Isles Residents Association and the Lowry Hill Residents, Inc."

And this month – March, 2016 – Hill & Lake Press can celebrate forty years of community-building, activism, education, and communication at its most basic level: residents and neighborhoods, different in many ways but all sharing a common interest in protecting and promoting our corner of Minneapolis.

### East Isles, Lowry Hill merge efforts

Thanks to the efforts of Carol Lowenthal and Win Rockwell, the East Isles Residents Association published the first issue of EIRA News in January, 1976. The germ of an idea for a Lowry Hill paper had already

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**Rock Kenwood**

Rock Kenwood hosted by ARTrageous Adventures and Kenwood Park was a high energy dance party that happened on February 27th in the Kenwood Recreation Center. Families got to have their photo taken by local photographer Samantha Fronck after having rock star make overs by The Fox Den. Kids were able to make reARTcycled microphones and decorate picture frames to put their rockin photos in. Bryce Davidson drew caricatures while families joined in on the dance floor to the rockin performance of THE BIG EPIC SHOW.

To see more photos from this event or to find out what other upcoming community events are planned this spring and summer check out ARTrageous Adventures facebook page for details.



**HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**  
**March 22, 2016, at 4:30 p.m., in Room 317 City Hall, Heritage Preservation Commission Mtg, re: 1900 Colfax S development plans**  
**March 25 Stations of the Cross St. Mark's Cathedral.**  
**March 29, March 31, 9:30-12:30 Over the Rainbow Camp Kenwood/Artrageous Kids 3-5**  
**March 30 noon Lunch with Lisa**  
**April 11, at 7pm. Jim Lenfestey will discuss Deep Travel, and his memoir Seeking the Cave: A Pilgrimage to Cold Mountain,**  
**April 12, 6:15 EIRA Annual Meeting**  
**April 2, 8-3pm, Minneapolis Convention Ctr. Community Connections Conference**  
**Neighborhood monthly meetings**  
**CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday 6pm Jones-Harrison**  
**EIRA: 2nd Tuesday 7pm Grace Community Church**  
**KIAA: 1st Monday 7pm Kenwood Rec Center**  
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**Lunch with Lisa**

Lunch with Lisa at St. Thomas Minneapolis Opus Hall 201 is on March 30; the topic "Sisters City program". Please contact Lisa's office if you would like a lunch reserved. 612-673-2207.

\$10.00 lunch is offered. Discussion starts promptly at noon. Come early to get a good seat.

**Literary Witnesses celebrates Connie Wanek's new and selected poetry collection "Rival Gardens," on Monday, April 18, 7pm**



Literary Witnesses is honored to celebrate the publication of Rival Gardens: New and Selected Poems by Duluth poet Connie Wanek, with an introduction by former US poet Laureate Ted Kooser. Wanek will read on Monday, April 18, at 7pm at Plymouth Congregational Church, Minneapolis (Nicollet at Franklin), introduced by award-winning author Charles Baxter, with a reception and book signing following the reading. Co-sponsored by RainTaxi Review of Books and The Loft Literary Center, the event is free and there is plenty of free parking.

Connie Wanek is the author of three books of poetry—Bonfire, Hartley Field, and On Speaking Terms—and the coeditor of the award-winning anthology To Sing Along the Way: Minnesota Women Poets from Pre-territorial Days to the Present. She has been a Witter Bynner Fellow of the Library of Congress and was named George Morrison Artist of the Year, an honor given to a northern Minnesotan for contributions to the arts over many years. A native of New Mexico, she has lived for decades in Duluth, Minnesota.

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## Meet your Neighbor, Karin Birkeland

Craig Wilson interviews Karin Birkeland about growing up and choosing to raise her own kids in the Hill Lake community, her legal career and passion for supporting progressive causes, and why she is involved with Save Our Minneapolis Parks.

**Where did you grow up and what was it like?** I grew up on Lowry Hill, about three blocks from where I am living now, and we have been in our current house on Girard for 33 years! I am so grateful that I have been able to grow up and live in such an idyllic place. I am a passionate champion of our neighborhood and our city. I truly believe that we live in one of the best cities and one of the best neighborhoods in the country, and I want to help make sure they remain such special places. I went to Kenwood School and spent much of my childhood in Kenwood Park and around Lake of the Isles. Summers were spent on the Kenwood tennis courts or riding my bike to one of the beaches on Cedar Lake. In the winter, when we used to have plenty of snow, we headed for the Kenwood sliding hill or the Isles skating rink. Kenwood School provided a terrific education and was the center of much of the action. I have very fond memories of the Kenwood Carnival and Kenwood Field Day contests at the park. I am still close with a number of my Kenwood School and West High classmates and I think that we all share a sense of what a magic place this is.

**Why did you choose to raise your family in the Hill and Lake community?** It has been such a delight to be able to raise our kids in this neighborhood! We have spent many, many joyful hours in Kenwood Park cheering on a variety of WESAC sports teams and both of my kids learned to play tennis on the Kenwood courts. They both later became tennis instructors for the Inner City Tennis program and taught tennis in a number of public parks around the city—an incredible opportunity for them. My favorite restaurant is The Kenwood (surprise!) but our family spent many afternoons in the previous incarnation—the Kenwood Deli. I am so happy that The Kenwood has remained a gathering spot for families and



neighbors.

**How did you become interested in the law?** I was an English major at the University of Minnesota and, after graduation, I was a VISTA/Americorps volunteer for two years. I also volunteered on a number of political campaigns. The combination of my English major background and my political activism seemed to point me in the direction of law school. Law school is a great education regardless of what you eventually wind up doing. I am not sure any other post graduate education sharpens your ability to analyze problems or enhances your ability for critical thinking quite like law school. I went to the University of Minnesota Law School and I am now fortunate to be able to serve on its Board of Advisors.

**What was your focus at Faegre & Benson (now Faegre Baker Daniels) and the University of Minnesota?** I was a partner in the Real Estate Group, working mostly on the development, purchase and sale and leasing of large commercial projects. I worked on projects like the Wells Fargo Tower (one of my favorite buildings in Minneapolis), Target Center, Gaviidae Common,

and the Galleria Shopping Center and I had a lot of fun. Transactional law practices are very different from litigation and trial work. After a typical deal closes, the opposing parties often wind up celebrating with a closing lunch or dinner. That never happens with trial attorneys! After I left Faegre, I spent a number of years at the University of Minnesota General Counsel's Office overseeing real estate projects. The University is one of the largest landowners in the state and is involved in a myriad of construction projects at all times. It was a pleasure to work at our State's flagship educational institution.

**You have served on many boards. Where did you develop your incredible volunteer ethic and what motivates you to give as much as you do?** I am very lucky that I have had the opportunity to devote time to the social causes I care so deeply about. I loved practicing law but my practice did not allow me much room to work on other things. When I "retired", I wanted to dive into working on public policy issues and before I knew it I was on 6 different boards and my volunteer work became my new job. I was able to get to know whole new groups of people and still use some of my legal skills. I am particularly passionate about advocating for human rights, especially the rights of women and girls; for access to education; for the preservation of and access to public amenities, especially our public parks; and for progressive and inclusive political agendas. Our neighborhood is filled with like-minded people who tirelessly devote their time to help make our world a better place—one of the many, many reasons this is such a special place to live!

**One of the boards you are currently serving on as a member of the Executive Committee and as Treasurer is "Save Our Minneapolis Parks ("SOMP)". What is the purpose of the organization and what is its goal?** Save Our Minneapolis Parks is a citizen-led group supporting new funding for our neighborhood park system. Minneapolis has the top-rated urban

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## Never-published aerial photos from 1920s-30s provide birds-eye views of our Hill and Lake neighborhoods

By Michael Wilson

A remarkable treasure trove of aerial photographs of Minneapolis neighborhoods and their schools in the 1920s and '30s, never before seen by the general public nor included in institutional archival collections, has recently come to light.

The photographs were taken by Joseph E. Quigley and his associates for the Minneapolis Board of Education, presumably to aid the Board in documenting its existing schools (111 in 1930) and in planning for future growth. School district enrollment shot up from 54,000 students in 1916 to its peak of 90,073 students in 1933, necessitating replacement or expansion of old buildings and construction of new ones at a breakneck pace.

One aerial photograph from the 1920s, for example, shows Alcott School on West 29th Street and St. Louis Avenue, comprised of two portable classrooms trucked to the site, with the block between Drew and Chownen Avenues stretching from Sunset Blvd. halfway to Lake Street outlined in white, with the caption "Alcott (new site)." A new bricks-and-mortar Alcott School was never built, however, and the portables ceased operation in 1940 after district enrollment had begun its long, gradual slide.

Historical research involves a lot of digging laced with moments of serendipity, and one such moment occurred when, during my research on Alcott School, Cedar-Isles-Dean resident Nora Whiteman, who lives across from Alcott Triangle and whose mother-in-law attended Alcott School, recalled seeing aerial photos of the site many years ago. That tip led ultimately to Peg Carlson, a recently retired MPS media and information technology specialist, who has shouldered on a volunteer basis the enormous task of saving and organizing scores of boxes of old MPS photos, documents, and memorabilia. In addition to the aerial photos, Carlson has graciously shared many other items for future Hill & Lake Press stories.

According to his induction page on the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame website, Joseph Quigley was born in Minneapolis in 1892 and began his aerial photography career in 1925 when he went to work for a flying circus, taking aerial pictures and selling them. He took thousands of photos all over Minnesota for organizations such as Northwest Airlines and the Minnesota Air National Guard, whose 109th Observation Squadron he joined in 1932s as director of their photographic section. He served with the unit in WWII as an observer and aerial gunner. He retired from the Guard in 1945 and died in 1953.

Quigley's aerial photographs feature remarkable clarity due to the high-quality Fairchild cameras typically used in that era and the 8x10-inch film negatives they produced. (Glass plates had been pretty much phased out by the 1930s, according to Noel Allard, historian and board chair of the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame.) Thanks to their high resolution we can zoom in on the digitized photos close enough to see our neighborhoods in exceptional detail. (Email us at <hillandlakepress@gmail.com> if you would like copies of these and other photos.)



Alcott School at the intersection of West 29th Street and St. Louis Avenue, looking northeast. Opened in 1921 and closed in 1940, Alcott consisted (in this picture) of three portable classrooms. West Lake Street is at the bottom right, Lake of the Isles at the upper right. Note the grain silos and associated buildings, repurposed in the 1970s as Calhoun-Isles Condominiums. Note also the intensive railroad use at the confluence of the Kenilworth Corridor and today's Midtown Greenway.



Photos: Minneapolis Public Schools, courtesy of Peg Carlson.

Douglas School at the northwest corner of Dupont and Franklin Avenues, with the 1923 addition on the Emerson Avenue side. The Scottish Rite Temple is in the lower right corner. The second school built on this site, Douglas School, opened in 1894 and closed in 1974.

Captions: Michael Wilson

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Joseph Quigley served with the unit in WWII as an observer and aerial gunner. He retired from the Guard in 1945 and died in 1953.

## East Isles Takes a Stand Against Walgreens

By Andrew Degerstrom, President,  
East Isles Residents Association

Since the Walgreens project at 2650 Hennepin Avenue was announced in January, it has received nearly immediate and universal opposition from residents of the neighborhood. There are several reasons for the opposition. Some are upset that Roat Osha is closing. Some are upset about traffic issues as a result of cars leaving the drive through and turning onto 27th Street. Many are upset about the contemporary, suburban style design of the building. And most importantly, residents are upset about the striking lack of density of this project. This site sits along a high frequency transit corridor. It's located in one of the busiest commercial corridors and highest density neighborhoods in the city outside of downtown. Yet all we are getting is a single-story single-use commercial building with a drive through and surface parking. If we look at the Uptown Small Area Plan, the future land use map identifies this location as mixed-use with a height of 2-4 stories. Since this proposal does not comply with the Uptown Small Area Plan with regards to future land use, the East Isles Residents Association opposes this project.

A lot of residents are frustrated that the Uptown Small Area Plan is not being enforced and want to know why. The answer is that at the end of the day, the Uptown Small Area Plan is only a policy document, and not a regulatory document. For regulatory enforcement, we have to look to the zoning code. This location is zoned C2. The proposed use, including the drive through, is a permitted use in the C2 district. Also, there is no requirement for great density. So, how do we update the zoning code to reinforce the policies of the Uptown Small Area Plan and prevent low density projects like this from happening in the future? We believe the answer is minimum FAR, which is the ratio of the square footage of the building to the square footage of the lot. Buildings with a higher FAR typically indicate greater density. Therefore, the East Isles Residents Association supports current efforts to expand the Pedestrian Oriented overlay along Hennepin Avenue, and we recommend that a minimum FAR requirement be added to the Pedestrian Oriented overlay.

Knowing that this project is going forward, what changes can we get to make this building the best it can be? We are not going to get greater density, which is the most important. However, we can work to get changes made to the design. With regards to the design, the neighborhood got a major assist from the City Planning Commission at its meeting on March 14. At this meeting, the project was up for final approval. However, members of the Planning Commission were very critical of the contemporary design of the building. City Council Member Lisa Bender, who is also a member of the Planning Commission, said "it's unfortunate to see, again, a company that we know has many locations across the city that provides a great service to many of our neighborhoods being totally unwilling to design something that fits into our community." The Planning Commission voted to continue this proposal until its meeting on April 11, to give the developer an opportunity to come up with a better design.

This is a great opportunity to get the more traditional, urban design that residents of the neighborhood want to see. The developers should make a good faith effort to work with the neighborhood and come up with a better design. Otherwise, the neighborhood should go back on April 11 and ask the Planning Commission to make design changes for the developer through conditions of approval.



## SEEKING THE CAVE: THE PILGRIMAGE WITHIN

by James P. Lenfestey

My latest book, as some readers know, is a memoir about a thirty, now forty-year love affair with the voice of a poet who lived in a cave in the Tientai Mountains of China 1200 years ago. The voice was so compelling to me that, in 2006, I traveled to China to find the cave. After many adventures, we arrived, and I learned why that particular voice meant so much to me. That story is enshrined in *Seeking the Cave: A Pilgrimage to Cold Mountain*, last year.

Last month the book was published in a paperback edition, and I'm happily back on the road telling its story.

But since publication, and well after the seven years it took to write the book, I have been puzzling over a question the story has raised for me, and possibly for you — What I have come to call "Deep Travel."

Deep travel? Bear with me.

We all know we travel for many reasons: business, family, curiosity, adventure, education, excitement, relaxation.

But once or twice in a lifetime, if one is lucky, one may find oneself responding to a call from deep within, not without. Such a trip becomes not just an adventure, but a pilgrimage.

In our thinly secular society, pilgrimage is a foreign

concept. We think of the crowded return to Mecca, a requirement, according to some, of every Muslim. Or we know a Catholic friend who has walked the road to the shrine Santiago de Compostela or the Virgin of Guadalupe. Some Jews and Christians feel compelled to visit Jerusalem, other Christians to follow the Pauline trail across modern Turkey to ancient Ephesus, to praise their faith. Some Buddhist and Hindu sects practice pilgrimage, to nearby shrines or Northern India and Nepal where Gautama Buddha discovered that suffering is the human condition.

Such treks fulfill a religious injunction or spiritual vocation or practice.

But what if the call to travel comes from, you know not where? A call to discover, not to proclaim, to openness to what is not known, not to answers expected or proclaimed?

This has happened to me two or three times in my life. The most recent, of course, is the tale of my trip to China to track down the poet Han-shan, this mysterious, monkish character who painted his poems on rocks and walls or carved them on bamboo. That practice seemed so extraordinary to me, to compose one's art as if careless of posterity. I later learned, of course, that silk and paper were expensive in the China of the T'ang (618-907 CE), so a poem brushed in ink on a wall was not an uncommon practice to commemorate a visit.

I was struck, too, by the medium Han-shan chose

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## Hill and Lake Press celebrates 40 years of service from page one

taken root the previous fall according to Jim Lenfestey – celebrated poet and everyone’s favorite Urban Coyote – when he and his wife Susan, who had moved to Lowry Hill in 1974, were walking the neighborhood tacking up meeting notices. “There’s gotta be a better way,” Jim recalls saying, with Susan responding, “Then start a neighborhood newspaper. You can be the editor.”

“Right after we first moved here,” Binky Rockwell wrote in a February, 2011 “Meet Your Neighbor” Hill & Lake Press column, “Jim Lenfestey wandered down to our porch swing to brainstorm the birth of a paper.” The name for the venture came easily, Lowry Hill and Lake of the Isles being the premier features of the two neighborhoods.

Merging of efforts was an easy decision. “It was clear that the vast majority of news of interest to one neighborhood was also of interest to the other,” the introductory article explained. “In addition, merging would provide some real economies: eliminate duplicate coverage, increase the pool of people available to produce the paper, increase the distribution base for advertising revenue, and reduce printing costs thru increased volume.”

The decision not to have individual neighborhoods go it alone, so easy and obvious at the time, was to prove prophetic as first Kenwood and then Cedar-Isles-Dean joined the mix. Most single-neighborhood papers from that era have ceased publication, but our multi-neighborhood Hill & Lake Press soldiers on, carrying the banner of neighborhood newspapering into an era of journalism vastly different than that of forty years ago.

### ‘Come in and participate’

“But why another newspaper at all, you might well ask, lighting a fire under your already overstuffed mailbox,” the introductory article continued, enumerating four purposes for such a paper: improve communications among residents on issues which affect the neighborhoods; provide a forum for concerns and opinions; convey the special historic and current character of the neighborhoods; and provide a vehicle for participation and activism.

But, the founders cautioned, “we need to know if our efforts are serving the needs and interests of the neighborhoods. Plug in your alpha machines, turn over your mystic compost heaps, lash yourself to your Ouija boards, or just plain buckle your ear to the ground and tell us what kind of paper can best serve you. Of course, the best way to do this (no surprise) is to come in and participate yourself.”

And participate they did. In fact, the founders might well have added a fifth “purpose”: to have fun.

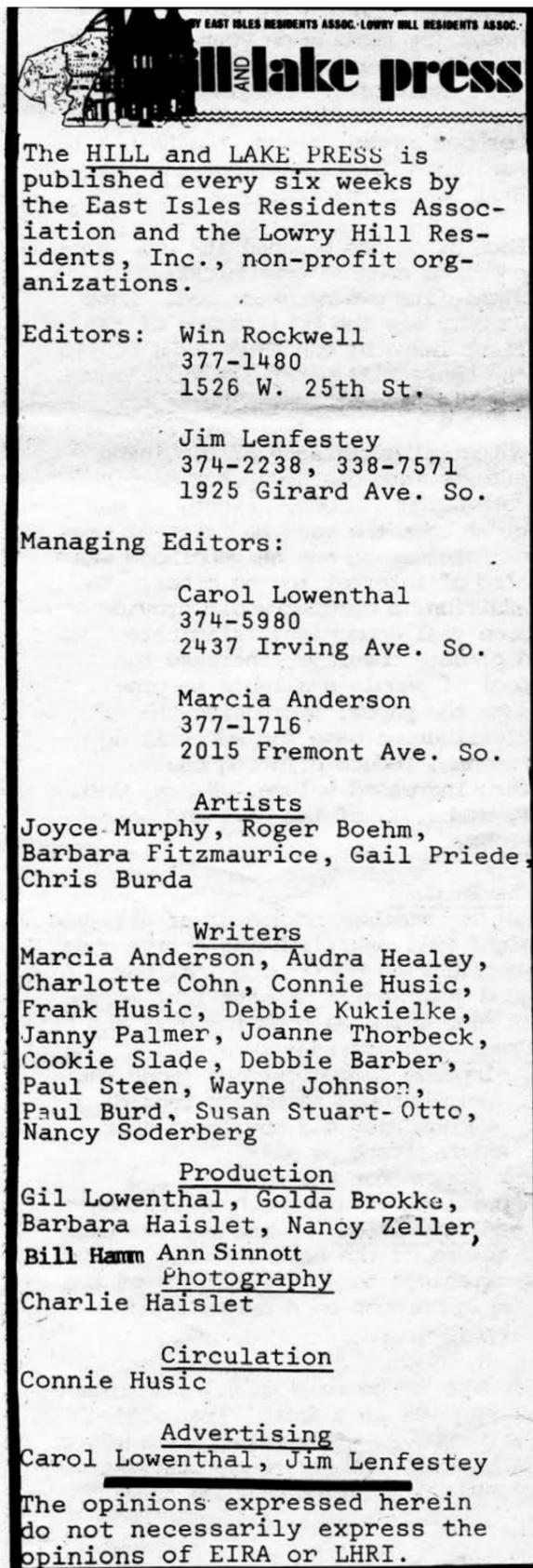
For many years the neighborhoods rotated the Managing Editor position, each one taking on responsibility for “putting the paper to bed.” Writers, artists, photographers, production people, and friends gathered in the afternoon on a date certain at the editor’s house (or, later, at the Kenwood Rec Center) to create the issue. Aided by good food, good wine, good spirits, energy and determination, the editorial sessions – “all-night epic layout parties,” as Lenfestey fondly remembers them – went on for hours. Stories had to be typed and retyped to fit a one-third of a page column format. “Cut and paste” meant exactly that: scissors and glue. Headlines were created one character at a time with press-apply letters (Letraset press-on type, still available).

And somehow, the paper always got done.

### Kenwood, Cedar-Isles-Dean join in

For its first several years Hill & Lake Press came out every six weeks, nine issues per year. The very first issue – the same dimensions as the paper has today – consisted of twelve pages. It quickly expanded to sixteen, then twenty, and then to 24 pages. Even with the wizardry of computers and word processing, putting out a 24-page paper today is a huge task. Doing so forty years ago, with an all-volunteer staff, was nothing short of amazing.

The paper was distributed at first by neighborhood girls and boys and a few adults. An article titled “Press



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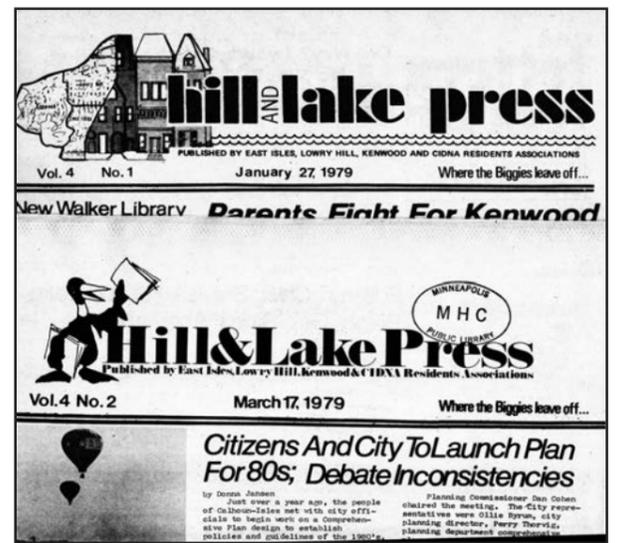
Staff list from the first issue, March 1976.

Peddlers” in the second issue (May 1, 1976) reported, “The past issue of the Press was delivered in Lowry Hill by an ad hoc group of energetic 9 year olds, one 15 year old, and a few haggard adults. In the future we hope to have many people distributing the paper in very small areas. A 15 minute round of the neighborhood every 6 weeks. On a weekend. Easy. Call us to help.”

The ink was barely dry on the first issue when Kenwood residents and the venerable Kenwood-Isles Improvement Association wanted in. According to an article in Issue No. 2 (May 1, 1976), the first Hill & Lake Press issue had been distributed to Kenwood residents “on an experimental basis to determine what the reaction of [Kenwood] residents would be.” In view of the “enthusiastic response accorded the Press,” the KIAA board decided to pay the cost of continuing to distribute Hill & Lake Press in Kenwood.

Perhaps leery that they might be biting off more than they could chew, however, the paper’s editors concluded the article by cautioning that “Kenwood-Isles will not be an equal partner in the Press. Editorial control will remain with the East Isles and Lowry Hill group. However, Kenwood residents may submit matter for publication on the same basis as East Isles and Lowry Hill residents, and meeting notices and other items of interest to the Kenwood neighborhood will be printed.”

Misgivings must have been easily surmounted because Issue No. 4 (July 31, 1976) reported that at a



**Hill and Lake Press**  
 Vol. 4 No. 1 January 27, 1979 Where the Biggies leave off...  
 New Walker Library Parents Fight For Kenwood

**Hill and Lake Press**  
 Vol. 4 No. 2 March 17, 1979 Where the Biggies leave off...  
 Citizens And City To Launch Plan For 80s; Debate Inconsistencies

The “Vol. 4 mastheads” shows Vol. 4, No.1 which includes CIDNA in the listing of neighborhoods but has a map that only includes the three neighborhoods. The Vol. 4, No. 2 masthead shows the first appearance of the Goose mascot.

Images courtesy of Special Collections Department, Hennepin County Library

recent KIAA meeting, “Jon Westby proposed that Kenwood-Isles become an equal partner in the publication of Hill & Lake Press. The association voted unanimously in favor of the proposal.”

When it came to CIDNA, however, the decision about inclusion was a slam-dunk, no doubt because Cedar-Isles-Dean resident Rhoda Lewin was already deeply involved in the paper’s production and she and Jerry Brennan were already providing ongoing coverage of CIDNA’s major issues. The paper announced at the start of its fourth year (January 27, 1979) that “CIDNA Joins In Production Of HLP,” completing the Hill and Lake coverage area that still exists today.

Major issues roiled the Hill and Lake neighborhoods in those early days. East Isles residents were struggling with the Park Board over plans to rebuild Lake of the Isles Parkway. The “Mansion Ordinance” and the razing of old houses or converting them into apartments was imperiling the character of Lowry Hill. Cedar-Isles-Dean residents were battling plans to construct high-rises at the corner of Dean and West Lake and on the site of the old grain silos. And over every neighborhood hung the scourge of Dutch Elm Disease and Oak Wilt.

### Distinctive motto and mascot

Perhaps nothing sets Hill & Lake Press apart from our sister publications than our now-iconic, cherished motto and mascot. Win Rockwell recalls riffing with Lenfestey and others at the end of 1976 over possibilities for a motto. Rockwell had worked for the New York Times for a few years and felt that a proper newspaper really had to have a motto. From that session emerged “Where the Biggies leave off...”, which first appeared with Volume 2 at the start of 1977.

The “Biggies,” Lenfestey explains, were the Minneapolis Star and Minneapolis Tribune, which were unable to service small areas of interest within the city and give voice to neighborhood issues, opinions, and activities in the way that neighborhood papers could.

At the end of its sixth year (December, 1981) the paper could trumpet that “HLP Takes 5 Gold, 3 Silver At Neighborhood Press Meet” on November 21, 1981. “A triumphant crew of Hill & Lake Press editors and board members walked off with eight awards,” the article said, including first-place golds for Best Newspaper, Best Editorial Coverage on a Continuing Basis, Best Graphic Unit, Best Feature Article, and Best In-Depth Investigative Article. East Calhoun News, now sadly defunct, scored almost as many medals as Hill and Lake Press.

The first issue of Vol. 7 (January 9, 1982) saw a small but perhaps telling change to the masthead: “Biggies” would henceforth be spelled with a lowercase “b.” The paper’s crew had proudly shown their journalistic mettle over their first six years and didn’t need to feel like country cousins in comparison to the

Continued on page 7

**A GREAT HOUSE MOVING FEAT - ST. PAUL'S CHURCH MOVED TO LOWRY HILL EAST**

by Kathy Kullberg, Lowry Hill East Historian

"When the shop whistles blow for quitting time Saturday evening, the St. Paul's Episcopal church now located at Hennepin avenue between Twelfth and Thirteenth streets, will probably be on its way to the new site at Franklin avenue and Bryant," read the headlines that September 20, 1901, Minneapolis Tribune. "Cut the Church into Pieces ....Great House Moving Feat.

Plans had been in place for over nine months in 1901 to set in motion one of the biggest building moving feats in Minneapolis history. After much discussion about building a new church in Lowry Hill East, the church vestry and an unexpected donation of land determined that moving the two-story frame church building about a mile up the hill to Franklin and Bryant avenues would make the most sense. At this time in history, barns, small houses, carriage houses were regular-

ly removed and recycled to new locations. Most could be moved intact for a \$60 fee. Although small moves were commonplace in the nineteenth century, moving such a large structure was not. This move would cost \$2,000, over \$57,000 in current dollars.

The original congregation was founded in 1880 and held the first services in a rented vacant store on Hennepin. Later that year the first one story frame church was built on land acquired between 12th and 13th also on Hennepin. By 1882 it was clear that a larger congregation needed more space but instead of adding on to the building, it added up. Remarkably, a larger first floor was added beneath the original building which was raised up on top of the new creating a clerestory level. This was quite a unique solution to the problem.

By 1894, with a popular preacher attracting those

from outside the city limits and a congregation who was leaving the city for the cleaner new ring of suburbs, it was decided to move out of the downtown. When parishioner and department store owner Reuben S. Goodfellow offered to donate \$5,000 toward a new structure or two lots on which to build a new church, the congregation at first committed to building new in Lowry Hill East, beyond the city limits. As of early March of 1901, it was decided to excavate a foundation at the southeast corner of Bryant and Franklin on the two lots for an estimated \$15,000. But by summer, it was clear that this amount could not be raised. The alternative solution was to move the existing church after cutting it into sections and reassembling it on the new site.

Thus, the dramatic scene unfolded as reported the

*Continued on page 8*



St Paul's Episcopal Church, 1890 located at 12th and Hennepin Photos. St. Paul's archives St. Paul's and Lamoreaux addition on Bryant Avenue South, circa 1940

**Hill and Lake Press celebrates 40 years of service**

"Biggies."

The goose mascot, apparently (and curiously) unnamed after all these years, made its first appearance without any fanfare on the masthead of Vol. 4, No. 2 (March 17, 1979). The paper's logo had previously been a small map of the three neighborhoods. With the expansion at the start of Year 4 to include Cedar-Isles-Dean, the choice was to either design a new map logo or create something entirely different. Drawing on their well-honed senses of creativity and irreverence, the editors opted for the latter, and the goose was born. The mascot – "a goose from Lake of the Isles, doing the work of proclaiming the news around our lake, where he happily resides," according to Lenfestey – was the creation of long-time artwork contributor Roger Boehm.

**Yesterday, today, and tomorrow**

Jean Ward, emerita professor of journalism and mass communication at the U who has studied neighborhood newspapers for decades, wrote in 1978 that there were 37 neighborhood papers in Minneapolis and St. Paul. Most are now gone. A few continue in an

abbreviated online format. But a handful still thrive, including The Alley (Phillips), the Longfellow-Nokomis Messenger, the Bryn Mawr Bugle – and of course Hill & Lake Press.

(Ward distinguishes volunteer papers supported by their neighborhood associations from proprietary, for-profit papers with paid staff like the Southwest Journal, which also serve a valuable communication function. Ward's 1978 article, "The urban neighborhood press: a citizen-based communication tool," can be found online.)

For many years each issue of Hill & Lake Press carried a list of all the people who contributed to and produced that issue – rarely fewer than 30 people, often more than 40. The papers were sometimes irreverent (Win Rockwell's word) and always meaty. The writing was always good, often excellent. Hill & Lake Press represented community-building at its best.

Marking the paper's third anniversary on March 17, 1979, Editor-in-Chief Lenfestey wrote, "The special quality of the Hill & Lake Press which we have worked hard to maintain since its inception is: A GOOD TIME.

We have a good time making this paper happen. We have a good time writing for it and dreaming up crazy things to put in it. But mostly, we have a good time meeting with and working with our neighbors to put the paper together and put it on the street." Amen to that!

Hill & Lake Press today continues to rely on volunteer writers, photographers, and other contributors. The issues today – think Southwest LRT, freight-rail safety, traffic, development and density – are as critical to our neighborhoods now as the issues of 1976 were back then, and fortunately many residents have stepped up to the plate to write about them.

An article about Hill & Lake Press would be woefully incomplete without recognizing Jean Deatrick – "the phenomenal Jean Deatrick," as Jim Lenfestey calls her – who has edited the paper for many years and continues to keep it going. Hill and Lake residents owe a debt of gratitude to Jean and the hundreds of others who have produced Hill & Lake Press for the past 40 years and will keep it going for years to come.

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A Great House Moving Feat - St. Paul's church moved to Lowry Hill East



Photo by Kathy Kullberg

Present day St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1917 Logan Avenue South

following January of 1902 in the Morning Tribune. "The church [including steeple] was cut up in four parts and each part moved separately. The work occupied about three months' time and incurred an expense to the parish of \$4,870, [including the new foundation]. ...the removal of no other building in Minneapolis has entailed the cutting of more electric wires than did the St. Paul's church. It is estimated that approximately 1,200 wires had to be cut before the last part of the church was finally in place."

The recounting of the actual path of the move from Hennepin to Franklin Avenues tells of a truly remark-

able feat of engineering even by today's standards. Though no known photos exist of the move, it must have been accomplished with wagons and horse teams, also a remarkable effort. "The course selected by the contractors who engineered the removal of the church on Hennepin to Thirteenth street, thence to the left on Thirteenth street to Vine Place. At Vine Place and Thirteenth Street, the greatest difficulty had to be overcome. There begins a steep grade, in the center of which the church leaned over fully eight feet. A few blocks from the foot of the first hill is another, and the same dangers were encountered as before. The removal

was so successfully conducted that not even the interior plaster was cracked when the different parts finally reached their destination."

As this was such a major move, it is hard to know why there were no photographs taken. The moves were attempted at night when there was no traffic nor streetcars running. Additionally, the report of the move was relegated to secondary pages due to the events of a national tragedy that occupied the headlines for the previous week that September. They had blazoned that President McKinley had died on September 14, 1901 after an assassination attempt on September 6. All the newspapers were taking up the details and other news was secondary. The entire downtown of the city was draped in black mourning banners. The biggest move in Minneapolis history was no longer the major story.

Although there were challenges before, during, and after the decision to literally move St. Paul's, the new church was dedicated on January 27, 1902. It continued to prosper and grow; adding a large parish house and gymnasium designed by noted architect Lowell Lamoreaux in 1908.

In 1955, the congregation once again had grown beyond its walls and a new building site was acquired in 1956 on the north shore of Lake of the Isles - the corner property at Franklin and Logan Avenues belonging to the recently deceased Augustus Searle. This time, although the congregation would move, the original church structure would not. Its time had come.

Some of the interior woodwork was saved and incorporated into the new church including the 1911 organ, the altars, and the rose window. The old church at Bryant was then sold and in June of 1965 wrecked and replaced with the present 54 unit brick apartment building.

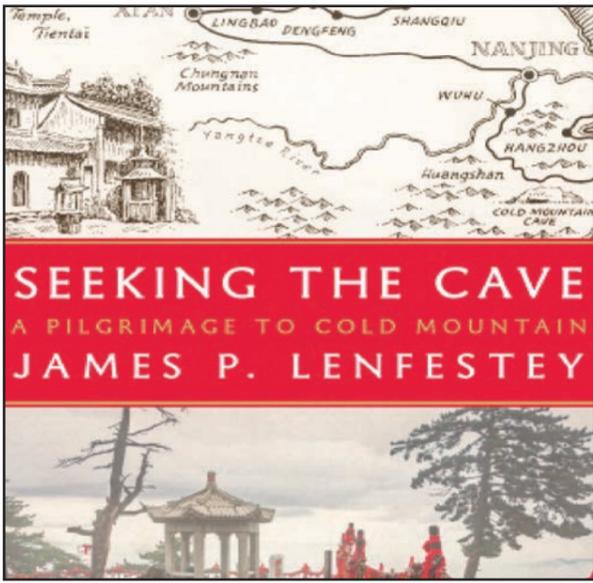


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Seeking the Cave

to express his sentiments – poetry- a practice at the extremes of language that has always fascinated me. I learned later that poetry has always been the central art for educated Chinese, along with calligraphy, the means to express it.

Finally, I grow ever more astonished by the miracle of language - what humans do with linked puffs of sound emerging from our mouths and pens, especially by what poetry does, language at its most associative and reflective.

On Monday, April 11, 7pm at Magers and Quinn,

3038 Hennepin Ave. I will tell again my tale of seeking a cave in China, finding what I did not know was missing in my life. And we will begin to seek your story, what mysterious endeavor can lead you to wholeness. Where do you feel called to go? What is it in you that resonates with that place? What emptiness in you might be filled there?

Where would your pilgrimage take you?

Hope to see you April 11, to join the search.

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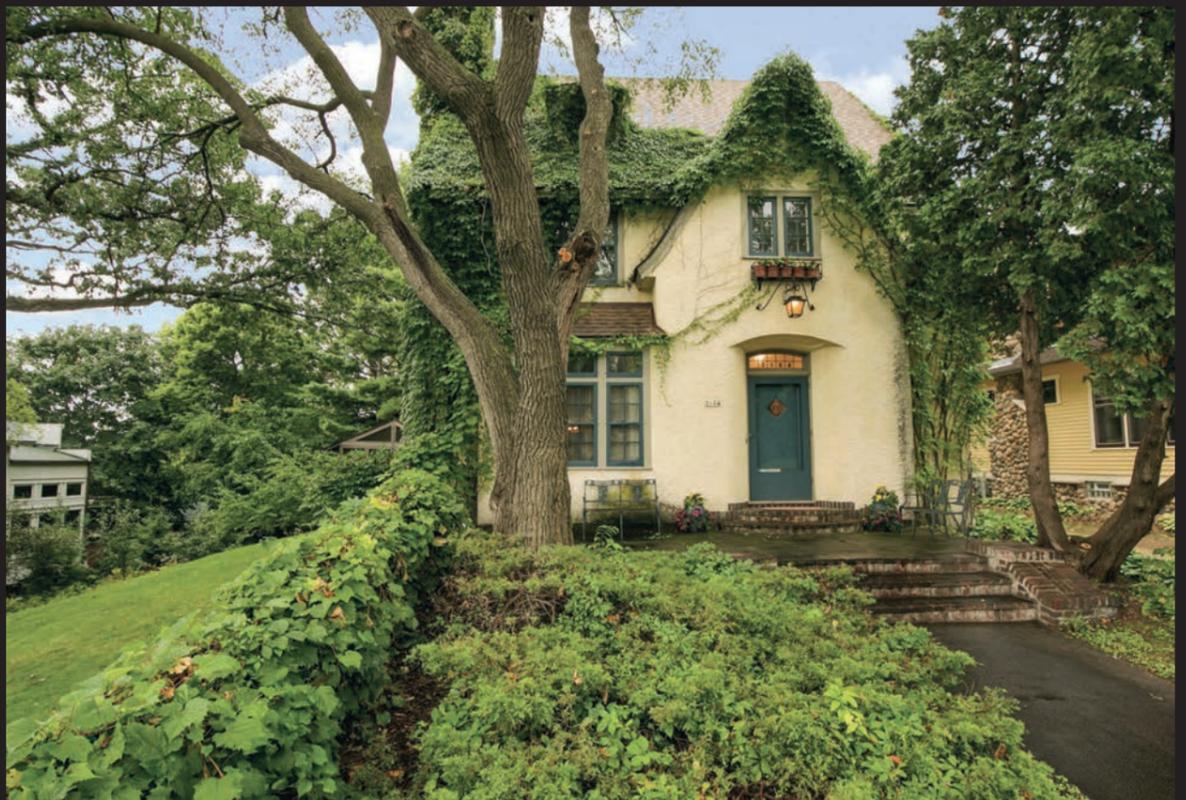
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## EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

### EIRA Board Meeting March 8, 2016

Board Members Present:

Andrew Degerstrom- President, Carla Pardue- Vice President, Nicole Engel-Nitz- Secretary, Brian Milavitz, Bruce Larson, Mike Erlandson, Bill Elwood, Nancy Johnston, Amy Sanborn, Nicole Engel-Nitz- excused absence.

Guests: Betsy Allis, Bill Harrison, Speaker: Patrick Sadler, Ward 7 Policy Aide, Staff: Donna Sanders, Neighborhood Coordinator

#### Ward 7 Policy Aide Patrick Sadler report

Lunch with Lisa will discuss the Sister Cities program Wednesday, March 30 @ the University of St. Thomas, 1000 LaSalle Ave, Minneapolis, Opus Hall # 201. Cost for lunch is \$10.00.

Hennepin/Lyndale Utility Work continues:

Pipe installation completed. Crews are making utility connections and filling in the open pits.

Oak Grove intersection closed on Sunday, March 13. The plan is to reopen by March 15.

Regarding road construction: The city is working out details but will likely start in April. They are planning on a pre-construction open house to share details.

Walgreens, 2650 Hennepin

There will be a City Planning Commission meeting to review their site plan on Monday, March 14@ 4:30. This will be a public hearing. Questions: contact City Planner Kimberly Holien @ Kimberly.holien@minneapolismn.gov.

Kowalski's may take over the former Walgreens site.

City Wide Information Items:

Workplace Partnership Meetings Proceed: Sick Time/Paid Time Off. Two additional committee meetings planned. March 9 and March 14.

Openings on the Minneapolis Boards and Commissions. [www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm)

Community Connections Conference, "Big Ideas: Your Minneapolis"

Saturday, April 2, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Minneapolis Convention Center, Free.

The City of Minneapolis is kicking off their 2040 comprehensive plan and would like your feedback. This is the beginning of a three year planning process for the comp plan.

The City is selling compost bins and rain barrels

Tree Sale through the Tree Trust. Three trees for \$25.00. See [treetrust.org](http://treetrust.org)

**No Open Forum**

**Committee Reports**

**Zoning committee**

Over the last month members contacted owner Steve Hein, his architect/spokesman Howard Bergerud, and Walgreens corporate to discuss the new Walgreens at 2650 Hennepin. One member even stopped by Roat Osha with the hopes of talking to the owner. The Committee believes the store does not meet the requirements of the Uptown Small Area Plan which states mixed use for the Hennepin area not a one story commercial business with a drive through in back. Members were unable to meet with the owner but had a number of meetings with spokesperson Sempere architect Howard Bergerud regarding the Walgreens design. Howard told them they researched mixed use for 1 ½ years and even had plans but determined it was not financially feasible. Also, Howard told them the drive through was going to remain. There was discussion on placing the entrance on Hennepin, removing the parapet, and moving the bike racks closer to the building. The Committee used the Highland Walgreens as a design model for the Hennepin store because it has a more classical design with more brick. The current design is contemporary.

The committee appreciates that they met with them two times and made some design changes.

The official recommendation from the Zoning committee is as follows:

Motion

The Zoning & Planning Committee opposes the Walgreens development on 2650 Hennepin because it does not meet the guidelines of the Uptown Small Area Plan stating mixed use in the area. We support existing efforts to expand the Pedestrian Oriented Overlay district along Hennepin Avenue and recommend that a mini-

By Donna Sanders, Neighborhood Coordinator

mum FAR requirement be established in the Overlay District."

Approved unanimously

#### Green Team

Feb 25th Community Solar event was well attended. Terrific dialogue. After three meetings, 32 EIRA households are in process of reserving subscriptions.

Spring Garden Party is Tuesday, March 15, 7:00- 8:30 p.m.

Plant swap, May 21.

A motion was brought to the table to support the Bring your own Bag ordinance sponsored by City Council Members Gordon and Warsame.

Motion:

"To approve the proposed ordinance introduced by Council Members Gordon and Warsame to ban plastic bags in the City of Minneapolis and to pay 5 cents for a paper bag or bring you own bag to the store.

Approved: 7 in support, 1 against.

#### Social

The budget for the Ice Cream Social needs approval.

\$629.00 CPP funds

\$1565 EIRA funds

Total: \$2245

Motion:

"To approve the budget for the Ice Cream Social.

Approved unanimously

There will be a Social Committee meeting on Wednesday, March 23, 7:00 p.m. Dunn Bros on 25th & Hennepin.

#### Nominations & Outreach

Please reach out to your neighbors and committee members and encourage them to run for the Board in April.

#### Transportation

The committee would like to "Adopt a Greenway" section at Lake of the Isles Parkway to Hennepin. This section opened up just recently.

Motion:

"To invest \$200 into the Adopt a Greenway."

Approved unanimously

#### NRP

No NRP meeting in March. Park Commissioner Anita Tabb was contacted by email regarding the Mall.

#### Bylaws

Motion

To recommend for approval to the General Membership changes in the EIRA bylaws.

See enclosed changes to by-laws.

#### President's Report

Andrew and Donna met with Steve Gallagher from Stevens Square neighborhood to discuss Steve setting up EIRA's books on QuickBooks and doing a complete overhaul. The Annual Meeting is on April 12 and we would like to have a 12 month financial statement available to the neighborhood. Also, EIRA's Annual Report is due the end of April too.

#### Coordinator's Report

Donna continues to educate herself on EIRA's committees, administrative duties, and projects. She will attend the SW Coordinator's meeting on March 17. Also, once Steve Gallagher is done with the financial books, he will provide her with a tutorial on them so she can pull together the annual report. She put together the newsletter for March, attended the CPP meeting on changes for 2017-19 and read lots and lots of emails on zoning issues. Carla and she met with NRP manager Robert Thompson to discuss the board retreat and outreach to renters. Andrew and she met with NRP Neighborhood Specialist Jack Whitehurst to discuss the annual report, financials, CPP disbursement, and changing EIRA to a 501c3. Last of all, she took the minutes for the Board meeting, Board retreat, and Zoning committee

Donna will be on vacation from Friday, March 25 – Saturday, April 2.

#### Board Retreat

One of the small group exercises at the Board retreat was to write the goals for the neighborhood on colored post it notes. Carla gathered the notes and plans to use them to take the goal setting one step further at the Annual meeting. She will post them on boards and ask the meeting participants to choose from the Board's goals and/or to state their own goals for the neighborhood.

**Annual Meeting (No Board meeting in April)**

Meet your neighbors and find out what your neighborhood organization is up to.

*join us for the*

## East Isles Residents' Association Annual Meeting

Special guest appearances by our elected officials!

The agenda includes:

Discussion on potential EIRA neighborhood projects with the remaining NRP dollars;

Vote on amended EIRA Bylaws; and election of EIRA Board of Directors!

All EIRA members are eligible to vote for Board positions.

**Tuesday, April 12, 2016**

Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th St  
Social hour and heavy hors d'oeuvres at 6:15 pm.  
Meeting starts promptly at 7:00 pm.

*Let us know you're coming!* Contact Donna Sanders at [donna.sanders@eastisles.org](mailto:donna.sanders@eastisles.org).

## WANTED

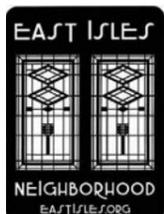
**East Isles residents\* interested in serving on the EIRA Board of Directors**

**Get involved** and help make your neighborhood even better!

- Candidates needed to fill two director and two alternate positions on the EIRA Board. Any EIRA member may run for a position.
- Elections will be held at the East Isles Residents Association Annual Meeting on April 12th.

### Want to learn more?

Contact Donna Sanders, at [donna.sanders@eastisles.org](mailto:donna.sanders@eastisles.org) or go to [www.eastisles.org](http://www.eastisles.org).



**For more information, go to [www.eastisles.org](http://www.eastisles.org)**

#### \*East Isles boundaries:

south side of W 22nd St to the north side of W Lake St, and E Lake of the Isles Pkwy to the west side of Hennepin Ave S

The East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA) invites and encourages participation by every resident to each event organized by EIRA. Should you require an accommodation in order to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please contact us at [donna.sanders@eastisles.org](mailto:donna.sanders@eastisles.org) at least five days before an EIRA sponsored event.

**EIRA Board Meeting Minutes from page 10**

The annual meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 12 with social hour and hors d'oeuvres at 6:15 p.m. and the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Elected officials will speak, there will be a discussion on the remaining NRP dollars and goals for the neighborhood, approval of by-laws change, and there will be an election of board members. It will take place at Grace Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th Street.

EIRA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service, and event organized by EIRA. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at [coordinator@eastisles.org](mailto:coordinator@eastisles.org) at least five (5) days before an EIRA sponsored event.

**KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION**

By Shawn Smith

**March 2016 KIAA Meeting Minutes**

KIAA Board met March 7th, 2016 at Kenwood Rec Center

Chair Jeanette Colby called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Directors present: Chair Jeanette Colby, Vice Chair Larry Moran, Treasurer Ed Pluimer, Matt Spies, Angie Erdrich, Mike Bono, Josine Peters, Shawn Smith (Recording Secretary). Absent: Jim Gilroy, Jack Levi. Also present Patrick Sadler, Pat Scott, Phil Nordberg, Lauren Carlson, Will Stensrud

**March Agenda was Approved Unanimously**

**City Council Update – Patrick Sadler, Lisa Goodman’s Office**

The Community Planning and Economic Development plan for both Ward 7 and the city were provided. Any residents that would like a copy can contact Lisa’s office or go to the City Website.

Lunch with Lisa will be Noon, March 30th at St Thomas Opus Hall; the topic is Sister Cities of Minneapolis.

Utility work continues on the Hennepin/Lyndale reconstruction. Please contact Lisa’s office to receive email updates on construction closures.

The Workplace Partnership Meetings proceed to review sick time and paid time off policy. A final recommendation is due March 16.

There are openings on multiple boards and commissions in Minneapolis. Any interested residents can apply via the city website.

The Community Connection Conference is Saturday April 2nd at the Minneapolis Convention Center to kick off 3 Year Planning for Minneapolis 2040. The public is invited. Jeanette suggested that Lisa’s office post information to Next Door to ensure the 7th Ward is represented if nobody from KIAA is able to attend.

Reduced pricing is being offered for rain barrels and compost bins. [www.recycleminnesota.org](http://www.recycleminnesota.org). The city will also have a limited number of trees available to residents for \$25. You can order a tree for your property beginning March 21, see [www.treetrust.org](http://www.treetrust.org).

**Request for Support of Variance for Accessory Dwelling, 2401 Sheridan Ave S – Phil Nordberg and Lauren Carlson**

Phil and Lauren requested variance support from KIAA to be able to add a bathroom and categorize their garage as an ADU. The overall footprint will not change.

KIAA is generally supportive. The petitioners have not spoken to each neighbor but will be sending out notices to all neighbors within 300 feet. Jeanette motioned to support the variances, contingent that neighbors are all informed and have no objections. Motion passed unanimously.

**East Cedar Lake Beach Committee Update – Matt Spies**

Matt is in the process of confirming the open swim, pop up playground, and other activities for Summer 2016. Event schedules will be published in Hill and Lakes Press.

Jeanette signed the agreement for extra police patrols. With the warm weather, Matt is working with Park Police to start patrols.

Activities are being coordinated with Kenwood School, including bird watching. Volunteers are needed to lead school hikes in April and May, please contact

**LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

By Janis Clay

**LHNA Board Minutes Tuesday, March 8, 2016**

Present - Board Members: Phil Hallaway, President; Dan Aronson, Treasurer; Janis Clay, Secretary; Tom Huppert; Emily Beugen; Mark Brauer; Baygan Hartzheim; Clint Conner; Sarah Janecek.

Present – Non-Board Members: Patrick Sadler, Aide to Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman; Jim White, Scottish Rite; Chas Scheidener; Suzanne Shaff; Scott Shaffer.

President Phil Hallway called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Mark Brauer moved and Tom Huppert seconded approval of the minutes of the February 2, 2016, Board meeting. All approved

**Treasurer’s Report:** Dan Aronson reported that LHNA is in good shape financially. LHNA’s Annual Report for the 2015 Community Participation Program is due April 29th. It must include a financial statement and a section on goals. Dan and Phil will circulate draft text in advance of next month’s meeting. The Board must approve the report. Phil Hallaway will invite Robert Thompson of the City of Minneapolis to attend the LHNA April Board meeting to explain the two primary sources of LHNA’s money: CPP (Community Participation Program) funds, and NRP (Neighborhood Revitalization Program) funds. LHNA’s application for Director’s and Officer’s insurance is due March 11th. Dan Aronson will confirm that it has been received.

**Committee Reports:**

**Environment:** The Board discussed the possibility of funding picnic tables in Thomas Lowry Park. Sarah Janecek moved that LHNA fund four picnic tables, with the possibility of adding two additional tables. Bagan Hartzheim seconded the motion. Phil Hallaway discussed a letter from Barry Lazarus, of Friends of Thomas Lowry Park, suggesting that funds might better be directed to replacement of dead, diseased, or vandalized trees, extension of the existing irrigation system, and replacement of missing and broken/cracked pavers. It was decided that the matter should be discussed further with Friends of Thomas Lowry Park. Phil Hallaway will invite a representative from Friends of Thomas Lowry Park and Park Board Representation Anita Tabb to attend next month’s meeting. Sarah Janecek withdrew the motion pending further discussion.

Phil Hallaway suggested that LHNA look into a Minneapolis City program called Neighborhood CleanSweep, where a community group can schedule a city truck and driver for a minimum of two hours at a cost of \$96.00 per hour to collect and dispose of various unwanted items. Phil will circulate information on the program.

**Community Announcements:** Patrick Sadler, Aide to Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman, presented Community Announcements. Lunch with Lisa will take place on Wednesday, March 30th at St. Thomas University-Minneapolis. The topic will be the Sister Cities Program. The Hennepin Lyndale sewer repair project is continuing. The Oak Grove inter-

Angie Erdrich at [angie\\_sandeep@yahoo.com](mailto:angie_sandeep@yahoo.com)

**Southwest Light Rail Transit – Shawn Smith**

Shawn shared that since the last meeting, letters were sent to the FTA, Senator Klobuchar, Senator Franken, and Rep Ellison as KIAA continues to escalate neighborhood concerns over this project.

A letter was also sent to Governor Dayton and Lt Governor Smith, with copies of the letters sent to the State and Federal officials asking for his support in getting a meaningful response to neighborhood concerns, which are centered on the risks and ripple effects of co-location of SWLRT and ethanol trains. His office responded with questions, and KIAA is preparing a communication to send back.

Jeanette will invite Sophia Ginis from the Met Council to our April meeting since she did not respond to our March meeting invitation.

There was a discussion that despite our concerns, planning moves ahead unabated. All are encouraged to contact their elected officials if they have concerns over co-location, noise, vibration, cost, etc

KIAA has been actively communicating neighborhood concerns to local, state, and federal officials. Due

section is closed, but scheduled to reopen March 15th. Major construction work at the intersection will take place from April through mid-October. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained throughout. The Vineland sewer project should be completed in mid-March. The Workplace Partnership task force is meeting. The group has been charged with developing final policy proposals on earned sick time and paid time off. Numerous City Boards and Commissions have openings. These can be found on the City’s website. The Community Connections Conference will take place on April 2nd. The topic will be Big Ideas: Your Minneapolis, and the conference will be the kickoff of Minneapolis 2040, a 20-year vision for the City. The Minneapolis tree sale will make trees available for \$25.00. Information can be found at [treetrust.org](http://treetrust.org). There will be a link on the LHNA website. Compost bins and rain barrels will also be available at a discounted rate. Information can be found at [recycleminnesota.org](http://recycleminnesota.org).

**Zoning and Planning:** A developer has filed an application for construction of a new 4-story, 5-unit residential building on the southern half of 1900 Colfax Ave., next to the F. E. Day House, a locally designated historic site. A hearing is scheduled before the Historic Preservation Commission on Tuesday, March 22 at 4:30 p.m. in room 317, City Hall. Phil Hallaway contacted the city regarding parking issues at the intersection of Colfax and Dupont. The city tagged a number of vehicles violating the two-hour nonresident time limit. Clint Connor and Michael Cockson will strategize on how to work with Burch to improve the parking situation.

**Crime and Safety:** It has been a relatively quiet month.

**Events:** Scottish Rite Temple member, Jim White, presented information about the Scottish Rite Temple, which might be a good venue for the upcoming May 17th LHNA Annual Meeting. Food and beverages would be provided through the Lowry or Liquor Lyles. Three guests at tonight’s Board meeting might be interested in joining the Board, Chas Scheidener, Suzanne Shaff, and Scott Shaffer.

**Neighborhood Priorities:** Phil Hallaway has had little response from the City in providing information on crosswalks and pedestrian signage. Baygan Hartzheim has been looking into possibilities for replacing the Historic Lowry Hill signs. The existing signs are aging, and many are missing. The Marcy-Holmes neighborhood has recently procured some very good signs. That neighborhood has a great website, too.

**Communications:** Phil Hallaway and Michael Cockson wrote an article, “Sidewalks 101,” which was published this month in the Hill & Lake Press. Next month they will submit an article on Animal Control, and the following month, on organic recycling.

**New Business:** Emily Beugen has begun researching how to designate a home or property as historic, and is looking into conservation districts.

**LHNA’s next Board meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2016, at the Kenwood Rec Center. All residents are welcome. Everyone is encouraged to visit the LHNA website at [www.lowryhillneighborhood.org](http://www.lowryhillneighborhood.org), and sign up to receive LHNA’s monthly E-Blast about events in the neighborhood. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.**

Continued on page 12

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Hill & Lake References

## KIAA from page 11

to an overall lack of responsiveness to those, the board approved a motion to send communication to President Obama, which will represent the highest level of escalation, and likely final, that the board will take.

**Annual Meeting - All**

The Annual Meeting will be Monday May 2nd at Kenwood Corner. All neighbors are invited to attend. The meeting will include the election of the KIAA Board and a recap of association financials. This has been a fun annual event in the past couple of years, so please plan to come out and meet your board and connect with neighbors.

The meeting will be announced via Hill and Lake Press, the Spring Newsletter, and Next Door.

Angie, Josine, and Matt are researching options for food to reduce costs from last year.

**Board Succession Planning - All**

With Ed stepping down, KIAA will need to fill the Treasurer role starting May 2016.

KIAA is actively seeking new board members. We need neighbors that are willing to volunteer 3-4 hours per month either as a board member or support a subcommittee. There are several board members that have served for a decade or more and are looking to retire. We need your help to fill these positions to continue the level of thoroughness being delivered today.

**New Business - All**

KIAA is seeking a representative for the Green Zone work being done by the city.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Jeanette Colby at 8:36 p.m.

**Updates:** If you are interested in receiving monthly email updates, please email us at [kiaa55405@gmail.com](mailto:kiaa55405@gmail.com). Also please visit our website at [kenwoodminneapolis.org](http://kenwoodminneapolis.org) to learn more. If you are interested in participating on the Board, please contact us.

The next Kenwood Isles Area Association Board meeting is Monday, April 4th from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Recreation Center. Monthly meetings are held on the first calendar Monday of each month unless otherwise noted. KIAA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service, and event organized by KIAA. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at [kenwoodminneapolis.org](http://kenwoodminneapolis.org)

## CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Monica Smith

**CIDNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES, March 9, 2016**

The meeting was held at Jones-Harrison Residence. Board members in attendance: Chair Craig Westgate, Secretary Rosanne Halloran, Lowell Berggren, Leila Brammer, Steve Goltry, Barbara Lunde, Sarah Kennedy McCoy, James Reid, and Mike Wilson. Staff: Monica Smith

Chair Craig Westgate called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Announcements**

Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) secured a new Directors' and Officers' insurance policy for CIDNA.

The Park Board is hosting an open house for environmental volunteers on April 12, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Bryant Square Park, 3101 Bryant Ave S.

The city is offering two organics recycling "Train the Trainer" sessions to help spread the word about organics recycling on April 9, 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m. at MLK Park, 4005 Nicollet Ave S.

**Treasurer's Report, Roger Klimek**

A profit and loss statement for the past nine months was presented. CIDNA's unrestricted fund balance is \$15,448.

**NRP/PPP Report, Claire Ruebeck**

NCR is working on a revised draft of Community Participation Program (PPP) guidelines for 2017-2019. The draft will be available for public comment next month.

The proposed design improvement project for Cedar Lake South Beach was introduced to the Planning Committee of the Park Board on February 17. A public hearing for the project is March 16, 6:30 p.m. at Park Board headquarters; final approval is expected on April 6.

The CIDNA Board is interested in learning more about the Park Dedication Fees (\$373K for CIDNA). Representatives from the Park Board will be invited to an upcoming meeting to educate us on allowable uses of the funds.

Barbara Lunde reported that the Park Board is still working on the contract for one or two new benches at Cedar Lake South Beach. The NRP Committee will meet on March 23 to select the location for the new benches.

The next committee meeting is Wednesday, March 23, 3:30 p.m. at Cedar Lake South Beach.

**Patrick Sadler, Policy Aide to Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7**

Lunch with Lisa, Wednesday, March 30, noon at the University of St. Thomas, Opus Hall #201. The topic is the sister city program.

Multimodal Transportation Study: the final report is on the city's website ([minneapolismn.gov](http://minneapolismn.gov)).

Variance requests were recently approved for 2770 Thomas Ave S and 2924 Chown Ave S.

The Workplace Regulations work group will propose a citywide sick-leave ordinance to the Committee of the Whole on March 16.

There are openings on Minneapolis boards and commissions.

The Community Connections Conference is Saturday, April 2, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The event is free and open to all; register information is on the city's website.

Tree Trust is offering \$25 trees to Minneapolis residents. Ward 7 residents can preorder trees beginning March 21; pick up May 21-23. Go to [treetrust.org](http://treetrust.org) to order.

Pre-order compost bins and rain barrels at a discounted price; pick up on April 30. Details at [recycleminnesota.org](http://recycleminnesota.org).

**Transportation Report, Craig Westgate**

Section 106 (historic preservation) meetings continue.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement for Southwest LRT is expected soon.

State funding for Southwest LRT remains uncertain.

Mark Wegner from Twin Cities and Western Railroad will be invited to a community meeting to discuss concerns, particularly freight rail operation during construction of the SWLRT tunnel in the Kenilworth Corridor.

**Land Use & Development Committee**

Initial inquiries are being made about two potential new developments in the neighborhood.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Land Use Committee. Contact [info@cidna.org](mailto:info@cidna.org) for more information.

**Lake Calhoun Lake Harriet Master Plan, Mike Wilson**

The next meeting of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) will be March 24, 6:00 p.m. at Park Board headquarters. Focus areas #4-6 will be discussed.

**Midtown Greenway Coalition, Mike Wilson**

Three areas of focus: 1. Extending the Greenway to St. Paul. 2. Recently completed design charrette for Nicollet Ave S (for more info: [whittieralliance.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/Workshop-5.pdf](http://whittieralliance.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/Workshop-5.pdf)). 3. Green Crescent – connection between the Greenway and Lake Street near I-35W.

**Pedestrian Safety Committee, Steve Goltry**

The team is working with Calhoun Commons to discuss the distribution of the flier that has tips for reducing traffic congestion at Market Plaza.

**Annual Meeting**

CIDNA's Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11. The board approved a budget of \$60 for snacks during social hour.

**Game Night at Park Siding Park**

The board discussed ideas for a social event at Park Siding in early summer. Details to be worked out at the next board meeting.

**PPP Annual Report**

Neighborhoods are required to complete an annual report for 2015 PPP activity. The document asks neighborhoods to identify highlights from 2015 and priorities for 2016. A draft of the report will be presented to the board for approval at the April meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

**Next meeting**

The next meeting is Wednesday, April 13, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison.

Note to CIDNA residents: sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by sending a request to [info@cidna.org](mailto:info@cidna.org).

## Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Update

### The LHNA Annual Meeting will be held in mid-May.

Check the LHNA website and the April issue of the Hill & Lake Press for date and venue. All residents of Lowry Hill are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The next LHNA board meeting is Tuesday, April 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the Kenwood Rec Center. All residents are welcome.

Get a tree for only \$25 from Tree Trust at [treetrust.org](http://treetrust.org)

Pothole repair is complaint driven for now.

Official pothole season repair starts April 5.

Yard Waste Pick Up will begin on April 11.

Street Sweeping will begin on April 13 and go through May 9.

LHNA would like to remind you to "Leave A Light On" to help deter crime in our neighborhood.



Subscribe to our monthly e-mail blast by visiting our website at [lowryhillneighborhood.org](http://lowryhillneighborhood.org)

**'Save Our Minneapolis Parks' Supports Joint Park Board, City Compromise**  
by Craig Wilson

for neighborhood parks. Goodman acknowledged the extraordinary role our parks play in making Minneapolis such an exceptional and livable city and emphasized how, in her tenure on the Council, she has structured many deals but that this was the most significant and historic. Goodman acknowledged that a compromise would bring the City and Park Board closer together through collaboration versus the potential for contention with a referendum.

Goodman and Johnson worked with Hill Lake area Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb and Park Board President Liz Wielinski on the compromise. Said Commissioner Tabb, "I am thrilled by this historic agreement between the City and the Park Board that will continue Minneapolis' tradition of providing its residents with exceptional parks for generations to come. In this age of contention and political gridlock, this is model that I'd like to see more of in the world!"

"This resolution is a major victory for our parks, for our city, and for the relationship between the City Council and the Park Board," said Save Our Minneapolis Parks Chair Mark Andrew. "We are proud to stand behind the resolution and will do everything in our power to see it successfully passed. New, sustainable funding is desperately needed for our neighborhood park system. We must get this done for the tens of thousands of children and the six million visitors of all ages who use our neighborhood parks on an annual basis."



Photo by Tony Sterle

Cutline: Park Board Superintendent Jayne Miller presenting to the Minneapolis City Council. Save Our Minneapolis Park supports filled the Council Chambers and overflowed to an adjacent room with televised access.

**sand upon the waters**

By Tom H. Cook

I never wanted to see anybody die, but there are a few obituaries I have read with pleasure.

—Clarence Darrow

Either he's dead or my watch has stopped.

Groucho Marx

They say such nice things about people at funerals that it makes me sad I am going to miss mine by just a few days.

—Garrison Keillor

My uncle Sammy was an angry man. He had printed on his tombstone: What are you looking at?

—Margaret Smith

As one of the few remaining newspaper subscribers, I feel a civic duty to start the day with the news of the night before. I feign surprise and pretend I do not own

Until an ordinance is officially passed by the City Council and Park Board, Save Our Minneapolis Parks will continue to support placing a referendum on the 2016 election ballot. Save Our Minneapolis Parks is a citizen-led group supporting new funding for our neighborhood park system in 2016. The organization was recently endorsed by the Trust for Public Land, the Minneapolis Parks Foundation, Stonewall DFL, and the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis.

an iPad. Besides, events are not real until I have seen them in print. My routine has been the same for years. First the sport section, littered with DUIs, assaults, and occasional ball scores. Next the front section, currently featuring the antics of contestants vying for the office once held by Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln.

I have only recently become an avid reader of the obituaries. I read not just about the famous, but ordinary citizens. Obits of the well-known often have a bit of "Behind the Music" quality to them. The hint of graft, plagiarism, or sexual dalliance is included because their transgressions were too public and may be the main reason they are remembered. Note of their passing may offer a "perspective" on the deceased's penchant for other peoples' pensions.

Those of us who are less newsworthy have to buy our own space. The loving tributes suggest that in many cases either the will has not been read yet or the prime heir has the responsibility for crafting the final words. An obituary is clearly not the place for a roast or for settling old scores. I have met many dour, petty, and dislikable people who, if the paper is to be believed, led a secret life of philanthropy, warmth, and kindness.

I may have obit envy after reading about the great accomplishments and sterling lives of those around me. Please consider the following with a grain of salt: My quarrel with most obituaries is they will mention the deceased's great sense of humor.

I was a not-too-successful stand-up comedian, public speaker, and writer on the subject of humor. I admit to being a humor snob. Many alleged humorists are merely exchanging old bromides about Ole and Lena, making fun at the expense of others, or passing on "jokes" that unfairly target a group of people. Their anecdotes are formulaic, and older than they are, some tracing to Homer.

A humorist's best subject is one's own misadventures. Self-deprecatory humor is funny because we have all had a similar thought or experience. Another type, observational humor, features the weaving of seemingly unrelated events together. First there is a glint of recognition and then the satisfaction as we "solve" the joke and arrive at the punch line together.

Those clumsily clever Toastmasters and Rotarians with snappy lines like "Cold enough for you?" and "Did you get a haircut or just have your ears lowered?" are not really funny.

As scary as death may be, I believe I am more fearful of being lumped in with everyone else who is said to have a good sense of humor.

Tom H. Cook is a former neighbor who, unlike Rhoda Morganstern, has decided that he will keep better in southern California.

**Meet your Neighbor from page 3**

park system in America—something we should all be incredibly proud of and probably the most important attribute in making our city so great! Almost all of our city residents live within easy walking distance to one of our parks—10 minutes or less. I strongly believe that equal access to high quality public amenities is an issue of equality and fairness and that access to neighborhood parks is a necessary ingredient for enhancing and maintaining a healthy quality of life. We are so lucky to have such an amazing park system here but, unfortunately, we have neglected our parks for too long—we have been running a serious shortfall for at least the last 15 years. Currently, we have a \$15 million annual shortfall and if action is not taken now, the overall funding gap will continue to grow and ultimately lead to a further decline in the quality of our parks, require many of park buildings and assets to be condemned, ultimately result in higher costs and, most importantly, deal a serious blow to our city's impressive quality of life.

What are neighborhood parks and why are they in need of help? Minneapolis has both regional and neighborhood parks. Regional parks are the larger parks and often more nature-based. Lake of the Isles, Lake Harriet, and Theodore Wirth parks are all regional parks. Unlike neighborhood parks, regional parks receive funding from local, regional, state, and federal sources. Our neighbor-

hood parks are the smaller parks that serve our local communities and house the majority of the more expensive assets—the wading pools, ball fields, soccer fields, park buildings, etc. Neighborhood parks (and the important assets they house) rely heavily on local property tax dollars. Unfortunately, while there is money for the maintenance of our regional parks, there is not enough money to

Continued on page 16

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## Animal Care & Control 101

By: Phil Hallaway & Michael Cockson

Minneapolis Animal Care and Control (“MACC”) is the city agency responsible for enforcement of the Animal Care & Control ordinance. MACC receives over 16,000 field service calls every year. MACC investigated over 400 animal bite reports last year and declared 250 dogs aggressive.

MACC’s number one complaint is barking dogs. The ordinance forbids any animal noise audible across a property line or through fences between residences if it’s taking place between 7AM - 10PM for 15 minutes or between 10 PM and 7 AM for 10 minutes. If dog barking has you down, here is what you need to know before making a complaint to MACC. Although you must be willing to give your name and address, this is not public information. MACC will send a form letter to the dog owner’s property indicating they are in violation of a Minneapolis City Ordinance and the consequences. The owner has 7 days to address the issue before additional action is taken by MACC. A second complaint will bring another letter outlining the violation and what should be done. Again, the owner has 7 days to address the issue. A third complaint will result in the dispatch of an officer to document the complaint. If the officer confirms the violation, a \$200 civil citation is issued. Additional documented complaints can result in the doubling of the fine for each subsequent violation up to \$2,000.

### TRUE OR FALSE ?

*The Minneapolis City Council approved changes to the Animal Care and Control Ordinance this past Feb-ruary. Can you guess the answers to these questions?*

*Under City ordinance...*

1. *Do you need a permit to own three dogs, two cats, and two salamanders in Minneapolis?*
2. *Mary Lincoln’s rat terrier can be heard barking every morning for 20 minutes. Is this yelp-fest legal?*
3. *Doug Summit wants to own half a dozen chickens. Is he required to collect signatures from his neighbors to do so?*

*Answers are found at the end of this article.*

Backyard farmers take note. You don’t need to gather neighbor signatures if you want to own six or fewer chickens. You can get a commercial license for up to 30 birds for egg sales. Have trouble getting up in the morning? With a special permit, you can own a rooster.

MACC operates a state-of-the-art animal shelter housing over 4,000 animals each year. MACC partners with 46 animal rescue groups and finds homes for 90% of all adoptable pets. At the shelter, city residents can retrieve a lost or quarantined animal, pay a citation, purchase a pet license, adopt a pet, turn in a stray animal, and/or register a dangerous animal.

Find information about care, treatment, licensing, and trapping of animals, visit <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/animals>



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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.

### Where we are Now

By Jean Deatrck

Hill and Lake Press is looking good...and healthy. How exciting it is to celebrate 40 years. I wasn’t in on the fun paste up sessions and editorial parties that Mike Wilson wrote about. My involvement came later and it wasn’t always fun. Many of the HLP creators still live in the neighborhoods. And of course, Jim Lenfestey. How could we manage without him and Susan too. We are still fortunate to have such a talented supporter. Coyote? We love him.

So we are looking good...o.k. I guess. We could use more advertisers, so please encourage your business friends to join us. We wouldn’t exist very long without our advertisers. We lost an advertiser this month. Knaeble Painting has advertised for over a year and has had only one call. How can that be? Where are you old house owners?

And of course, the four neighborhoods: CIDNA, Kenwood, East Isles, and Lowry Hill. We are friends and mostly share the same antipathy towards the encroachment of SWLRT. May we never hear that word again.

And thank you Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association. We appreciate our neighborhoods’ yearly contributions for their inclusion of board minutes, but we were surprised and delighted to find an additional contribution from LHNA. Thank you.

I live near 1900 Colfax S, so it was an unwelcome email that informed me that the owners plan to build a large apartment building next to their beautiful historic home. We love Burch Steak, Lowry Hill Meats, and Bradstreet Craftshouse, but parking and unloading trucks are issues on Colfax. A large apartment building will compound the issue. Very unwelcome! The Heritage Preservation Commission will meet on Tuesday, March 22, 2016, at 4:30 p.m., in Room 317 City Hall, 350 South 5th Street, Minneapolis, MN. Interested parties are invited to attend and be heard.

Concerned about a tethered dog left alone all day? The newly adopted Animal Care and Control ordinance requires tethered animals be monitored with the owner nearby. It specifically prohibits tethering when no one is home. Continuously tethered dogs are often non-socialized and become dangerous.

Dogs and cats over 4 months old have to be licensed. That will cost you \$25 for a neutered pet and \$50 for an unneutered pet. If found in Minneapolis, a licensed pet gets a free ride home instead of going to the animal shelter. Licensed pets are three times more likely to be returned to their owners. Rabbits are out of luck. They no longer require licensing.

For those neighbors with a growing menagerie, the new ordinance requires a multiple animal permit for anyone having more than four animals of any combination dog, cat, ferret, or rabbit in one dwelling. However, not more than three can be dogs.

Members of Minnesota’s Herpetological Society are thrilled. With a permit, it’s now legal to own non-toxic, non-venomous, and non-poisonous reptiles and amphibians in Minneapolis. Dangerous reptiles and amphibians and some larger turtles are prohibited.

Quiz answers:

Yes. The new ordinance requires a multiple animal permit for anyone having more than four animals (of which, no more than 3 can be dogs) of any combination of dog, cat, ferret, or rabbit in one dwelling.

No. This barking falls under the expanded nuisance definition in the new ordinance. MACC officers have also been provided with additional tools to enforce this ordinance.

No. The neighbor signature requirement has been removed from the new ordinance.

HILL LAKE PRESS  
Selected Real Estate Sales  
February 2016

STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	Seller Contrib	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT
3116 W Lake St #221	\$ 214,900	\$ 6,000	70	\$ 212,000	C	1/1	960	\$ 202,000	\$ 3,091	2007
2885 Knox S #708	245,000	-	84	218,000	C	1/1	875	187,000	3,155	1979
2404 Russell S	749,000	-	47	725,000	H	4/3	2,676	679,500	11,962	1908
2529 Irving S	950,000	-	417	878,500	H	5/5	4,402	826,500	14,607	1913
1779 Knox S	1,499,000	-	436	1,325,000	H	5/5	5,588	1,209,000	22,844	1903
1923 Knox S	1,795,000	17,015	800	1,500,000	H	5/6	6,758	1,691,000	32,435	1919
1771 Logan S	2,675,000	-	250	2,500,000	H	5/9	9,370	2,407,500	47,274	1910
Sources: Harvey Ettinger - Steve Havig			cume	Condo	C					
				Home	H					
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County				Townhouse	TWN	Go to mplsrealtor.com for additional info				

## This I Believe

By Madeleine Lowry

This I Believe was a popular public radio show from the 1950s that invited prominent members of society to describe their beliefs in an essay and record it for radio. The series was revived in 2005 with a twist: it invited members of the listening audience, people from every walk of life, to submit essays.

After listening to the audiobook version of essays from Americans both ordinary and famous on topics as diverse as funerals, poetry, parenting, jazz, and BBQ, I began to ask myself: What is it that I believe in?

I mulled this over for several days. What I finally settled on was this: dinner. I believe in family dinners.

At least five times a week I make dinner for our family and have been doing so for years. We eat rather late by American standards, but I have found that eating at seven makes it possible to cook a meal from scratch after work. From time to time other modern day conveniences, like the slow cooker, come into play when time is pinched.

In years where we both worked late and babysitters were essential to bridge the gap between school and the

end of the work day, they were in charge of dinner prep several days a week. Even so, I would select the recipe, shop, and lay out the ingredients, pots and pans. "Babysitter recipes" were carefully curated to match the cooking skills of the babysitter du jour and many of our sitters' cooking skills improved while in our employ.

All of these efforts support my belief in gathering as a family to catch up at the end of a day. These days, with various extracurricular activities and work obligations, we don't always gather in a full quorum of five, but we still try.

My husband and I have been following this tradition since before we had children and have kept it up throughout. Even during years when my youngest would look at his plate and name the victuals he didn't want to eat. Even when the kids would bicker, poke each other, or complain. Or when they seemed to think dinner was a platform for honing their skills in sarcasm. And even through parental bad moods, fatigue, and a general family-wide dearth of humor.

We've tried and abandoned various techniques to

foster pleasant conversation. There was the phase where we went around the table asking for highs and lows from the day. And also one where we quizzed the kids with SAT vocabulary words pulled from a box (not recommended).

I can well remember my sister-in-law's surprise years ago when she came to help us with a newborn. At dinnertime we set the table with plates, glasses and silverware, dumped a bag of salad in a bowl, microwaved a frozen pasta meal and sliced a baguette.

"Do you always sit down to a meal like this?" she asked, eyes wide. It was a pauper's meal, but I think she was surprised that we put the energy into it at all. We had a newborn infant that needed to be nursed, a toddler who was intent on dumping all her food on the floor, two restless dogs desperate for a walk and two bone-tired parents.

And yes, Kathleen, yes. We always sit down to eat as a family.

## SWLRT, the Met Council, and Mitigation

from page 1

to electric trains: "not their problem!"

**Vibration:** As they sat in my house and felt the rattling of a freight train passing through, I asked about monitoring vibration impacts during construction and with light rail AND freight rail. Their response? "Not a problem" - per the Met Council, light rail won't cause any additional worrisome vibration (interesting, especially since MPR is getting vibration mitigation).

**Environmental:** I raised concerns of groundwater/lake contamination potential from arsenic in the old railway yard. They believe, at no additional project cost, this can be contained or that it is "not a problem." Also, according to the Met Council, the area will look about the same as it does now - huh!?!? Clear-cutting hundreds of trees, concrete and steel barriers, frequent trains...again, "not their problem." The Chain of Lakes is a peaceful, beautiful resource where we walk, bike, and enjoy the outdoors. Now imagine a bell ringing and trains rushing past every 5-7 minutes, both day and night...

The unelected Met Council members do not have to truly live with their decisions on SWLRT, but we do, so we need to make our voices heard over those ringing train bells. Then again, it took corporate MPR two years of litigation to be heard and get real mitigation - so what chance do individual homeowners and citizens have?

## FrameStyles 30th Anniversary Celebration



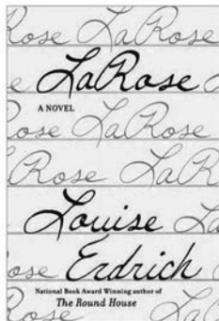
Photo by Dorothy Childers

To celebrate thirty years in business, an open house was held at FrameStyles, a custom frame shop and gallery at 2107 Penn Avenue South. Guests enjoyed prizes, music, food, and wine. Pictured here, owners Michael Kokesh and Trudy Frederick drawing for one of the prizes, a framed print by Bryan Iwamoto.



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America the Beautiful sung here.



Photo by Dorothy Childers

With basses on the left and tenors on the right, a Prairie Home Companion's Garrison Keillor led a full audience in a HymnSing at Plymouth Congregational Church. Patriotic songs were added to the revival hymns chosen by Keillor. Plymouth's Organist - Choirmaster Philip Brunelle accompanied the congregational songfest. When it came to a close, Keillor thanked everyone "You've been beautiful to be with this evening and I thank you from the bottom of my heart." The evening ended with Amazing Grace, Joy to the World, Till We Meet Again and Amen, and he greeted people as they left. Encore, please.

Meet your Neighbor from page 13

maintain our beloved neighborhood parks anywhere at or near their current level. The Minneapolis Park Board has done an extraordinary job dealing with a severe case of underfunding but It is now time for the residents of our city to step up and help save our park system before it's too late.

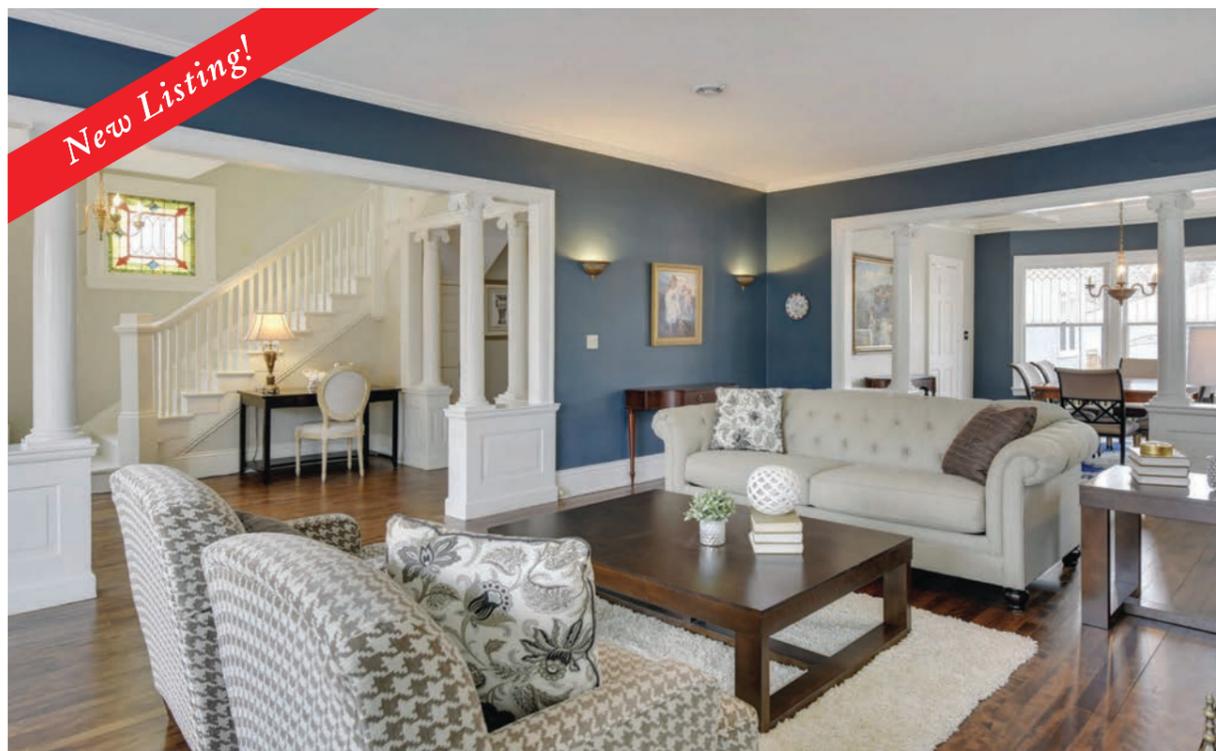
What is your hope for the future of the Minneapolis Park System? I, like many others in our city, have a deep and abiding love of our city and its magnificent neighborhood parks. My hope is that we can unite behind this important cause and support the efforts of Save Our Minneapolis Parks to pass a referendum to fill the funding gap facing the park system. The referendum would cost the average Minneapolis taxpayer less than \$6 dollars per month. That investment is a very small price to pay to repair and maintain these jewels of our city. This is an important cause that has serious ramifications for our city's families and neighborhoods and for the quality of life that we all care so much about and that we need to maintain for all of our residents. I urge everyone to learn more about this effort at www.savemplsparcs.com.

Plymouth Congregational Church



Celebrate Easter Sunday 6:30 a.m., Chapel 9 & 11 a.m., Sanctuary Carla J. Bailey, Senior Minister Philip Brunelle, Organist-Choirmaster

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