



'Where the biggies leave off...'

Hill & Lake Press

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Lunds adds trees to parking lot, keeps welcome mat out for Uptown neighborhoods

By Michael Wilson

Several new trees will be leafing out next spring in the parking lot at Lunds, adding some much-needed greening to Uptown. But other than that, General Manager Mark Bartusch and his staff plan to continue doing what the Lund family has done for 94 years in Uptown: provide the best food and produce with the best service around and continue to earn the confidence and affection of its Hill and Lake neighbors.

Lunds takes prides in its history of giving back to the communities it serves, and this year the Midtown Greenway Coalition has been delighted to be a Lunds charitable partner. Lunds has made a generous grant for general operating support and, along with Lake & Irving and Amore Uptown restaurants, provided delicious appetizers for the MGC Progressive Dinner's first stop in East Calhoun.

Several new trees have arrived at the Uptown Lunds from the downtown store at 12th and Hennepin. A row of trees at the edge of the parking lot at the downtown store was causing drainage problems for the adjoining apartment building. The trees had to be removed, and Uptown Lunds became the beneficiary.

There are many ways that Lunds is much more than just our neighborhood grocery store. Its unusually long history in one location is one. There's a sense of permanence and continuity in a rapidly changing retail environment. Somehow we just know that Lunds will always be there. Its outsized reputation for quality and variety is another.

Longtime employees are like family.

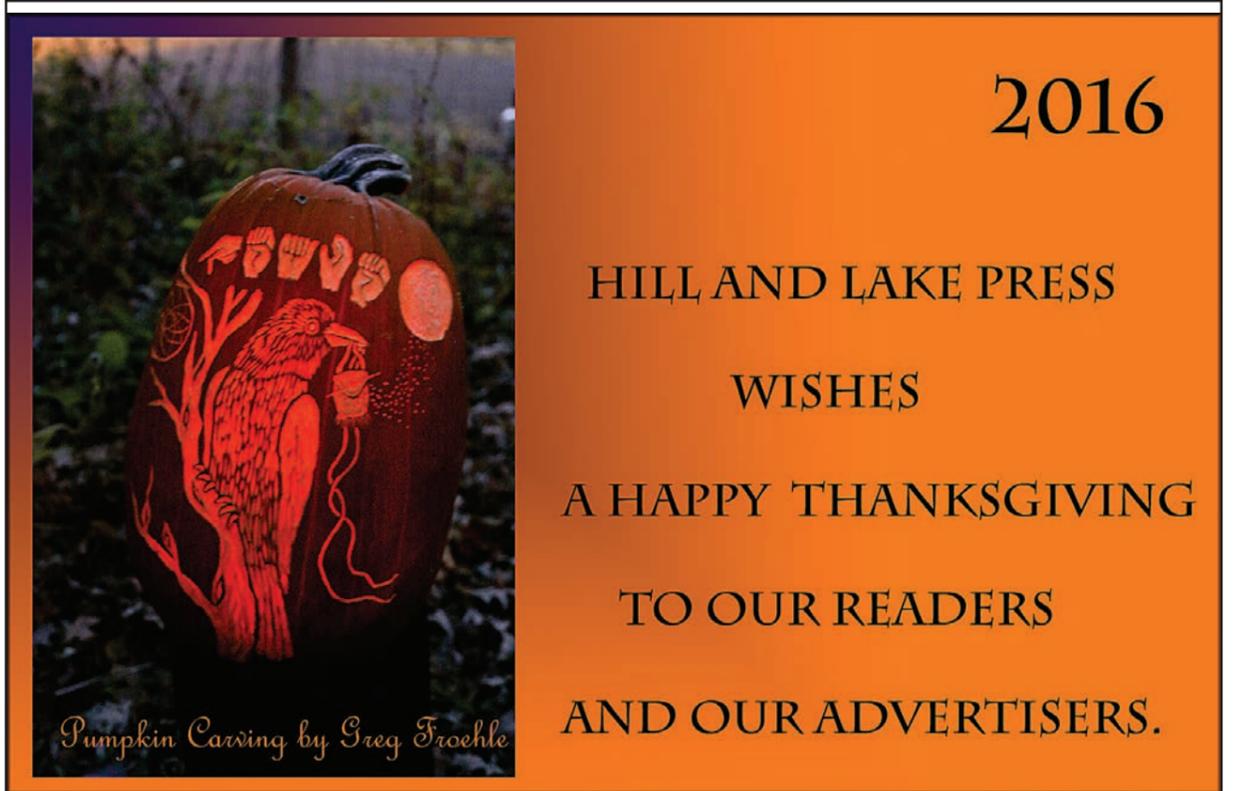
Many folks remember the days before upscale bars and nightspots took over Uptown when Lunds was the after-work and late-night place for singles to see and be seen. (And perhaps it still is.) Many phone numbers were exchanged in the aisles of the produce department. And then there was the exceptionally handsome cashier with long, luxuriant dark hair whose line always seemed twice as long as any other cashier's.

But perhaps it's the people at Lunds whom we've seen and gotten to know over the years who make shopping at Lunds seem like a family experience. "Our long-time employees are the legacy of this store," Bartusch says. "I feel like all of us newer arrivals get to stand on their shoulders." Look at the photo accompanying this article showing the unusually large number of Lunds staff members with impressively long records of service and experience – and say hello to them next time you're in the store.

East Isles Residents Association (EIRA) board chair Andrew Degerstrom is a Lunds regular. "A grocery store is one of the essentials for a strong, walkable neighborhood," Degerstrom says. "Because Lunds is so close, instead of driving to the store once a week and buying a bunch of groceries, I always carry my reusable bag with me and stop in at Lunds multiple times a week, buying a couple of items at a time."

East Calhoun (ECCO) resident Alexander Cleberg says that there is something special about the ability to walk to a place that provides everything a family needs for sustenance. "My baby was only a few days old and I

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Pumpkin Carving by Greg Froehle



Photo by Dorothy Childers Caption Mike Wilson

Uptown Lunds General Manager Mark Bartusch discusses new parking lot trees with Andrew Degerstrom, East Isles Residents Association (EIRA) board president (right), and Ralph Knox, East Calhoun Community Organization (ECCO) board president (left).



Photo: Joe Quigley, courtesy Minneapolis Public Schools. Caption: Michael Wilson

West High School and Calhoun School anchor the two ends of this early 1930s aerial photograph of Uptown. Note the 29th Street railroad trench. The Mall extends all the way to Hennepin, while Lagoon dead-ends at Hennepin. Can you find the original Hove's, which was torn down in the late 1930s?

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Later with Lisa, Monday, December 12, 4:30 p.m. at the Normandy, 405 S 8th St. Annual holiday party. Cash bar, parking is free. Plan to attend this fabulous party. Socialize with friends and with Council Member Lisa Goodman.

Art Mart, Amanda Vallone

Art Mart featuring 25 artists will be held on Saturday, November 26, 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence.

Native American art residency sponsored by the Kenwood PTA opens November 17th. The exhibit is not open to the public, but visitors may schedule a time to view the exhibit by contacting christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us.

Kenwood students are engaging a series of art projects introducing them to Dakota and Ojibwe contemporary art practices based in tradition and history. Art specialist Margaret Swenson is creating an original curriculum, *Native American Art in the Present Tense*.

Tax Levy Increase?

The mayor is proposing a 5.5 percent increase in the tax levy. Public hearings for the 2017 city budget and property tax levy are: Wednesday, November 30, 6:05 p.m. and Wednesday, December 7, 6:05 p.m. (the City Council will vote on December 7 following the public hearing). Both hearings are at City Hall, 350 5th St.

An exhibit of artwork from the project will be displayed in the lower corridor of Kenwood School starting November 17th as part of Kenwood's annual Family Activity Night and Native American Family Involvement Week.

Volunteers Heid and Angie Erdrich give credit to art teacher Margaret Swenson for creating an innovative curriculum that teaches Native American culture through art, using the "present tense when teaching about Native peoples and not leaving Native culture frozen in time."

HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

- Nov. 21, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Join writer Michael Wilson to view our Uptown neighborhoods
- Nov. 24, 7pm Literary Witnesses
- Nov. 26 4-7pm CIDNA Art Mart
- Nov. 30, 6:05pm City budget meeting
- Dec. 7, 6:05pm City budget meeting
- Dec. 12, 4:30 Later with Lisa
- NEIGHBORHOOD MONTHLY MEETINGS
- CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday 6pm Jones-Harrison
- EIRA: 2nd Tuesday 7pm Grace Community Church
- KIAA: 1st Monday 7pm Kenwood Rec Center
- LHNA: 1st Tuesday 7pm Kenwood Rec Center

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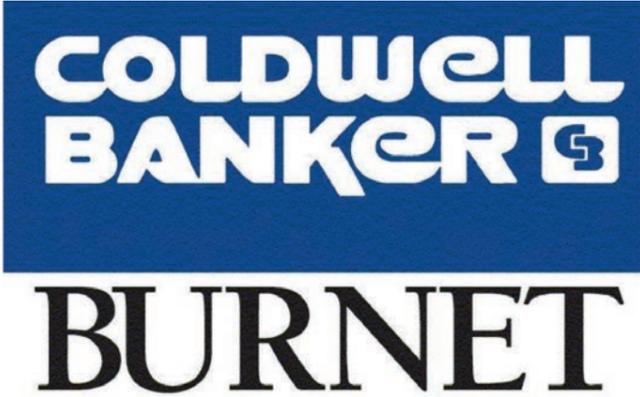
Uptown 1930 from the Air! Nov. 21, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Join Hill & Lake Press writer Michael Wilson to view our Uptown neighborhoods circa 1930. The aerial photography of Joe Quigley.

"Hayden Making Jam" Photo in Gallery Exhibit



Hayden Lee, granddaughter of Hill and Lake Press Photographer Dorothy Childers, checks out a photo of herself in an exhibition at the Robbin Gallery in Robbinsdale, Minnesota. "Extremely Minnesota," is a juried show of recent works with a Minnesota theme by Minnesota artists. The show runs through December 10th. Robbin Gallery is located at 4915 42nd Avenue North, in Robbinsdale. For gallery hours or more information, please call 763-537-5906.

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OCTOBER HLP FEATURE ON CALHOUN VILLAGE ELICITS STORIES AND WORD OF PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS

By Michael Wilson

The October Hill & Lake Press front-page article about Calhoun Village and Thompson Lumber generated many comments, some new and additional information, and some good reminiscences. So, in the best time-honored Hill & Lake Press tradition – “Where the biggies leave off...” – here’s a gathering of what we’ve learned since October.

Changes at Calhoun Village

Tony Kuechle, senior vice president of development at Doran Companies, Calhoun Village’s new owner, has taken a liking to morning coffee at Rustica. He responds to the question on many people’s minds about the possible closure of Barnes & Noble by saying, “It’s undecided.”

Kuechle says that the plans for Calhoun Village over the near term are a work in progress. Doran has owned the center for just three months, so it’s still early days for mapping out the future. “We do anticipate a change in the tenant mix over the next five to ten years,” Kuechle says. “We have existing groups that want to expand and quite a few new businesses that have expressed interest in moving in. We are beginning to study all the ‘pieces of the puzzle’ to find the best tenant mix possible.”

The possibility of an LRT station a few yards from the western edge of the property is obviously attractive to a developer, but Doran has said about a similar project in Hopkins – and by inference about Calhoun Village too – that it’s a good business investment even without an LRT station. With an LRT station Doran would like to add some residential, Kuechle says, but they recognize that it would take considerable negotiation to “get all the stakeholders to agree to a plan that would work for everyone.”

Kuechle is looking forward to sharing site improvement plans with Calhoun Village patrons, business owners and employees, and the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood. Doran is pricing the improvements over the winter and anticipates they will total more than \$100,000. Kuechle says that Doran wants to initiate the plan developed with input from the CIDNA Land Use Committee during negotiations over a future drive-thru in the back of the east building. That plan, approved by the city Planning Commission, includes the addition of additional green space and landscaping, pedestrian safety improvements, parking lot repairs, vehicular safety improvements, and addition of the bike lane, among other items. Kuechle anticipates that these projects will start in Spring 2017.

Several new and/or expanded landscape islands are proposed within the existing parking areas. The increased size of these islands will provide greater soil depth and area for root expansion which will allow for larger, healthier overstory shade trees. The preferred landscape plan approved by the city calls for 3,997 square feet of additional green space, 49 additional



Photo courtesy Tony Kuechle, Doran Companies. Caption: Michael Wilson

The layout of the Thompson Lumber yard and buildings is clear in this remarkable 1947 aerial. The following year Thompson built a new company HQ building and rearranged the yard, moving much of the lumber to the west – where it would be destroyed by fire in 1976. On the right is visible the Purdy mansion, site of today’s Minister’s Life building. What can you infer from the topographic features shown in this photo?

overstory trees, and shrubs in excess of the 385 shrubs currently called for by code.

Significant work will be done on the east parking lot, Kuechle says, adding a second storm water main and leveling out the surface of the lot.

Many have noted the new striping in all the parking lots, but what may have gone unnoticed is that the width of the parking stalls has been increased to nine feet from eight and a half. Our car doors say thank you!

Go to

<<http://minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcmssp-182157.pdf>> for the complete CPED Staff Report for the Calhoun Village Site Plan Review, prepared for the June 27, 2016, Planning Commission meeting.

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Sung Eucharist, 11pm

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Hill and Lake leaders, residents excoriate Met Council during DOT certification review

By Shawn Smith and Michael Wilson

At least once every four years the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) jointly conduct a Certification Review of each of the country's Transportation Management Areas (TMAs) to ensure that they are satisfactorily implementing the planning requirements of federal law. This month it's been the Metropolitan Council's turn to go under the microscope, and Hill and Lake leaders and residents have not been shy in providing feedback.

TMAs are urban areas with populations of 200,000 or more. The primary purpose of the certification review, according to the FHWA website (see link below), is to formalize the continuing oversight and day-to-day evaluation of the planning process. "In a broader sense," the FHWA states, "the review process is a valuable opportunity to provide advice and guidance to a TMA for enhancing the planning process and improving the quality of transportation investment decisions."

Certification is necessary in order for the Met Council to continue to receive federal funds. The FHWA/FTA review results in a determination of whether the Met Council will receive continued certification, certification with a corrective action plan, or no certification (which would mean loss of federal transportation dollars). Some of the criteria used for the determination include transparency and public engagement in planning transit, good stewardship of limited federal dollars, and adherence to ethical standards.

Whether we've been involved with the Southwest LRT issue for 25 years or 25 months, there are few among us who lack strong opinions about how the Met Council has handled the planning process since it took over from Hennepin County in 2013. But how we found out about the Certification Review and the opportunity to provide public feedback is an instructive story in itself.

Thank you, Barbara Lunde!

Barbara Lunde moved to Cedar-Isles-Dean three years ago from Washington, D.C., to be near her children and grandchildren. Continuing a lifetime of civic

engagement, she quickly joined the CIDNA board. During the last year in particular, Lunde says, she has become dismayed at the heavy toll the SWLRT battle has taken on neighborhood leaders and activists alike. "Spring into action, you former employee of the DOT!" Lunde says she told herself in late October.

Using knowledge and skills gained during her years at the Federal Aviation Administration, a DOT sister agency of the FHWA and FTA, Lunde prowled the internet and learned about the Certification Review of the Met Council and in particular about a public meeting scheduled for Nov. 2.

"The public meeting portion [of the review] is an informal opportunity for the federal review team to inform the public about this review process and to give the public a chance to voice their opinions, concerns, or questions about the metropolitan planning process," Andrew Emanuele, FHWA-Minnesota Division community planner and FHWA Certification Review lead, told Lunde in an email. "It shouldn't be confused with a public hearing, which is more formal in nature and focused on specific projects or government action."

It was news to us.

Met Council fails to make public meeting public.

Lunde immediately notified Cedar-Isles-Dean resident Stuart Chazin, one of the leaders of Lakes and Parks Alliance of Minneapolis, and CIDNA board chair Craig Westgate, and word of the review and the Nov. 2 public meeting quickly spread.

Where were the Met Council's public relations bureaucracy and its multi-person SW Project Office Community Engagement team when it came time to notify Minneapolis neighborhood associations and residents about the federal review of the adequacy of their transportation planning process? Out to lunch, for all we know. Search really hard on the Met Council's website and you might have found a mention of the Nov. 2 meeting, but any information about the Review had been taken down from the website by the morning of Nov. 3 – including the fact that the FHWA and FTA are continuing (until Dec. 2) to seek written public com-

ments.

Lunde, Chazin, KIAA resident Shawn Smith, Lowry Hill resident George Puzak, Cedar-Isles-Dean resident Michael Rothman, and the indefatigable Bob Carney journeyed to St. Paul for the Nov. 2 public meeting. They report being welcomed by FHWA and FTA staff, who were pleased to receive their public comments. All key issues were covered, and FTA/FHWA staff appeared to be taking good notes.

Attendance was minimal, hardly a surprise given the Met Council's failure to notify anyone about the meeting. In fact, one FHWA staffer asked the Hill and Lake group how they heard of the meeting – a litmus test perhaps of how well the Met Council communicates? The group replied that it was very last-minute and only because one of their members happened to learn about it during an internet search.

Get going and send in your comments!

Public comments for the Certification Review process will be accepted through Dec. 2 so spend a few minutes at your keyboards and send your responses to both

- Andrew Emanuele, FHWA lead (<andrew.emanuele@dot.gov>)

- Reginald Arkell, FTA lead (<reginald.arkell@dot.gov>).

Before starting to write, look at the Certification Review

Primer (<https://www.planning.dot.gov/Documents/Primer/intro_primer.asp>) to learn more about what this review process is looking for. Although venting about SWLRT itself may feel good, it won't accomplish anything in this particular instance. Our comments need to address the Certification Review components.

2017 promises to be a pivotal year for SWLRT. The Met Council plans to start heavy construction in the Kenilworth Corridor in the fall – a mere ten months from now. We need everyone to get involved, through your neighborhood association, Lakes and Parks Alliance, LRT Done Right. And read your Hill & Lake Press for continued updates.

To the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration:

My name is Craig Westgate and I live in the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood of Minneapolis. I am currently the chair of the Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA) board.

Today we are addressing the duty of the Met Council – actually, the failure of the Met Council – to responsibly manage the Southwest Light Rail (SWLRT) project. I want to put before you several points that not only just concern me but in fact truly worry me about how, in this day and age, a Met Council that is funded by the people and for the people does not care about or listen TO the people. Here are few examples that I have experienced both as a volunteer for Met Council committees and as a person who truly loves and cares about where I live.

1. I have represented CIDNA on the SWLRT Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for three years. In those three years we were supposed to have had 36 meetings, but we have had only 26. Ten meetings were cancelled because Met Council planners felt there was nothing to talk about, even though I and other CAC members had questions and issues we wanted to discuss.

2. I am on the Section 106 Committee, which is required by the National Historic Protection Act to evaluate the effects of SWLRT on historic properties. To this day some serious questions remain unanswered, but the goal of Met Council planners seems to "check the boxes" so they can move on and not bother with the remaining questions and issues raised by the community.

3. As a citizen and as a neighborhood association board member I have put in major amounts of time

responding to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and the Supplemental DEIS. We were consistently told that our issues and concerns would be answered and responded to, but all too often they never were.

4. The SWLRT Project Office has a community outreach person whose sole responsibility is to work with the neighborhoods to be served by the five Minneapolis LRT stations. By my reckoning she has failed to answer at least half of the 60 emails I have sent her. This is an unacceptable way to treat any citizen, much less the person elected by the community to speak for them as chair of their neighborhood association board. I could go on about the badly chosen route through our Minneapolis neighborhoods, collocation of light-rail and freight trains that we were promised in writing for years would never happen, tunneling that will breach the water table and permanently affect the water in our lakes, construction that the Met Council promises will not endanger our homes and businesses but will.

I have always been an open and fair-minded community volunteer. I have put in 2300 volunteer hours over the years on SWLRT-related work. But my experiences with the Met Council over their handling of SWLRT have left me angry and deeply cynical. It is deeply discouraging to have been involved only to conclude that NONE of it has really mattered in the eyes of the Met Council or the wider world. Behind a facade of community engagement, the Met Council simply ignores us and fails to work with us productively on issues of deep concern. All they really seem interested in doing is checking boxes and moving on. I DEEPLY care about where I live, and I am not moving on. I will tell you as I have told the Met Council: Cedar-Isles-Dean is my neighborhood and my home. I am still here and plan to be for a long time to come.

To the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration:

My name is Shawn Smith and I live in the Kenwood neighborhood of Minneapolis. I am also a director on the Kenwood-Isles Area Association (KIAA) board, although I am not speaking tonight on behalf of KIAA. I mention it only to indicate that through my KIAA role I am familiar with the Metropolitan Council's planning process, specifically on Southwest Light Rail (SWLRT).

I want to call attention to the Met Council's unchecked power because I care about Kenwood and Southwest Minneapolis. I am deeply disappointed by what I've observed in the planning process for SWLRT and its resulting impact on a large part of our city.

I was glad to hear you say that this Certification Review aims to ensure that limited federal funds are spent wisely because it certainly does not feel like the Met Council recognizes when its spending on one project has exceeded the limits of common sense. The cost of SWLRT is currently at \$1.9 billion, significantly over budget and still climbing. It is far more expensive than other more flexible modes of transit. It doesn't serve transit dependent populations in Minneapolis. It removes only a small number of cars from the highways, and it doesn't reduce carbon emissions. Nevertheless, this train is still coming.

What kind of process is this where so much public money can be spent and the results do not meet basic transit criteria?

The Met Council chair stated that this line would not be built without bipartisan legislative support, but the train is still coming. What kind of process is this when representatives elected by the people have said

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Shawn Smith from page 4

“no” and they are ignored?

The Met Council chair stated that certificates of participation or county funding would not be used to cover the state’s 10 percent share of the project cost, but the Governor doubled down and “over-ruled him” and the train is still coming. What kind of process is this where one person can have so much influence? And where, since the state won’t pay, those most negatively impacted by this project might now have to pay for it via new taxes?

Numerous Citizen Advisory Committees meetings, where our neighborhood has a representative,

have been cancelled – more in the past few months than have been held. But this train is still coming. What kind of process is it when the Met Council doesn’t see the importance of regularly engaging the public at the frequency that was promised?

There is a viable lawsuit pending which contends that routes other than just the Kenilworth Corridor were not properly considered. It will not be heard in court until September 2017, but this train is still coming as though there were no lawsuit. What kind of process is this when hundreds of millions are already being spent but the whole project could be derailed a year from now?

What kind of process is it when representatives of the Met Council arrogantly say they are confident this train will be built because “every light rail project dies 1000 deaths before the first rider boards?”

What kind of process is it when the best argument to build the line is that if we don’t, \$900 million of federal funds will go to another city?

We need, and expect, greater accountability here. The Met Council no doubt has a ready talking point for all of the concerns I’ve mentioned. But when power is unchecked, and the end justifies the means, you don’t get accountability. And that’s why this train is still coming.

My name is George Puzak. I’m a resident of the Lowry Hill neighborhood of Minneapolis and I’m speaking on my own behalf about the Met Council’s actions on SWLRT.

As you may know, the Met Council faces a federal lawsuit regarding their planning process for Southwest Light Rail. The court denied the Met Council’s motion to dismiss, and the case is now in discovery and scheduled for trial September 2017.

Problems with SWLRT were triggered in January 2009, when Hennepin County excluded freight rail from the project’s scoping report. (See the top of page 18 in the 2009 Scoping Report). This is the first step in how the government improperly chose the route for SWLRT independent from freight rail.

In April 2010, Hennepin County and the cities approved Route 3A as the locally preferred alternative. Route 3A relocated freight rail out of Kenilworth and put light rail in it.

In September 2011, the FTA required Hennepin County to include freight rail in the SWLRT project. Including freight rail fundamentally changed the scope of SWLRT. Yet Hennepin County never reopened the SWLRT scoping report to include freight rail.

George Puzak to page 6



FIFTY YEARS OF WEDDED BLISS

By James P. Lenfestey

As I write this, the nation is two days away from deciding to marry for four years either Hillary Clinton or... not. I have been aware of election cycles since Eisenhower-Stevenson, all of them seeming close with both political parties passionate for their candidates before the vote. But this campaign has taken on a special ugliness, more like a bitter divorce than a marriage.

So I made the sensible decision two weeks ago to turn off the radio, not read the newspapers, work hard for my candidates and ignore the noise... by listening to Garrison Keillor’s joke CDs!

Which bring up wedding anniversaries, in particular Susan’s and mine, fifty years this fall, which is both a “true fact” of chronological time and a pure magical astonishment. You remember the shout outs on Prairie Home Companion for x and y, married 50 years, and everyone cheers and claps, because... Jesus, what are the odds????

Because, as we all know, marriage like like a deck of cards. You start out with two hearts and a diamond and end up wishing for a club and a spade!

And we all know why divorce is so expensive. Because it’s worth it!

As a comfort to both of us in this extremity, I bought two giant plush teddy bears four feet tall so we both can have someone soft and sweet and snuggly to sleep with.

At 50 years of marriage, Susan and I have achieved

nearly perfect balance – we disagree on practically everything! Except, it turns out, politics, the planet, women’s rights, the glories of our children and grandchildren, the necessary warmth and comfort of friends, and the embrace of the HLP neighborhood which has made our past 42 years impossibly settled, square, active, accessible and joyful.

So in celebration, we have agreed to follow the practice of the cannibals, who at a wedding toast the bride and groom, and toast us on our 50th anniversary as well.

May you all experience the flames we have - fiery passion, warmth in the night and companionship by day, division of labor and shared responsibilities, burning disagreements and some explosive anger, and a common sense that we are insanely lucky that every time we reached for the club and spade, we remembered, just in time, the two hearts and a diamond.

People ask us if we are happily married.

Of course, we respond.

Both of us?

Yes. Every week we go to a romantic restaurant, like Rinata, have a candlelit dinner, delicious food and wine, and contemplate our happiness.

She goes Fridays, I go Tuesdays.

But when things are important, we go together.

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Calhoun Village from page 3

Ownership and zoning of the site.

The first recorded purchase in Hennepin County records for West End Subdivision, Lot E (the large triangle of land bordered today by West Lake Street and the Midtown Greenway, extending almost to today's Dean Parkway) occurred on Sept. 21, 1892, when Alfred Dean and his wife Elizabeth sold the parcel to Elizabeth, Frederick, William, and George Dean for \$45,734 (well in excess of \$1 million today, depending on method of calculation).

A 1948 Minneapolis Star article, referenced in last month's story, included the assertion of Arthur Thompson, owner of Thompson Lumber, that he had purchased the West Lake site way back in 1918. Hennepin County property records show scores of transactions over the years for various parcels of Lot E, and it would require inordinate patience to check every one. Pam Begin, real estate tax specialist in the county's

Property Services Department, checked a random selection from 1918 into the 1920s. No mention of a Thompson. So either we checked the wrong transactions, or Mr. Thompson's tale of prescience was perhaps embroidered with a bit of fancy.

Begin's search turned up a 1929 transaction involving C.E. and Rosamund Purdy, seigneurs of the Purdy Mansion across Lake Street from today's BP station. The Purdy Mansion became the Minister's Life Building, which developers are currently seeking to replace with condos or apartments. But that and the Purdys are a story for another time.

American Redevelopers bought the Thompson Lumber site in late 1986 and started the process of gaining city approval for a zoning change from M1-1 (industrial) to B3S-1 (commercial). Also needed was a change in the city's comprehensive plan, which called for high-density housing in the area. The Planning Commission

in fact rejected the zoning change on March 11, 1987, for just this reason. The Council's Zoning & Planning Committee reversed that decision on April 14, however, and the full Council affirmed it on April 24 by a 9-1 vote. Tony Scallon was the nay vote. Our council member at the time, Barbara Carlson, voted aye. (Thanks to Sybil McMillan and Bob McCune in the City Clerk's Office for their research.)

According to Gary Cohen, whose diligent and well-informed reporting in the pages of Hill & Lake Press provide an invaluable historical record of that turbulent era, American Redevelopers built Calhoun Village and owned it for a short time before selling it to Carlson Real Estate Co., who sold to Pfaff Calhoun LLC in 2001. There were no other owners.

Why didn't HLP cover the 1976 fire?

Hill & Lake Press began publishing in March 1976, yet there was no mention in its pages of the dramatic, fiery inferno that consumed half of Thompson Lumber on August 14, 1976. Why?

Cohen agrees with the explanation that CIDNA didn't join the other three Hill and Lake neighborhoods until January 1979, so although several Cedar-Isles-Dean folks such as Rhoda Lewin and Jerry Brennan wrote for the paper, HLP didn't start regular coverage of CIDNA happenings for a few more years. Even five-alarm fires.

Now the good part: the stories.

(From Annajean Lee, who grew up and raised her own family on Burnham Road. She worked on 36 issues of Hill & Lake Press and both her children, Cam and Rachel, worked on several Kids' Issues.)

On the night of the big fire in August 1976, I was celebrating my boyfriend's 21st birthday at the restaurant on the 22nd floor of the Calhoun Towers, behind what is now Whole Foods. I was the ripe old age of 19 and thought I was so grown up to be eating dinner at a fancy restaurant with my boyfriend. While we were dining, we started to see the flames shooting up from near the grain elevators. As it continued to get bigger and spread to Thompson Lumber, all the customers were at the windows gawking at the blaze. It was quite a spectacle watching the fire from the best vantage point in the neighborhood.

Another story I have about Thompson Lumber is that my brother and his friends used to sneak into the lumber yard at night. The forklifts had the keys left in the ignition and he and his friends would go on daring adventures driving the forklifts around the lumber yard. Hopefully no damage was done!

Porky's (later Nora's and then Tryg's) was a favorite drive-in for the neighborhood. It was a big deal and special night in the 1960s when our parents would take the whole family to Porky's in the station wagon. We would order through the intercom and then the food would be brought to the car and hung off the window on a tray. We would all sit in the car eating the best dinner ever. This is the first time I ordered a California Burger — how exotic!

Behind Porky's was Putt-Putt mini golf. As we got a little older (maybe 10-12 years old), we were allowed to go play mini-golf without parents. After playing, we would scrounge around on the hill behind Putt-Putt, next to the railroad tracks, and collect errant golf balls. Collecting them for what purpose — I do not know. We would then eat at Porky's, which by this point had an indoor restaurant, and most likely caused trouble for the waitress. Coming home after the day's adventure, our parents would be none the wiser about what we had been up to. Ahh the good old days, when kids had freedom to roam!

(From Vern and Gretchen Vander Weide. Gretchen worked on 106 issues of Hill & Lake press, including serving for several years as editor-in-chief. Vern is a past and current member of the CIDNA board and contributed many incisive articles to HLP. Two of their three daughters, Stephanie and Vanessa, worked on Kids' Issues.)

We moved here in July 1976 from Washington, D.C.

George Puzak from page 5

In 2013, the Met Council took over authority for SWLRT from Hennepin County. Rather than adding freight rail by reopening scoping, the Met Council added freight rail to the project via back-door means:

- 1) using municipal consent;
- 2) expanding the LPA beyond Route 3A; and
- 3) creating Route 3A-1, in which LRT and hazardous freight rail are collocated in the Kenilworth Corridor.

The Met Council improperly added freight rail through municipal consent, rather than through the legally required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping process. As a result, the Met Council has violated federal law in how it has planned and executed SWLRT.

Now, the Met Council faces a new problem with freight rail called the Canadian Pacific SWAP (CP Swap). Canadian Pacific wants the Met Council to buy about 3.5 miles of freight rail right of way that CP owns, but LRT will not use. This 3.5-mile segment from Highway 169 to west of 494 is not even along the LRT route. And it was not included in the scoping or in any environmental impact studies and never discussed.

SWLRT faces too many unanswered questions and it's premature for the FTA to fund it. The FTA should order the Met Council to reopen scoping. This remedy will allow government and citizens to study all reasonable alternatives for LRT alignments, while acknowledging freight rail's routing, costs and impacts.

My name is Michael Rothman. I have lived for 25 years in the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood, 200 feet from the proposed SWLRT track. I have three major concerns regarding the Met Council's planning process for the SWLRT project.

- 1) Environmental destruction, including poor air quality and damage to Cedar Lake; damage to the townhome and "grain silo" residences during construction; tunnel collapse due to poor soil and dried lake bed conditions; and, ultimately, the potential for property destruction and horrendous loss of life in the half-mile

"blast zone" next to the tunnel/track as a result of sparks from the LRT igniting ethanol/propane being hauled by the freight trains. If such an explosion occurs, the Met Council will have a crushing moral and financial burden on its hands.

- 2) Financial fraud. There is reason to believe that the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority has exceeded its 10 percent funding limit and that the proposed Certificates of Participation may be legally questionable and a fiscally irresponsible means of coming up with the State's portion of the budget.

- 3) The lack of accountability on the part of the Met Council as a result of its status as an unelected body. This has been illustrated in the Met Council's refusal to willingly and of their own accord release communications regarding evaluation of alternate SWLRT routes, a violation of DOT/EIS rules, which has led to a lawsuit by the Lakes and Parks Alliance of Minneapolis.

Finally, I would like to say that I'm all for mass transit that makes sense. There are at least two alternate routes that access far greater population density and more transit-reliant riders than the Kenilworth Corridor. Also, BRT should be a component of any mass transit system.

My name is Barbara Lunde. I live in the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood of Minneapolis. My message is that a great many people oppose the route as currently planned for Southwest LRT. Many others oppose LRT altogether because of its astronomical cost. Building many BRT lines (more flexible and far less costly) would make transit available to far more people than one LRT line.

The only people I have heard in favor of SWLRT are politicians who I suspect of just wanting the money spent here. I moved here three years ago from Washington, D.C., where the Purple Line LRT was just halted. The same should happen to SWLRT.

I gather from others that the Met Council has managed to follow the guidelines and still ended up with a project that few people want. Perhaps the guidelines should be changed.

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Calhoun Village to page 11

knew I needed to get out of the house,” Cleberg recalls. “Lunds was a special place I could walk to with my newborn child. I still remember how proud I felt with my beautiful newborn strapped to my body while doing some light grocery shopping.”

Cleberg notes that walkability is a quality many Millennials are seeking in their neighborhoods. “While technically one can walk anywhere,” he says, “it’s nice to be able to walk to a place where you can meet with friends at a coffee shop, get a special ingredient for a meal, or be surrounded by the nation’s current magazines.”

Ninety-four years, three generations of Lunds

The story has been often told of how a young Russell T. Lund Sr. arrived in Minneapolis from Amery, Wisconsin, in the early 1920s intending to go to college. He secured a summer job in 1922 in the cheese and cracker department at the recently opened Hove’s Grocery Store in Uptown. He did so well that Tom Cordalis, the operator of the department, offered him a full-time job and the opportunity to buy into the business. Russell Lund never looked back.

Lund and his partners opened a second Hove’s in Edina in 1942. He gained sole ownership of both buildings in 1964 and opened stores under the Lunds name, along with a bakery to serve them. By 1978 there were five Lunds stores and Lunds was enjoying a well-earned reputation for the freshness and variety of the stores’ offerings and for exceptional customer service.

Russell Lund Sr. was followed as head of the company in 1973 by his nephew H. Ted Lund, and then in 1986 by longtime Lunds employee Frank Gleeson. Russell T. Lund III, or Tres, took the reins in 1991 and continues to run the company today. Lunds made a friendly acquisition of the Byerlys chain in 1997.

Although Lunds Food Holdings Inc. now has 27 locations, Uptown GM Bartusch reports that Tres Lund always takes visiting food industry executives to two places: the company’s newest store – and the Uptown store where it all started.

Lunds concluded on page ten

Changes



At the lake, at my favorite bench,
The leaves have changed.
It’s a beautiful view from where I am sitting.
The season has changed.

I have welcomed, not just this change physically,
What I taste, see, touch, hear and smell,
It is the migration of my Spirit,
The Shift in my Soul
That I welcome.

I recently completed a difficult task.
And now, time to let go.
Let the season and the migration in me shift
And move gracefully as nature does.

You cannot force this change.
You accept it and move with it.
And the more you move and accept,
More beauty will surround you.

I am grateful for this beautiful life,
To taste, to smell, to touch, to hear, and to see
With all my senses.
I am alive and doing well.

Patricia Trebnick

Lunds from page one



Photo by Dorothy Childers, caption by Michael Wilson

Uptown Lunds management team welcomes Midtown Greenway Coalition as a nonprofit charitable partner. From left: John Newsome, Operations manager; Neal Baxter, Bakery clerk; Bryan Doyle, Center store manager; Fidel Lara, Meat manager; Jenna Frost, Pastry chef; Soren Jensen, MGC executive director; Mark Bartusch, General manager; Jen Tuskan, Produce manager; Mike Schwartz, Store manager; and Lori Vorlicky, Deli manager.

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IN WITH THE NEW: THE PETAL CART

**Floral Emporium & Parlor
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Looking for that special bouquet or arrangement? Perhaps you forgot an anniversary at the last minute and need flowers or a unique gift? Check out the latest charming shop on Hennepin, across from Jefferson school. You'll not only take home a one-of-a-kind bouquet but perhaps a unique local artisan made gift, card, or upcycled vintage decor item for your home.

The latest enterprise, The Petal Cart, is the 'ah-ha moment' inspiration of Aimee Sherrill, a Nokomis neighborhood resident. One day a few summers ago while helping her young son set up his lemonade cart on the lawn, she realized that if he could make it work and have fun, she could also try setting up her flower cart in the front yard. Business soon bloomed and expanded from seasonal flowers to wedding commissions and now a new retail location on Hennepin.

Opening day was September 14th in the 1908 Colonial Revival duplex which formerly housed a statuary firm and an antique shop. Step through the wrought iron gates and be charmed by Aimee's smile and the many unique gifts and rooms filled with period decorative accents.

Mobile Carillon Concert at Lake of the Isles



Photo by Dorothy Childers

In a concert hosted by Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church, Carillonneur Shannon Richards performed to a crowd gathered on the street in front of the church to hear the afternoon concert. They enjoyed the experience of hearing a carillon from ground level. The program included World Music and American Patriotic Music. Driven here from Ohio, this massive instrument - a traditional carillon, contains 48 bells cast in the Netherlands by the Royal Eijsbouts Bell Foundry.

Outside on the porch, an original restored wagon filled with seasonal plants or pumpkins catches the eye. Inside are more feasts for the eye. Flowers are obtained from local growers whenever possible and the gifts are locally crafted by many talented jewelers, artists and ceramists.

Though the shop has only been open a little over a month, there are already weddings booked for the out-

side terrace, childrens' tea parties in a side room and a gallery showing by a local photographer. "There is also space available for intimate parties, private catered events and 'hen parties' for all ages," Sherrill says laughing.

The main focus of the shop, however, is on retail flowers but you can bring in your own planters for cus-

The Petal Cart to page 9

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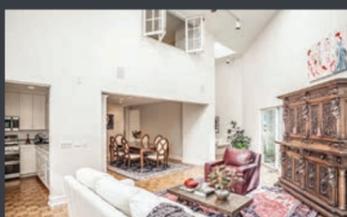
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The Petal Cart from Page 8

tom or holiday arrangements and leave with a boutique wrapped gift as well. For the holiday season, a Christmas Tree Lot on the terrace will features all the greenery from trees to garlands.

Holiday hours are: CLOSED Monday. OPEN: Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday, 10am to 8pm.

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Mention this article and receive a 10% discount on in-store items through December 31.



Photo by The Lowry, Cutline by Joyce Murphy

Tom Cook comes a calling

Tom Cook talented humorist and columnist for many a year for the Hill and Lake Press came calling last Thursday November 10, 2016 He was welcomed with great delight and joy by the Hill and Lake press gang both old and new. at The Lowry. Tom still writes the occasional column for the HLP from his home in Redondo Beach, California. Tom and his wife JoAnne moved to California to be near their children. Tom's daughter Rachael Leigh Cook stars in movies and in television, and his son is a producer. Minneapolis still has a draw for Tom as you can see by the picture. The guests at the gathering included (top row from left) Jean Deatrick, editor in chief of the Hill and Lake Press, Roger Childers, Dorothy Childers photographer for the HLP, Michael Wilson writer and historian for the HLP, (first row) Ronald Murphy, Joyce Murphy former editor and artist for the HLP, special guest Eldon Feist, and the man himself and guest of honor, Tom Cook.



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KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION

By Shawn Smith

November 2016 KIAA Meeting Minutes

KIAA Board met November 7th, 2016 at the Kenwood Rec Center

Chair Jeanette Colby called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Directors present: Chair Jeanette Colby, Vice Chair Larry Moran, Treasurer Matt Spies, Mike Bono, Jack Levi, Mark Brown, Shawn Smith (Recording Secretary). Absent: Angie Erdrich, Josine Peters.

The Agenda was unanimously approved

City of Minneapolis Update – Lisa Goodman, Council Member

There will not be a Lunch with Lisa in November due to Thanksgiving. On Monday December 12th at 4:30pm will be Later with Lisa, her annual holiday party. It will be held at the Normandy Inn. Cash bar, parking is free.

Street sweeping is completed as of November 15th, as is yard waste pickup, for the season. The city does not sweep alleys; leaf removal there is the responsibility of the home owner.

The house at 1204 Kenwood Parkway is under historic review.

Hennepin/Lyndale reconstruction is on track to be complete by December.

Lisa shared the Mayor's 2017 Proposed Budget. The board reviewed the budget and gleaned that the proposed levy increase is driven primarily by 1) 59 new positions in the city, 2) Park Board/City agreement on 20 Year Plan, 3) additional spending on social programs and grants to Non-Profit organizations. The Truth in Taxation Hearing is November 30th at City Hall, and the budget will be adopted on December 7th. Public testimony will be heard at both.

Financial Report – Matt Spies, Treasurer

Monthly expenditures were for the Gilroy Memorial Bench and the Thrill Kenwood, offset by city funds.

Southwest Light Rail – Jody Strakosch, Shawn Smith

Jody is the Citizen Advisory Committee representative to the Metropolitan Council and the CAC met last month. Jody shared updates on SWLRT that were learned in the meeting.

LRT trains normally sound a horn coming out of a tunnel, but it will not sound when emerging from the tunnel in the Kenilworth Corridor. There are also bells on each train that sound at road crossings, but at 21st St these will not sound and there will be a stationary bell. This will allow for less variance in the sound impact and more reliable noise mitigation.

Revenue service is estimated to begin in 2021. Construction is scheduled to be complete mid-2020.

Construction will begin in Fall 2017 to move the

freight lines in the Kenilworth Corridor; there will be five phases of construction in our neighborhood and it is scheduled to be complete mid-2020.

Met Council representatives will be going door to door to record structural conditions of homes in order to establish a baseline for potential damage as a result of construction. Addresses/scheduling to be announced in December. It is not determined how repairs will be handled that are a result of construction.

The CAC November meeting was cancelled. At future meetings Jody will continue to press for information and we will share in this space.

Shawn attended the FTA review of the Metropolitan Council's certification on November 2nd. The FTA certifies the Met Council every four years as a process to approve the Council to continue to receive federal funds. Shawn shared that 5 speakers used SWLRT as an example where the Met Council did not consistently deliver against the objectives that the FTA measures against. The public has until November 30th to provide testimony; if interested, please contact Shawn at ssmith288@me.com.

Rain Garden Grant Applications

Sign Ups are now being taken for 2017 Good Steward Raingardens. Raingardens on your property help reduce pollution in our lakes. MetroBlooms and KIAA are teaming up to install reduced-cost raingardens for 15 Kenwood homeowners. Cost is reduced through a Good Steward Grant (cost to homeowners will be approximately \$350 for a \$2,000 raingarden). Email Laura Scholl to get on the list: laura@metroblooms.org

Community Participation and Neighborhood Priority Plan – Mike Bono

KIAA will be applying for the next three-year cycle of funding by the City of Minneapolis Community Participation Program for \$25K annually. KIAA will submit its Community Participation Program application that will include the Neighborhood Priority Plan. The goal of the Neighborhood Priority Plan is to identify major initiatives for the neighborhood organization, and to communicate neighborhood priorities to the City and other jurisdictional partners.

Jeanette moved that the CPP application be approved, Mark seconded, unanimously passed.

A survey to solicit neighborhood input for the priority plan will be sent this month to ensure that monies are directed in the direction of projects that are valued by residents. Here is the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/kenwoodnpp> (If link doesn't work, type in your browser)

East Cedar Lake Beach end of season report – Matt Spies

This season was one of the lowest in terms of

police incidents in recent history. The full end of season report will be published in the KIAA Fall Newsletter, being mailed this month.

New Business - All

KIAA is receiving neighborhood impact letters from the Restorative Justice program from citations at East Cedar Lake Beach. Fines can be waived if the cited writes a letter of atonement.

Shawn attended October's Lunch with Lisa. The topic was the 20 Year Park Plan and it was covered in detail by Superintendent Jayne Miller and Board President Anita Tabb. The Kenwood Park will not receive any funding from the 20 Year Park Plan as it is not a high priority park as determined by the Park and Rec Board. Examples of criteria on how prioritizations were assessed are Areas of Racially Concentrated Poverty, Populations of Color, Population Density, Youth Population, Asset Lifespan, and Neighborhood Density. Kenwood Park will still receive its funding as part of the regular budgeting process. Shawn learned that The Park Board will have approximately \$11M of annual incremental funding via the city and park board levy. Shawn also learned that if Minneapolis were to implement a \$15 minimum wage, it would increase payroll for the Park Board by approximately \$2.2M annually. It was not clear how the Park Board would adjust the plan or mitigate the impact of that wage increase without affecting the 20 Year Plan.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Jeanette Colby at 8:34 p.m.

KIAA needs new board members. If you are interested in joining the board, please contact us or come to a monthly meeting. Being a KIAA board member is an excellent way to serve our community and stay informed on issues that are, or will, impact our neighborhood.

Updates: If you are interested in receiving monthly email updates, please email us at kiaa55405@gmail.com. Also please visit our website at 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, December 5th 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

Lunds from page seven



Russell Lund Sr. built this new Hove's store in the early 1940s on Lake Street.

Photos courtesy Lund Food Holdings Inc.



Shopping the fruit and seafood departments at Lunds today is more leisurely and less crowded than it appears to have been in this 1943 photo of the Uptown Hove's.



Photo by Dorothy Childers Caption by Mike Wilson

191 total years of experience and service to our Hill and Lake and Uptown neighborhoods! From left: Elizabeth Greenlee (22 years), Cheryl Clark (20 years), Neal Baxter (25 years), Aristeo Vargas (16 years), John Hall (46 years), Kathy White (43 years), and Eric Brooks (20 years).

LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Susie Galiano

Lowry Hill Minutes

November 1, 2016

Present Board Members: Phil Hallaway, Michael Cockson, Susie Galiano, Emily Beugen, Jimmy Fogel, Rebecca Graham, Suzanne Schaff, Toni D'Eramo, Clint Conner, Evan Stern

Present Guests and Staff- Lisa Goodman, Kathy Spraitz, Anita Tabb.

Call to order: Phil Hallaway called the meeting to order at 7:02

Approval of minutes It was noted that the minutes of the October 4, 2016 meeting should be amended as follows:

Under Communications/Outreach insert: "Toni D'Eramo discussed the following:

Feature Lowry Hill events in our LHNA Hill & Lake Press ad. Thrill Kenwood in October, the Ice Skating Social in December and January.

Add board meeting notices to the website

Looking at new communication platforms: MailChimp for email blasts starting in November/December and WordPress for the web site starting in January/February."

Add Emily Beugen as Board member present during meeting.

Michael Cockson moved and Jimmy Fogel seconded that the amended minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Community Announcements (Councilman Goodman)

No "Lunch with Lisa" in November- "Later with Lisa" will be Monday December 12 at the Normandy Inn from 4:30 to 6:30 PM. Free hors d'oeuvres and parking.

Street sweeping is beginning in neighborhood.

There will be a city public hearing on November 30 re: property taxes.

Developer inquiry for 1805 Irving has been dropped.

The northbound lanes of Hennepin are now open, as the Hennepin/Lyndale project moves towards its final phases.

6. Treasurer's Report

All outstanding invoices have been paid, including \$500 sponsorship for Thrill Kenwood. Bank balance as of October 31, 2016 was \$26,794.17.

7. Lake of the Isles Warming House

Lowry Hill resident Kathy Spraitz updated the Board on the status of the Lake of the Isles warming house project. MPRB Commissioner Anita Tabb was also present to add to the discussion. Kathy has had discussions with other neighborhood associations and the park board. Before year end, she wants to green light the project for the updating of the warming house. There is lots of interest with some promises of money. Project would be funded through private sources and by neighborhood associations, but maintain public status. The process would include a Citizens Advisory Committee, a design competition which would be juried by 3-6 people. Three designs would be submitted to the public for a final choice. The project has not yet been approved by MPRB, but will be soon be presented to it for review. Additional financial support could come from hockey and skating associations, as well as from corporate sponsorships. She hopes to know more regarding the MPRB position and costs within a month.

The Board was generally in favor of supporting this project financially. Mr. Fogel will act as a liaison between the LHNA Board and Ms. Spraitz.

8. Appointment of the Receiver to Operate Apartment Buildings:

Mr. Cockson led a discussion regarding the revocation of the rental licenses of Steve Frenz by the city of Minneapolis. This revocation affects 62 properties and could affect thousands of tenants. None of these properties or tenants are within the Lowry Hill Neighborhood. In order to prevent the

eviction of the tenants from these properties, the City would have to appoint a receiver to operate all of these properties until they can be sold.

Mr. Cockson suggested that the Board discuss whether or not to weigh in on situation. He specifically requested that the LHNA Board adopt a resolution supporting the appointment of a receiver to operate the properties following the revocation of Steve Frenz's rental licenses, in order to protect the tenants of these properties.

After much discussion the LHNA Board could not come to a consensus on this issue and decided to table the proposal. Mr. Connor will work on drafting a more general proposal stating LHNA's support for the welfare of tenants.

9. Committee Reports

Environment

No further update on Thomas Lowry park irrigation expansion.

Zoning and planning

Already covered in discussion above regarding Minneapolis landlord Steve Frenz.

Crime and safety

Chelsea Adams met with Suzanne Shaff to work on finding block leaders for the 4 blocks in LHNA without leaders. After that they will contact current listed block leaders to confirm their interest in continuing in this capacity. The Minneapolis 5th Precinct is hosting a luncheon and training session for Block Leaders on November 17.

Monthly crime report-There has been a recent increase in garage and car break-ins this month. Monthly crime report is provided in the monthly LHNA eBlast.

Events

Police and fire Thanksgiving. LHNA will again provide pie, ice cream and coffee to the local police and fire departments. Mr. Huppert and Mr. Stern will be in charge and ask for volunteer help, if necessary.

Ice skating social- need to schedule with other neighborhood associations. Date will be either January 15th or 22nd.

Neighborhood Priorities

Paint the pavement project- Because of Scott Schaffer's absence discussion was postponed until the next meeting of the Board.

Communications/outreach

Hill and Lake Press. Toni D'Eramo and Chris Madden will prepare the ad for this month's issue.

10. Update Bylaws

Resolution to amend the bylaws was tabled until Mr. Connor could review the Articles of Incorporation which may also have to be updated. Mr. Cockson moved and Mr. Fogel seconded that Mr. Connor be authorized to use LHNA funds obtain Articles of Incorporation from the Secretary of State's office. The motion passed unanimously.

11. New Business

Baygen Hartzheim reported that there have been numerous accidents at Fremont and 22nd street in the last 6 weeks. Many accidents are not reported because they are minor fender benders. Most of these accidents are probably due to problems with visibility. It was recommended that the 5th precinct police be contacted regarding this issue.

Mr. Cockson moved and Mr. Connor seconded that the Board authorize Mr. Hallaway and Ms. Graham to submit an application to the CPP for years 2017-2019; and that the specific budgetary components substantially reflect the prior submission of 2014-2016. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn On motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Calhoun Village from page 6

Our two girls, Jennie and Stephie, were five and two. One night soon after arriving, we saw smoke and flames about three blocks away in the early evening. I'm not sure how many members of my family joined in, but we walked over to the tracks. At that time, the C&NW had rather substantial and active freight yard and locomotive maintenance facilities spread over the entire area that is now the Kenilworth Trail, all the way to the current BNSF mainline. Somehow I climbed up to the roof of some kind of a shed along the tracks. Several freight cars were typically stored in this area at the time (but no oil tankers), and that night was no exception. What I cannot remember is where the fire was; I kind of remember the grain silos may have been burning, unless that was on another occasion, but maybe it was Thompson Lumber (where I occasionally shopped).

On another occasion (I'm not sure it was the same summer), Gretchen was in the bedroom of one of the girls. The room faced south towards Lake Street. Suddenly, she heard a very large explosion and felt the concussion: one or more grain elevators had exploded and caught fire. These were located along what is now the TCW (CP) track south of approximately where France dead ends at the track/LRT right of way. The explosion was caused by grain dust that ignited. One man was killed. The silos were partially filled. For a long time afterward there was a very obnoxious stench, especially when the wind came from the south, due to the rotting grain that was soaked by the firemen dousing the fire.

We began to wonder what kind of a neighborhood we had picked. Happily, things have improved!

(From Carol Smith, one of Cedar-Isles-Dean's longest-time residents.)

My three children and I all remember enjoying meals at Porky's and often taking advantage of Putt Putt. There evidently was also a pizza place that my son remembered. A special friend of mine worked at Nora's and I always enjoyed going there. There was an item on the menu I especially liked (can't remember the name). We do remember a fire — standing out in back of our home and watching, hearing sirens. My husband shopped at Thompson Lumber — not huge purchases, but I've come across a receipt in my cleaning out.

CIDNA board chair Craig Westgate, who grew up a few miles west of the neighborhood he now so ably represents, remembers coming into Thompson Lumber on Sundays with his best friend Davey Reyerse, whose parents owned the yard at that time. While Davey's dad did the books, Westgate and his buddy had the lumber yard to themselves --a wonderland for a couple of inquisitive boys.

Margaret MacNeale and her husband, Cedar-Isles-Dean stalwart Gary Cohen, who worked on 140 issues of Hill & Lake Press including many as editor-in-chief and who also served as chair of the CIDNA board, remember the relief the relief Cedar-Isles-Dean folks felt when the zoning change was approved for Calhoun Village, thus sparing the neighborhood another bruising fight over yet another high-rise tower proposal. Calhoun Village gave us a place to walk to for our everyday goods and services, they recall, and also provided many jobs for small business owners and young people.

Cohen recalls not just Porky's but Altman's Restaurant on the other side of Lake Street as well. One meal at Altman's usually cured you of wanting to go back, Cohen recalls with a chuckle; their "fresh year 'round" strawberry pie tasted like it had been there year 'round. Next door was Bim's Gas Station, run by Bim Meyer, a great character who managed to give his establishment a homey feel.

Stories to share? Send them to us at <hillandlakepress@gmail.com>.

Corrections.

Two errors made it past the eagle eye of HLP's editor in the October story. The date of the Thompson Lumber fire was misstated in the photo caption. It occurred on August 14, 1976. And it is Jack Pfaff, not his brother Brad, who continues to live in West Calhoun.

CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Monica Smith

CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES, November 9, 2016

The meeting was held at Jones-Harrison Residence. Board members in attendance: Chair Craig Westgate, Secretary Rosanne Halloran, Treasurer Roger Klimek, Lowell Berggren, Stephen Goltry, Barbara Lunde, Jan Nielsen, James Reid, Karen Stublaski, Amanda Vallone, Vern Vander Weide, and Mike Wilson. Staff: Monica Smith

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

Announcements

Lake Street Bash (fundraiser for Lake Street Council) is Thursday, November 10, 5:30-8:30 p.m. at El Nuevo Rodeo, 3003 27th Ave S.

Public hearing for Calhoun Refectory improvements is Wednesday, November 16, 6:30 p.m. at Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board headquarters, 2117 W River Road.

NRP/PPP Report, Monica Smith

The CIDNA Board approved the following:

Plan Modification to move \$61,342 into the Phase II strategy for Cedar Lake South Beach and to move \$4,421 in the Phase I strategy for Coordinator and amend the contracts accordingly.

Two year contract extensions for the following contracts scheduled to expire on 12/31/16: Phase I contract C-3978, Phase II contract C-34059 and NPP contract C-36310.

The overall budget for 2017.

Application for the 2017-19 Community Participation Program (CPP) with the suggested edits.

City Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward Seven

Later with Lisa is Monday, December 12, 4:30 p.m. at the Normandy, 405 S 8th St.

Fall street sweeping has been completed. Call 311 to report any street that was not sufficiently swept.

Yard waste collection continues through the week of November 14.

The Hennepin/Lyndale construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month.

The mayor is proposing a 5.5 percent increase in the tax levy. Public hearings for the 2017 city budget and property tax levy are: Wednesday, November 30, 6:05 p.m. and Wednesday, December 7, 6:05 p.m. (the City Council will vote on December 7 following the public hearing). Both hearings are at City Hall, 350 5th St.

The Planning Commission approved an amendment to the zoning code to allow intentional communities; the Zoning and Planning committee will vote on the amendment on November 10.

Site plan review requires parking lots to be 20% green space (including tree islands).

Art Mart, Amanda Vallone

Art Mart featuring 25 artists will be held on Saturday, November 26, 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence. Promotion includes a half-page ad in the October Hill & Lake Press (and a follow-up article in November) and 20 yard signs. Interested artists should contact AmandaVallone@live.com.

Land Use Committee, Craig Westgate

Brickstone is working with two neighboring condo buildings about their potential redevelopment of 3100 W Lake St (Minister's Life building). Brickstone is scheduled to present plans to the CIDNA Board at its regular meeting on January 11, 2017.

Midtown Greenway Coalition, Mike Wilson

The Greenway has been restriped to designate bike and pedestrian lanes.

The Midtown Greenway Coalition board recently held a board retreat.

Consider the Midtown Greenway Coalition, CIDNA and other favorite non-profits on Give to the Max day on November 17th.

Report graffiti on the Greenway by calling 311.

Transportation Committee, Craig Westgate

Craig Westgate and Doug Peterson are the CIDNA representatives to the Southwest LRT Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The SWLRT Project Office is beginning to share plans for heavy construc-

tion, which is scheduled to begin in 2017. Cedar Lake Parkway and Beltline Blvd may be closed for 2-3 years during construction.

The US Department of Transportation held a public hearing related to the certification review for the Twin Cities metropolitan area as a federal transportation management area. The purpose was to ensure that the metropolitan planning process is carried out in adherence with federal statutes and regulations. Craig Westgate submitted a letter and CIDNA residents spoke at the hearing. Public comments will be accepted until December 1 and may be addressed to Andrew Emanuele (FHWA) andrew.emanuele@dot.gov. For those who disapprove of the SWLRT planning process, please email your thoughts to Andrew Emanuele at Andrew.Emanuele@dot.gov, telling him that the MN metropolitan planning process is not carried out in accordance with federal statutes and regulations. Suggest that they certify the MN process with corrective action, such as cancelling the SWLRT project and state your reasons.

Bylaws

The bylaws insights discussion was delayed until next month.

New Business

The Calhoun Village parking lot has been restriped. A proposed development in East Calhoun would replace three houses on E. Calhoun Parkway with a 5-story condo building in the Shoreland Overlay District.

The annual Ice Skating Party is scheduled for Sunday, January 29, 2017.

Agenda items for next month include approving the annual report to the Attorney General and renewing Monica Smith's contract for 2017.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 6:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence.

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

Meet your Neighbor, Anders Christensen

Craig Wilson interviews Anders Christensen about his research and work with historic preservation and especially T. P. Healy homes.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Duluth, MN in the 50's and 60's, left in 1970. As a young child I lived in a Colonial Revival Foursquare in the Hunter's Park neighborhood. At age seven, we moved into a Mid-Century Modern house at the top of the hill overlooking Lakeside and Lake Superior. I have referred to the house as a Bauhaus Bunker. It was concrete block painted white with lots of picture windows. It was surrounded by a beautiful natural setting.

How did you become interested in historic preservation?

My wife Trilby and I bought a house in the Wedge/Lowry Hill East in 1976, the Bicentennial Year. The house was built in 1884 by Master Builder Charles Buell. At the time, I was a graduate student at the University of Minnesota studying Renaissance English prose. As we researched the history of the house and began the restoration process, it became my personal "rabbit hole." I fell in love with local and architectural history. I discovered that working with my hands was deeply satisfying.

Who was T. P. Healy?

Theron Potter Healy is the most famous, most accomplished, and most prolific Master Builder in Minneapolis history. He arrived in Minneapolis in 1886 with his wife and nine children. He was born in Nova Scotia, emigrated with his older brother to Bismarck, N.D. in 1883. He began building houses as soon as he arrived. Over the next twenty years before his death in 1906, he built over 200 buildings, mostly houses, but also barns, "auto sheds," commercial buildings, apart-

ment buildings, and the first YWCA. A great many have been wrecked including the Dunwoody House that stood on Mount Curve and Groveland Terrace.

Why are T. P. Healy buildings so noteworthy?

In the early part of his career in Minneapolis before the Panic of 1893, he both built and designed the buildings. This is the era of the Queen Anne style. Many of his Queen Annes are in the Healy Block Historic District on Second and Third Avenues South between 31st and 32nd Streets. These houses are visible from 35W. Healy was a very good designer. He was able to incorporate a variety of features in his houses making them visually interesting, yet keeping them balanced. The Moorish Revival was popular in Minneapolis in the 1880's and early 1890's. Healy incorporated elements of this style in his Queen Annes; this accounts for their exotic look. Healy has been nicknamed, "The King of the Queen Anne."

What architectural features are typical in a Healy house?

After the Panic of 1893 and the Chicago World's Fair of the same year, architectural styles dramatically changed. What followed were a variety of Neo-classical Revivals, the Colonial Revival, and the homegrown modern American original style, the Prairie School. The entire building industry also started to change. The architects would become the designers; the Master Builders would become building contractors. This is the period when Healy was building on Lowry Hill. He built the designs of virtually every major architect of the period. Over his career, he built in a variety of styles. Two things that stand out in all Healy houses are beautiful woodwork and impeccable craftsmanship.

What is the Healy Project?

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to



My wife Christine and I attending a wedding on our Twentieth Wedding Anniversary

researching the buildings of Healy and the other Master Builders such as Henry Ingham and Henry Parsons. We work to educate homeowners, the general public, and public officials about the importance of preserving the architectural heritage of Minneapolis. We formed to oppose the demolition of the Orth House, 2320 Colfax Ave So in Lowry Hill East. We lost that battle and were discouraged to learn that the owner and the developer had given false testimony about the condition of the building to the City and in District Court. We were greatly heartened by the support we received from Seventh Ward Council Person Lisa Goodman.

Your Legal Rights: Protect Yourself from Identity Theft From the Office of Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson

In 2014, 17.6 million Americans were victims of identity theft, including an increasing number of tax-related theft. In 2015, 781 recorded data breaches exposed 169,068,506 records.

ID theft occurs when a person uses someone else's information for fraud. Taking steps to protect your identity can reduce your risk of becoming a victim.

Common Methods in Which Information is Stolen There are numerous different scams and schemes thieves use to obtain people's personal information. Some of the more common methods include:

Phishing In a phishing scheme, identity thieves pose as a trusted corporation or government entity to obtain personal or financial information.

Hacking Hackers may attempt to download harmful malware or spyware on your computer to sift through information you may file electronically. This malware or spyware can be downloaded by visiting insecure websites, "clicking" dangerous links, or opening attachments from unknown e-mail senders.

Stolen Records and Dumpster Diving Financial statements, medical information, or checks sent by mail contain sensitive information that identity thieves misuse.

Card Skimming Some of the largest cases of ID theft in the United States occurred through card skimming, in which thieves electronically capture and store the details stored in a card's magnetic strip.

How to Protect Yourself Against ID Theft You can take several steps to protect yourself from ID theft, some of which include the following:

Monitor Your Credit Report You can obtain a free copy of your credit report from the credit bureaus once every year online at www.annualcreditreport.com, by calling 1-877-322-8228, or by writing to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta GA 30348-5281.

Monitor Your Financial Statements Carefully review your credit card and bank account statements each month for unauthorized charges or fraudulent use.

Protect Your Information Store documents that contain sensitive information in a secure location. You may ask each credit bureau to place a "fraud alert" in your file to require creditors to contact you before a new account is opened in your name. You may contact the credit bureaus to place a fraud alert in your file as

follows:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285 — TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289 — Experian: 1-888-397-3742

Shred and Delete Sensitive Documents Before you dispose of documents that contain sensitive information (credit card or bank statements, etc.), shred them. You can opt-out of prescreened credit card offers online at www.optoutprescreen.com or by calling 1-888-567-8688. When disposing of electronic devices, make sure they are wiped clean of any personal information that may be stored on them.

Secure Electronic Devices and Online Accounts Hackers try to get at people's information by accessing it directly from their devices or from websites. Make sure your devices have security software, such as a firewall and anti-virus protection that is up-to-date. Create strong, unique passwords for your devices and online accounts, and log off when you are done. Encrypt and password protect your home Wi-Fi, and avoid using public Wi-Fi to access accounts or make online purchases.

The Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association board is committed to serving you.

The next LHNA Board Meeting is Tuesday, December 6th! 7:00 p.m. at the Kenwood Rec Center. All residents are welcome. Your neighborhood Board is committed to serving you. All residents are welcome. If you have a concern, question or wish to be on the agenda, contact us at lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org.

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LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMATION

7th Ward City Council person, Lisa Goodman is hosting an event called *Later With Lisa* on Monday, December 12th from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Free hors d'oeuvres and cash bar at **The Normandy** downtown along with free parking. Come mingle with your neighbors and 7th Ward Council Member Lisa Goodman!

The Normandy — 405 S. 8th Street, Minneapolis 55404

The Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association is providing a thank you to our local Police and Fire Department Members on Thanksgiving.

Our neighborhood police officers and fire fighters will enjoy pie, ice cream and coffee courtesy of LHNA. Thank you to Tom Huppert and Evan Stern, LHNA Events co-chairs for coordinating this effort.



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

If you have a back porch/yard lights, we encourage you to leave those on as well. Light is a BIG deterrent to criminals. It will not cost you more than a few dollars increase in your monthly electric bill.

Other tips we encourage are as follows:

- **Lock all first floor or easy access windows**
- **Close and lock garage doors and car doors.** Don't leave valuables on porches or in yards. Lock bikes with a U-lock in the garage.
- **Make sure alarm systems are armed** at all times.
- **Get to know your neighbors** and watch out for each other.
- **CALL 911** if you see suspicious persons or activity – don't hesitate, make the call.

Where can people learn more about the Healy Project and how can they help?

We have a Facebook page; "T. P. Healy, Master Builder: King of the Queen Anne" We have a web page: healyproject.org We do walking tours during the season of the neighborhoods with the greatest concentrations of Healy built houses—Lowry Hill, Lowry Hill East, and the Healy Block Historic District. We are listed with Give to the Max. We would welcome donations as we are poised to undertake a new round of research regarding three areas of Healy's life—his time in Nova Scotia as a very successful wholesale grocer and owner of schooners, his building years in Bismarck with his brother Anderson Healy, and his early years in Minneapolis building the Queen Annes on Second and Third Avenues South.

Do you offer historic restoration services?

The Healy Project does not. We are a research, education, and advocacy group. Next year we are planning an initiative to assist Healy homeowners and their Realtors with marketing support when they put their Healy house on the market. A house built by T. P. Healy has a pedigree. We think that gives it value in the marketplace. Constance Vork of Keller Williams Realty, who once lived in the Healy family home, is going to lead this initiative.

Visit the LHNA website for more information, our event calendar and sign up for the monthly eNews letter at lowryhillneighborhood.org

Hill & Lake Press

www.hillandlakepress.com

Letters

To the Editor,

On a glorious Sunday afternoon (November 5), as I was walking around Lake of Isles, I approached two women and heard one of them say: "So, I hear you're an election judge."

"That's right," the other replied.

"Have you ever done that before?"

"No, but I saw an article in the Hill & Lake Press ..."

And then their voices trailed away as I moved along.

The power of community journalism! That's just one example (of many, I'm sure) of how your paper is having a positive impact. Your neighborhoods are lucky to have you. Keep up the great work.

David Fettig West Calhoun



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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.

Dear Editor,

I am one of the musicians in the Isles Ensemble and I want to thank all of the neighborhood residents who have attended our concerts at Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church this fall. We very much appreciate your support and enthusiasm for our music-making! We hope to see you at our next performance on February 26 at 2:00 pm. On that particular concert we will be joined by neighborhood resident, classical guitarist Joe Hagedorn, who is a longtime member of the Minneapolis Guitar Quartet.

We love meeting all of you and sharing these wonderful masterpieces of the chamber music repertoire with you and look forward to seeing you in February!

Laura Sewell
Cellist, Isles Ensemble

Where we are Now!!

By Jean Deatrck

Tom Cook was in town last week. My HLP friends and I were excited to meet for lunch and see our old friend Tom. He hadn't visited for many years, but he looked the same, still handsome, and a lot of fun.

Happy Thanksgiving to our readers and our contributors.

And Happy Thanksgiving to our advertisers, without whom we wouldn't have our neighborhood newspaper.

Happy Thanksgiving to the realtors and their associates who advertise with us each month: Jen Kyllonen, Jimmy Fogel, Bruce Birkeland, and Fran and Barb Davis. And Steve Havig and Michael Wille and the many others who support us occasionally.

Happy Thanksgiving Peterssen/Keller, Birchbark Books, Jones-Harrison, Garlock-French Corporation, London Chimney, Ltd., Chileen Painting, Quality Coaches, TigerOx Painting, Antiques Bel Air, US Internet, and Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral.

Happy Thanksgiving to our four neighborhood organizations: Cedar Isles Dean, East Isles, Kenwood Isles, and Lowry Hill. We appreciate their many ads and their contributions.

Hill and Lake Press is trying to cover the neighborhoods more thoroughly and Michael Wilson is doing a superb job of researching and writing about many issues. He has received support from many residents.

Watch for snow! Enjoy the season!

HILL LAKE PRESS Selected Real Estate Sales October 2016											
STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	Seller		DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT
		Contrib									
3116 W Lake St #125	\$ 219,000	\$ 0		103	\$ 200,000	C	1/1	946	\$ 168,500	\$ 2,676	2007
2950 Dean Pkwy #1205	325,000	0		0	321,356	C	2/2	1,460	288,000	4,633	1977
3122 Dean Court	334,900	0		4	340,000	TWN	3/2	1,410	300,500	4,774	1982
3331 St Louis Ave	369,900	0		10	356,500	TWN	2/2	1,785	344,500	5,472	1985
2621 Humboldt S #6	379,900	6,500		36	375,500	C	2/2	1,600	319,500	5,074	1910
1210 W 22nd St	424,900	0		29	424,900	H	3/2	2,070	350,800	5,583	1913
2212 Fremont S #1	429,000	0		31	415,000	C	2/2	1,704	349,165	5,580	1900
1823 Colfax S	455,500	10,000		148	444,500	TWN	3/3	2,274	289,215	4,622	1987
2645 Humboldt S	495,000	0		90	440,000	H	5/3	3,850	374,235	6,038	1904
2509 Humboldt S	799,900	1,200		179	749,400	H	6/5	3,914	764,500	13,066	1909
2323 Newton S	925,000	0		14	925,000	H	4/4	3,222	896,000	15,588	1913
42 Summit Place	1,595,000	0		19	1,540,000	H	5/5	4,970	949,000	17,601	1925
Sources: Harvey Ettinger - Steve Havig						Home	H				
						Condo	C				
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County						Townhouse	TWN				(Go to mpisrealtor.com for additional info)

Getting Cozy

By Madeleine Lowry

This winter let's get cozy—the Danish way. Why not? It could be fun. Danes are fun. Danes are some of the happiest people on earth. We could learn something from the Danish concept of hygge (hoo-gah) which embraces the simple enjoyment of good things in a warm homey atmosphere.

So, how to start?

Step one would appear to be to gather all your cozy clothes and outerwear: soft thick sweaters, fluffy warm blankets, comfy pajamas and bathrobes, fleece-lined pants, puffy coats with faux-fur trim, chunky knit hats with pom-poms, and plush socks and slippers. Go on—drag them all out of storage, clean them, fluff them and tuck them into handy places around your house.

Now, bring hygge to your living quarters by plumping up the pillows adding cozy touches. Drape your bed in flannel sheets. Cover your couch with a soft micro-suede and top it off with a few velvety pillows. Put your mug and soup bowl collection on display. Toss a few logs on the fireplace for ambiance and gather all your fire-starting materials for when the temperatures finally drop.

Next, find a selection of candles. (Did you know that Danes buy more candles per capita than any other country? And they have even less winter daylight than we do. Surely the candles are therapeutic.) Arrange them on candleholders on every horizontal surface—on the windowsill by the kitchen sink, in the bathroom around the tub, down the middle of the dining table, and on the mantel in the living room.

Stock the house with some treats like flavored cocoa

and a few biscotti. Or a smoked salmon spread, crisp crackers and a few good bottles of wine. Hygge is not about extravagance, it's about enjoying small things.

Now, invite some friends over. A small group is good. Plan on a few informal gatherings instead of one blow-out party. Getting stressed out before your guests arrive is not conducive to hygge. Take a lesson from the Danes and Norwegians who like to have friends over for cake and coffee—so much less hassle than full dinner preparations.

Top it all off by taking up a hobby that you can do by a crackling fire like knitting or chess. Plop a basket down right by the fireplace with your wool and your knitting needles. Or stash a couple of games in the drawer of a side table to make an impromptu game of checkers or Boggle or Skip Bo that much more likely to happen.

Hygge isn't just about staying inside. It includes merriment in outdoor activities like skating, cross-country skiing or sledding. Invite some friends over for a rousing winter activity and hot mulled drinks. Or pull on your winter snow bibs and build a snow fort or create snow angels with your kids.

And finally, cook some easy hygge-friendly foods like slow-cooker stews and soups. Or try a new tradition like Danish coffee cake or Danish red berry pudding with cream.

This winter, let's do hygge, feel hygge, live hygge. Let it be the season of cozy.

sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

Thief River Falls Chronicle

Dear Flo,

I'm a proud rural single mom with a problem. I wrote to you two decades ago, saying that although "Floyd" and I were still in high school, we had found true love. You told me love is a rare dove that some search the world over for and never find. (I thought you might have been talking about yourself.) Well, Floyd was a bird alright and he took flight. Off and on he'd come back to the nest (my parents basement) 'til my daddy finally ran him off at gunpoint. (Thank you Second Amendment!) Money is tight but I have three wonderful children. I don't know how any God-fearing woman could do it any different. My choices are my own. But that is not why I am writing.

My growing up years were wonderful. Daddy worked maintenance at the Northland Community Vo-Tech in Thief River Falls. He's gone now, as is the union. I could have basically gone to school for free but that's another story (thank you Floyd Jr.). Muslims and Mexicans (I'm not prejudiced) who don't speak English and work cheap have all the jobs and I don't feel safe on campus. Thanks to Obama, men can dress up as women and rape you in a public restroom, and Beyoncé is telling me how to vote. (Whew, don't know where all that came from!)

Here's my reason for writing. I had a friend "Lynne" in high school. I was homecoming queen and she was in my court. She went right to the Twin Cities after graduation and I stayed up here for my boys. Fast forward twenty years and I run into Lynne at the market! I may have come on a bit strong but I was so excited to see her. I asked her if she is moving home. First she laughs and then looks at me like I had stepped in something (I hadn't, I checked). She let me know that she and her husband are both doctors in Minneapolis and their kids are in prep school out East. They have purchased some property here, a little getaway from their stressful careers.

I figure even a part-time friend is better than nothing. I kidded her about how she couldn't get out of here fast enough back in the day. I told her about my oldest starting technical school over in town. I'm babbling and flustered cause she doesn't volunteer anything about herself or ask about me, not that there's much to tell. While I'm in the middle of trying to catch her up on the old gang, she's getting nervous about her frozen food. I suggested she and her hubby come out to visit. After that she ran out to her fancy Lexus.

A week later I drove out to her new lake "cabin" (a

three story monster house) to take her some homemade brownies. There was no answer but I thought I heard whispering. I tried friending her on Facebook and no reply.

Should I try again to make contact, let her know how insignificant she made me feel, or just ignore her?

P.S. I left the brownies on my best tray on her porch, and I would like it back.

Proud Mary

Dear Flo,

I have a problem and I remembered your homespun country wisdom when I was a girl. I had written you a turgid, vitriolic condemnation of my hometown dubbed "Gopher Flats." You advised me to spread my wings and move to the city. Thanks to some government grants, scholarships, and working three jobs I completed school at the U, where I also met my future husband, Arthur (not his real name). We have a nice home on Lake of the Isles and have two exceptional children.

Arthur teases me about being Homecoming Queen of the Corn. We came back up north (something I vowed never to do) for my uncle's funeral. Arthur, who grew up in a big city, fell in love with the area! I showed him the lake where a bunch of us used to skinny dip. As a surprise, he bought the lake, or most of it. He would hum the theme from "Green Acres" and threaten to open a practice up here. I asked him if he would be willing to accept chickens as payment as no one here has any money or insurance!

The compromise Arthur and I struck was to use the land to build a holistic retreat center. I can continue my volunteer work with domestic abuse victims and Arthur and his colleagues can use it to conduct seminars. We can do some good and at the same time gain a significant tax advantage. I have agreed to come up one week a month.

Fast forward to this month: the construction is done and I am grocery shopping to pick up items the caterers missed for our housewarming/Hillary fundraiser for eighty people. I am running around the store like a mad woman and who starts hugging me but "Easy Susie" from high school! No tiara but same hairdo, plus 30 pounds. (They must not have pilates in the woods.) She starts yakking like I'm back home to stay and we can be "buds." She is dangling participles, saying "these ones," and beginning every sentence with the word "actually."

She goes on about her oldest child. I have no idea how large her brood is, but I am starting to hear banjo music and the sorbet is melting. She invites me out to see her double-wide and bring "the old man."

On reflection I treated her brusquely. If I am honest, she reminds me of a vulnerable time in my life. I witnessed abuse here as a child and I vowed to get as far away as possible. My professional status and money is a firewall as much as the 300 miles. Susie was sweet but she crashed through all of my defenses and now I cannot face her. Arthur, bless him, still does not understand why I freaked out when he bought the property.

Susie knows where I live and has started leaving unwanted food on my doorstep. She is harassing me online about wanting her valuable tray back (it's silver plate). A lawyer friend has offered to draft something but I think that is overkill. The simple truth is we live in different worlds and have nothing in common. How do I say that nicely?

Blue Lady

Dear Mary and Blue,

Mary, you are correct, I think of my readers as my children! I will confess that you have always been two of my favorites and I am very proud of you. I am publishing both of your letters together and hoping you can bridge this gap between you.

Much love,
Flo

Tom H. Cook is a writer on occasion and not a political savant.

Don't mourn; organize.

**—Joe Hill, labor organizer,
executed by Utah firing squad
1915**

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