



# Hill & Lake Press

‘Where the biggies leave off...’

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

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## WARD 7 COUNCIL MEMBER LISA GOODMAN RETIRES

By Susan Lenfestey



Mayor Jacob Frey and Council Member Lisa Goodman (Photo Patrick Sadler)

On January 9, City Council Member Lisa Goodman announced that she will not be seeking reelection to the Minneapolis City Council, capping a remarkable 25 years of service to the city and to the residents of the Seventh ward. The Seventhward encompasses much of the west side of downtown and in-

cludes the four neighborhoods that make up the Hill & Lake community: Cedar-Isles-Dean, East Isles, Kenwood, and Lowry Hill.

Lisa grew up in Northbrook, Ill and attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison where she earned a degree in labor relations and political science. She moved to Minneapolis in 1989 to be the fundraising director for the late Senator Paul Wellstone, at the time a grassroots candidate for the U.S. Senate. Before running for the City Council she was the executive director of NARAL Prochoice Minnesota. She won her first election in 1998, prevailing over a crowded field of (mostly male!) candidates.

The breadth of her career is matched only by the depth of her commitment. As area resident and civic leader Karin Birkeland noted, "Lisa is passionate, very smart and knows how to get things done. She is also incredibly responsive to her constituents—she always calls you

back! She will be sorely missed."

Area resident Cam Winton remarked, "I love Lisa Goodman. She cuts through the noise to tell you where she stands. She tirelessly goes to bat for her constituents. She endures the slings and arrows of political opponents with good cheer. She rolls up her sleeves and gets into the details of how to make blocks, neighborhoods and the city as a whole all thrive. She's a legend in her own time and we residents will miss her work on our behalf in City Hall!"

Future issues of the Hill & Lake Press will do a deeper dive into Lisa's many contributions to our city. In February she will be featured in editor Craig Wilson's Meet Your Neighbor column. Stay tuned!

*Susan Lenfestey is a co-founder of and present board member of the Hill & Lake Press. She resides in Lowry Hill.*



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## A Letter from Lisa

By Lisa Goodman

*This letter was emailed to Council Member Goodman's on January 9 and was distributed widely. We are sharing this news in case some of our readers missed it.*

Happy New Year to my neighbors, friends and Ward 7 residents:

At this time of year, I usually reach out to seek your support for another term on the Minneapolis City Council, but today I am writing to tell you of my decision not to seek reelection: 2023 will be the last year I serve as your representative at City Hall.

It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to represent the Seventh Ward for the past 25 years. Paul Wellstone once told me that walking into the Capitol was something that always filled him with awe, and I can say that every day I walk into the beautiful Richardsonian Romanesque building that is City Hall I am filled with incredible pride and a deep sense of responsibility to do my best to represent you.

Over the years I have worked hard to live up to the pledge I made to do right by the residents of the Seventh Ward, to the oath I took to represent the city honorably and to responsibly manage the fiduciary duty with which we are charged.

When I first took office in 1998 Minneapolis was a very different city than it is today. It has been my great fortune to work with a diverse group of amazing people through some of

the hardest things we have ever faced as a community — a recession, a bridge collapse, a destructive tornado, the horrific murder of George Floyd, civil unrest and the economic and societal upheaval caused by the COVID pandemic.

But I have also been part of some of the most positive changes our city has ever seen, including unprecedented investment and growth in downtown, the development of an affordable housing trust fund that has invested over \$250 million and leveraged over \$1 billion in affordable housing and changes in every department of our city government, with the goal of being a more inclusive and equitable city.

I am proud to have worked on many policies and projects, large and small, that have enlivened our city and resulted in more than doubling the residential population of downtown. Because of my work we now have food trucks, green roofs and sidewalk cafés throughout the city, something that was not allowed under previous ordinances. It may seem like a small thing, but it took three years to get that done, and now we can't imagine a time without them.

In my 25 years on the City Council, I've had the good fortune to work with four mayors and over 50 city council members, many of whom I have great relationships with to this day. I have attended over 1,000 neighborhood meetings, more than 100 ice cream socials and multiple neighbor-



Lisa Goodman with some of her favorite Hill & Lake constituents (Photo Patrick Sadler)

hood events and community gatherings. I've made sure your garbage gets picked up, worked through your disagreements with your neighbor, helped get your street or alley plowed, helped you maneuver through the bureaucracy that is government and tried to maintain an open dialogue with all of you. I will also admit that I've taken more calls about goose poop, loud crows (and even louder leaf blowers and motorcycles) and parking issues than I care to share!

Best of all, I've had the opportunity to get to know so many of you, celebrating your happiest moments and grieving during your deepest sorrows. We've worked together to envision and create a greater city, and even when we've missed the mark, we know it's a city we can be proud of.

The city is facing some big challenges, that also present incredible

opportunities. But now is the time for me to step back from my role in city governance to allow someone else the chance to lead. I'm excited about what can come next, for the city and for myself, as I chart my new course.

I leave humbled, grateful and confident that Minneapolis will overcome the challenges and seize the opportunities at hand. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your constructive criticism, kindness, love and support for over 25 years, and for giving me the opportunity to contribute to the city I love so much.  
Lisa

*Council Member Lisa Goodman has represented Ward 7 since 1998. She resides in Bryn Mawr.*



# Hill & Lake Press

Founded in 1976, Hill & Lake Press reports community news and events, educating and informing our neighborhood community members about issues of the day. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Hill & Lake Press.

## HILL & LAKE PRESS

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 Interested in advertising?  
 Contact Barb Davis at  
[barb@hillandlakepress.org](mailto:barb@hillandlakepress.org).  
 To donate to Hill & Lake Press  
 please visit [www.hillandlakepress.org](http://www.hillandlakepress.org)

## Support your local news source!

*We are a bit short of meeting our December fundraising goal. If you value news from a local perspective and appreciate having that news delivered into your mailbox, please consider making a tax-deductible gift to the Hill & Lake Press online or by check.*

*Thank you to all who have already given. This paper is free to you, but not free to produce. Without you there will be no more "news from where the biggies leave off"!*

– Craig Wilson, Editor

Hill & Lake Press is a Minnesota 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Please consider making a tax-deductible charitable donation to Hill & Lake Press by: check and online –

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**SCAN HERE TO DONATE**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



**Neighbor Heid Erdrich Wins BIG Poetry Award!**

The Library of Congress has awarded its prestigious Bobbitt Poetry Prize to Kenwood resident Heid E. Erdrich for her collection "Little Big Bully," published in 2020.

The prize is awarded every other year for the best book of poetry published by a living United States author during the preceding two years or, at the discretion of the jury, for lifetime achievement.

Former poet Laureate Rita Dove received the lifetime achievement award, and joined Erdrich in reading from her work at the ceremony on December, 2022 at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Former recipients of the prize include Mark Strand, Louise Gluck, Claudia Rankine, Terrence Hayes and a slew of other stars in the pantheon of poets.

Heid and her husband John live near her sisters Angie and Louise in an area of Kenwood that some of us — OK, two of us — call Erdrich-dale. She is Ojibwe and enrolled at Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa



*Susan Lenfestey, Lowry Hill. 2023 Art Shanty Projects Bdé Umáŋ / Lake Harriet, Minneapolis*

Weekends, January 21 – February 12, 2023  
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Due to ice conditions the 2023 Art Shanty Projects will be moved onshore along meandering paths near the Bdé Umáŋ / Lake Harriet Band Shell.

Our vision for the future is to spark new ideas, encourage the discovery and development of existing artistic skills and break down the barriers between artist and participant through unexpected encounters with a vibrant artistic village.

We reinterpret traditions that sustain communities through winter to forge new pathways of connectedness using art to shape a world where people and planet are respected, healthy and thriving.

We strive for a community without hierarchy. Instead, we work to share power and resources. We celebrate the skills and unique talents each individual brings to the project and aspire to compensate people fairly for their labor.

Artists create the shanties, performances and art actions of their imaginations, not limited by access

to resources. We build accessibility into the fabric of how we do art and we work to remove all barriers of access for participants.

Our vision for the future is fueled by joy and creative celebration.

*Erin Lavelle, Artistic Director*



**Petronella Ytsma & Friends at the Groveland Gallery:**

February 11 - March 18th

The Groveland Gallery is honored to present an exhibition of photographs by Petronella Ytsma. This posthumous exhibition pays tribute to Nell, her forty-year career as an artist and her lifetime of supporting art and artists. Work by some of Nell's colleagues, collaborators and friends will be included in this special exhibition – Priscilla Briggs, Dan Bruggeman, Carol Lee Chase, Anne DeCoster, Greg Graham, Terry Gydesen, Tim Harding, Joy Liberman, Eleanor McGough, Rod Massey, Lisa Nebenzahl, Erica Spitzer Rasmussen, Dani Roach, Megan Rye, Justin Terlecki, David Wells and Jody Williams.

[info@grovelandgallery.com](mailto:info@grovelandgallery.com)

*Sally Johnson has been the director of Groveland Gallery in Lowry Hill since 1983.*



**Farewell Jean**

Jean Deatrck will be missed by many, including me. She was an amazingly strong woman who never backed down from a challenge. In 2001 this newspaper went through a tough time. We needed volunteers and advertisers and Jean took it upon herself to make sure it stayed afloat.

I will always be grateful for her strength and leadership — without it, we simply would not have the Hill & Lake Press today. Another special thing about Jean is that when you knew her, you also knew her family, and that has been an honor for me.

I was fortunate to be the photographer at the weddings of Heidi, Heather, Katie and Jean — so many good memories to cherish. Her memorial service at Saint Mark's was a wonderful celebration of a life well-lived. She will certainly be missed.

*Dorothy Childers, Bryn Mawr*

*Please consider making a memorial gift to Hill & Lake Press in Jean's honor.*

## East Isles Donates Snowmobile

By Mike Erlandson

On Friday, January 6, The Loppet Foundation, the Minneapolis Park Board, and the East Isles Neighborhood Association celebrated the arrival of a new snowmobile donated by the neighborhood association for grooming ski trails and adjacent walking/biking trails.

The popular trails on Bde Maka Ska, Lake of the Isles, Cedar Lake, Brownie Lake and the connecting channels are all groomed by a Loppet volunteer crew made up of primarily neighborhood cross country skiers.

The trails are maintained throughout the winter as long conditions are favorable and connect to the extensive Wirth Park ski trail system. The snowmobile replaces another that was nearing end of life.

*Mike Erlandson is the resident of East Isles Neighborhood Association and Vice-Chair of the Hill & Lake Press Board of Directors. Mike lives in East Isles.*



Participants in photo from left to right: Mike Erlandson, East Isles president; Robert Ibler, Loppet Foundation trails and operations director; Mike Bono, grooming volunteer; Jim Van Iwaarden, grooming volunteer; Josh Kent, grooming volunteer; Meg Forney, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board president; Brian Milavitz, grooming volunteer and EINA board member; Martin Richmond, grooming volunteer; and Claire Wilson, Loppet Foundation executive director.

## Luminary Loppet Moved to Feb. 18

The Luminary Loppet, an annual celebration of our frozen lakes, warm hearts and a certain northern madness, will be Saturday, February 18, 6-10 pm on Lake of the Isles. What started over 20 years ago as a nighttime cross-country ski event, enhanced by a few neighbors creating ice sculptures on the lake (think Iceropolis and Ice Henge) is now one of our city's most beautiful and beloved public events, at least for those of us who find it exhilarating to walk or ski on the luminary lit trail that limns the lake.

The huge popularity of the event has made it necessary to put some crowd controls in place, such as staggering start times and charging an admission fee, but it's well worth it. The fees help cover the costs and also raise funds for the Loppet Foundation, which promotes outdoor recreation activities for all, primarily in Theodore Wirth Park.

For more information or to buy passes go to: <https://www.loppet.org/events/luminary/>

We in Hill-Lake-landia can take a certain pride of ownership in this bit of amazement, as so much of the work of putting it on year after year — freezing and hatching 1,200 ice lumi-

naria, just for starters — is done by neighborhood volunteers. And you can be one of them!

Go to <https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/MN/Minneapolis/LuminaryLoppet> to learn more and to sign up for a shift.

Questions about volunteering? Contact Luminary volunteer coordinator (and East Isles resident) Carla Pardue, at [luminary.info@loppet.org](mailto:luminary.info@loppet.org), or 612-743-6601.

You'll meet new friends, be a part of creating a magical event, and, if you dress warmly, you'll have a blast.

*Susan Lenfestey, Lowry Hill*

PLACEMAKER HOSPITALITY INTRODUCES

# pinoli

TAKEOUT & DELIVERY

Amore Uptown has changed hands and will soon be called Pinoli, which translates to the word "pine nut" in Italian. The newly remodelled restaurant will open for business in early 2023 at 1601 W. Lake St., in Minneapolis.



Until the restaurant's opening, Pinoli is offering a variety of Italian-inspired menu items for takeout and delivery through Placemaker Hospitality's award winning Barquette, a French-inspired restaurant located across the street from Pinoli, at 1600 W. Lake St., in the Uptown neighborhood of Minneapolis.

Placemaker Hospitality Culinary Director Nicole Pederson and Chef Segundo Chaguan developed a specialized takeout and delivery menu for people to get an early taste of what's to come when the Pinoli restaurant opens. "We're having fun offering a small taste of our menu to come as we develop this concept, and as always, we welcome feedback and ideas", says Kim Bartmann, the founder.

If you'd like to order takeout or delivery from Pinoli today OR if you're interested in booking a party at Pinoli in 2023, please contact us through our website, [pinolimpls.com](http://pinolimpls.com).

*get a taste of what's to come today*

# BARBETTE

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7

# DAYS A WEEK

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Patty and Alex Dietz (Photo selfie)



Cedar · Isles · Dean  
Neighborhood Association

### CIDNA is Patty Schmitz

We are pleased to introduce “CINDA is,” an opportunity to get to know the neighbors who make up Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA). To kick off this effort we are excited to introduce Patty Schmitz.

Patty has lived in the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood for over ten years with her husband Alex Dietz, pictured, two children who are now college students and their rescue dog, Scout.

Patty’s favorite things about the community are its parkways and paths that making biking and walking so easy, and watching the sunset from Cedar Lake South Beach.

Patty loves to be involved in things that create connections and build community. Activities you can find her leading, or participating in, include hosting:

- A refreshment station along the Twin Cities Marathon route each year. This year they served over 3,000 cups of water.

- A National Night Out celebration for CIDNA residents on Dean Green.
- Weekly demonstrations following the George Floyd murder and other injustices.
- Neighborhood cleanups and much more!

Patty is co-chair of CIDNA’s Fall Festival and we are so grateful for all she does to help make it a great event each year. Last fall we celebrated 25 years!

Patty and her family are preparing to welcome a Ukrainian refugee family into their home to help settle them into a new life in Minnesota.

**Patty is just one of the many wonderful people who are a part of our community. We look forward to introducing you to more CIDNA volunteers throughout 2023!**

LHNA

## LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

**Ice Skating! Join us Sun Jan 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:45 - 4pm at Lake of the Isles**  
The annual ice skating event is back; free and fun for all ages! This year, Lowry Hill, East Isles, and Kenwood will gather for the “Palio Winter Games.” Residents from Lowry Hill will represent the Green Turtles and are encouraged to wear green. Join us for a short parade, prizes, neighborhood competitions, bonfires, treats, warm drinks, and, of course, ice skating! For more details, or if “Palio” is new to you, please visit our website.

**Thank You for Your Generous Donations!** Your support is important to us and we appreciate anything you’re able to give! We are able to continue doing the fun things we do because of your help. Please consider making a charitable donation on our website, or send a check to: LHNA, PO Box 3978, Minneapolis, MN, 55403 **OR** you can use our QR code by opening your phone’s camera app and pointing it at the image:



**Lowry Hill Safety Walking Club.** Enthusiasm is growing for a walking group in the neighborhood. If you are interested or would like to know more about this community building initiative, please email us at [lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org](mailto:lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org).

**Please Keep Sidewalks Clear of Snow & Ice.** Remember to shovel them down to bare pavement. Sidewalks that aren’t cleared are difficult to navigate and sometimes dangerous. More information on the City website.

**LHNA Meetings:** The next board meeting is Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. via Zoom.



*safety tips to*

### KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE

- **Keep exterior lights on!** On front porches, back porches, side doors, and near your garage. Motion detector lights are also very effective.
- **Keep exterior doors and windows locked.** Use quality locks, including the garage doors. Keep garage doors closed unless you are in or near the garage, even during the day.
- **Don’t leave a garage door opener in a car** parked outside on the street, parking pad, or alleyway.
- **Don’t leave wallets, purses, computers, or other valuables in a car, even if the car is in the garage.**
- **Don’t leave valuables, like bicycles, unsecured on porches, patios, or in the yard.** And, if you have very valuable bicycles, even if stored in the garage, keep them locked.

Sign up for the LHNA email newsletter at [lowryhillneighborhood.org](http://lowryhillneighborhood.org)



# PALIO WINTER GAMES

SUN 1/29 2-4PM • LAKE OF THE ISLES ICE RINK



- NEIGHBORHOOD PARADES
- PICKUP HOCKEY
- WINTER CREATION STATION
- BONFIRES AND MUSIC
- FIGURE SKATING OPENING CEREMONY
- OPEN ICE SKATING AND FREE LESSONS
- PUPPY DOG TAILS, HOT COCOA, AND CIDER

FEED THE FLAME WITH NEIGHBORHOOD SPIRIT

*Calling all East Isles residents:*

***Help us win the Palio Parade Award!***



### Palio Winter Games

Sunday, Jan. 29 1:30 – 4 PM

Meet 1:30 PM at Triangle Park  
26th St. & Irving Ave. S.  
Parade to Lake of the Isles Warming House



East Isles raccoons, gather to show your neighborhood spirit! Don raccoon masks and tails, wear blue scarves, gloves, hats, coats—whatever you have! We will march to the lake and kick off the Palio Winter Games!

**EAST ISLES**  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

[eastisles.org](http://eastisles.org)  



# REMEMBERING JEAN DEATRICK

Editor 2001-2022

By Craig Wilson, Editor



(Photos Dorothy Childers)

*This eulogy was presented at the funeral of Jean Deatrack at 10:30a.m. on January 3, 2023, at Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Loring Park.*

Good morning, my name is Craig Wilson. I am the new editor of Hill & Lake Press and a friend and former colleague of Jean Deatrack, its former editor.

Shortly before her death, Jean asked that I eulogize her. I am deeply humbled and honored to be part of celebrating her long life of doing good, especially for our Hill & Lake community.

Since 1976, Hill & Lake Press has covered community news and events for the neighborhoods of Cedar-Isles-Dean, East Isles, Kenwood and Lowry Hill — neighborhoods just to the west of here [Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral] that encompass Lake of the Isles and Cedar Lake. For 21 of the past 46 years, nearly half its lifetime, Jean was our editor.

In February, 2022, Jean asked me to take over the paper as she was struggling with health-related challenges.

Jean left very big shoes to fill; I couldn't fill them alone and have enjoyed the work of the team of neighbors who have come together to sustain Jean's legacy.

**"Twenty-two years ago, Hill & Lake Press almost folded — but Jean saved it!"**

The paper wasn't making ends meet, and there were many challenges motivating people to manage

a volunteer-run newspaper — a newspaper still being laid out with typewriters and glue in an age of rapid digitization. There was also stiff competition from local news sources such as the Southwest Journal, City Pages and many local community papers, like the Wedge, none of which exists today.

The paper's leadership at that time couldn't envision a viable path forward. But Jean could see a solution and refused to close. Jean rolled up her sleeves and set to work modernizing Hill & Lake Press.

In 2001, after working all day as the community coordinator here at the cathedral, Jean worked after hours teaching herself a less-than-intuitive design software called "Quark," which was state-of-the-art at the time.

Jean singlehandedly digitized the publication process on her laptop, while managing the editorial, advertising and layout roles all by herself.

What once was a team effort became the solitary mission of one woman for 21 years and 252 monthly issues. Of course, Jean had the support of family, friends, volunteer contributors, staff photographer Dorothy Childers and business managers like Jane Johnson, her late husband John Gridley and her daughter Heather Deatrack.

But make no mistake: Jean put in the overtime to make the whole operation work reliably for over two decades.

Despite the stress of people missing deadlines and falling through on promised editorial and advertising content, Jean maintained a sweet and sunny disposition, always reinforcing how much she appreciated people and their contribution to the community —

month after month, year after year.

We all benefited from Jean's work with the press and we will continue to benefit from it as her legacy.

As I considered what I wanted to say about Jean, I realized that the most intrinsic aspect of Jean was not that she sustained and grew the paper but why. Hill & Lake Press was Jean's expression of love for everyone and yes, everything in our community.

I have many memories of Jean. I am very fond of one in particular. I believe this was at a campaign party for former Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb (and we know Jean loved parties!)

I was in a mood that day and felt a little disconnected. Jean was sitting on a window seat, stunning as always. Her eyes were twinkling, and she was wearing a glittery sweater. She waved me over. She made me feel so wanted, so welcomed and that it was important to her to see me. She made my day. I know that many of you had similar experiences with Jean.

She made each of us feel we were part of a special club. The thing with Jean is that she welcomed everyone to join.

Jean approached every opportunity and challenge with optimism and open-mindedness. Even when faced with criticism and conflict, Jean took the high road and would seek the vantage point of others, offering empathy.

She also had a terrific sense of humor that she would employ when dealing with particularly difficult personalities. She masterfully put people in their place while maintaining the kindness that only a full-blooded Norwegian could pull off.

**"I think Jean lifted me and so many others up because she really had an ineffable lightness."**

She maintained a childlike joy that was never dampened by her equally strong and profound insight into humanity.

Hill & Lake Board Member and Co-Founder Susan Lenfestey remarked, "She was definitely a star in the galaxy. We are all crushed at the loss of Jean, a pillar of our neighborhood for so long."

Other current Hill & Lake Press board members shared:

"Jean made a difference and will long be remembered."— Mike Erlandson

"May her memories be a blessing to her family and to all of us who had the good fortune to know and to be impacted by her."— Barb Davis

"She made such a big difference in our community. She did so much on her own without anyone propping her up."— Chas Scheiderer

"We are all here because Jean persevered. May she rest in peace."— Win Rockwell

Thank you, Jean, for all you gave us. In the end, you won the race of the last local newspaper standing. However, it was your kindness, love of life and of us that is your most treasured legacy.

*Craig Wilson is a Lowry Hill resident and the editor of the Hill & Lake Press. Craig has been contributing to this column since 2008.*

# Tribute From England



Former Hill & Lake Press Business Manager Jane Johnson and Former Editor Jean Deatrick at the Women's Club of Minneapolis (Photo Dorothy Childers)

I was so saddened to hear about Jean Deatrick passing away quite suddenly last month. She was such a wonderful friend to me for more years than I can remember; as business manager it was such a pleasure to be able to work with someone to whom I was so close and whom I admired and loved so much, all thanks to the Hill & Lake Press. We were in regular contact with each other, either in person or over the phone, and boy did we have some laughs! Jean was such a capable, cheerful, kind person and she is the first really close friend that I have lost.

It was very sad to have to leave her behind when I moved to England, and I think she felt the same about me. We used to keep in constant contact by phone and I was just thrilled when she actually came to visit us in our new house and we spent several happy days together. As we all know Jean single-handedly saved the Hill & Lake Press from extinction, and it was only because of Jean and knowing what a capable lovely person she was that I came on board also....and

thankfully Dorothy Childers didn't abandon the sinking ship either. I think we made a good team — we certainly had fun!

I remember how thrilled she was when she heard that Craig was taking over. I am so glad she was able to see what a fine job he is doing with the paper, and I think it is a great testament to her that the paper is still flourishing under his very able and innovative guidance.

My heart goes out to her lovely family, who I was fortunate to know. She adored every one of them and was the ultimate brilliant, loving and completely nonjudgmental mother and grandmother. I know how much Eldon and all her children and grandchildren must be missing her, but she will always be in our hearts. I will never forget Jean Deatrick and what a great human being and example she was to me.

*Jane Johnson is the former business manager of Hill & Lake Press and resides in Tenterden, England.*



Palio judges Brian Baxter and Jean Deatrick, Editor of the Hill & Lake Press, 2005



Jean and family at the Ice Cream Social at Thomas Lowry Park



Jean and husband Eldon share a dance at their wedding reception



Jean at the Lowry Hill Ice Cream Social with Cam Winton and Anita Tabb, 2013



Jean at Woman's Club for Nutmeg's 2019 Annual Holiday Luncheon, with Harriet Horwitz & Katy Harding



Jean at "Later with Lisa" in 2014



Jean at "Later with Lisa" in 2018



Groundbreaking for new Parade Road, 2012

OPINION

Musings on Our Neighborhoods by Martin B. Carlson

**A View Out My Window**

**"... precisely zero reported crime in the neighborhood for the month of December."**

I'm pleased to report that it's been a quiet couple of months in my neighborhood. Our crime prevention specialist with the Fifth Precinct sent out an email last week with the happy news that there was precisely zero reported crime in the neighborhood for the month of December. November was largely quiet as well, although an idiot with a BB gun did take potshots at some windows on Kenwood Parkway early in the month. But overall, crime has been low, and I'm sure we're all grateful for that; it's nice to have a break and enjoy the quiet most of us took for granted pre-pandemic.

Crime statistics were also much lower in Lowry Hill, with December having the fewest crimes of any month of 2022. According to the Minneapolis Police Department Crime Dashboard, there was one as-

sault at Lake of the Isles/Franklin Avenue this month.

Carjackings are also down dramatically. For Kenwood, Lowry Hill and East Isles there have been, zero reported carjackings in the last month, and carjackings are down dramatically citywide compared to 2021. Giving credit where credit is due, it appears that Operation Endeavor — the city's recently announced violent crime prevention effort — is having success. In a nutshell, Operation Endeavor is an effort within the Minneapolis Police Department to prioritize its sharply limited resources to the areas seeing the highest levels of violent crime, essentially doing more with less using a data-driven policing model. There is also a high level of coordination between our local, state and federal governments, and the United States Attorney's Office is playing an outsized role in prosecuting adult offenders under federal law thanks to Andy Luger's stewardship. During the first eight weeks of Operation Endeavor, carjackings in the city decreased by over 60% compared to the same period in 2021.

Now if the view out your window looks anything like mine, you might suspect the weather also has had something to do with this re-

cent decrease. That's certainly what I think, and that leads me to believe we can reasonably, albeit sadly, expect an increase in crime once the snow piles are no longer taller than my dog.

So, what can we do as community members to prepare? Along with following the commonsense crime prevention steps outlined in previous articles, getting better connected as neighborhoods is key, both amongst us as neighbors and with law enforcement. Personally, I'm working with the Kenwood Neighborhood Organization and the Fifth Precinct to revitalize the block leader system. Getting our neighbors connected by email will allow us to share breaking news quickly and ensure that neighbors receive accurate crime summaries in a timely fashion. Lowry Hill is already impressively organized, and East Isles is working hard as well. And there's no rule saying that our neighborhoods can't talk to each other and work together. Although our geography may differ somewhat, to my mind we're essentially one community and we're better off when we're all working together. There's definitely work to be done, but I think we can do it.

*Marty Carlson lives in Kenwood.*

**"... to my mind we're essentially one community and we're better off when we're all working together."**

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OPINION

By Paula Chesley

## Walking for Change Neighbors Turn Out for the East Isles Community

On August 27, at 7 p.m., I was in my backyard with a friend when an unknown car drove into the driveway. Both driver and passenger were wearing ski masks and stared at us silently. We stared back like deer in headlights. Finally, the car backed out. Unfortunately, we did not call 911 — we, like so many of us, have not known when to call.

Twenty minutes later, I got a text from a neighbor the next driveway over: someone there had been carjacked. The description of the car and driver matched what my friend and I had seen.

I was crestfallen. Since March 2020, when I bought my first home in East Isles, this incident wasn't isolated. There was the wire cutter on my yard one morning. Visitors yelling and swearing at my neighbors at 10 p.m. A man walking into my fenced-in backyard. Someone coming onto my property, using my hose and telling me I should board up my windows because the city was going to burn. I could go on.

Between these issues and the loss of neighborhood businesses, I've considered moving, but I love it here. It's still one of the most walkable neighborhoods in Minnesota. And we're so blessed to live by the lakes. I started wondering how I could contribute to a safer neighborhood.

Due to Minneapolis' police shortage, a community-driven effort seemed to meet the moment. My Google searches repeatedly turned up something called a Neighborhood Watch program, one component of which is a safety walk. In a safety walk, neighbors walk around the neighborhood to notice present and reduce future crimes as well as to foster a pedestrian presence not to be mistaken for vigilantism. A safety walk was appealing as I love walking around the neighborhood.

An August Star Tribune article noted that Aileen Johnson had started safety walks in North Loop, Loring Park and the Mill District. Aileen graciously agreed to meet to discuss setting up something similar for East Isles.

From the beginning, I wanted



(Photo Larry Lamb)

the safety walk to belong to the East Isles Neighborhood Association (EINA) because a neighborhood association has more resources than individuals. The EINA board liked the idea, so a group of people met to discuss: Aileen Johnson, MPD Fifth Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist Jennifer Waisanen, EINA Vice President Shanti Mittra and me.

Everyone wanted to begin the safety walks as soon as possible. Aileen had an anonymous donor who would make "East Isles our own neighborhood" safety hats and t-shirts. Shanti mentioned that Inspector Katie Blackwell would join us for our first walk and would continue to provide MPD presence and partnership. Shanti has been invaluable in helping establish the safety walk as an EINA event.

Our first walk was October 27. Aileen invited the Loring Park walkers, and between Loring Park and East Isles, there were around 40 people! It was incredible to see that the idea resonated with so many neighbors and that we were able to make it happen in just a month and a half.

The safety walks provide not only an avenue to show up for safety in the community, but they also create community. At the beginning of each walk, neighbors

introduce themselves. We introduce ourselves to people on the streets as well as business owners and employees, many of whom thank us. We show the community we care; we want people to feel welcome and safe.

Here are some questions about the walks:

### 1. What do people do on the safety walks?

We look for possible crime as well as city services that need attention, such as a broken streetlight. We address the concerns of unhoused neighbors to the best of our abilities. Safety walkers hand out fliers about the group to passersby and introduce themselves to businesses.

We do not intervene if we see crime occurring; rather, we call 911. For non-urgent concerns, we call 311. We do not initiate contact with unhoused people if they are in tents, only if they are outside. We do not report unhoused neighbors if they do not express a desire to be helped.

### 2. Are safety walks effective in deterring crime?

Studies show between a 10% and 13% reduction in crime thanks to Neighborhood Watch activities. In a meta-analysis, 15 out of 18

studies showed evidence that Neighborhood Watch interventions reduce crime.

Beyond data, people on the walks say they feel safer in the neighborhood. The goodwill and positive energy at the walks are tangible.

### 3. How can you be sure that the safety walks don't profile people of color?

This is an important question. I was relieved to discover that safety walkers seem more aware about which events to report than neighbors not doing safety walks. Safety walkers are trained to notice and report only objective information and not to rely on hearsay or their own interpretations. As Aileen says, "We are on the lookout for behaviors, not people." We have discussed these issues on the walks, and I'm proud of our neighbors for their awareness of these issues.

### 4. Do we wear anything special?

It wouldn't be a safety walk if we didn't wear bright orange to show that we have a purpose in walking!

### 5. What times are the walks?

We walk on Thursdays from 5:30 - 7 p.m. and on Sundays from 10 - 11:30 a.m. Check the EINA calendar at <https://www.eastisles.org/calendar>. We will walk January 8 and 26. We'd love to have you!

### 6. How can I walk safely in winter?

Wear boots with plenty of traction. Some walkers like to wear YakTrax around their boots for added safety. Bring flashlights for walking in the dark!

### 7. How do I sign up?

Sign up for the East Isles Neighborhood Association mailing list at [info@eastisles.org](mailto:info@eastisles.org). We'll let you know if a walk is canceled due to weather.

*Paula Chesley lives in East Isles.*



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# Audubon Winter Bird Count Returns to Cedar Lake Park

By Mark Schmidt



Mark Schmidt and fellow volunteers (Photo Cedar Lake Park Association)

The weather was hostile to both birds and people, starting with a brutal three degrees above zero in the morning and spiking to an only slightly less brutal nine degrees later in the day. But on December 18, four brave volunteers from the Cedar Lake Park Association participated in the annual Audubon Winter Bird Count, known previously as the Christmas Bird Count.

Since the event was first held on Christmas Day in 1900, volunteer birders have fanned out annually across the nation to catalog bird varieties and estimate bird populations. That data is used by scientists and conservationists to assess the long-term health of bird populations and help formulate policies to promote bird diversity and stability.

The Winter Bird Count returned to Minneapolis this year after an approximately 60-year hiatus, thanks to the efforts of the Urban Bird Collective, The Loppet Foundation and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Our Cedar Lake Park Association group birded the west side of Cedar Lake for about an hour and a half, quitting shortly before they all would have frozen. During that time, the group recorded a total of 16 species, including favorites a brown creeper, an America tree sparrow and a bald eagle.

For years, the Cedar Lake Park Association and the park board have worked together on ecological restoration to "nurture nature" at the park. Cedar Lake Park Association organizers hope the bird count will aid in the development of a comprehensive natural resource management plan for the park.

Our volunteers hope events such as this will help raise awareness of the rich natural resources that already exist at Cedar Lake Park, as well as the tremendous potential for further conservation and development. Although it would likely take years of hard work on behalf of both the park board and volunteers, Cedar Lake Park Association organizers firmly believe our park has the potential to become an urban jewel in the tradition of the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and the Roberts Bird Sanctuary.

The volunteers wish to thank Park Board Commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer, who has been very helpful in supporting the Cedar Lake Park natural areas, as well as Park Board natural area staff members James Shaffer and Andrew Marotz and volunteer coordinator Sherry Brooks.

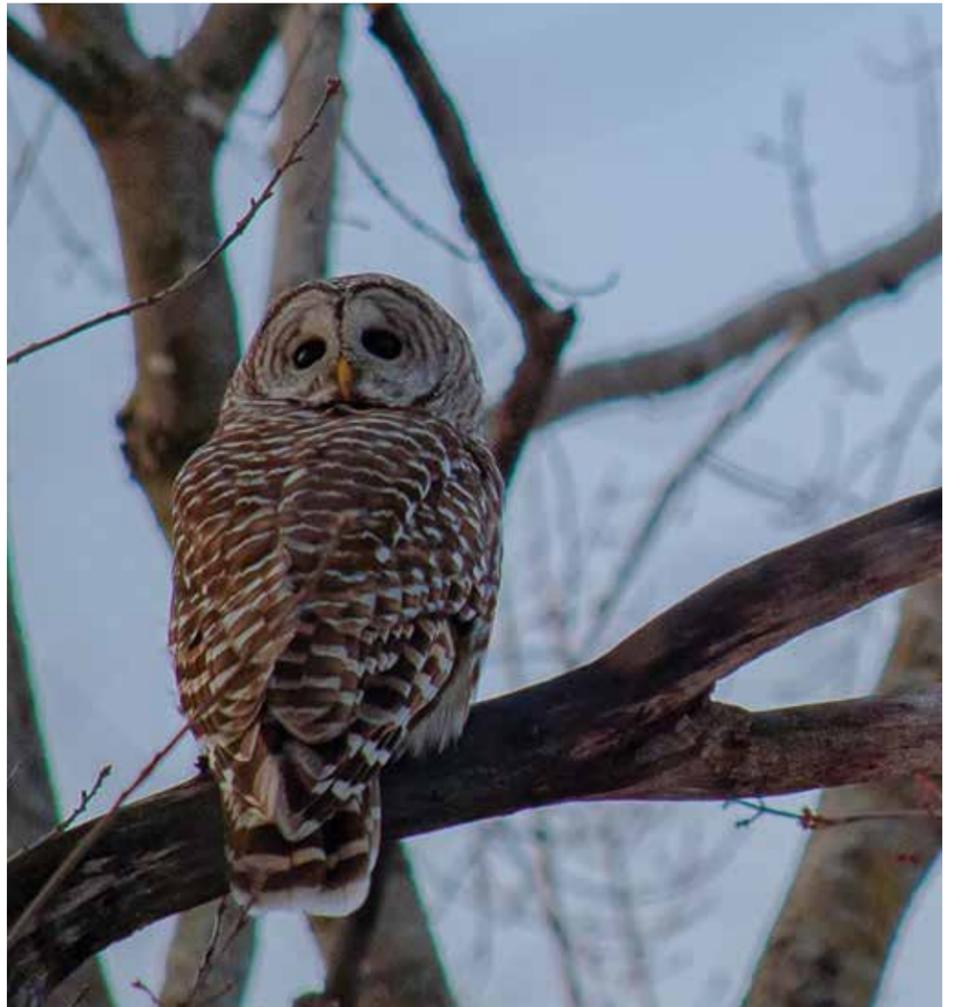
*Mark Schmidt lives in the Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood.*



Cardinal (Photo Angie Erdrich)



Chickadee (Photo Angie Erdrich)



Owl (Photo Brodie Daul)



Junco (Photo Angie Erdrich)



Downy woodpecker (Photo Angie Erdrich)



Cardinal (Photo Angie Erdrich)



Turkey (Photo Tim Sheridan)

# Dear Neighbor

A monthly column by Dorothy Richmond



Happy New Year! Let's kick it off by talking about something simple, say, religion. At least, it should be simple.

In early December I volunteered at the Minneapolis Convention Center's Day of Hope for Those Experiencing Homelessness. Upon arrival I waited in a long, seemingly unmoving line for my official lanyard. After several minutes, I turned around to assess the status of the queue and found myself face-to-face with a woman about my age. I remarked on the slow line and she responded by asking me if I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. What? I guarantee that this is not on any list of great conversation openers. This sort of opener is as weird and welcoming as "How much money did you make last year?" or "Have you considered plastic surgery?"

I said I was fine with my beliefs, but she barreled on, informing me that only people who accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior will go to heaven. "And the rest," I asked, "just die and evaporate into the ether?" Eyes widening, she said with certainty and a hint of glee, "No,

they go to hell."

If this were the first time I'd encountered such an exchange, I'd probably have regarded it as a one-off with an overeager zealot. But it was the fourth: Four times, four different people each proclaiming theirs was the one true religion, and more bizarre, four different religions, leaving me wondering if I'm some sort of magnet for proselytizers.

One's religion, or spirituality, is deeply personal and unique. I've studied many religions and happily know people of all of them, including Rastafarian. I'm attracted to people not for their religious beliefs, but because they are interesting, curious and kind. Having the bulk of them condemned to hell by a total stranger toting a Bible was not acceptable. I was steaming.

I've long felt that comparing religions is like debating which color of the rainbow is the best. They're all beautiful, and each of us usually finds one the most pleasing. I like green, but certainly don't want to live in an emerald-clad world. Similarly, while I have a belief system, honed over years of study and consideration, I'd hate for everyone to think exactly as I: There is beauty, intrigue and learning in diversity.

Several years ago, I was in Morocco, and while in Marrakesh I had a private tour guide, a lovely woman named Nora. We got along famously, and after a morning of visiting sites I invited her to join me for lunch. Over tagine, we discussed mostly our respective religions — she Muslim and I, raised Catholic. Having recently translated into Spanish the Five Pillars of Islam for one of my books, I was surprised to learn how similar Islam is to both Christianity and Judaism. They all promote allegiance to their faith, prayer, generosity and being kind to others. I've found this to be true of every religion I've

encountered.

I asked Nora about 9/11, when jihadists hijacked airplanes and toppled the World Trade Center. She replied that it was terrible that so many lives were lost. She also noted that tourism for Muslim countries dried up for ten years, leaving her and countless colleagues unemployed, and it was a PR nightmare for the Nation of Islam. I then mentioned the "fine print" of the Quran, that part about defending Islam with force, and Nora said the most amazing thing: "This version of the jihad is a man-made law, and man-made laws are what cause problems in religion."

I thought back to the picayune rules with which I'd been raised, each one promising dire consequence if not followed. It's hard to imagine a deity — God, Allah, Adonai, Elohim, Jehovah, Hu, Bahá, Hayyi Rabbi, Bhagavan, Akal Purakh, Nana Buluku, Unkulunkulu — the list goes on, as do the varieties of religions — really judging or condemning a person on whether or not she wears a hat to church. Do we really need anything more to divide us?

It's easy to get caught up in the complexities of it all, but, really, it's simple: Any religion is good if it helps you become a kind person.

Whatever you believe, be kind.

- Dorothy

*Dorothy Richmond is an experienced Spanish instructor and the author of several Spanish textbooks. She is a longtime resident of Cedar-Isles-Dean.*

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Photos by Tim Sheridan

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