



Hill & Lake Press

‘Where the biggies leave off...’

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

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Fire and Ice Festival at Cedar Lake East Beach (Photo Courtney Cushing Kiernat), continued on page 12

NEW COURT ORDER AGAIN BARS IMPLEMENTATION OF MINNEAPOLIS 2040 PLAN

By Marty Carlson

Marty Carlson is a regular columnist and lives in Kenwood.

On Sept. 5, Hennepin County District Court Judge Joseph Klein again issued a temporary injunction barring the City of Minneapolis from implementing its Minneapolis 2040 Plan until it has “completed an appropriate and properly conducted” environmental review. Per the terms of the order, within 60 days the city is to “immediately cease all present action in furtherance of the 2040 Plan,” and revert to the Minneapolis 2030 Comprehensive Plan in the meantime.

As brief background, in 2018, a group of nonprofits sued to bar the city from implementing the 2040 Plan, arguing that the city had failed to comply with the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act (MERA) because it did not consider the environmental impact of that plan. The city responded by arguing that no environmental review was necessary because MERA did not apply to comprehensive plans, but failed to offer any evidence rebutting plaintiffs’ assertion that environmental harm would, in fact, result from the plan’s implementation.

On cross-motions for summary judgment, the district court held that MERA did apply to the 2040 Plan, and found that plaintiffs had proved their claims of environmental harm without any meaningful rebuttal from the city. The court then issued a temporary injunction, barring implementation of the 2040 Plan, which the city promptly appealed.

The Minnesota Court of Appeals held in favor of plaintiffs on their argument that MERA did apply to the 2040 Plan and also found that an injunction was an appropriate remedy, but held that the injunction issued by the court contained insufficient findings of fact and analysis. These instructions from the Court of Appeals laid the basis for the current order from Judge Klein.

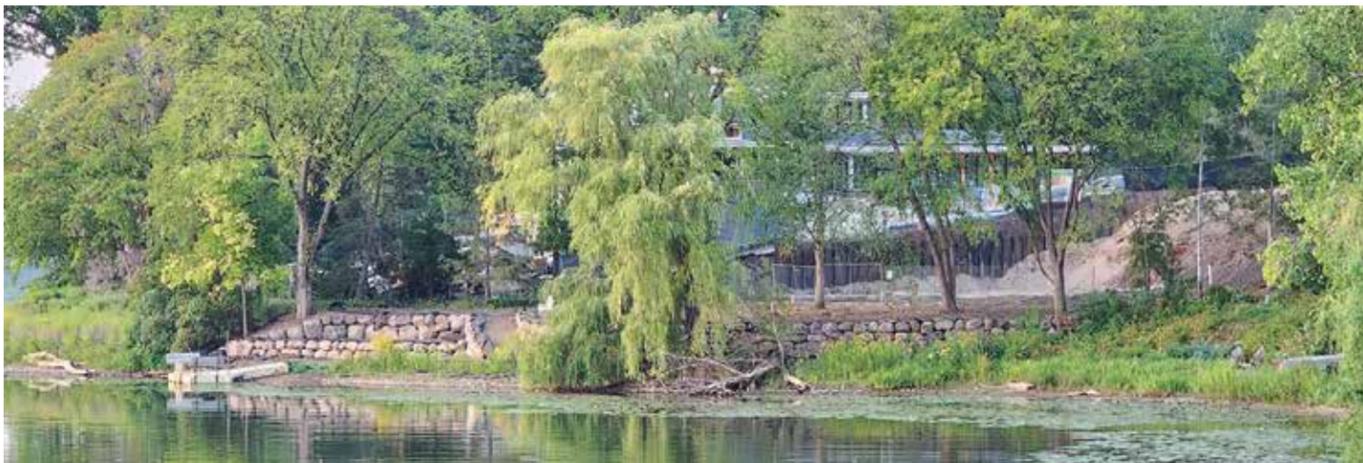
In the new 46-page order finding for the plaintiffs, Judge Klein again ruled that a temporary injunction against the city was an appropriate remedy, at one point describing plaintiffs’ case that environmental harm would flow from the 2040 Plan’s intended population densification as “lengthy, detailed, compelling, and un rebutted.”

What happens next will likely be a subject of much speculation. One matter not in doubt: the city has already said it plans to appeal the new order. Beyond that, questions abound.

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Permit for Cedar Lake Boulder Wall Roils Park Board

By Marty Carlson



(Photo Tim Sheridan)

Marty Carlson is a regular columnist and lives in Kenwood.

When the boulders arrived next door in early August, Deb and Bob Marzec started sending emails. The large rocks were destined for a nearly 200-linear foot wall complex on the shores of Cedar Lake, causing the Marzecs immediate concern. They live on Park Lane in the Cedar-Isles neighborhood, on the southeast shoreline of Cedar Lake, one of the few locations in the city where homes are located directly on lake shore.

Strictly speaking, the Park Lane homes don’t sit directly on the lake shore, but are separated by relatively narrow strips of land owned by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, and used by those homeowners subject to long-standing, revocable easements with the park board. Many of these

so-called easement lands contain improvements built by homeowners, referred to as “encroachments.” These encroachments include docks, steps, retaining walls and other features.

Readers of the Hill & Lake Press will likely recall that the status and use of the Cedar Lake easement lands was one of the most contentious subjects in the park board’s lengthy Cedar-Isles planning process, which concluded in July of this year. Readers may also recall that in December 2021, the park board voted to revoke the Park Lane easements upon the next sale or transfer of the affected property, amid a slow but steady drumbeat of pressure to make the use of these easement lands more public than private.

The early “initial concepts” for the Cedar-Isles Plan included proposals to construct a walking path

along the easement lands to the Kenilworth Channel or, alternatively, building a boardwalk over the lake, a step that would effectively eliminate all practical water access for many of the Park Lane homeowners. After more public input and extensive internal discussions, the Community Advisory Committee (or “CAC”) voted to reject both a path and a boardwalk in favor of a recommendation that the existing easements be revoked within 10 years and the shoreline be naturalized, with a walking path revisited later only if feasible.

The Marzecs’ objections to the new retaining wall was rooted in this history. When they moved into their home in 1986, their backyard had been relatively untended for years, but most of the neighboring Park Lane properties had green

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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.

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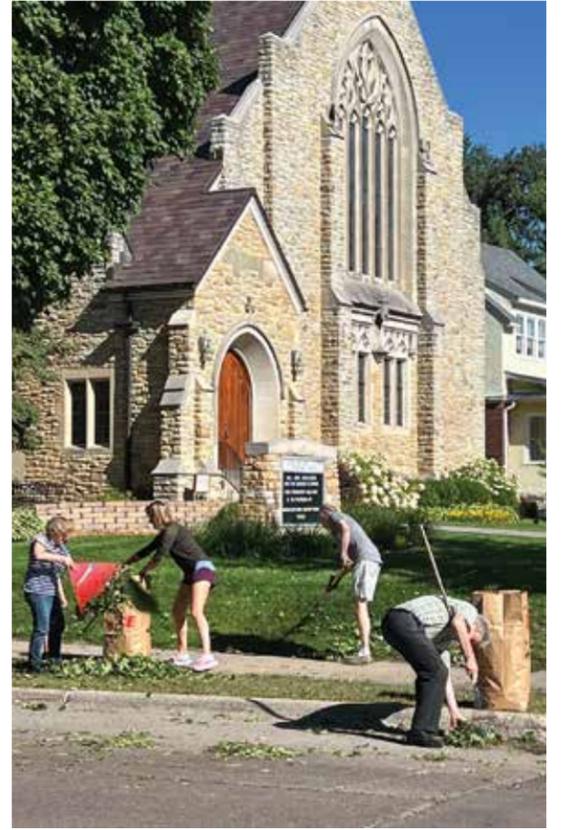
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Wholly hail! Hill & Lake neighborhoods pummeled by an Aug. 11 hail storm. Volunteers cleanup Lake of the Isles Church the next day (Photos Courtney Cushing Kiernat)



Our goal is to offer readers diverse perspectives on newsworthy events or issues of broad public concern to the Hill & Lake community.

The Kids' Issue was superb!

I thought the August Kids' issue was superb. From the graphics to the range of selections to the creative articles, the issue was outstanding! And it was fun to learn more about Justin Baylor in his son Ari's Meet Your Neighbor interview!

*Jeanne Scheiderer
Lowry Hill*

Support Hennepin Bike Lanes

While reconstruction will be difficult, I support Hennepin Avenue bike lanes.

It currently feels too dangerous to bike on, which discourages me from shopping and eating out along Hennepin.

I understand the fear that reduced parking will hurt businesses, but studies show the opposite is true: bike infrastructure added in six cities including Minneapolis improved sales and employment, even with parking removed.

*Benjamin Lester
Bryn Mawr*

What Bike Lanes Can Be

In letter to the editor in July, Jim Hawkins dismissed the bike lanes in the Hennepin Avenue South reconstruction project as "crazy," and asserted that there are already sufficient ways to get north-south by bike. I have biked all the ways he suggests, and I have rediscovered why they are insufficient.

First, Humboldt Avenue S., Irving Avenue S., and the nearby Bryant Avenue S. all have unprotected stop signs along the "bike route."

An unprotected stop is where you have a stop sign, but cross traffic does not. It is difficult to position your bike so that you are both visible to oncoming motorists and also have enough time to get up to speed so you can clear

the road before any more cross traffic appears.

In an acknowledgment of this momentum issue, Minnesota recently adopted the "Idaho Stop" for bicyclists at four-way intersections.

A high-stakes high-stress unprotected stop intersection is not suitable for a bike route, which is part of why Bryant Avenue South is being redesigned.

Second, if you must share the road as a biker, it is safest to be in the middle of the lane (look up the door zone). But this is not without its dangers, as drivers are often unaware of this fact.

Just today I was biking along Lake of the Isles Parkway East for a few blocks. A driver got so mad at my being on the road, that he drove two feet from my rear tire and as soon as I started to pull over, accelerated past me, and drove his car at an angle that forced me to stop suddenly and off the roadway. This antagonistic behavior is why separating the cars from the bikes is important.

Several other anti-transit opinions were presented in July 2023's issue. Susan Lenfestey denigrated the Bryant Ave South re-design's challenges for emergency vehicles, without also noting that they've since adjusted the plan to fix those concerns while preserving bikeway and sidewalk space.

Similarly, Carol Becker noted the increase in traffic conflicts at 26th and Lyndale since 2019, but declined to clearly state that one of Vision Zero's focuses is pedestrian and bicyclist deaths. The city is making the right choice here — bicyclists are 3% of trips but 11% of severe traffic injuries and deaths, so focusing on the raw numbers of preventable crashes ignores the fact that driving is currently far safer.

Despite dangers caused by road design and motorists, bicycling remains an important mode of transportation. For more reasons to bike, I suggest Tom Trondson's article in the very same issue. I'll add a sixteenth — when you consider finding parking (another controversial issue), it's often faster just to bike.

*Carly Robison
Lowry Hill*

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Written questions will be accepted at the forum and/or can be submitted prior at vote@lwwmpls.org with "Ward 7 Forum Neighborhood Forum" in the subject line. The League of Women Voters website (LWVMpls.org) will have a live stream link and an unedited recording will be available following the forum.

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Hill & Lake Press

Everyone Is Entitled To My Opinion

By Susan Lenfestey



(Illustration Christopher Bohnet)

Leaf Blowers Redux!

Susan Lenfestey lives in Lowry Hill and is a regular contributor to the Hill & Lake Press. She cofounded the paper in 1976 and serves on its board of directors.

The leaves will soon be doing their slow drift to the ground after soaking up carbon, cranking out oxygen and providing us with shade in the hot dry summer. And just as fast, the gas-powered leaf blowers will be roaring out to blast them off lawns, garden beds and sidewalks as if they are a scourge, a blemish on our tidy yards.

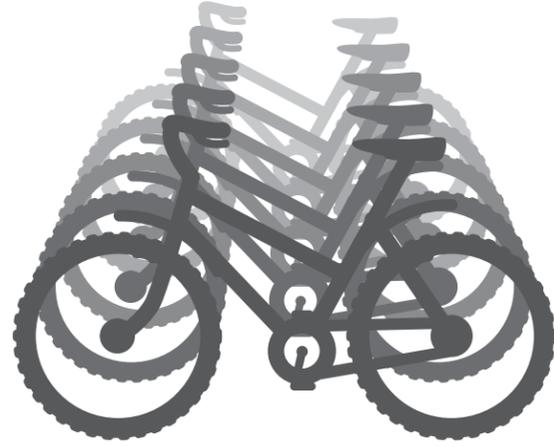
Each to their own when it comes to standards of tidiness, but as Dana Milbank wrote recently in the Washington Post, not removing leaves is hugely beneficial to insects. "Multiple studies show that the overall insect population is declining by 1% to 2% per year, which means losing perhaps a third of all insects on the planet within 20 years — moving us toward what's often called an 'insect apocalypse.'"

Most people, including me, see bugs as annoying and think less would be more. But, Milbank continues, "It's hard to overstate how ruinous this could be. If this mass extinction of insects isn't reversed, it will decimate the entire food chain, threaten crop pollination and gener-

ally cause havoc. Some bird and mammal populations are already shrinking even faster than the bugs are."

Far more damaging than over-raking, and not just to insects, are gas-powered leaf blowers, as I wrote in the June 2023 issue of the Hill & Lake Press.

If you are interested in working on a city ordinance to ban gas-powered blowers and other lawn tools, something that over 150 municipalities in the nation have already done, please contact Philip Lowry at Philipwlowry@yahoo.com, or Susan Lenfestey at susan@hilland-lakepress.org.



Hennepin Avenue Plan Walks, Rolls and Rides On

Susan Lenfestey lives in Lowry Hill and is a regular contributor to the Hill & Lake Press. She cofounded the paper in 1976 and serves on its board of directors.

In the June Issue of the Hill & Lake Press I wrote an open letter to Mayor Frey asking him to put the Hennepin Avenue makeover plan on hold given the debacle of the Bryant Avenue redo and other changes to the city since the plan's inception over five years ago.

An open letter doesn't really warrant a response, but I had hopes of getting one and writing about it here. My hopes aren't totally dashed, but they're fading.

To be fair, it's late in the process to push pause. And the plan was hatched before this mayor became the mayor, and before Margaret Anderson Kelliher became the Director of the Department of Public Work. She and Mayor Frey deserve credit for vetoing the 24/7 bus lanes which would have fully removed 93% of on-street parking. Lisa Goodman and other moderates on the City Council also deserve credit for upholding the veto. But moving ahead with a flawed plan because the funding is approved often has dire consequences.

The lack of response from the mayor and some "rescheduled" meetings with city staff have led me to the sad conclusion that we are stuck with this plan, the brainchild of the bike lobbyist and former City

Council President Lisa Bender, who has since moved to Minnetonka.

Bender and others behind the plan are not wrong about the need to eliminate carbon emissions. But instead of embracing solutions that are based in the technology of the future they seem to be stuck in the past. Countries as diverse as Norway and India are rapidly converting to electric vehicles. The Biden administration has announced it is providing \$12 billion in grants and loans to help automakers convert their current manufacturing facilities into facilities capable of producing electric vehicles.

And the best Minneapolis can do is invest in more bike lanes?

My fear is that the plan is deeply flawed and will create congestion and more carbon emissions and crush businesses, forcing them to follow Lisa Bender to the suburbs.

In fact, Cafe Meow, a coffee shop, has just announced plans to move from Hennepin Avenue to a new location in Roseville, citing the removal of parking as a factor in the decision.

I hope I'm wrong about all of this. I hope someone in city government might still pause the plan. And if no one does, I hope we wind up with a beautiful tree-lined, business-friendly promenade. With a few unicorns thrown in for good measure.

In the meantime, let's patronize those businesses, by bike, on foot, or whatever rolls your ride.

NEW COURT ORDER AGAIN BARS MINNEAPOLIS 2040, Front page

Will Judge Klein feel constrained to stay the new injunction pending this latest appeal? What impact will an environmental review, newly commissioned by the city, have on this case? Will the city once again try to sidestep the court process by having the state legislature nullify the lawsuit, as it attempted this past legislative session (see Hill & Lake Press, June 2023)? And, assuming plaintiffs prevail again on appeal, what would a revised 2040 Plan look like after "an appropriate and properly conducted" environmental review?

BACK TO SCHOOL!

By Karin Olson



(Photo Daisy Simpson)

The staff at Kenwood Community School gathered for professional development and team building prior to Labor Day weekend. The number of classroom teachers, interventionists and associate educators has increased at Kenwood, strengthening the school's capacity to support the academic, social and emotional needs of all students. Said Principal Heidi Johnson, "We are thrilled to kick off the year with our exceptional team of professionals. We're eager to partner with our families and the larger community to nurture our students' many talents and dreams."

PERMIT FOR BOULDER WALL, Front page

lawns that sloped naturally down to the lake. Among other things, this meant that the lake shore was actually walkable, down to South Cedar Beach. The only wall near the lake shore was a roughly one-foot-high fieldstone “seawall” that spanned several properties. Remnants of this seawall still exist (as do some photos to show complete seawall), but these remnants are dwarfed by the new construction.

The original landscape changed in the mid-1990s, when the house next door changed hands, and the new homeowner constructed a nearly 300-linear foot retaining wall of treated timber on park board land. Prior to that point, the Marzecs report that the home’s back lawn featured a gradual slope to the lake shore. But construction of the retaining wall and the addition of truckloads of fill raised that lawn by roughly four feet until it dropped off at the water’s edge. As a practical matter, the Marzecs say this construction ended neighbors’ ability to easily walk the lake shore. Fast-forward to the present, and the park board now describes the southeast Cedar shoreline as ranging “from natural and planted buffers to lawns that extend to shoreline, armored with boulders or retaining walls.”

For their part, the Marzecs initially hopped on the “green lawn” bandwagon after they moved in, reclaiming their yard from underbrush, but that changed in the mid-2000s. Inspired by a visit to a garden filled with native plantings, Deb gradually began converting their green lawn into a native flower garden, covering the park board easement land and flowing gently down to the lake shore. Today, the Marzecs’ backyard is arguably the

best exemplar of the park board’s vision for a naturalized lake shore on this portion of Cedar Lake.

So, given this background, how is it that the Marzecs will now be living next to a new, nearly 200-foot boulder wall? The answer is complicated, and rooted in park board history and process. For starters, the new property owner (who, to be clear, is not alleged to have done anything wrong) purchased the land in 2021, before the park board passed its resolution revoking the Park Lane easements upon sale.

In addition, while the CAC recommendation for naturalizing the shoreline dates to August 2022, that recommendation was not incorporated into the final draft of the Cedar-Isles Plan until January 2023, and did not become official park board policy until the plan was approved by the full board on July 5, 2023.

None of which is very satisfying to the Marzecs. Deb raised concerns regarding replacement of the existing retaining wall as early as March 2, 2022, writing in an email to Commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer that “[w]e know how fortunate we are to live on the lake shore and want to be good stewards of our natural resources... now [with new construction contemplated] is the time to bring [the neighboring lake shore] back to its original, natural state.”

Further, park board staff was aware of the pending passage of the Cedar-Isles Plan, and its likely implications for the Park Lane properties. When Ms. Marzec again raised concerns about the retaining wall in late June 2023, she received an email from park board staff stating, “we have placed the

permit application for [the property] on hold pending the final consideration of the LOI/Cedar Lake master plan by the Board. We prefer to respond to your request for information after the board meeting and we have time to review our land policy and past board approvals.”

Ms. Marzec says that’s the last she heard from the park board on the subject until the boulders started arriving in early August. As for “past board approvals,” there appear to be only two of any relevance. First is a “temporary” permit from 1941, issued to seven Park Lane property owners, permitting the maintenance of existing encroaching structures, but which does not reference a retaining wall on the property in question. The second, from 1943, is a permit specifically granting permission for the property owner to construct an eight-foot dock extending from the center of an existing barbecue pit. Neither stands in contradiction to the Marzecs’ statements that the retaining wall currently being replaced was constructed in the 1990s, nor has there been reference to any permit associated with that construction.

So why and when did a permit for the current project issue? As to timing, the construction permit itself was issued on August 17, 2023, and grants permission for construction of the retaining wall, along with the “installation of native plants along the shoreline at the completion of the wall work.” That permit, however, references a separate letter signed by the park board superintendent and dated July 20, 2023, which the permit refers to as an “approval.”

The July 20 letter appears to

rely on the 1941 and 1943 encroachment permits as the basis for that approval, although neither indicates the presence of a retaining wall at the location in question. Further, a park board representative authorized to speak on this matter confirmed that the park board has not been able to locate the plat map referenced in the 1941 permit that apparently did show the encroachments existing at the time. In short, while the park board deemed this a sufficient basis for a permit to issue, it does not undercut the Marzecs’ assertion that the old wall was actually built without a permit in the 1990s.

Regardless, the superintendent’s July 20 letter specifically references the Cedar-Isles Plan, the revocable nature of encroachment permits, and specifically “cautions that you [the homeowner] will have to remove any part of the wall, plantings and etc. that encroach on MPRB land at a time wholly accommodating the shoreline restoration.”

The story does not end there, however. On August 15, 2023, Commissioner Shaffer sent an email to the Marzecs stating that the permit would issue, but also indicating that the superintendent’s letter had been sent “without board awareness.” That same day, she submitted a resolution to the board imposing a one-year moratorium on future construction permits immediately adjacent to waterbodies without full board approval, while the MPRB studies the status of existing encroachments, reviews its policies and develops a workflow plan for orderly administration of future permit requests. That resolution passed two board committees the next day, and passed the full board on September 6.

In the meantime, along with the reality of the new boulder wall, the Marzecs are left with more questions than answers. Among them: How does a structure-specific 1941 permit provide a basis for replacing a retaining wall they saw being newly constructed in the 1990s? How will this impact the Cedar-Isles Plan’s goal of a naturalized shoreline? And will this accelerate public pressure to revoke the existing easements? Time will tell.



(Photos Tim Sheridan)

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New Bde Maka Ska pavilion soon to open (Photo Tim Sheridan)

OPINION

By Carol Becker

A Carless Vision for Minneapolis

"Anti-car advocates are fond of noting that traveling by car killed 42,000 people a year. But poverty kills seven times this number. Automobile access is one of the best indicators of families leaving poverty."

Carol Becker holds a Ph.D. in public administration, served on the Board of Estimate and Taxation for 16 years and is currently teaching government and political science at St. Catherine University in St. Paul.

Minneapolis set a goal of reducing automobile travel by 60% by 2030. The plans to achieve this include drastic changes to the roadways, making travel so slow that people would choose other modes of travel or not travel at all.

What would happen if the City of Minneapolis actually achieves its goal of reducing auto travel by 60% in seven years?

The vast majority of businesses are dependent on a customer base and workforce that exists only because of automobiles. As we make it harder for people to get to businesses, businesses will die, jobs will be lost and residents will be poorer as they can't reach well-paying jobs in a reasonable time.

This is happening now. The city is planning to drastically reduce auto access to Uptown by reducing Hennepin Avenue from four lanes for autos to two, giving the rest of the roadway to buses and bikes.

What's the result of reducing car access so far?

Businesses have fled in antic-

ipation of these changes. Sixty percent of commercial real estate along Hennepin Avenue in Lowry Hill is now vacant, as reported at the last Uptown Association meeting. Seven Points Mall, once the jewel of Southwest Minneapolis, is mostly vacant except for a gym. Bicyclists will be able to ride up and down Hennepin Avenue but have no place to go because the businesses are gone.

Same with downtown Minneapolis. The biggest reason people don't want to go back to work is the commute. Instead of making travel into downtown easier, Minneapolis has narrowed streets and bridges, refused to build parking and deliberately made travel slower.

Unsurprisingly, downtown Minneapolis lags almost every other downtown in recovery from the pandemic. Earlier this year, Minneapolis ranked 60th out of 63 downtowns in foot traffic.

The same thing happened at 42nd and Cedar, where the same business-killing transportation planning happened. The city took away 70 parking spaces, leaving the businesses there to die.

Anti-car advocates are fond of noting that traveling by car killed 42,000 people a year. But poverty kills seven times this number.

Automobile access is one of the best indicators of families leaving poverty. In a program created by HUD, families with cars were twice as likely to find a job and four times as likely to remain employed and leave poverty.

The reasons are obvious. Automobiles provide wide access to well-paying jobs that simply can't be reached by biking, walking or transit. Many major thoroughfares outside Broadway in North Minneapolis have been narrowed to one lane, snarling traffic and making it harder to access jobs and businesses. This keeps our poorest people poor.

Imagine a single mom who lives in Minneapolis but works in the suburbs (like most Minneapolitans) picking up one kid from day care, another from school,

then getting six bags of groceries before going home. The city expects her to take five buses then walk blocks with her young children and six grocery bags. Now imagine it is January. And remember that one out of every five persons in Minneapolis is a child under the age of 18. And 40% of Minneapolis parents are single parents.

We can ask the same questions for the 10% of Minneapolis residents who are over the age of 65 and for the 10% of residents under the age of 65 with a physical disability.

So why is the city making these changes?

The argument is that they are making travel safer. Yet severe accidents have increased 50% since the city started implementing these changes in 2019 and deaths of persons traveling in automobiles tripled, according to the 2023 Vision Zero Report. The argument is that these changes will also reduce carbon emissions — but forcing cars to idle needlessly or travel much further just drives up emissions when we are in a climate emergency. And, when we have a growing number of persons in poverty, we have adopted a transportation plan that makes people poorer.

The city needs to come clean about the impacts of its plan to reduce auto travel by 60% in the next seven years. There is travel modeling software that can tell us how many jobs will be lost and from this, it is possible to calculate how much wealth will be lost. This same software can calculate how much carbon emissions will increase if this goal is met.

The city also needs to do pre- and post-analysis of every change it makes to the roadways, so we know why its changes are increasing, not reducing, accidents and deaths. And then it needs to stop doing the things that are increasing harm for its residents.



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Doug Argue

FEATURE

Hennepin County District Court Responded to Interview Questions Regarding the District's Juvenile Court

By David Piper

Judge David Piper interviews Morgan Kunz on behalf of Hennepin County District Court about the district's Juvenile Court system.

Q: How does a judge become the presiding judge in juvenile court?

HCDC: Presiding judges are appointed by the district court's Chief Judge. Judge Kappelhoff is currently the presiding judge of Hennepin County District Court's Juvenile Court. He was appointed to this leadership position by the district's Chief Judge Todderick Barnette.

Q: How is juvenile court presently structured?

HCDC: There are 10 judges assigned to Juvenile Court in Hennepin County District Court. All the judges handle juvenile delinquency, child protection and adoption cases.

Q: What are the responsibilities of the presiding judge in juvenile court?

HCDC: Among the Juvenile Court Presiding Judge's many responsibilities is managing the overall operations of Juvenile Court, which primarily involves ensuring that the court operates effectively and efficiently to provide the best possible experiences for the children and families who have matters pending in the juvenile court system. Judge Kappelhoff, the current Juvenile Court presiding judge, has responsibilities that also include meeting and collaborating regularly with the Juvenile Court stakeholders, including representatives from the Hennepin County Attorney's Office, Probation Office, the Public Defender's Office, Attorney Representation Service, Psychological Services and the Juvenile Detention Center. Also, like the other judges in Juvenile Court, Judge Kappelhoff carries a caseload of delinquency, child protection and adoption cases.

Q: Are carjacking cases or auto theft cases open to the public?

HCDC: Juvenile delinquency cases involving young people who are 16 years old or older are generally open to the public, although there are some exceptions to this general rule.

Q: What happens to juveniles who either plead guilty ("adjudicated") to auto theft or carjacking or are adjudicated of these offenses? Specifically, what sentencing (dispositions) does the court have available to it? Is there a lack of facilities or options for juveniles, and, if so, what do you see as a short-term solution for these juveniles who

commit these offenses? What about a long-term solution?

HCDC: There are a variety of possible outcomes or dispositions for young people who are adjudicated delinquent on auto theft and/or carjacking cases. The dispositions will generally depend on a variety of factors, including, but not limited to, the nature of the offense, the needs of the young person, public safety, services and programs available and prior delinquency history of the young person.

The general goals of any disposition that is imposed are to rehabilitate the youth, address public safety issues, and provide services, treatment and other programming that will return the youth to law-abiding behavior. Some of the possible options include:

- Participation in and successful completion of a community-based treatment program;
- Participation in mental health services, including individual and group counseling, or, depending on the nature of the youth's mental health needs, the youth may be placed at a residential or community-based mental health treatment program;
- Placing the young person at a residential treatment program, which would involve an out of home placement of the youth;
- Certifying the young person to adult court where adult sanctions, including adult prison time, could be imposed;
- Placing the young person on Extended Jurisdiction Juvenile Probation, where the youth would receive an adult sentence that is stayed and would be placed on juvenile probation until his/her 21st birthday;
- Participation in and successful completion of a restorative justice program; or
- Participation in community service or a sentence to service program.

In addition, to help address the recent increase in auto theft and carjacking cases, the Court, in collaboration with the juvenile justice stakeholders, recently implemented new procedures, policies, and programs to specifically address youth involved in these offenses. The Court developed these new policies based on a collaboration with the juvenile court stakeholders, as well as with input and feedback provided by community members during community judicial listening sessions. The new policies and programs include:

- All youth charged with Fleeing a Police Officer in a Motor Vehicle will be detained at the Juvenile Detention Center and must appear before a judge within 36 hours.
- All youth charged with carjacking are assigned to a single

judge to prioritize these cases in juvenile court, which will allow for more intensive supervision and focus on the youth charged with these offenses.

- **New Auto Theft Expedited Court Process:** This new court process expedites the processing of all cases involving youth charged with auto theft.

- **New Pre-Trial Services Program:** This new program run by juvenile probation is designed to intervene earlier with youth charged with auto theft or other delinquency offenses by offering youth additional services, treatment, and programming immediately after being arrested and while their case is pending.

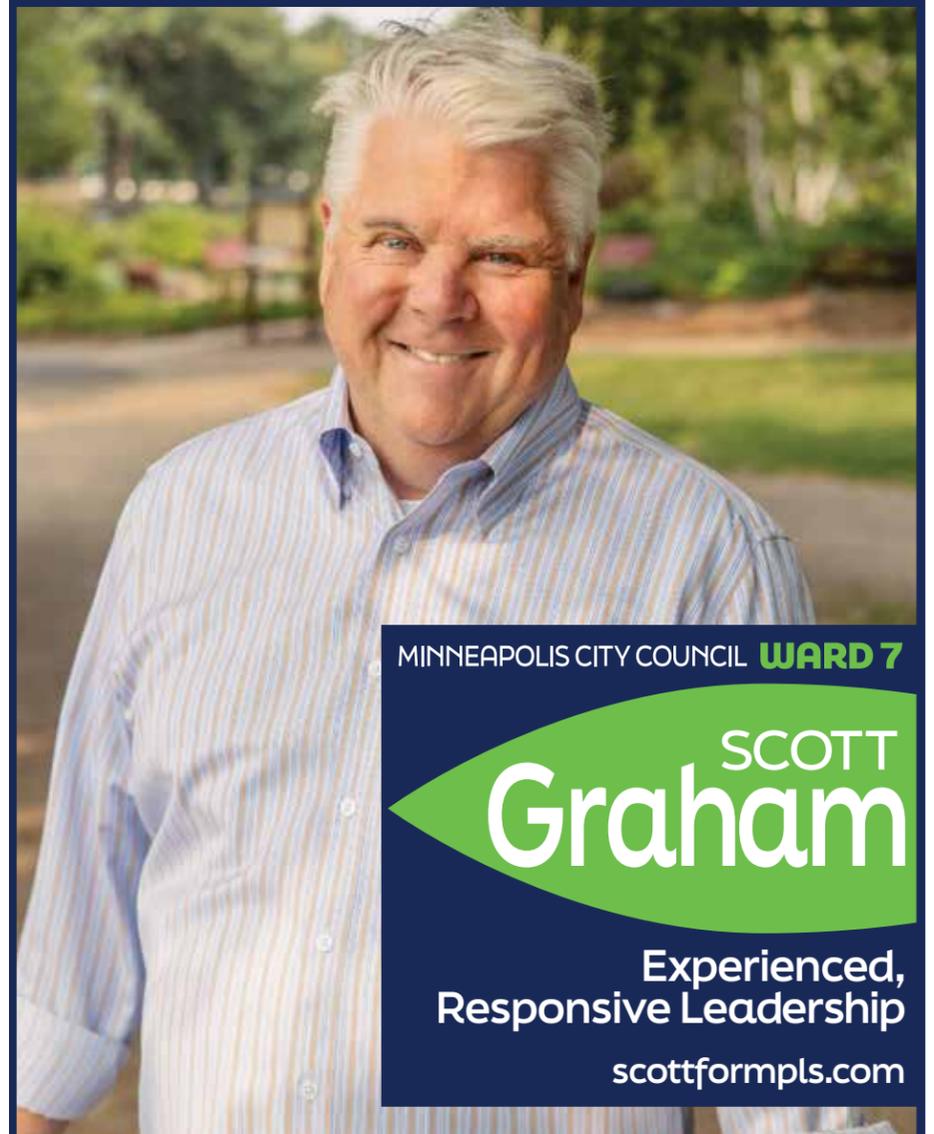
- **New Behavioral Mental Health Navigator Program:** This new program provides additional services and assistance for young people with mental health challenges and their families as they navigate the mental health system.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to add in terms of addressing the concerns of the public about these cases?

HCDC: The Court is certainly

mindful of the concerns of the public regarding juvenile crime in our community. Members of the Juvenile Court bench have participated in three community listening/dialog sessions over the past three months. These sessions were well attended and provided the Court with an opportunity to hear directly from community members on their concerns regarding juvenile crime, and particularly car thefts and carjacking incidents. It is important to note that the juvenile justice system involves many stakeholders who have independent and important responsibilities to address juvenile crime in our community. This includes the Court, as well as prosecutors, law enforcement officials, and probation. All of these stakeholders are working to implement procedures and policies within their area of responsibility to address the concerns raised by the community.

Proud to be endorsed by
City Council Member Lisa Goodman!
Vote early starting September 22nd!



Prepared and paid for by Scott for Mpls, 2915 SWayzata Blvd #201A Minneapolis, MN 55405

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church: A Long History of Innovation

By Beth Carlson



The second Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, circa 1890. Located at 12th and Hennepin Avenue (Saint Paul's archives)



Saint Paul's undercroft construction (Saint Paul's archives)



Saint Paul's Chancel on Logan Avenue, circa 1917 (Saint Paul's archives)



Saint Paul's and Lamoreaux addition on Bryant Avenue S, circa 1940 (Saint Paul's archives)



Saint Paul's newly remodeled undercroft (Saint Paul's archives)

Beth Carlson is a volunteer and parishioner at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church in Lowry Hill.

Saint Paul's was founded in 1880 with its first congregation gathering in a rented vacant store on Hennepin Avenue. This was the beginning of a long history of faithful and architectural innovation for Saint Paul's. They were focused on how to best bring the word of God to the people of God. Their physical space was an important part of that journey. It allowed members to gather. It was needed to create a strong connection to the community. Within the year Saint Paul's broke ground on their own church building located between 12th and 13th Streets on Hennepin Avenue. And remarkably just two years later a larger ground-level floor was added by excavating below the existing church building. An amazing architectural step forward.

But there was more innovation to come as the congregation grew. In 1902 the decision was

made to move the church building to a new location at Franklin and Bryant. This was quite a task at the time. Once in their new church, the congregation continued to grow. By 1955 another new church home was needed. The Searle mansion at Logan and Franklin was for sale, and Saint Paul's was given the first right of refusal to purchase it by the owner, Harold Tearse, a previous church member. Blessed with a large donation by existing church member Nels C. Beim, Saint Paul's was able to purchase the mansion and build the church onto it. Another innovative architectural plan.

And now to today. Saint Paul's has been focused on faithful innovation work over the past few years. What are they being called to do? How can they best support their neighbors? While considering these questions Saint Paul's looked at their large, beautiful building. Is it serving the call to do God's work? In 2020 and 2021 they made their most recent inno-

vative decision. They decided to separate the house from the church. In 2021 the house was sold to Susie and Scott Crouse. It was a match made in heaven.

The Crouse family was looking for a multi-generational house with enough space to spread out and with community areas to come together. This house seemed a perfect match for their needs and has a great location by Lake of the Isles and Kenwood Park. They are renovating the house from office space back to a traditional home. There are many projects to complete this goal. The first priority was the bathrooms, as there were many bathrooms but no showers. Next was creating a kitchen space on the second floor where they live. And since it is bigger than needed for now, they saw the opportunity to create space for overnight renters and event space as well.

This innovative change has freed Saint Paul's from the costs in dollars and mental energy to maintain a large historic home. It

allowed them to update spaces usable by not only the parish, but individuals and groups in our community. And it has allowed Saint Paul's members to continue to worship in a space that nourishes their souls to do the work that God has given them to do.

Saint Paul's welcomes you to see these changes firsthand on Oct. 14 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. during their Antiques Appraisal Fair when the church will be open and house tours will be given. More information about can be found at www.stpaulsmpls.org. Saint Paul's is an active, Christ-centered inclusive worshiping community of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, deeply committed to loving God and loving our neighbors. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, Saint Paul's welcomes you to join them at worship and for programs offered.

World class chamber music right in the neighborhood!

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 Tickets can be purchased at the door or online at Eventbrite | \$25, or pay what you can (children and students free)

www.islesensemble.org

OPINION

By Maureen Bazinet Beck

It's Not Only Hennepin Avenue That's Threatened, but Also Lake Street

Maureen Bazinet Beck lives in East Bde Maka Ska.

There has been much coverage in the Hill & Lake Press of the Hennepin Avenue makeover plan, but most people are not aware of a similar plan for Lake Street at the northeast corner of Bde Maka Ska, where I live.

In 2019 a postcard was delivered to the residents of the Edgewater, 1805 W. Lake St., informing us of proposed changes to the bus stop in front of our building.

It wasn't until later that we learned that the plan includes not only a much larger bus stop which will be lit 24/7, a red bus lane, a ticket machine and a new bike rack, but also the removal of three 17-year-old canopied trees and the addition of a designated bike lane.

None of this was specified on the postcard. Then COVID struck and little more was learned about this project until 2021/22. The plan has received limited review due to COVID.

The various governmental organizations involved in this plan are focused on reducing carbon emissions by increasing bus and bike use and reducing the use of cars. This is a laudable goal, but much of the plan does not reflect the reality of 2023.

Since the plan's inception there

have been significant changes. Metro transit ridership is down 65% due to new work patterns and security concerns. Within the past few years electric vehicles (EVs) have grown in popularity, a trend expected to continue, adding a need for public charging stations.

The corridor between Excelsior and Minnetonka Boulevards has exploded with new commercial and residential buildings. People living or working there have one primary route to get to points east. Some will use buses and bikes, but most will continue to use cars — eventually EVs. It is an extremely congested area and the removal of two lanes will make it worse.

We have always lived with a bus stop in front of our building and are in favor of improving our metro transit system. However, this is a dangerous place for a shelter because of the heavy traffic and because of the way the street curves around the lake and back onto the grid. On two occasions cars have plowed into the shelter. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

When the details of the plan became clear to us, we asked for a meeting with the planners from the county and city to express our concerns. On three occasions, we met and encouraged them to look at an alternative to their plan.

At all three meetings we were

told that the plan was a done deal, and our suggestions were not possible. From what we've read, our experience in dealing with city planners does not seem to be unique.

We recognize that these changes will have the greatest impact on us, the residents of the Edgewater, but the process to implement the plan without our input at the planning stage is flawed. Like most city residents, we pay taxes that should guarantee respectful conversations with open minded staff as plans are being drawn, not after the fact.

Our concerns are many.

Trees reduce carbon and should not be removed. Five trees were planted by residents of the building when it was built 17 years ago, and they form a beautiful canopy over the street and sidewalk. The Plan removes three trees and replaces them with two new trees (one location unknown and one within a grate). Trees planted in grates surrounded by concrete do not fare well. There are many empty grate examples along West Lake Street.

There is a better place for a new shelter just few hundred feet east, where Lake Street widens to incorporate the bus lane.

The Greenway is a block away and runs parallel to Lake Street. Why disrupt a lane on Lake Street

when bikers have another option?

The narrowing of Lake Street at this intersection is dangerous, especially for emergency vehicles that must move quickly to Hennepin Avenue and farther east. Adding a bike lane will obstruct traffic, potentially causing delays for first responders and accidents for pedestrians and bicyclists.

The advent of EVs has changed the landscape. Now is the time to install parking meters with charging capabilities to reduce carbon emissions and encourage EV use and to draw visitors to local businesses and to the amenities of the nearby parks.

City planners, please respect our concerns.

As homeowners of the Edgewater, we have chosen an urban lifestyle and appreciate the diversity and energy in Uptown. We have seen a number of city projects that have hurt businesses and residents and we don't want another bad plan being implemented.

It is our hope that before construction of the plan commences next spring, the designers will take our input into consideration and make significant adjustments.

WARD 7 CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FORUM

LEARN WHERE THE WARD 7 CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES STAND ON ISSUES IMPORTANT TO YOU AND OUR NEIGHBORHOODS

Thursday, October 12
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church
2020 W Lake of the Isles Pkwy
Minneapolis 55405

Written questions will be accepted at the forum and/or can be submitted prior at vote@lwvmpls.org with "Ward 7 Forum Neighborhood Forum" in the subject line.

The League of Women Voters website (LWVMpls.org) will have a live stream link and an unedited recording will be available following the forum.



Hill & Lake Press



cidna Cedar-Isles-Dean
Neighborhood Association



EAST ISLES
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS'
MINNEAPOLIS

OPINION

CIDNA FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 7th

1 - 4 PM

(Rain Date October 8th)

Park Siding Park

Volunteers are needed!



Scan QR code to sign up!



Cedar · Isles · Dean
Neighborhood Association

FREE EVENT!

Ice Cream Truck

Hot dogs & Veggie dogs

Games

Face Painting

Music

East Isles Update

Thanks to all who made this year's Super Sale a win—shoppers, sellers, volunteers and staff! A wave of 117 sales swept across four neighborhoods. We hope you caught up with neighbors and found (or sold) some good treasures.

The Green Team and Safety Walking Club team up Oct. 1! Join us to clean up and connect along Hennepin Ave.

We're asking neighbors to adopt drains as a low-impact way to keep trash out of the lake (mn.adopt-a-drain.org). If you adopt in East Isles or the Wedge, email info@eastisles.org the name and location to be entered into a drawing!

Finally, consider donating to East Isles to support our work toward a cleaner, safer, connected community.

Visit eastisles.org/join to:

- 1 **Donate** to support neighborhood events, resources and opportunities. 
- 2 **Subscribe** to our news and follow our social media to get updates on events and resources.
- 3 **Join a Committee** to address green issues, community safety, transit and more.



eastisles.org/join  

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lake of the Isles Monthly Cleanups

Sept. 16 Saturday, 9:30 AM – 12 PM
Check-in: W 27th St & E Lake of the Isles Pkwy

Keep the shores beautiful and healthy for people and wildlife. Bring your neighbors, kids and friends!

East Isles Safety Walking Club

Sept. 19 Tuesday, 5:30 – 7 PM
Meet at Triangle Park: W 26th St & Irving Ave S

Get outside, meet your neighbors, pick up litter and contribute to community safety and spirit!

Lake of the Isles Cleanup / Safety Walking Club Mashup

Oct. 1 Sunday, 10 – 11:30 AM
Meet at Triangle Park: W 26th St & Irving Ave S

Help pick up where much of the Lake's litter begins—in the gaps left between Hennepin Avenue businesses, Metro Transit and the City.

East Isles Board Meeting

Oct. 10 Tuesday, 6 – 8 PM
Grace-Trinity Community Church: 1430 W 28th St

East Isles residents, business owners/lessees, and non-profit, education and government reps welcome!

Ward 7 City Council Candidate Forum

Oct. 12 Thursday, 7 – 8:30 PM
Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church:
2020 W Lake of the Isles Pkwy

All candidates filing for office are invited. This will also be live streamed and recorded (visit lwvmpis.org).

Dates subject to change—visit eastisles.org for the latest.

THRILL KENWOOD

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
3:00 - 6:00 PM

FREE family halloween party with a global dance of Thriller to raise money for Charities around the globe.

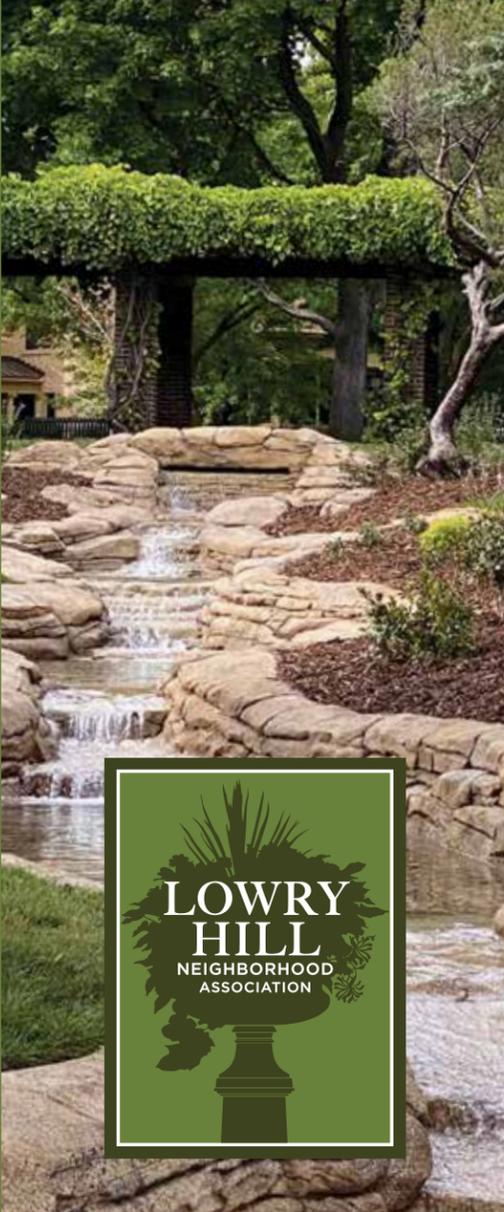
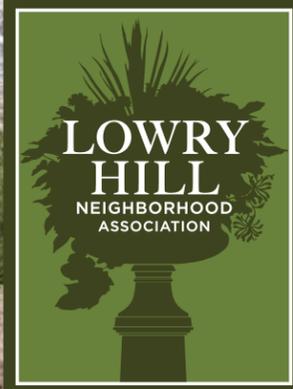



THRILLER DANCE PERFORMANCE AT 5PM

Zombie hair & make up • Spooky storytelling
Artrageous creation station • Park games
Live DJ & strolling performances

Please bring a boxed or canned item for the joyce food shelf so they can prepare thanksgiving food baskets in the coming month for families in need.



LOWRY HILL NEWS – September 2023



LHNA OCTOBER BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 3, from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Kenwood Recreation Center
All residents are welcome. If you have questions or would like to be on the agenda, please email us at lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org.



WARD 7 CANDIDATE FORUM

Thursday, October 12, from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church
Cast your ballot as an informed citizen in the Minneapolis City Council election on November 7th. Get to know the candidates as they share their views on critical issues. This forum is coordinated by League of Women Voters and hosted in collaboration with other local organizations. A livestream and recording of the forum will also be available.



LOWRY HILL SAFETY WALKING CLUB

Join us for a friendly walk around the neighborhood!
This is a great way to promote neighborhood safety and an excellent opportunity to get outside, meet neighbors, pick up litter, and build community. Walks begin in Thomas Lowry Park and last approximately 90 minutes. Upcoming dates are as follows:

- Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, October 10, 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 21, 10 a.m.

SCAN HERE



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Thank you for your generous support.

Sign up for the LHNA email newsletter at lowryhillneighborhood.org

Meet Your Neighbor

By Alida Mitau

Megan Bacigalupo

Alida Mitau grew up in Lowry Hill and returned after living in Chicago for several years. She attended college in Amherst, Mass. where she was the Arts & Living editor of The Amherst Student. She now has a career in marketing and communications.

I had the opportunity to interview local writer and Kenwood native Megan Bacigalupo about her recently published book “In the Cobwebs of My Mind: A Vivid and Magical Recollection of Surviving a Brain Hemorrhage.”

The book is an expanded version of Bacigalupo’s short essay of the same title, published in the Edge Magazine in 2018. The full book was published in July 2023 by Calumet Editions LLC, under the imprint Wisdom Editions. Bookstores and libraries can order from Ingram, and it is available on Amazon in trade paperback and Kindle.

In Bacigalupo’s own words, “The book documents the strength and creativity of a healing brain and all that it witnessed in its struggle to survive. It was written in no specific order, in a discombobulated form. It is avant-garde. It is gestalt. It is rich, vivid and theatrical. This story ushers the reader into a world of possibilities as it creates a complex, poetic and imaginative experience. “Cobwebs” teeters between two worlds. The world of ghost-dancing hallucinations and the world of mundane visitations by doctors, nurses, family and friends. I use several artistic disciplines: it is imagined as a one woman show, a documentary film and more; it is visually stunning with images that capture the true essence of my experience.”

Where did you grow up and what neighborhood do you currently live in?

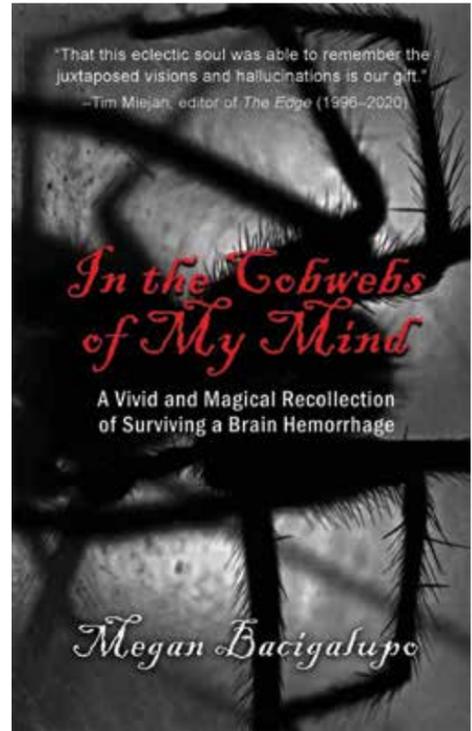
I grew up in Kenwood, right up the hill from Kenwood School and Kenwood Park, by the swing set area. I have lived in Uptown and Lowry Hill. I live in Lowry Hill currently.

When and why did you start writing?

I was always fascinated with words, lyrics to songs and poetry. I



Megan Bacigalupo (Photo Megan Bacigalupo); Book cover courtesy of the publisher



started journaling and writing poetry at a young age. I was intrigued by the art of self-expression in the written language. I wrote to process my thoughts and emotions, and I’ve always written fast. Writing was an outlet for me to empty my mind, only so it could be filled again.

I did not get serious about writing until much later in life. I also completed college quite late in life. My 10-page research paper on Simone de Beauvoir was the first major piece of writing that I was proud of. It wasn't until 2009-2010 that I began to really understand writing and develop my style. Then the Edge magazine published my story titled “The Bear” in 2012. At the time, I was trying to write a book and realized I would never finish it, so I turned the long, unedited and unrevised chapters into short stories. It was like magic — it worked, and several of my stories were subsequently published in the Edge.

What was your education?

I dropped out of high school and got my GED, and I was not able to go to college in my 20s. I went to Minneapolis Community and Technical College in my late 30s and graduated in my early 40s with a degree in human services. I was

on the Dean’s list and Phi Theta Kappa.

What do you do professionally?

I am currently working in the human services field as an activities director in senior assisted living. I did, however, spend decades in the restaurant business.

What is your writing process like?

My writing process is erratic and spontaneous. It is very impulsive. It is wild and fast. I just start writing, and it becomes a stream of consciousness. I scribble everything in a notebook typing it out, editing and revising. Words fly out of me.

Writing my book “In the Cobwebs of My Mind: A Vivid and Magical Recollection of Surviving a Brain Hemorrhage” was a completely new experience for me. I was forced into discipline, when most things I write have no intention of being structured. I had a publisher, and I had to work in an entirely different way. I also had an incredible mentor, who I worked with creatively and intensely on all aspects of the book. It took almost five years to finish! I’m so excited to share my work.

How else do you enjoy spending your time?

As for what I like to do in my free time, I have very little of it. But, like most, I enjoy long walks, great restaurants, coffee shops and good company.



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Antiques Appraisal Fair
treasures, tours, and treats
October 14th, 10 AM – 4 PM

Come to have your hidden treasures appraised by local appraisers (online registration required). Tour the historic Searle Mansion and enjoy treats for purchase throughout the day. Proceeds support the general fund and outreach programs.

Registration and additional information can be found at stpaulsmpls.org.



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Fire and Ice: Building Community & Stewardship at the Beach

Photos and Article by Courtney Cushing Keirnat

Courtney Cushing Keirnat is the Kenwood Neighborhood Organization Board Chair. Now an empty nester, she lives in Kenwood with her husband and fur babies.

The young and not so young gathered for a night of Fire and Ice at Cedar Lake East Beach. Fire performers Danielle Doncaster and Company enthralled neighbors as they enjoyed ice cream donated by local favorite, Sebastian Joe's. Hosted by the Kenwood Neighborhood Organization (KNO), the event marked the end of a successful Summer season of Hidden Acoustic concerts, yoga and family fun events.

Volunteers led by Kenwood resident and KNO board member, Will Stensrud, planned and hosted all of the beach engagement events with the goal to foster community connections, create a welcoming environment for all and increase public safety at the beach and surrounding area. Volunteers have committed countless hours to stewardship by cleaning, raking and organizing the beach every morning in addition to planning and hosting all of the beach events.

Stewardship comes in many forms including mud. Steve, better known as the "mud man," has been maintaining, documenting and introducing visitors to the mud pit at East Cedar Lake Beach for 30 years. This Summer alone, he has tallied over 2,000 mud pit visitors. For his ongoing stewardship and dedication, Steve was recognized at Fire and Ice with a special plaque presented on behalf of beach lovers.

In addition to acknowledging the mud man, Will Stensrud was recognized for his leadership in Cedar Lake East Beach efforts that have welcomed more families, neighbors and visitors to enjoy the community space. Minneapolis Park Commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer and KNO board member Mark Brown presented Will with a gold rake for his impactful leadership in making the beach a more welcoming place for all.

KNO summer 2024 events are already in the planning stage and all are invited to join in the fun as volunteers and visitors. Learn more at kenwoodmpls.org.



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KATIE CASHMAN

FOR MINNEAPOLIS WARD 7 



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Or are we on the doorstep of transformative change?

Join your neighbors in a facilitated discussion forum about the future!

Free, open to all, secular, and important!

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at Saint Paul's Church on Lake of the Isles
Consult the website for more information & locations.
www.belovedcommunityaction.org



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Recognition for Members of Their Community

At the Fire & Ice festival at Cedar Lake East Beach



Steve the Mudman honored by Mark Brown, Will Stensrud and the Kenwood community at the Fire & Ice festival (Photo Tim Sheridan)



Will Stensrud awarded a golden rake in thanks for his stewardship of all things East Beach at the Fire & Ice festival on Cedar Lake (Photo Courtney Cushing Kiernat)

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Singing The Same Song

By Mariann Bentz

Meet Neighbors Marybeth Bauries and Gwen Goldsmith – Singing the Same Song

Music pervades the lives of Gwen Goldsmith and Marybeth Bauries. Music was important to each of them even before they met. It brought them together, nurtured their relationship, and continues to give them hope and enjoyment every day.

Marybeth has lived in the Twin Cities most of her life, and has sung in many choirs, including her high school choir at Minnehaha Academy and church choirs. She studied music therapy and, although she did not pursue it as a career, she is passionate about music.

Gwen moved to the Twin Cities in 1976, and their lives intersected in a voice class at the University of Minnesota. Marybeth was there to sing, and Gwen was her accompanist. The two got to know each other, sharing interests in music, birding, reading, and more. They fell in love and moved into their home of almost 40 years on 22nd and Garfield, where Marybeth cultivated an extensive garden (since she didn't like to mow the grass). They also worked for the same St. Paul company for many years as bookkeepers.

When it was time to move, The Kenwood Retirement Community was their logical choice. They had been visiting friends at The Kenwood for years, and wanted to stay in their neighborhood, so when Marketing Director Karen Edberg about an available apartment, they jumped at the chance and were thrilled to learn that Dominick Argento, the famous opera composer, had been its previous resident.

Marybeth and Gwen appreciate

the many musical offerings at The Kenwood, including birthday party entertainment, parlor concerts, and MacPhail Music for Life. Through the years Gwen has enjoyed playing



chamber music with friends, and this continued at The Kenwood until the pandemic made it impossible for them to meet. When a group of residents recently started the Kenwood Singers, Gwen became their accompanist, playing standards such as “Look for the Silver Lining” and “Yankee Doodle Dandy.”

Just a few blocks away from The Kenwood, St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral has been their long-time church home. Marybeth sang in the All Souls Choir and the Cathedral

of their St. Mark's friends have lived and continue to live there through the years. When they were married at St. Mark's in 2013, the Rev. John Rettger officiated, and his wife Dora was the ring bearer. John has since passed away, but the two couples were able to share some time together when they all lived at The Kenwood at the same time. Marybeth and Gwen are looking forward to rejoining in person. In the meantime, their oldest friends at St. Mark's continue to bring communion to them and other St. Markans at The Kenwood.

Gwen and Marybeth enjoy cooking in their Kenwood apartment. Gwen is an accomplished cook and baker and was a finalist in the Star Tribune cookie contest in 2020 with her recipe for “New Scenic Cookies.” They also enjoy the special dining events at The Kenwood, including a recent steak and lobster dinner, and a luau, praising the food and service, and sharing a table with yet another St. Mark's couple, Jim and Mary Huber.

The couple credit The Kenwood for keeping COVID vaccinations current and prioritizing residents' safety. Marybeth was very happy when she was able to join a recent Kenwood visit to the Minnesota Raptor Center and saw some birds up close. She remarks about the many residents at The Kenwood who daily show “how to grow old with dignity and energy. They are a beacon to us.” A conversation with Marybeth and Gwen is like a contrapuntal piece of music, each singing her independent melody, and the two blending into one beautiful song.

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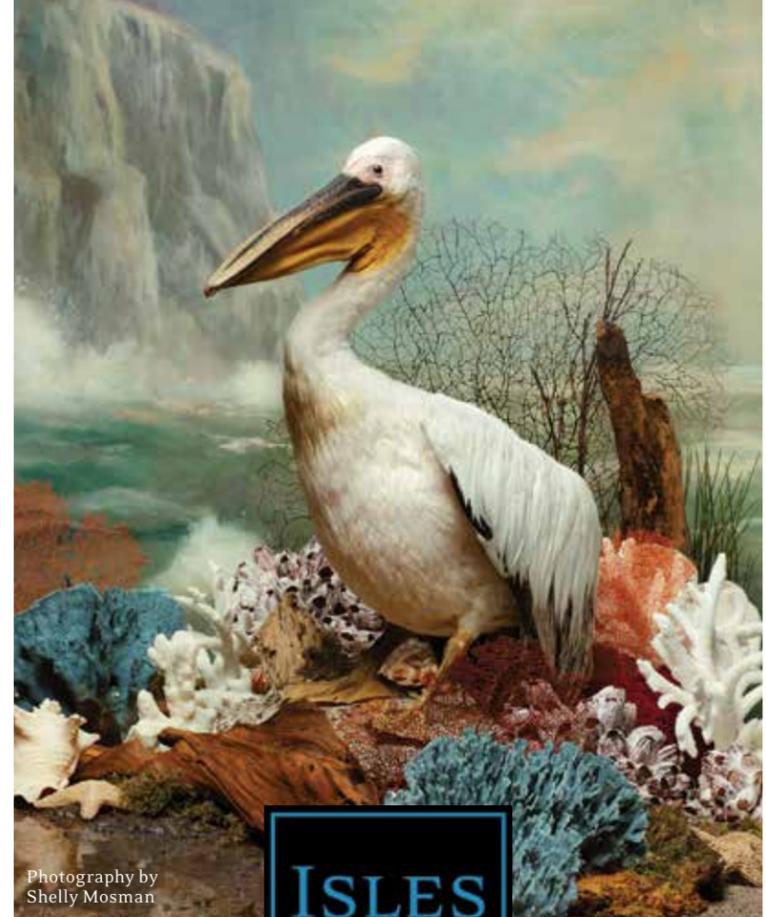
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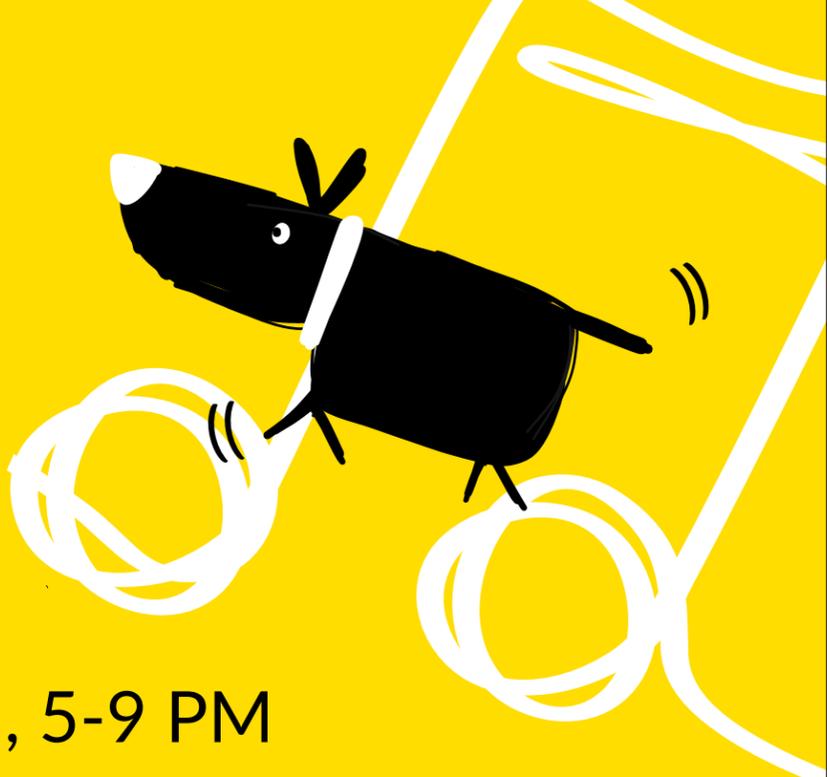
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September 21, 5-9 PM
1428 W. 28th St. Mpls | See you in the alley!

As we like to say, "Lakes Area Realty was born *under the bun*," so we're celebrating *Isles Bun & Coffee's 30th Anniversary* right along with them! Please join us for refreshments, music and, of course, Puppy Dog Tails as we both thank you, our community, for your support all these years.





Photo courtesy of Alex Cook, youarelovedmurals.com

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WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETINGS
7:30 pm – 8:30 pm

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SUNDAY	9:30 am – 11:30 am
MONDAY	Closed
TUESDAY	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
WEDNESDAY	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
THURSDAY	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
FRIDAY	9:30 am – 12:30 pm
SATURDAY	9:30 am – 12:30 pm

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Discover The Woman's Club of Minneapolis

all programs open to the public
September 18–30

The Woman's Club has great momentum with the programs we're offering, the outreach we're doing in the community, and our reimagined membership program.

From September 18–30, we invite you to attend all programs offered by the Club.

Arts & Culture

Lori Dokken & Connie Evingson in Concert Monday, Sept. 18, 5:00 pm

Thomasina Petrus in Concert Thursday, Sept. 21, 7:30 pm

Andy Sjodin Gallery Exhibit Every day

Speakers

Lifespark Hospice with Amber Haselberger Tuesday, Sept. 19, 11:00 am

Famine: A Renewed Threat in the 21st Century with Emily Nohner Wednesday, Sept. 20, 6:00 pm

Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl talks about her new book *The Essential Dara: Writings on Local Character & Memorable Places* Tuesday, Sept. 26, 11:00 am

Not Strictly Social with Dr. Artika Tyner Wednesday, Sept. 27, 5:30 pm

Civic Engagement

Ward 7 City Council Candidates Forum Thursday, Sept. 28, 5:30 pm

Loring Park Safety Walk Thursdays, Sept. 21 & 28, 5:30 pm

Programs

Writers' Group Tuesdays, Sept. 19 & 26, 9:30 am

City of Lakes Rotary Breakfast Wednesdays, Sept. 20 & 27, 7:00 am

Mah-Jongg Wednesdays, Sept. 20 & 27, 10:00 am

Tea & Stitchers Wednesdays, Sept. 20 & 27, 1:30 pm

Fundraiser for the Godfrey House Thursday, Sept. 21, 10:00 am

Thursdays@5 Social Thursdays, Sept. 21 & 28 | 5:00 pm

Dining

Lunch Wednesdays & Fridays, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Dinner Thursdays & Fridays starting at 5:00 pm (on the Rooftop if weather permits)

Tours

Contact The Woman's Club for more information

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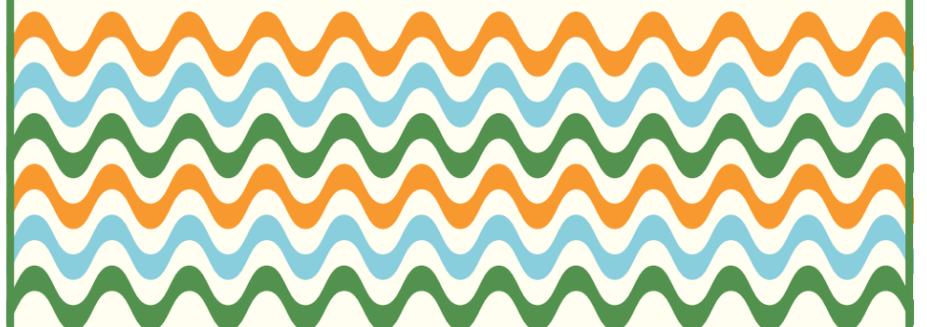
Weekend Brunch

SAT. & SUN. 9AM-4PM

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Dear Neighbor

A monthly column by Dorothy Richmond

Dorothy Richmond is founder of the Dear Neighbor column and a longtime resident of Cedar-Isles-Dean.

It's back-to-school season, and this column is for the moms, especially those sending off their children to kindergarten. You've done your searches, weighed countless variables, short term and long term, because you're finally in for the long haul, usually six years — K-5 — for the majority of elementary schools. God willing, your child will be happy and for the first time in years you can relax.

A little background: When you're pregnant, unsolicited advice and predictions abound, many of which are often proven false. The prescient buttinskies inform you that after the baby is born your body will be weird, your hormones will be a study in Brownian motion, your marriage dynamic will change, your social life will take a hit, your once regular and restorative sleep cycle will be obliterated. And if you choose to return to work, you'll freak out dropping off your darling at day care; meanwhile, those who choose to stay home become unglued wondering about going back to work one day — either way, if your career doesn't take a tumble, it'll definitely take a jumble.

I chose to stay at home which wasn't a terrible stretch, as for years I'd worked at home writing Spanish textbooks. Still, I gave up teaching at the University of St. Thomas and working with private students at home, both of which I loved. My husband was an Emergency Room physician whose work schedule was another study in Brownian motion. My staying home was the right choice for all of us and I have no regrets.

But there's one aspect nobody talked about,

and that is the nomadic existence I'd have for six years. Nomad is defined variously as an itinerant, a wanderer who moves around, usually seasonally, an unsettled person.

Though I didn't know it, eight weeks after Daisy, my first, was born I entered the world of the nomad. It began with ECFE (Early Childhood Family Education), and it didn't take long to realize that the classes were by proxy only for the babies, who usually were sleeping or nursing. No, these classes were for the new moms, each happy to get out of the house yet totally losing it in a stream of insecurities, fears, worries. I certainly felt lost in that new world and believed that I was the only one feeling unmoored. The class discussions revealed that we were all in the same boat, and ECFE was our life raft with its happy mom = happy baby mantra.

After a string of ECFE classes came a flurry of McPhail's music classes, Foss Swim School, endless field trips to the zoo, the Children's Museum, countless parks (all valuable) and walks with newfound, alas, for the most part temporary, circumstantial friends. It was all lovely, but fleeting. Then came pre-school, a bit more stable, but still transient.

Kindergarten finally changed all that.

My daughters attended Kenwood Elementary. It was glorious — a terrific neighborhood school filled with children who lived nearby. Playdates are a constant at that age and no matter how lovely you may find certain suburbs I don't know anyone who wants to drive 10 miles (or more!) to and fro for a couple hours of playtime, especially when one's backyard is rife with diamonds. But, wait — there's more! I dropped off Daisy each morning as did many other moms, and as the kids settled in, I would survey the adult crowd:

she looks interesting; she looks smart; she looks fun; the jury's out on her, and so on. It was like back in the day going to parties and bars and checking out guys. It turns out the other moms were doing the same thing. After years of ephemeral and nomadic friendships we were ready for the real thing. I call it "mom dating."

As the students made their friends, I made mine. Several of my deepest friendships today took root in Daisy's, then Lily's, (now both college graduates) kindergarten classrooms. Friendships are born of time and repetition and, of course, commonalities. Elementary school classrooms, which by and large welcome parents' involvement, are the perfect hub for developing bonhomie. (Spoiler alert: when your child hits middle school, you don't go to school any longer and neither do the other moms. Teachers don't want you around and there's a good chance your child will act like he or she doesn't know you. The glorious period of mom dating comes to a screeching halt.)

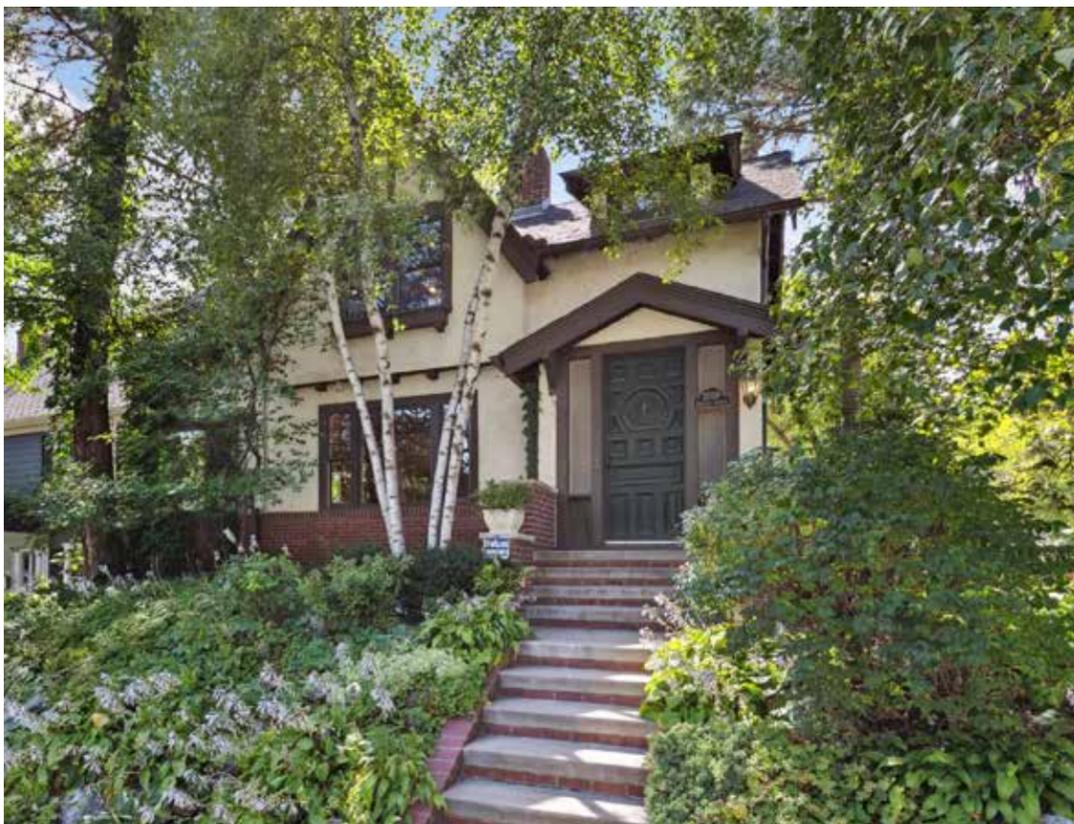
So, moms, welcome to kindergarten, a true garden of delights. May you and your darling children bloom and flourish.

— Dorothy



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