



'Where the biggies leave off...'

Hill & Lake Press

Published for East Isles, Lowry Hill, Kenwood Isles, & CIDNA

VOLUME 35 NUMBER 2

www.hillandlakepress.com

FEBRUARY 18, 2011

The Luminary Loppet — A brief look behind the light

By Hal Galvin

If you get this newspaper you probably know of the City of Lakes Luminary Loppet. Chances are, you may have skied it, walked it, snow-shoed it, or just driven around lake of the Isles and watched it take place. If you haven't done any of those you at least have heard people talk about it. It's gotten hard to not notice the Luminary Loppet. It has gotten big.

When the Luminary Loppet first started in 2005, it was tiny, with about 600 candles lighting up the groomed trail on Lake of the Isles. It drew a registered participant crowd of about 200 skiers. Last week, the Luminary loppet lit up the ski trail on lake of the isles with over 1,400 candles and drew a registered participant crowd of over 6,000.

When something gets this big it captures people's attention and it raises a lot of questions. There is a large amount of interest in participating in the event, but also

in the background information — the people behind the curtain, the technology of how the things they see are made, even the reason of how this seemingly out-of-nowhere event came to be. I can answer some of those questions here.

Let's start with a little history: In 2003 The City of Lakes Nordic Ski Foundation, a group started by John Munger to improve trails and promote cross country skiing in Minneapolis, decided to start a citizen cross country ski race within the city of Minneapolis. This race would be a revenue generating activity that would help fund the Foundations initiatives. They carved out a challenging course, beginning in Wirth Park and ending in Uptown. The Foundation actually pulled this off and created the first urban ski race in a major city in the US, with the race finish line located at the corner of Lake Street and Hennepin ave, racers gliding off the

lake and into Uptown on trucked-in snow. Thus began the City of Lakes Loppet and the financial engine that fuels the City of Lakes Nordic Ski Foundation.

On one hand, the City of Lakes Loppet race was a success. It did establish an urban race and it did raise awareness of citizen racing in the Twin Cities. By itself however it was not drawing many new skiers to the sport, or driving the desired revenues for funding Foundation projects. The major event at the time, the 35km freestyle race, was a difficult one and generally considered to be a race for expert level skiers. This created a positioning dilemma that the Foundation was having a difficult time changing. They looked for help by drawing non-elite skiers into their leadership group, looking for insight and ideas from a less competitive class of XC skiers. It was through this initiative that my wife, Peggy Galvin, was drawn in.

Cross Country Skiing with Man's Best Friend

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A popular event featured during the City of Lakes Loppet is Skijoring (cross-country skiing with a dog or two). Skijoring teams raced around Lake of the Isles before finishing in Uptown. Skiers here are cheered on as they skied past Ice Henge, one of this year's new luminary additions, created by volunteer-resident Hal Galvin.

Photo by Dorothy Childers



Children stare in awe at a magical luminary.

Steve Kotvis (f/go photography)

Palio Music Competition Winners to Perform at Bryant Lake Bowl

Sunday, February 20, 2011 at 6 pm

By Shanti Mittra

Remember that glorious fall day in September when hundreds of us gathered in Kenwood Park to celebrate Palio (a good memory as we head into arctic temperatures)...two young musical groups, Diwata and THEM, won the Palio music prize to perform at a neighborhood club, the Bryant Lake Bowl. The kids have been working with the Bryant Lake Bowl management to plan, price and market their show just as would any professional band performing at the club. Diwata is a keyboard and violin duo formed by Isabella and Francesca Dawis, who have individually performed with many Twin Cities arts organizations, including the Minnesota Opera, Children's Theater Company, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Theater Latte Da and Bloomington Civic Theatre. THEM is a middle school folk/rock band comprised of Lolo and Smack Young Walser (guitar and drums), Myranda Sloo (fiddle) and Christopher Eisland-Birch (cello). These kids trace long roots with

Palio—the Dawis sisters had never played pop music together until they walked on a Palio stage years ago, and one of the Walser twins' earliest public performances was on a Palio stage with their very own mosh pit. **This show is scheduled for this Sunday, February 20th at 6 pm (doors open at 5 pm). Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for kids, visit www.bryantlakebowl.com or call 612-825-8949 (fee free) to purchase.** The show promises to be a great evening for the whole family, with lots of good music and food, and is expected to sell out so buy your tickets early!

I recently sat down with these incredibly talented and engaging young performers **Isabella [I], Francesca [F], Lolo [L] and Smack [S]:**

What music do you like to listen to when you're relaxing?

S: Led Zeppelin, Jimi Hendrix, most classic rock.

L: Mostly pop like—I'm really bad with names, I can't remember any names except my friends. Smack,

Palio winners to page 6

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CALENDAR & EVENTS

Minneapolis Audubon Society

Bryant Square (31st & Bryant Avenue S)

Friday, March 11, 2011 1 p.m.

Ron Windingstad, Minnesota's Audubon at Home Coordinator, will discuss the Audubon Minnesota Chimney Swift Conservation Project and what is being done to reestablish Chimney Swifts in an attempt to halt the rapid decline in this poorly understood species. Building artificial towers for the Swifts as well as the importance of native plants for native insects that are fed upon by so many of our species will also be discussed. Please join us for the program and refreshments. All are welcome. For more information call 952-926-4205.

Rec Plus summer program registration begins March 15

Parents looking for affordable, quality, school-age childcare this summer will find everything they need at Rec Plus. The program, for children ages 5 – 12, offers children opportunities to learn sports and make crafts, take field trips and make new friends. The summer application process opens Tuesday, March 15, at 5:30 p.m.

The summer program is offered from Monday, June 13, through Friday, Aug. 19, 2011 from 7 a.m.-6 p.m. at 15 Minneapolis recreation centers including

THE AIR WE BREATHE....HOW HEALTHFUL IS IT?

How healthy is the air we breathe? If there are harmful elements, what are they? What personal choices and public policies are needed to maintain good air quality. These questions of indoor and outdoor air quality will be addressed at a free public forum presented by the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis in cooperation with Congregations Caring for Creation members of Plymouth Church on Thursday, February 24 from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. at the church, Franklin and Nicollet Avenues.

Mayor R.T. Rybak will give the keynote address with "Minneapolis Leading the Way" stressing healthy habits and the impact of bikes, a walkable city, hybrid bus fleet, smart grid, and more.

The forum's agenda will include products and elements having an impact on our air, and therefore our health. Indoor pollutants such as radon, building materials, lead, tobacco smoke, mold, cleansers, paint, and solvents will be addressed as well as those detected outdoors in transportation vehicles, industry, pesticides, incineration, combustion, and power plants.

Presenters include Greg Pratt, research scientist at the Pollution Control Agency and adjunct assistant professor at the U. of M. School of Public Health who will discuss how major sources of pollution are tracked through monitoring data. Lisa Herschberger, also an environmental research scientist at the Pollution Control Agency, will present opportunities to reduce air

Lunch with Lisa February 23, 2011

Join council Member Lisa Goodman for lunch and conversation.

This month's topic is the City's internal audit process.

St. Thomas University-Minneapolis Opus Hall 202
\$10 Lunch is offered.

Come early to get your lunch and a good seat.
Discussion starts promptly at noon.

Dine Out for LHENA at duplex restaurant /wine bar on Wednesday, March 9, 11:00am to Midnight.

A portion of the proceeds support Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association (LHENA) programs and services. Make your reservation: call duplex at 612-381-0700 and mention LHENA. For more information about LHENA, visit thewedge.org

Kenwood Rec Center. Activities include active games, sports, swim lessons, arts and crafts, park classes, one field trip a week and nutritious snacks. Children must bring a bag lunch daily.

For more information call 612-230-6400 or e-mail recplus@minneapolisparcs.org.

Margaret Jaeger Program Director
612-230-6498, recplus@minneapolisparcs.org

pollution. Mn State Representative Karen Clark will address the MN Cumulative Impacts Law and public policy strategies. Bill Droessler, director of Clean Air Minnesota will speak on Clean Air Minnesota members' accomplishments, and John Siqveland of Metro Transit will discuss opportunities to use our bus transportation.

Other members of the Forum are Kathleen Schuler of the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy; Paul Kubic MD, Respiratory and Critical Care, Children's Hospital, and Jean Johnson, PhD with the MN Department of Health's Chronic Disease and Environmental Epidemiology.

Students from the Science Museum of Minnesota will conclude the forum with a performance of their student song on environmental justice. By the end of the forum participants will have a basic understanding of air pollution in Minneapolis, including key sources and impacts on health and the environment.

Many organizations will participate with information available. Included are City of Minneapolis Asthma Program; Healthy Legacy Product Information; Interfaith Power and Light; Preventing Harm Minnesota; Clean Air Minnesota and Project Green Fleet; MN Department of Health; MN Environmental Initiative; MN Council of Churches; Preventing Harm Minnesota; MN Nurses Assn; Women's Environmental Institute and more.

Free and open to the public. Parking available. MTC bus passes will be provided free of charge to attendees. See LWVMpls.org to obtain them.

Joyce Aprea Murphy in One-Woman show

13 drawings by Lowry Hill resident and Hill & Lake Press long time artistic contributor Joyce Aprea Murphy are included in a one-woman show from Friday, February 11, 2011 to Sunday March 6, 2011 at Theater in the Round Intermission gallery on Cedar Avenue and Washington Avenue South in the Seven corners area of Minneapolis.

The show is titled "Good to Draw," from a quote by Murphy's childhood friend Loretta Berglin who lived across the road from her Grandmother's farm in Cokato, Minnesota. Joyce Murphy recalled that she and her sister would visit Loretta and draw at the dining room table. Friend Loretta described Joyce and her sister thus, "You girls are sure good to draw". Her words from long ago seemed an appropriate title for this show.

Classified Advertising

FEBRUARY 2011

CARPENTRY. Windows, doors. Siding. Fences, decks, finish carpentry. Drywall & taping. custom tile. Local refs, free ests. Tom 612-824-1554.

WANTED: Carriage House or 1-bdrm apt, Apr 1. Local refs available. Paige 952-484-5601

Rates: \$7.00 for two lines, \$4.00 for each additional line. Send ad and check to Hill & Lake Press, c/o Jean Deatrick, 1821 Dupont Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55403, payable to Hill & Lake Press. There are approximately 48 characters (letter, punctuation, space, number) per line.

HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Feb 20, 6 pm, Palio winners at Bryant Lake Bowl
Feb. 23, 4:30-7 Tax mtg, Pearl Pk Neighborhood Ctr, 414 E. Diamond Lk Rd.

Feb. 24, 7-9pm Air Quality Form, Plymouth Church
Feb. 24, 4:30-7, Tax mtg, North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Ave N.

Feb. 24, 6:30, Pk Bd mtg at Kenwood Rec Center, new sidewalk landscape discussion.

Feb. 28 LRT public comments deadline re station area planning

March 2, 6pm, Identity Theft/mail fraud presentation, Temple Israel.

March 3, Central Library book sale through April 9.

March. 23, 6 pm Burglary Prevention workshop, Temple Israel

March 10 6:30 pm Energy Workshop Grace Trinity

March 17, 6pm Hauser Dance at Jefferson School

March 18, 8 pm Hauser Dance at Jefferson School

April 16, 9:30-noon Earth Day cleanup

Neighborhood monthly meetings:

CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday at Jones-Harrison

EIRA: 1st Tuesday at Grace-Trinity Church

KIAA: 1st Monday at Kenwood Rec Center

LHNA: 1st Tuesday at Kenwood Rec Center

The Minneapolis Poetry Society will meet on Tuesday, March 8 at 7 pm in the 15th Floor Community Room of The Kenwood, 825 Summit Ave., Minneapolis. The poetry topic this month will be "March". Members of the public are invited to attend and bring a poem they have written to read. Coffee and tea are provided. Donations welcome. Information: 763-434-6750.



Behind the Scenes Soiree

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FOREST GLEN WINES : Red & White Wines

LUSH : Hand Massages

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Meet Your Neighbor Binky Wood Rockwell

Craig Wilson interviews Binky Wood Rockwell about growing-up free to wander and play in the streets of St. Paul, living as an artist in New York City (NYC) when it was actually gritty and dangerous, and her passionate advocacy for Minneapolis arts and parks.

What was childhood like growing up in St. Paul? My grade school years were spent in what was then a heavily Catholic neighborhood, about two blocks from Macalester College. Every house had at least 9 children, so there was endless activity – everything from putting on plays to skating shows to having serious rock fights with populations of roving kids from nearby blocks. I went to the local public school and then was switched in 6th grade to what is now St. Paul Academy (SPA). The rationale from my parents was that I wouldn't miss out on the first year of French.

You are trained as an actor and artist, were you a dramatic child? Determined. I searched out dance and voice lessons and was involved from about age eight in many semi-professional performances outside of school, which was very unusual at the time. Most of the adult population was too busy having cocktails to notice what was going on with their kids, so no one was even thinking of building a resume.

You moved out East to pursue theater. What were those years like? I actually started at the "U" which had probably the country's best theatre department at the time – started by Tyrone Guthrie. I was performing as "Mame" after my sophomore year in a summer theater in New York's Catskills when I got a call that Dartmouth College was putting together their first class of women – all 7 of whom would be in the theatre department. I auditioned and the rest was bizarre history. I then moved to NYC to continue training and working. It was a low time in NYC – it was unbelievably dangerous, for example, to venture into the East

Village or West 96th Street – but learning to maneuver the streets proved to be a real test of strength and an invaluable character study.

What brought you back to Minnesota and encouraged a 'St. Paul girl' to settle west of the Mississippi? Minneapolis at the time was considered second only to NYC in quantity and quality of theatres, and it was an amazing place to live.

You raised your family in the Hill Lake community; tell us about your family and what makes them tick? My husband, Win Rockwell, is a corporate lawyer, so you'll have to ask him what makes him tick (just kidding). Our son Sam has always been passionate about environmental and transportation issues and is now studying environmental law. He spent the past nine years in NY (four at NYU) working in these policy areas while performing at night as a drummer in his quest to become a rock star. Several national tours and CDs later, he's happily hung up his sticks. Our daughter Maddy is in NYC working as a waitress and taking professional acting classes – and loving the challenge while living comfortably below the poverty line.

How has the Hill Lake area changed over the years? Surprisingly little. I still pinch myself every time I trek the one block from my house to walk around the lake, hit the bike trails, or snap on my cross country skis. Everything just seems to get better in its gradual,



Binky Wood Rockwell

Midwestern way. But it's really the people who have always uniquely defined the area. Right after we first moved here, Jim Lenfesty wandered down to our porch swing to brainstorm the birth of a paper called The Hill and Lake Press with "ALL the News That Fits We Print." Just a couple of weeks ago I received an email with an urgent request to join a group of neighbors to "save the Kenwood Deli....and should we also try to buy the building?" Everyone is engaged; politically, civically, culturally. It's fabulous.

You are deeply committed to Minneapolis arts and parks. Where have you put your seemingly boundless energy in the past and present? I've worked for years as an actress, director and producer – beginning at Children's Theater Company (CTC) and most recently at Ballet of the Dolls – and took a hiatus to run my own furniture and interior design firm which included some architectural and landscape work. I've also served on a number of boards, mostly focused on theatre and film.

As the former President of the Minneapolis Parks Foundation you are now committed to realizing a 'downtown' park and to further downtown greening. What is your vision? At the moment, the downtown district is like a cement ridden, car-friendly park. Our legendary park system and urban forest abruptly stop at its edges. My vision is to see the city through the lens of the park system, to link the downtown to the city as a whole while at the same time creating a district that has its own unique vitality and is "the place to be" for the greater Twin Cities populations.

You are deeply committed to engaging young adults and 'cultural creatives' in civic engagement. Why is it important to engage these demographics? We only have to watch the events in Egypt to

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2000 Humboldt Ave. S. • \$1,195,000

Striking Queen Anne situated on a double lot in the heart of Lowry Hill. Completely renovated, this luxurious 5 bedroom, 4 bath home combines old world charm with today's amenities. Double lot and rare 4 stall garage

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This French contemporary estate is situated on four city lots overlooking downtown Minneapolis! Constructed in 1980, this all brick home was remodeled in 2003. Limestone staircases descend from the home to a back yard oasis, complete with an enormous in-ground pool and two hot tubs. The recently added cabana features a full kitchen, living room, bathroom and changing room for easy pool access. The main residence has formal living and dining, a completely updated kitchen with large butler's pantry, and a beautiful family room. The bedroom wing includes a gorgeous master suite, children's bedrooms, and guest suite.



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The Loppet and Minneapolis Public Schools A model of community partnership that depends upon our civic-minded

MINNEAPOLIS MINDS

by Steve Kotvis

A couple of Sunday mornings ago, I climbed the stairway behind the chalet at Wirth Park where I joined some of the estimated 2,400 Nordic skiers, dozens of volunteers and many spectators of the 9th Annual City of Lakes Loppet. As we approached the stadium site a skier next to me proudly stated, "This is one of the reasons I'm happy to pay higher taxes living in Minneapolis. Look at what we get." I had to agree I love living in Minneapolis, but felt compelled to contradict his assumption. I made it clear to him that the Loppet event was a partnership with the City, but it was actually made possible through a non-profit organization, the City of Lakes Nordic Ski Foundation.

The fellow was stunned. But he appreciated learning that the Loppet weekend and all that it hosts — including skiers with their skijoring dogs, the ice bike races, the ski events for all ages, sprinters, and spectacularly Saturday night's Luminary Loppet — is all made possible by a volunteer supported non-profit organization. In addition to Loppet weekend, the organization hosts year-round sporting events (Trail Loppet and Tri-Loppet), and KidSkis, a fitness program for youth in a growing number of Minneapolis Public Schools.

The Loppet organization may represent the best of what we may hope for in a public-private partnership. It leverages the assets of our wonderful park system and a cooperative and prideful mayor, and delivers experiences that contribute to our local civic pride and involvement, all with an army of smiling volunteers.

Significantly, beyond the memorable weekend, the

Loppet's KidSki programming is reaching a growing number of Minneapolis Public Schools students, many of whom are some of our city's most at-risk kids. Utilizing sponsor provided equipment and skilled athlete instructors, the program introduces the sport and healthy lifestyles associated with Nordic skiing. The organization depends upon the resources generated by the annual events to help attract and leverage corporate sponsors' financial support.

The Loppet's Luminary has become a glowing beacon of the organization's abilities to broaden the Loppet's popularity beyond the core of its most serious athletes. This past year's Luminary Loppet was estimated to attract some 10,000 participants who each in their own way experienced the magic of the candle-lit stroll around Lake of the Isles by ski, snowshoe or by foot.

While a popular success, Loppet organizers recognize that the event may be getting frozen out of reaching the full fund-raising potential that is critical to the organization's programming success. An estimated three of every five who experienced the Luminary actually registered and paid for it. A remaining 4,000 or so enjoyed the experience without registering or contributing. They likely unknowingly believe, as the skier walking up the steps with me on Sunday did, that the Luminary is a city-sponsored event., or that by "just walking it" that they are not a participant (unknowing that walking the groomed trails is actually the most harmful of all modes). At \$20 per participant, that translates to about \$80,000 that was left on the ice by

those who did not register or contribute. As you can imagine, that's a significant amount for a non-profit organization who works hard to generate resources critical to helping deliver the active and healthy lifestyle experience to at-risk students through the KidSki experience.

In just its fourth year of exponential growth, the learning continues. As a popular event I can see the Loppet organizers coming up with new ways to tap the power of our supportive civic community by building awareness and creating easier ways for the public to register and contribute. Our public will benefit from understanding their value in their support of the City of Lakes Nordic Ski Foundation. The Loppet is dependent upon us to continue to deliver the wonderful weekend of Loppet events, the year-round events, and so importantly the youth-focused health and fitness programming through its KidSki partnership with Minneapolis Public Schools.

Steve Kotvis, a Kenwood resident serves on a number of boards and committees relative to public education and offers a monthly perspective in the Hill & Lake Press "Minneapolis Minds" column. He has also served as a volunteer for the City of Lakes Foundation for the past eight years as the photography coordinator, creating the organization's TV and radio ads, and membership on the Sponsorship committees. He can be reached at stevek@elemenoP.us.

Meet Your Neighbor from page three

answer that question. These are the people who already understand how we're going to live in the future because it's their future. They understand the tools for change. But we really need to engage all stakeholders. Artists understand that. If you truly collaborate, the end result will take you way beyond your personal, top-down vision.

What is your vision for Minneapolis in 2050? We are recognized as the greenest, most pedestrian-friendly, most sustainable, four-season city in the country. Our boulevards, Nicollet Mall and Linear Park provide the downtown's green "bones." Our too-wide streets, too-long blocks are transformed into shared streets or "woonerfs" that teem with mixed-use, human scaled activity. They link us by walkways, bikeways and public

transport to Loring Park and the Walker on the South and the Mississippi River Park on the North, and connect us to the neighborhoods beyond. Our districts have clearly defined identities and attract diverse populations who live, work, eat, shop, and congregate there. These districts are further identified through signage, greening and public art, and are enriched by cultural anchors. Our cars are parked on the edges leaving the downtown district serviced by a free loop of public transport. Though never provincial, we're local in our production of food and sustainable industry and practices. We're known as leaders for these industries and practices and sell them to the global community.

Minneapolis Central Library Book Store Hosts Three-Week Clearance Sale

Support the Library and Stock up on Your Reading Materials

The Minneapolis Central Library Bookstore, operated by the Library Foundation of Hennepin County, will host a three-week Clearance Sale this spring. The store will be stocked with thousands of books in every genre. Held at the Minneapolis Central Library (300 Nicollet Mall), the sale will offer the following weekly specials:

March 17 - March 25: 50 % off used books

March 26 - April 1: \$.25 per book

April 2 - April 9: All books you can fit in a grocery bag for \$2

Hours: 11 AM - 2 PM (Mondays), 10 AM - 5 PM (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays), 10 AM - 7:00 PM (Thursdays), 10 AM - 4:30 PM (Saturdays).

Visit www.supportthclib.org or call 952-847-8102 for more information.

The Library Foundation of Hennepin County brings together the history of two great library support organizations: The Friends of the Minneapolis Public Library (founded in 1949) and the Library Foundation of Hennepin County (founded in 1986). The merged Foundation carries forward the name of the Library Foundation of Hennepin County and brings together 85 years of experience, 5,000 active library supporters, and positions the organization to better serve libraries throughout the community.

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FOR THE LOVE OF FACEBOOK

By Beth St. John Kehoe
(With the help of Rob Trepton via Skype)

I love Facebook. I love democracy. And what came to pass recently was that a love of Facebook plus a love of democracy equaled . . . a revolution!

For me, it all started at my 20th reunion which was held twenty-one years after I graduated from high school. You know why it was a year late? Because nobody was on Facebook. It took a while to track everybody down. The minuscule number of attendees decided we should be on Facebook, which would make planning our 25th reunion much easier. Shortly thereafter, the Class of 1987 membership on Facebook grew like a virus. Now, it kind of feels like some days are mini high school e-reunions. Actually, an interesting phenomenon is occurring. I am getting to better know people I didn't know well at all in high school.

Some people, with whom I was very close, turned out to have totally different beliefs and views from me, some are republicans, some are libertarians, some seem to be racist morons . . . and conversely some people that I didn't really give the time of day turned out to be pretty similar to me, or even more interesting, witty, or seemingly more intelligent than me and now I wonder "Geez, how come I didn't know them this well in high school?"

Why? Because there was no Facebook . . . no Twitter. . . no cellphones . . . no email . . . no Internet. Nothing. It's like I went to high school in the dark ages. We passed actual notes during class, like hand-written on actual paper. Can you imagine? People didn't know one another's random thoughts and trivial activities because instead of the yet to be invented Twitter, at that time, we would have had to have used telepathy to get inside each other's heads.

People make fun of Facebook. You know who most of them are? People who are not on Facebook.

Wael Ghonim is on Facebook. Or, more precisely, he was the anonymous figure behind the Facebook page that encouraged the revolution in Cairo. There were other prominent figures who vocally opposed President Mubarak for years — Opposition

Leader, ElBaradei; Badie of the Muslim Brotherhood, Ayman Nour or the Ghad Party who opposed Mubarak in 2005 and was later jailed; Amr Moussa who publicly opposed previous attacks on protesters in Tahrir Square, and then there's little 'ol Wael Ghonim who worked at Google by day and by night inspired Egyptians to stage a revolution.

Then at this part of the story, I got stumped . . . and then I answered the phone. On the other end of the line was Rob. Rob and I went to high school together, got reconnected via Facebook a few years ago, and now talk on the phone daily. He lives in Denver. We decide to get on Skype. Skype is awesome because it's as if you are sitting across from one another at a coffee shop having a little visit. I tell him I have no idea where I am going with this article. I have forgotten the point of it, and really don't know how to wrap it all up with the remaining 400 words. So I read it to him — ". . . and by night inspired . . . a revolution."

"Instigated?"

"No, I like the word inspired. . . I'm trying to bring it all back somehow to relate to the neighborhoods . . . I had an idea earlier today but I forgot what it was."

"Well, maybe you're trying to say that it's a good way to share ideas, and news, daily nuances . . . you know, stage an uprising." He laughs. He knows I'm a fan of uprisings.

"I like that word nuances."

Then we get off topic somehow and start talking about how I boycott the entire Fox channel because of my disdain of Glen Beck (which disturbingly disturbs him for some reason) and how I boycott Walmart which he understands. We talk about exes, and kids with plantar's warts, and "Oh, I rearranged my furniture, see?" which leads to a discussion of his sage green walls in the background, my affinity for the color butter-



Beth St. John

cream, my orange dining room. Rob would have never painted a dining room orange, by the way.

And then, during his recount of his recent legal battles, I decide to check to see if the neighborhoods all have websites now, if they're on Facebook.

"What are you doing?" He can tell I am clicking around on Google and only halfway listening. We get back on topic. My topic, of course.

Finally, we decide it's about a representative democracy vs. a pure democracy. Doesn't technology, now, enable us to have a complete democracy? If everyone were on Facebook, or these neighborhood websites, couldn't we have the capability to account for everyone's opinion and then make decisions based on what the majority of the residents actually wanted? Would we even need these neighborhood boards?

We agree, at least, that it is an interesting concept. I joke that we wouldn't even need a congress because we could just have a "tele-congress." They could all Skype and the government would save money on travel expenses.

I tell him that as far as I can tell in one minute on Google, all four neighborhoods have websites and Lowry Hill and Kenwood are on Facebook. And he says . . .

"Well, it seems they have the means to be pretty democratic but, are they using it?"

That, my friend Rob, is a very good question.

**HAUSER DANCE IN CONCERT
AT JEFFERSON SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**
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Thursday March 17, 6:00 pm

Friday March 18, 7:00 pm

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"These kids could be the next Soul Asylum"

Palio Music Competition winners from page one



THEM: Myranda Sloo, Christopher Eisland-Birch, and Lolo and Smack Young Walser.

Photo by Jennifer Labovitz



Diwata: sisters Isabella and Francesca Dawis

Photo by David Dawis

what do I like? [Smack obligingly fills in with "You like Lady Gaga, Pink."]

I: Because our backgrounds started out with classical music and we do a lot of musical theater, our interests run the whole spectrum, all kinds—except country.

L: I second that, no country.

S: I do like one country song—I'm Alright, that's a good one.

Do you have a favorite musical artist, song or composition?

S: The Beatles.

L: Eric Clapton.

I: Eva Cassidy, one of the most incredible voices of the last fifty years.

F: Regina Spektor, also an amazing voice. I like how she references classical music in her songwriting and piano parts.

How did you come together? What's behind all these unusual names?

S: We started out playing in the Kenwood Deli for the Winter Solstice a few years back. Myranda, who plays fiddle in our band, was with us. We were about to go on, and they wanted to know how to announce us. We didn't have a name, and on the spot, just said we're THEM, and it stuck. Smack was my great grandfather's nickname. He was a motorcycle stunt man for Harley Davidson. My real name is Eldon.

L: Mine is Lauritz, and our French friends started calling me Lolo.

I: The first time we played together was at Palio. We've performed individually a lot, starting with the Christmas Carol at the Guthrie, but in different years. Diwata represents our interests in growing beyond traditional genres of music. The Diwata were regarded in Filipino culture as goddesses who were called on for good health and fortune.

If you could meet any musical person, past or present, who would it be?

I: Mozart—I would want to know what was going on in his head.

F: Paganini—how did he compose such difficult pieces for the violin?

L: All of the Beatles.

S: Billie Joe Armstrong of Green Day.

What can people look forward to at the Bryant Lake Bowl show? What's the 2-second commercial?

I: Lots of young talent. It's an unusually broad range of music, walking the line between classical music, folk, rock, etc. We'll be playing covers and originals. There will be something for everyone.

L: Youthful energy—it won't be boring!

S: Smack is in the house! I'm working on an original. It may be ready by then.

What's been the most fun about this show until now?

S: The contract signing. That was cool.

L: Though we didn't sign the contract. Our mom had to, it was a legal thing.

F: Yes, Isabella signed for us. She's 18.

I: It's been fun to plan the music, marketing, all the things that go into putting on a show.

Today the Bryant Lake Bowl, what's the dream place to perform for you?

L: West End of London. We saw Billy Elliot there a few years ago, and that would be a cool place to perform.

S: A big music festival.

F: Sydney Opera House. The architecture, the reputation, it would be special.

I: I would like to sing opera outdoors at a festival in Europe, maybe in Italy or England.

What's the best/worst advice you've received about performing?

S: Don't show off so much on stage. [falls into "best advice", he insisted. Lolo shook his head, and said there's been no change on stage for his twin.]

I: Be prepared. Even when you want to improvise, practice improvising. The worst advice I've gotten is when I was told to not worry about the audience, not to think about them. I'm there to perform for the audience, it's about interacting with them, seeing their reactions, of course I have to think about their experience.

F: The best advice I've gotten was from Isabella, she told me to remember to enjoy myself. Performing is nothing without fun!

What would you like to be doing when you're all

grown up?

F: Perform in opera or maybe play the violin in an orchestra.

I: Classical singer, then a musical director for an opera company. There are new genres of music emerging with all the new technologies. I'm interested in where all that is heading—alternative chamber music, art pop.

S: Famous rock star.

L: I want a government job, but with the British government, and retire in England.

Isabella recently graduated from Southwest High School, and is headed for Columbia University this fall; Francesca is a sophomore at Southwest; Lolo, Smack and Myranda are sixth graders at Anthony Middle School, and Christopher is a fifth grader at Kenwood Elementary School.

SWLRT Public Input Requested

By Jeanette Colby

Two opportunities for input into the proposed Southwest LRT planning process are available to Hill & Lake neighbors through the end of February.

First, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's SWLRT Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is requesting thoughts and ideas about impacts to MPRB owned and managed land along the proposed LRT corridor. A survey is available at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SWLRT-CAC-Draft-Issues-and-Outcomes>

"The CAC is charged with developing recommendations related to the proposed corridor and its potential impacts on parkland," the MPRB explained in a press release. "In working along the corridor from north to south, the committee has identified potential issues and outcomes. These have been developed to inform the CAC's recommendations to the MPRB for a response to the pending draft environmental impact statement." First expected to be released in November, the DEIS now is not likely to become public before the end of March. The CAC posted a similar survey during the month of January and has extended the public survey response period to February 28, 2011 at noon.

Second, the Minneapolis Station Area Strategic Planning document is available for review and comment. The document covers each proposed station area, including Penn Avenue, 21st Street, and West Lake (behind Whole Foods). It includes helpful graphics and lays out some of the challenges and opportunities for each area along with recommendations for opening day operations of the proposed LRT. The report can be found under "The Latest..." on the front page of: www.southwesttransitway.org.

Comments should be sent to Adele Hall of Hennepin County (Adele.Hall@co.hennepin.mn.us) and Amanda Arnold of the City of Minneapolis (Amanda.Arnold@ci.minneapolis.mn.us) by Feb. 28. The website notes that "all comments will become part of the station area strategic planning documentation and will be included with submission of the document to Metro Transit and the City of Minneapolis."

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10th Ward e-News
from Council Member Meg Tuthill

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Thank you for helping this winter!
We would like to send a HUGE thank you to our neighbors who stepped up during our major winter storms and helped family, friends and neighbors.
Welcome Inspector Clark!
The 5th Precinct Commander, Inspector Eddie Frizell, is being deployed to Iraq with his National Guard unit. We wish him a safe and speedy deployment. Inspector Matt Clark comes to us from the 1st precinct. His goals for the 5th Precinct include ensuring prompt and professional police service, reducing crime by effec-

tively addressing community crime patterns, and increasing community engagement on public safety issues. When you see Inspector Clark please give him a warm 10th Ward welcome!
2011 property value notices are in the mail
2011 property value notices have been mailed to property owners throughout the city.
The property value listed on this statement is what will be used to determine your 2012 property taxes. To ensure that the City's assessments are fair and accurate, the Minnesota Department of Revenue uses an indus-

try standard tool called a "sales ratio study" to measure the accuracy and quality of the City's assessment level. Sales ratios are computed by dividing the assessor's
Ward 10 to page 14

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Luminary Loppet from page one

Peggy convinced the Foundation leadership group that an entry-level event, an event that was fun and non-competitive, would stimulate more interest in the sport from a much wider mix of the population. A candle-lit night ski on Lake of the Isles was an idea that was being floated around at that time by Brian Gryniowski, a Loppet volunteer. Peggy championed this idea as a good event for attracting this new target group of participants. While the leadership was hesitant to embrace such a "light" event, Peggy persisted and in the fall of 2005 the City of Lakes Loppet promotional brochure included an option to sign up for a new event – the Luminary Loppet. As the Loppet weekend came closer people started signing up for this whimsical event that was to be lighted by countless ice lanterns for a serene, non-competitive ski around Lake of the Isles.

Six weeks before the event, my wife came home and described a horror story. Hundreds of people had signed up for the Luminary Loppet and the resources they were depending on had totally fallen through. There was now no way to get the Luminary Loppet produced – the sky was falling, the world had stopped turning, and all hell was breaking loose and – "oh, by the way honey – do you think you can figure out, quickly, how to make, distribute and light countless millions of luminaries, I really need your help". After she explained what a luminary was I thought, "why not" and this is how the Luminary Loppet began, with a sponsoring organization selling tickets, a wife who was committed to make this thing work, and a husband/stuckee on the hook to deliver something impressive, whatever that may be.

What is the first thing you do when you don't know how to do something? You Google it!! With a little research, I discovered that making one luminary is pretty simple. You fill a container with water, let it freeze for a while, but not all the way through, put in a hole and drain out the water from the center and voila!, you have an ice lantern! Peggy and I started making luminaries in the back yard, testing sizes and methods and came up with an approach to making a luminary that seemed scalable to large numbers. Then the real work began. Making one or two luminaries is a "crafter" kind of thing. Making hundreds is a different story – you don't do that in your back yard, and you don't do it alone.

Creating a candle-lit environment on Lake of the Isles presented enormous challenges and the planning of countless details. I needed help, emotional, physical and intellectual. I got all three by recruiting my friend David Bryan, an East Isles resident. Together, David and I set out to address the seemingly endless details of designing this new environment. How large should the luminaries be, how far apart, how long is the actual trail, how many do we really need, how do we make that many, how do we light that many... the list went on and on. We calculated, guessed, and tried all kinds of things. We developed a plan.

We got Byerlys/Lunds to generously donate 600 plastic mayonnaise pails that we used for our luminary molds. We got tons of volunteers to help fill buckets and stack them on the lake for freezing. We got the Minneapolis Park Department to support us by supplying pumps and pump operators to get us thousands of gallons of lake water for making the luminaries. Peggy

found tons of volunteers who were crazy enough to come to the lake and fill buckets, then empty them again in the "harvest phase". We successfully made 600 luminaries that we put aside for distribution on the day of the event.

On February 5, 2005 we spaced out the course and had a team of snowmobiles deliver the luminaries to their designated spots by 10am, including a few hundred paper bag luminaries on the bridges over the lagoon. We imagined all kinds of ways to space the luminaries on the course so they would look orderly and attractive – the GPS method we tried first was a total bust, but we improvised. At 4pm we sent out our teams of volunteer candle lighters on to the course with matches and maps and a few spare candles. I personally did not see one candle get lit. I sent off the lighters and went to the start line to join Peggy in being first in line for the 6pm group start. I wanted to see what this would look like to skiers as they went down the mall and turned on to the lake. At 6pm the gate went up. Peg and I sped down the mall on to the lake, down the lagoon and we were blown away! The lagoon was overwhelmingly beautiful and, proceeding on, the lake was as impressive. I could barely take it in. As Peg and I skied along the course I was almost driven to tears by the emotions of relief, joy, and pride. We had delivered on something that seemed crazy and at times impossible and the result was so incredibly beautiful. I knew then that we had created something special. I'll never forget that first Luminary Loppet. It was simple (by today's standards) but it was beautiful. I'll also never forget the first comment I heard from a participant while I was skiing the course that night. I was skiing next to a few young women and I overheard one say to another "This is SOO beautiful, there must be THOUSANDS of these, how could anyone do this".

We just delivered our 6th Luminary Loppet. Each year we have come up with significant improvements in methods, equipment, or new features. In the third year of the event, 2008, David and I introduced the IceCropolis, that whole-bay assemblage of candle-lit pillars. It took us months of development on a Wisconsin lake to make those ice pillars work. David modeled the design with computer software so we could test dimensions and shapes for visual appeal (David is an architect and is quite skillful as a designer and the use of these modeling tools). When we planted



Hal Galvin

the cylindrical ice forming tubes (34 of them) in the ice on Lake of the Isles for the first time we weren't sure it would work. It was a great success and it has been a standard feature of the event for three years. Over the years the pyramid has gotten bigger and better. This year we introduced a new feature we called IceHenge, an octagonal ice-slab assembly by the lagoon to Cedar Lake.

The leadership of the Luminary Loppet has grown over the years, beyond just David and me. Our current leadership committee includes Kathy Loeffler, Jim Young, Charlie Henke and Erik Wardenaar. This group of committed volunteers adds to a unique amalgam of talents, creativity, energy, and commitment that keeps the Luminary Loppet alive.

For all the planning, inventing, modeling, and organizing we do to ensure a quality event, our effort pales when we consider the number of hours put in by all the countless other Luminary Loppet Volunteers. The Luminary Loppet is made by volunteers, without whom there would be no event. It takes hundreds of people putting in hours of work to make this possible, practically and financially. Most of our volunteers are people from the neighborhood who have come to help consistently year after year. We also have a number of volunteer groups that look forward to coming every year to their committed piece of creating the Luminary Loppet. The Mound Westonka Nordic Ski team always comes for bucket filling; the Washburn High Nordic team has adopted harvesting; the Hopkins High Nordic team shows for luminary distribution on the day of the event; the South High Nordic team was well represented in beverage serving during the event.

We appreciate all volunteers and we appreciate everything they do. Still, there are some who deserve special recognition for their sustained commitment to the Loppet. The Mittag/McNaught crew, for instance, have never missed a luminary making session. I could name many neighborhood families who are always there such as Marcia and Leif Carlson, Jane Scallon, Patty Houlihan, Bruce and Mary Wilson, Ann Longfellow, Connie Bailey and the Singers, (I know I missed many names here). Most of our volunteers come back year after year for their favorite work activities. Some like to fill, some harvest, some distribute, some clean-up. Our community is amazing in its willingness to turn out to help, even in extreme cold and for backbreaking work.

Every year I get worried that we will not have enough help, and every year our faithful volunteers show up and make this event possible. Not surprisingly, the more people who experience the event, the larger our volunteer base grows. People want to have a hand in creating this incredible experience on the lake – and that tells us that it is worth our trouble to do this too.

Loppet Quality Time



Entering Lake of the Isles, nearing the end of the REI Tour (10 kilometers), was this cheerful father/child team. More than 700 participants registered for this non-competitive event and the weather and skiing conditions were excellent.

Photo by Dorothy Childers

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Neighbors and Friends Gathered for the Annual ICE SKATING PARTY on JANUARY 23rd 2011



Not on the Nile.....

Collage and pyramid photo by Dorothy Childers



The Lost Christmas Camel.

It was cold and snowy during the week between Christmas and New Year's but I took a few walks around Lake of the Isles. On my way home, walking on 22nd Street between Girard and Fremont, I saw a charming stuffed camel in a little tree. I assumed someone found it on the sidewalk and tucked it into the branches to keep it from being buried in the daily-falling snow. Being a sucker for small animals, even stuffed ones, I thought it looked very sweet there but very lonely. I walked on, hoping that the owner—or owner's parents—would retrace their footsteps and reclaim it. The second day I passed by I was sad to see it still there and the third time the poor little critter had snow on its head. I couldn't stand it anymore, I scooped it up, took it home, gave it a bath and knew I had to find its owner.

Sentimentally yours,
Robin from Lowry Hill

If you lost the camel, please call Hill & Lake Press at 612-377-5785 and we will put you in touch with Robin.



These pyramids are located on the Isle.....at 21st Street and West Lake of the Isles Parkway. Kudos to the builders of these pink pyramids for their construction and originality, a pretty Winter sight.



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CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Monica Smith



BOARD MEETING MINUTES, February 9, 2011

The February Board meeting was held at the Jones-Harrison Residence. Board Members, Vice President Glenna Case, Ed Bell, Ed Ferlauto, Stephen Goltry, Gail Lee and David Shirley were present.

Vice President Glenna Case called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Ward 10 Council Member Tuthill's Report

Council Member Meg Tuthill shared copies of the 10th Ward News, 2010 Year in Review newsletter and City of Minneapolis 2011 Budget in Brief.

The City Assessor will be holding two public meetings to help residents learn more about property taxes:

Wednesday, February 23 4:30-7 p.m. at Pearl Park Neighborhood Center, 414 East Diamond Lake Road, Thursday, February 24, 4:30-7 p.m. at North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Avenue North.

Meg announced that the Minneapolis Police Department has a new Fifth Precinct Commander. Inspector Matt Clark replaced Inspector Eddie Frizell who was deployed to Iraq with his National Guard unit.

An ordinance was passed last year to allow Mobile Food Vendors to operate in downtown Minneapolis. There is interested in expanding to other neighborhoods.

Contact Meg's office to voice your opinion. Contact information: 612-673-2210 or Meg.tuthill@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. Meg is not taking the lead on this issue but will be working with other council members. Meg will be focusing her time on development and noise in the 10th Ward.

A question was asked about snow removal at busy pedestrian intersections. Meg recommends contacting her office if you see areas of particular concern and she will work to have it removed. You can also report if there are neighbors who are not shoveling sidewalks.

A board member asked about a telephone survey she received regarding the City of Minneapolis and its budget and priorities. The concern was that the call came from out-of-state. Meg will investigate why the City is not using a local service to conduct the survey.

Meet with Meg is held the second Tuesday of every month at the Fifth Precinct's Community Room, 3101 Nicollet Ave S from 12-1 p.m. Meet with Meg is a time for you to ask questions and voice concerns. Bring your own lunch. Cookies and beverages are provided.

2011 CIDNA Neighborhood Policing Plan

Guests: Inspector Matt Clark, Commander Fifth Precinct; Sergeant Gary Manty; and Crime Prevention Specialist Chelsea Adams

Inspector Matt Clark, the new Commander at the Fifth Precinct was introduced to the neighborhood. Inspector Clark announced that the Fifth Precinct is #1 in the city for the quickest response time for 911 calls. Crime continues to drop in our precinct.

The Fifth Precinct will be replacing the poorly attended monthly Lakes Area Crime and Safety Committee meetings with quarterly meetings focusing on specific topics. Residents are invited to attend two upcoming workshops:

Identity Theft/Mail Fraud Prevention Presentation Wednesday, March 2, 6 p.m. at Temple Israel, 2324

Emerson Ave S., Minda Hall Topics will include mail fraud, identity theft, identifying scams, and how to prevent becoming a victim of these crimes.

Burglary Prevention Workshop Wednesday, March 23, 6 p.m., also at Temple Israel

Chelsea Adams, Crime Prevention Specialist announced that she is working on a new Fifth Precinct quarterly newsletter. The first issue will come out in early March. Chelsea asked the CIDNA Board for help in share the information with residents.

The Board raised concerns about speeding (particularly on Sunset), people ignoring stop signs (Sunset/Drew and Cedar Lake Parkway/Dean Parkway) and noise on Lake Street (loud cars/motorcycles). Chelsea Adams will request to have a temporary speed wagon placed on Sunset and increased patrol to monitor the stop signs and noise.

Chelsea presented the 2011 Neighborhood Policing Plan for the Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood. The strategies are: 1) reducing residential burglary 2) reducing theft from motor vehicles. Chelsea recommends community engagement through communication such as the Fifth Precinct newsletter and participation in the Lakes Area Crime and Safety Committee meetings/workshops.

Chelsea offered the following advise if you see someone you think may be intending to break into a home or a vehicle: call 911 and describe the behavior as "lurking" or "casing". Do not approach the person. If appropriate, Chelsea recommends looking at the individual without making eye contact so they are aware that you are watching them.

CIDNA Board meeting minutes

The minutes from the January 2011 CIDNA Board Meeting were electronically approved last month to meet the publication date of the January 21st issue of the Hill and Lake Press.

Treasurer's Report

Ed Bell, Treasurer, reported that CIDNA's bank balance was \$12,591.19 as of January 18. Ed will be depositing a NRP reimbursement check of \$9,942.93.

The Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report.

Donation to Jones-Harrison

The CIDNA Board unanimously approved a motion made by Gail Lee to donate \$500 (Board funds) to Jones-Harrison Residence. Gail will present the check to Jones-Harrison.

Southwest Light Rail Transit

Ed Ferlauto attended the Station Area Planning Meeting on February 3rd and had the following summary:

Amanda Hall's recommendation to City Staff regarding the comprehensive land use plan will be postponed until after the DEIS is published (April).

Activity has been with the pre-Project Engineering risk assessment which includes about 30% of the details that will appear in the final Project Engineering risk assessment and includes all public input prior to final design considerations.

There was a suggestion that the results of the Charrette be forwarded as part of the comments for the

Station Area Planning due February 28th.

Comments that are forwarded regarding Station Area Planning should reference the page number to clarify what area of the Station Area Document is being addressed.

A suggestion of note by the West Calhoun representative as part of the comments to be forwarded for the Station Planning Document is to rename the Lake Street Station to West Calhoun Station.

Public comments regarding Station Area Planning are due on February 28th. Ed Ferlauto reviewed a list of concerns and requested that the CIDNA Board submit a response on behalf of the organization. Individuals are encouraged to submit comments as well. Ed will prepare a letter for the Board's review. Due to timing, the letter will need to be approved electronically. Ed will send a draft of the letter to Monica to be forwarded to all Board Members requesting a response of support or no-support. Ed will review any comments or revisions that Board Members may offer. If necessary, a revised letter will be sent out for a vote. Six votes of support are needed to approve the letter. If approved, the letter will be sent to Hennepin County by February 28th by Art Higinbotham (or Glenna Case in his absence).

NRP Committee Report

Gail Lee and Ed Bell reported on the following activities of the NRP Committee:

CIDNA's Phase II plan was approved by the NRP Policy Board in January and is scheduled for City Council approval on February 25. The plan is expected to be approved with 100% allocation of the funds but with spending restricted to 50%.

The NRP Committee continues to work on the application for the NCR funding. The application will be brought to the CIDNA Board for review/approval at the March meeting. A draft of the application will be sent to Board Members prior to the meeting. This funding is available for 2011 for the purposes of community engagement and administration of the neighborhood organization (not project-based initiatives).

Neighborhood organizations are considering suing the City of Minneapolis over the freezing of the NRP funds. NRP funds cannot be used for this purpose. At this time, CIDNA is not considering taking such action.

Community Energy Workshop (CES). CIDNA is bringing CES to the neighborhood. CES is a program offered by a local non-profit with the goal of reducing home energy use. The program starts with a workshop to teach low-cost/no-cost ways for homeowners to reduce energy and save money. By attending the workshop, homeowners can schedule a customized home energy visit for a co-pay of \$30 (reimbursed to CID residents from NRP funds). Two energy experts will perform energy tests in your home (including a blower door test) and install energy saving material (such as CFLs, programmable thermostat) for no additional cost. The workshop date has been set for CIDNA: Tuesday, April 12th, 6:30 p.m. at Jones-Harrison. CIDNA residents may attend a workshop in another neighborhood if that date isn't convenient. Eligible households include 1-4 unit owner-occupied homes.

Up to \$5,000 in grant money is available to the top 10 neighborhoods with the highest CES participation rates. The grant money can be used as the neighborhood chooses without restrictions. Board Members are asked to help promote the program to neighbors.

Announcements

David Shirley announced that the Earth Day clean up is Saturday, April 16th, 9:30 a.m. – noon at 24th and Cedar Lake Parkway. The NRP Committee will assist in communicating the event to the neighborhood.

The first version of the monthly CIDNA e-newsletter was sent to the distribution list on Tuesday, February 8th. Please send feedback or suggestion for articles to Monica Smith at info@cidna.org or 612-821-0131.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The next meeting of the CIDNA Board will be Wednesday, March 9, 6:30 p.m. at Jones-Harrison.

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EAST ISLES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (EIRA)

Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder, and Tina Frontera, Secretary

Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors Meeting February 1, 2011

Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Jane Schommer (President), Al Rodriguez (Treasurer), Tina Frontera (Secretary), Rosita Acosta, Ginna Portman Amis, Sue Durfee, Harvey Ettinger, and Rose Matthys.

East Isles residents and invited guests were also in attendance.

EIRA President Jane Schommer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Announcements

Jane Schommer announced that EIRA Board elections are on the horizon and we are seeking new Board members. If you are interested in serving on the Board or know someone who may be interested, please contact Jane at president@eastisles.org [by February 28, 2011].

EIRA received a check for \$1,352 from the October Wine Tasting Fundraiser. This check was for EIRA's share of tickets sold at the door.

Flooding in East Isles

Guest speakers: Lisa Cerney, Director of Surface Water & Sewers, City of Minneapolis and Kelly Moriarity, Principle Professional Engineer, City of Minneapolis

Lisa Cerney and Kelly Moriarity were invited to the meeting to discuss flooding concerns within the neighborhood. Lisa and Kelly work to manage the storm water systems within the city. Minneapolis has 508 miles of pipe and 30 miles of deep tunnels. Minneapolis experienced a large rain event in 1997 that caused flooding throughout the city. A comprehensive 1997 Flood Report was conducted. The report contained a list of area that need attention. The list changes as project get added and others are removed when repairs are completed. There are currently 65 locations on the list. Three locations in East Isles are on the list:

22nd Street and Emerson was added in 2000

Humboldt and the Greenway was added in 2004

Alley behind Hennepin at 25 1/2 Street was added in 2010

In 2010, there were two rain events that caused substantial flooding in East Isles. On June 25, two and one-half inches of rain fell within a two-hour period. On August 10, three inches of rain fell within two hours. When such large amount of rain falls within a short period of time, the system can't handle the water and causes flooding.

Concerned residents in attendance provide reports and photographs of damage to homes and vehicles. They also reported flooding problems at The Bridge's new building with water coming in the main level and

flooding the lower level.

The city has done a preliminary analysis on the areas in East Isles.

Alley behind Hennepin at 25 1/2 Street: work to reduce the flow to 25 1/2 Street by directing the water to the drains on Hennepin. Also, work with homeowners to reduce run off.

22nd and Emerson: The pipes at the location were installed in 1915 and 1938. The city is looking at replacing these with larger pipes. Preliminary cost estimates are between \$2-4 million. More detailed analysis is needed.

Humboldt and the Greenway: the 15" pipe dates to 1935 and drains from Humboldt to the Mall. If the Mall pipe is sufficient, they could replace the pipe along Humboldt for \$400,000-700,000.

Minneapolis has a city-wide Flood Mitigation Capital Program. The process involves prioritizing and ranking needed improvements, identifying funding sources, and implementing improvements based on each project's ranking. Project will be reviewed by the Capital Long-Range Improvements Committee (CLIC). CLIC consists of residents (appointed by the Mayor and each Council Member) who make recommendations to the City Council and Mayor on capital improvement projects.

Next steps: Continue to report flooding problems including date, time, and water levels. Photos are also extremely helpful. The city needs this information to track the problem and to identify the proper solution. Report problems sending an email to: Minneapolis311@ci.minneapolis.mn.us and please copy Council Member Meg Tuthill (Meg.Tuthill@ci.minneapolis.mn.us). Meg's office is keeping records of all the flooding and has been very proactive in working with city staff on solutions. Lisa and Kelly will be in communication with the neighborhood on issue. There are no improvements slated for East Isles in 2011. The earliest possibility may be 2012.

Nonconforming Use Certificate

Carla Rohwedder requested support from the EIRA Board regarding her home at 1521 27th Street West. Carla purchased the 4-unit home in 1969. Carla has lived in the home and rented the three apartments upstairs during the past 40+ years. Inspectors have been to her home over the many years. Minor problems have been identified and promptly corrected. In November 2010, an inspector visited and did not indicate any concerns. One week later (on December 1st) the tenants all received eviction letters stating that they needed to vacate the property within 30 days. The building is (and always was) zoned as R2 (meaning it can not have more than two units). Carla is out of compliance even though

the property was four units when she purchased the home. She is requesting a Nonconforming Use Certificate from the city to continue to operate as she has in the past. Another option would be to ask for a zoning change from R2 to R3 (to accommodate the four-units). Carla has hired a lawyer to help her evaluate the options. The EIRA Board unanimously voted to support Carla in her effort to obtain either the Nonconforming Use Certificate or the zoning change. Meg Tuthill will support Carla with her request.

Lake of the Isles Renovation Project Report

Harvey Ettinger provided this report. In the mid-1990's Lake of the Isles experienced severe flooding. The superintendent of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board initiated an improvement plan that included shoreline stabilization, replacing walking and biking paths, and replacing dead and dying trees. A Citizen Advisory Council was formed to review the process. A master plan was put in place and the renovation began in 2001. In 2009 the project was considered completed. Concerned residents from the four neighborhoods that border the lake formed a joint committee to review the entire project and identified a number of areas of concern (including turf problems, height of shoreline planting, poor maintenance of shrub bed, and inconsistent styles of lighting poles around the lake). These concerns along with committee recommendations are outlined in a 12-page report. The Board voted (unanimously) to support the joint committee report. The report will be submitted to the new superintendent next month. Meg Tuthill encouraged Harvey to share the report with Lowry Hill East and ask for their support as well.

Zoning Change Request

Chuck Hanson, owner of property at 2653-55 Hennepin Avenue (in Lowry Hill East) since 1987, is requesting support for a zoning change at this property. The current tenants include PC Doodle and Uptown Tailor & Cleaners. Uptown Tailor & Cleaners will be exiting their lease as of February 28, 2011. Chuck has interest from a new tenant, an independent tobacco

EIRA to page 12

Join your neighbors for these East Isles events!

EIRA Board of Directors Meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 7:00 P.M.

Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th Street

Hear about events and issues in our neighborhood.

For more information, please contact EIRA President,

Jane Schommer at president@eastisles.org.

Identity Theft/Mail Fraud Prevention

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 6:00 P.M.

Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Ave S., Minda Hall

Protect yourself against this growing crime.

RVSP not required. Hosted by Chelsea Adams, Crime Prevention Specialist, Minneapolis Police Department, 5th Precinct. chelsea.adams@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Home Energy Workshop

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 6:30 P.M.

Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th Street

Learn how to reduce your home energy use and save money at a free Community Energy Services (CES) workshop for East Isles residents. By attending the workshop, you are eligible to receive a customized home energy visit for a co-pay of \$30 (up to \$400 value)!

To RSVP, contact Ashley Robertson at 612-335-5869.

More information about these events can be found at: www.eastisles.org

WANTED: East Isles residents interested in joining the EIRA Board. If you would like to participate and learn more about your neighborhood, contact EIRA President Jane Schommer at president@eastisles.org or 612-804-1197.

Zoning and Land Use Committee

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 5:30 P.M.

Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th Street

Contact Jane Schommer at president@eastisles.org

for more information.

East Isles NRP Steering Committee

TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 7:00 P.M.

Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th Street

All are welcome to attend and share ideas for funding.

Contact Monica Smith at nrp@eastisles.org for details.

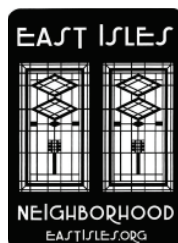
Burglary Prevention Workshop

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 6:00 P.M.

Temple Israel, 2324 Emerson Ave S., Minda Hall

Learn about recommendations for landscaping, lighting, and how to secure your home.

RVSP not required. Hosted by Chelsea Adams, Crime Prevention Specialist, Minneapolis Police Department, 5th Precinct. chelsea.adams@ci.minneapolis.mn.us



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EIRA continued from page 11

store. The building is currently zoned C1, a tobacco store would require a zoning change to C2. Chuck will be attending the board meeting of Lowry Hill East next week. The EIRA Board declined to vote on the zoning change in deference to the decision by the board of Lowry Hill East (LHENA). Chuck was invited to return to the EIRA Board after meeting with LHENA.

Meg Tuthill, Ward 10 Councilmember, City of Minneapolis

Meg thanked residents who attended tonight's meeting regarding flooding concerns.

Minneapolis Police 5th precinct has a new commander. Inspector Matt Clark has replaced Inspector Eddie Frizell who is leaving for a tour of duty in Iraq.

The City Council is considering allowing mobile food vendors to expand to other parts of the city (beyond just downtown). Please let Meg know your opinion. Meg is not taking the lead on this issue because she is focusing on traffic and noise.

The City of Lake Loppet is Feb 5-6. Meg encouraged residents to enjoy the event, including the Luminary Loppet on Saturday evening.

The next Meet with Meg is Tuesday, February 8th from noon-1 p.m. at the 5th Precinct.

The city has 13 vacant lots available to rent for community gardens. Contact Homegrown Minneapolis at 612-673-2597.

NRP report, Monica Smith, East Isles NRP Coordinator

Monica provided the following information:

The date for the Community Energy Services workshop has been set: Thursday, March 10th at Grace-Trinity Community Church. Monica passed out fliers and asked all Board Members to commit to speak with two or three neighbors about the program. Information

about the program was published in the January issue of the Hill and Lake Press and is on the website (www.east-isles.org). The McKnight Foundation is offering grants to the top 10 neighborhoods with the highest participation rate of eligible households. The prizes range from \$2,500 for 10th place to \$5,000 for the 1st place. We need the Board's help in promoting the program.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation is looking for locations for the 2011 Earth Day Clean Up on Saturday, April 16th. The Board is in support of having a location in East Isles. We will need a volunteer to be the site coordinator.

Monica worked with the web master to make a number of updates to our website. Please contact Monica if you have suggestions or edits to the site and she will coordinate with the web master.

The NRP Steering Committee has two people interested in joining the group. According to our Participation Agreement with NRP, the EIRA Board is required to vote on the approval of new members. The Board unanimously approved the addition of residents Dan McLaughlin and Nate Maschke to the NRP Steering Committee. Monica mentioned that the minutes from the NRP Steering Committee meetings are posted on the new NRP page of our website.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee is Tuesday, February 8th, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church.

The Steering Committee's goal is to present a draft of our Phase II plan to the EIRA Board at the March meeting. We have been advised to plan for the full allocation of funds pending a decision on the City Council's recent action to restrict funding to 50%.

NRP Policy Board is exploring a lawsuit against the city of Minneapolis. The lawsuit would need to be initiated by the neighborhoods and NRP funds cannot be used for this purpose. A meeting is being held tonight to gauge interest.

EIRA will receive about \$20,000 in 2011 from the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) department to fund community engagement, administration and staff. An application with Board approval needs to be submitted to be eligible for the funding. The agenda was too full to review the application at tonight's meeting. A draft of the application will be sent to Board Members for review prior to the March meeting. The March meeting will include time for discussion and a vote on the application. Interested residents can ask to be included in the process.

Bylaws Committee

Tina Frontera reported that the Bylaws Committee has met several times. They are in the process of updating the bylaws to comply with the new NCR guidelines for funding through the City of Minneapolis relating to membership and dues as well as other operational concerns. Tina emailed the proposed edits to EIRA Board member a few days ago.

Main edits under review are:

Article II, Membership: To eliminate dues requirements and replacing with a way to track members without dues. Members must still be residents. Additionally, the committee debated changing the current one vote per household to one vote per person. The language was left "as is" for further Board consideration.

Article V, Board of Directors: The allowance of electronic voting of minutes and a policy for other voting electronically if needed.

Article VI, Committees: Tina reported that the group debated whether non-residents should be allowed to serve on committees. The language was left "as is" with the additional provision that the NRP Steering Committee allows non-resident business owners to serve on that committee.

Article VII, Compensation Reimbursement, updated to allow for paying contractors.

Article IV, Officers: Change regarding timing of electing officers.

Due to a full meeting agenda, the Board did not feel they had adequate time to discuss the edits to bylaws. The committee would like the Members to approve the changes to the bylaws at the April meeting. The Board needs to vote on the recommended changes and allow

Kenwood Isles Area Association (KIAA)

February 2011 KIAA Meeting Minutes KIAA Board met February 7, 2011 at Kenwood Rec Center.

Chair Sam Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Chair Sam Murphy, Michael Bono, Terry Campbell, Jeanette Colby, Amy Lucas, Kathy Low, Larry Moran, Ed Pluimer, Pat Scott, Eric Sjoding, Kathy Williams and Roy Williams.

Others present: Lisa Goodman, City Council 7th Ward; Dylan Thomas, Southwest Journal; Dan Pfarr, The Bridge for Youth; and Kenwood residents: Whitney Tope, Dawn Tope, Matthew Allen.

City Council 7th Ward Update – Lisa Goodman

The next "Lunch with Lisa" at the University of St. Thomas will take place on February 23 and will feature the City's internal audit process.

The City Assessor will hold meetings on Feb 23 (Pearl Park) and Feb 24 (N. Regional Library) to discuss the property assessment process. Property evaluations have been mailed.

City's 2011 "Budget in Brief" was distributed. For more info visit: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/results-oriented-minneapolis.

Update on The Bridge for Youth – Dan Pfarr, Director

Pfarr was previously at Bolder Options and has been Executive Director of The Bridge for 3 months. The Bridge for Youth is located at 1111 West 22nd Street and Dan can be reached at d.pfarr@bridgeforyouth.org.

The Bridge for Youth gives emergency shelter to teens ages 13-19 and the average stay is 3 days. Longer term, transitional housing with a capacity for 18 beds is also available. Half of the kids arriving at the shelter have health care needs, but few have medical insurance.

The Bridge works to get kids off the streets and into educational opportunities and career training. Budget needs include medical costs and housing resources as well as general operating costs.

Annual Meeting Expense – Kathy Low

Kathy Low has reserved the Kenwood Café (previously Kenwood Deli) for the Annual Meeting on May 2. KIAA approved the \$300 reservation fee for the event.

Lake of the Isles Citizens Committee – Pat Scott, Kathy Low

The committee is completing its report on the restora-

KIAA to page 13

time to notify members of the recommended changes prior to the April vote. A special meeting of the EIRA Board of Directors has been called for Monday, February 7, 5:30 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church. The Board will need a quorum to hold a vote at this meeting.

Electronic voting of meeting minutes

The Board unanimously voted to approve electronic voting for this evening's meeting minutes to meet the publication deadline of the Hill and Lake Press.

Crime and Safety Committee Report

Al Rodriguez reported that the Minneapolis Police will be holding a burglary prevention workshop on Wednesday, March 23rd, 6-8:30 p.m. at Temple Israel (Minda Hall).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Addendum

A special meeting of the EIRA Board of Directors was held Monday, February 7th at 5:30 p.m. at Duplex Restaurant (Grace's meeting rooms were unavailable). Nine members of the EIRA Board were present as well as members of the bylaws committee. The purpose of the meeting was to continue the discussion from the February 1st Board meeting regarding recommended changes to the bylaws. The Board voted unanimously to approve the recommended bylaws changes. Next step: the recommended bylaws changes will be presented at the Annual Member Meeting in April for approved by EIRA members



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tion around the lake. Other neighborhood organizations around the lake have been involved. Pat Scott and Kathy Low are KIAA's representatives.

Issues identified include turf renovation, shoreline planting trimming and lighting.

The committee hopes to meet soon with the new Park Board Superintendent and will return to KIAA with a progress report.

NRP and new neighborhood funding initiatives – Pat Scott

In Dec. 2010 Minneapolis City Council froze uncontracted Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Phase 2 funds. The decision is in legal review; some contend the MN legislation creating NRP funds prevents City Council/Mayor from seizing the funds.

Pat Scott has attended meetings on the issue; is monitoring the process and will report back.

A Board subgroup will report back in March regarding potential KIAA priorities for City-controlled Citizen Participation Program funds available to KIAA in 2011. Pat Scott will coordinate.

SW LRT Joint Neighborhood Resolution – Jeanette Colby

KIAA approved the Joint Neighborhood Resolution which was circulated in advance of the Board meeting. Contact Jeanette Colby at jmcolby@earthlink.net for more info and a copy of the resolution.

CIDNA and West Calhoun neighborhoods have adopted the resolution.

SW LRT Station Area Planning

The SW LRT Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will be released in April.

Designs for the Penn Ave. and 21st Stations were issued in January and public comments are due Feb. 28.

KIAA will submit comments on the station area report by the Feb. 28 deadline; after circulating drafts via email. Eric Sjoding will coordinate the drafting process.

Communication Committee – Kathy Williams

KIAA is investigating ways to efficiently update the website.

KIAA approved \$60 for newsletter layout.

Updates

Amy Lucas announced that Earth Day will be Saturday, April 16 from 9:30-12. Garbage bags can be picked up at the Kenwood Rec Center during those hours. Contact Amy Lucas at amylucas@gmail.com for more info and to register volunteers.

The Park Board will hold a meeting on Thursday Feb. 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Rec Ctr to discuss landscaping plans for the new sidewalk installed at the north side of Franklin at Kenwood Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Reminder: The next KIAA Board meeting will be Monday, March 7 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Rec Center. The public is welcome to attend these monthly meetings.

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA)

By Janis Clay

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Minutes, Tuesday, February 1, 2011

Kenwood Recreation Center

Attendees: Janet Hallaway, President; Dan Aronson, Treasurer; Janis Clay, Secretary; Jimmy Fogel; Maggie Thurer; Melissa Omafray Townley; Marty Broan; David Schelzel; Mark Brauer

Guests: Lisa Goodman, Seventh Ward City Council Representative; Barbara Fogel; Dan Pfarr, Executive Director, Bridge for Youth

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

Distribution/Approval of Minutes/Agenda: Marty Broan moved and Jimmy Fogel seconded a motion to approve the agenda and the minutes of the Tuesday, January 4, 2011, Board Meeting. Motion passed.

Introductions and Community Announcements: Board members and guests introduced themselves.

Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman

Lisa invited everyone to attend her monthly Lunch with Lisa on February 23rd. She took questions on potholes and snow issues. She discussed the city budget, and distributed a handout, "City of Minneapolis 2011 Budget in Brief."

Bridge for Youth

Dan Pfarr, Executive Director of the Bridge for Youth, gave a presentation on the Bridge for Youth, located at 1111 West 22nd Street. The Bridge provides much needed services for youth and their families, including crisis services, such as a 24 hour hotline, walk in counseling, and emergency shelter, as well as ongoing counseling and support. The Bridge fills an important niche and donations are welcome and much needed.

Treasurer's Report

Dan Aronson gave the Treasurer's Report. LHNA is in good shape financially. Bills are paid and money is in the bank.

Committee Reports

Environment: A meeting is set for February 24th at 6:30 p.m. regarding Kenwood Park walkway landscaping. Marty Broan is cautiously optimistic that representatives of neighborhoods surrounding Lake of the Isles are close to approving a final report on the Lake of the Isles renovation project. Recommendations for sites for the bike rack program will be finalized when the snow is gone.

Communications/Events: The Lake of the Isles skating social was a good event this year. The Board discussed possibilities for a neighborhood social event in the spring. Everyone is encouraged to visit the LHNA website at www.lowryhillneighborhood.org, where they can sign up to receive LHNA's monthly E-Blast about events in the neighborhood.

Zoning & Planning: The installation of Kenwood School student art in the Burch Pharmacy windows looks great. Many thanks to Lowry Hill resident Tracy Hudson for her outstanding work on the display.

Crime & Safety: Maggie Thurer gave an update on crime and safety.

New Business: The Board discussed members who will be finishing their terms on the board this spring and those interested in joining. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2011, at the Walker Art Center. The Board discussed possible ideas for a speaker.

LHNA's next board meeting will be held Tuesday March 1, 2011, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Kenwood Rec Center. All residents are welcome. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

The Kenwood Cafe
Assemblages by Sara Pierce with poetry by Tim Nolan and poetry works by Alicia Vallier through March 6, at Kenwood Cafe.

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The very first weekend after our house was put on the market, Kevinn held an open house and continued to do so the next weekend. The house sold in 16 days! Kevinn and Jim are one of a kind: driven, organized, responsible, and most of all, their ideas are beyond anything I have ever seen out there!!! ”

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Where We Are Now

By Jean Deatruck

The Good News! Beth St. John (formerly Beth Kehoe) is again writing for Hill & Lake Press. Readers fondly remember her entertaining columns and we welcome her back. She and her four children live in Minneapolis.

The Bad News! I had a computer meltdown last week for several days. I couldn't open Outlook and lost most of my files for the February issue. Fortunately my long suffering computer literate husband got my computer back in usable condition and restored most of my files. As Beth wrote in her column, our lives have changed as we depend on and live for computers, email, facebook, twitter, and cell phones. And without them, we are desperate!

More bad news! My mother who will turn 91 in a month, had a stroke in January. She is also sinking into dementia. Our closely knit family has tried to comfort her as we learn how about aging and its sorrows. She has stabilized, but it is truly shocking to observe such deterioration of language skills and memory.

More Good News! We have a new baby in our family. Gregory Patrick Schultz was born January 13 to my daughter Heather and her husband Greg in a natural home birth with midwives, children ages 3 and 7, and Nana observing. Heather is a valiant member of ICAN. It wouldn't have been my choice, but all was well and everyone was amazed but happy.



Baby Gregory Patrick and Grandfather John

Photo by Katie Trimble



Hill & Lake Press
 2101 West Franklin, Minneapolis,
 MN 55405
 612-374-3099
www.hillandlakepress.com

Volume 35 Number 2
 February 18, 2011

Next issue:
 March 18, 2011
 Reservation deadline
 March 7, 2011

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Hill & Lake Press is a non profit news-

paper and funded and supported by its advertisers and neighborhood associations: East Isles Residents Association (EIRA); Kenwood Isles Area Association (KIAA); Cedar Isles Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA); and Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA).

Hill & Lake Press welcomes stories, poetry, articles, photos, and ideas. Please direct contributions and advertising queries to Jean Deatruck at 612-377-5785

Since March 1976, The Hill & Lake Press has served the community as a non-profit newspaper staffed by volunteers. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Hill & Lake Press.

We appreciate your patience when calling or emailing. Although we do not keep traditional office hours, we will return your calls and messages as soon as possible.

Ward Ten from page seven

market value by the sale price of each individual property. Individual ratios are then analyzed according to property type and municipality to measure the level of assessment. The acceptable level of assessment in Minnesota is to have a sales ratio between 90 percent and 105 percent and Minneapolis consistently meets this requirement.

If you disagree with the estimate of value on your property, there are several options available to appeal the assessment. First, call the phone number labeled "Valuation Questions" on your statement to discuss your concerns with a deputy assessor responsible for valuing your property. Explain why you believe your property value is less than what is indicated on the statement. The deputy assessor can explain how the property value and classification were determined. If you have homestead questions about your property call the phone number labeled "Homestead Questions" on your statement. If you want to appeal your property valuation to the City of Minneapolis Board of Appeal and Equalization, call (612) 673-3358 for an appointment. April 30th is the deadline to submit appeals to the Minnesota Tax Court.

For more information, please visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/assessor/appeal-process.asp.

Potential Mobile Food Cart Expansion

Last year the City of Minneapolis passed an ordinance allowing Mobile Food Vendors in the Downtown Improvement District in Minneapolis. The Mobile Food Vending ordinance is now being reconsidered for revisions. There is the opportunity to discuss expanding Mobile Food Units outside of downtown. During last year's discussion some residents and small businesses indicated they would be interested in having Mobile Food Units in the 10th ward; especially in the Uptown area. We are interested in your feedback on this issue.

A few things to consider are: Where will the Mobile Food Vendors be allowed to operate? Sidewalks in downtown are generally wide enough to accommodate the Mobile Food Units but sidewalks outside of downtown usually are not. This means Mobile Food Vendors outside of downtown would need to be located on the street and/or in commercial parking lots. Should they be allowed at parking meters? Should there be a limit on the number of vendors per block? What hours should they be allowed to operate? Should they be limited to specific streets?

Please go to the city's webpage at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us. In the search box at the top of the page, search for Municode. Once in Municode, please search for 188.485: Mobile Food Vehicle Vendors for the full ordinance.

Meg will review all of the comments received and

decide if there is enough interest to pursue expanding Mobile Food Vendors into the 10th ward. Please send us your thoughts, concerns, questions and ideas. Send them to Leslie at: Leslie.foreman@ci.minneapolis.mn.us

Community Energy Services soon available in all of Ward 10! Community Energy Services (CES), a residential energy program, has served over 2,800 Minneapolis households and is helping homeowners save energy and money in their homes. With several upcoming workshops scheduled in the area, Ward 10 homeowners have many opportunities to get involved. Ward 10 is the only ward to have 100% involvement by the NRP neighborhood organizations.

CES provides homeowners with free educational workshops where they can schedule a customized home energy visit. The visit includes a blower door test which measures air leaks as well as the installation of money saving materials. These materials may include compact fluorescent light bulbs, low-flow showerheads, faucet aerators, pipe wrap, a programmable thermostat and more. \$400 worth of services and materials for a co-pay of only \$30! Homeowners are also provided with home energy tracking, information on financing and access to specialized rebates available only to program participants.

Upcoming workshops are being held on:

Thursday, March 10th, 6:30 p.m.

Grace-Trinity Community Church (1430 28th St. W)

Saturday, March 12th, 10 a.m.

Bryant Square Park (3101 Bryant Ave. S)

To reserve your spot at one of these workshops or for more workshop dates, contact Ashley Robertson at (612)335-5869 or arobertson@mncee.org. For more information, please visit <http://www.mnenergychallenge.org/Community-Energy-Services.aspx>.

Community Energy Services is a partnership between the Center for Energy and Environment, City of Minneapolis, CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy with funding provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund and the City of Minneapolis Block Grant Funding.

We want to hear from you! We are looking for your input on who you would like to see/hear from at Meet with Meg for Lunch. We would like to start inviting local and city officials to Meet with Meg in the new year and we need your help! If you have any ideas of whom you would like to hear from or of a topic that is of interest to you, please email 10th ward associate Breanna Patsch at breanna.patsch@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

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Well, it is. Yes, right here in Minneapolis.

How can that be? Well, you just have to see for yourself—at the YWCA pool. In minutes you could be basking in the reliable warmth of Florida, no airplane required.

For those of you that are new to exercising in a pool, a good place to start is the Saturday morning Aquablast! class. (Yes, the exclamation point is part of the name.)

Never taken a water aerobics class? You're missing out. It's the most fun you can have in a pool without swim goggles.

Do you know where the YWCA is on Lagoon and Hennepin? Good, just come with me. Here's a guest pass. Follow me down to the locker rooms. You'll find the entrance to the pool conveniently located by the showers. Once we're in our suits and showered off, I'll take you to meet Margaret, the Queen of water aerobics.

See? There she is—that fireball of energy with the booming voice bouncing around the pool. We love Margaret because she shares our pain. She gets in the water and does the whole workout right along with us. None of this standing by the side of the pool stuff.

She'll start us off with a warm-up followed by an aerobic workout. What's that? You've never heard of hackey-sack legs, forward and back? Don't worry, no one can see what you're doing underwater anyway. Just smile and nod at Margaret, keep moving and try not to

By Madeleine Lowry



Madeleine Lowry

mow anyone down.

Here, let me introduce you to some of the folks in the class. I don't know what it is about the Saturday morning class, but it seems to attract all the nuts in the nuthouse, if you know what I mean. (I say that in the fondest way possible. And, yes, I count myself among them.)

Oh, look—there's Audrey. She's the Nut-in-Chief. You can count on her for a funny anecdote or un petit morceau of French. She also doles out extravagant compliments, ("Why, you're so thin and gorgeous!") which is worth the cost of membership alone.

And there's Becky, I'll have to ask about her trip to Costa Rica. And in the fancy red bathing suit, that's Jenna. She's looks demure, but every once in a while a snarky remark will cross her lips. Just wait for it.

There's Dick and his wife, Chris. She's a card-carrying member of the nuthouse, too. Always ready with a quip, that one.

Oh, is it time to move to the deep end already?

Queen Margaret says, yes, yes it is. "Small fast bicycle forward," yells Margaret. We pedal away obligingly.

What's she saying now? Small fast bicycle backwards? Such a task-master, our Margaret.

"I can't do a small, fast bicycle backwards," Chris calls out shrilly from her corner of the pool.

"Yes, you can!" says Margaret.

"No, no, really I can't. My legs don't work that way." (I have often had this same thought.)

"Yes, yes, you can," says Margaret.

Chris has a frown on her face, but her legs are churning away. "Oh!" Her eyes light up. Perhaps something has clicked. "Maybe so. Hey, you know, when I do that small fast bicycle backwards, suddenly I can speak *Spanish!*"

(Gosh! That *never* happens to me.)

Now it's time to work our legs, and after that, our abs, and then we'll all go back to the shallow end to tone our arms.

Water makes everything more fun, I've decided. Doing a hundred and fifty crunches on land is boring. Doing them in the pool is more fun. Doing curls on land is boring. In the pool? Fun. Push-ups on land are, well, embarrassing. Much more fun (and dignified) in the pool.

Lifting weights? Way more fun. And safer too. You can't drop the foam barbells on your foot. But, tornados, well, okay...I have to admit it. They are not fun. (The exercise kind, not the weather kind.) Not even in the pool. Sorry.

So, now it's ten in the morning and we've gotten our cardiovascular workout, toned our legs, abs and arms, and stretched. We've had a few laughs and caught up on everyone's news. Now there's only one thing left to do.

Go home and collapse.

Wasn't that fun?

See you at the pool!

Thomas Lowry Park Financial Summary of 2010

By John Peterman

In 2010, Friends of Thomas Lowry Park partnered with LHNA, the MPRB, and Tangletown Gardens to continue its work on Phase Two of the Five Phase Project that commenced in 2009.

During 2010, Friends of Thomas Lowry Park received donations in the amount of \$6,100.00.

During that same time, two payments were made for work done in the park with a combined total of \$4,900.00. The first payment, in the amount of \$2,400.00, was made to Carefree Lawn for the FTLP share of the irrigation project. A payment in the amount of \$2,500.00 was made to Tangletown Gardens for the Phase One plantings completed in 2009.

We would like to recognize and express our thanks for the many significant in-kind and partnership donations that were received and implemented in a cooperative effort this past year.

Tangletown Gardens donated plantings and labor with the value of \$6,600.00

People for Parks donated 23 trees which were planted by the MPRB in May of 2010.

The Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association donated countless hours and made a financial contribution towards the Phase II plantings and irrigation project in the amount of \$13,000.00

Rain Bird Corporation donated significant product enhancements to the irrigation system implemented by Carefree Lawn.

We appreciate each of the contributions received from individuals and organizations. Due to the generosity of neighbors and those specified above, Friends of Thomas Lowry Park was able to implement significant plantings and projects in 2010. Thank you for your continued support.

Friends of Thomas Lowry Park has three priorities for 2011; continued fundraising (please email friends@thomaslowrypark.org for information on mak-

ing a tax-deductible donation), implementation of the Phase Three Plantings on the north east corner of the park, and volunteer work in the park. All are invited to garden with volunteers on the second Saturday of the month from April through October from 10-noon. Please contact Barb Fogel at bfoegel@comcast.net for further information.

See you in the park!

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sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

Know thyself.

—Ancient Greek aphorism

This above all: to thine own self be true.

—(from Hamlet) William Shakespeare

We are sure to be losers when we quarrel with ourselves; it is civil war.

—Charles Caleb Colton

Every day, in every way, I am getting better and better.

—Emile Coue

I have never been able to psych myself into believing that I am a child of the universe and locked inside me is the potential to be a mountain-moving, charismatic, chronically positive life force. I am not quaking with untapped energy, brimming with the milk of human kindness, or overflowing with love for others. I do not hold the key to anyone's happiness, least of all mine. I rarely leap out of bed (I have weak ankles) eager to face the day's challenges, turn over new leaves, make a friend of Dale Carnegie, let a smile be my umbrella, keep my sunny side up, or even direct my feet to the sunny side of the street.

Despite my rather meager credentials, twisted wretch that I am, I have stumbled onto a way to accomplish tasks that would have bedeviled me years ago. I still rely on my twin defenses (delegation and denial), but there are errands, chores, and obligations that simply cannot be weaseled out of. Many of you already practice this surefire technique, but I have the zeal of a convert and feel I must share it with my fellow procrastinators.

Disclaimer: This strategy is unnecessary, simplistic, and laughable for inner directed, Type A, self-motivated, goal oriented, list makers. Stop reading. Go back to Stephen Covey and your iPad.

All right it's just us now, and I am ready to reveal the secret. (Don't worry, I don't want money. I have no idea how to set up a PayPal account, and you'd never get it together to send it to me anyway.) Here it is: Talk honestly to your future self. For decades I held the mistak-

en notion that in time I would improve, have better posture, floss regularly, listen to Rosetta Stone, and generally be more competent and responsible. It was the oil slick on the highway, ever over the next rise.

America has been built on the premise of perspiration/inspiration, bootstraps, hard work, luck and pluck, evolution, or divine intervention. I must have felt my future self would be more willing and able to do my book reports, take out the trash, and write thank you notes. I bought thick books I planned to read and Guthrie season tickets for when I became more sophisticated. I could go on. Everything was based on the premise of my forthcoming maturation.

Greater insight, intellectual curiosity, and work ethic ... they never came! Age has not brought wisdom, only liver spots. Like Popeye, I yam what I yam. It is sobering but also liberating to know I am unlikely to become any better. I now have brutally frank conversations with my future self. "When am I/you going to want to clean the yard, pull derdethe tax stuff together, or wash the dogs?" Future Me's short answer is "Never." Present Self replies, "In that case, I might as well do it

now."

This also cuts down on misplacing checkbooks, and car keys. I ask myself, "Will Future Me remember to look in the candy dish for my wallet when I am racing out the door in the morning?" For years I tortured Future Self with my unfounded faith in his abilities. Now I take pity on my poor future self and do him favors like returning phone calls and working on my column before the deadline.

Tom H. Cook is a writer of sorts. It is Day 24 since Keith Olbermann left MSNBC.

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