



'Where the biggies leave off...'

Hill & Lake Press

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DECEMBER 14, 2012

THE URBAN COYOTE VOTES WITH WAXWINGS

by James P. Lenfestey

Special to the Hill and Lake Press.

Mrs. Coyote and I trotted to the polls about 10 a.m. on November 6 to avoid the early voting rush. The day was brisk, breaking toward cold, prompting thoughts of why the authors of the Constitution chose the first Tuesday in November for public voting, and not June, when it is warm and stays light for 14 hours. But the stroll was invigorating, made more so by the surprising discovery of a block-long line spilling out the door of the Unitarian Church on Mt. Curve, the polling place of the Ward 7, Precinct 3. The sight made me proud to be a furry citizen of the Free Republic of South Minneapolis.

We had contemplated voting early, a tactic our good Mayor suggested many should employ to diminish the crush at the polls, but were glad we had decided to vote in person, in spite of the wait. For though the temperature was cold, the occasion was warm. We encountered many friends and neighbors new and old, ones we

URBAN COYOTE TO PAGE 5

Historic House Threatened in Wedge

By Trilby Busch

On the northwest corner of 24th Street and Colfax Avenue South sits the Orth House, designed and built by master builder Theron Potter Healy. Michael Lander, the developer of new apartments, condos, and townhouses along the Uptown Greenway, plans to demolish the house and erect a four-story apartment building on the site.

T.P. Healy was Minneapolis' most prolific master builder. Researcher Anders Christensen has found over 140 structures with Minneapolis building permits from 1886 to 1906 designating Healy as the builder-contractor. Of these, 100 are still standing, primarily in the Lowry Hill, Wedge, and Central neighborhoods.

Christensen "discovered" Healy in the late 1970s when he completed an architectural survey of the Wedge. After finding that Healy had built 30 houses in that neighborhood, he looked for other building permits taken out by Healy in Minneapolis. In that way he found the most visible and characteristic Queen Annes by Healy, those on the 3100 block of Second Avenue South, the block on the exit ramp of I-35. The majority of these houses were built during the 1890s, when the Queen Anne style, with its fretwork, towers, colorful exteriors, and asymmetrical façade was in vogue.



T. P. Healy house at 24th and Colfax South



Healy house as it looks today.

Loyce Houlton's Nutcracker Fantasy includes dancers from the Hill and Lake Press area.



Photo courtesy of Brad Rolfs Photography

Pictured left to right are: Front row: Emily Gisser, Lily Erlandson, Dora Dolphin; Back row: Claire Fadlovich, Tye Trondson, John Erlandson, Earl Van Norman; Missing: Kylan Duff

By Stephanie Derauf

Eight dancers from East Isles, Lowry Hill, Kenwood and CIDNA neighborhoods will be joining a cast of 72 student dancers, the masterfully provocative Minnesota Dance Theatre company dancers, along with special guest artists in performing Loyce Houlton's Nutcracker Fantasy at the Cowles Center which runs from December 14th to December 24th. Minnesota Dance Theatre and the Dance Institute would like to

recognize the hard work and dedication of these talented individuals and hope your community will take the time to enjoy the culmination of their efforts.

Loyce Houlton's Nutcracker Fantasy runs for ten performances only, from Friday, December 14 through Monday, December 24. Tickets are \$52/\$59 and can be purchased online at www.thecowlescenter.org or in person at The Cowles Center box office and by phone at 612.306.3600.

In 1977 Healy's Bennett-McBride House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a superb example of the Queen Anne architectural style.

In 1993 Healy's Queen Annes on the 3100 block of Second and Third Avenues South received national historic designation as the Healy Block Historic District.

The Orth House at 2320 Colfax is not just any Healy house. The Orth House, one of the two houses slated for demolition, represents a pivotal point in Healy's career. It is one of only two houses built by Healy in 1893. The other 1893 Healy house was 821 Douglas Avenue on Lowry Hill, built for A. Knoblauch for the princely sum of \$10,000. This large, elegant house was wrecked in 1981 by developer Paul Klodt to build an apartment building (now condominiums). Klodt also demolished the Dunwoody Mansion (another Healy-built house) that sat on the corner of Mount Curve Avenue and Groveland Terrace.

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Next issue?

The January 2013 issue of Hill and Lake Press will be delivered on January 18. Please reserve your space by January 7.

Minneapolis Audubon Society

763-657-1907
bbfrankli@gmail.com
Friday, December 14, 2012 1 p.m.

John Arthur will speak on Dragons and Damselflies. Please join us for the program and refreshments at the Bryant Square Neighborhood Center, 31st & Bryant Avenue S, just one block south of Lake Street, easily accessible via the #4 bus, which runs every 15 minutes! All are welcome. For more information call 952-926-4205.

On Friday, January 11, 2013 at 1 p.m. the Minneapolis Audubon Society welcomes Grant Bowers, U of M Program Coordinator of "Monarchs in the Classroom." He will speak on "The Missing Monarchs." The Bryant Square Neighborhood Center, just one block south of Lake Street, is easily accessible via the #4 bus, which runs every 15 minutes. Please join us for the program and refreshments! For more information call 952-

Death of an old tree

A 150 year old oak tree in our Hill and Lake Press area was cut down recently. The tree removers said that the tree was healthy, but that the owner's realtor told them to cut it down. According to neighbors, the tree made the property look more interesting. Now it looks rather average. During these times of climate change it does seem a shame to remove such a beautiful living element. The tree removers were also saddened; the tree wasn't a hazard to the house structure.

Although owners can do what they want with their property but it is painful to see a tree that was there when Lincoln was president gone for no good reason.

Minneapolis Uptown Rotary

www.clubrunner.ca/mplsuptownrotary
Uptown Rotary meets at the Minikahda Country Club 7:30 to 8:30 am on Thursdays.

Meet with Meg

Monday, January 14th from Noon-1pm at the 5th Precinct Community Room (3101 Nicollet Ave).

Izaak Walton Chapter. Lee Barthel 6128727516
Neighborhood Monthly Meetings
IWLA 3rd Tuesday 7:9pm, Linden Hills Park Rec

The public comment period to respond to the Southwest Transitway Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been extended to December 31, 2012. Comments may be send via email to: swcorridor@co.hennepin.mn.us.

Due to the recent crime wave in our neighborhoods, we strongly encourage all neighbors to take these 3 simple precautions:

Leave your front door lights on ALL night (& back porch/ yard lights too), every night. For our neighbors who are renters, ask your landlord or building manager to leave these lights on.

If you have a security system, arm it while away during the day and at night. Consider installing a security system if your residence currently does not have one.

Call 911 to report any suspicious activity in the neighborhood.

Minneapolis Parks Winter-Spring Activities Guide Available Now

If you're looking for ideas for wintertime fun in Minneapolis, check out the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's (MPRB) Winter-Spring Guide.

Now available online and in print in the coming week, the 24-page, full-color guide highlights the park system's winter amenities and activities. Once winter weather conditions allow, the park system's winter recreation facilities become available, including ice rinks, ski trails and snowboarding and tubing areas. The guide lists hours for ice rink warming houses, ski chalets, snowboarding and tubing, including extended hours during Minneapolis school release days.

The Winter-Spring Guide also includes details about recreation center programs and classes for youth and adults and special winter and spring events in the parks.

The guide will be available at MPRB recreation centers, Hennepin County Libraries in Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Convention Center in the next week. For more information on the park system or to request a copy of the guide, visit www.minneapolisparcs.org, call 612-230-6400 or sign up to receive email updates about your favorite winter activities.

ARTrageous Winter Holiday Camps

December 26—December 31st

The New Year is about to begin so finish the year 2012 creating art that will help you keep time. Design your own wall calendar, create a keepsake box, Discover the Chinese zodiac animal for 2013, paint and sculpt a 2013 collage and create party favors that ring in the New Year!

NO SCHOOL DAY CAMP DETAILS!

AM Sessions (9am-12) PM Sessions (1pm-4:pm) Full Day (9am-4pm)

Extended Day Options till 5:30pm

Half Day \$30 / Full Day \$55 /Extended Care \$10

Please bring a snack and a water bottle and dress for mess!



HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

- DEC. 14, 1pm, Audubon Society
- Dec. 31, DEIS statement deadline (SWLRT)
- Jan. 11, 1pm Audubon Society
- Jan. 14, noon, Meet with Meg
- Neighborhood monthly meetings:
 - CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday 6pm at Jones-Harrison
 - EIRA: 2nd Tuesday 7pm. Grace-Trinity Church,
 - KIAA: 1st Monday 7pm Kenwood Rec Center,
 - LHNA: 1st Tuesday 7pm at Kenwood Rec Center

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DECEMBER 2012

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR: NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (N.I.P)

Craig Wilson interviews Neighborhood Involvement Program (N.I.P.) Executive Director Patsy Bartley about this Hill Lake treasure's mission to provide the underserved with health care, education and social services. Please consider N.I.P. in your end of year charitable contributions (for more information see below).

What is the mission of N.I.P.? N.I.P.'s mission is to strengthen individuals and the community by providing quality health care, education, and social services to our underserved neighbors.

What populations do you serve and how do you serve them? We provide health care – medical, dental, and mental health services for the uninsured and underinsured: We have a core staff in our clinic and rely on a team of volunteer health professionals. We offer primary care including family practice, internal medicine, dermatology, urology, pediatrics, and gynecology. We offer basic dental services including cleanings, fillings, and simple extractions. We have one of the nation's first Rape and Sexual Abuse Centers, in addition to counseling services. We operate on a sliding fee scale based on income and number of dependents but no one is turned away because of an inability to pay. We also provide services to seniors including in-home assessments and chore services. We have a satellite office in north Minneapolis where we provide after school youth programming to help youth set life goals, learn new skills, and participate in academic enrichment activities.

What is the history of N.I.P.? N.I.P. originated when 6 area congregations, businesses, and community leaders came together to address the concerns they were witnessing in their south Minneapolis neighborhood. Incorporated as a non-profit agency in 1968, N.I.P., is a model of what can be accomplished when neighbors come together to help neighbors. Initially offering programs for youth, seniors, and single parent families,

N.I.P. added a health care clinic and a pioneering rape crisis center in 1972. Programs expanded to serve the entire metro area by 1985, when N.I.P. moved to its main facility in South Minneapolis. In 2006, N.I.P. expanded its physical presence in North Minneapolis at the Center for Families.

How will health care reform affect your services? Health care reform seeks to provide affordable health care coverage for the uninsured. The details of what that means have yet to be determined. We know from modeling that the state has done, that there will still be approximately 210,000 uninsured Minnesotans after health care reform is implemented. Our board is studying this issue. We will continue to provide care for the uninsured and underinsured and will look for the best ways to do this.

What's the biggest thing that individuals can do to improve their wellbeing? Move more! It's beneficial for your mental health, physical health, and spiritual well being.

What can Hill Lake residents do to be supportive of your organization and its mission? Be cognizant of the fact that not everybody has access to affordable health care. If you know someone who could benefit from our services, refer them to us. If you are a health care professional (or know someone who is) and have an interest in volunteering, give us a call. If you would like to support our mission with a financial gift, you can make a donation online at givemn.org, over the phone, or in person.

Individuals may donate by sending a check, calling into the clinic and donating over the phone, or online through the givemn.org website. N.I.P.'s contact information is 2431 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55405 or (612) 374-3125.



January-February 2013 Exhibition at Groveland Gallery

Exhibition: The landscape along as seen by Groveland artists William Murray, Dani Roach, Carl Oltvedt, Clara Ueland and guest artists James Boyd Brent and Christopher Copeland

Dates: January 26 – March 9, 2013
Saturday Afternoon

Opening Reception: Saturday, January 26, 2-5 p.m.

Gallery Hours: Tuesday through Saturday 12 - 5 p.m.



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“STEVE KOTVIS IS GOING TO TAKE A BREAK FROM MINNEAPOLIS MINDS UNTIL HE GETS TO SEE OUR NEW BOARD IN ACTION STARTING IN JANUARY.”

Cedar Lake Park Association Book-Signing Party

by Neil Trembley

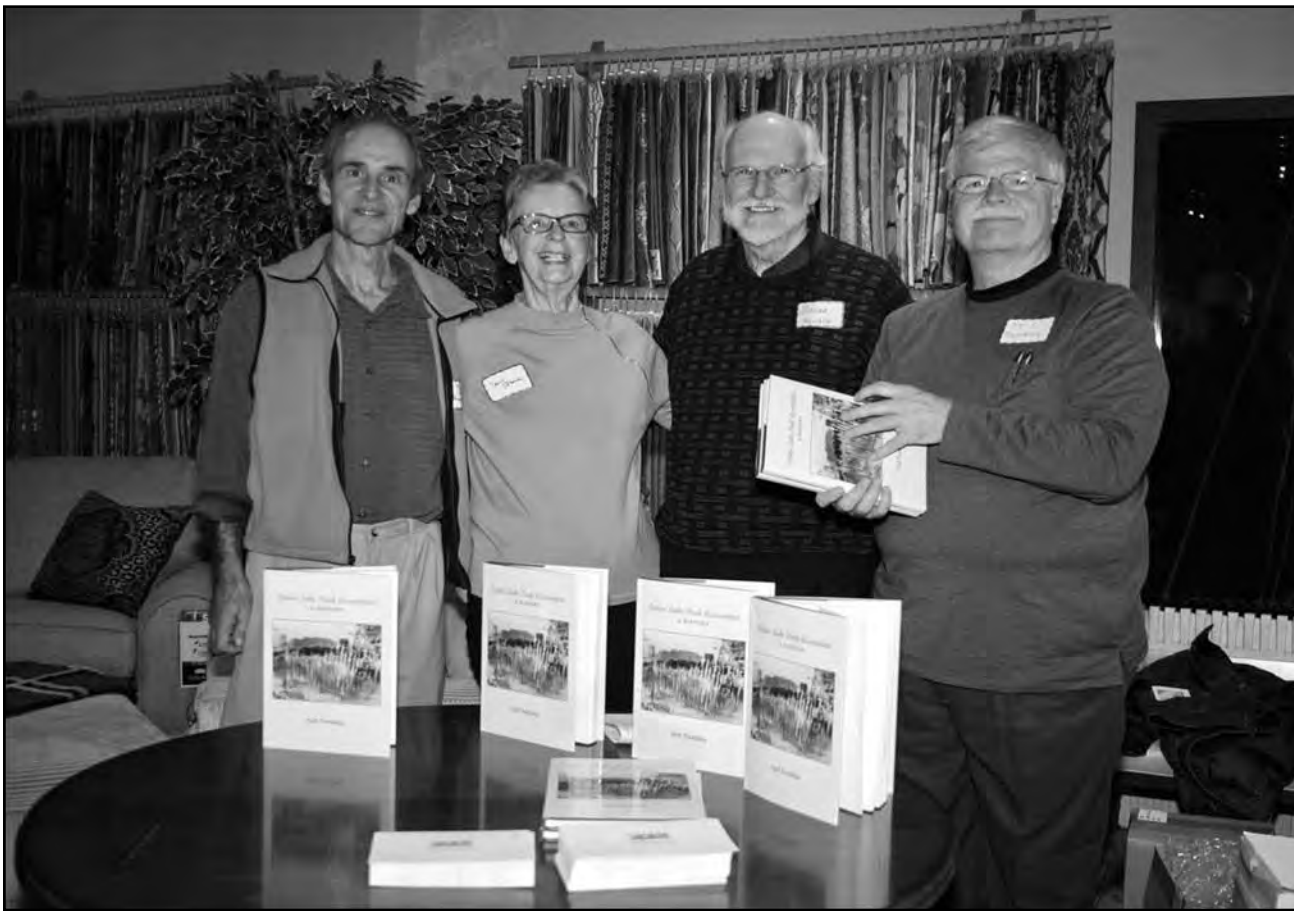


Photo by Dorothy Childers

From left to right: Keith Prussing, Doris Peterson, Brian Willette, and Neil Trembley

The Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA) sure knows how to throw a party! Last September, its members were looking for a venue to host a special event. CLPA had just published (with funds provided by the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Grant organization) Cedar Lake Park Association: A History. The book details the group's accomplishments over the past twenty-three years. Now, they were seeking a special place to gather their members. As luck would have it, long-time members David and Greg Klopp just happen to own a furniture store, "Sofas & Chairs," on Wayzata Blvd. in Bryn Mawr. The Klopp brothers graciously volunteered their place.

You couldn't ask for a more delightful space. Surrounded by plush furniture and beautifully lit holiday decorations, it was elegant, yet intimate. One attendee gushed, "It's like having a party in the largest living room in the world!" The sixty guests who noshed on finger food and desserts were never at a loss for a place to sit and reminisce about past exploits.

CLPA hosted the party to honor its founders and supporters by gifting them with copies of Cedar Lake Park Association: A History. The beautifully designed, coffee-table book chronicles the amazing activities of this trail-blazing group that started out its existence as "Save Cedar Lake Park." These citizen activists led the

charge to create a nature park out of an abandoned rail yard at the north end of Cedar Lake. Partnering with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB), CLPA lobbied state legislators for public funding and sought private donations to turn the forty-eight acres of abandoned railroad land into a public nature park—ultimately raising one-third of the \$1.6 million asking price in private contributions. Having established Cedar Lake Park in 1991, CLPA then led the drive to build a world-class, non-motorized commuter trail along the edge of it. To accomplish this task, CLPA raised an additional \$500,000 as a one-third match to help with the cost of building the Cedar Lake Regional Trail. Partnering with MPRB and the City of Minneapolis, it spent two years designing this award-winning trail that has become the lynchpin in Minneapolis' superb bicycle trail system. With remarkable perseverance, CLPA sustained a sixteen-year effort to complete the Cedar Lake Regional Trail to the Mississippi River. In 2011, the city—with federal and state funding—completed the trail through downtown Minneapolis to the river. As Minneapolis Mayor R. T. Rybak said at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, "Groups like the Cedar Lake Park Association hold [politicians'] feet to the fire to get projects like this accomplished."

For the last twenty-plus years, CLPA has continued

its mission to Create and nurture a park Cedar Lake with a thriving nature preserve and connecting trails and greenways. Under the MPRB's guidance and supervision, CLPA has cleared buckthorn and other invasives and started demonstration projects to promote native growth around Cedar Lake. Out in the Cedar Lake Park prairie, volunteers have spent hundreds of hours planting thousands of native grasses and wildflowers. Using funds provided by the DNR, CLPA completed a Big Woods Project planting trees to restore a maple-basswood forest around the northwest shoreline of Cedar Lake.

Cedar Lake Park Association: A History celebrates all of these efforts. But the 130-page book is more than just a list of accomplishments. It analyzes how the group functioned, as it overcame numerous obstacles to attain its objectives. While the book celebrates being able to "Save Cedar Lake Park," it also seeks to serve as guide to other citizen groups on how they can affect change in an urban environment. Finally, it hopes to show public officials and agencies how partnering with citizens' groups can provide crucial funding and support to "Get projects like this accomplished."

Those who saved Cedar Lake Park and continue to steward it, experienced a sense of camaraderie as they reminisced in their luxurious "living room" in Bryn Mawr. Wandering around the space, several stopped to take in a slideshow illustrating the events that shaped many of their lives. Several scurried around the room at the end of the event, getting autographs. As the last guest left, the CLPA members who hosted the party took a breath and smiled at one another, as another wonderful event passed into history.

Your Legal Rights: Modern Technology Fuels Old Scams

From the Office of Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson

Scams and scam artists have been around for hundreds of years. For instance, in the early 1820s, Gregor MacGregor, a Scottish soldier, arrived in England claiming that he was the Prince of Poyais. MacGregor issued bonds and sold land in Poyais, a phony country. Eventually, two ships of settlers departed for Poyais, a land described as extravagant and civilized. The ships, however, arrived in a desolate South American jungle containing snakes and deadly disease. The survivors returned to England to expose MacGregor's fraud.

Today, old scams have been given new life by modern technology that makes it cheaper and easier for perpetrators to target large numbers of victims. The following are some examples of the latest scams being fueled by new technology:

Fake Check Scams. Citizens are being targeted by an

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS TO PAGE 15

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URBAN COYOTE FROM PAGE ONE

rarely see but whose probity we admire.

Not too far ahead of us stood Sue and Bill Payne. Sue, one of the most dedicated community servants I know, recently retired as community liaison for Kenwood School. We agreed to cry over how wonderful Kenwood School has been for our families and the community. Bill remains a quiet man, by day a run-of-the-mill surgeon you only call if you need one or two or three— or four? – of your vital organs removed, refurbished and replaced, though he never talks about it. Fortunately I have had no reason to call on him professionally.

In the voting line I discovered a fact about them about them I had not known: they know their birds.

As the line eked its way forward like a woolly caterpillar, Sue pointed to a flock of birds in the barren branches of the boulevard tree above us. “Cedar Waxwings,” she said. Bill smiled and agreed. From the buff bottoms seen from below, I was not certain I agreed with their identification, as Waxwings should have migrated south by now. But then several flew toward the house next to us, fluttered against the vines climbing the yellow brick wall, to feed on late season dark purple berries. Cedar Waxwings, indeed, a sign this would be a very good day.

“Cedar Waxwings are the most perfectly groomed bird,” my grandmother told my mother, and she told me, and now I am telling you. And I will tell you another Cedar Waxwing story, one that will make your hair flutter. The morning after my mother died in her bed at 95 at her home in Wisconsin, two Cedar Waxwings appeared in the tree right outside her window. My sister and I immediately turned to each other and said, “Mom is reunited with her beloved Mother!” You can see why Cedar Waxwings represent a good omen in my pantheon.

As we waited, Mrs. Coyote arranged for elderly neighbors to jump the line and not be forced to wait in the cold, a tactic fellow line mates generously approved. She was especially touched by a young woman who brought a carton of hot Dunn Brothers Coffee to give waiting voters comfort and courage to fulfill our civic duty. Later in the day Mrs. Coyote did the same, returning with coffee to 7-3 and that evening to other polling places in South Minneapolis as evening lines became exceedingly long and the night chill fell.

Hot coffee may have encouraged citizens to hang in, for hang in they did, for much good was accomplished that day. To wit:

Statewide, Obama/Biden defeated Romney/Ryan 52.65% to 44.96%, led by HLP Land, which voted nearly 80% for Obama/Biden. Here are our numbers:

7-2D (Kenwood):

Romney/Ryan: 307, 20.34%
Obama/Biden: 1181, 78.26%

7-3 (Lowry Hill) :

Romney/Ryan: 362, 15.88%
Obama/Biden: 1850, 81.18%

HISTORIC HOUSE FROM PAGE ONE

1893 is a significant year in the history of architecture, the year of the Chicago World’s Fair. In this year the Queen Anne style began to fall out of fashion, replaced by the Colonial Revival and Neo-Classical styles, made popular by the Fair’s “White City”. 2320 is Healy’s first Colonial Revival house, a significant part of his architectural legacy.

A total of 29 houses with Healy’s name on the building permits are standing today in the Lowry Hill and Kenwood neighborhoods. Twelve of these were designed and built by Healy himself. Twelve are architect-designed. Just two were built prior to 1893, 1976 Sheridan (1889) and 1912 Queen (Harry Jones, 1891). Only three houses that Healy built on Lowry Hill have been wrecked.

The Orth House at 2320 Colfax, currently a 17-unit rooming house, has been re-sided and its large front porch enclosed. However, it is useful to compare it with Healy’s well-preserved transitional Colonial Revival house at 1712 Dupont Avenue South, built in 1894 for Emily Wagner. An old photo of 2320 shows a stunning similarity to the design of 1712 in their profiles, fenestration, porches, and rooflines. At 6,328 square feet, the Orth House is about a third again larger than 1712, but in the turn-of-the-century photo, it looks almost the twin of the Dupont Avenue house.

Thirty Healy houses have fallen to the wrecking ball for redevelopment, mostly during the 1950s and ‘60s. Ironically, the last Healy house to be demolished was 821 Douglas Avenue, the other 1893 house, in 1981. If the Orth House is wrecked, it will be the first demolition of a Healy in 32 years, and the first in the Wedge since 1968, 45 years ago.

For more information about T.P. Healy’s architectural legacy, visit his Facebook page, “T.P. Healy, Master Builder: King of the Queen Anne” and the Healy Project’s blog at tphealy.blogspot.com.

Trilby Busch is the author of the historical novel, *Darkness Visible: A Novel of the 1892 Homestead Strike*. The story imaginatively recreates the battle between locked out workers at Carnegie Steel’s mill in Pittsburgh and company-hired Pinkerton guards, and is available at Birchbark Books.

7-4D (CIDNA):

Romney/Ryan: 552, 27.14%
Obama/Biden: 1453, 71.44%

7-9 (East Isles):

Romney/Ryan 412, 17.55%
Obama/Biden: 1860, 79.22%

The two controversial Constitutional Amendments, one restricting marriage to a man and a woman, the other requiring a government-issued ID to vote, were both defeated statewide. The Marriage amendment garnered 47.44% yes votes, less than the 50% required; the photo ID amendment surprisingly garnered only 46.16% yes votes.

HLP Land, from data from the 60th Senate district, again led the way: Voter ID garnered only 22.87% yes votes, the marriage amendment even less, 21.95%.

These results were unexpectedly lovely, like Cedar Waxwings appearing overhead in November.

I have been walking upright on all twos ever since, feeling this election restored the tenor of the state that attracted the Coyote family here forty years ago. A state that led the nation in education, employment rate, Fortune 500 companies, and professional arts organizations per capita, with open arms to new immigrants like us, new businesses, new ideas. A state that respects math and facts, not ideology.

The people of Minnesota stood up, stood in line, and voted. After which the sky cleared and our Cedar Waxwings flew south. I look forward to their return next spring to a clear Minnesota state of mind, full of openness and generosity and grace.

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WATCH celebrates 20 years

By Donna McNamara



Photo by Dorothy Childers

L to R. WATCH founder, Susan Lenfestey, Amy Arcand, new executive director of WATCH, and Laura Williams, of the Sexual Violence Justice Institute.

Founders and supporters of WATCH, a non-profit court-monitoring organization, gathered recently at the home of Susan and Jim Lenfestey to celebrate the founding of WATCH 20 years ago – in the same house.

Susan recalled reading an article in the Star Tribune about the low priority placed on crimes of domestic violence and sexual assault, and quoted a courtroom advocate for abused women saying, “I wish there were an organization like Mothers Against Drunk Driving looking at these cases. Nothing will change until that happens.” “I thought to myself, I can do that,” said Susan.

And she did. A few weeks later, a small group of women, several of them H&LP neighbors, met in Susan’s living room to give shape and substance to what Peter Hutchinson has called “an elegantly simple idea.”

Since its founding, WATCH has trained more than 900 people of all ages and backgrounds to be volunteer court monitors. Each year, approximately 100 volunteers donate more than 4,000 hours observing and collecting data on nearly 5,000 court hearings.

WATCH’s mission is to make the justice system more effective and responsive in handling cases of violence, particularly against women and children, and to create a more informed and involved public. To fulfill that mission, WATCH volunteers observe a wide range of cases involving child abuse, domestic violence, rape and murder. The collected data often forms the nucleus for further research, such as comparing the way misdemeanor cases of domestic violence are handled in the suburban courts vs. the downtown courts.

WATCH’s new executive director, Amy Arcand, spoke briefly about the two priorities for WATCH in the coming year. “WATCH is going to get guns out of the hands of domestic abusers,” she said, citing laws passed ten years ago that restrict abusers from possessing guns, but which have not been enforced. WATCH helped lead the effort to establish a Gun Surrender Project, due to start in Minneapolis in January, 2013.

The other top priority is to ensure that defendants are held accountable for trafficking and prostituting women and children. Arcand noted that the Twin Cities metro area is included as one of the 13th highest sex trafficking centers in the country, and cited legislation passed in 2009 to strengthen MN’s anti-trafficking laws. WATCH volunteers are monitoring these cases as they come through the system in order to analyze the impact of this law.

Laura Williams, of Minnesota’s Sexual Violence Justice Institute, also spoke, citing WATCH’s role in training other court-monitoring groups across the country. (Now in 30 states.) She also commended WATCH for the defendant chronologies published in the WATCH Post newsletter, which are shared with justice system members to ensure that judges have full background information when defendants appear in court.

She paraphrased author and journalist, Nicholas Kristoff who said, “the challenge of the 19th century was slavery, the challenge of the 20th century was totalitarianism, and the challenge of the 21st century is violence against women and children.”

Praising the impact of WATCH, and the convergence of heightened awareness and a new resolve to end violence against women and children, she closed by saying, “We will do this. This is our time.”

For more information on WATCH, go to www.watchmn.org, or call 612-341-2747.



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December 2012

Election Day

First off, a big Thank You to all of you for the great turn out on Election Day. Thank you to the election judges and volunteers who worked at the polls.

I am very concerned about the problems that occurred at several 10th ward polling places. I am very sorry for those who encountered long wait times to vote. Your patience is greatly appreciated. Thank you to everyone who also sent comments to me. I am working with the City Clerk's office and the City's Election's staff to address all the issues that occurred at 10th ward polling places. We are also working with our partners at Hennepin County to figure out why ballots at three 10th ward polling places were not being read by the scanning machines.

Flight Pattern Changes at MSP International Airport

I have heard from 10th Ward residents who are concerned the proposed navigation changes for the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport could have an impact on some Minneapolis neighborhoods. The vote on Monday, November 19th by the MAC to not proceed with RNAV (flight pattern change) over Minneapolis was a victory. The matter hasn't gone away, but we now have the chance to get more information and to engage the public in a review of the proposal.

I encourage you to make your voices heard. Please contact the MAC and the Federal Officials who are involved in this process. Here is the contact information:

MAC Chairman Dan Boivin - Dan.Boivin@msp-mac.org

Senator Amy Klobuchar - www.klobuchar.senate.gov/emailamy.cfm

Senator Al Franken - www.franken.senate.gov/?p=email_al

Congressman Keith Ellison - http://forms.house.gov/ellison/webforms/issue_subscribe.htm

The City of Minneapolis has been making the case for our neighborhoods. Specifically, we want:

More time and opportunity for community input
A more rigorous environmental review which includes analysis of both RNAV (a form of navigation) and the Long Term Comprehensive Plan (LTCP)

A delay in implementation of these changes, at least for flight-paths over Minneapolis.

While the City recognizes the value of the airport to our regional economy, we also realize the need for a carefully crafted plan that considers both the airport and the residents of Minneapolis. That is why we need you to continue contacting the MAC and Federal Officials to amplify this message.

If you would like more information on what is being proposed and where this issue is at, check out this [StarTribune](http://www.startribune.com/local/west/180711321.html) article at www.startribune.com/local/west/180711321.html.

I will continue to monitor this situation with my colleagues. I will keep you updated via my newsletter as I

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CELEBRATE THE WINTER SOLSTICE

Audrey Kingstrom, Winter Solstice Chair First Unitarian Society

We call it Christmas, but for many people the holiday is really about winter: enjoying it, surviving it, celebrating it. And while devout Christians will insist that the reason for the season is the birth of Jesus, year after year, unbelievers and believers alike participate in a wide variety of midwinter festivities that mark this darkest time of year. But for the non-religious discomforts abound: ambivalence over cherished traditions, reservation in attending church services to appease loved ones, wariness in how to be both tolerant and authentic, irritation at the ubiquitous religious messaging, to name a few. In an increasingly multi-ethnic, multi-religious and secular society, the celebration of Christmas as a de facto national holiday is problematic. But, then, it always has been.

Since its inception, Christmas has been as much a cultural holiday as a religious one. The early church leaders intentionally superimposed the feast of the Nativity on the Roman celebrations of Saturnalia and Kalends in late December to supplant allegiance to Roman deities and ensure the worship of Jesus instead. As Christianity spread across Northern Europe, regional harvest rites and Yule celebrations near the winter solstice also were recast with Christian symbolism.

For most of its history, however, the Christian Church had an uneasy alliance with the fabricated Christmas holiday given its dubious connection to Jesus' actual birth and its association with the carnival-like festivities and pagan traditions that dominated the celebrations. By the time of the Reformation, purging the Catholic Church of its unseemly Christmas revels was an additional goal of some reformers—with the Puritans going so far as to outlaw its observance altogether. Only in the past couple of centuries with the help of writers such as Washington Irving and Charles Dickens was Christmas transformed into a more genteel and domestic holiday.

Over time, obligatory feasts for subordinates, ritualized begging at homes of the elite, and community revelry deemed as a threat to public order all gave way to family oriented gatherings. Children became the new recipients of long-practiced holiday generosity. This reinvention of the season provided a more serene envi-

ronment in which to commemorate Jesus' birth. As a result, by the end of the 19th century, Christians were embracing Christmas with a newfound devotion that has continued to this day.

But given the enduring array of non-religious festivities, today it is commonplace for ardent Christians to plead with us all to "keep Christ in Christmas." Perhaps it's time to establish a truce in this "cultural war" and once again reinvent the holiday season but with 21st century sensibilities. Let Christians have Christmas to themselves and put an end to the duplicity of the holiday. Then, the broader secular culture could claim winter solstice as its seasonal holiday drawing from the age-old traditions of Yule, Saturnalia and other pre-Christian pagan festivities at this darkest time of year. In fact, many people are already participating in just such a cultural shift and it's getting easier all the time to make such a transition.

Take, for instance, the decade long tradition of celebrating the winter solstice at the First Unitarian Society on Mount Curve Avenue. Our Midwinter Revels Program provides members and friends an alternative way to participate in the holiday season. We have been actively reconstructing seasonal celebrations to better reflect our humanist values and imbue our lives with meaning—just as people have done for centuries. We loosely draw on a wide variety of ancient festivals to give form to our contemporary earth-centered secular revels.

This year the First Unitarian Society's winter solstice celebration will be presented on two nights, Friday, December 21st and Saturday, December 22nd in our beautiful setting overlooking the Minneapolis skyline and is open to the public. Join us for a festive dinner and our unique Midwinter Revels Program including music, poetry and a modern version of a traditional Mummies' Play, folk dancing, and a Yule Fire Ring. Dinner begins at 6 pm and adult dinner tickets are \$12 in advance; youth 18 and under are \$6 in advance. Or be our guests for the program beginning at 7:30 pm, dessert and dancing at no charge. Email seasonalcelebrations@firstunitarian.org for information and to purchase tickets.

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FRIENDS OF THOMAS LOWRY PARK

by Barry Lazarus

The 2013 directors and officers of Friends are as follows:

Barry Lazarus, Director and President
Barbara Fogel, Director and Vice President- Gardening and Horticulture

Suzanne Payne, Director and Vice President- Resources

Dr. Eric Schned, Director and Secretary
Jeanne Scheiderer, Director and Treasurer
Sara Peterman, Assistant Treasurer

Please welcome Jeanne as a new director and the new treasurer.

Friends of TLP will try a new approach to maintenance in 2013. Because of the difficulty of finding volunteers to work in the Park for the 200 or so hours it takes to supplement what the MPRB does to groom, plant and maintain the Park, Friends will retain and pay

an entity to help the volunteers who do help out from time to time. Thus, for all of you who have a guilty twinge, please help with a donation of hard- earned money rather than a donation of hard work. So many people commented on how wonderful the Park looked last summer. Friends hopes to keep this tradition "green and healthy" in the ensuing year.

Friends will continue to "remind" the MPRB to repair the seven pools, the brick walking path on the north side of the Park, to improve watering in the summer, and to eradicate the Park's supply of dandelion seeds to the upper Midwest. You can help with your calls, letters, emails and tweets to the MPRB commissioners and staff.

Friends wishes all of you a Happy Holiday Season which can be enhanced with a visit to your Park.

Seven drawings, Twenty one days



Joyce Murphy, a former Hill and Lake Press artist and editor of Arts "Off the Wall" artist spotlight exhibition. The show ran in 2012, at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1100 Main Street, H and her medium of choice is colored pencil and eraser on paper. Her work is the best and are the suitable to her drawing technique because of the broad strokes needed for the larger areas of the drawings.

Thomas Lowry Park in seasonal splendor



Urn decorated for the holidays.

FRIENDS OF THOMAS LOWRY PARK

By Barry Lazarus

Hello to you non snow bunnies. Staying in Minneapolis given the November-December (to date) weather makes us seem very sensible. Friends of TLP hopes you have been out enjoying the Park. Have you observed the newly decorated urn on the SW corner of the Park? The urn was beautifully decorated by Andrew Kruger of Gray Gardens, Excelsior, MN. If you like it, please send an email to any Friends of TLP board member or to andrew at andrew@graygardens.net. Friends is grateful for the generosity for this donation by Gray Gardens. The picture hardly does it justice.

DISTINCTIVE NEW RESIDENCES ON LOWRY HILL

Mount Curve

MOUNTCURVE.COM

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6 1 2 . 7 2 3 . 8 4 7 9

TRIAS DEVELOPMENT

EROTAS BUILDING CORPORATION

Edina Realty

Historic 430 Oak Grove Ribbon Cutting took place on Thursday, December 6th.



Photo by Dorothy Childers

... had a showing of her drawings at the Hopkins Center for the ... for three weeks, from November 17, 2012, until December 7, ... Hopkins, Minnesota. Joyce's subject matter is the human figure ... Joyce tells us that these mediums reproduce her subject mat- ... use they reproduce the fine detail needed in the figure with the



430 Oak Grove photo courtesy of StuartCo
430 Oak Grove is on the National Historic Register. The beautiful large windows overlooking Loring Park and downtown remain as they were originally constructed.



Photo by Dorothy Childers
From left: Dan Engelsma, Constructio), Barbara Howard, Minnesota Historical Society, Bruce Engelsma. Dan and Bruce Engelsma are grandsons of the founder of 430 Oak Grove.

Restored as a 75-unit apartment building (See Nov HLP), a festive and large crowd of invited guests toured luxurious apartments and public spaces while enjoying refreshments.



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EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (EIRA)

By Monica Smith, Recorder

East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA) Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting November 13, 2012 Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Dan McLaughlin (President), Linda Schutz (Vice President), Sue Durfee, Vaughn Emerson, Carla Pardue, and Michael Rossini. Alternate Donna Jansen and other East Isles residents were also present.

Council Member Meg Tuthill, Ward 10

Sign up for CM Tuthill's e-newsletter by contacting her at Meg.Tuthill@minneapolismn.gov

Single-sort recycling is coming to most of East Isles the week of November 26

The Bridge for Youth received a \$10,000 grant from Xcel Foundation

The new apartment building, 1800 Lake, has been pumping groundwater from the parking garage into the lagoon (the channel that connects Lake of the Isles with Lake Calhoun, just west of the parkway and west of The Mall). The developer had a temporary permit to pump water during construction but that permit has expired. The water has been tested and it isn't polluted but it is changing the water temperature in the lagoon. The City and Park Board are working to resolve the issue.

Effective July 2013, it will be illegal to sell coal tar driveway sealants in Minneapolis

A Citizens Advisory Committee continues to study recreational fires in the City

Commissioner Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, District 4

Parade Road has reopened after construction

The Park Board recently held a design charrette to study the landscape from the northern part of Lake Calhoun to the southern portion of Lake of the Isles. There were some very big ideas proposed such as a land bridge over Lake St. For more information: www.minneapolisparke.org/default.asp?PageID=1398

A Park Board Community Advisory Committee is working on their response to the Southwest Light Rail Transit Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

The Park Board is working on their budget and may propose a levy of up to 3%

The Mall (near the Walker Library) will be used as a staging area for library construction. Pedestrian access from The Mall to Hennepin Ave will remain open.

Open Forum

New sewer project on Lake St from France Ave to Irving Ave (up to 27th St) is being planned by Metropolitan Council Environmental Services. Public Information Open House on November 20, 5:00-7:00 pm at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, 3450 Irving Ave S.

The Smith Triangle committee continues to review survey results. An EIRA member reported having made contact with Jefferson School principal, and Spyhouse Coffee Shop, regarding participation geared toward efforts to maintain/improve the park.

REPORTS

The Treasurers Report was distributed.

Zoning Committee

Nolan Development has a letter of intent to purchase the BP site at 2700 Hennepin for redevelopment (no details available at this time).

The committee reviewed a proposal for a new development at the corner of James Ave and Lake St (1618 W Lake, 1620 W Lake and 2915 James Ave). The developer would need a variance for height and is continuing to explore options, which may include rezoning. The committee is waiting for more information. No action was taken.

An East Isles resident is requesting support to amend the Minneapolis fence ordinance to include "naturally constructed fences, i.e., hedges".

Mesa Pizza is requesting support for extended hours. Kowalski's Market has installed a new fence by their loading dock to help with noise abatement

The EIRA Board is interested in a primer session on zoning codes, Uptown Small Area Plan, etc. at a future board meeting.

Next Zoning Committee meeting: November 20, 5 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th St.

Monica Smith, Staff Report

President Dan McLaughlin signed the revised bylaws (approved at the October 23rd Members Meeting).

NRP Committee update:

Members met with Public Works to discuss confusing signage on the Midtown Greenway.

Next meeting is Thursday, January 10, 7 pm at Grace Trinity Community Church (no meeting in December).

Expenses to date for the Community Participation Program (CPP) were presented

Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP) is looking for volunteers to help seniors with snow shoveling this winter. Contact svolunteer@neighborhoodinvolve.org or call 612-746-8549 for more information.

Green Team

Green Team update:

The team is applying for an \$8,000 grant from Hennepin County to engage more residents in taking action to conserve energy, reduce waste, recycle, protect water resources, and reduce toxicities. The proposal calls for a part-time staff person to coordinate activities and outreach.

The Green Team is connecting with Temple Israel's Sustainability Task Force about the possibility of partnering on green issues.

The Green Teams of Uptown neighborhoods will meet on December 12, 7 pm at Jefferson School and feature a speaker from Minneapolis Energy Options – a new campaign to ensure that Minneapolis has a strong voice in negotiating its utility franchise agreements.

Board Review

The Board unanimously approved a motion to pay a user fee of \$500 to Grace Trinity Community Church out of Community Participation Plan (CPP) funds.

President Dan McLaughlin will send a letter of support to the City of Lakes Loppet (but will not comment on their proposed route for 2013).

EIRA's president, treasurer, and staff will meet to discuss options for EIRA's IRS status.

An evaluation form for the Semi-Annual Members Meeting was distributed. The evaluation will be sent to other attendees of the Members Meeting for feedback.

Procedures for BOD and Committee meeting minutes were reviewed:

BOD minutes: BOD members who do not attend a particular BOD meeting would not be expected to approve those particular BOD meeting minutes.

Non-BOD Committee Chairs do not approve minutes; names of residents attending meetings will not be listed in the minutes.

Committee minutes: Each committee will decide their own procedures for approval of minutes. Once approved, the minutes will be presented to the EIRA Board at their next meeting, NRP Committee and Zoning Committee minutes will be posted on EIRA's website.

Renewal of the staff contract: McLaughlin will seek feedback from the EIRA Board and make a recommendation at the December BOD meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.
Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder

Next EIRA BOD meeting: Tuesday, December 11, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th St.

NOTE: Because of space limitations, some details from these meeting minutes were not included in this publication. The complete minutes can be found on the website: www.eastisles.org.

Due to publication deadlines, the minutes from the December 11th EIRA Board meeting will be published in the January edition of the Hill and Lake Press. The December meeting minutes will be available at www.eastisles.org on Friday, December 21."

MEG TUTHILL FROM PAGE 7

have more information.

Nicollet Avenue is open!

Please continue to patronize Nicollet Avenue Businesses.

Single Sort Recycling Roll Out

The eagerly awaited information on the rollout of single sort recycling has arrived! Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling has posted a color coded map showing the rollout schedule. For 10th Ward residents, depending on the garbage pick-up route you are on, you will either receive a Single Sort Recycling cart during the week of November 26th - December 1st or in Spring of 2013.

To see the map, visit

www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste/recycling/WCMS1P-100417. You can put in your address, including City and State, in the upper right hand corner of the map to find out when it starts on your block. To figure out what each color means, click on the Legend in the upper left hand corner of the map. Please note the legend takes a bit to load.

The Bridge for Youth Awarded \$10,000 Grant!

Congratulations to the Bridge for Youth for receiving a \$10,000 grant from the Xcel Energy Foundation! The \$10,000 grant will be used for the organization's Homeless Youth program which is specifically aimed at older homeless youth that aren't able to return home or don't have a home to return to. The program provides transitional living services and teaches the youth a variety of skills that they'll need to live independently.

Visit www.bridgeforyouth.org/index2.html for more information on the organization and what programs they have to offer.

Uptown Association wins 15 IFEA awards!

Congratulations to the Uptown Association for receiving an outstanding 15 awards at this year's International Festival and Events Association (IFEA) Pinnacle Awards. The awards ranged from best association e-newsletter and social media site, to the best volunteer program and safety and security plan during the Uptown Art Fair.

Intermedia Arts Named High Impact Nonprofit!

In September, Intermedia Arts was named 1 of 18 high-impact nonprofits working in the field of access to

MEG TUTHILL TO PAGE 11

With appreciation

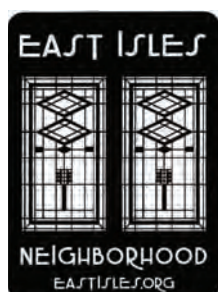
East Isles Residents Association thanks the following local businesses for their generous donations of goods and services in 2012:

Caribou Coffee

Isles Bun & Coffee

Kowalski's
Uptown Market

Lunds Lake Street



KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION (KIAA)

By Jeannette Colby

December 2012 KIAA Meeting Minutes

KIAA Board met December 3, 2012 at Kenwood Rec Center.

Chair Larry Moran called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Larry Moran, Kathy Low, Angie Erdrich, Jack Levi, Jeanette Colby, Mike Bono, Ed Pluimer.

Others present: 7th Ward Council Member Lisa Goodman, and 23 Kenwood residents.

7th Ward Update-Council Member Lisa Goodman

Later with Lisa Dec. 13th 4:30-7:00 at the Normandy hotel. January 23rd Lunch with Lisa will feature Michelle Kelm Helgen, former Chief of staff to Governor Dayton and now chair of the new Minnesota Sports Facility Authority, the agency building the Vikings football stadium.

The City held public hearings on the 2013 budget that proposes a 1.7% increase in property taxes and focuses on public safety and infrastructure. Few people attended the meetings, which was seen as a sign of general approval, but next year could bring greater increases related to Tax Increment Finance district changes.

MEG TUTHILL FROM PAGE 10

arts and culture in Minnesota. Intermedia Arts is a multicultural, multidisciplinary arts organization which serves youth and many immigrant groups. Visit <http://intermediaarts.org/> for more information on the organization and the programs they offer.

City Receives \$50,000 Grant for Open Streets Events

The Partnership for a Healthier America has awarded the City of Minneapolis a \$50,000 grant to allow the City to organize four Open Streets events in 2013. Minneapolis has previously held three very successful Open Streets events: on Lyndale Ave S in 2011 and 2012, and on Lowry Ave N in 2012. Grant money will be used to allow the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition, who organizes the events, to hire an Open Streets Coordinator. It will also help pay for physical activities and nutrition education programming for youth, and for paid advertising.

I would like to thank Mayor R.T. Rybak, Council President Barb Johnson, Council Vice President Robert Lilligren and Council Member Cam Gordon for all their work on this grant. The Open Streets events are an excellent addition to our City and I can't wait to see where else we will hold these events.

Council Prepares for Utility Franchise Agreement Negotiations

The City of Minneapolis is in the early stages of preparing for franchise negotiations with Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy, both of which expire in 2014.

State law governs the scope of the City's authority through a franchise agreement. The City believes it's time for changes to state law that regulates these utilities, to give us greater flexibility in seeking how to meet our green energy goals through franchise agreements. In the coming months, the City Council will review potential state law changes and consider formal support for these changes on our state legislative agenda.

For key information and updates regarding Minneapolis utility franchise agreements and negotiation, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/energyfranchise/index.htm.

Meet with Meg

Due to a change to the council committee schedule, starting in January of 2013, Meet with Meg will be held on the second Monday of the month. Please join me on Monday, January 14th from Noon-1pm at the 5th Precinct Community Room (3101 Nicollet Ave). Meet with Meg is a chance to ask me questions, and voice any concerns you may have. Bring your sack lunch! Cookies and lemonade are provided!

Public works: Douglas Avenue and Dean Parkway are both going to be worked on next year. Next year may also bring a ward-wide sidewalk inspection. If you know of places where the sidewalk needs fixing, you can call 311. Sidewalk replacement is the responsibility of the property owners – about \$500-\$750 per panel.

Janee Harteau was appointed police chief on November 30. Lisa pointed out that there has never been a unanimous vote on a police chief before and thinks Chief Harteau is a great choice. She has risen through the ranks, has had issues of discrimination and worked through them, focuses on the root causes of poverty and homelessness, is highly educated in criminal justice, and has an MBA.

Holiday lights recycling – take broken lights to over 350 sites after the holidays, including Park and Rec Centers. Look on the city's web site for locations.

On the issue of LRT, the City has a bottom line on the freight rail relocation – “co-location” is not acceptable. Lisa voted against the Kenilworth Trail alignment and believes now that it is important to work for mitigation. If the 12-month Preliminary Engineering goes forward in 2013 as expected, bringing the project to 30% of its final design, negotiations regarding mitigation will probably occur in 2014. City policy would oppose a park-and-ride at 21st Street.

Southwest Corridor LRT DEIS – Jeanette Colby

Larry Moran announced that the DEIS comment period had been extended to December 31st. He noted that KIAA received two postcards from an anonymous writer asking us to not let the LRT go through the Kenilworth Corridor. A meeting attendee strongly agreed with this sentiment, pointing out how few riders the LRT will pick up on Kenilworth compared to Uptown routes. Other attendees asked what they could do to help with the DEIS response. The board responded that DEIS submissions pointing out community and personal concerns will be helpful in showing the Metropolitan Council key problem areas and levels of concern. DEIS comments can be submitted through the web site southwesttransitway.org. The board agreed to discuss allocating funds for a landscape

designer or engineer at January's meeting.

Community Participation Program – Mike Bono and Kathy Low

Kathy Low and Mike Bono submitted the KIAA 2011 CPP Annual Report, the Equal Employment Opportunity (“EEO”) Policy, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) Policy for review and approval. The board approved the Annual Report for submittal to the City of Minneapolis – Neighborhood and Community Relations, and adopted the EEO and ADA policies with amendments.

Other Business

Liz Loney, director of Lake Harriet Professionals (www.lakeharrietprofessionals.com) contacted KIAA and asked us to remind people that buying local not only includes retail purchases, but professional services as well. The association represents professionals who live and work around the chain of lakes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

The January 7 meeting will include:

1. Discussion of allocating funding for landscape designs for LRT through Kenwood.
2. Other

Reminder: The next Kenwood Isles Area Association Board meeting will be Monday, January 7 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Rec Center. The KIAA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service, and event organized by KIAA. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at kenwoodminneapolis.org or by calling 612-377-6483.

Complaints may be filed by contacting KIAA at kenwoodminneapolis.org or by contacting the Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations Department at (612) 673-2162 or ahmed.muhamud@minneapolismn.gov.



Don't Miss The Annual Ice Skating Party

Sunday, January 27, 2013

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Lake of the Isles Ice Rink & Warming Hut

Enjoy Skating with your Neighbors and Family.

Get Warm by a Blazing Fire. ❄️ Drink Hot Cocoa.

Eat Cookies. ❄️ Have Winter Fun!

Sponsored by East Isles, Lowry Hill &
Kenwood Isles Neighborhood Association 2013



CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Monica Smith

CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES, December 5, 2012

The December meeting was held at the Jones-Harrison Residence. Board members in attendance: Chair Craig Westgate, Vice Chair Michael Wilson, Treasurer Ed Bell, Secretary Ryan Fox, Ed Ferlauto, Stephen Goltry, Ray Greco, Rosanne Halloran, Art Higinbotham, and David Shirley. Committee Chair: Gail Lee and 30 neighborhood residents. Staff: Monica Smith

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

Announcement

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) has begun a new sanitary sewer repair project along Lake St (from France Ave to Irving Ave). Construction will continue through July 2013.

Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7

Final public hearing on the Mayor's 2013 Budget, December 12, 6:05 p.m., City Hall, Room 317 350 S 5th St.

Later with Lisa, December 13, 4:30 – 7 p.m., The Normandy, 405 South 8th St. The next Lunch with Lisa is January 23, noon at University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis. Guest speaker: Michele Kelm-Helgen of the public board overseeing new Vikings stadium.

Single source recycling is now available for most of Cedar-Isles-Dean.

2013 Public Works projects include repaving Dean Parkway and a sidewalk assessment in the 7th Ward.

The Pedestrian Advisory Committee will review the request for a sidewalk on Sunset Blvd.

CM Goodman appointed Rod Miller to the Park Board's Dean Pkwy/ Cedar Lake Citizens Advisory Committee.

Janeé Harteau was sworn in as the new Chief of Police.

A number of concerns were raised regarding Light Rail Transit (LRT) in the neighborhood. CM Goodman reported that Minneapolis is working on their response to the Southwest Transitway Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The City opposes co-location of freight and LRT on the Kenilworth Corridor and is requesting mitigation for negative impacts of the transitway. Goodman recommends that residents submit individual DEIS comments and communicate concerns to Met Council and Hennepin County Commissioners.

Adam Gordon, Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES)

Forcemain sewer project:

Construction on Sunset Blvd will likely happen in early spring 2013.

The goal is to have 29th Street reopened for traffic within two weeks.

The new sewer pipe will be jacked under the Kenilworth Trail this winter. The pipe will be deep enough to allow for a possible LRT tunnel through the

corridor.

Park Siding Park

Playground equipment was removed to accommodate the sewer construction through Park Siding Park. The equipment needs to meet new safety and accessibility requirements and will be replaced with new equipment in one play container (appropriate for ages 2-5).

The first of three public meetings to gather community input about the project was held in October. The next meeting will be held in January or February.

Adam Gordon will attend the December 19th meeting of the NRP Committee to discuss options for expanding the playground equipment to accommodate a broader age range of kids.

Sunset Blvd Sidewalk Update

Ryan Fox sent a letter to CM Lisa Goodman asking for her assistance in supporting reconstruction of Sunset Blvd to: provide traffic calming measures; improve pedestrian mobility (especially east of Chowen Ave); include landscaping and green space; and maintain adequate on-street parking. The Pedestrian Advisory Committee will review CIDNA's request at their December 17th meeting.

Transportation Committee

The public comment period to respond to the Southwest Transitway Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been extended to December 31, 2012. Comments may be send via email to: swcorridor@co.hennepin.mn.us.

A joint neighborhood task force (CIDNA, West Calhoun, Kenwood, Cedar Lake Park Association and two homeowners associations) drafted a response to the DEIS. Two of the major concerns are noise and the proposed LRT bridge over Cedar Lake Parkway. The task force agrees with the DEIS recommendation that freight rail should be relocated.

The CIDNA Board approved the joint neighborhood task force response for submission as presented (vote: 9 yea, 1 abstain).

CIDNA hired a sound engineer to review the noise information in the DEIS and reports more severe impacts than indicated in the DEIS. The report will be included as an appendix to the task force response.

It was reported that Rep Frank Hornstein shares concerns about mitigation for LRT and may introduce a bill for state funded mitigation.

A number of residents attended the meeting to express concerns about LRT in the neighborhood, particularly the proposed bridge.

The Transportation Committee and the CIDNA Board will continue to work on issues related to Southwest Transitway.

Dean Parkway/Cedar Lake Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Gail Lee was unanimously appointed as CIDNA's representative to the Park Board's Dean Parkway/Cedar Lake CAC.

The Midtown Greenway Coalition appointed Mike Wilson to the CAC.

NRP/CPP Committee Report

The City approved CIDNA's request to create a Neighborhood Priority Plan (NPP) to address coordi-

nation of Southwest Transitway DEIS response and potential efforts to mitigate adverse impacts. This is the first NPP to be approved in the City.

Capstone Study

The CIDNA Board approved a request from Jeff Peltola of West Calhoun to provide up to \$1,750 for computer renderings and video summarizing the Capstone projects on issues around Lake St. and Excelsior Blvd.

Fiscal Agent for Grant

The CIDNA Board approved a request from Jeff Peltola to serve as the fiscal agent for a \$2500 grant he is seeking for his newly formed non-profit Public Works for Public Good.

Variance Request

The board had no objections to a variance request to reduce the side yard setback for a new garage at 3400 29th St W. A public hearing will be held on December 13, 4:30 pm at City Hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next meeting

Wednesday, January 9 at Jones-Harrison, 6:00 p.m.

The following edited letter was sent to an arts administrator and copied to Hill and Lake Press and others. The letter raises some interesting points about our arts community.


To the Editor:

At a recent meeting we discussed art, and art in particular here in the twin cities metro area. We also discussed the Hopkins Center for the Arts (HCA). You and I discussed the fact that some of the time the work shown at HCA was not up to snuff, somewhat mediocre if you will. After I returned home I began thinking about our conversation. In the city of Minneapolis particularly, there is no welcoming venue for local artists to show their work. On the occasions that I have asked I have been turned down by galleries galore. I don't know if this is the only area in the nation that behaves in this manner towards their artists or not. I can recall being told by a minion in the StarTribune advertising department one day to "stop pestering us and never call here again." I guess her answer falls into the category of bad treatment.

The Minnesota State Fair Fine Arts competition is a prime example of this kind of non-supportive attitude towards local artists. A few years ago the HCA stepped into the void with their overflow show and gave rejected artists a chance to show their work. The first show caused one of your so called critics to refer to the artists in the over flow show as losers At that point I had occasion to correct him with a letter to his boss. From what I have seen of this show some excellent work has been exempted from the fair by the judges. I don't think that there is any other fair competition that is so exclusionary when it comes to entrants as the fine arts competition. You should review the overflow show along with the fair show. You might be pleasantly surprised at the

ARTISTS TO PAGE 13

*Live. Eat. Work.
In that order.*



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ARTISTS FROM PAGE 12

quality and ability of the rejected work.

The Hopkins Center is also especially supportive of artists who do not have a studio and time to work at their art day and night.

Sometimes the art at HCA was not top quality. So why is this? Perhaps there is an overlooked reason other than mediocrity on the part of the artist.

I can only speak from personal experience on this subject so here goes. Artists do not spring from the forehead of Zeus full grown as an artist. They don't get up one morning and decide that. "Gee I think I will paint the Mona Lisa today" and set about doing this. Becoming an artist is an ongoing process. For seventeen years I worked for our neighborhood newspaper first as an artist/cartoonist and finally as an editor. When I grew older I decided to make a change and go the fine art route with my art. When I made this decision I was not at the top of my game either as a fine artist but I persevered. With each drawing I learned new techniques and skills. During this process I looked for a place to display my work and finally the HCA took in my work. Even now at this time when I have more experience I am still learning. Art is a lifelong learning process improving with each work, but still more to learn.

I think that the ideas that I have recounted here are true for the many artists who are on display at the HCA and this may be the reason for your comments about the quality of art that the HCA displays. These works are also works in progress. The HCA provides a venue for these works. It does not mean that the artists will just rest on their laurels. These works are only the beginning to learning more.

Artists need a venue for their work in all the stages of their talents and abilities and HCA provides this kind of venue. As far as I know this is the only place that provides this service for local artists and so they deserve some credit and maybe a look see on your part too. You are one of the power players here in the local art scene and so a word from you would be most welcome.

The local museum art world is not supportive of local artists either. Only out of town artists who have made it elsewhere will do. This is true especially with our two official museums and also the Russian Art Museum.

This guy went all the way to Russia to find art for his museum. Thanks a lot! Incidentally even these museums don't always produce winning shows. One show that comes to mind was in the form of a movie of a man masturbating. Now that's mediocre if you want to complain about mediocre.

So what's an art critic to do? How about going out to Hopkins and having another look keeping in mind the ideas and answers that I have recounted here. That art is a work in progress for most artists and that all are trying to improve and grow in their work. Eventually mediocre becomes the excellence that you so desire.

Joyce Aprea Murphy, Lowry Hill

LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (LHNA)

By Janis Clay

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Minutes Tuesday, December 4, 2012, Kenwood Recreation Center

Present - Board Members: Maureen Sheehan, President; David Weinstein, Vice President; Janis Clay, Secretary; Dan Aronson, Treasurer; Phil Hallaway; Jimmy Fogel; Ann Seltman; Rebecca Graham; Sherie Tazelaar; Marty Broan .

Present - Guests and staff: Lisa Goodman, Seventh Ward Minneapolis City Council Representative; Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board; Chris Madden, LHNA Administrator.

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

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Jimmy Fogel moved and Phil Hallaway seconded approval of the November 13, 2012, minutes and tonight's agenda. All approved.

Treasurer's Report: Dan Aronson reported that we are well funded and our bills will be paid before year end.

NRP and Grant Funding Decisions: Last month Robert Thompson, Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations Department, spoke to the Board about additional reporting LHNA needs to do regarding Community Participation Program funding, and also about LHNA funds currently held by the Nonprofit Assistance Fund. These can be rolled over or reclaimed and reallocated for another purpose. Chris Madden, Maureen Sheehan, Dan Aronson and Janis Clay will meet about this next week.

Community Announcements - Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman: Single sort recycling is coming to Lowry Hill. Households with single-sort beginning this fall will receive a big blue recycling container. Other households will wait until spring. The City will do holiday light recycling in January. Lunch with Lisa is finished for the year. "Later with Lisa" will take place December 13th from 4:30 to 7:00 at the Normandy. The next Lunch with Lisa will be January 23, 2013, with Michele Kelm-Helgen, Chair of the Minneapolis Sports Facilities Authority. Some parking changes are already in place in connection with the Burch building renovation and planned restaurant. The Minneapolis budget process is underway. The city is considering a large sidewalk repaving project in the neighborhood. Homeowners would be assessed where repaving is needed. Lisa is seeking to have this postponed for a year. Watch for announcements regarding new Minneapolis Police Chief, Janee Harteau.

Committee Reports:

Zoning and Planning Committee:

David Weinstein discussed parking changes in connection with the Burch renovation. Some are in place. Philip Bahar of the Walker Art Center offered to make a presentation to the Board on the extensive exterior rehabilitation the Walker is planning. The Board discussed taking a position on the Southwest LRT. While not in our neighborhood, it is close enough to impact us. David Weinstein, Marty Broan, and Sherie Tazelaar will meet to work on this.

Environment: Because the bids we received all exceeded the amount budgeted for the Kenwood Park Landscaping Plan, the Board approved a trees-only version of the plan. Due to passage of time, the bid has expired. Maureen will email Anita Tabb to request another trees-only bid. Marty Broan updated the Board on the remaining issues from the Lake of the Isles renovation project: some poor quality turf, problems with shoreline plantings, and unfinished lighting. The lighting is finished, and the other issues are being addressed. Anita Tabb received a round of applause for the completion of the Parade Road renovation.

Crime and Safety: A new LHNA Crime and Safety Report has been added to the E-Blast. The crime prevention mailing is progressing. It will not be sent until after the holiday mail season.

Events: The Annual Neighborhood Ice Skating Party is coming up. Chris is contacting East Isles and Kenwood to confirm the date. The Board authorized ads for the next two issues of the Hill and Lake Press. LHNA will sponsor a tent at the Loppet.

Anita Tabb, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board: Anita Tabb reported that some trails will be repaved near Cedar Lake. A CAC is forming regarding this. LHNA can be represented if interested. The Park Board is preparing and submitting a response to the Southwest Transitway Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Snow is being made at Wirth Park. Upcoming issues include possible changes to the city's 50 recreation centers, and potential renovation of Parade Ice Arena.

LHNA's next Board meeting will be held Tuesday, January 8, 2013, at the Kenwood Rec Center. This is one week later than usual, due to the New Year holiday. All residents are welcome. 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.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



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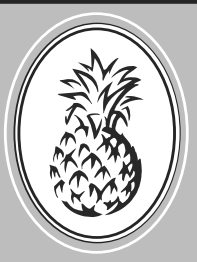


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Economic Sustainability Begins Within Your Own Neighborhood

Most of us are familiar with the term "shop locally" as a way to bolster economic activity within one's community. And, most of us think "retail shopping" when it comes to local.

A recent Letter to the Editor in the Minneapolis Star Tribune (Sat., Nov. 17th, 2012) stated that \$68 of every \$100 spent stays in your community when you shop at independent local stores, compared to \$43 when you shop with a national chain.

What can easily be missed is the ever-expanding number of professional local home-based businesses in this equation. How many of your neighbors work professionally from home? More than one or two on your very own block might be a good wager.

Lake Harriet Professionals, www.lakeharrietprofessionals.com, is a marketing cooperative, referral, and networking organization around the Minneapolis Lakes Area.

The current economic reality continues to lean toward corporate and mid-size business downsizing. People are living longer and are healthier. The baby boomer and younger generations are realizing both the personal and professional benefits of a home-based business, becoming entrepreneurs at what they are most passionate about and find the most fulfilling.

So besides, economic sustainability within your neighborhoods, why shop local home-based businesses?

There is less red tape and no middle man, hence competitive pricing.

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We live and work in your communities and we're your neighbors.

Lake Harriet Professionals meets on the 1st Thursday of the month at noon in the Linden Hills Co-op events room. We currently have about 25 members. Feel free to stop in and check out our energy and creativity. Also, to find our members, check our web site, www.lakeharrietprofessionals.com.

The first Annual Professional Home-Based Business Expo and Workshop Series will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2013, at Lake Harriet Spiritual Center (44th & Upton). Contact Director Liz Loney, at LLoney77@aol.com or 612-922-9150 for more information

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) plans to improve trails along Dean Parkway and the west side of Cedar Lake, and seeks community participation in the plan development. It will appoint a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) by December 28 to represent trail users and the surrounding community in the planning process.

Improvements to known trail conflict areas, lighting, signage, and regional trail connections comprise the project's scope. Proposed improvements are not expected to change the current use of trails as a popular recreational and commuter route abutted by numerous urban amenities.

All trail users are invited and encouraged to take the survey.

For further information about the project see the current news release and visit the project page on the MPRB website.



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

Lloyd Smith
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Hill & Lake Press is a non profit newspaper 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).

Please direct contributions and advertising queries to Jean Deatrack at 612-377-5785

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Please patronize these businesses and while doing so, get a copy of Hill and Lake Press. If you cannot find a copy, you can get one or several from my porch at 1821 Dupont Avenue South.

HILL LAKE PRESS Selected Real Estate Sales November 2012																							
STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	Seller Contrib	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT													
1912 Dupont S	75,000	short sale	109	65,000	C	1/1	754	125,000	1,824	1960													
2928 Dean Pkwy	142,500	4,347	22	144,900	C	1/1	700	149,000	2,241	1960													
2820 Cedar Lake Pkwy	299,900		170	184,500	C	2/1	1,200	262,000	4,404	1962													
2401 Lake Place	519,000		6	425,000	H	2/2	1,902	360,500	6,173	1907													
1510 W 25th St	489,900		123	442,000	H	3/2	1,981	369,500	6,214	1925													
2823 Dean Pkwy	500,000		20	475,000	H	3/2	1,655	436,500	7,297	1959													
1813 Dupont S	725,000	17,225	62	689,000	H	5/5	3,138	737,500	13,114	1902													
1814 Lincoln	890,000	3	462	805,000	C	2/3	5,000	810,500	5,000	1914													
2324 Oliver	899,900	16,800	77	840,000	H	6/5	4,480	1,102,500	17,148	1913													
1811 Emerson	949,900	21,500	3	852,500	H	6/5	7,000	1,159,000	21,894	1907													
2681 E Lake of Isles Pkw	999,000		527	950,000	H	4/3	3,472	1,235,500	23,832	1906													
Sources: Harvey Ettinger - Steve Havig																							
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County																							
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Where we are Now

By Jean Deatrack, Editor

Christmas is my favorite holiday time. I love the festive parties, the food, music, lights, Christmas trees, and the Nutcracker. And I especially enjoy the services at my church, St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral. Some of the services, especially Christmas Eve, are solemn, even mystical, and others feature children and animals with a cacophony of sound and color. I am especially proud that my grandson Earl is dancing in the Nutcracker at Minnesota Dance Theatre this year. His mother Heather and her sister Katie also danced in the Nutcracker when they were young. And when Heather and I traveled to Manhattan with a group of dancers led by Loyce Houlton back in the 80s, I met another mother, Margaret Lynden, who became my lifelong friend. Her granddaughter Dora is also dancing in this year's Nutcracker. A family tradition. Dora's mother Joan danced in the Nutcracker. It is what Christmas is all about. Family and friends and sharing celebrations and being together.

I used to travel to New York City often for both business and pleasure. The first thing we would do after dropping our bags at our hotel was to go to our favorite Jewish Deli. Now that Rye's Deli is just around the corner from my house, I don't have to travel to Manhattan to find delicious Jewish deli food. My husband and I stopped recently at Rye's and enjoyed sandwiches and wine at happy hour. A happy visit. Be sure to patronize our local deli, Rye.

I especially enjoy oysters at The Lowry. When my friends Jane and Tim Johnson visited from England

recently, we treated them and daughter Alexa to lunch at The Lowry. The Johnsons agreed that the food choices were outstanding and creative. The Lowry is very popular and we always encounter friends when eating there.

I had been urging my book club to patronize Birchbark Books and we finally met there in late November. Manager Susan White had gone home for the day, but Prudence Johnson capably fielded our many questions. We left with our book purchases and a list of books for our prospective meetings and promised to purchase them at Birchbark. Please patronize this wonderful independent bookstore. It is a perfect place for holiday shopping where you can purchase books and jewelry and more. And easier than shopping online. And certainly more enjoyable.

Rye, The Lowry, and Birchbark have advertised faithfully in Hill and Lake Press. Please visit their businesses and tell them that you saw their ads.

After leaving Birchbark with our books, we walked next door to The Kenwood, the new restaurant across from Kenwood School. We were impressed with the friendly and efficient service we received, and especially impressed with the food. We ordered salmon, duck, hamburgers, tuna, dessert, and more; all outstanding in quality and presentation. We arrived early, 5:15, but when we left at 7:30, every table was filled, the lounge area was full, and a line of people stretched out the door. What a restaurant!

Holiday Treats

By Madeleine Lowry

Around this time of year, I like my sweets. And the holidays offer an excuse to indulge. Starting with Halloween (candy), continuing through Thanksgiving (pies) and on through New Year's Eve (cake) there's a steady stream of treats.

But no holiday encourages as much sweet-making and sweet-eating as Christmas with a month of holiday parties, cookie exchanges, and offerings of sweets at home and office. Remember the butter shortage last year? Definitely scarier than a winter storm watch.

I think you'd agree that certain holiday treats are more delectable than others. My sister-in-law, Ann, and her daughter held a marathon baking session last December and offered up a stupendous collection of cookies to family and friends. There were at least a dozen kinds of cookies—all beautiful and colorful and sweet (of course), but there was definitely a pecking order of cookie preference in our household that was obvious from the moment the cookie tin was opened.

The cookie that Ann is known for, and her mother before her, is Coconut Date Balls. I'm willing to share the recipe, but I warn you—they are addictive.

Coconut Date Balls Makes about 24

- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 1/4 cup chopped dates
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 2 cups crispy rice cereal
- 1 cup flaked coconut

In a medium saucepan whisk together the eggs, sugar, salt and dates. Bring the mixture to a boil slowly over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally. Boil for 3 minutes until thickened and gooey.

Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the butter and vanilla. Mix in the crispy rice cereal. Let cool for a few minutes. When cool enough to handle, use teaspoonfuls of the mixture to form small balls. Roll the balls in coconut. Serve or pack into tins.

Now, I think the best Christmas cookies are simple to make, have distinctive flavors and lend a bit of holiday spirit. Coconut Date Balls fit the bill for me.

The cookies my daughter craves are a bit of 1960s homemaker nostalgia. (When have you ever seen a real cookie recipe that calls for instant pudding mix?) But they are easy to make and the combination of raspberry and chocolate is very festive. I got this recipe from a college friend over twenty years ago (and she probably got it from her mother). We make them almost every holiday season.

Sachertorte Cookies Makes about 30

- 1 cup butter, at room temperature
- 1 (3.9oz) box of instant chocolate pudding (not "cook and serve")
- 1 egg
- 2 cups flour

- 3 Tbsp sugar
- 1/2 cup raspberry jam (I like Bonne Maman)
- 1/2 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- 3 Tbsp butter, melted

Heat the oven to 325 degrees.

Cream butter in a large bowl with a hand mixer. Add pudding mix and egg, mix again. Add flour, mix thoroughly. Form the dough into 1" balls.

Roll the balls in sugar and make an indent in the center of each ball with your thumb or a clean cork. Bake on a cookie sheet lined with parchment for 15-18 minutes.

Let the cookies cool and then fill the indents in the cookies with raspberry jam.

Melt the butter and chips together in a glass bowl in the microwave (microwave for 30 seconds, stir, repeat). Line the cookies up close to one another on a piece of foil. Dip a spoon in the melted chocolate mixture and drizzle it over the cookies. Let cool and pack into tins.

Another kind of cookie I enjoy making are a type of waffle cookie called Pizzelles. They are Italy's answer to Scandinavian Krunkake. For many years our friends Mae and Renee would come to our house with a container of batter and a Krunkake iron to make cookies with my kids.

I prefer Pizzelles because they are more flavorful (you can substitute vanilla or almond extract for the anise), can be stored more easily (being flat) and you don't burn your fingers in the process. The catch is that you have to invest in a Pizzelle press—but they're readily available on Amazon.com.

Classic Pizzelles Makes 36-40

- 1 3/4 cups flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 3 large eggs
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup margarine, melted
- 1 Tbsp anise extract

Preheat the pizzelle press on heat setting #3. Place flour and baking powder in a small bowl, stir to combine. Reserve. Place eggs and sugar in a medium bowl and mix with a hand-mixer on medium speed for one minutes, until thickened. On low speed add the melted margarine and anise in a steady stream. Mix until combined. Add the flour mixture and mix until just combined about 15 seconds. Do not over mix. Spray the press lightly with Pam cooking spray. Drop 1 1/2 teaspoons of dough onto the center of each cookie grid. Close the lid and lock. When the green indicator comes on, the cookies are ready. Remove to a wire rack to cool.

So, add a new cookie recipe to your repertoire this season and start a new holiday tradition. I predict that you're going to need more butter. And sugar.

See you at the store.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS FROM PAGE 4

array of fake check scams. The scammers send the citizen a real-looking check, which is actually a fake. Technology allows the scammer to cheaply print thousands of counterfeit checks that look authentic. The citizen is told to deposit the "check" and wire some amount of money to the scammer. After the check is deposited, it bounces; by then, however, the citizen has already wired money to the scammer and can't get it back.

No matter the flavor, if you receive a check from someone you don't know—and that person asks you to wire back some portion of the amount of the check—exercise extreme caution. You're probably being hit up by a fake check scam.

Caller ID Spoofing. In years past, Caller ID could reliably tell people who was calling. Today, using inexpensive technology, scammers often "spoof" the Caller ID so that the number appearing on the consumer's Caller ID display is a fake number or fake business. Scammers may "spoof" their calling number to commit a wide variety of scams. Remember: just because a number or business appears on your Caller ID display does not make it the real thing. Exercise caution when you receive a call from an unknown caller who asks you to reveal private information, such as your bank account or Social Security number.

Most people do not know that their landline or cell phone bill can be used like a credit card, posting charges for unwanted products or services.

Tips for Avoiding These Scams:

- Never give out your personal information, including name, address, telephone number, and financial account information unless you can verify the security and reputability of the company that is contacting you.
- Do not trust a website or Internet pop-up ad just because it looks professional.
- If somebody you don't know sends you a check and then asks you to immediately wire money back to them, the check is probably counterfeit.
- Carefully review your bank, credit card, and telephone bills each month for unauthorized charges. If you find one, promptly write to or call your bank or credit card company.



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sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

A pie chart of my childhood mind growing up in Pennsauken, New Jersey in the haunted 1950s would have featured a large portion devoted to possible nuclear war. A kid on the school bus who will remain nameless (all right, Alan Markowicz) was convinced that living ten miles from Philadelphia, we were all doomed. Alan believed the Russians were preparing a preemptive hydrogen bomb attack on the United States. He reasoned the Strategic Air Command would intercept most of the missiles, but what kept him and later me up at night was that one might sneak through.

Alan, older and clearly more knowledgeable, held us in suspense. "Where would you aim if you were Nikita Khrushchev?" Taking a pen he wrote NYC on the palm of his left hand up near his index finger. On the fleshy part near where you would karate someone he wrote DC. With the air of someone who had given the matter considerable thought, he continued, "New York has the money and Washington the government. They drop the bomb right here," pointing to the very center of his palm. Philadelphia, perhaps not worth leveling on its own, but with the radiation and fallout one H-bomb could paralyze Congress and Wall Street.

A huge slice of the pie went to rooting for the hapless Philadelphia Phillies, the worst team in baseball for much of my childhood, and of course thinking about Margie Fenimore (see HLP. October, 2004). Smokey, (my boxer), school, good excuses not to go to Camp Ockanickon, and my family took all but the last piece. If I am truthful, more than a sliver of my time and energy was devoted to finding obscure music.

I was no Alan Lomax haunting the Depression era coal towns of Appalachia or the cotton fields of rural Georgia for nearly extinct folk songs and blues music. I simply wanted to be ready if I was suddenly chosen from a television studio audience and given the oppor-

tunity to name a song the band could not play. Johnny Carson played "Stump the Band" on the old Tonight Show, but I believe my quest predated that. Particularly since I was not allowed to stay up for a show that began at 11:30 PM.

The dreamlike image spun daily in my head. The emcee (not Carson) would first root around and pick an adult who clearly was unprepared. Stammering torturously, he finally came up with My Old Kentucky Home, which the band quickly plays with a flourish. The band members call him "Colonel", mocking him in fake southern accents and joking about taking a mint julep break as he squirms in his seat, a cautionary tale for the rest of us.

The host restores order and asks rhetorically if there is time for one more? I am about twelve years old, sitting on the aisle. Suddenly I am up. When asked why I am not in school, I reply that I am here to stump the band. Kids my age fantasize grand slam home runs, electrifying touchdowns, or buzzer beating baskets. I am calm and prepared, having considered and discarded thousands of songs in my mind.

The announcer remarks on how composed I am as the trumpeter wets his lips, the pianist plays chords almost silently, and the band leader, baton in hand, prepares to lead his troops. Taking the microphone I turn to squarely face the band, and with a studied casualness (and a voice deeper than my adult one), I offhandedly suggest the boys strike up a blues number they must surely all know. The trap is set; the blues is not the forte of this all-white studio band. But still, there is 150 years of experience accrued in strip clubs and Carnegie Hall staring at me.


I say, "Let's hear If Time Were Mud, My Feet Would Be Clean." I am even giving them a hint by snapping my fingers to the melody. The saxophonist takes a shot, let out of his cage for a few seconds, he plays an impres-

sive riff. The leader signals they do not know it, but to win, I must prove it is a real song. I have commandeered the audience mic, and since I never stopped keeping the beat, it is easy to sing the first verse. The sax player helps me out as I do a Bobby Darin move and return control of the room to the momentarily forgotten emcee. There is a pregnant pause as the audience waits to see if we are in trouble. I have clearly left some line or fourth wall behind. "Ladies and gentlemen, Pennsauken's own...Tommy Cook!"


The applause is hearty, half for what has transpired and the rest a relief that we have not been a bad audience. The announcer, who is making a mental note not to visit the great unwashed in the audience for a while, grips the mic tightly. What looked on television like a gentle hand guiding me to my seat left quite a bruise. "For stumping the band, let's see what Tommy has won... Dinner and dancing for two at the fabulous Knickerbocker Room!"

Tom H. Cook thought you might like a break from warmhearted feel good holiday tales. He is still twitterable @Tomhowardcook








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