



'Where the biggies leave off...'

Hill & Lake Press

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"The best ideas in 100 years!"

Park Board Charrette Envisions Redesign of Much-Loved, Much-Used South Isles-North Calhoun

By Michael Wilson

Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association and Midtown Greenway Coalition Boards

Minneapolis' parks, lakes, and trails are universally regarded as chief among the city's glories. And to Kenwood, East Isles, CIDNA, and Lowry Hill residents Lake of the Isles and Lake Calhoun are the jewels in the crown.

So what do you do when 1.3 million people not only from the city but also from the entire metro area, and indeed visitors from around the world, all flock to this beautiful stretch of parkland, making it the most visited part in the metro area and overwhelming it with their enthusiasm, affection, and activity?

You hold a community charrette – a preliminary park design event – led by Park Board planners and landscape architects from LHB Inc. to engage the public in envisioning the future of the area. The ideas that can emerge from such a design event can be pie-in-the-sky, eminently doable, and sometimes spectacular. As one participant wrote, "These are the best ideas for the area to come forth in 100 years!"

There was a palpable air of excitement in the room

high atop the MoZaic building in Uptown on October 13th, on a beautiful late fall day, as the design team presented some "big ideas" such as relocating the Calhoun Yacht Club and Calhoun Sailing School to the northwest corner of the lake; reweaving the biking and walking trails between the two lakes to add safety, separation, and beauty; and – get ready for this one! – possibly building a "land bridge" or "lid" over a lowered Lake Street between Thomas Avenue and the lagoon to create an entirely new connection between the two lakes.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) Assistant Superintendent for Planning Bruce Chamberlain stressed at the opening community input session on October 9th that the redesign process will abide by four primary principles:

Respect current uses

Solve problems (such as use conflicts and circulation and safety issues)

Envision a positive inter-relationship between park and development

Re-weave the landscape.

For many of the people attending the opening Oct. 9th session and the two smaller stakeholder planning sessions on Oct. 10th and 11th, safety concerns were paramount, particularly at the Dean Parkway and East Isles/East Calhoun crossings where fatalities have occurred in recent years.

Charrette participants were told that traffic counts between the Excelsior/West Lake and Lagoon/West Lake intersections consistently rank this stretch as one of the three busiest in all of Hennepin County. In 2011

VOTE NOVEMBER 6



South Isles-North Calhoun Charrette Redesign leaders Michael Schroeder (left), director of urban design and planning at landscape architecture and engineering firm LHB Inc., and Bruce Chamberlain (right), Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board assistant superintendent for planning, discuss concept designs at the charrette stakeholder working group session on October 10th.

Photo by Bob Corrick

Park Board Charrette to page 6

Attention Voters

Be ready to vote on November 6!

Get informed by visiting www.mnvotes.org

Your one-stop elections resource with information including:

- My Ballot
- Polling Place Finder
- Voter Registration Lookup
- Absentee Ballot Lookup
- Same-Day Registration

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6!

This message is from the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State. For more information about voter registration, voting, absentee ballots, overseas or military voting, and polling place locations visit: www.mnvotes.org or call 1-877-600-VOTE (8683) or Minnesota Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529.



Midtown Greenway Coalition charrette representative Michael Wilson (left), shows planners' proposals for reconfigured pedestrian and biking paths to an interested Scott Abbott (right), CIDNA resident and daily Midtown Greenway user, at the Public Concept-Review Open House on October 13th at MoZaic.

Photo by Dorothy Childers

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Lunch with Lisa

The October 31 lunch meeting with Council Member Lisa Goodman will feature Casey Carl from the Minneapolis City Clerk's office who will address the voter ID amendment. Meeting begins at noon.

St. Thomas University Minneapolis
\$10 lunch is offered.

Thrill Kenwood 2012

Saturday, October 27 @ 1-8pm
Downtown Kenwood

Spend a day celebrating Halloween with fun block party happenings. You won't want to miss zombies dancing Thriller worldwide at 2pm and 7pm. • Unbored Book Signing (1-3pm) with hands on activities on the block • Pumpkin Painting (3-5pm) • Costumed Pet Parade (4pm) • ARTrageous Swap Shop Table • Creation Stations • Zombie Make Overs • Treats & Cider. See Artrageous Adventures and the Thrill Kenwood Facebook Page for more info.

Unbored - Elizabeth Foy Larsen

Saturday, October 27 @ 1-3pm
Birchbark Books

Unbored: The Essential Field Guide to Serious Fun! Author Elizabeth Foy Larsen will be at Birchbark Books signing copies of this activity book every modern kid needs. Vibrantly designed, lavishly illustrated, brilliantly walking the line between cool and constructive, it's crammed with activities that are not only fun and doable but also designed to get kids engaged with the wider world. Kids of all ages will get to try some of the activities in this book like Freaky Fitness, Make a Family Portrait, Foursquare, and Garage Sale Swap.

Legendary Homes of the Minneapolis Lakes

Thursday, November 1 @ 7pm
Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church

2020 W Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Minneapolis
Please note the change of venue. Book launch event. For tens of thousands of Minnesotans who walk and bike around Minneapolis's beautiful Chain of Lakes every year, the lovely homes that surround these fine city parks are as intriguing as the exquisite views of open space and sparkling water. *Legendary Homes of the Minneapolis Lakes* by Bette Hammel and Karen Melvin invites readers inside 28 of the most architecturally significant dwellings. From Minnesota Historical Society Press.

Birchbark Books Reading Series

Wednesday, November 7 @ 7pm
Bockley Gallery (near Birchbark Books)

The Birchbark Books Reading Series presents poets Leslie Adrienne Miller, Sharon Suzuki-Martinez, and Heid E. Erdrich. Curated by Michael Kiesow Moore, the reading series features new, emerging, and established writers every 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May. Please note the new location at Bockley Gallery, just a few doors down from Birchbark Books.

Sherman Alexie: Blasphemy

Monday, November 12th @ 7pm
Plymouth Congregational Church, 1900 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis. Sherman Alexie will be in town in support of his new book *Blasphemy: New and Selected Stories*. Irreverent hilarity will ensue. This event is free and open to the public. No ticket required. Part of the *Literary Witnesses* series.

William C. Moyers

Tuesday, November 13th @ 7pm
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1917 Logan Ave S, Minneapolis. Birchbark Books is pleased to present author William C. Moyers reading from his new book *Now What? An Insider's Guide to Addiction and Recovery*. Moyers is the vice president of Public Affairs and Community Relations at Hazelden Foundation and author of the New York Times best-selling title *Broken: My Story of Addiction and Redemption*. The event is free and open to the public.

Minneapolis Uptown Rotary

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

St. Mark's annual treasure sale continues:

Friday, October 19, 8:30am - 6pm; Saturday, October 20, 8:30am - 3pm. A good old fashioned/modern church rummage sale featuring antiques, furniture, books, clothing, designer items, and collectibles.

Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral
519 Oak Grove Street, Minneapolis

Minneapolis 2013 budget hearings: November 29 and December 12, 6:05pm, City Hall

Truth in Taxation Hearings, November 28 and December 12.

League of Women's Voters School Board candidate forum.

Jefferson Community School, 1200 26th Street West, (26th and Hennepin) Minneapolis, MN 55405. Thursday, Oct. 25, 7:30—9 p.m.

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

Southwest Transitway Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) published and available

The Southwest Transitway is a proposed 15-mile light-rail line serving Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, St. Louis Park and Minneapolis. Public comment on the DEIS will inform preliminary engineering on the project, which is scheduled to begin in early 2013.

The public comment period is 60 days (deadline Tuesday, Dec. 11), extended from the minimum requirement of 45 days due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. Comments can be submitted three different ways:

Email: Written comments can be submitted to swcorridor@co.hennepin.mn.us.

U.S. Mail: Hennepin County Housing, Community Works and Transit, Attn: Southwest Transitway 701 Fourth Ave. S., Suite 400, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Public Hearings: Formal testimony at one of three Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) public hearings in November. The public hearings will each be preceded by an open house, where people can learn more about the Southwest Transitway DEIS.

Nearby HCRRA public hearings :
4:30 p.m. (4 p.m. Open House) Tuesday, Nov. 13, Hennepin County Government Center, A-2400, 300 S. Sixth St., Minneapolis.

6 p.m. (5 p.m. Open House) Wednesday, Nov. 14, St. Louis Park City Hall, 5005 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park.

Hard copies of the Southwest Transitway DEIS are available at:

Hennepin County, Housing, Community Works and Transit, 701 Fourth Ave. S., Suite 400, Minneapolis

Southwest LRT Project Office, 6465 Wayzata Blvd., Suite 500, St. Louis Park

Hopkins City Hall, 1010 First St. S., Hopkins
Minneapolis City Hall, 350 S. Fifth St., Minneapolis
Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka

St. Louis Park City Hall, 5005 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park

Hard copies are also available at some Hennepin County Library locations.

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and appendices are available from Hennepin County's Southwest Transitway website at:
<http://www.southwesttransitway.org>.

HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Oct 19, 20, St. Mark's treasure sale

Oct. 21, 2pm N.I.P benefit Temple Israel

Oct. 23, 7pm Semi Annual Members Mtg EIRA

Oct. 23, Nov. 1, 12, and 26, 5-9pm MPRB SWLRT Community Advisory Committee Workshops, MPRB headquarters

Oct. 25, 7:30pm School Board candidate forum

Oct. 26-28 Paris meets Mississipi events see p10

Oct 27, 1-8pm Thrill Kenwood; 1-3pm Elizabeth Foy Larsen, Birchbark;

October 31, Lunch with Lisa noon St. Thomas
Nov. 1, 7pm Lake of Isles Lutheran, book launch, Lakes' Legendary homes

Nov. 7, 7pm Birchbark reading event, Bockley

Nov. 12, 7pm Plymouth church reading

Nov. 13, 7pm reading at St. Paul's church

Nov. 13, 4pm HCRRA (DEIS) hearing Govt Ctr

Nov. 14, 5pm HCRRA (DEIS) hearing, St. Louis Pk city hall

Neighborhood monthly meetings:

CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday 6pm at Jones-Harrison

EIRA: 2nd Tuesday 7pm. Semi-Annual Members Meeting 2nd Tuesday at Grace-Trinity Church, October meeting will be 6-7:30 pm

KIAA: 1st Monday 7pm Kenwood Rec Center,

LHNA: 1st Tuesday 7pm at Kenwood Rec Center

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CORRECTION:

Check out East Isles new demonstration rain garden at 2871 Humboldt Ave S (side yard). An incorrect address was noted in the September issue of Hill and Lake Press. We regret the error.

MPRB SWLRT Community Advisory Committee Workshops

The MPRB has scheduled four workshops for the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to develop comment recommendations for the Park Board on the DEIS. All of the workshops will be held in the board room of the MPRB's Administrative Office Building, 2117 West River Road. They are open to the public and will be held from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. on October 23, November 1, 12, and 26.

N. I. P Music for Medicine Benefit

Featuring Members of the Minnesota Orchestra:
Rebecca Albers, Matthew Frischman, Burt Hara, Erin Keefe, Kathryn Nettleman, Pitnarry Shin, John Snow. Sunday, October 21, 2012

Pre-Concert Jazz Reception and Silent Auction to begin at Noon. Benefit Chamber Music Concert at 2:00 PM

Temple Israel — 2324 Emerson Avenue South
612-746-8521 • www.neighborhoodinvolve.org
Tickets available at the door for \$60, Students \$25
Advance Tickets available for \$50 until 5pm on Friday, October 19th by calling 612-746-8521.

N.I.P. benefits from this fundraising event. Last year, this benefit concert raised over \$30,000 that was used to help fund programs offered by N.I.P. for women, men, and children in need of healthcare and social services. In 2011 more than 7,000 health care (medical, dental and mental health) clients were served and volunteers donated over 54,500 hours of their time.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR, HENNEPIN COUNTY JUDGE CANDIDATE LIZ CUTTER

Craig Wilson interviews Elizabeth V. Cutter (Liz Cutter) of Minneapolis, Senior Assistant Hennepin County Attorney, about why she is running for Hennepin County Judge 4th District Court 22, why she is qualified, and what makes a good judge. Visit www.cutter4judge.com for more information about Liz Cutter.

Why are you running for Hennepin County Judge?

I am seeking a judicial position for the same reason that I devoted my career to public service: to have a positive impact on our justice system and, in turn, our community. As a trial attorney, I have seen the impact that a good judge can have. I have been a responsive, patient, respectful, prepared, careful, and fair public attorney. I will be that kind of a judge.

What makes a good judge?

A good judge is prepared, respectful, timely, thorough, hard-working, and, above all, fair. Citizens who need to access our justice system must be confident that their arguments will be heard, that they will be treated with respect, that the law will be applied fairly, and that the result, even if adverse to their claim, is a fair result. Our justice system must not only be fair but communicate the perception of fairness. I have worked hard as a public attorney to ensure that our system is accessible and fair. I will continue that work as a judge in Hennepin County.

What are your qualifications?

Both civil and criminal trial experience in state and federal court

I have tried over 100 jury trials, hundreds of non-jury trials

- 2011 Minnesota Lawyer Attorney of the Year
- 2010-2011 President, Minnesota Women Lawyers
- Supervisor of felony domestic violence prosecution for Hennepin County
- Appointed by then Chief Justice Blatz to the

Minnesota Rules of Evidence Committee

Member of Domestic Violence Steering Committee, Family Violence Coordinating Council, Fatality Review Team (interdisciplinary committees designed to improve access to and effectiveness of Hennepin County justice system)

Active in Hennepin County Bar Association (co-chair of criminal committee; member of nominating committee and ethics committee)

Frequent educator locally, nationally, and internationally

Community leader, serving on the boards of directors of several community organizations including Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association, Interact Center for the Arts, Minnesota Institutional Review Board, Minnesota State Bar Association Mock Trial Coach and Judge, Minnesota Swimming, Inc.. Please see www.cutter4judge.com for a complete list of volunteer service.

Who is supporting you?

- Won Hennepin County Bar Association Poll with over 75% of the vote
- Former Vice President Walter Mondale
- Former Minnesota Governor Arne Carlson
- Former Minnesota Attorney General Warren Spannaus
- Former Secretary of State Joan Growe
- U.S. Representative Keith Ellison
- Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman
- Former Hennepin County Attorney Tom Johnson
- Minneapolis City Attorney Susan Segal
- Former Speaker of the House Margaret Anderson Kelliher
- State Senators Scott Dibble and Terri Bonoff, Jeff Hayden
- Former State Senator Ember Reichgott Junge
- State Representatives Marion Greene, Frank Hornstein, Steve Simon, Susan Allen, Lyndon R.



Elizabeth V. Cutter

- Carlson, Denise Dittrich
 - Hennepin County Commissioners Gail Dorfman, Peter McLaughlin
 - Minneapolis City Council Member Lisa Goodman
 - Former Hennepin County Bar Association Presidents Marlene Garvis, Susan Holden, Jean Holloway, Tom Tinkham
 - Former United States Attorney Tom Heffelfinger
 - Teamsters Local 120
 - Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis
 - Academy of Certified Trial Lawyers of Minnesota
 - National Latino Peace Officers Association – Minnesota Chapter
 - Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association
- Please go to www.cutter4judge.com for a complete list of supporters and endorsements.

The Hill Lake Press also attempted to interview Steve Antolak of Brooklyn Park, who is also running for Hennepin County Judge 4th District Court 22, but did not hear back from him or his campaign at the print deadline. You can learn more about Steve Antolak at www.voteantolak.com



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Southwest teacher goes North MINNEAPOLIS MINDS

By Steve Kotvis

Photographing a high school football game this season between Minneapolis Southwest and North, I was struck out of the corner of my eye by the sight of Chris Fisher, a longtime Kenwood resident, neighbor, parent to one of my daughter's lifelong friends, and a 20+ year teacher at Southwest. What drew my attention wasn't that I spotted Chris at a football game. I've seen Chris at many Southwest sporting events over the years. No, what made me take notice was his donning a North High Polar sweatshirt.

So, after a number of months trying to make our schedules matchup, Chris and I finally got to sit down and talk about his move to North.

Q. Chris, let's review. How long have you been living in the neighborhood and teaching at Southwest?

Chris: Patty Hoolihan and I moved into Kenwood in 1984 and by March 1985 I had started teaching at Southwest High School. After being a career theater actor (and earning his Masters of Education), I started short call (substitute) teaching, and most often at Southwest. I began assisting directing plays and working with students interested in theater almost from day one. The kids figured out I was in show business. And in March of 1986 I was asked if I would be the advisor for a student drama club. I said, I'd be their club's advisor if they would produce their own plays. That led to a 1987 student produced I Act festival which became the basis of all subsequent theater production during my tenure at Southwest. The theater program became quite extensive and has during the last several years produced ten to fourteen plays a year.

Q. So after so many years, what made you switch to North?

Chris: I took a position at North because I believed Southwest Theater and Fine Arts in general were on solid ground, and I had accomplished many of my goals for the Southwest students and families. You know the biggest trick in managing a program is whether or not

the work can be sustained and I believe Southwest Theater and Fine Arts have become sustainable and successful. Change can be good and it seemed as if that time had arrived for me and Southwest. I will always cherish my years at Southwest. I announced my intention to resign my position at Southwest and hoped someone would offer me a job in education so that I could continue doing the work I love. I was on a job search, and at a certain point I was asked if I would be interested in applying for a teaching and the "arts integration specialist" position at the new Arts and Communications magnate school at North. And I thought the opportunity sounded pretty thrilling.

Q. So what does that mean? What will you be doing at North?

Chris: My job at North is as a half-time English teacher and a half-time arts integration lead who makes connections between the fine arts community in the Twin Cities and the school. We are already forming partnerships with organizations in the North Arts Leadership Group as well as Pangea World Theater, Teatro del Pueblo, Minneapolis Institute of Art, and Heart of the Beast Puppet Theater.

Q. So what do you mean, "the school?" I understand there's been some re-organization at North.

Chris: In my mind, it's all North High School. The "Academy of Arts and Communications," which is emerging (in this first year it has only a 9th grade class and will grow a grade each year) is North High School. And the "North High School Senior Academy" is (also) North High School. Each "academy" has its own principal and they are two separate academic programs within one North Community High School.

Q. So having lived here for many years, and recognizing some of the challenges we've witnessed at North, namely past conversations about the possible closing of the school and the reorganization that led to creating the Arts and Communications school you've now joined, I've just got to ask; Your

taking on this role, was this a noble cause?

Chris: No. No. It's a once in a lifetime chance to be part of the creation of a new school.

Q. So what are you hoping to create?

Chris: My dream is to help recreate the excellence of the original North Community High School Arts and Communications Magnate. Our teaching team is made up of excellent instructors and administrators who have come to North from a number of other Minneapolis schools. We're coming together as a team to create a new dynamic school rooted in long-standing traditions of excellence and success.

Q. One of the things you referenced when talking about the talent at Southwest, how kids had so many arts and theatrical experiences in the home that they brought into the school. What about kids coming to North who may not have those same experiences?

Chris: I erroneously believed when I got here that I was going to encounter a different culture of students. So what has delighted me and thrilled me is that the North Arts and Communications students are essentially the same as my previous students. They are smart. They're curious. They're polite. They say thank you. They want to read and write better. They're very loyal to their friends. They have a deep concern for ideas and have magnificent dreams for their futures. They are wonderful students. And I love teaching them.

Wow. Chris explained that he's approaching age 65, and may not be doing this work for much longer. From what I heard and felt from Chris makes me believe his work at North may be a mutually wonderful fit.

Steve Kotvis, a Kenwood resident who is an active volunteer in community and education issues has written Minneapolis Minds about public education since January 2008. Please feel free to share your comments, opinions or insights with him at stevek@f-go.us.

Don't replace gingerbread with anything half-baked.

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sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

I would like to issue a manifesto! Alas, producing such a powerful document seems to require not only a bedrock commitment to a cause, but a will of steel, piercing black eyes, and huge ham-like hands with hairy knuckles. Let me instead respectfully point out that our electoral process is deeply flawed to the point of embarrassment. Years ago, the erudite wit and social commentator Dick Cavett was asked by an interviewer whether he planned to vote in the coming election. Cavett responded in mock horror, "Heavens no, it just encourages them." The recent Supreme Court decision allowing unlimited campaign contributions has only made the election spectacle worse.

The New Yorker magazine suggests that the two Presidential candidates will together spend over one billion dollars in television advertising alone before November 6. A close election is a windfall for television and radio station owners. Instead of coquettish commercials for male enhancement, or gold merchants trolling for suckers, stations can charge a Super PAC top dollar to run attack ads implying a wrong voter choice will likely mean the end of the republic.

To those who say it is private money or, in Latin no harmus, no foulus, I disagree. One fat cat may invest \$10 million to save \$50 million in taxes, and another may contribute in hopes of having a pillow fight in the Lincoln bedroom. Either way, you and I will pay. Media advertising may be powerful but it is less satisfying than if we were to invest our national 401K on Silly String and a giant fireworks display.

Imagine you are an overworked or out of work rust belt resident. Because you live in a swing state, candidates are continually popping in. They travel with their

own entourage, but create traffic jams, false expectations, and a hefty bill for local police overtime. Your mailbox and front porch are buried in campaign literature on a daily basis. Answering the phone subjects you to robocalls or live pollsters. When the doorbell rings you hope it is Jehovah Witnesses, rather than another freshly scrubbed volunteer.

When you go to the grocery store, at least one news affiliate is sure to interview you on how it feels to be downtrodden. Even when watching television, the last affordable respite, you are inundated with thirty-second spots of a candidate standing in front of a boarded up factory proclaiming a need for new clean, green, high paying, wacky fun jobs!

Campaign funds come from Super PACs, fat cats, corporations, billionaires, foreign investors, movie stars, unions, and you and me. The money goes primarily to advertising agencies, media moguls, consultants, and seemingly everyone except "the plucky widow I met in Hattiesburg, Mississippi who has three sons in Iraq, recently had her spleen repossessed by an insurance company, and needs new batteries for her iron lung."

Here is my big idea, and I admit it is fraught with peril and possible abuse, but look where we are now. Currently we spend a billion dollars and only serve to annoy the target audience. There are people with heart-breaking stories and documented needs. They are hungry and we are giving them four color glossy pictures of food!

What if political parties were encouraged to "one up" each other by using their bulging coffers to champion good works? Candidates would receive public recognition for aiding hard hit states and municipalities.

They may get naming rights like corporations and individual donors do on sports venues and university buildings. I know this sounds like buying votes, which is as unethical as attempting to disenfranchise our citizenry. I admit the idea needs tweaking — but here are two examples.

Candidate #1 "I could release a series of venomous TV attack ads aimed at my narcissistic, bat-sucking, cretinous opponent. Looking into the hearts of people of this great state, I have instead decided to direct those funds to be used to keep every public library in the state open on Saturdays! Furthermore, for young people and families, I have authorized my campaign to make a contribution that will ensure that every recreation center and community swimming pool will have extended hours!"

Candidate #2 "My staff was ready to place four hundred likenesses of me on billboards all over the greater metropolitan area. I said, 'People already know what I look like and we do not want to scare the children. Let's do something else with the money.' Because I believe in scratching where it itches, I asked, 'What do the people want?' Turns out y'all would like a continuation of the bike paths begun the last time my party was in office. We are gonna pay to extend the path from Fox Hollow Creek, all the way to downtown! And that's good jobs for the local economy!"

Tom H. Cook is a writer and former HLP resident. We have no idea where he gets the audacity to continue to submit his ideas to this publication. There is a chance that he is really three women.

The Blessing of the Animals at the Basilica of Saint Mary



Photo by Dorothy Childers

Father Greg Welch and Johan van Parys, director of Liturgy and Sacred Arts, blessing the animals at The Basilica of St. Mary. The celebration is held annually on a Sunday close to the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.



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Casa Verde Design Wins Top Awards at NKBA-MN Design Competition

Winning Designs for Large Kitchen, Medium Kitchen, Large Bath and Powder Bath

Rosemary Merrill, partner and designer at Casa Verde Design in Minneapolis, won top honors at the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA), Minnesota Chapter's 2012 Award Competition. Four of Merrill's designs won first place, including Large Kitchen, Medium Kitchen, Large Bath and Powder Bath. In addition, her Large Kitchen was awarded a Student's Choice Award. The awards were announced on September 20 at the NKBA-MN's awards gala at the Van Dusen Mansion in Minneapolis.

Casa Verde Design is a national and local award-winning custom kitchen and bath design firm recognized for designing beautiful spaces and cabinetry that are sophisticated and timeless. "These designs are a wonderful reflection of our work," Merrill said. "When designing spaces, we take the home's architecture into consideration and strive to achieve a timeless design that is sophisticated as well as inviting and warm."

For more information and high-resolution photos, please contact Rosemary Merrill at rosemary@casaverdedesign.com or (612) 353.4401.

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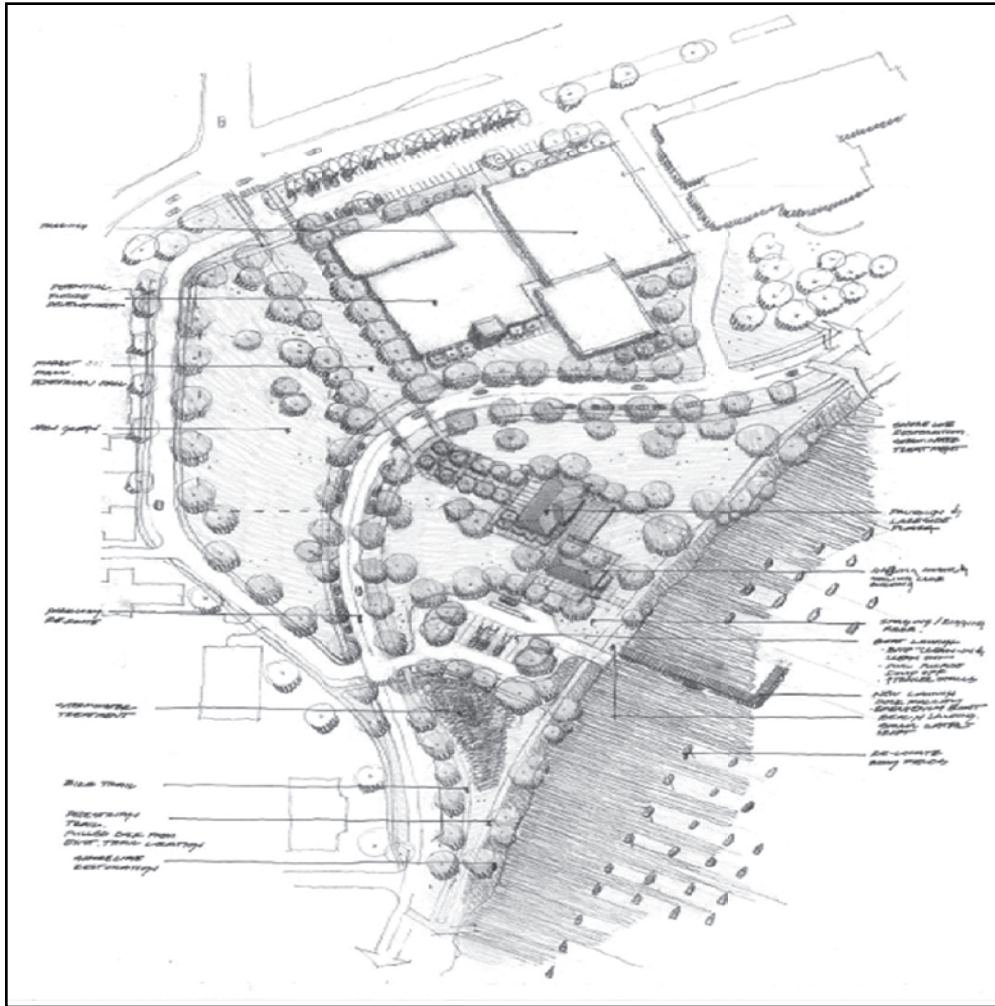
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South Isles-North Calhoun Redesign Charrette Generates Wealth of Ideas

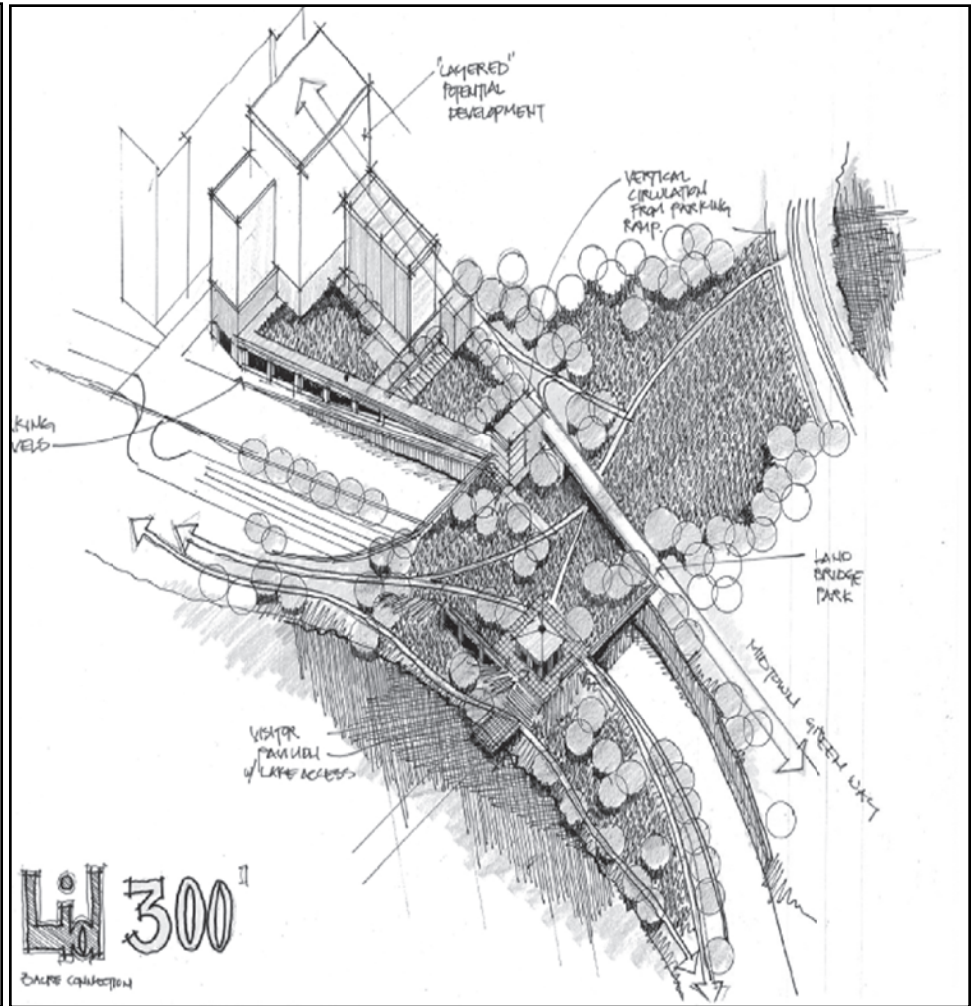
The Oct. 9-13 Park Board Charrette generated many ideas for reweaving the parcels of Park Board land lying between the south shore of Lake of the Isles and north shore of Lake Calhoun as well as for alleviating severe overuse issues and significant safety concerns. For detailed information on the charrette, including scores of drawings of redesign possibilities, go to <http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/default.asp?PageID=1398>. (All drawings courtesy of Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board)

Northwest Calhoun Boat Launch Area and Four-Season Activity Center



West Calhoun Parkway could be re-routed away from the shoreline towards the Calhoun Business Center parking lot, creating ample space for new boat launch facilities and an activities/event center for Calhoun Sailing School and Calhoun Yacht Club as well as for ice skaters and cross-country skiers.

Land Bridge over Lake Street



The most exciting and visionary idea – and the most expensive – envisions a “land bridge” over a lowered Lake Street, creating an entirely new, safe, and beautifully landscaped connection between Isles and Calhoun. Shown here is a version that would cover 300 feet of roadway.

Park Board Charrette from page one

it was the #1 busiest stretch, carrying 39,500 vehicles per day. County Engineer Jim Grube, Hennepin County’s director of transportation, told the stakeholder group that the County stands ready to work with other jurisdictions to improve safety and traffic flow, but that by County Board mandate his department’s primary responsibility is to the motorists who use its highways.

Michael Schroeder, LHB’s director of urban design and planning, presented several ideas for pedestrian/bike bridges high over Lake Street or tunnels underneath, quickly adding that such structures usually have a low rate of acceptance and use by the public. Tunnels can feel claustrophobic, Schroeder said, and bridges can feel daunting and even scary in addition to gobbling up vast amounts of land required to build

ADA-compliant ramps.

Schroeder and MPRB’s Chamberlain presented the concept of a land bridge covering perhaps 300 feet of the Lake Street roadway. Such a solution would require lowering Lake Street by perhaps eight feet, could muffle some of the sound that park users complain of, and might actually promote traffic calming and flow. The cost would far exceed current available funding, but Stuart Ackerberg, charrette stakeholder participant and owner of the Lake Calhoun Business Center, was one of many who waxed enthusiastic about “thinking big.” Our Minneapolis park system was built by people who were unafraid to dream and think big, Ackerberg stressed, and so should we. “Imagine 50, even 100 years out,” he said. “Let’s rebuild this park in a way that will make future generations proud.”

Another “big idea” that captured the imagination of charrette participants was moving the Calhoun Yacht Club and Calhoun Sailing School to the northwest corner of the lake. Rerouting West Calhoun Parkway away from the lake and closer to the Calhoun Business Center parking lot could provide ample room for launching boats and building a four-season clubhouse and event center, which could be used by ice skaters and cross-country skiers in the winter and might generate revenue from parties, wedding receptions, art classes, and many other uses. Some participants suggested a Chain of Lakes Regional Park Visitor Center. The severe parking crunch around Tin Fish could also be alleviated through a cooperative use arrangement with the Calhoun Business Center parking lot, part of which sits on MPRB land.

An immediate concern for planners is removing the pedestrian path from the top of the Lake Street bridge over the lagoon. Suggestions included building an entirely new pedestrian path along the north Calhoun shore which could allow walkers to stand at a promontory and admire the views of Lake Calhoun to their south and the views of the graceful, historic 1911 Lake Street bridge to their north.

Park Board Charrette to page 7

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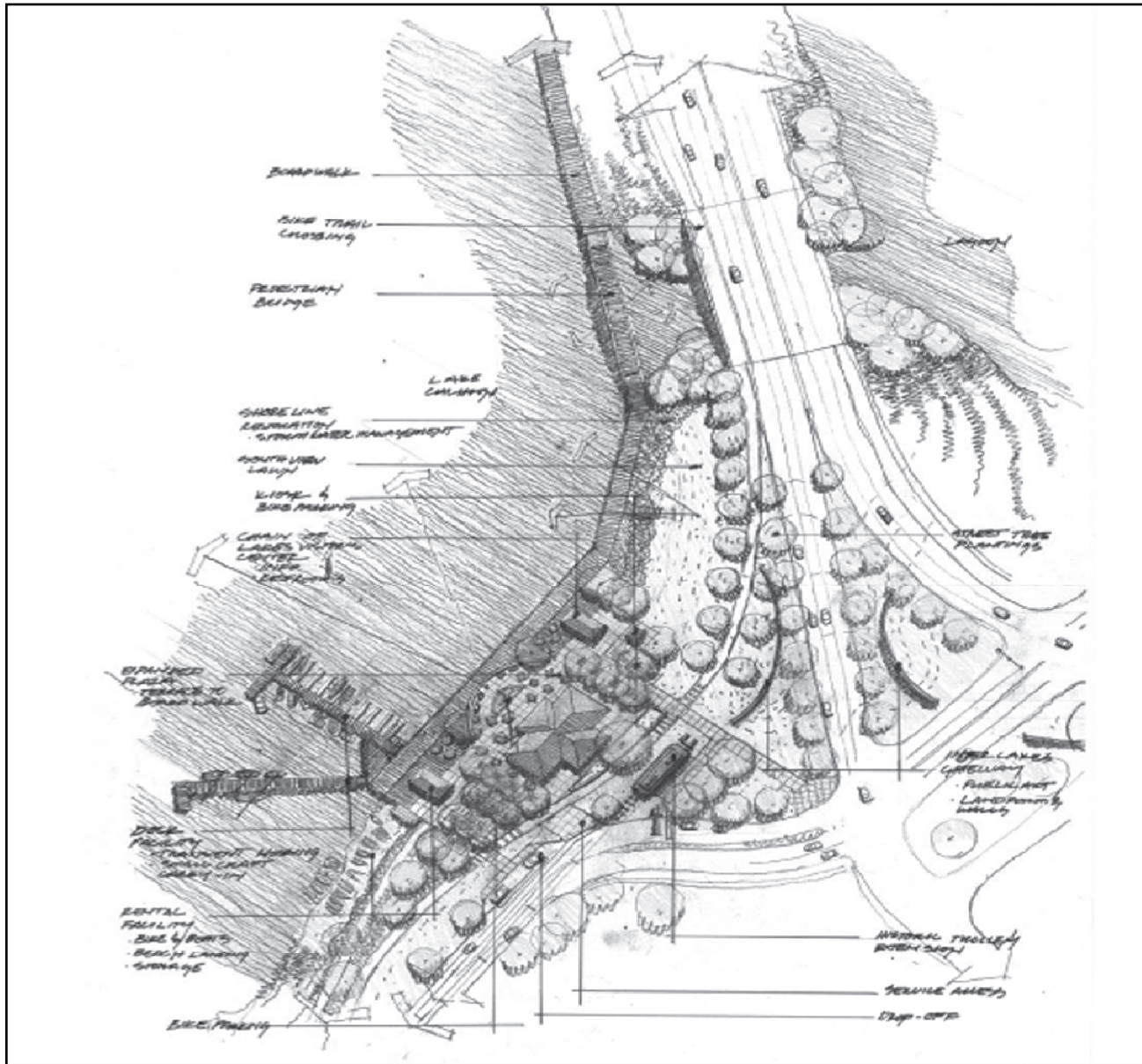
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New Pedestrian Path Along Northeast Calhoun Shoreline



By common agreement the narrow combined bike-walk path on the Lake Street bridge over the lagoon is unsafe and totally inadequate. Charrette planners suggest building an entirely new pedestrian path along the northeast Calhoun shoreline, bridging the lagoon channel with a new span that would allow walkers to admire views of Lake Calhoun to their south and of the historic graceful 1911 Lake Street bridge to their north.

Park Board Charrette from page 6

After the charrette, according to Chamberlain and MPRB Planner Deb Bartels, the resulting design concepts, community feedback, and recommendations will be packaged into a report for presentation to the MPRB Board of Commissioners and communication to the community. The results will form the basis for more detailed design and, ultimately, capital improvements in the study area. Several formal actions will likely result from the process that the Park Board of Commissioners would be asked to consider. Project priorities and implementation steps will be identified.

Interested in finding out more? MPRB has created a comprehensive website at <http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/default.asp?PageID=1398> containing scores of design drawings as well as history, demographic, inventory, and usage boards. The site also con-

tains all the comments that were received during both of the open houses, entered into a text document. Additionally, all the comments that were placed on the drawings or analysis boards by charrette attendees were scanned in place to ensure understanding.

The site can also be found by going to the MPRB homepage (www.minneapolisparcs.org). Go to the "Design & Planning" header halfway down the gray Topics column on the left and click on "Current Projects." Then scroll down the alphabetical list of current projects to "North Lake Calhoun /South Lake of the Isles Charrette." Then bookmark and check this page periodically as more will be revealed about this exciting redesign.

Parks Historian to discuss Lake of the Isles and the Mall history

The East Isles Residents' Association welcomes guest speaker David C. Smith, Minneapolis parks historian to discuss the history of Lake of the Isles and The Mall parkland at its Semi-Annual Members Meeting on October 23.

Mr. Smith is a writer and Minneapolis park historian who wrote City of Parks: The Story of Minneapolis Parks. He has also written a brief history of every Minneapolis park for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board website (www.minneapolisparcs.org). In his spare time, he continues to write on the subject of parks and Minneapolis history at www.minneapolisparkhistory.com. He lives in southwest Minneapolis.

Giving Thanks Benefit to Support American Indian Education at the Takoda Institute & Takoda Prep

The Takoda Institute of Higher Education and Takoda Prep School are holding their annual fundraiser on Sunday, November 4 from 3-7pm at Famous Dave's-3001 Hennepin Avenue South; Minneapolis, MN. Entertainment is provided by musical groups Jimmi & the Band of Souls, Blue Dog, The Mellow D's and HOKA-HEY drum group. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at the door or at www.givingthanks.eventbrite.com, additional sponsorship levels are available.

BIDEN HONORS LGBT LEADER

Kristan Clow, LGBT Outreach Coordinator at The Bridge for Youth, was honored yesterday as one of the nation's Top Emerging LGBT Leaders at a barbecue at Vice President Joe Biden's Washington, DC home.

In her first visit to Washington, DC, Clow rubbed elbows with the Vice President and his wife, networked with other LBGT leaders from across the country, and received a personal tour of The White House. After a bit of sight-seeing, Clow was scheduled to meet with staff at Congressman Keith Ellison's office and have a policy discussion with leaders at the National Coalition for the Homeless.

Clow's career began as a counselor in youth drop-in shelters in the Twin Cities. With an interest in LBGT issues, she worked as a volunteer leading support groups for LGBT youth before joining The Bridge for Youth in 2009. Clow continues to be a tireless advocate for homeless youth and the 20-40% of homeless youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth.

Today, Clow spends her time working with students and social workers, educating them about support services, particularly those at The Bridge for Youth. There Clow facilitates a weekly support group called, "So What if I Am?"

Clow's outreach work at The Bridge for Youth is supported by Arise, an arm of the Greater Twin Cities United Way, seeking to promote change by increasing the quality of life for the LGBT community.

The Bridge for Youth is a non-profit organization serving homeless youth in crisis. An anchor in the Twin Cities community since 1970, The Bridge provides counseling, emergency shelter, and transitional housing for youth, ages 10-21.

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Pete and Alexa Drago with Alexa's parents Tim and Woman's Club of Minneapolis.

FRIENDS RETURN TO MINNEAPOLIS

By Jean

Many residents in the Hill and Lake Press area fondly remember their capacities, most recently as business manager. When Jane's their Fremont Avenue home where they had lived for over 30 years. It was fitting that when they visited Minneapolis recently, they came at the Woman's Club of Minneapolis in the company of 70 close friends and husband to join the merry crowd. She is the capable web master.

As Jane would say, I have soldiered on with Hill and Lake Press friendship and shoulder to cry on, and her columns where she writes happenings in the neighborhood.

Daughter Fiona and her husband live in London. And very often. And when people ask about them, which happens often, I will say that century house that they are renovating, but that they miss their



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Photos by Jeanne Haro

Jane Johnson enjoying an anniversary party at the

Deatrick

Member Jane Johnson who capably led Hill and Lake Press in various capacities. Her husband Tim retired from the Fredrikson law firm, they sold their home and returned three years ago to Jane's native home in England. They celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary at an elegant reception with family and friends. Daughter Alexa arrived from Denver along with her mother and brother of Hill and Lake Press. We are grateful for her expertise. It's a new chapter in life, but it surely hasn't been the same without Jane's wisdom, her sense of humor and/or outrage about happenings.

Soon Jane and Tim will welcome a baby grandchild in Denver. We hope they love being back in England where they live in a 14th century home with many friends in Minneapolis. And that we miss them terribly.

REDUCE GYM MEMBERSHIP FEES

Save money, get in shape, and help your neighbor! Develop strong muscles by shoveling the snow off a grateful senior citizen's walkways and driveway. Adopt a yard until the weather warms. Resident will provide the warm smile. Perfect opportunity for apartment/condo dweller who yearns to be outside. Work with a partner and you can take turns shoveling. Family teams and small groups welcome; youth must be age 7 and older and supervised by an adult.

Exact location TBD in , depends upon where the senior citizen resides. One time opportunities are also available. Please contact Jeanne the NIP Seniors Program, Volunteer Coordinator at srvolunteer@neighborhoodinvolve.org or call 612-746-8549 for more information. Our website is www.neighborhoodinvolve.org Thank you!

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EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (EIRA)

By Monica Smith, Recorder

Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting October 9, 2012 Grace-Trinity Community Church

Board members present: Linda Schutz (Vice President), Al Rodriguez (Treasurer), Vaughn Emerson, Tina Frontera, Renee Gust, and Jane Schommer.

Vice President Linda Schutz called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Leslie Foreman, Aide to Council Member Meg Tuthill, Ward 10

The City Council recently approved the contract for single sort recycling. The implementation will be rolled out by truck routes (not by neighborhood) with one-third of the City beginning in November and the remaining two-thirds in spring 2013. The City will send a mailer to residents explaining the procedure and timing and deliver new recycling carts. All recyclables will be combined into the new bin.

Street sweeping begins the week of October 22nd. To view the schedule for your block, go to: www.minneapolis.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping/.

The Uptown Association is hosting a Safety and Service Summit, October 11, 5-8 pm at Calhoun Square.

Public meetings for Lake Calhoun/Lake of the Isles design charrette: October 9, 7-9 pm and October 13, 9-11 am. Both meets will be held at MoZaic, 1350 Lagoon Ave.

Bylaws

The Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) department of the City of Minneapolis has asked EIRA to revise its bylaws to better comply with the guidelines for the Community Participation Program (CPP). The board unanimously approved the removal of the following sentence from Article VI, Section 2 (Committee Qualifications): "All committee members must be approved by the Board." This proposed change will be offered for approval to the EIRA membership at the Oct 23rd, Semi-Annual Members Meeting.

A second amendment to the bylaw relating to Article 1, Section 2 (Corporation Name, Purpose and Boundaries) was not addressed.

Semi-Annual Members Meeting, Oct 23

The board unanimously approved a \$100 honorarium for David Smith, park historian and guest speaker at the October 23 Members Meeting.

The Members Meeting will also include a vote on

the proposed bylaws change, a report about the Smith Triangle survey, and a neighborhood priority setting exercise.

An ad will be published in the October 19th Hill and Lake Press to promote the meeting.

REPORTS

Zoning Committee

Recap of the September 18 Zoning Committee meeting:

Discussion with Bob Kowalski and residents regarding possible noise abatement options for Kowalski's Market loading dock.

Frothinger Properties on W Lake St (Commercial/Residential Development at 1618 W Lake, 1620 W Lake and 2915 James Ave): Preliminary Presentation to be followed by more detailed presentation at the upcoming Oct 16th Zoning Meeting.

2449 Girard: New Home Construction (beginning week of Oct 15). No variance requested.

2225 E Lake of the Isles Pkwy: Historic Designation, remodel of front porch/rear/garage for review by Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission.

Next Zoning Committee meeting: October 16, 5 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th St. with the Smith Triangle Park sub-committee to meet at approximately 6 p.m. (the expected conclusion time of the Zoning Committee) for about ½ hour thereafter.

Monica Smith, NRP/Staff Report

Letters were sent to homes targeted as potential areas for new boulevard trees, explaining the process to request a free boulevard tree from the Park Board.

Next NRP meeting Monday, November 5, 7 pm at Grace Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th St.

Community Energy Services is offering a home energy visit for only \$30 through November 30. Details at www.mnces.org/mpls.

Green Team

The demonstration Rain Garden was successfully installed with help from 20 volunteers! Please stop by and see the result at 2871 Humboldt Ave S (at The Mall). Look for details about further workshops in the winter and spring.

Green Film: tentatively planned for November.

The Green Team is considering applying for Green Empowerment Grant from Hennepin County.

Green Team Coalition: Green Teams of five neighborhoods met last month. Will gather again on Dec. 12 to hear about Minneapolis Energy Options, a new campaign organized by Institute for Local Self-Reliance, MPIRG, and Environment Minnesota that aims to open up Minneapolis' options vis-à-vis our electric and gas utility franchises.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder

Upcoming EIRA meetings: Semi Annual Members' Meeting, Tuesday, October 23, 7 p.m. and BOD meeting Tuesday, November 13, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th St.

"PARIS MEETS THE MISSISSIPPI" – SERIES OF FREE EVENTS OCT. 26 - 28

Author and 'American-in-Paris' Terrance Gelenter speaks, signs and sings! Terrance Gelenter, author, Parisian bon vivant and the guru behind Paris Through Expatriate Eyes, www.paris-ecat.com, the delightful online company devoted to all things Paris, will be doing a series of events in Minneapolis. All events are free. Francophiles Merle Minda (www.travelovereasy.com) and Barbara Redmond (www.awomansparis.com), Minneapolis, are hosting.

•Friday, October 26: 7:30 PM: Author reading: Magers & Quinn, 3038 Hennepin Avenue South, Mpls.

•Saturday, October 27: 9 – 10:15 AM: Temple Israel; Terrance talks about Jewish Life in Paris; 2324 Emerson Avenue South, Mpls.

•Saturday October 27: 3 – 5 PM: Terrance reads and chats at Alliance Francaise, 113 North 1st Street.

•Saturday, October 27: 5:30 – 7:30 PM, Reception at C'est Chic, French Boutique at 212 - 3rd Avenue North, Mpls; with wine, food and French music.

•Sunday, October 28: 8:30 – 10:30 AM; meet Terrance at Wilde Roast, on the river at 65 SE Main Street, Mpls., buy your own coffee/breakfast.

LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (LHNA)

By Janis Clay, Secretary

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Minutes

Tuesday, October 2, 2012, Kenwood Recreation Center

Present - Board Members: David Weinstein, President; Janis Clay, Secretary; Tom Huppert; Phil Hallaway; Jimmy Fogel; Rebecca Graham;

Present – Guests and staff: Patrick Sadler, aide to Seventh Ward Minneapolis City Council Representative Lisa Goodman; Peter Horwich; Chris Madden, LHNA Administrator.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President David Weinstein, noting that a quorum was not present.

Community Announcements – Patrick Sadler, Aide to Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman, gave the community announcements: Lunch with Lisa, on October 31, will feature Casey Carl, the Minneapolis City Clerk, speaking on the proposed Voter ID amendment. Fall street sweeping will begin Tuesday Oct. 23rd and last four weeks. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board is beginning a process of studying and developing a vision for the south portion of Lake of the Isles and the north portion of Lake Calhoun and the area connecting the two. Two public hearings will be held at City Hall on the Mayor's 2013 budget proposal and the 2013 property tax levy, Wednesday Nov. 28, and Wednesday, December 12th. Minneapolis has many open seats on Boards and Commissions.

Committee Reports:

Zoning and Planning Committee:

Environment: David Weinstein has asked Craig Wilson to interface with the Park Board to monitor the process of completing the Kenwood Park sidewalk landscaping. No new information was presented this month on parking and traffic issues related to the Burch Building renovation. Maureen Sheehan has been handling this along with the Hennepin Avenue median planting project.

Crime and Safety: Rebecca Graham has volunteered to take on this committee along with Phil Hallaway. There have been numerous break-ins and thefts from cars lately, as well as a serious incident involving an individual who had been staying at the Bridge. The Board discussed that incident, the Bridge's and neighborhood response, and the many years the Bridge has been in the neighborhood without incident. The Board discussed the need to reenergize efforts to recruit block leaders, who will receive and pass along individualized crime alert bulletins regarding the most recent incidents on or near their blocks. Chris Madden included information in the October E-Blast about signing up as a block leader and other ways to receive crime information and become involved in keeping our city safe. Information and other crime prevention resources can be found at crime.prevention@minneapolis.gov.

Status of Eblast and Website: LHNA Coordinator Chris Madden welcomes input for E-Blasts. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

LHNA's next Board meeting will be held Tuesday, November 13, 2012, at the Kenwood Rec Center. This is one week later than our usual meeting date, because the first Tuesday of November falls on Election Day. 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.

•Sunday, October 28: 3:30 – 5:30 PM: Mill City Commons event, info and reservations at info@millcitycommons.com.

•Sunday, October 28: 6:30-8:30 PM: Terrance sings at the Nicollet Island Inn, (cash bar), accompanied by Mark Bloom; 95 Merriam Street, on Nicollet Island.

More info at www.travelovereasy.com and www.awomansparis.com/events.

Join your neighbors for

THE EAST ISLES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION Semi-Annual Members' Meeting TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 7-9 P.M.

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

Featuring guest speaker David C. Smith, Minneapolis parks historian to discuss the history of Lake of the Isles and The Mall parkland.

Mr. Smith is a writer and Minneapolis park historian who wrote *City of Parks: The Story of Minneapolis Parks*. He has also written a brief history of every Minneapolis park for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board website.

Agenda also includes:

- Results from the Smith Triangle Park (2330 Hennepin Ave S) survey.
- Membership vote on neighborhood priorities.
- Membership vote on proposed change to bylaws.
- Socialize with neighbors!

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Residents may, if they wish to vote, become a member at the meeting.

Refreshments will be served.

For questions or to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter, please contact Monica Smith at nrp@eastisles.org or 612-821-0131 at least five days before an EIRA sponsored event.



The East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA) invites and encourages participation by every resident to each event organized by EIRA. Should you require an accommodation in order to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please contact us at nrp@eastisles.org or 612-821-0131 at least five days before an EIRA sponsored event.

CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Monica Smith

CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES, October 10, 2012

The October meeting was held at the Jones-Harrison Residence. Board members in attendance: Chair Craig Westgate, Vice Chair Michael Wilson, Treasurer Ed Bell, Ed Ferlauto, Stephen Goltry, Rosanne Halloran, Art Higinbotham, David Lissauer, and David Shirley. Committee Chairs: Gail Lee and Elaine May. Staff: Monica Smith

Chair Craig Westgate called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

NRP/PPP Committee Report

NRP Committee Chair Gail Lee gave the following report:

The committee provided background information to demonstrate that the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SW LRT) continues to be a priority for the neighborhood. The board unanimously approved allocating \$10,000 of Community Participation Program (CPP) funds to create a Neighborhood Priority Plan (NPP) to be used by the CIDNA Transportation Committee in coordinating the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) response and other SW LRT efforts. The funds are allocated for use in conjunction with NRP Phase II, Housing Objective 4: "Maintain stability of the neighborhood housing stock by minimizing any negative impacts on Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhood housing from the SW LRT line in the Kenilworth corridor."

The committee decided against loaning additional money to Nonprofits Assistance Fund.

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

A design charrette is being conducted this week for the landscape between Lake Calhoun and Lake of the Isles with public open houses on October 9 and 13. Craig Westgate, Bob Corrick and Michael Wilson are

representing CIDNA during the process.

The Park Board has withdrawn their request to have neighborhoods contribute toward the cost of the charrette.

Park Siding Park

Commissioner Tabb and Adam Gordon, Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) discussed the use of Park Siding for the sewer construction project.

Playground equipment needs to be temporarily 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 will be October 16, 6:30-8:30 at Jones-Harrison. A post-card mailing was sent to all CIDNA residents.

The Park Board and MCES finalized the Park Siding easement agreement.

Council Member Lisa Goodman

The City has begun the Truth in Taxation process; the maximum levy is 1.7%. Public hearings will be held November 28 and December 12.

Street sweeping will begin the week of October 22. Check

www.minneapolis.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping/ to look up the schedule for your block.

The Kenilworth freight rail replacement work will begin mid-October.

Fall Festival

Congratulations to Co-chairs Elaine May and Steve Goltry for a very successful Fall Festival. Final expenses were presented.

Transportation Committee

The DEIS will be published on October 12 at www.southwesttransitway.org. It will also be available at

Hennepin County libraries. There will be a 60-day comment period.

Three public comment meetings: November 13, 4:30 p.m. at Hennepin County Government Center; November 14, 6:00 p.m. at St Louis Park City Hall, and November 29, 6:00 p.m. at Eden Prairie City Hall. CIDNA would like to be prepared to comment at the November 13 meeting.

The next meeting of the DEIS committee is Saturday, October 20, 10 am at Jones-Harrison.

CIDNA would like to coordinate its response to the DEIS with those of surrounding neighborhoods, the Park Board and the Cedar Lake Park Association to reference common concerns.

Midtown Greenway Coalition (MGC) Report

Seven new lights were installed on the Greenway (between James and Hennepin Aves in East Isles) through a partnership with East Isles Residents Association NRP funding, Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis.

The MGC newsletter features an article about the booming development along the Greenway.

Treasurer's Report was presented.

New Business

A history of Park Siding Park has been posted on our website. Go to www.cidna.org/about to read the article. Thank you to Michael Wilson for his initiative on this project.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next meeting

Wednesday, November 14 at Jones-Harrison, 6:00 p.m.



Photo by Dorothy Childers

Louise Erdrich signing copies of her latest book "The Round House," at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, following a reading and discussion of the book.

Louise Erdrich reads at St. Paul's


By Susan White, Bookseller, Birchbark Books


Kenwood neighbor and esteemed author Louise Erdrich captivated an audience of over 400 fans at a reading of her newest novel: "The Round House". St Paul's Episcopal Church graciously lent their sanctuary for the October 2nd event. Following the often humorous and emotional reading and a brief question and answer period, attendees formed a long and patient line to purchase the book and have it signed.

On October 10th "The Round House" was announced as a National Book Award Finalist for fiction. Louise Erdrich is the owner of independent bookstore Birchbark Books located at West 21st Street and Penn Ave. South. Signed copies of all of Louise Erdrich's titles are available there.

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KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION

By Amy Lucas

October 2012 KIAA Meeting Minutes
KIAA Board met October 1, 2012 at Kenwood Rec Center. Chair Larry Moran called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Chair Larry Moran, Michael Bono, Jeanette Colby, Jack Levi, Amy Lucas, and Kathy Low.

Others present: 7th Ward Council Aide Patrick Sadler and Dylan Thomas of Southwest Journal.

7th Ward Update-Council Aide Patrick Sadler

"Lunch with Lisa" on Oct. 31 will feature Casey Carl of Mpls City Clerk's office on voter ID amendment.

Fall street sweeping begins Oct. 23. Check City of Mpls public works website: www.minneapolis.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping.

Town Hall Meeting on Tax Reform will be held Thurs Oct. 18 at 7 p.m. in Folwell Park.

Absentee voting began Sept 21 and continues at City Hall from 8-4:30 p.m. weekdays and some Saturdays. Some polling locations have changed. Visit: Mnvote.org or the Secretary of State website.

2013 budget hearings will be held at Mpls City Hall on Nov. 29 and Dec. 12 at 6:05 p.m.

There are many Mpls boards and commissions openings. Ward 7 specifically needs representatives on the "Senior Citizens Advisory Committee" and "Citizens Environmental Committee."

Mpls will host the "Neighborhoods USA" conference Memorial Day weekend of 2013. Neighborhoods are invited to participate with exhibits. Visit www.nusa.org for more info.

Lake Calhoun Design Charette – Larry Moran

The charette will design the connections between Lake of the Isles and Lake Calhoun. The charette will hold two public meetings for neighborhood input: Tues Oct 9 (visioning session) from 7-9 p.m. at Mosaic in Uptown and Sat Oct 13 (open house) from 9-11:30 a.m. at Mosaic.

Sam Murphy, Kenwood resident and past chair of KIAA, has offered to represent KIAA at the charette.

Kenwood Corner and Thrill Kenwood – Amanda Vallone, Artrageous Adventures

"Kenwood Corner" businesses have been meeting monthly. Amanda owns the "Artrageous Adventures" art studio. These businesses will be taking part in the "Kenwood Thrill" event. Kenwood Vet Clinic will host a Halloween pet costume parade and Birchbark Books will have a guest author.

The 4th Annual "Thrill Kenwood" will be held on Saturday Oct. 27 from 1:00-8 p.m. The kid-friendly worldwide Thriller dance will be at 2:00 p.m. and the "scarier" Thriller will be held at 7:00 p.m. Kenwood is the only Mpls site holding the "Thriller" dance.

The Lowry will donate food for volunteers. Kenwood Rec Center will host the 4 workshops to teach the Thriller dance.

Visit the Facebook page "Thrill the World Kenwood" to learn more.

KIAA approved \$350 donation to sponsor "Thrill Kenwood" which will cover costs of the DJ/Sound Equipment and art activity stations.

Amanda Vallone also offered to assist KIAA board members in their NCR grant process.

Southwest Corridor LRT/DEIS Issues – Jeanette Colby

The Kenilworth rail tracks are being repaired and replaced, but it should not cause traffic problems in the neighborhood.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is scheduled for release on Oct. 12. KIAA will be submitting a response after the DEIS is public. Upon public release there is a 60-day comment period and KIAA will need to submit comments in Dec. There may be some overlap with the KIAA response and the Mpls Park Board comments.

The KIAA comments will center around three subject areas:

1) Impacts to parks, trails and green space (maintain separated trails; safety to park and trail users; minimize aesthetic impact of cantenaries; replace lost trees/plants; ensure park access.

2) Impact to residents (noise, lights, vibrations)

3) Impacts of station (low profile and context sensitive; no park and ride; traffic management; parking management; bike access; public safety)

KIAA will discuss the n'hood's official comment on the DEIS at the Nov 5 KIAA meeting.

Kenwood residents are encouraged to respond to the DEIS as individuals and to contribute to KIAA's DEIS response. Please attend KIAA's meeting on Monday, November 5th, and go to KIAA's website to learn more about the DEIS process.

Zoning Issues

KIAA received a letter on 9/6 from the owners of 2504 W. Lake of the Isles Pkwy alerting the board to a variance request for a side yard setback for a basement entry.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

The November 5 meeting will include:

1. KIAA's draft official comment on the Southwest LRT Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) will be discussed.

Reminder: The next KIAA Board meeting will be Monday, November 5 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Rec Center. The public is welcome to attend these monthly meetings.

Election

The general election is Tuesday, November 6. Minnesota voters who are at least 18, United States citizens, and have resided in the state for at least 20 days before the election are eligible to vote. Poll are open from 7am to 8pm. For more information: City of Minneapolis Elections: minneapolis.gov/elections

Kenilworth Rail Replacement Promises Less Noise, More Safety

By Michael Wilson

CIDNA and Midtown Greenway Coalition Boards
The clickety-clack and bumpety-bump sounds of slow-moving freight trains may be nostalgic and even romantic, but to residents along the Kenilworth rail corridor the charm can quickly wear thin.

The noise that residents have learned to live with is slated to undergo a vast improvement, however, as crews begin to lay replacement rails during the week of October 15 along the two and one-half mile stretch of track running from Beltline Blvd. (just east of Highway 100) to the Cedar Lake Trail near I-394, where the rails merge with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) tracks.

Kenilworth Trail users may have marveled at the shiny ultra-long rails – 1600 feet long, to be exact – positioned during September along the existing tracks, and therein lies the tale.

The existing rails were laid during the 1920s and 1930s, according to Mark Wagner, president of Twin Cities & Western Railroad Company (TC&W), which has trackage rights to haul cargo consisting largely of coal, grains (corn, wheat, barley), soybeans, sugar, beet pulp pellets, lumber and other forest products, canned vegetables, edible beans, molasses, fertilizers, crushed rock and agricultural machinery. The Kenilworth Corridor, including the tracks, is owned by the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (HCRRRA).

Because of the outdated manufacturing process used in past decades the 80- and 90-year-old rails are susceptible to cracks and other defects which cannot be readily seen or anticipated during routine inspections, Wagner says, even though inspections take place as often as once a week. A track failure occurred in the Kenilworth corridor in October, 2010, causing a TC&W train to derail.

Rails are currently manufactured using a process called "controlled cooled," according to Wagner, which greatly increases track durability and safety. Current manufacturing and transport techniques also allow for the production of the 1600-foot-long behemoths being installed in the Kenilworth Corridor, replacing the old-style rails which typically are a mere 39 feet long.

Rail installation techniques have also changed, according to Tim Jeske, TC&W general manager for maintenance of way and mechanical. Instead of the older "jointed rail" method using angle bars and a series of bolts to hold the track sections together, installation crews now use the "continuously welded rail" method to create a nearly seamless connection between the sections of rails. These two factors – ultra-long rail sections and continuous connection welding – will mean a significant decrease in the clickety-clack type of train noise we all have become accustomed to, says Jeske.

CIDNA, Kenwood, and Lowry Hill residents may question whether the Kenilworth rail replacement project is connected to the proposed Southwest LRT project, but Phil Eckhert, the HCRRRA director of housing, community works, and transit, states that the two projects are entirely separate. Rail replacement has become a critical safety issue which cannot be deferred any longer, Eckhert says. The installation of new rails has no connection with the hot-button issue of LRT/freight rail colocation in the Kenilworth Corridor. HCRRRA is able to move the new rails to another HCRRRA rail corridor if directed to do so by the Metropolitan Council, which is guiding the SW LRT process.

Rail replacement will take place during daylight hours, according to TC&W's Jeske, with each new section being completed by the end of the day so that freight trains can make their usual runs during the early evening hours. Tracks at the Cedar Lake Parkway and W. 21st Street crossings have already been upgraded and so are not a part of the current project.

For further information on the Kenilworth project go to www.hennepin.us/railreplacement.

Rail replacement to page 13

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Rail replacement from page 12



Ultra-long 1600-foot sections of new rail lie beside antiquated 39-foot sections of 80- and 90-year-old track in the Kenilworth Corridor. When installed this month the new rails will greatly improve safety and reduce noise from passing TC&W freight trains.



Kenwood Student Safety Patrol is on the Job; AmeriCorps Volunteers Support Student Achievement

By Nicole Valentine
Photos by Sarah Vernon

Among the leadership opportunities available to the older students at Kenwood Elementary School is School Safety Patrol. The program, supported by AAA, has been operational at Kenwood for 29 years. Physical Education teacher Steve Cornelius, or "Mr. C." as he is known to the kids, has headed up the program at the school for the last 15 years. Cornelius says the program is successful in improving pedestrian safety while creating a great leadership opportunity for the fifth graders involved.

Currently, the popular program has 31 volunteer students that stop traffic and assist with pedestrian crossings at the Penn Ave. and Franklin Ave. and the Penn Ave. and 21st Street corners both before and after school. Cornelius says the locations of the crossing guards have changed over the years. "It depends on where the students that walk are coming from," he said. He also emphasized that when drivers see those orange flags held out by a member of the patrol, it is an official stop sign and drivers are required to stop. He added, "There has never been a fatality at a crosswalk with a crossing guard."

AAA donates the funds for the patrols' flags, vests, badges, and end-of-the-year recognition awards. And the school's PTA and the Mall of America cover the costs for a day of rides and fun at the Mall each May as a thank you gift.

Fifth grader Christiana Gholl said she joined School Safety Patrol "to keep people safe." Sam Pearson said it was "for the fun, and the safety." Cornelius said, while the kids enjoy their responsibilities, they understand the civil service aspect of it as well.

Volunteers from Minnesota Education Corps are once again supporting student achievement at Kenwood Elementary this year. Minnesota Reading Corps, which focuses on getting children up to grade level reading by the end of third grade, has provided three volunteers, while Minnesota Math Corps, whose goal is to have students proficient in math by the end of eighth grade, has placed one volunteer in the school.

This is Gracie Hohman's second year at Kenwood. A retired Lowry Hill resident, Hohman says participating in the program is "fun" and she enjoys working with the kids to improve their reading skills one-on-one. Hohman reports that this year almost all schools in Minnesota will have Reading Corps volunteer support. And in the last year, there has been a large expansion in Minneapolis schools especially. While not as big as Reading Corps, Math Corps is also expanding into more schools. Hohman said the program appeals to volunteers on both ends of their work life cycle; many are retired and looking to help out and many are younger and looking for career-building experience.

Principal Cheryl Martin is pleased to continue the school's partnership with the AmeriCorps-affiliated program. "We appreciate that the program built on last year's involvement in the school and has added a third Reading Corps volunteer, and for the first time, we are fortunate to have a Math Corp volunteer to focus on the math skills of our fourth and fifth graders. These volunteers are welcomed additions to the Kenwood staff. The service they provide our students is priceless!"

Hohman said the programs are always looking for more volunteers. For more information, visit www.mnedc.org.



Thrill Kenwood 2012

Neighborhood Halloween Block Party & World Record Thrill the World Simultaneous Dance Event

Saturday, October 27th 1pm-8pm

21st Street & Penn Ave.

Thriller Dance Workshops at the Kenwood Recreation Center

Saturday, October 20th Bring your family, friends & neighbors to learn the dance before the big event!)

Spend a day celebrating Halloween with fun block party happenings all afternoon. You won't want to miss zombies dancing Thriller worldwide at 2pm and 7pm. The Kenwood Isles Area Association, Kenwood Park & Recreation Center along with neighboring businesses including The Lowry and Kenwood Restaurant, ARtrageous Adventures, Framestyles, Bockley Gallery, Kenwood Pet Clinic and MidWest Make-Up Supply are helping with this community event. This event is free, however some activities will have suggested donation fees to cover event supplies and a token of appreciation to our many talented performers and artists that will entertain throughout the day.

- **Local Author Elizabeth Foy Larsen** at Birchbark Books Signing (1-3pm) with hands on activities on the block
- **Pumpkin Painting (3-5pm)** • **ARtrageous Swap Shop Table**
- **Creation Stations & Strolling Performers** • **Zombie Make – Overs**
- **Treats & Cider** ***Costumed Pet Parade (4pm)**



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LETTERS

Dear Hill & Lake Press Editor:

I am writing in response to the editorials by both Julie Sabo and Steve Kotvis concerning the District 4 school board race. I respect both their experience and dedication to the Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) and am proud to have had their support when I ran for the office.

I support Josh Reimnitz because I believe he embodies the qualities needed on the school board at this time. As a former MPS Board Chair, but more importantly a father of three current MPS students, I understand first hand that as a community we need a school board member who understands the challenges facing MPS including the achievement gap, growing enrollment, budget constraints, and how best to deliver a rigorous curriculum that recognizes our learners at all academic levels.

Having personally and proudly served with both the youngest and one of the more mature School Board Directors on record, I can assure you that age is irrelevant. Experience isn't. Josh brings a practical and positive attitude along with a solid track record from his urban classroom and multi-million dollar budget experience. Josh's experience brings a fresh perspective to the board that is currently not represented. A Board should be balanced and Josh represents a student oriented focus for the 80% of Minneapolis residents who do not have school age children who support us and our needs. He represents a generation that embraces innovation through technology and the opportunities it brings to teaching and the classroom. He represents our future parents who will benefit from the decisions we make today.

District Four deserves a strong advocate for our neighborhoods and community, and also a person who understands their responsibility to represent all students in the Minneapolis Public Schools.

I'll be voting for Josh Reimnitz for School Board on November 6th.

Tom Madden
Former Chair, MPS
Lowry Hill

Dear Hill and Lake Editor,

I want to thank Julie Sabo for her letter to the editor regarding 4th district school board candidate, Patty Wycoff. Like Julie, I have known Patty since our children attended Grace Neighborhood Nursery School. Patty gave her time and energy to the Grace Annual Silent Auction, an event that raised money for their scholarship program.

She has continued to give her time and energy to MPS and her community. The 4th district would be fortunate to have someone as committed and dedicated as Patty. She has my support for School Board on Nov. 6th because she has proven her commitment to the 4th district.

Michelle Streitz
Lowry Hill

Guns

How about getting rid of guns which are the cause of so many tragedies? There are no other items so dangerous and deadly in our society that have no other purpose than to kill humans and yet we allow them. Even today the Fleet Farm advertising flyer is featuring Glock guns. We work on finding cures for diseases that have far more difficulties and causes and yet with guns the problem is simple to cure and solve yet we fight to keep the tragedies going. Any call for sympathy should be combined with good riddance to guns and the ammunition that goes with them. Maybe the next generation will begin to see our folly but not this one. By then I and my good sense will be long gone.

Joyce Murphy, Lowry Hill



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

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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.

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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.

2012 Collection of compostable yard bags and bundled brush ends the week of November 12. Your garbage day in that week is the last 2012 collection for leaves, brush, and other yard trimmings.

HILL LAKE PRESS Selected Real Estate Sales September 2012											
STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	SELLER CONTRIB	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT	
1425 W, 28th St	\$ 105,500	\$	125	\$ 91,150	C	1/1	860	\$ 100,000	\$ 1,318	1985	
3116 W Lake St #119	189,900	3,487	78	140,000	C	1/1	960	218,000	3,830	2007	
48 Groveland Terrace B202	169,900	4,500	236	159,900	C	1/1	765	155,000	2,438	1969	
2891 James Ave S #4	199,900		96	178,000	C	2/1	930	187,500	3,277	1913	
3116 W Lake St #221	234,900		428	196,000	C	1/1	960	220,000	3,845	2007	
3151 Dean Court #102	199,900	5,997	33	199,900	C	2/2	1,072	189,000	3,334	1983	
3145 Dean Court #504	309,900		308	278,000	C	2/2	1,368	214,000	3,405	1983	
3116 W Lake St #519	299,900		1	280,000	C	2/2	1,278	313,000	5,471	2007	
3417 St Louis Ave	369,900		32	345,000	TWN	2/2	1,751	289,000	4,880	1985	
2950 Dean Pkwy #1501	435,000		15	400,000	C	3/2	1,920	458,500	8,232	1977	
3104 W Lake St #402	549,900		11	411,000	C	2/3	2,731	433,000	6,694	2007	
138 Groveland Terrace	896,000		705	450,000	C	2/4	3,104	782,000	14,217	1987	
1725 Irving S	599,900		9	599,000	H	4/3	3,174	647,000	11,240	1903	
2721 Ewing S	605,000	15,000	1	603,000	H	4/3	2,128	554,000	9,442	1973	
2025 Kenwood Pkwy	919,900		416	770,000	H	4/4	3,935	925,000	16,966	1922	
2008 Irving S	825,000		17	805,000	H	5/4	3,766	1,024,000	16,401	1906	
1776 Colfax S	1,350,000		111	1,120,000	H	6/5	6,536	1,237,000	23,639	1905	
1725 Knox S	1,490,000		182	1,120,000	H	4/4	4,575	1,406,000	26,534	1922	
Sources: Harvey Ettinger Steve Havig				cume	Condo	C					
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County					Home	H					
					Townhouse	TWN					(Go to mpisrealtor.com for additional info)

40

YEARS

Greetings to all!

Rorty rorty
Quality Coaches just turned forty
And we are still pretty sporty.

Hip hip hooray
We made it to another birthday
While enjoying cars for work or play.

Our thanks to you all
We have made it to fall
And are having a ball.

Through car clubs and our friends
We have made it around the bends
And are still achieving our ends.

I know I lost a pal
With the retirement of Val
But now come meet the new gal.

Yes, it has turned out as planned
Jes is doing just grand
And soon she will be an old hand.

So bring in any of your cars
Our mechanics are stars
We do oil changes while you do lunch at the
espresso bars (Blackbird Cafe & Butter).

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We don't care if they are red, green or blue
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40 years is our claim to fame
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Happy Thanksgiving

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By Madeleine Lowry



EAST ISLES DEMONSTRATION RAIN-GARDEN INSTALLED

Story and photos by Rich Harrison

Did you know that a typical city block creates five times more stormwater runoff than a woodland area of the same size? This is important because the land surface in cities like Minneapolis is mostly covered by buildings and pavement, which being impervious, prevent rain and snowmelt from soaking into the ground. Instead, storm drains carry large amounts of stormwater directly to the Mississippi River, picking up pollutants along the way.

Concerns about this type of water pollution led the East Isles Green Team to install a demonstration rain-garden on October 6 with the help of more than 20 volunteers.

What exactly is a raingarden and how does it improve water quality? According to Green Team member and project manager, Rich Harrison (who is also a landscape architect), a raingarden is simply a low spot in the landscape planted with mostly native plants. The native plants with their uniquely deep root systems are able to filter out pollutants in the stormwater, keeping our lakes, streams and wetlands clean while reducing the risk of flooding. Rich pointed out other advantages—they allow more water to infiltrate the ground, they withstand extreme conditions of wet and dry and hot and cold, and provide a food source for birds, butterflies, and insects. And, Rich said, natives are among our most beautiful plants.

The goal of the East Isles Raingarden Project is to engage residents in learning about raingarden benefits, design, construction, and maintenance, and in potentially working together to create their own gardens and ultimately a stronger, greener, and more beautiful community.

Learn more by stopping by the East Isles raingarden at 2871 Humboldt Ave South and participating in two educational events next spring. For more information, please contact Monica Smith at nrp@eastisles.org or 612-821-0131. To find out more about the MWMO's Stewardship Fund Program, visit www.mwmo.org/stewardshipfund.html.



Raingarden at 2871 Humboldt Avenue South

If anyone had stopped me on the street at any point in the last few years and asked, "Which of your friends deserves to be nominated for sainthood?" my instantaneous answer would have been, "Emma Hutcheson."

Emma and I became friends when our children were betrothed. My son, William, and her daughter, Eleanor, were only three years old, but in the bold way of preschoolers they were certain of their future: they would marry and their friend, Calais, would be best man. That is how Calais' mother, Cherry, Emma, and I became friends.

William could not believe his good fortune in finding a fiancée with an extremely elaborate wooden train set in her bedroom. Truly, this was the only woman for him. And so Emma and I spent hours sitting on the pink carpet in Eleanor's room talking while our children played choo-choo.

We discovered that Emma and I had both grown up in New York City. We'd both attended colleges in Massachusetts. We'd both married physicians and followed them to Minnesota for their jobs. We each had three children. We both loved to paint, cook and listen to opera. Quelle coincidence!

Emma was beautiful, endlessly patient, and kind. Although it often happens that beautiful women have uncharitable personalities, Emma defied the stereotype. Perhaps she was born that way, but I think that Emma's lovely persona was shaped by difficult circumstances in her life. She'd lost her father to ALS when he was in his fifties, lost her brother to the same disease in his twenties and lost her mother to ovarian cancer.

"That's so sad," Cherry said to me when we learned this about her. "Emma is an orphan." And she was, except that Emma had a way of making people love her and so she created a family in Minnesota from friends at church, her neighbors, and the other parents at the small school our children attended.

Emma lived her life with grace, dignity and an exquisite sense of priorities which revolved around her family and friends. I can imagine that all of her losses conferred upon her a belief that life was precious, that it should be lived without regrets, and that there was never any reason to be ill-tempered.

She was a devoted mother. Being the mother of three young children is not easy, but Emma never raised her voice or lost her temper with her children. For this alone I thought she should be nominated for sainthood.

Emma had a dry wit and a raucous laugh that was somewhat at odds with her impeccable style and grace.



Madeleine Lowry

She could throw back her head and deliver a deep throaty laugh that was as genuine as it was unexpected. There were no polite little tee-hee-hees from Emma. She was a prodigious laugher.

She was a strong and stoic person. I don't think most of us realized how stoic, until her recent battle with ALS. Even as she told us of her diagnosis earlier this year, she tried to allay

our shock and pain by saying, "Don't worry about me—I believe in miracles! And I have faith that I still might be spared." Her faith was truly extraordinary.

Most of us realize that there are certain people in our lives who are special. And we are aware on some level that we are lucky to know them, but maybe not enough. Maybe not soon enough.

As she declined, she rarely complained. At our last luncheon together, Cherry and I met her college friend, Marsha, and the four of us chatted as if we'd known each other all our lives. Emma barely spoke of her symptoms, which had progressed to a point where they were hard to ignore. She was extremely fatigued, could only take in nutrients through a tube, and speak in the barest whisper. But she refused to burden us with the details of her ordeal. Instead I found myself blabbing about William's sleep problems.

"Oh," she said sympathetically, "that's hard." No, no, I wanted to say. What you are going through is terribly hard, it's beyond hard. But she would have waved my words away. She was focused on solving my insignificant problem. "A cool pillow and a glass of tart cherry juice," she advised. "I hear that's just the thing for a good night's sleep."

Emma prayed for a miracle, for a cure, but this was not to be. Within six months of her diagnosis, she succumbed to the disease.

I believe the miracle she was looking for had been delivered ahead of her request. This was the miracle: that she was granted forty-two healthy years of life, a happy marriage, and three beautiful children. And that her deep faith supported her to a swift and merciful end.

And this was the miracle for me: that she, a person of such grace, chose me for a friend.

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