



'Where the biggies leave off...'

# Hill & Lake Press

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## Southwest Light Rail Transit Is Coming; Neighborhood Leaders Urge Residents to Get Informed & Get Involved

by Ed Ferlauto and Michael Wilson

This month's Hill & Lake Press brings residents expanded coverage on the biggest development in our Hill and Lake neighborhoods in decades, a development which will dramatically change our corner of Minneapolis for decades to come: Southwest Light Rail Transit.

Articles written by a variety of contributors underline the participation of many residents of the area surrounding the Kenilworth Corridor who have organized with a single goal in mind: maximize the benefits of LRT, mitigate the negative impacts, and keep the Corridor a unique oasis of beauty for generations to come.

Representatives of six recognized local neighborhood associations began a unified effort in the fall of 2011 to organize a joint neighborhood group to study the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) well in advance of its publication in October, 2012. The result was a comprehensive response to the DEIS which outlined many recommendations and concerns voiced by our member associations.

Participants in the DEIS response process saw the benefits of joint action and in January formed the Kenilworth Neighborhood Alliance. It has become increasingly clear that the activism and involvement of ALL neighborhood residents is needed to ensure the best possible outcome for LRT planning, construction, and operation.

There are battles to be fought, certainly: think "co-location." But there are also tremendous opportunities for ALL of us to influence the outcome of the LRT project in positive ways. Get informed! Join your neighborhood association! Attend meetings! Meet your neighbors! Make your voices and ideas heard!

Live in Kenwood? Go to <kenwoodminneapolis.org>. Click the link on the Home page to be added to the email distribution list. Attend the KIAA Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 19th, at Kenwood Park.

Live in Cedar-Isles-Dean? Go to <CIDNA.org>. Click on "Join Email List" to receive newsletters and E-blasts about LRT and other construction projects affecting CIDNA. Attend the CIDNA Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 9th, at 5:45 at Jones-Harrison.

Live in West Calhoun? Go to <westcalhoun.org>, then to the "Contact Us" page to sign up for the WCNC email newsletter. Attend the WCNC Annual

Meeting on Tuesday, May 14th, at 5:30 at the Bakken.

Go to <kenilworthpreservationgroup.org>. KPG is a privately financed neighborhood group taking activist positions on several LRT issues.

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### About Our Contributors:

Rodgers Adams (CIDNA) is a long-time observer of neighborhood activities and events.

Jeanette Colby (Kenwood) is a member of the Kenwood-Isles Area Association Board and chair of its LRT Committee.

John Erickson (CIDNA) is the Minneapolis Park Board representative on the SWLRT Citizen Advisory Community. He is also vice-president of the Cedar Lake Shores Townhome Association Board of Directors.

Ed Ferlauto (CIDNA) co-chairs the CIDNA Board Transportation Committee and the Kenilworth Neighborhood Alliance.

Shelley Fitzmaurice (CIDNA) is Senior Vice President and Senior Attorney with TCF Bank National.

Sophia Ginis is the Metro Transit SWLRT Community Outreach Coordinator for Minneapolis and St. Louis Park.

Richard Logan (West Calhoun) is vice-chair of the West Calhoun Neighborhood Council Board.

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Jennifer Ringold is Manager of Public Engagement and Citywide Planning for the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board.

Anita Tabb (Lowry Hill) is our 4th District Commissioner on the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

Neil Trembley (Bryn Mawr) is a regional and corporate historian. He is treasurer of the Cedar Lake Park Association and author of "Cedar Lake Park

SWLRT continues on page 4

## Lake of the Isles Update

By Harvey Ettinger, Chair

### Citizens Joint Review Committee for the Lake of the Isles Renovation Project (2001-2009)

In April 2011, the Citizens Joint Review Committee for the Lake of the Isles Renovation Project (2001-2009) submitted a comprehensive report to the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board reviewing this project including specific recommendations to address needed remedial work and maintenance concerns. With the continuing deterioration at Lake of the Isles during the ensuing period, the Committee approached Park Board Commissioner, Anita Tabb, for assistance in obtaining support from Park Board staff. Last fall, Commissioner Tabb met directly with Lisa Beck, Director of Park Board Operations, and made a site visit to the lake to review the situation. Following additional discussion with Commissioner Tabb and MPRB staff, Ms. Beck involved Marcia Holmberg, Natural Resources Coordinator, to investigate the Committee's concerns and draft a long term vegetation maintenance plan that would focus primarily on: a) poor quality of parkland turf, (b) tall shoreline plantings obscuring open views to the lake (including extensive overgrowth of cottonwoods along the south shore of Lake of the Isles and Kenilworth Lagoon), and (c) maintenance of ornamental shrub beds around the lake.

The Committee met with Commissioner Tabb and Ms. Holmberg on March 11, 2013 at which time a comprehensive plan was presented to address the issues discussed above. Committee members were impressed with Ms. Holmberg's extensive knowledge and experience with park vegetation and her proposal which would direct crews to initiate substantial cutting of tall shoreline plantings around the entire lake, including extreme overgrowth on the south shore, to begin sometime in April. Unlike the mechanized rotary cutter that has been used in recent years which resulted in the shredding of shoreline plants and turf, Civilian Conservation Corp crews will perform this work using both hand and small electric cutters. Because of the scale and complexity of this process, work will likely not be completed until the fall.

As part of their review of problems with parkland turf, the Committee referred Ms Holmgren to Sam Bauer at the University of Minnesota Horticultural Department of Soil Services in Andover who expressed serious interest in working with the MPRB as a "Joint" partner to develop an effective, long range turf renovation

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Overgrowth at the south shore of Lake of the Isles obscures lake views.

Photo by Harvey Ettinger

**Minneapolis Uptown Rotary**

www.clubrunner.ca/mplsuptownrotary

Uptown Rotary meets at the Minikahda Country Club 7:30 to 8:30 am on Thursdays.

**CONTACT: Barbara Franklin Minneapolis Audubon Society 763-657-1907**

Friday, May 10, 2013 1 p.m.

Steve Merchant from the Minnesota DNR will speak on the Minnesota Sandhill Crane Management Program 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 952-926-4205.

**Art in Bloom Minneapolis Institute of Arts Thursday, April 25–Sunday, April 28, Free**

Join us for the 30th Art in Bloom, a four-day festival of fresh floral arrangements and fine art, presented by the Friends of the Institute. This splendid spring celebration highlights the talents of more than 150 floral artists, whose work will be on view next to the works of art that inspired them.

Come for lectures, floral demos, tours, and more. Or simply stroll the galleries, enjoying the fresh scents of spring.

On Thursday, April 25, join us for Flowers After Hours, a free night of floral activities. Better yet, bring a friend or date!

On Saturday, April 27, come for the Family Event, a free day of fun, including crafts, activities, and storytelling

Recycling theft or “scavenging” is the unauthorized collection of recyclable materials set out by residents for authorized collection programs with the City. City of Minneapolis Ordinance 244.355 (c) states that it’s against the law. Although you may feel this is a harmless crime, scavenging gives individuals an opportunity to survey what items you have in your alley, garage and home and takes revenue from the City that could have helped keep your solid waste fees lower!

During the coming weeks, officers will be performing a city-wide detail checking alleys for people taking refuse and recycling materials to reduce this problem.

Here are some steps that you can take to discourage this type of theft:

- Don’t put out your recyclables and other scrap metal until the day of pickup and ask your neighbors to do the same

- Call 911 if you see people taking these items. Scrapers will usually drive pickup trucks or vans to collect the items. When talking to the 911 operator, please remember to include a description of the vehicle and people involved

- Should the vehicle happen to leave the area before officers arrive, call back 911 and advise the operator of the direction of travel of the vehicle. A message will be sent to the officers in the area via the squad computers

- Please call 911 on any other suspicious activity

**MAY DAY CELEBRATION at ARTrageous in Kenwood Saturday, April 27th 1:00-4:00pm**

Celebrate this annual tradition with ARTrageous with Storytelling, Face Painting, Live Music, Maypole Dancing, Basket Making

**Attention: Roosevelt Alumni****Roosevelt High School Pancake Breakfast**

Sunday, April 21, 2013, from 8 am to 1 pm  
Roosevelt High School, 4029 28th AVE S, Minneapolis, MN 55406

To raise funds for student scholarships and educational grants.

This event brings old friends, community members and alumni together for a morning of fun, friendship, and good food. This year the pancake breakfast will feature a reunion titled “Backstage Memories” for Roosevelt alumni and faculty who have been involved with theater productions past and present. a

Breakfast tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ten and under. Raffle tickets for the best raffle in town are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

**Arbor Day May 4**

9:00 a.m. Kickoff ceremony at Humbolt Avenue & the Greenway. 9:30 a.m. Begin Greening

For the 13th annual Arbor Day on the Midtown Greenway, volunteers will celebrate by planting trees and shrubs between Hennepin and Humboldt Avenues north of the Hennepin County Library now under construction.

Tree Trust staff, Master Gardeners and Tree Care Advisors will provide education on tree and shrub planting as well as plant maintenance that will ensure strong growth. Snacks, coffee, water and shovels will be provided. Don’t forget your gloves!

Please ride your bike if you can! Bike racks will be available on site. Automobile parking is available on nearby streets. (See map and instructions on reverse side.)

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Jackie Blair at 612-879-0106 or Jackie@midtowngreenway.org.

**THE BRIDGE FOR YOUTH**

A safe and welcoming place for youth in crisis

Friends, we hope to see you on May 23!

The Bridge for Youth cordially invites you to Faces of The Bridge 2013, on Thursday, May 23, 2013, 5:30pm.

May is the perfect time of year for a party, so join us on the stunning terrace overlooking Lake Calhoun and an evening of live music, cocktails, and delicious food!

Buy your tickets now to enjoy a fun spring evening and an inspiring program on youth homelessness featuring Kristan Clow, named one of nation's top emerging LGBTQ leaders by The White House.

For tickets: <http://www.bridgeforyouth.org/>

**HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

APRIL 10–23: ROCK THE GARDEN TICKETS ON SALE  
APRIL 19 7PM BIRCHBARK READING CANCELLED  
APRIL 20 EARTH DAY CLEANUP  
APRIL 21, 2013, 8 AM TO 1 PM ROOSEVELT BREAKFAST  
APRIL 22, 7PM LENFESTEY READING BOCKLEY  
APRIL 27, 1-4PM MAYDAY AT ARTRAGEOUS  
MAY 4, 9AM ARBOR DAY MIDTOWN GREENWAY  
MAY 2, 6-8PM LRT OPEN HOUSE BRYN MAWR  
MAY 8, 5:45PM CIDNA ANNUAL MEETING  
MAY 10, 1PM, AUDUBON SOCIETY  
MAY 13 NOON MEET WITH MEG 5TH PRECINCT  
MAY 14 5-7PM 5TH PRECINCT OPEN HOUSE  
MAY 14, 5:30PM WEST CALHOUN ANNUAL MEETING  
BAKKEN MUSEUM  
MAY 21, 6:00PM LHNA ANNUAL MEETING WALKER  
MAY 23 FACES OF THE BRIDGE  
MAY 22-25 The Neighborhoods USA conference in Minneapolis. Visit [www.nusa.org](http://www.nusa.org)

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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**EARTH DAY 2013**

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the City of Minneapolis will host the 19th annual Minneapolis Earth Day Cleanup on Saturday, April 20, 2013 from 9:30 a.m. to noon in neighborhoods and parks throughout the city.

The public is encouraged to participate by volunteering to help pick up trash in parks, neighborhoods, and watersheds. No registration is needed – just choose a site and show up to help. For more information about the event and a list of cleanup sites, visit [www.minneapolisearthday.com](http://www.minneapolisearthday.com) or call 612-230-6479.

**LRT Meeting**

Hennepin County and its partners will host an open house on May 2nd to engage the public in planning work around proposed light rail transit (LRT) stations for the Southwest LRT line. This is the ONLY open house that will address proposed Minneapolis station areas.

**6 – 8 p.m. Thursday, May 2, at Bryn Mawr Elementary School (Auditorium),**

252 Upton Ave. S., Minneapolis

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## Meet Your Neighbor, Sheila Delaney

Craig Wilson interviews Sheila Delaney about her savvy for matchmaking couples, passion for political and community organizing, and intellectual curiosities.



**What is a “matchmaker”?**

I think many of us are inclined to be “matchmakers” among the people we interact with in our daily life.

Whenever we have that moment of realization of, “...you should really meet so and so...” we are matchmaking. Most of us think of matchmaking in a romantic sense. However, whenever one of us brings two other people together for a purpose: romantic, professional, or for shared interests—we are matchmaking!

**What is the process for matchmaking couples?**

A professional matchmaker focused on romantic relationships intuitively assimilates two kinds of information about individuals. We look at quantitative information such as appearance, compatibility assessments that identify our core character traits, lifestyle, and interests. This “data” is relevant but a great matchmaker assesses these facts and figures in the context of less tangible elements that make us who we are. Our emotional history, our energy, our presence are the things that really comprise our individuality.

In addition to being able to ‘read’ individuals, a skilled matchmaker knows that in order to create a fulfilling relationship both individuals must share the same intention. When we are trying to be our own matchmaker and meeting people on our own, assessing intention is very tricky. This is because when we date and like someone, we are naturally inclined to try to please him or her in order to get what we are seeking in the moment. Conversely, we are

naturally inclined to “see” what we want to see in the object of our affection.

An effectively intuitive matchmaker can sense when two people have the same relationship goals for the long-term. When all of these factors align, the matchmaker brings the two together. This is a set up for success because they are able to meet each other knowing that someone else has done all of the background checking, in depth interviewing i.e. “investigation” so that they no longer have to be detectives. They can just go into the first meeting relaxed and focused on how they actually feel about being with each other. The other critical role a great matchmaker plays is recruiter. There are so many quality, single people who are simply too busy to conduct a “search” on their own.

In summary, a matchmaker is a coach. We provide support and insight to help individuals be their best self as they seek their life partner.

**What’s the makeup of your clientele?**

The most delightful part of being a matchmaker is that we all share a desire to form a bond. Therefore, my clientele represents all walks of life. I have met with 80-year-old widowers, 40-year-old widows, CEO’s of global organizations, 25-year-old software engineers, professors, a stuntman ... you name it!

**It seems like so many people prioritize “physical ideals” over interests and values when looking for a partner. Is this true?**

We live in a consumer society. Many of us approach the search for our partners as a shopping expedition. If I am faced with a potential client who is extremely focused on the physical, I ask them to think of a loss or a crisis in their life. Then, I ask them to imagine going through that with a partner who truly loves and accepts them for who they really are. Of course, attraction is important but to lead with it leaves many of us in empty, unfulfilling relationship or alone.

**You have a career of working with people—from at-risk youth to community organizing to political campaigns. Are you a people person?**

I am passionate and curious about our collective humanity and all of the comedy and pathos that comes with it.

**You always appear to be volunteering for a particular cause. What’s occupying your time currently?**

Right now, I am very actively volunteering for Mark Andrew’s campaign for mayor. Mark has been a great friend for a very long time. At the risk of sounding really cheesy, I believe Mark is the match for what Minneapolis needs right now. He has a proven track record of course, as a small business guy since he was 19, to being the chair of the Hennepin County Board. However, for me, it’s his almost magical ability to excite and bring people together around common goals that convinced me to support him. Also, as a lucky owner of two Australian Shepherds, I know how much our pets mean to us. I have just begun to get involved in an organization that aims to keep pets with their families during economic hardship, [www.thepetprojectmn.org](http://www.thepetprojectmn.org).

**While you are a natural “people person” who gets along with anyone, you also have quite a bit of critical theory that has equipped you to read the world through an intellectual lens. What is “Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature” and how did it shape your worldview?**

Cultural Studies views all of cultural production (everything: reality T.V., Wagner, dating web sites, literature, blogs, architecture, landscapes, all that we create) in context with everything around it. Whether we are aware or not, all of us look at our world with the filter of our collective and individual experiences and references. I think being able to analyze relationships among elements not obviously related helps me navigate and influence my world.

**Rumor also has it that as a 100% Irish-American lass, you have the “gift of the gab”. Is it true?**

My good friends tell me so!

**To contact Sheila Delaney to find your match, you can reach her at [sheila@sheiladelaney.net](mailto:sheila@sheiladelaney.net).**



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## Southwest Light Rail Transit Is Coming

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Association: A History" (2012), which was reviewed in the December 2012 issue of Hill and Lake Press.

Michael Wilson (CIDNA) is vice-chair of the CIDNA Board and a frequent contributor to Hill and Lake Press.

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### Co-location/Relocation: Our 'Line in the Sand'

by Jeanette Colby

Freight trains rumble along the Kenilworth Trail several times a day, sometimes carrying great loads of ethanol, sometimes just a few boxcars. Of all the challenges the SWLRT planners face, the problem of the Twin Cities & Western (TC&W) freight trains is the toughest.

When Hiawatha Avenue was rebuilt, including the Hiawatha LRT line and the massive bridge over Lake Street, severing a key east-west freight rail connection, the Kenilworth Corridor took up the slack.

Freight use of the Kenilworth Corridor has been considered temporary. Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority, which owns the land, has long assumed that freight would be re-routed through St. Louis Park to make way for light-rail transit.

Throughout its study of transit alternatives, the County treated the freight re-route as a separate issue from transit use of the Kenilworth Corridor. TC&W never publicly objected. When the SWLRT cities decided to support light rail along the Kenilworth Trail in 2009-2010, they based their agreement on moving freight out of the Corridor.

As the SWLRT project progressed, however, St. Louis Park residents objected to the idea of having more frequent, heavier trains running through back yards and close to the city's high school. They argued for a more thorough understanding of safety, costs, and benefits of a freight re-route.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA), which the Met Council hopes will fund half of SWLRT's projected cost (about \$615 million of \$1.25 billion), agreed that the SWLRT project's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) should include a study of both freight relocation and "co-location" with LRT in the Kenilworth Corridor.

In a surprise to the Met Council, TC&W's response to the DEIS in December 2012 opposed relocating its freight traffic to St. Louis Park. The railroad company maintains that steeper grades and tighter curves along the St. Louis Park route would be too difficult to engineer. Many in St. Louis Park cheered this response.

The City of Minneapolis, however, along with many other stakeholders, firmly objects to having both freight and light rail in the Kenilworth Corridor. They note that co-location would mean eliminating at least 57 "smart development" homes (the Cedar Lake Shores townhouses on the north side of the Corridor), removing trails, and adding to neighborhood noise, safety, and traffic issues.

The Met Council is now studying ways to solve this impasse. Their co-location ideas include eliminating recreational use of the corridor by moving bicycle and pedestrian trails to city streets; putting the light rail in a tunnel while keeping freight at-grade; and putting trails above both light rail and freight trains — "solutions" that

are generally not acceptable to stakeholders.

Planners hope to have proposals available for public comment by June or July. Hill and Lake residents and users of the Kenilworth Trail, including its 620,000 annual visitors from the around the region, need to insist that the City of Minneapolis stands firm in honoring its Resolution 2010R-008 by Sandra Colvin Roy ("Supporting the Southwest Transitway Locally Preferred Alternative"), which states: "Be It Further Resolved that the current environmental quality, natural conditions, wildlife, urban forest, and the walking and biking paths be preserved and protected during construction and operation of the proposed Southwest LRT line."

### The Kenilworth Corridor: A Short History

by Neil Trembley

Did you know that much of the Kenilworth Corridor sits atop the old East Bay of Cedar Lake and that the "hills" on the lake's east side are full of refrigerators and ovens? This is the story of how the bay vanished and the hills rose up. It is all part of the unique history of the Kenilworth Corridor.

#### The SP&P

In 1867 the St. Paul & Pacific Railroad (SP&P) roared out of Minneapolis on its way west. Over the previous decade, Minnesota's leading citizens had clamored for a rail system to unshackle them from the long winters that froze navigation and brought trade to a halt. In 1863, crews from the SP&P finally laid the first tracks in the state—a ten-mile stretch from St. Paul to St. Anthony. In 1865 the Civil War ended and railroad construction began in earnest. Two years later, the SP&P crossed the Mississippi. Its grand vision, as one might surmise by its name, was to reach the Pacific Ocean.

SP&P's engineers began plotting a course west from downtown Minneapolis along an ancient pre-glacial riverbed. When they reached Cedar Lake, however, they ran into a daunting obstacle. Immediately in front of them, they saw the lake lapping up against the base of the hundred-foot high Bryn Mawr bluff. Beyond that lay a fifty-foot ridge along which ran the Cedar Lake Road. Farther west a vast marshland impeded their progress.

Instead of battling these obstacles, the engineers turned their eyes south. Although Cedar Lake's East Bay thwarted the southern route, it was shallow and could be easily bridged by an earthen causeway. Once past the southern tip of the lake, the line could veer west again on solid ground.

#### The M&StL

In 1871, workers from the rival Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad (M&StL) began laying tracks parallel to the SP&P's atop the earthen causeway through the lake. While the SP&P pushed west, the M&StL drove south—to bypass Chicago by running its rails all the way to Saint Louis. Although it never realized this vision, the M&StL—as a regional railway—became an vital element in Minneapolis' growth.

M&StL workers soon began erecting wooden main-

tenance and repair shops under the Kenwood bluffs near the northeast corner of Cedar Lake. In 1885, crews erected an ornamental train station at 21st Street and Upton Avenue. Residents of the new suburb of Kenwood used the cupola-shaped Kenwood Depot to commute into the city.

### William Walf. Old Kenwood Railroad Station in 1892. W048.



(Photo courtesy of Hennepin County Library.)

The Cedar Lake Shops and Yards became the epicenter of the M&StL's regional enterprise. In 1895, M&StL workers began constructing a large roundhouse at the base of the Kenwood bluff. By 1912, nineteen rail shops formed the nerve center of a rail network of that extended into Iowa and the Dakotas. The M&StL transported wheat from the hinterlands to the water-powered flour mills stacked on either side of St. Anthony Falls and fueled Minneapolis' explosive growth at the turn of the twentieth century.

### The East Bay becomes the City Dump

For decades after railroad crews first constructed the earthen causeway through the lake in 1867, they had slowly been filling in the wetlands on either side of the corridor and gradually creating dry land (a process known as accretion). By the 1890s, the Kenilworth Corridor began to take shape. North of 21st Street the M&StL steam shovels dug into the bluffs on both sides of the corridor to use as fill—and to widen the pinch in the passageway there.

By the 1920s, Cedar Lake's eastern shoreline was in full retreat. Water no longer lapped up against the old earthen corridor. The East Bay turned into a lily pond, then a bog, and then disappeared altogether.

As the old East Bay turned to scrubland, its aesthetic value declined. Once a recreational mecca where sailboats and rowboats plied the waters, the dried-up bay became a neglected wasteland. Starting in the 1950s, Minneapolis Public Works dumped refuse along the eastern shoreline. Old ovens, refrigerators, and broken concrete were strewn on the site where sloops formerly unfurled their sails. Tons of ripped up asphalt choked ancient springs that once made Cedar Lake the cleanest and purest lake in the region.

After closing the dump, city workers topped it off with earth. Soon cottonwoods sprang up and the youthful forest added to the wild aesthetic along the eastern shoreline. These garbage hillocks formed part of Cedar Lake's "natural" environment.

### The Park Board Takes Over

It took a long time for the Minneapolis Park Board to gain control of Cedar Lake. As early as 1886, the Park Board had discussed acquiring the western shore of Cedar Lake as part of its Grand Rounds scheme. It wasn't until 1906 that the Park Board started acquiring land around Cedar Lake and, according to park historian David Smith, the process wasn't completed until 1959 (David C. Smith, "Parks, Lakes, Trails and So Much More: An Overview of the Histories of MPRB Properties," MPRB Website, 2008). While the Park Board seamlessly meshed the lake's western shoreline into the Minneapolis Grand Rounds system, the lake's eastern shoreline gained a reputation as a wild and even dangerous place. Some people loved it; others abhorred it.

In the 1970s, rail activity at Cedar Lake began to decline. Railroad mergers and acquisitions made the Cedar Lake Shops and Yards redundant. The M&StL was taken over by the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, which sold the Kenilworth Corridor to the



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## Southwest Light Rail Transit Is Coming

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Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) in 1984. The next year, the HCRRA demolished the old rail complex. (The remains can still be easily seen among the scrub woods at the base of the Kenilworth bluff.)

HCRRA's long-range strategy was to save the Kenilworth Corridor for future use as a light rail line. Since no one knew when that might happen, the county entertained ideas on temporary uses for the land.

### The Kenilworth Trail and LRT

Rail corridors make fabulous bicycle greenways. In 1995, Minneapolis Public Works (MPW), in partnership with the Minneapolis Park Board and the Cedar Lake Park Association, built the Cedar Lake Regional Trail from Hwy 100 to downtown Minneapolis. In 1999 MPW constructed the Kenilworth Trail, which connected the Midtown Greenway to the Cedar Lake Trail. These three rails are at the heart of Minneapolis' world-class, bicycle trail system.

The Kenilworth Corridor occupies the same space over which sailboats once floated and locomotives clanged. The trail lining the corridor has become a cherished amenity with a fiercely loyal constituency. Its fate appears inextricably linked with the future of public transportation. With all of the heated rhetoric about co-location vs. relocation, no one knows for sure what is in store for the Kenilworth Corridor, but it's sure to become another fascinating chapter in the history of this unique corridor—and the lands and communities adjacent to it.

### Mitigation: the Crucial Element

by John Erickson

“Mitigate: to lessen the suffering or trouble caused by an evil or difficulty of any kind”. That definition is at the heart of ongoing discussions concerning the introduction of LRT into the Kenilworth corridor and how it is built.

Of the 15.8 miles of LRT track between Eden Prairie and downtown Minneapolis, the portion from the West Lake St. bridge to I-394 is properly characterized as bucolic with beautiful homes, parkland, mature woods and open spaces, trails and bikeways — a neigh-

borhood that we feel fortunate to live in and/or experience as a visitor. It is easy to see why so many of us seek to preserve this special portion of our city. As opposed to the “development” objective elsewhere in this LRT corridor, the primary objective for this portion is clearly “preservation”.

The total time it takes for all daily freight trains to pass through the Corridor is approximately one hour per day. That means our Hill and Lake neighborhoods are relatively quiet for 23 hours per day. That is the standard to be used for determining the effects of LRT introduction and not the very occasional current freight train characteristics.

So how does this standard work? Simply put, it means that for this portion of the Corridor we want the sight, sound and vibration attributable to a newly built LRT system to be as close to the 23-hour criterion as we can build it. To accomplish this outcome, the final design needs to reflect the most current technologies and tools available including, but not limited to, tunneling, including trenching and cut-and-cover options; deployment of appropriate barriers, track, and overhead power technologies; and the best methods for reducing the effects of lights, horns, and bells.

All of these strategies properly employed in the Kenilworth Corridor constitute the mitigation that most of us view as crucial to the success or failure of this new transit development and the preservation of our existing neighborhoods.

### Municipal Consent: What Is It and Why Is It Important?

by Shelley Fitzmaurice

The current unresolved issues related to the SWLRT, including the divisive issue of relocation/co-location, raise important questions about municipal consent.

#### Q: What is Municipal Consent?

The term “municipal consent” applies to a request by the Met Council for approval of the SWLRT preliminary design plans expected to be submitted later this

year to all six of the cities through which the SWLRT will run: Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Edina, Hopkins, St. Louis Park, and Minneapolis.

Previous public action by the City of Minneapolis supporting the alignment of the SWLRT through the Kenilworth corridor, without co-location, was support for the Locally Preferred Alternative route, and is not the “municipal consent” contemplated by statute and discussed in this article.

Minnesota Statute 473.3994 outlines the required process for municipal consent of the SWLRT preliminary and final design plans. The Met Council must submit preliminary plans to each city for approval. If a city disapproves, it must describe specific amendments that would cause it to withdraw its disapproval. If disapproved, the Met Council may conduct studies and try to resolve disagreements but must ultimately make amendments to its preliminary designs to accommodate the objections of any disapproving city before proceeding to final design. A similar process would follow if final design plans include a substantial change.

#### Q: When will municipal consent be requested?

The Met Council's Southwest Project Office (SWPO) has indicated it wants to request municipal consent in the third quarter of 2013. This would precede publication of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), projected to be published no earlier than December 31, 2013.

#### Q: Can municipal consent be requested prior to completion of the FEIS?

Minnesota law does not directly address the timing of municipal consent but does specify the requirements for a preliminary design. These include whether light rail tracks will be at grade, elevated, or underground. This preliminary design issue is relevant to the Cedar Lake Parkway crossing and is one of the key technical issues that will not be fully addressed until the FEIS.

Federal law suggests that municipal consent cannot be requested prior to the FEIS without defeating the purpose of the FEIS, which is to inform decision-makers and the public of reasonable alternatives to avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts. Requesting municipal consent before the FEIS could subject the

SWLRT continued on page 6

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## Southwest Light Rail Transit Is Coming

continued from page 5

consent process to legal challenge, particularly if the design plans provide for co-location, an alternative not supported in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

### Q: What did the DEIS say about co-location?

The DEIS, released in October 2012, concluded that the benefits derived from co-location – even including the potential for increased ridership in a cost effective manner – “do not outweigh the potential adverse environmental impacts.” The DEIS also stated that the required use of Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board property under the co-location alternative could prohibit the U.S. Secretary of Transportation from approving the SWLRT unless it can be demonstrated that (1) the use of public parkland is required because there is no feasible alternative, and (2) any such use would include all possible planning to minimize harm to public parkland.

### Q: What happens if any city withholds its consent?

The municipal consent statute makes reference to the authority of the Met Council to review matters of “metropolitan significance” under a process governed by Met Council Rules. This allows the Met Council to make the final decision in the event of local disapproval but any such decision under this process is subject to judicial review.

It would appear that anything less than unanimous approval by all six cities would be an invitation to litigate a myriad of issues including, but not limited to, those arising from the DEIS, the FEIS, and the timing of requests for municipal consents. Further, lack of unanimous consent could cause delays in the project and could jeopardize funding of the SWLRT.

### Q: How can citizens become informed and involved?

Citizens can follow the actions of any city. In Minneapolis, city council meeting dates, agendas and minutes can be found at <[www.minneapolismn.gov/meetings](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/meetings)>. Any request for municipal consent is likely to be first discussed at a meeting of the City Council Transportation & Public Works Committee, currently chaired by Sandra Colvin Roy. All such meetings are subject to the State Open Meeting Law and each city must hold a public hearing prior to responding to a request for municipal consent.

You can also ask city officials for their positions on key issues. After November 5th Minneapolis will have a new mayor and several new city council members. Thus, voters should closely question all council and mayoral candidates about their views on municipal consent for SWLRT.

## Neighborhoods & the LRT Challenges: One Resident's Perspective

by Rodgers Adams

The possibility of a light rail line through our area has been a living example of the difficult choices that

can face neighborhood organizations.

Overall, just the possibility of change can benefit the organization itself, as it arouses neighborhood interest and participation. This energy can lead to better fact-gathering, to alerting planners to potential flaws, and to speaking with a voice heard by political decision-makers.

At the same time, this interest can shift the balance in an organization, as those most directly affected by the change become a greater voice than a larger number of residents less directly affected. And this imbalance can be increased by the general tendency of residents less affected to come to the aid of those more affected.

This change is important as the organization struggles to balance the needs of highly-affected residents with those of the area as a whole, and to balance the needs of the neighborhood with the needs of the greater community. Thus, light rail trains cruising past can seem to be a major problem for immediate neighbors, and the sounds of warning bells and horns can be a moderate problem for a broader area, while the neighborhood as a whole might benefit from better access to speedy mass transit.

More residents should tune in to this debate, because there are major civic issues at stake here. But, as they tune in, they should be sensitive to the possible motives of those who are speaking most loudly, and whether their arguments are reasoned and well-informed, or distorted to support a personally-favorable outcome. Be aware that, in the debate over light rail, there have been many legitimate concerns expressed, but there's also been some grasping at straws to promote a preferred decision, to the possible detriment of the broader community.

Disclosure: I live in a condo several blocks from the proposed light rail line, on busy Lake St. with lots of traffic and frequent sirens, so the line poses no significant changes or disruption to me. But I suspect that I am like hundreds of residents within a mile of the proposed West Lake station, who would find it to be a boost to property values and a gateway to the entire metro area.

## The Park Board and the Grand Rounds:

### Key Player, Key Issue

by Anita Tabb and Jennifer Ringold

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), through its mission and commitment to Minneapolis residents and park visitors, plays a key role in the SW LRT discussion. The Park Board's mission, simply stated, is to “permanently preserve, protect, maintain, improve, and enhance its natural resources, parkland, and recreational opportunities for current and future generations.”

Since the SW LRT project has the potential to seri-

ously impact Minneapolis parks, it was imperative for the Park Board to provide input into the future design and desired outcomes of the project. The MPRB is focusing on the impacts of the proposed SW LRT on the property it owns and/or maintains and the experience of the park visitor.

While much of the land for the SW LRT in the Kenilworth Corridor is owned by the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA), the Kenilworth Trail within the Corridor is maintained by the Park Board. The MPRB therefore has a keen interest in the impacts to trail users.

In addition to the short-term impacts during construction and the long-term impacts to parkland and the visitor experience, the MPRB is also focused on impacts to the historic character of the Grand Rounds, especially where the SW LRT would cross Cedar Lake Parkway. The Grand Rounds is eligible for the national register of historic places. These factors provide the Park Board, and therefore the people of Minneapolis, a certain standing in providing thoughtful comment on the project's implementation.

In order to generate the best thinking with divergent viewpoints about this project, the Park Board convened a Community Advisory Committee including citizens from various neighborhoods around the city to review the issues and to develop comments for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The Committee's draft comments were accepted by the Park Board and became the Park Board's response to the DEIS.

Comments covered items such as access and safety, noise, visual appeal, connectivity, aesthetics, historic character tranquility, and park access. Numerous citizens spent countless hours reviewing potential impacts from the perspective of park users. Advisory Committee members made on-site visits, accepted additional input from community members and established outcomes – expectations of items that needed to be addressed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). All valid comments submitted are required to be addressed in the FEIS.

You can view the full Park Board DEIS response at: [http://www.minneapolisparke.org/documents/design/southwest\\_LRT/CommentLetterSWLRTDEISFinal.pdf](http://www.minneapolisparke.org/documents/design/southwest_LRT/CommentLetterSWLRTDEISFinal.pdf)

All of us in Minneapolis are justly proud of our parks – and protective of them as well. Please get informed and get involved to help ensure that with the coming of SW LRT our parks continue to serve the needs of our city and the region.

## Preliminary Engineering: What Is It?

By Sophia Ginis and Sam O'Connell

The Southwest Light Rail Transit line (Green Line extension) is a 15.8-mile transitway with 17 new stations. Southwest LRT will provide Twin Cities residents with a fast, safe, new transportation option that will help improve mobility in the region. From the Hill and Lakes neighborhoods, residents will be able to take a single-seat trip west to Eden Prairie or east through Minneapolis into downtown St. Paul via the Green Line (Central Corridor LRT). The economic benefits of LRT will also stimulate business and job growth, provide access to employment and enhance the long-term value of the communities in the corridor.

Southwest LRT received approval to enter preliminary engineering from the Federal Transit Administration in September 2011. During this phase of the project, community members will have the opportunity to give input on items such as the location and layout of stations, station access and connections for pedestrian and bike trail users, and roadway and bus transit features around the stations. Park-and-ride locations will be explored, as well as placement of LRT system elements such as the location of an operations and maintenance facility.

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## Southwest Light Rail Transit Is Coming

continued from page 6

The Southwest LRT Project Office identified 25 key technical issues for the preliminary engineering phase. These technical issues include examining in detail each station site, major highway or intersection crossings, freight rail co-location/relocation issues, and facilities such as the operations and maintenance facility. In the Hill and Lakes area, the technical issues include the Beltline Station, West Lake Station, Kenilworth Corridor, Bassett Creek Valley Corridor, freight rail issue and bike trails. There will be open houses in June/July of 2013 to further discuss these technical issues.

The preliminary engineering phase will continue through mid-to-late 2014. Starting in the summer of 2013, the Southwest Project Office will have more detailed station and alignment designs to share with the community for feedback. Those designs will address issues raised by responses to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) as well as ideas and concerns raised by neighborhoods, businesses and communities.

Members of the Southwest LRT Community Advisory Committee, Business Advisory Committee, and Corridor Management Committee will also play a critical role, providing feedback and bringing information out to their communities. These committees represent diverse interests and stakeholders along the Southwest LRT line and serve as voices of the community.

To find the members who represent your area as well as meeting minutes, presentations, and agendas, visit our website ([www.swlrt.org](http://www.swlrt.org)) and click on the "Committees" tab. All are welcome to attend committee meetings. On our website you can also sign-up for our ENewsletter, connect through social media, and learn about the project.

You can also contact the Metropolitan Council's Southwest LRT community outreach coordinator for Minneapolis and St. Louis Park, Sophia Ginis (612-373-3895 or [sophia.ginis@metrotransit.org](mailto:sophia.ginis@metrotransit.org)).

### The West Lake Station: Complicated – and Busy!

by Richard Logan and Michael Wilson

The West Lake Street LRT station presents the most complicated set of design challenges of any of the line's 17 stations. No surprise there. Many participants at the April 6th Walkabout were surprised to hear, however, that the West Lake station is also projected to be the line's busiest.

The proposed station location sits on the Greenway/rail right-of-way between the west side of the Lake Street bridge overpass and the Greenway exit/entrance to the Chowen-Abbott loop. The station's design must accommodate people coming by different means (car, bus, bike, foot, wheelchair) via two major roadways (West Lake St. and Excelsior Blvd.), and from different directions (Calhoun Village and the Greenway to the east, Calhoun Commons and most of West Calhoun to the southwest, the Greenway to the west, and from neighborhoods on both the north and south sides of Lake St.).

Up on Lake St. there need to be pull-over bus and car drop-offs on both sides. Riders then need safe and easy walking access to the station via stairs, walkways, or elevator.

People who live north and west of the corridor need a safe and well-maintained crossing over the tracks instead of the packed-dirt "cow paths" that bikers and pedestrians now use to cross the freight tracks and Greenway.

Perhaps most problematic is access from Excelsior Blvd. for cars and buses. The area is already congested and densely populated, with a large new apartment complex opening soon. Since the City will not allow construction of a park-and-ride lot, residents foresee side streets overrun with parked cars and business owners foresee LRT riders parking in the Calhoun Village and Calhoun Commons parking lots.

Hennepin County and Met Council planners express determination to make the West Lake St. station a great neighborhood asset, allowing residents easy access to downtown, St. Paul, the airport, Mall of America, and points in between; bringing people in to our neighborhood businesses; and eventually reducing traffic in the heavily-congested West Lake-Excelsior corridor. But we need to be vigilant – and to participate in the process – to make sure this happens.

**Start by coming to the Minneapolis LRT station plan Open House on Thursday, May 2, 6 – 8 p.m. at Bryn Mawr Elementary School (252 Upton Av. S., just north of I-394). Let your voices and ideas be heard!**

**Registration for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's summer recreation programs is now open.**

Programs and activities available include environmental, water recreation, fitness, creative arts, day camps, sports leagues, golf leagues and lessons and more.

To view and register for activities and programs, view category searches below or visit ActiveNet. For more information call 612-230-6400 or contact your local park's recreation center.

## Kenwood's Budget Finalized; All Day Kindergarten Continues

By Nicole Valentine

Kenwood Elementary School Principal Cheryl Martin says it has been "a trying budget season" but, in the end, a significant portion of the cuts proposed for the school has been restored. After two waves of added funding to offset proposed cuts, Principal Martin was able to submit her final budget to the School District on time March 29th.

In its original proposal, the District would have reduced funds for the K-5 school by \$212,000. This would have meant cutting the band program, office administrative staff, education assistants in the classrooms, the social worker, and even the building's photocopier. Concerns over building safety and operations caused the school's PTA and Site Council to send a joint letter to the School Board requesting additional funding. Also, the PTA hosted District Four School Board member Josh Reimnitz at an evening meeting March 21st to discuss the impact of the proposed cuts. PTA Co-President and Lowry Hill East resident Ann Do said, "Josh coming to our meeting was greatly appreciated and we think it was a

Kenwood School to page 10

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- Jessica W.

When you call for an appointment, please be sure to ask for James Waterhouse. I'm honored to support Hill and Lakes Press and serve its readers.



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Photo by Dorothy Childers

MPRB Commissioner Anita Tabb speaking along with Janne Flisrand and Craig Wilson at a DFL caucus event on Tuesday, April 16 at the Unitarian Society on Mt. Curve.



Photo by Monica Smith

Helen Ackerman and Karen Carney enjoy a chili dinner at the East Isles annual meeting held at the Uptown Diner.

### Your Legal Rights: How to Assert Your Rights as a Consumer From the Office of Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson

Most companies understand that it is usually beneficial to try to find a solution to a consumer's concerns. Companies don't want unhappy consumers to complain and use a competitor's service or product. Keep in mind the following points when filing a complaint about a product or service with a business.

#### Step 1: Get Your Ducks in a Row

Gather the documents that support your complaint. Collect price tags, receipts, warranties, contracts, advertisements, manuals, photographs, and correspondence, as appropriate.

#### Step 2: Determine What You Want

Figure out the solution you want. Do you want a replacement or a repair? Do you want to dispute a charge, have a fee waived, or receive a discount? A complaint is not effective unless you say what you think is fair to resolve the problem.

#### Step 3: Call or Visit to Let the Company Know You Have A Problem

A company cannot help you if it does not know you have a problem. By calling or visiting the company to file a complaint, you may be able to quickly determine the company's position on the matter and, possibly, resolve the issue immediately. By calling or visiting the company, you put a "face" on the problem. A call or visit should be attempted before writing a letter that may get no more than a form letter response.

When you speak with a company, you may have to work your way through the company's chain of command by starting with a customer service representative. Be sure to ask for the representative's name and write down the date and time of the call as well as the response.

If you feel that the representative is not addressing your concerns, ask to speak with the representative's supervisor. Once again, keep a log of the discussion, and be sure to write down the name of the supervisor.

#### Step 4: Write a Letter

You may also wish to send a letter or e-mail if the call or visit does not result in a timely or appropriate response. The letter should be sent to the company's chief executive officer or president. He or she will then route the letter to the person most appropriate to respond. Keep your letter brief. The most effective letters are no more than one page and summarize the important facts. You may include with the letter a more detailed outline which is specific in terms of the product purchased, the date of purchase, the amount of the purchase, the problem encountered, your attempt to resolve the problem, and, once again, the resolution that you believe will fairly resolve the problem. The outline should attach copies of documentation supporting your complaint.

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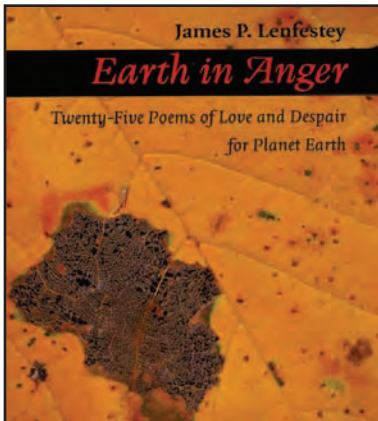


**EARTH IN ANGER**

Reviewed by Walter Whitman

Special to the Hill and Lake Press, Poetry Month edition, 2013

Poet, journalist, and neighbor Jim Lenfestey reads from his newest book, **EARTH IN ANGER: TWENTY-FIVE POEMS OF LOVE AND DESPAIR FOR PLANET EARTH**, at Bockley Gallery, Monday April 22, 7pm, sponsored by Birchbark Books and The Loft Literary Center.



wearily citizens of planet earth, always reminding us of our hubris and folly. Lenfestey is like Tantalus, cursed to live in this sublime neighborhood, feasting occasionally at our divine restaurants, schools, museums, bookstores, galleries, festivals, lakes and parks, yet haunted by the unfolding catastrophe of climate change he knows too well from his twenty-five years of journalism covering climate science. "I carry the grief of the world in a joyful body. What should I do?" He opens with that question for all of us— what should we do with so many subtle landscapes unfolding in ruin?

And yet this is neither a sad nor angry book, but a mythic one. "Heaven" has been found, in a poem by that name, and when you read of it you will want to go there. Yes, evil shows up, "horned head hot with laughter," like the stifling heat we experienced last summer, and will experience again soon enough, almost intolerable. And he dares disparage our nation's sacred symbol, the eagle, who "steals everything," and to remember a lonely fish nearly extirpated. But in the poet's sure lines we hear that he is accurate. And in this stifling landscape there is comfort - comfort in church, in music, in "the garden in August, so loud the singing," in swimming away "like the fishes" to that place called "Heaven."

Look, I can't make you read this book, just as Lenfestey can't make you face the facts and implications of climate science. He obviously wrote these poems in white-hot despair and remnant hope. But I recommend it to you, for it is beautiful.

The poems are music to the ear. The poet is not lost, nor are we as readers. The invocation, like that of Robert Frost, quietly invites us in. The coda is an

homage to children testing waters at the beach. Joyful innocence and poignant grief — an impossible pairing, yet they resonate here.

In the long penultimate poem, "By Azure Huron's Shore," Lenfestey channels the voice and long lines of Whitman, a tour de force, sending me back to my house on Emerson to read his essays "The Poet" and "Nature," which Lenfestey says are "the foundation stones of the spiritual democracy of our nation and all nations." They are even better than I remembered, the Bible of contemporary experience. I have lived on Emerson my whole life, and here is what Emerson says: "In the presence of nature a wild delight runs through the man, in spite of real sorrows."

Read "Earth in Anger." It is available at Birchbark books for \$12 plus a small tax to support city and state services.



James Lenfestey

I can't tell a lie, this may be the most important book of the millennium. I mean the current millennium, 2000-3000, after that who knows. A big deal for a book of poems, whose audience these days is measured in tenths of micro-movies. But this book skillfully carries a message too essential for readers to pass by.

"An important book," says the poet Heid Erdrich, who will introduce him at Bockley Gallery, who should know. "The best work Lenfestey has done," says Jim Mullin, a former neighbor, who should know. "I like your book," says Robert Bly, who just won the Robert Frost Medal. "One for the ages," says Gao Xingjiang, the Chinese Nobel Prize-winner, I'm sure he said that.

After I received an early printing of the book, the cover rich in the fall flames of a Scott King photograph, I called Lenfestey to discuss the book, how it came about, what he intended to accomplish. But he refused to talk, would say only, come to the event on Earth Day, April 22, 7pm at Bockley Gallery, sponsored by Birchbark books and The Loft Literary Center.

I will be there. Will you?  
The title is taken from an obscure but frightening choral passage in Euripides. Let me quote the entirety of it, as it is the epigraph Lenfestey has chosen for his Greek chorus-like book:

"...Earth in Anger began each night to issue phantoms, dreams to haunt mortals' sleep, revealing how things really stand, and what events are destined."

The wise old Greeks and their gods still haunt us, we

**East Isles Green Opportunities**

By Betsy Allis

Want to protect our water from stormwater runoff and beautify your yard at the same time? The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District can help with funds for up to 50% of eligible projects, including rain-gardens and pervious pavers. Deadline is May 31, 2013. Contact Monica Smith at [nrp@eastisles.org](mailto:nrp@eastisles.org) or 612-821-0131 or visit <http://minnehahacreek.org/CostShare>. Mention that you're an East Isles resident.

Zero Waste Uptown (the 4 core neighborhoods bordering Uptown) has received Hennepin County funding to help 8 multi-family buildings (10 units +) double their recycling rates. East Isles is looking for two buildings. For more information, contact Monica (above).

Interested in raingardens (May 18) or simple ways to reduce household chemicals (May 20)? See our East Isles ad in this issue. (Page 10) Remember the East Isles SuperSale on September 7—start putting aside items!

## EAST ISLES RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION (EIRA)

By Monica Smith, Recorder

### East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA) Minutes from the Annual Members Meeting April 9, 2013 Uptown Diner

The annual meeting began with a chili dinner and social hour. 40+ East Isles residents and invited guests attended the event.

EIRA President Dan McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

#### President's Report of Board and Committee Activity

Dan McLaughlin discussed activities of the board and committees over the past year. The board focused on strategic planning as we begin a new relationship with the City as NRP expires. The board identified priorities of improving green space and creating more social events. The Semi-Annual Meeting in October 2012 offered attendees a chance to vote on a list of priorities. Improving green space was the top priority (The Mall, Lake of the Isles and Smith Triangle) and the board approved this as our Neighborhood Priority Plan (NPP). The board created two new committees: Transportation and Parks & Open Space. We are working on redesigning our website.

#### Committee Annual Reports:

##### Zoning Committee:

Chair: Harvey Ettinger

Supported recommendation for Neighborhood Conservation District ordinance

Conducted a survey of residents regarding Smith Triangle and the Lowry statue

Worked with developer of the vacant BP site at 2700 Hennepin for a new retail development

Supported improvements to local businesses and residential property

Upcoming issues: voting on proposed changes to fence ordinance and extended hours for Mesa Pizza, 1440 W Lake St

##### NRP Committee:

Chair: Jerome Ryan

Installation of additional lighting on the Greenway

Vegetation clean up near the Greenway/Mall

Identified areas for new boulevard trees

Provided funding for Green Team activities

Continue to offer low-interest home improvement loans to residents. Once loans are repaid, the funds are available for use on other neighborhood priorities.

Continue to offer home security grants of up to \$250 for specified upgrades.

Remaining balance of our NRP funds: \$140,000

##### Green Team:

Chair: Betsy Allis

The Green Team has been extremely active, focusing on reducing waste, conserving energy and improving water quality.

Re: energy – sponsored lighting workshop and climate change discussion series

Re: water quality – received grant from Mississippi Watershed Management Organization to create a demonstration rain garden at 2871 Humboldt

Member of Zero Waste Uptown – working with three other Uptown neighborhoods to focus on increasing recycling rates in multi-family buildings. Recruiting two building (of 10+ units) in East Isles to participate.

Created green film series with bi-monthly events

Created East Isles Super Sale. The second annual event will be Sep 7, 2013

Organized Earth Day clean ups at lake (upcoming event: April 20, 9:30 am – noon)

##### Social Committee:

Chair: Amy Sanborn

Uptown Art Fair pop booth: 35 volunteers participated and raised \$500 for EIRA

Ice Cream Social in August in conjunction with the grand re-opening of Levin Triangle Park.

Ice Skating party in January.

Thanks for Isles Bun and Coffee and Kowalski's for donating event treats

Wine Tasting fundraiser was not held this year

##### Outreach and Nominations Committee:

Chair: Linda Schutz

2012: recruited 4 new board members and 1 alternate

2013: recruited 5 new board members and 2 alternates

Worked on attendance and sign in policy to meet new City guidelines

Outreach effort to assist President in connecting with other organizations and neighborhoods

##### New Committees: Transportation (Chair: Candace Dow) and Parks & Open Space (Chair: Harvey Ettinger)

The Treasurer's Report was distributed.

Certificates of appreciation were awarded to outgoing board members and key volunteers.

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

Working on a strong and proactive maintenance plan for Lake of the Isles as recommended by Lake of the Isles Renovation Project Citizens' Joint Review Committee (East Isles, Lowry Hill, Kenwood and CIDNA residents). Conservation Corp workers will begin work soon. Also working to resolve turf issues. The lighting project is complete.

Buckthorn will be removed along the Greenway/Mall East Calhoun Pkwy (between Lake St and Lake of the Isles) will be repaved in 2014

Will meet with East Isles regarding ideas for improving Smith Triangle

Received a federal grant to make improvements to bike/ped trails around Dean Parkway and Cedar Lake Pkwy.

Still in the infancy of the planning process from the Oct 2012 design charrette.

##### Meg Tuthill, Ward 10 Council Member, City of Minneapolis

\$7 million has been put in a property tax stabilization fund resulting in a 0% levy on property tax

Flea market ordinance will be reviewed by the Zoning & Planning Committee on April 18

Proposing an ordinance change for food/alcohol ratio in restaurants from the required 60% food to 40% alcohol to 50/50

Yard waste pick up began this week; street sweeping will begin April 16

Single sort recycling will be rolled out to the remaining East Isles blocks, May 16-20

5th Precinct Open House is May 14, 5-7 pm at 3101 Nicollet Ave.

The next Meet with Meg is May 13, noon-1 pm at the 5th Precinct

Call 911 to report any suspicious activity

Update on Lagoon water discharge issue: DNR issues permits for groundwater mitigation. 1800 Lake received a temporary permit to discharge water into the lagoon. Based on information the City provided to the DNR, a letter was sent to the property manager requiring an Appropriation Permit for the groundwater discharge. An Appropriation Permit is a water use permit from the DNR that is required because of the volume of water being pumped. The DNR is offering a 30-day comment period to voice concerns. The City, Park Board, County, Watershed Agency, and US Army Corp of Engineers will have an opportunity to comment. The DNR will accept and consider comments from the public, and will include comments in the final permit file. Send comments to Meg Tuthill by May 1.

##### Lake Street/Greenway Transit Study

Candace Dow is the East Isles delegate to the Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis, Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The Alternatives Analysis is studying transit options on Lake St/Greenway corridor between Hiawatha LRT and future Southwest LRT stations. The one-year study will explore light rail, streetcar, bus rapid transit and dedicated busway. The CAC is an advisory committee and will make a recommendation to planners. More information at: [www.midtowntransitway.org](http://www.midtowntransitway.org). Next CAC meeting: April 23, 7-9 p.m., Colin Powell Center, 2924 4th Ave. S. Public comments will be heard at the end of each CAC meeting. The next open houses: May 21, 6 - 8 p.m., Colin Powell Center, and May 23, 6 - 8 p.m., Whittier Clinic, 2810 Nicollet Ave.

Candace will chair the new Transportation Committee and is interested in feedback from residents on transit issues in the neighborhood, contact her at [transportation@eastisles.org](mailto:transportation@eastisles.org).

##### Election of EIRA Board of Directors and Alternates

Nominations Committee Chair Linda Schutz introduced the pre-registered slate of candidates for the 2013-14 EIRA Board of Directors: Candace Dow, Vaughn Emerson, Renee Gust, Donna Jansen, Dan McLaughlin, Antone Melton-Meaux, Carla Pardue, Ramon Ramirez Quintero, Michael Rossini, and Linda Schutz. Candidate for Alternates to the EIRA Board of Directors: Rosita Acosta and Bill Elwood. McLaughlin called for any additional floor nominations. Nicole Engel-Nitz was nominated for the final director position. The slate of candidates was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Submitted by: Monica Smith, Recorder

**NEXT EIRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 14, 7 P.M. AT GRACE-TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH, 1430 W. 28TH ST.**

##### Kenwood School from page 7

productive discussion of the negative impact the cuts, as they were proposed, would have had on the school." Additionally, many parents sent letters and emails to School Board members expressing their concerns.

In the end, almost \$114,000 dollars were restored for next year's budget. While it "could have been a lot better," Principal Martin said, "we have all of our needs covered" at this time. Some examples of how the cuts will be felt next year include using a combination part-time office assistant and part-time secretary to staff the office during the school day and the loss of two of the building's four education assistants.

But there is good news for full-day Kindergarten at Kenwood next year. For the 10th year in a row, the effort to fund three full-day "K" classes through parent and community donations has been a success. The annual parent-driven initiative to "buy up" two half-day K classes successfully raised the \$88,000 needed. The District provides Kenwood with funding for only one full-day K classroom each year. Kenwood resident and full-day K campaign co-chair Stephanie Bell said, "We are so grateful for the family and community support for this initiative year after year. Providing all children at Kenwood School with a full day of Kindergarten curriculum is a priority for us."

## Join your neighbors for these East Isles events

All events will be held at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W. 28th Street unless otherwise noted.

For questions or to register for events, please contact Monica Smith at [nrp@eastisles.org](mailto:nrp@eastisles.org) or 612-821-0131.

### Earth Day Clean Up & Family Fun

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 9:30 A.M. - NOON

Lake of the Isles at W 27th St

Clean up our beloved Lake of the Isles shoreline and recycle what you collect. Help us feed our two onsite composting units including a worm bin.

### Zoning & Land Use Committee

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 5 P.M.

Includes: proposed changes to the Fence Ordinance (to include "naturally constructed fences, i.e., hedges"); Mesa Pizza (1440 W Lake St) for extended hours; and application to establish legal nonconforming rights to a three-unit residence at 2516 Humboldt Ave S in the R2B Two-Family District.

### EIRA Board of Directors Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 7-9 P.M.

### Raingarden Highlights and \$\$ to Create Your Own!

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 9:30-11 A.M.

2871 Humboldt Ave S (Humboldt & The Mall)

A chance to dialogue with a landscape architect and learn how you can build a raingarden with cost-sharing funds. Includes coffee and rolls. Register by May 14.

### Green Film: Chemerical

MONDAY, MAY 20, 7-8:30 P.M.

This entertaining film tells the sobering truth about everyday household products. Leave with simple solutions, a green cleaner, and a pick-up date for your toxic items.

Includes refreshments.



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

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](mailto:nrp@eastisles.org) or 612-821-0131 at least five days before an EIRA sponsored event.

## KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION (KIAA)

By Amy Lucas

### KIAA Board met April 1, 2013 at Kenwood Rec Center.

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

Board Members present: Chair Larry Moran, Mike Bono, Jack Levi, Kathy Low, Amy Lucas, Ed Pluimer and Bob Tennesen.

Others present: Council Member Lisa Goodman, Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb, Dylan Thomas of Southwest Journal, Mark Houltly of Kenwood Rec. Center, Mark Johnson, Carol White, Terry Campbell, Chip Lindeke.

### 7th Ward Update—Council Member Lisa Goodman

“Lunch with Lisa” will be noon, Wednesday, April 24 for a tour of the city’s waste recycling plant at 1800 Broadway N.E.

Street sweeping will begin later this year: April 15-May10.

Visit [www.minneapolis.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping](http://www.minneapolis.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping) and enter your address for sweeping dates in your neighborhood.

There are 47 vacancies on City boards and commissions. Visit [www.minneapolis.gov/boards/boards-and-commissions](http://www.minneapolis.gov/boards/boards-and-commissions) to learn more.

The Kenwood restaurant has applied to the City for an outdoor seating permit. The public hearing is scheduled for April 4 at 1:30 p.m. Lisa reminded KIAA that outdoor seating may displace some of the indoor seating and may not mean added customers. Lisa said most complaints she has received are complaints about the vendors blocking the alley.

Neighborhood businesses want street lighting but need 6-8 contiguous blocks in agreement for street lighting

### Park Board Update—Anita Tabb, Park Board Commissioner

Emerald ash borer is in Mpls and ash trees are heavily planted in City’s golf courses. The city’s five golf courses will be replanted in the next few years with multiple tree species.

Park Board will be inspecting boats going into lakes for zebra mussels.

City sewer project along Lake Street between Lake of Isles and Calhoun still has another season before completion. Completion set for 2014.

Anita met with some area residents who are members of the Lake of the Isles Renovation Project Citizens’ Joint Review Committee and Marcia Holmberg, Natural Resources Coordinator for Park Board, to discuss Lake of the Isles maintenance. Improvements in shoreline plant maintenance will begin this year, including hand-pruning of overgrown shoreline plants. Turf will also be evaluated for repair and continued maintenance. It is difficult to recruit volunteers to maintain planted areas around Lake of the Isles. There is consideration to reduce number of shrub beds and improve maintenance.

Milfoil harvesting is proposing two passes on each of the three lakes this summer: Lake of the Isles, Harriet and Calhoun. Park Board purchased a second milfoil harvester last year to avoid outside vendors bringing other invasive species (zebra mussels) into lakes.

### Extra Police Patrols—Mark Johnson, Crime and Safety Committee Chair

Mark passed around the Kenwood Crime statistics for the past six years.

Last year, KIAA recognized that early Park Board police patrol of the East Cedar Beach (a.k.a. Hidden Beach) would be helpful to target criminal activities early in the summer season and to set the expectations early.

KIAA approved a resolution to authorize the same amount of NRP funds for “police buy back” patrol hours allocated as last year with the understanding that the patrols start in May. Mark Johnson will discuss further with the Park Board Police. The patrol funds should be reviewed before a contract is signed and a final report of patrols is expected.

### Outdoor Seating at restaurant, The Kenwood

Don Saunders, owner of The Kenwood, was unable to attend the KIAA meeting, but told KIAA board member Jack Levi that he was interested in neighborhood concerns. Concerns may be emailed directly to Don Saunders.

A public hearing is scheduled on April 4 at 1:30 at the City of Minneapolis for the sidewalk permit.

### Sidewalk Planting Project—Kathy Low

Lowry Hill passed a resolution to reallocate \$12,000 of their NRP funds to KIAA to contract with the Park Board for planting along the West Franklin Avenue sidewalk (Kenwood Park) with the understanding that surrounding/affected residents/stakeholders would be involved in the design approval.

Affected residents along West Franklin Avenue met to review the landscape design, but did not reach consensus on approval of the design.

KIAA approved a resolution to politely decline the Lowry Hill NRP funds of \$12,000 to enter into a contract with the Park Board for landscaping/tree plantings along the West Franklin Avenue sidewalk.

### CPP Survey —Kathy Low

KIAA will further discuss the CPP survey via email among KIAA members.

KIAA will communicate with the NCR staff that KIAA plans to comply with NCR’s requirement not to impose membership dues via a resolution rather than a bylaw change. Ed Pluimer will draft the resolution for KIAA.

KIAA liability insurance has been increased to \$2 million to meet CPP requirements.

### Annual Meeting

The KIAA Annual meeting/celebration will be at Kenwood Park on Sunday, May 19. Time to be announced. All Kenwood residents are encouraged to attend. KIAA is recruiting more members for the board and will be appointing members at the annual meeting. Please contact Larry Moran at [debbielarry@comcast.net](mailto:debbielarry@comcast.net) if you are interested in joining KIAA.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**REMINDER: THE NEXT KIAA BOARD MEETING WILL BE THE ANNUAL MEETING ON MAY 19 IN KENWOOD PARK. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND THESE MONTHLY MEETINGS.**

### Lake of the Isles Update from page one

plan using student and U of M staff. Ms. Holmgren indicated that she had recently spoken with Mr. Bauer regarding such a possibility.

Regarding the status of the ornamental shrub beds, Ms. Holmgren confirmed to the Committee that an inventory has been taken of all of the plantings in each bed and an ongoing maintenance plan will be put in place this spring. However, due to costly maintenance requirements, staff is considering possible elimination of several beds which would allow them to maintain remaining plantings at a higher level. The MPRB would like community input to determine whether the number of beds should be edited or whether the community was interested in developing an on-going volunteer group to assist in the shrub bed maintenance.

In conclusion, the Committee requested that Ms. Holmgren forward a more detailed summary of her plans for publication in an upcoming edition of the Hill and Lake Press, the Uptown Neighborhood News, and the South West Journal.

Thanks to Committee members representing the four neighborhoods around the Lake: Pat Scott and Kathy Low (KIAA) and Harvey Ettinger (EIRA-Committee Chair), who attended the meeting, as well as Marty Broan (LHNA) and Bob Corrick (CIDNA) for their ongoing participation. Please direct comments/questions to Harvey Ettinger at [hgetting@aol.com](mailto:hgetting@aol.com). The full Committee report and Ms Holmgren’s specific shoreline renovation plans can be viewed at [eastisles.org](http://eastisles.org).

The Committee also wishes to thank Commissioner Tabb for her persistence and hard work in keeping this issue a priority at the Minneapolis Park Board leading to concrete action to resolve outstanding Issues relating to the Renovation Project.



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## CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (CIDNA)

By Monica Smith

### CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES, April 10, 2013

The April 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, Rosanne Halloran, Art Higinbotham, David Lissauer, and David Shirley.

NRP Committee Chair Gail Lee, Land Use Chair Bob Corrick and other residents were also in attendance. Staff: Monica Smith

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

#### Announcements:

Thank you to a resident for recent donation to support CIDNA's work on transportation issues.

The Midtown Greenway Coalition thanked CIDNA for its donation.

Earth Day Clean Up is April 20, 9:30 – noon at Cedar Lake (at W 25th St).

David Shirley is retiring from the CIDNA Board after 26 years of service. The board commended him for his commitment to the neighborhood.

#### Sophia Ginis, Community Outreach Coordinator, Southwest LRT

The first issue of their newsletter was recently published (info at [www.swlrt.org](http://www.swlrt.org)).

The West Lake Station Walkabout was a great opportunity for project staff to listen to residents' concerns about traffic, parking, and pedestrian connections.

LRT Station Open House: Thursday, May 2, 6-8 pm at Bryn Mawr Elementary School.

The West Lake Station is projected to be the busiest station along the route. Minneapolis is opposed to Park & Rides but the project staff will look at options to address resident concerns about already congested streets.

More detailed station designs are expected in early summer.

The FTA is requiring the project office to evaluate both freight relocation and co-location in Kenilworth Corridor. They are designing stations for both scenarios. A decision on relocation or co-location is expected this summer.

#### Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7

Regarding LRT: CM Goodman is confident that the City will not agree to co-location—comments were clear in their DEIS response. The project requires Municipal Consent from every city along the route. It is expected that Municipal Consent will be sought in 2013 (with current

City Council members and mayor making the decision). Goodman recommends staying informed on the project, getting involved with the station area planning, and voicing opinions to elected officials. Also, since it is an election year – ask candidates about their position on LRT.

Lunch with Lisa on April 24: field trip to Waste Management's recycling facility. Contact Goodman's office to reserve your spot.

Street sweeping is scheduled to begin on April 15. This will be delayed if there is still snow in the streets. Check the city's website: [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us)

Applications are being accepted for city boards and commissions. Info on city's website.

#### Variance Request

Brian Reinstra, 2925 Sunset Blvd (directly adjacent to the Super America gas station on France and Lake St.) A variance is being requested to replace an existing 6' fence with an 8' fence. A letter will be sent to all residents within 350' of property. Reinstra will advise the CIDNA Board if there are any objections from neighbors. The CIDNA Board voted no objection to the variance request.

#### Board Approvals

The CIDNA Board unanimously approved a motion to authorize \$250 for one shared registration fee for board members to attend the conference.

The board unanimously approved the 2012 Community Participation Program Annual Report.

#### Park Siding Park Update

Gail Lee reported on the results of the March 12th Public Meeting for the playground redesign. MCES will proceed with two age-separated play areas. Of the four playground designs, the preferred concepts were train theme and abstract play structure.

The two concepts are being refined for final decision by the neighborhood at the final Public Meeting, April 15, 6-8 pm, at Jones-Harrison. A Public Hearing will be held at the Park Board headquarters on May 1. The park is expected to reopen in early July.

#### Dean Parkway and West Cedar Lake Trail Improvements CAC Report

The Park Board approved the CAC's recommendation. The CAC was notified on April 10th that the State Historic Preservation Office objected to the pedestrian loops in the Dean Green area south of the Greenway. They want a single north/south trail and no east/west connection. The Park Board will comply. To meet budget the Park Board also needs to do the following:

Remove the eastern-most pedestrian trail in Dean Green area

Remove the plans for the kiosk at 28th

Leave in place the existing sidewalk along the north side of Dean Pkwy between Benton Blvd and Cedar Lake Pkwy

A final meeting of the CAC focused on Cedar Lake Pkwy/SWLRT intersection and South Beach. The Park Board wanted feedback about bike/ped trails – no decisions were made. South Beach won't see any major improvements until after LRT but the topic is back on the table for discussion. The NRP Committee will push for minor improvements to occur this summer.

#### Transportation Committee

Ed Ferlauto gave a summary of the March 23rd meeting of the Kenilworth Alliance (formerly the Joint Neighborhood Task Force for LRT). They created a website: [www.kenilworthalliance.wordpress.com](http://www.kenilworthalliance.wordpress.com). The next meeting is April 27, 10 am at Jones-Harrison.

West Lake Station Walkabout on April 6 was well attended and informative.

#### Saturday, June 8, 2-4 pm – event on the Kenilworth Trail to engage with trail users about Southwest LRT. Volunteer help will be needed.

Art Higinbotham reported that he is not seeking approval of a LRT re-route proposal that he submitted to the CIDNA Board at its March meeting. He would like to continue exploring options since the TC&W Railroad and Safety in the Park oppose the freight reroute; and co-location is opposed by the City of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and residents along the corridor.

The April 19 issue of the Hill and Lake Press will include several articles about Southwest LRT coordinated by Mike Wilson.

The April 2013 issue of Twin Cities Business April featured a cover story about Southwest LRT. <http://tcbmag.com/Industries/Transportation/Will-a-Tug-of-War-Between-TC-W-Railroad-and-Henn-C>

Kenilworth Preservation Group has a petition for support of a LRT tunnel through the Kenilworth Corridor. Info at:

[www.kenilworthpreservationgroup.org](http://www.kenilworthpreservationgroup.org).

The March 28 meeting of the Southwest LRT CAC included an introduction to the station planning, and engineering presentation and information on the maintenance facilities. More info at [www.swlrt.org](http://www.swlrt.org).

The Southwest LRT CAC will meet with staff from Minneapolis' Community Planning & Economic Development (CPED) on April 24, 3-5 pm (105 5th Avenue South, Room 200) to discuss relocation and co-location options.

#### Sewer Construction Update

The March 27 Public Meeting was well attended. Parking bays will not be included in the design but bump outs for traffic calming will be added at key locations on the eastbound lane.

#### Midtown Greenway Coalition (MGC) Report

Greenway Glow is being planned for June 22.

The new Adopt-a-Greenway signs will be in place soon. CIDNA's clean up day is being organized for June.

#### Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis

The Alternatives Analysis is studying transit option (LRT, streetcar and bus rapid transit) on the Greenway/Lake St corridor.

The next meeting of the CAC is April 23, 7 pm at Colin Powell Center, 2924 4th Ave S.

More info at: [www.metrotransit.org/midtown-corridor](http://www.metrotransit.org/midtown-corridor)

#### Land Use & Development Committee

Committee Chair Bob Corrick expects some activity on the Weisman property this year.

#### Annual Meeting Planning

The CIDNA Annual Meeting will be Wednesday, May 8. The board approved a motion to allocate \$100 for food/beverage.

Elected officials have been invited to participate in a panel discussion.

Promotion will include an ad in the Hill and Lake Press and a postcard mailing to all residents.

Election of CIDNA Board – new board members are needed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING IS THE ANNUAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 8 AT JONES-HARRISON, SOCIAL  
AT 5:45 PM, MEETING AT 6:15 P.M.**

## CIDNA ANNUAL MEETING!

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2013

5:45 P.M. CASUAL CONVERSATION WITH NEIGHBORS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

6:15 P.M. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

JONES-HARRISON RESIDENCE, 3700 CEDAR LAKE AVENUE

#### LEARN ABOUT:

- Southwest Light Rail Transit
- Sewer Project and Sunset Blvd reconstruction
- Midtown Greenway/Lake Street Transit Study
- Park Siding Park Renovation
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- Q&A with invited elected officials including City Council members; State Legislators; and City, County and Park Board representatives.

#### HAVE AN INTEREST IN CIDNA?

You can make an impact in your neighborhood! CIDNA Board elections will be held at the Annual Meeting – throw your hat in the ring! Email [info@cindna.org](mailto:info@cindna.org) and/or visit [www.cindna.org](http://www.cindna.org) for more information.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (LHNA)

By Janis Clay

### Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Minutes Tuesday, April 2, 2013, Kenwood Recreation Center

Present - Board Members: Maureen Sheehan, President; David Weinstein, Vice President; Janis Clay, Secretary; Dan Aronson, Treasurer; Sherie Tazelaar; Jimmy Fogel; Rebecca Graham; Ruth Shields; Phil Hallaway; Ann Seltman; Tom Huppert; Mark Brauer.

Present - Guests and staff: Lisa Goodman, Seventh Ward Minneapolis City Council Representative; Janet Hallaway.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Maureen Sheehan, noting a quorum was present.

**Community Announcements-Seventh Ward City Council Representative Lisa Goodman:** Lunch with Lisa on April 24th will be a field trip to Waste Management's recycling facility at 1800 Broadway St. NE. An advance RSVP is required. The tour will begin promptly at noon. Street sweeping, pushed back two weeks due to the late spring, is scheduled to begin April 15th. There is an interactive street sweeping schedule lookup at

[www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping). The City will remove graffiti on public property. Property owners are responsible for removing graffiti on private property. Mayor R.T. Rybak will give his final State of the City Address Wednesday April 10th. A number of City Boards and Commissions have open seats. Information can be found at the City's website, [www.minneapolismn.gov](http://www.minneapolismn.gov). Signage for new parking restrictions on Hennepin Avenue near Burch Steak has not yet been installed, but should be soon. Lisa gave a brief LRT update.

**Approval of Minutes and Agenda:** Jimmy Fogel moved and Phil Hallaway seconded approval of tonight's agenda and of the March 5, 2013, minutes. All approved.

**Announcements from the Bridge for Youth:** Janet Hallaway, former president of Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association, updated the Board on events at the Bridge for Youth, located at 22nd Street and Emerson Avenue. The Bridge provides a safe and welcoming emergency shelter to youth in crisis, ages 10 through 17. The usual stay is from 24 hours to four or

five days. The Bridge provides youth and family counseling, health support, and a 24-hour hotline. Janet offered to set up a tour for anyone interested in learning more. David Weinstein serves on a Good Neighbor Group, established by the Bridge to discover and quickly resolve any potential problems. The Bridge will hold its annual fundraising dinner at Lake Calhoun Event Center on Thursday, May 23, 2013. More information can be found at the Bridge's website [www.bridgeforyouth.org](http://www.bridgeforyouth.org).

#### Committee Reports:

**Environment:** Maureen Sheehan has communicated with the Kenwood Isles Area Association regarding the Kenwood Park sidewalk landscaping plan. Janet Hallaway has agreed to help with the project. Dan Aronson moved, seconded by Jimmy Fogel, to authorize Janet to work with the Park Board and other interested parties, using up to \$12,000 as allocated at our February Board meeting, to move this forward to completion using the most recent Park Board proposal. All approved. Maureen will see that Janet has the most recent proposal provided by Ginger Cannon of the Minneapolis Park Board.

**Zoning and Planning Committee:** David Weinstein updated the Board on the parking situation at Hennepin Avenue and Franklin. The Board reviewed a letter sent to Councilmember Goodman by Tim Pellizzer of Sebastian Joe's, describing the extremely tight parking situation after 5:00 p.m. and the negative impact on existing businesses and residents. The Board discussed options, including 15 or 30 minute parking restrictions. Enforcement would be an issue. The zoning committee will schedule a meeting and invite interested parties. This meeting could also include discussion of a recent request by a Fremont Avenue duplex owner to add a third unit. Rock the Garden is scheduled for June 15th. We voted to support this last month and agreed to submit a letter in support to the City if the Walker requests.

**Crime and Safety:** Rebecca Graham reported that crime reports have been relatively low. Crime will likely increase as the weather gets warmer.

**Events:** Mark Brauer reported on plans for the Annual Meeting, which will be held Tuesday, May 21, 2013, at the Walker Art Center. The Board reviewed a

working outline. Mark Brauer will prepare a slide presentation. Maureen Sheehan will contact Councilmember Goodman and Park Board Representative Anita Tabb to see if they have any slides they would like included. Ruth Shields has been working on a Mayoral candidate forum. Chris Madden and Maureen Sheehan are putting together the mailing for the event and informational handouts on the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association and on resources to find LRT information. Mark Brauer moved and Sherie Tazelaar seconded approval of the draft agenda as revised.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dan Aronson reported we have approximately \$30,000 in our account and are in good shape financially. He is working with Robert Thompson, Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations Department, to finish some reporting requirements. He will file our 990 EZ at the end of the month. Past President Janet Hallaway is still a signatory on our bank account. Phil Hallaway moved, seconded by Mark Brauer, to replace Janet Hallaway with current president Maureen Sheehan as a signatory. All approved.

**Flea Markets and Draft Policies for Neighborhoods:** A public hearing will be held April 4th on a proposed ordinance amendment to allow flea markets in Minneapolis, subject to licensing. Public informational meetings will be held April 3rd and 5th on proposed changes to NRP neighborhood plan policies.

**New Business:** Phil Hallaway brought up the idea of reviving the annual fall Palio Festival, held in Kenwood Park. Past festivals have included a parade with participating entries from each of the surrounding neighborhoods, a bake sale, food vendors, and various competitions. The festival has not been held for the last two years. There is about \$10,000 in a Palio bank account. This is a good topic for the annual meeting.

**LHNA'S NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2013, AT THE KENWOOD REC CENTER.** All residents are welcome. Everyone is encouraged to visit the LHNA website at [www.lowryhillneighborhood.org](http://www.lowryhillneighborhood.org), where they can sign up to receive LHNA's monthly E-Blast about events in the neighborhood.



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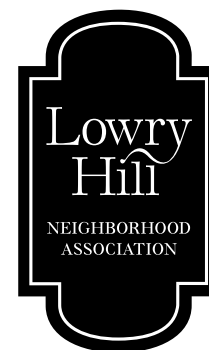


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## Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association ANNUAL MEETING 2013

**Tuesday, May 21st, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.  
at The Walker Art Center**

Please join your LHNA Board for a fun and informative evening on the state of our neighborhood. The Minneapolis mayoral candidates will introduce themselves to our neighborhood residents and we will have an opportunity to ask them questions. We will hear from City Council Member Lisa Goodman and Park Board Commissioner Anita Tabb about events within the neighborhood. We will also be electing new Board members. There will be a cash bar, snacks and time for you to meet your neighbors. Join in on the fun on the 21st and all year long with LHNA!



To learn more about LHNA visit us at [lowryhillneighborhood.org](http://lowryhillneighborhood.org)

# Hill & Lake Press

www.hillandlakepress.com



Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am-5pm  
Visit us at [www.minneapolismn.gov/council/ward10](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/council/ward10)  
April 2013

**Crime Alert: Smart Phone Thefts**

Recently, the Fifth Precinct has seen an increase in smart phones taken in thefts and robberies. Several have occurred while the owner is using it or the phone is in plain sight.

Smart phones are valuable commodities, often reaching \$200 or more on the black market. Not only can the phone be stolen, but personal and financial information can be taken from the phone as well.

The following are tips to help you stay smart when using your phone:

Don't talk or text while walking or driving. Pay attention to your surroundings.

Put your phone away when it's not in use.

Do not leave your phone unattended in public places such as a restaurant table or bar.

Enable the passcode option on the phone to assist in keeping your personal information secure.

Do not leave your phone or charger in your vehicle.

Wipe the phone clean of any personal information before trading, selling or recycling of it.

Consider enabling the GPS location service for your phone. Keep in mind, for safety concerns when posting media online, you might want to remove GPS from attaching to photographs.

Consider downloading a reputable app for tracking or security.

Please call 911 regarding any suspicious persons, vehicles or activity.

**Crime Maps**

To access crime maps for the Fifth Precinct, visit [www.minneapolismn.gov/police/statistics/WCMS1Q-068300](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/police/statistics/WCMS1Q-068300).

**Spring Boards and Commissions Openings**

The City is now accepting applications for several of its boards and commissions. The application review process will begin on Friday, April 26th; however the positions are open until filled.

Boards/Commissions with open positions include:

- Arts Commission
- Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities
- Minneapolis Public Housing Authority Board of Commissioners
- Minneapolis Workforce Council
- Neighborhood & Community Engagement Commission
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Police Conduct Oversight Commission
- Police Conduct Review Panel
- Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
- Minneapolis Telecommunications Network

For additional information and a detailed description of each appointment opening, visit the City's Boards and Commissions Current Openings webpage [www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/boards/openings/index.htm)

**Registration now Open for 38th Annual NUSA Conference**

I hope you will take the opportunity to join us for the 38th Annual Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) Conference on Neighborhood Concerns taking place right here in Minneapolis! The conference is May 22-25 and will be held at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Minneapolis. This year's conference is being hosted by the City of Minneapolis' Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department, in partnership with Nexus Community Partners, the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and host neighborhood, Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC).

The conference is expected to bring over 800 people to Minneapolis from across the country. The con-



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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.

**WHERE TO FIND HILL AND LAKE PRESS**

Isles Bun & Coffee\*Kenwood Barbers\*Calhoun Vision\*Kenwood Rec Center\*Dunn Brothers\*The Woman's Club\*Quality Coaches\*Uptown YWCA\*Central Bank\*Sebastian Joe's\*Green Mill\*The Corner Balloon Shop\*Hennepin Lake Liquor\*Lowry Hill Liquor\*ARTrageous Adventures\*Birchbark Books.

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.

ference will provide helpful tools for engaging our community by exploring unique challenges, possibilities and practical application of successful engagement and community building strategies. St. Paul and Rochester will join with Minneapolis to provide hands-on learning, sharing and networking opportunities.

Registration is now open! You can also find a copy of the registration book at [www.nusa.org/PDF/Official-NUSA-2013-Registration-Book.pdf](http://www.nusa.org/PDF/Official-NUSA-2013-Registration-Book.pdf). The Hyatt Regency has also reserved special rates for attendees.

If you have further questions or would like addi-

tional information, please visit the City's NUSA Conference webpage at [www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/WCMS1P-089093](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr/WCMS1P-089093) or contact Carrie Day Aspinwall, Conference Coordinator, at 612-673-2243 or [minneapolisNUSA2013@gmail.com](mailto:minneapolisNUSA2013@gmail.com).

**Meet with Meg**

It will be a chance for you to ask me questions, and voice any concerns you may have. Bring your sack lunch! Cookies and lemonade are provided! Meet with Meg is held the second Monday of every month.

**When Will Spring Arrive This Year?**



A snowflake here, a rain drop there, all adding up to a winter that refused to leave, a long, long winter hogging the time in the year allotted by nature for spring to begin. (Joyce Murphy)

Photo by Dorothy Childers

HILL LAKE PRESS Selected Real Estate Sales March 2013											
STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	SELLER Contrib	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT	
2928 Dean Pkwy #5E	124,900		243	112,500	C	1/1	660	135,000	2,000	1960	
2885 Knox S #507	180,000		31	169,125	C	1/1	958	205,000	3,418	1979	
821 Douglas S #202	200,000		41	186,500	C	2/2	1,053	205,000	3,432	1963	
3116 W Lake St #418	219,900	5,880	1	201,880	C	1/1	958	236,700	3,946	2007	
52 Groveland Terrace A30	289,900		252	230,000	C	2/2	1,225	272,800	4,566	1966	
2621 Humboldt S #3	318,500		23	318,500	C	2/2	1,600	336,500	5,610	1910	
3104 W Lake St #407	349,900	5,545	2	306,000	C	2/2	1,448	215,000	3,584	2007	
2538 Humboldt S #1	360,000		17	349,000	C	2/2	1,832	281,500	4,593	1908	
1922 Dupont S	374,900		1	347,000	TWN	2/2	1,814	361,000	5,972	1976	
2400 Sheridan S	399,900		13	325,560	H	3/1	1,560	414,500	6,911	1909	
2401 Sheridan S	529,000		39	520,000	H	3/2	2,100	506,500	8,468	1908	
37 Park Lane	699,000		148	640,000	H	3/3	2,966	895,000	16,357	1933	
2101 Kenwood Pkwy	759,900		35	712,500	H	5/4	4,039	855,500	15,555	1910	
2623 Irving S	775,000		112	724,500	H	5/4	2,812	750,000	13,412	1904	
2627 Irving S	999,000		1	948,500	H	6/4	3,929	897,500	16,408	1904	
2617 Euclid Place	1,375,000		629	925,000	H	4/4	3,927	1,356,000	25,876	1911	
2204 W Lake of Isles Pkwy	2,850,000		1	2,850,000	H	6/7	7,266	1,975,000	39,326	1908	
Sources: Harvey Ettinger		Steve Havig	cume	Condo	C						
				Home	H						
				Townhouse	TWN	(Go to <a href="http://mplsrealtor.com">mplsrealtor.com</a> for additional info)					

## Wheat Belly

By Madeleine Lowry

I recently read the book *Wheat Belly: Lose the Wheat, Lose the Weight and Find Your Path Back to Health* by William Davis, MD and found it fascinating. The title is a bit misleading because it's not primarily a book about weight. Rather it's a book about wheat and how it affects your health in many ways including excess abdominal fat.

Dr. Davis is a cardiologist and he believes that wheat is the culprit behind the diseases of the modern industrialized world including obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. He has seen patients lose weight rapidly and effortlessly when they remove wheat and other gluten-containing foods from their diet.

His explanation for this is that modern "wheat" has undergone such massive genetic modifications in the last 50 years, in the interest of raising farmers' yields, that it can no longer be properly digested by many. And that inability to digest the gluten in wheat has resulted in an epidemic of gluten intolerance.

Further, he describes wheat's effect as a powerful appetite stimulant. Eating wheat kicks off a two-hour cycle of a blood sugar high followed by a blood sugar crash that drives our craving for more calories, especially carbohydrates. He also describes the addictive properties of wheat consumption.

Dr. Davis explores the connection between wheat and insulin resistance, heart disease, migraines and unexplained rashes. There are also links to depression and anxiety. Exposure to gluten may even exacerbate symptoms of attention deficit/hyperactivity disorders, autism and Asperger's Syndrome.

He points to celiac disease as the prototype for gluten intolerance. Celiacs have a genetic predisposition for gluten intolerance and continued ingestion of gluten leads to many serious health conditions such as increased cancer rates, diabetes, dementia, osteoporosis, muscle and joint pain and allergies.

The celiac symptoms that have traditionally been considered "classic" (although most celiacs don't have them) include diarrhea, abdominal cramps, bloat and gas. Those same symptoms are commonly recognized as irritable bowel syndrome, which he refers to as "celiac disease lite." One of the reasons celiac disease is underdiagnosed is that there are over 250 possible symptoms and none can be considered "textbook."

A whole host of auto-immune diseases are often

associated with celiac disease: multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis and fibromyalgia to name a few. Could the same be true of those who are gluten intolerant without the underlying genetic predisposition?

For patients that seem to have symptoms of gluten intolerance, Dr. Davis recommends eliminating all wheat from the diet for four weeks. Some of his patients start to feel better after a few days, some take longer. Many notice that after a period of being gluten-free, a small wheat indulgence brings back their symptoms almost immediately.

Interestingly, whether they prove to be gluten intolerant or not, patients lose weight on a wheat-free diet. He notes that "the initial pace of weight loss can be shocking, equaling what you might achieve with an outright fast."

It can seem daunting to eliminate wheat and other sources of gluten (barley, rye, kamut, malt) from your diet. In addition to breads, pastas, noodles, cookies, cakes, breakfast cereals, Dr. Davis goes over all the guises wheat can take: couscous, orzo, bulgur, faro, spelt, farina, bran, graham, matzo, panko, seitan, and semolina.

Although it bucks the "healthy whole grains" movement, there is no nutritional deficiency that arises from eliminating wheat from the diet. Quite the contrary. Dr. Davis compellingly describes the typical person with wheat deficiency as slender with a flat tummy, low triglycerides, high HDL (the "good" kind of cholesterol), normal blood sugar, normal blood pressure, high energy, good sleep and normal bowel function.

In the last chapter he provides an outline for a week of wheat-free life. And throughout the book he provides case studies of patients he has had over their years, the various conditions they presented with and how going wheat-free improved their health. Although it may not seem like this would be a fun book to read, Dr. Davis delivers his message with a big dose of humor.

I can highly recommend the book. (It's available at Birchbark Books, just in case you're interested.) If his theory about modern wheat is correct, I think it goes a long way towards explaining why our health is poorer, in many ways, than that of previous generations.

## FRIENDS OF THOMAS LOWRY PARK By Barry Lazarus

Hello everyone. Friends of Thomas Lowry Park has been silent these last few months. The board, Barb Fogel, Jeanne Scheiderer, Suzanne Payne, Dr. Eric Schned, and this writer had nothing important to say. Friends is aware some of you are already asking why then is this column written. Friends wanted to say Happy Spring to all of you but that is not to be as of this writing. Did someone say something bad to Mother Nature the past few months?

Friends will be retaining Pete Engelen and his crew to help with the spring cleanup. It would be wonderful if many of you would also volunteer to help as well. Please send your name and telephone number and email to Barb (bfogel@comcast.net) of your availability. She will coordinate with you to lend a hand and make TLP look as good as it can be. Friends is also reminding the MPRB to do its duty by organizing what it does as part of the Spring clean up and planting. Last Summer, TLP was all dressed up every day to the pleasure of all who took the time to admire its beauty. Please help the MPRB and Friends make TLP bring a smile to TLP visitors this season.

To kick off the Spring and Summer, Friends asks all of you, young, old, and in between, to pen a poem about TLP, its history, its trees, shrubs, flowers, the pergolas, the dogs, the children, seven pools, the aroma, the neighborhood, or whatever pleases you to write. If you do not wish to be original, please send in a poem (or part thereof) and name of the poet. The board will select the top three and print (or to be correct, ask Hill & Lake Press to print) the three pieces which the board believes are the most pleasing. Will there be a "winner" for worst submission? Who knows? Here is my entry:

Just what happens every Spring  
which makes all the birdies sing?  
What brings the dogs to the park to snoop  
in TLP and want to smell (gotcha)?  
And has the wind blow light and warm  
and has our thoughts no more forlorn?  
Or makes a lover's words grow bold  
to their special person young or old?  
The answers not so mysterious,  
it's the hope which is in all of us.

OK- so this writer is not another Wordsworth.

Show Friends what you can do?  
See you in the Park.

## SOME PEOPLE THINK ALL INSURANCE IS THE SAME.

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# sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

When I was a young man I did not want to run with the bulls at Pamplona (I have weak ankles) but I did want to experience the rest of Europe. Holding me back was money, a cranky draft board, and my Great Dane, Yossarian (see HLP. Mar '07). I eventually made the trip but I was well past the backpack and youth hostel age. I never visited the Parisian fountain where Zelda Fitzgerald danced naked, or found Ernest Hemingway's favorite haunts. My middle aged sensibilities had a good enough time marveling at the architecture and soaking in the history, but I often caught myself thinking that I had missed the window.

My sister Nanci and her husband Tracy operate a bed and breakfast on Quadra Island in British Columbia (shameless plug at the end). Paying customers are their lifeblood, but the upkeep of the place can be daunting. A few years ago they came up with a unique solution: bring in travelers from all over the world who stay for a week or a month and help out in return for food and lodging. Cynic that I am, I asked how they keep from attracting ax murderers or Amway representatives. Nanci told me about HelpX, which sounds like a new age cult or a powerful stain remover, but is actually short for Help Exchange.

She explained that it was an organization that matches host families and travelers wanting to gain skills, practice a language, take a break from their routine, and most important, share the lives of people from another culture. Potential hosts and visitors are screened extensively. Before any direct contact is made both parties are urged to have extensive discussions about their mutual expectations. Nanci assured me that if I registered as a host, a Bulgarian goat herder would not just show up at my door. HelpX is an on-line aid to breaking down the artificial relationship of awkward tourist and put-upon local. Working, eating, and living under one roof even for a limited time helps to forge close relationships.

The fully vetted traveler expects to work with the host approximately four hours a day in exchange for

food and shelter. No money changes hands. I was intrigued by the nobility and simplicity of the organization and the potential for international good works. Nanci and Tracy have had folks from Taiwan, Hong Kong, and many European countries. Tracy told me about a psychiatrist from Germany who had recently spent three weeks with them. Arriving fairly burned out from his demanding practice, he became quite enamored with their electric pressure washer, and spent almost every waking hour outdoors cleaning.

They were currently hosting a young man from rural France who was spending nine months crossing Canada and the United States by train and bus, working on farms and with urban agencies that fed the hungry. He wanted to see Los Angeles, and was I interested in hosting? I told her that as long as he did not try to convert me or sell me aluminum siding it would be great. If there was no risk, wouldn't we all be friendlier and open to strangers? My only remaining hesitation was that I do not do anything, and that it might be like the Seinfeld episode (Kramerica) in which Kramer takes on a college intern. But if the French guy was game for loitering and wandering around he was welcome to come.

Guillaume Leblanc arrived the third week of March after working at a food distribution center for the poor in a sketchy part of Fresno, CA. His life in France is business school and a corporate internship. At 22, he wanted to travel before finishing his MBA in marketing. He, JoAnne, and our French-speaking friend Catherine bonded immediately. Guillaume loved the dogs (together we have four) and was entranced by JoAnne's weaving equipment. He learned to spin in record time and was able to fix one of JoAnne's broken spinning wheels. He fit right in bicycling at the beach by day, and watching our favorite show, Damages, with us at night. Fortunately we did not fully corrupt him. After five days he left to work at a shelter outside of Las Vegas.

Rather than resent someone living the dream of my youth, I am delighted that there are altruistic and committed souls determined to work around the obstacles

governments place in their path. If you have a spare bedroom and could use a little help around the house or yard, and are interested in sharing your city and your life with someone from another country, contact helpx.net

Tom H. Cook remains a Minnesotan in everything but taxes, and windchill. His sister is an artist and innkeeper. Nanci welcomes all to her Island B&B in the civilized wilds of beautiful British Columbia. Check it out at: [firesignartanddesign.com](http://firesignartanddesign.com)

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