



# Hill & Lake Press

‘Where the biggies leave off...’

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

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Madelia MN  
Permit No. 4

\*\*\*\*\* ECRWSS \*\*  
Postal Customer

Volume 47 / Number 4

www.hillandlakepress.org

April 2023

## CITY LEADERS PIVOT ON HENNEPIN AVENUE, CEDAR-ISLES PLAN AND SWLRT!

By Mike Erlandson and Susan Lenfestey



A proposed water slide in Kenwood Park could help the park board draw more visitors to the regional park system, which would enable them to seek unprecedented funding from the legislature for capital projects. Water slides can have custom colors to represent a connection to Hill & Lake neighborhoods, such as green for the Lowry Hill turtle mascot and blue for East Isles' raccoon mascot, pictured in this conceptual image. (Photo Noah's Ark)

*Mike Erlandson lives in East Isles and Susan Lenfestey lives in Lowry Hill. They both serve on the Hill & Lake Press board of directors.*

On April 1, in an unusual display of comity, city leaders joined with park board commissioners, county board members and the Met Council to re-evaluate plans for Hennepin Avenue, review the Cedar-Isles plan and rethink the Southwest light rail (SWLRT). A discussion of the overlay to the 2040 Plan was removed from the agenda after everyone agreed that they found it incomprehensible.

### Hennepin Ave. – A Greener Vision

With bus ridership low and the Uptown shelter closed due to crime, the decision was made to simply eliminate the roadway. “We don’t really need to connect Uptown to downtown anymore,” explained a city planner, who requested anonymity. “This added bonus eliminates the

pothole problem but is also a huge win for the lawn lobby who’ve made their case to us with thousands of emails from all over the country.”

The new plan frees up much-needed space for multiple unit apartment buildings with no more than 150 square feet of living space per unit, as required by the overlay to the 2040 Plan — although it was hotly debated what is really meant by a square foot, and how many people can live in one. The discussion was tabled until agreement can be found about how the 2040 Plan defines “foot” and “built structure.”

Leaders did agree to allow a dedicated unicycle trail between Franklin and Lake Street, but under heavy pressure from the Segway lobby it was decided to allow Segways to use the uni-trail in the off-hours. “You are ignoring the needs of working one-wheelers,” shouted a uni-activist before he was escorted from the room. As a compromise it was decided that Segways would be prohibited

from making any left turns onto or off of the uni-trail.

In a surprise reversal, it was announced that instead of keeping any of the trees on Hennepin, described by a former project manager as “water-sucking carbon-eating ingrates,” that a canopy of life-like trees made from recycled auto parts will run along the corridor creating a sense of what life will be like in the not-too-distant future. “We learned our lesson between Lake and 31st,” said a former City Council president who was invited to attend the meeting as a consultant. “When I moved to Minnetonka I discovered the importance of large shade trees,” she explained. “But looking to a future with limited water and resources, these faux-trees really are the way to go.”

### Rethinking Lake of the Isles and East Cedar Woods

Moving from Hennepin to the lakes, the park board announced that due to feedback from an ad hoc pedestrian committee, received after the extensive period of public involvement was closed, the islands in Lake of the Isles will be connected by a bike-friendly causeway to make them more accessible and welcoming to the public. It was not resolved to whom they will be accessible.

“Our status quo is crumbling,” noted an elite elderly resident, “We deserve something solid to rebuild on.” But the park board pushed back that it was their land, and they needed a building to house a concession for something at some point. “I think there’s a lot of NIMBYism going on here,” said one commissioner, in response to nothing at all. The chair reminded everyone that the islands were actually Native land, and tabled the discussion until it can be determined what the 2040 plan allows on stolen land.

To encourage more visitors to enjoy the parks, the commissioners announced that the park board is working in collaboration with Valleyfair Inc. to add some amenities to Kenwood Park. “After two years of meet-

ings, we’ve decided that there’s really nothing to do there,” explained a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee. “There are just some oak trees and tennis courts, which are not welcoming.”

“While we haven’t ruled out the water slide from the oak knoll to the northern tip of Lake of the Isles,” said a representative of Valleyfair, “We can assure neighbors that the Snoopy putt-putt course and the Arctic Plunge roller coaster will be tasteful and in keeping with the historic nature of the neighborhood.”

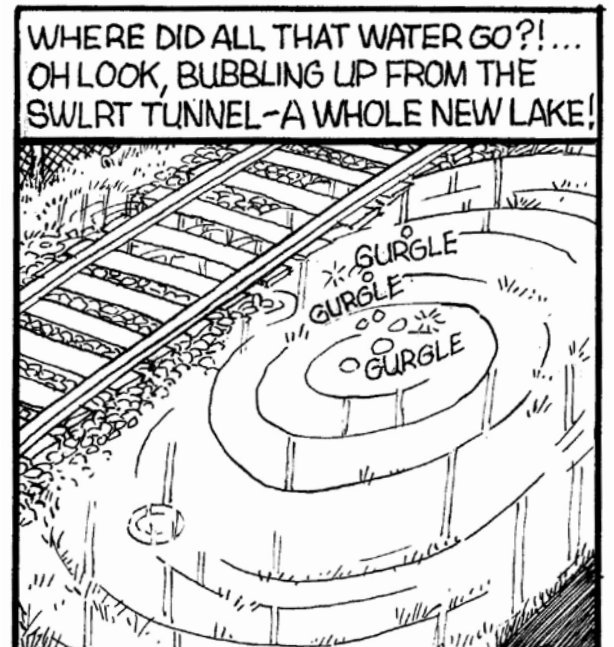
When asked if the Snoopy putt-putt course was redundant, given the plans for the 18-hole golf course in the East Cedar woods, she responded with what some felt was a condescending chuckle, “Oh no, apples and oranges. The Snoopy thing will have signage that is welcoming to all. The East Cedar course will be tastefully shielded behind a wall of buckthorn, and only accessible by those on fattire bikes.”

### SWLRT still on track

Last on the agenda was the elephant in the room known as the SWLRT. To avoid finger-pointing and uncivil conduct, the Met Council and county commissioners announced that SWLRT construction will continue despite being a billion-dollar boondoggle. “We feel it’s just too much of a mess to stop now,” said a commissioner who previously supported it.

“However,” added the Met Council chair who belatedly inherited it, “to avoid future cost overruns, construction will be slowed to one crew working one day per month, with a projected April 1, 2055 opening, although that may be optimistic.”

He explained that this will allow time for the understory to recover and for critters and bikers and walkers to reclaim the once-tranquil trail while ridership numbers can be studied. “Those numbers may show that there’s really no need,” he said, adding that this whole thing might be a joke: April Fools!







# Hill & Lake Press

Founded in 1976, Hill & Lake Press reports community news and events, educating and informing our neighborhood community members about issues of the day. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Hill & Lake Press.

## HILL & LAKE PRESS

P.O. Box 50052  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
[www.hillandlakepress.org](http://www.hillandlakepress.org)

### Staff

Craig Wilson, Editor  
[craig@hillandlakepress.org](mailto:craig@hillandlakepress.org)  
Barb Davis, Advertising Manager  
[barb@hillandlakepress.org](mailto:barb@hillandlakepress.org)  
Tim Sheridan, Photographer  
[tim@hillandlakepress.org](mailto:tim@hillandlakepress.org)  
Christopher Bohnet, Production Designer  
Jill Field, Copy Editor  
Jeanette Colby, Proofer  
Kathy Low, Proofer

### Board of Directors

Barb Davis  
Mike Erlandson, Vice-Chair  
Janet Hallaway  
Phil Hallaway, Treasurer  
Susan Lenfestey  
Win Rockwell, Chair  
Chas Scheiderer

### Distribution

U.S. Postal Service

### Advertising Deadlines

Next issue -  
May 2023  
Reservation deadline -  
May 1, 2023  
Materials due -  
May 7, 2023

Interested in advertising?  
Contact Barb Davis at  
[barb@hillandlakepress.org](mailto:barb@hillandlakepress.org).  
To donate to Hill & Lake Press  
please visit [www.hillandlakepress.org](http://www.hillandlakepress.org)



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

### 2040 zoning sets us back to the 1970s.

I am, as are many of your readers, dismayed at what the city is doing with its zoning revisions to implement the 2040 Plan.

The changes are so large and complicated that Minneapolis residents do not know what is happening to them. The planners' online survey is a farce. It will reveal nothing.

I speak with experience. I was the planner who led the effort in 1975 to downzone most of the inner core of Minneapolis from Franklin Ave. to 36th St. from Hennepin Ave. to Hiawatha Ave.

It was a neighborhood initiated effort to preserve the existing housing stock and halt the indiscriminate development of two and a half story apartment buildings that residents thought were the scourge of the neighborhood.

That downzoning has stabilized the neighborhood for almost 50 years while allowing apartments on major streets and in the Lake St. corridor.

I also, in conjunction with the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association, sensitively developed amendments to the zoning code that allowed the townhouses on Mount Curve and Groveland Terrace to be built — provided they were developed at the same density as the surrounding zoning. That was innovative at the time.

It appears that neighborhood stability and planning sensitivity has disappeared.

Look at what the city council approved in January on a 13-0 vote at 5009 Beard Ave: There will be a 63-unit, five-story building with virtually no setbacks or open space.

The planning staff even made up some phony findings to justify a setback variance on a perfectly rectangular lot. It's cavalier and unbelievable!

The city hall cabal will stop at nothing to jam as many apartments into the city as they can.

Best of luck to Minneapolis residents in achieving sensitive zoning code changes.

*Perry Thorvig, St. Anthony*

### Jones-Harrison Senior Living opens onsite dialysis center.

Jones-Harrison Senior Living proudly unveils an onsite dialysis center to bring life-sustaining kidney care to residents in assisted living, memory care, long-term care, and transitional care and rehabilitation. The goal is to provide kidney care to residents where they live.

Jones-Harrison is excited to partner with DaVita Dialysis on this newest development to improve residents' lives. DaVita is a leading kidney-care provider with 20 years of experience and proven clinical procedures.

An on-premises dialysis center allows Jones-Harrison residents to dialyze conveniently and comfortably on-premises as well as: 1) reduce stress; 2) provide smoother care coordination; and 3) eliminate travel costs for treatment.

A nonprofit leader in senior living for 135 years, Jones-Harrison continues its legacy of care. To learn more, visit [www.jones-harrison.org](http://www.jones-harrison.org).

*Jacquie Jurva, Cedar-Isles-Dean*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Join us and "Be Set Free!"

Our Hill & Lake community has had a lot to deal with after the murder of George Floyd. Fortunately, we have an upcoming lecture about healing racism and division called "Be Set Free" that is open to the public.

Please consider attending this healing lecture by Nicole Virgil from Chicago, Illinois. Join us May 18 at 7:00 p.m. at The Second Church of Christ, Scientist located at 1822 Hennepin Ave. S. *All are welcome!*

I am a member of The Second Church of Christ, Scientist on Hennepin Ave. S. in Lowry Hill — you'll recognize it with the cool murals outside! I am grateful that Christ Science, and the Laws of God, that have helped me deal with family issues, financial issues, medical issues, community issues, relationship issues and more.

I just love our community. My family — consisting of my husband, four kids and our dog Sydney — moved from Boston to Minneapolis 16 years ago. Ever since then, I have cherished our parks: swimming in lakes, cross country skiing, biking and walking around our beautiful Grand Rounds. Join us in community healing and moving forward.

*Molly Larsen, East Isles*

### Ward 7 City Council candidate forum on local energy & climate justice.

Tuesday, May 9, 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.  
Loring Community Arts Center  
1382 Willow St. Minneapolis 55406

Ward 7 candidates Katie Cashman, Kenneth Foxworth, Mark Globus and Scott Graham will share their vision and respond to audience questions!

An informal gathering will follow in the lobby afterward.

For more information visit: <https://www.communitypowermn.org/events/calendar>.

*Lee Samuelson, Community Power*

### Call to revisit Hennepin Avenue project

Initiated in 2018, the Hennepin Avenue reconstruction plan is currently in its "final engineering phase," according to the project calendar. Street and utility construction are scheduled to begin in early 2024. Since plan development and project goals commenced five years ago, several dramatic changes have occurred.

The Covid pandemic upended work life, family life, leisure life, social life, quality of life, health and fitness. Although several aspects of our pre-pandemic lives have returned, other aspects have changed markedly.

The Twin Cities are experiencing a paradigm shift in business and employment practices. According to The Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's study of USPS change of address forms, more than 7,800 Twin Cities businesses changed their address since 2020. Of that number, more than 1,400 businesses left downtown Minneapolis. Notable examples include Target, Marshall's, Nordstrom's Rack, Portico Benefit Services and JB Hudson Jewelers. Recently, AT&T announced that it is moving all of its downtown operations to Bloomington later this year. And, after 120 years downtown, the iconic Grain Exchange Barbershop has closed.

Businesses headquartered in the suburbs are also reevaluating and adjusting their space needs based on an emerging hybrid work model that combines in-office and home office work venues. UnitedHealth Group has 748,000 square feet of space available for lease in Minnetonka and Eden Prairie.

It has become apparent that the five-

year-old Hennepin Avenue goals and outcomes may no longer be relevant or justified when construction is due to begin in 2024. For these reasons, the Hennepin Avenue plan should be paused and revisited. Minneapolis Public Works should not be forced to forge ahead in the face of a dramatically changing environment. Rather than continue as if nothing has changed, Public Works should reexamine its planning and outcome assumptions. For example:

1) Provide updated annual daily transit ridership between downtown and Southdale (2020-2022). Provide aggregate figures for weekdays (M-F) and weekends (S-S). How do ridership figures from 2020-2022 compare to those from 2017-2019?

2) Current transit stops on Hennepin between Douglas Avenue and Lake Street are slated for significant reduction. What is the rationale for depriving transit access to 16,000+ nearby residents of East Isles, Lowry Hill and The Wedge?

3) Provide 2020-2022 crime and safety figures on the Hennepin transit route. How do number and type of incidents compare to corresponding incidents in 2017-2019?

4) Provide the rationale for adding Metro E Line Bus Rapid Transit project to this route. Will the E Line replace or expand current service? The existence of SWLRT within one mile of East Isles/Lowry Hill/Kenwood makes the Hennepin Metro E Line Bus Rapid Transit plan unnecessary and undesirable based on street parking needed to serve the Hennepin Avenue business and adjoining residential communities.

5) Why is there no acknowledgment of hybrid or electric vehicles in the plan? California and 15 other states have already backed zero-emission vehicle requirements, and several other states are in the process of adopting the new regulations. Under these rules, auto manufacturers cannot sell any vehicle that emits greenhouse gases by 2035; all new cars must run on electricity or hydrogen. Regrettably, Hennepin Avenue planners missed or overlooked this critical information.

6) Are the plan's 2030 project outcomes — a mere seven years from now — even remotely possible in light of changing business, shopping and transportation needs on the horizon? Sans pandemic, the changing business environment and increase in crime, my answer is still "no": reduce solo motorists from 40% to 20%, a 50% reduction; reduce multi-occupant vehicles from 28% to 20%, a 28.5% reduction; increase public transit ridership from 13% to 25%, a 92% increase; increase walkers from 16% to 25%, a 36% increase; increase biking from 3% to 10%, a 233% increase.

The EPA recently announced that new tail-pipe emissions requirements would result in a quantum increase in all-electric vehicle sales, representing 54-60% of all new cars sold in the U.S. by 2030. To my knowledge, the Hennepin Avenue plan does not address electric vehicles or charging stations, which represents a serious omission, especially since the plan design purports to reflect our transportation needs 50 years into the future.

As a 38-year Lowry Hill/East Isles resident and 74-year-old in reasonably good health, I cannot walk home from Kowalski's with groceries unless I buy three or four items at a time. At that rate, it would take me an entire week to restock my food shelves. I can walk to Osman Cleaners to drop off clothing, but I cannot walk the clean clothing home.



Nor can I transport it via bike or bus.

If this year is an example of the future, I will be able to walk to Rinata and Tao Café for meals in summer and fall only. Winter aside, I am no longer confident that spring can be taken for granted.

I am not anti-bike. With the exception of Antarctica, I have cycled on every continent. However, I strongly oppose bike lanes on Hennepin Avenue when a cycling boulevard already exists on Bryant Avenue South, a mere 2-4 blocks east of Hennepin Ave.

My neighbors and I cherish our Hennepin Avenue businesses. They are the foundation and essence of our community. I know firsthand that many of our declining number of businesses fear that the unknown reconstruction process and timetable will force them to close or relocate. This would result in an incalculable loss to our community quality of life. If you agree, please share your concerns with your city representatives and the Hennepin Avenue project planning team posted on this link: <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/government/projects/hennepin-ave-s/#contacts-47963>

Sandra Nelson, East Isles Resident

**Dig native plants?**

Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA) is organizing a planting of native-specie flowers in the Cedar Lake Park Prairie on Saturday, May 13 at 9 a.m.

CLPA will provide plants, trowels, gloves, shovels, etc., as well as food and water. All you have to do is show up and dig in the dirt.

We start at 9 a.m. and usually the planting takes about four hours to complete. If you wish further info, please call 612-419-3006.

Neil Trembley, CLPA

# HELP KEEP THE DOUGLAS MEDIAN GREEN!

By Craig Wilson, Editor



Douglas Median Before and After (Photos Craig Wilson and Green Minneapolis)

Years ago, before Uber or Lyft, I walked to a restaurant in Loring Park from my home in Lowry Hill to meet a friend for dinner. An ice storm rained down on the city while we ate, making the walk home on leather-soled shoes a perilous one.

I managed to cross the treacherous Hennepin-Lyndale intersection and land safely on the narrow concrete pad known as the Douglas Median, at the time a concrete lunarscape devoid of vegetation or any sign of human life.

Trying to shave a few minutes off my trip home, I hurried across the median, slipped and landed hard on the icy pavement. As I examined my bruised and frozen hands, I vowed to change that ugly inhospitable median.

Over the subsequent months I lobbied the city hard to change the corridor. Joined by my counterpart in Loring Park, John VanHeel, we organized a commonsense movement to “fix” the corridor by replacing concrete with vegetation and making the sidewalks, paths and crossings more

people friendly. It took time but we prevailed. The plantings and seasonal greens you see there now, as well as the tall grasses in the median by the Walker, are the result.

To create and maintain the new green spaces, we collaborated with Green Minneapolis, a 501(c)(3) that “envisions a green future for our city with trees on every street and active public spaces. We are enriching quality of life, creating a healthier environment and connecting people through place.”

Over the years, Green Minneapolis has graciously maintained the Hennepin-Lyndale corridor, which includes the Douglas Median located along Hennepin Ave. S. between Douglas Ave. and Groveland Ter. This includes tending the plants and planters, picking up trash and making it friendly to bees, birds and people alike.

The city of Minneapolis once provided ample funding to neighborhoods, which enabled residents the flexibility and agency to decide how best to improve their neighborhoods. This ranged from adding amenities to the parks or

historic street lighting or affordable housing. The city has slashed that funding over the last decade to provide little more than a few thousand dollars with highly prescriptive spending guidance.

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association used some of those funds to help maintain the Douglas median, but the city’s cuts ended that in 2023. This year the neighborhood fell \$2,500 short of the \$3,500 needed to cover its part of the \$25,000 annual cost of maintaining the entire Hennepin-Lyndale corridor. Without funding, Green Minneapolis will be forced to halt maintaining the greenspace of the Douglas median. Without upkeep, it will return to a barren eyesore.

If you appreciate this addition of greenery and beauty to our city, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution in honor of the Douglas Median to Green Minneapolis via QR code pictured in the ad or visit [www.greenminneapolis.org](http://www.greenminneapolis.org). You can also send a check payable to Green Minneapolis with “Douglas Median” in the memo to:

Green Minneapolis  
81 South 9th Street, Suite 260  
Minneapolis, MN 55402

# arts at

tickets available now!

## The Woman's Club of Minneapolis

CLUB DAY MONDAY

WITH LORI DOKKEN & FRIENDS

Monday May 1

You Make Me Feel So Young

with special guests  
Doug Anderson & Gregg Peterson

Monday May 15

with special guest  
John Command

Information & Reservations

612.813.5300  
womansclub.org

TUESDAY May 2

JAZZ

in the LOUNGE

with Connie Evingson

Happy with the Blues

The Peggy Lee Songbook

with pianist Mary Louise Knutson

---

Downtown Abbey

with Maria Jette & Philip Brunelle

THURSDAY, MAY 4

Gear up for King Charles' Coronation with delicious British music at Downtown Abbey!

5:30 pm: Drinks 6:00 pm: Dinner  
7:30 pm Concert in the Lounge

DONATE TODAY

The Hennepin-Lyndale Crossroads needs our support for ongoing maintenance. Green Minneapolis maintains this green gateway to our city and neighborhood through the generous contributions of local institutions and neighborhoods.

All local institutions have made a generous contribution this year. Due to reduced funding the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association is unable to support the Crossroads at the same level as in the past few years without some help from our neighbors.

Please scan the QR code or go online to [greenminneapolis.org/donate](http://greenminneapolis.org/donate) and make a donation. Also, please specify that the funds are for the Hennepin-Lyndale Crossroads.

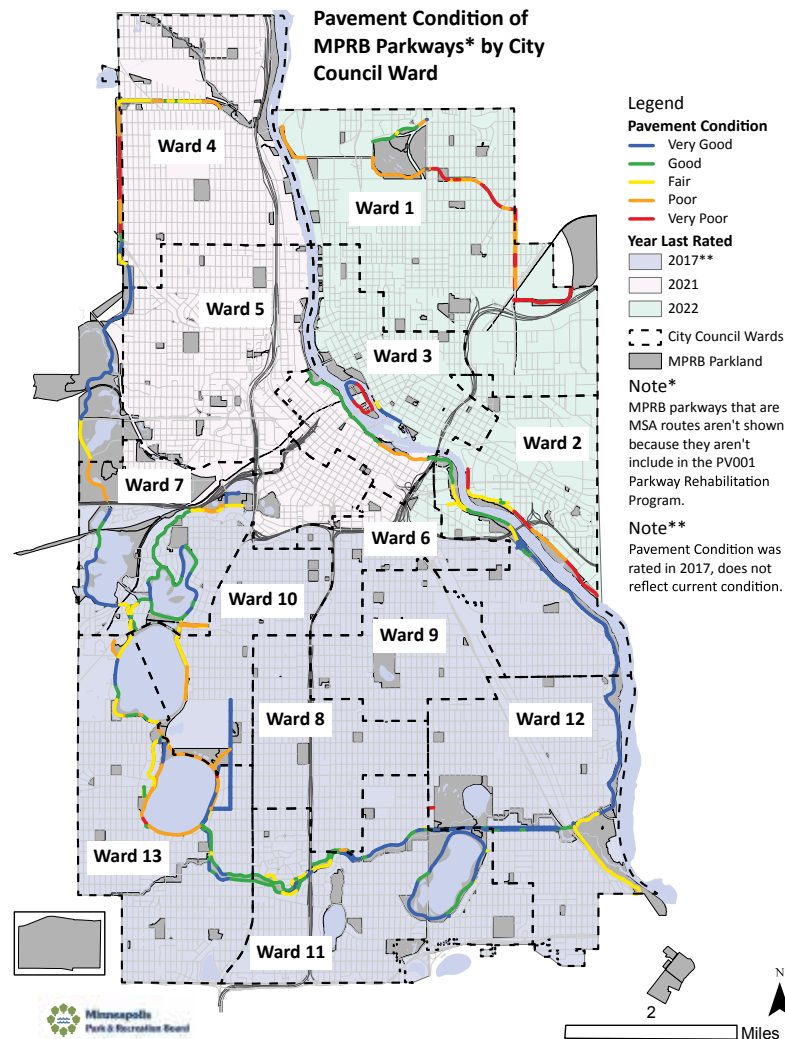
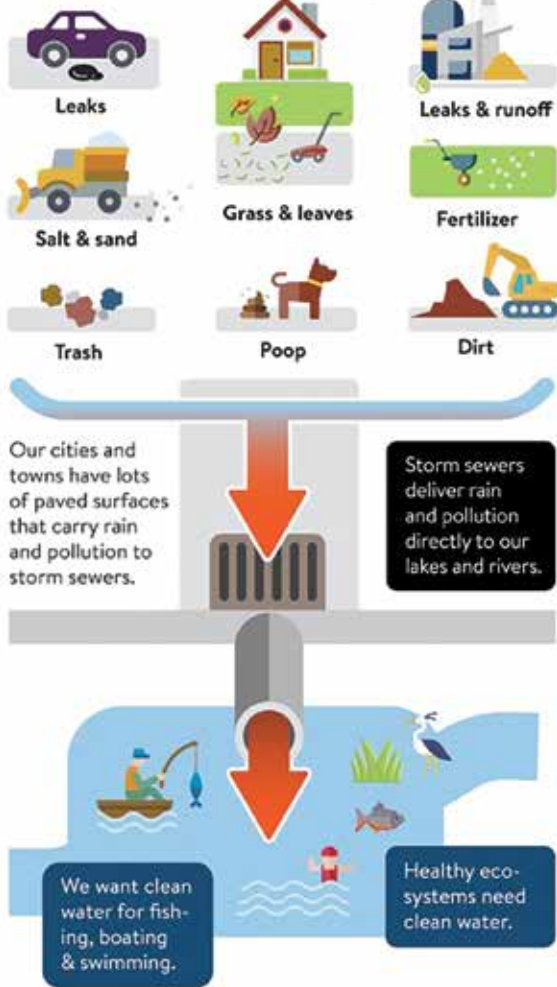


## Park Board Seeks Funding Support to Improve Water Quality

By Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board President Meg Forney,  
District 4 Commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer and  
District 6 Commissioner Cathy Abene, P.E.

### Why do we care about stormwater?

By being careful about what goes down our storm drains, we can keep our lakes and rivers clean.



(Source of graphic and map: City of Minneapolis)

**"For funding, the city collects stormwater utility fees, which in 2023 amount to about \$45 million. While the city reimburses the park board about \$700,000 annually for water quality monitoring and stormwater education activities, there is no dedicated funding for the park board to maintain and operate the aging stormwater infrastructure on parkland; or to protect and improve the lake water and shorelines for which it's responsible."**

The goal of the park board is to invest in stormwater management to protect Minneapolis lakes and waterways and repave, restore and re-invest in parkways.

Minneapolis's lakes and creeks, the Mississippi River and 55 miles of parkways are more than just pleasant features or a namesake for the City of Lakes — they are fundamental to our public quality of life. In recent years it's become clear that the funding necessary for their stewardship and maintenance is not adequate. The lack is partly because the current funding levels are based on agreements between Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and the City of Minneapolis that date back to 2000, for stormwater management, and 1999, for parkways.

After careful review and analysis of the funding, prior agreements and the state of our bodies of water and parkways, our current fellow commissioners have agreed to focus on working with the city to establish updated funding levels to sustain the long-term environmental health and safety of these assets. At a minimum that involves lake water quality suitable for recreation and for sustaining plants and wildlife, and parkway pavement in reasonably good condition for driving and cycling.

**The city doesn't provide funding to the park board to maintain and operate stormwater infrastructure.**

Under the terms of a shared federal stormwater permit, first granted in 2000, the park board is

responsible for the city lakes and their shorelines, while the city manages the storm drain system that is not on park board owned parkland. For funding, the city collects stormwater utility fees, which in 2023 amount to about \$45 million. While the city reimburses the park board about \$700,000 annually for water quality monitoring and stormwater education activities, there is no dedicated funding for the park board to maintain and operate the aging stormwater infrastructure on parkland or to protect and improve the lake water and shorelines for which it's responsible.

This has led to poor performance and pipe failures, flooded recreation fields and parkland, erosion, damage to paths and trails, and degradation of aquatic habitat. To address these issues now and into the future, the park board proposes a strategic program for parkland stormwater management and lake water quality, funded by a \$2 increase to monthly stormwater utility fees (fees for an average single-family residential home are \$14). Projections indicate this could yield \$5 to \$6 million annually to pay for adequate oversight of the parkland storm drain system, measures to control polluted urban stormwater runoff into the lakes and projects for recreational water quality improvements and shoreline and streambank stabilization.

**Park board owned parkways are subject to an entirely different but equally critical fiscal gap.**

In 1999, the city and park board agreed that to provide more efficient services, the city would be responsible for parkway renovation and maintenance. Annual funding for parkway paving has averaged \$750,000 since then, which, due to inflation, currently repaves 0.35 to 0.6 parkway miles per year (depending on one- or two-way parkways). This funding is also used to upgrade curb ramps, exacerbating the shortfall.

The park board's analysis shows that at these rates, it will take 100 years to address all 55 parkway miles and 12 years just for the segments currently rated "very poor" according to the city's Pavement Condition Index (that is, 0-35 points out of 100). Meanwhile, today's average parkway PCI rating of 70 will decline to zero in the coming 15 years.

**To prevent the parkways from becoming largely impassable, MPRB proposes two 30-year funding scenarios.**

The following scenarios exclude segments eligible for other funding as MN State Aid roadways, and the 1.5 parkway miles slated for reconstruction in the next 10-15 years:

1) In one scenario, with funding sufficient to renovate two parkway miles annually, the average PCI rating still declines, but after 20 years it stabilizes at about 40: still in the "very poor" category.

2) The other scenario stabilizes the PCI above 60 — "fair" — in about 15 years. It is based on a data-driven management program combining renovation with seal coating and includes curb replacement, ramp upgrades and catch basin repairs.

### The Bottom Line

Because these requests need governmental support, MPRB's Administration and Finance committee unanimously approved them on March 15. While the stormwater fee is a basic addition to water bills for property owners, the parkway funding will add to MPRB's levy. In a citywide survey, 56% of respondents supported a property tax increase for parkways and 59% were in support of adding a stormwater fee to their water bill.

The City of Minneapolis is our partner. Our Board of Commissioners appreciates the support of residents in advancing its mission as an effective and responsible steward of Minneapolis lakes and parkways.

# Hill & Lake Press

CIRCULATION 9,000+  
HOUSEHOLDS



OPINION

By Constance Pepin

## Minneapolis Public Works Weighs in on Cedar-Isles Park Plan

Constance Pepin was a Cedar-Isles plan Community Advisory Committee member and lives in Linden Hills.

Three weeks after the deadline for public comments on the draft Cedar-Isles Plan, the Minneapolis Public Works Department weighed in for the first time. Overall, the Public Works letter supports the plan's emphasis on equity, access and ecological health.

Yet apart from feedback dealing with pedestrian safety at intersections, their comments relate almost exclusively to promoting the city's transit agenda for the parks. As such, their input aims to make parkways more like city streets and less like the recreational corridors that parkways are intended to be.

Numerous references in the letter to the city's Street Design Guide contradict the guide's own description of parkways as under the jurisdiction of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, typically considered park land not public right of way, and intended to support recreation and access to natural areas and community destinations. Yet despite this clear distinction between city streets and parkways, the Public Works comments push the Park Board to adopt transit standards for the parkways "per the City of Minneapolis Street Design Guide" though the guide does not apply to parkways.

In this context, of particular note are the following comments that highlight the city's overreach. Though Public Works staff served on the Cedar-Isles Technical Advisory Committee, their comments don't recognize the distinct role that parkways play in our park system or acknowledge the extensive com-

munity engagement reflected in the draft plan.

### Plastic bollards on Lake of the Isles Parkway.

The city of Minneapolis would like to see Lake of the Isles ringed by white plastic "bollards." This idea was specifically discussed and quickly rejected during Community Advisory Committee (CAC) discussions of bike options for Lake of the Isles. Public commentary during the meeting was strongly against bollards, the main reason being the barriers are unnecessary given the availability of an entirely safe, off-street trail several feet from the parkway and because the ugliness of bollards seriously diminishes the historical character and experience of the lake.

### Bike trail through the East Cedar Woods.

The Public Works Department thinks the proposed soft-surface bike trail through the East Cedar Woods is a good idea but doesn't explain how this trail would impact Public Works or benefit park users in any way. Ironically, the Public Works letter notes that both Kenilworth and Cedar Lake Regional Trails are already identified as "Low Stress Bikeways" within the city's "All Ages and Abilities Network," which a bike trail through the forest would not be.

### The city wants two-way biking for the parkways.

The department also flagged the city's 2020 Transportation Action Plan, one portion of which ("Action 2.5") outlines the city's preference for converting

the existing park board bike trails around Lake of the Isles, Bde Maka Ska and Lake Harriet to two-way trails sometime between 2020 and 2023.

The Public Works memo makes no mention of the CAC's extensive and detailed discussions on this point that preceded its recommendation to leave the Lake of the Isles trail as is. Previous park board master planning efforts also supported leaving bike trails one way at Bde Maka Ska and Lake Harriet.

It should be noted that in 2020, as the city's Transportation Action Plan was being finalized, park board planning staff did not support Action 2.5 and advocated removing it but were overruled by pro-transit park board leadership at the time who finagled behind the scenes to keep this action in the city's plan.

### What's wrong here?

As a general matter, local government entities can and sometimes should coordinate on matters of shared concern. That's a positive in many instances. Here, however, Public Works could have weighed in at any point in this roughly three-year planning process. Yet they waited until well after the close of the final public comment period to weigh in on some of the most fraught aspects of the park plan overall and did so almost exclusively through the lens of converting parkways to transit corridors.

Other concerned citizens may likely have an opinion about this letter and should feel free to submit comments to the park board on these points even though the public comment period officially closed a month ago.

**"As a general matter, local government entities can and sometimes should coordinate on matters of shared concern. That's a positive in many instances. Here, however, Public Works could have weighed in at any point in this roughly three-year planning process. Yet they waited until well after the close of the final public comment period to weigh in on some of the most fraught aspects of the park plan overall and did so almost exclusively through the lens of converting parkways to transit corridors."**

## LET US OPEN THESE DOORS ...TO YOUR NEW HOME



### 3249 HUMBOLDT AVE S

Newer built construction near all the City Lakes have to offer. Top of the line kitchen appliances, wine fridge, and dumbwaiter help you entertain throughout the home. Owner's suite has a luxurious bath, sitting area and gas fireplace. Fun lower level with second kitchen and media room for games and movies. Flex third floor transitions from daytime to evening entertaining with wet bar and covered treetop deck with Bde Maka Ska views. \$1,225,000



### 100 2ND STREET SE #503

Downsize in style! More than 2100 sqft all on one level. Contemporary, elegant 3BR/2BA unit at Winslow House. Primary suite has ensuite bath with walk-in shower. Guest bedroom or office suite can be closed off with its own bath. Large 18x6 private patio looks towards the Mississippi River. Building amenities include shared terrace with heated pool, pet-friendly homeowners association and freshly updated community spaces. \$575,000

LET'S EXPLORE OUR CITY'S STORY. AGAIN.

RETHOS DOORS OPEN MINNEAPOLIS PRESENTS COMCAST DOORS OPEN MINNEAPOLIS RETURNS. MAY 13-14, 2023

FRAN ★ BARB DAVIS  
JONNA KOSALKO

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY  
COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE  
franandbarbdavis.com 612.554.0994

We are excited to again sponsor the **Doors Open Instagram Contest!**  
Hope to see you out there! [doorsopenminneapolis.org](http://doorsopenminneapolis.org)



## OPINION

By Marty Carlson

## And Now Some Good News From the Past Year...



Bicyclists enjoying early spring at Cedar Lake. (Photo Tim Sheridan)

**"Operation Endeavor, the city's multi-jurisdictional approach to decreasing violent crime, has proved a success in its first six months, with violent crime having decreased by double digits since the program's inception."**

*Marty Carlson is a regular columnist and lives in Kenwood.*

Since I started writing for the Hill & Lake Press roughly a year ago, we've touched on a variety of topics of concern to the Hill and Lakes area, including the park board master planning process, public safety, the Hennepin Avenue redesign, Southwest Light Rail and the City Council's quiet "upzoning" of our neighborhoods.

The sheer volume of issues has been shocking to me; each, individually, is highly consequential, with impacts that could last decades, and collectively it feels like we've crammed a decade's worth of news

into a single year.

While I struggle to characterize many of these developments as positive, there have been some clear wins, and it's worth taking a moment to highlight a few:

#### The Cedar-Isles Park Plan

This is, by far, the brightest spot in my view. While the initial park proposals were hair-raising to many, the park board commendably shifted focus to community consensus items, making water quality and ecology a primary focus, and dramatically reducing its proposals for historical built structures that would never, realistically, be maintained appropriately.

Although the process is not over, the current park plan is, overall, a win for the park board, a win for the community, and a win for the millions of regional park users who make the Chain of Lakes the most visited park area in the state.

#### Public Safety

Throughout the fall, I wrote a series of articles about the public safety problems the city is facing. While these issues remain very real and don't have obvious quick fixes, there are bright spots. Operation Endeavor, the city's multi-jurisdictional approach to decreasing violent crime, has proved a success in its first six months, with violent crime having

decreased by double digits since the program's inception.

Operation Endeavor will continue into the spring. Last October, I wrote about the statewide shortage of officers and the 2022 Legislature's appropriation of precisely zero new dollars for officer recruitment and retention. As predicted, that's changed this year, with the governor initially proposing \$300 million in local public safety aid, and then increasing that number to \$550 million in his revised budget.

Much of this aid is in the form of discretionary grants to local law enforcement agencies, meaning it can be used for officer recruitment and retention if those agencies deem it appropriate. If this proposal makes it through our now-unified Legislature, it will be a win for public safety and a win for our communities.

#### Southwest Light Rail/Met Council

No, I don't regard SWLRT as a "win" for our neighborhoods, but last May I wrote an article touching on the project's apparent mismanagement, and how the construction process has made our objecting neighbors appear positively clairvoyant. I noted in conclusion that the Met Council's overreach may ultimately result in losing its cherished status as an independent, unelected body not directly accountable to voters. Fast-forward to March 2023.

The Office of the Legislative Auditor has released two of an expected four reports on SWLRT, both of which have confirmed significant mismanagement by the Met Council, and bills with the potential to strip the Council of its independence from voters (spearheaded by our own Sen. Scott Dibble and Rep. Frank Hornstein) are now working their way through the Legislature. The governor has indicated an openness to signing such a bill if it reaches his desk.

#### Bridges!

Back in April of last year, when we were discussing ways to improve the Cedar-Isles park plans, I highlighted CAC chair Win Rockwell's excellent suggestion that the park board should commit resources to restoring and preserving the emblematic channel bridges at Lake of the Isles and Bde Maka Ska.

Appendix A to the current version of the park board plan is devoted to historical preservation, and confirms that repairing and preserving these area-defining structures will be a priority in the coming decades, rather than continued deterioration or (worst case) replacement.

There has never been a legislative session where money is more likely to fall off the back of a truck, and let's hope the park board can get creative and arrange for one of those trucks to stop on a bridge.

OPEN WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY 12-5PM

2537 25TH AVENUE SOUTH (NEXT TO MEMORY LANES)

# SPRING CLEANING ?



FREE GEEK REFURBISHES & RECYCLES ELECTRONICS DONATIONS, THEN MAKES THEM AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY AT LOW COST.

ANYTHING WE ARE UNABLE TO SELL IS RESPONSIBLY RECYCLED.

WE ACTUALLY WANT THIS!!!

+SPEAKERS!

+LAPTOPS!



## ELECTRONICS RECYCLING & THRIFT STORE

freegeektwincities.org  
a 501(c)(3) non-profit



## Everyone's Entitled to My Opinion: Two Tales of a City, Part 2

By Susan Lenfestey



The Uptown Theater at Lagoon Ave. and Hennepin Ave. S. (Photo Susan Lenfestey)

**"Not all of us are keen on the idea of Uptown as an entertainment district, but that may be the fate handed to us by North Face and Victoria's Secret. The old Uptown of McPunks and Williams Pub is not coming back."**

*Susan Lenfestey is a co-founder of the Hill & Lake Press and serves on its board of directors. She lives in Lowry Hill.*

In last month's issue of the Hill & Lake Press I wrote about the bus tour that editor Craig Wilson and I took in early February to see the coordinated effort to rebuild the area of Lake Street that was so hard hit

in the uprising after the murder of George Floyd. The piece was called Everyone's Entitled to My Opinion: Two Tales of a City, Part 1, in the March edition.

On that tour, led by former mayor R.T. Rybak, now CEO of the Minneapolis Foundation, we heard about the resiliency of that community and the generous financial support that has poured into the area from government, foundations, corporations and individuals, and we saw the progress being made in rebuilding and restoring the local businesses.

The tour was upbeat and encouraging, but I will freely confess that I find myself hoping that the larger community's support and enthusiasm for rebuilding Lake Street will continue west of Nicollet Avenue as well. So I called R.T. (full disclosure: we're friends) to ask, "doesn't anyone care about Uptown?"

R.T. reminded me that he once lived on Humboldt and Lake and still lives only a short walk away. Yes, he cares about Uptown.

But restoration efforts had to be primarily between Nicollet and

Minnehaha Avenue where there was massive multi-block damage. "That area suffered between \$200 million to \$400 million dollars of uninsured losses," he said, and most businesses didn't have enough insurance to cover such extreme damages. The funds are distributed by the Lake Street Council, which created a panel of business owners and neighbors to determine which businesses qualify for assistance.

Obviously, the situation in Uptown is very different. Right, I said, "We have bike lanes!" When I asked if there were plans to put in bike lanes on that traffic-heavy stretch of central Lake, he answered with a laugh. "I'm not the mayor."

### So where does that leave Uptown?

While it was vandalized, its buildings were not destroyed. In fact, it's likely that the cavernous buildings played a part in destroying Uptown. When the big chain retailers moved in they changed the character of the neighborhood and drove out smaller businesses. And when times turned tough, they were the first to go, leaving behind huge vacant buildings. Unlike the other

stretch of Lake Street where shops can be restored and rented to small businesses, repurposing those now empty behemoths will take a lot of creativity and cash.

But there are signs of that starting to happen. Not all of us are keen on the idea of Uptown as an entertainment district, but that may be the fate handed to us by North Face and Victoria's Secret. The old Uptown of McPunks and Williams Pub is not coming back.

### There are signs of resiliency.

On that stretch alone businesses like Penzey's and Magers & Quinn are hanging tight. Amazing Thailand continues to draw a crowd, the New Uptown Café has opened in the former North Face store, and the Granada Theater has been restored to its previous glory with a bar and restaurant in the lobby and an event space in the theater. (Now let's restore on-street parking, some landscaping and the promised on-street amenities that never materialized.)

Seven Points, formerly Calhoun Square, is an audacious leap into a combination of housing and retail, which, if done right, could go a long way toward making Uptown more than a party zone for 20-year-olds transitioning to 30-year-olds. According to an article in the Star Tribune, that is what the developer Northpond Partners has in mind.

There is still plenty to worry about, from crime to lack of parking to the drear streetscape created in the disastrous makeover of Hennepin south of Lake. The businesses north of Lake Street face enormous challenges in the upcoming makeover of that ten-block stretch of Hennepin, not only in the two years of construction but also in the resulting avenue that curtails cars and parking in favor of bikes and buses — a well-intended but questionable effort to reduce carbon.

In upcoming issues of the Hill & Lake Press we'll do a deeper dive into what's happening in Uptown, or should be. We'll talk to business owners and leaders of the Uptown Association about what keeps them believing in the future of Uptown. And we'll look at what neighbors like all of us can do to help shape that future.

## Pedestrian Advisory Committee Refuses to Apologize to Hill & Lake Community

By Susan Lenfestey

*Susan Lenfestey is a co-founder of the Hill & Lake Press and serves on its board of directors. She lives in Lowry Hill.*

In response to the park board's draft Cedar-Isles Plan the City of Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee, a volunteer group reporting to the city's Department of Public Works, prefaced their comments with the following statement about the process of creating the plan in the Hill & Lake community:

**"...it is imperative to address a community engagement process that permits those with wealth and privilege to perpetuate a destructive, collapsing status quo and to demand that they control public**

**land regardless of public good."**

This type of gross mischaracterization of any other community would not be tolerated in speech, much less printed as part of an official city document. The members of the Citizens Advisory Committee and residents who attended countless open public meetings to help develop the plan have a deep interest in restoring and preserving the habitat and water quality of Cedar Lake and Lake of the Isles for the benefit and use of all. Making assumptions about the motives or privilege of those who participated is absurd and contributes to rancor and divisiveness in our city.

On March 13, East Isles resident Sandra Nelson wrote a letter to committee chair Peter Vader, requesting

an apology or retraction, and copied Commissioners Elizabeth Shaffer and Meg Forney, Council Member Lisa Goodman, Director Margaret Anderson Kelliher and Mayor Jacob Frey. She had not heard back from any of them at the time of this publication.

On March 17, the Hill & Lake Press contacted public works Director Margaret Anderson Kelliher about the issue. She replied that it was being worked on internally and a response was forthcoming. The following statement was received on April 7 from Sarah McKenzie, media relations coordinator for the City of Minneapolis:

**"City staff had a conversation with the Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) Chair about the PAC's**

**resolution. The committee, however, has declined to amend the resolution or issue an apology. Note: the PAC is an advisory committee that advises the Mayor and City Council on policies and programs related to improving pedestrian safety. Members are not City employees. Public Works provided to the Hill and Lake Press the official City response and review of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's Cedar Lake-Isles Plan. This document is the formal and official feedback to the MPRB (park board) planning process."**

The City's official response to the Cedar-Isles plan is covered on page 5: "Minneapolis Public Works Weighs in on Cedar-Isles Park Plan."

## SPECIAL FEATURE

By Josie Owens

## Temple Israel: An Integral Part of Our Hill & Lake Community

*Josie Owens is a regular columnist focusing on art and history. She lives in Lowry Hill.*

Prior to building the stately Temple Israel synagogue that stands at 24th St. and Fremont Ave. S., the congregation, then known as Shaarai Tov, had purchased and renovated a home at the site in 1914 to use for offices and religious classrooms; it was appropriately called Temple House.

After a small fire broke out in 1925, a new, safer building was required. While holding his religious classes at a temporary site, Rabbi Minda said: "I met with the children at the Religious School students' assembly, and I told them that when they went home, they should tell their parents that we need new quarters for the Religious School. Well, some of the kids went back and told their parents that the Rabbi wanted them to bring new quarters, and I received inquiries from some saying why the quarters and why did they need to be new?"

This delightful anecdote is emblematic of Temple Israel's joyful, innovative attitude from its start as the first Jewish congregation in Minneapolis and the journey to its permanent, stately location in the East Isles neighborhood.

### The first Jewish settlers came to Minnesota in the mid-nineteenth century.

The first Jews in Minnesota were German immigrants and part of the new Jewish Reform movement. They settled in St. Paul and founded the first synagogue in Minnesota called Mount Zion Hebrew Association, now known as "Mount Zion Temple," in 1856, before Minnesota became a state.

The Jewish population did not cross the Mississippi into Minneapolis for a bit longer. In fact, in 1866, only two Jews were recorded as residents of Minneapolis. The next wave of Jews came from Eastern Europe to escape from economic unrest, pogroms and the Tsar's draft. By 1881, there were 2,500 Jewish residents in Minneapolis.

These early Jewish immigrants established businesses along Washington Avenue and supplied the city's thriving lumber industry with ready-made clothing and dry goods. They lived and worshiped near their places of business.

### The Gates of Goodness

The first synagogue in Minneapolis was founded in 1878 and was called Shaarai Tov, which means The Gates of Goodness. Rabbi Minda said that this was an unusual name and that he did not know any other congregation, at least in modern times, with this name.

Initially, the founding 23 members rented a hall at Nicollet and Washington Avenues for Friday night worship services. In 1880, the founders built their first synagogue on 5th St. and Marquette Ave. The Shaarai Tov Sisterhood added raising money for a new synagogue to its already demanding philanthropic work. Leroy Buffington, one of

Minneapolis's leading architects, designed the Byzantine-style, wood-frame synagogue.

In 1888, Shaarai Tov members moved their building to the corner of 10th St. and 5th Ave. S., but it burned down in 1902. The congregation, which was still quite small, with fewer than 100 families, once again rallied and built a new stone synagogue on the site at a cost of \$18,000.

In the new synagogue and under the leadership of the energetic Rabbi Samuel N. Deinard, Shaarai Tov focused on building the congregation and welcoming and assimilating the new Jewish immigrants. These newest arrivals were Orthodox Jews from Eastern Europe: There was tension between them and the Reform Jews already established in Minneapolis.

Another impediment was that the native language of the new population was Yiddish. However, Rabbi Deinard used his fluency in Yiddish to connect the two groups and to attract the immigrant families. He recruited new members and their friends to attend his academic Friday services and also reached out to the wider Minneapolis community. He founded the Twin Cities' weekly newspaper, *The American Jewish World*. In 1914, with their congregation growing and 200 students in religious school, Shaarai Tov paid \$14,000 for a community house at 24th and Emerson. They renovated it, adding a 200-person auditorium and classrooms for religious study.

### Temple Israel

In 1920, the congregation changed its name to Temple Israel. Soon after this time of growth and prosperity, the congregation encountered a terrible tragedy. As Temple Israel members gathered on October 12, 1921, to observe the holiest day of the year, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, Rabbi Deinard died of a heart attack at the age of 48.

For one year, Temple Israel carried on with different people filling in for services until they reached out to Rabbi Albert Minda and offered him the position. Once again, Temple Israel took a chance. Rabbi Minda had only been ordained three years earlier and was 27 years old.

Rabbi Minda and his wife moved to Minneapolis, embraced the responsibilities and led with enthusiasm. He worked to incorporate some of the traditional and formal aspects of worship that Reform Judaism was void of, such as the Kiddush, the blessing recited over the cup of wine on the Sabbath Eve and on the eve of the various holidays.

"I was merely recognizing that... people needed some of the warmth and the light that had been radiated by these rituals and ceremonies of the past." He also cared deeply about the younger members and started both a Men's Group and Boy Scout troop #10.

At this time, the congregation spent time at both locations — the synagogue at 10th St. and 5th Ave. S., and Temple House at 24th and Emerson Avenue. After the fire occurred at Temple House in 1921, the

congregation had an opportunity to consolidate the two locations. The congregation recognized that the Emerson site would allow not only for the necessary space for the synagogue and classes but also for future expansion.

This site was also well suited for the congregants who now lived beyond the downtown area. The firm of Jack Liebenberg and Seeman Kaplan designed the Neoclassical Revival-style building, which was dedicated in September 1928. Liebenberg, a member of Temple Israel, was the first Jewish architect in Minnesota.

### Temple Israel's classical design is full of meaning.

Its imposing facade and the synagogue's five entrance doors represent the five books of the Torah, Judaism's most sacred text. Twelve columns in the sanctuary signify the twelve tribes of ancient Israel. The acanthus leaves in the organ grilles are a reminder of the Jews' suffering as slaves in Egypt. The windows are dedicated to the Creation, the Patriarchs, Exodus, the Temple, the Prophets and post-Biblical ideals of one world and one humanity. The building committee elected to have this saying carved into the facade's architrave: "My house shall be a house of prayer for all people," communicating an eagerness to welcome Jews from all walks of life into their congregation.

### The Great Depression and Rigadoo

Temple Israel would again face a challenge. A year after the dedication of the new synagogue, the Great Depression started. The congregation had borrowed \$150,000 secured on pledges from members to build the new temple.

Now many members had financial difficulties and could not pay their pledges or their dues. Rabbi Minda remembered how dire the situation was: "The majority of the board however, and for which I give the board great credit, said, we made the loans in good faith, even as did the banks, and we would do everything possible, short of breaking our backs, to make good the obligations that we had assumed."

Someone proposed the idea of a bazaar to meet the financial obligations Temple Israel had assumed. "We got together one Sunday morning to consider plans, and the question arose as to what we should call this bazaar. Someone brought out a dictionary and was looking through it and came across the word 'Rigadoo', which means an English dance, and he or she suggested that we call this project Rigadoo."

The undertaking, with a chance to win an automobile, was a success. It was a real project but worth it. Over the five years the Temple was able to realize the net sum of \$25,000. "We never defaulted one penny on either principal or mortgage interest."

### Modernization

Since 1928, Temple Israel has remained at the Emerson location but

has expanded as necessary. In 1987, Temple Israel built an addition designed by Benz, Thompson and Reitow. This building added a new entrance from the parking lot, a 250-seat theater, meeting rooms, offices and elevators to make the temple accessible to people with disabilities.

In 2001, Marcia Zimmerman was named senior rabbi. She was the first woman senior rabbi of a congregation of more than two thousand families in the United States. The congregation realized that once again the building needed both expansion and repairs. When they learned that it would cost \$6 million just to bring the split-level education wing with its numerous stairways up to code, they decided to employ a holistic architectural plan to meet a bigger vision.

The Temple engaged HGA Architects and Engineers' Joan Soranno and John Cook to come up with a master plan for the congregation's needs. As Linda Mack explained in *Architecture MN Magazine*, the community opted for a 27,260-square-foot-addition with indoor and outdoor spaces.

The 1987 entrance was replaced with a large 88 by 50-foot lobby that connects the sanctuary and the education wing. This new glass lobby is filled with light and brings people from the 1928 sanctuary into a bright reception hall that overlooks a beautiful garden.

Mack says, "The addition itself is equally understated. Limestone slabs and dark metal window surrounds tie it into the original building and create a quiet presence in the residential neighborhood."

The ceiling is also awe-inspiring with its rift-cut, white-oak slats that form a catenary arch across the lobby. Allison Grace Williams, a juror for a 2018 AIA architectural award said, "The wood ceiling in the gathering space is something I've never seen done before. It turns wood into something so opulent. If you didn't know better, you might think it was gold. It allows you to believe in its lightness and its mass at the same time. The way it's draped is just exquisite."

The L-shaped education wing thoughtfully supports the Reggio Emilia philosophy used in the curriculum and has windows at a proper level for children to see out. Kristen McDougall, a neighborhood architect, observed, "The new modernist addition and the original Neoclassical Revival style work quite well together. The new window placement and dividers echo the rhythm of the columns on the old facade, particularly from the courtyard, but also the parking lot."

This history lesson will end with Temple Israel's own words: "In 2016, a new addition replaced outdated school and office buildings that had been added in the 1950s and 1980s. The new entrance facing north, just off Fremont Avenue, is a modern retelling of the Neoclassical Emerson Avenue entrance. The gray, textured walls match the original stone facade, and the narrow, vertical rectangular windows suggest a classical colonnade. These modernizations remind passersby that Temple Israel is part of Minneapolis's past, present and future." There is no doubt about this!





(Photos Tim Sheridan)





**DUDDINGSTON GROUP**  
Exceptional properties. Exceptional clients.



**10 UNITS CLOSED**

at  
**510 GROVELAND**

Built as a residential hotel in 1928 and converted into a cooperative residence in 1946, 510 Groveland quietly remains one of the most private and exclusive addresses in the Twin Cities. The building consists of 35 exquisite residences configured from studio to three bedroom floor plans. Amenities include a 24 hour desk attendant, on site building manager, heated parking, and exercise facility. Residents enjoy a discount at the first floor restaurant and lounge, P.S. Steak.

Please contact Dan and Dave for a private tour of available apartments and to learn more about the exclusive lifestyle this building affords.

**kw** KELLERWILLIAMS PREMIER REALTY    612.445.TWIN    DANDUDDINGSTON@KW.COM    WWW.DUDDINGSTONGROUP.COM

## 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL PENCIL SHARPENING



**Saturday, June 3rd**  
**1-3 p.m.**

Live music,  
pencil stories  
and ice cream.

**OPEN TO  
THE PUBLIC!**

For more  
information:  
[www.lotipencil.com](http://www.lotipencil.com)

It's the big pencil on Lake of the Isles  
2217 E Lake of the Isles Pkwy, Minneapolis, MN.



## Free Estimates

Interior & Exterior Painting • Insurance Claims • Wood Finishing  
Exterior Wood Restoration • Water Damage Repair • Patching • Enameling



**greg@chileen.com**  
**612-850-0325**

*30 years experience*  
Insured | References

# MARK GLOBUS

## FOR MPLS CITY COUNCIL

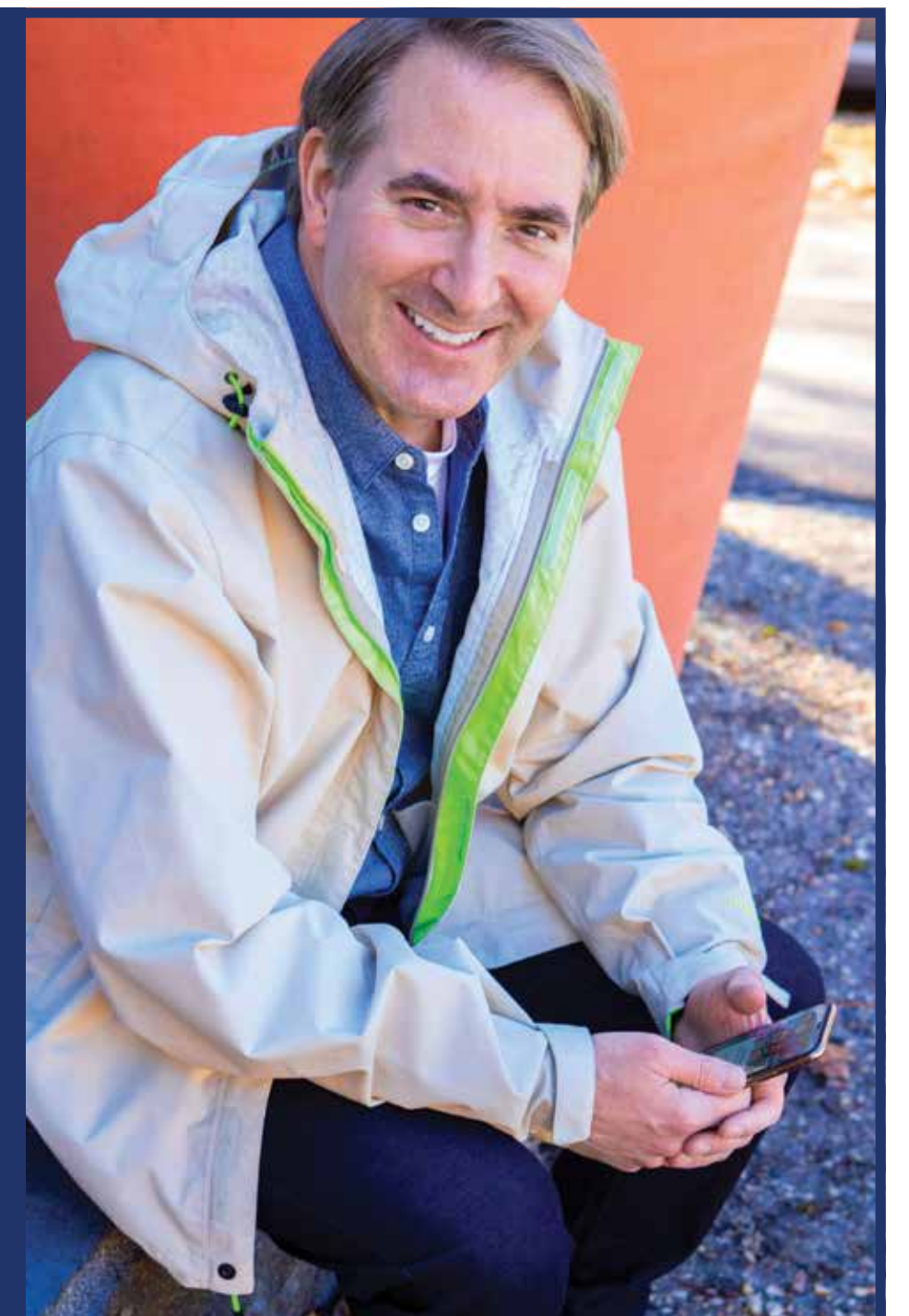
**Ward-7. Your Neighborhood. Your Minneapolis.**

I am running for City Council (Ward-7) because Minneapolis needs a voice that is both liberal and reasonable on the city council. *The council needs a new unprejudiced way of approaching the business of the City.*

**INNOVATIVE.  
FORWARD-THINKING.  
EFFECTIVE. DEMOCRAT.**

**globuscitycouncil.com**

Paid for by Globus for City Council • P.O. Box 3936 Minneapolis, MN 55403





# The Hill & Lake Area Stars in the Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival

By Mark Tierney

*Mark Tierney is a connoisseur of, and advocate for, local art and culture. He lives in Lowry Hill.*

The Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival is the annual harbinger of spring in Minnesota. Every year it brings us a breath of fresh air and an opportunity for a fresh global perspective. This year's 42nd festival, produced and presented by the MSP Film Society, runs from Thursday April 13 through Thursday April 27.

The MSP Film Society is dedicated to the belief that the best way to see great film is on the "big screen" and in the company of others. This commitment led the film society to recently assume the control and management of the five-theater St. Anthony Main. MSP's Executive Director, Susan Smouluchowski, told us that they have refurbished the theaters, rebranded the complex as the MainCinema and are now curating all of

its screenings throughout the year. Susan, who has been the film society's director since 2010, reminded us that many of our multi-generational residents were introduced to the magic of international cinema from the 1960s through the 1990s via the University of Minnesota Film Society, the predecessor to the MSP Film Society. During those decades films were screened on campus at the Bell Museum. This year's film festival offering will be shown primarily at the newly refurbished MainCinema with some additional showtimes at the Capri Theater in North Minneapolis, Landmark Center in St. Paul and other locations in Rochester, Minnesota.

The full 2023 film festival lineup embodies more than 200 films, representing 100 cultures and countries. Susan also noted that there are a couple of films with Hill & Lake area connections.



(Photos MSP Film)



### **"Dreamin' Wild," US, 2022.**

Directed by Kenwood resident Bill Pohlad, the film asks, "What if a childhood dream came true — but 30 years later?" That's what happened to singer/songwriter Donnie Emerson as he approached 50 years old. While it brought hopes of second chances, it also brought ghosts of the past and long-buried emotions. Inspired by a true story. Stars Casey Affleck, Zoëy Deschanel and Beau Bridges. It is featured as a 2023 opening night film on Thursday, April 13.

### **"Being Mary Tyler Moore," US, 2022, Documentary.**

Directed by James Adolphus, the film offers unprecedented access to the Mary Tyler Moore Estate, friends, family and colleagues. "Being Mary Tyler Moore" constructs a mosaic of Mary's 60-year career in show business and is a must-see for Minnesotans and fans of the long-running TV show. An intimate cinematic portrait of one of our most beloved and indelible Hill & Lake icons.

Information about parties, panels, tickets and passes can be found at [www.MSPfilm.org](http://www.MSPfilm.org).

**THE MORTADELLA, THE MERRIER!**  
*Pinoli is Now Open*

**pinoli**  
  
 1601 WEST LAKE ST. MPLS  
 PINOLI-MPLS.COM



# Meet Your Neighbor

By Craig Wilson, Editor

## Cellist Laura Sewell



Laura Sewell (Photo Isles Ensemble)

*Craig Wilson is the editor of the Hill & Lake Press, lives in Lowry Hill and founded this column in 2008.*

Laura Sewell talks about becoming a cellist, her family's remarkable talent and the upcoming Isles Ensemble concert on Mother's Day.

### Where did you grow up?

I grew up in South Minneapolis. In 2001 my parents built a home on Cedar Lake, where they have been ever since.

### Your family has produced several artists. What's the Sewell secret?

I don't know if there is any "secret," but I do know that my parents always encouraged both my brother and me to pursue whatever interested us. They never discouraged the notion of considering a career in the arts.

My father was a violinist, and my mother was a singer. My brother is a dancer and choreographer and is the Founder and Artistic Director

of James Sewell Ballet.

### How did you come to play the cello?

My parents started me on the piano when I was six but I wasn't crazy about it and I had to be "encouraged" to practice. A few years later I announced that I wanted to try another instrument, and my father suggested the cello. As it turned out, from my very first lesson I absolutely took to the cello! It felt so much more natural to me than the piano ever had, and my parents never had to tell me to practice. I just loved it and I had a very strong desire to be good at it.

### What was your education?

In addition to taking cello lessons while growing up, I also played in the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphony. After graduating from high school, I had the unique opportunity to study in London with the legendary cellist, Jacqueline duPré.

Not only was it eye-opening for me to live in a foreign country, but

spending time with Jacqueline duPré was transformative. She had been diagnosed with multiple sclerosis about five years before I met her and was no longer able to play the cello. However, her ability to teach and to be an encouraging and inspiring mentor was undiminished. Being around someone who handled her life circumstances with such grace was also a wonderful example for a young person.

Following my year in London, I attended The Juilliard School where I got my Bachelor's Degree, and then the Cleveland Institute of Music where I received my Master's Degree.

### What is the Isles Ensemble?

The Isles Ensemble was founded in 2004 and has been based at Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church since its inception. The group of eleven musicians is comprised of current and former members of the Minnesota and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestras, faculty members at the University of Minnesota and other local colleges and universities, and former members of several nationally recognized string quartets.

We perform four concerts a year at Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church, as well as additional concerts throughout Minnesota. We also do one fundraising concert a year for a "cause" of our choice. Both this year and last we performed benefit concerts for Ukraine. Last year we were able to raise over \$80,000, and so far this year we have raised over \$32,000 for Ukraine!

### You have a concert on Mother's Day, May 14. What is its theme?

This season's overarching theme has been "resiliency" (in response to coming out of the pandemic). The May program will highlight mental illness and the many artists who have dealt with it and contributed to the world in spite of their internal struggles. The featured work of the concert will be "Angels Sang to Me," a piece for soprano and string quartet by a young Minneapolis composer named AJ Isaacson-Zvidswa.

Maria Jette will be our guest soprano for this program. Maria and I were part of the group that premiered this piece two years ago and we have performed it many times since then, including a featured program last year on TPT. The rest of the program will include two beautiful songs for viola, piano and soprano by Johannes Brahms, and the program will conclude with Robert Schumann's gorgeous quartet for piano and strings. Schumann is one of the artists AJ references in her work earlier on the program. In fact, the title, "Angels Sang to Me," is a Schumann quote.

Even though this will be a program about artists who have struggled mightily, it will not be a downer in any way. AJ's piece is inspiring and even funny at times and ends very hopefully — as does the Schumann at the end of the program.

### What is your role in its production?

I am the curator for the May 14 program.

### How are people with lived experience with mental illness engaged in the performance?

Composer AJ Isaacson-Zvidswa struggled with mental illness for years in her teens and twenties but has learned how to manage it very successfully. In her piece, AJ uses texts by various artists who struggled with mental illness (Emily Dickinson, Robert Lowell, Hector Berlioz, Edgar Allen Poe, among others) and also quotes from her own diary. It is an extremely effective work that has garnered a lot of attention over the past two years.

### What are the program details?

The concert is at 4 p.m. on May 14 at Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church (2020 W. Lake of the Isles Parkway).

Admission is \$25, or pay what you can. Children and students are free. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online at Eventbrite. For more information go to: [islesensemble.org/tickets](https://islesensemble.org/tickets)



Friends.  
Neighbors.  
Architects.

PKA.

2019 JAMES AVENUE SOUTH | 612.353.4920 | PKARCH.COM



# Isles Ensemble Performs May 14

By Michael Wilson

Michael Wilson, formerly of Cedar-Isles-Dean, has written extensively for the HLP. He now lives in Taos, New Mexico.

## Isles Ensemble concludes season on May 14 with Brahms, Schumann and AJ Isaacson-Zvidswa's Angels Sang to Me

Soprano Maria Jette joins the musicians of the Isles Ensemble to conclude its 19th season on Sunday, May 14 (Mother's Day), with a program entitled "Brilliant Minds," the capstone of their four-concert series "Season of Reflection." The concert begins at 4 p.m. at Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church.

The May 14 program includes three pieces that explore the challenges of mental illness and the remarkable works of art that have been created by people struggling with it. Isles Ensemble musicians Laura Sewell, Leslie Shank and Sifei Cheng premiered Twin Cities-based composer AJ Isaacson-Zvidswa's "Angels Sang to Me" in 2021 with Maria Jette, and they are pleased to present it again.

Jette will sing Johannes Brahms' "Two Songs for Voice, Viola, and Piano, op. 91," composed for Brahms' friends Joseph Joachim, the famed violinist, and his wife Amalie. Both songs were first publicly performed together in 1885, with Brahms at the piano.

The program concludes with the joyful and triumphant "Piano Quartet in E-flat Major, op. 47" by Robert Schumann, an artist who struggled with his own inner demons. It was written during a productive period in which Schumann composed several large-scale chamber music works. He was said to have written the E-flat Major quartet with his wife Clara in mind, and she played in its premiere in 1844.

AJ Isaacson-Zvidswa's "Angels Sang to Me" explores her personal experience with mental illness using words from her own journal, as well as the words of other artists (Robert Schumann, Hector Berlioz, Edgar Allan Poe and Emily Dickinson) who struggled with

mental illness. The piece is a journey of despair, fear, hope and finally resolution.

It is a delight to welcome Maria Jette back the Isles Ensemble stage. Her wide-ranging career has encompassed everything from early Baroque opera to world premieres, in the United States and abroad. She often appeared with Garrison Keillor on "A Prairie Home Companion" and is a regular with VocalEssence (led by conductor Philip Brunelle), Chamber Music Society of Minnesota, Minnesota Sinfonia, The Schubert Club and Lyra Baroque Orchestra.

Admission is \$25 for individual tickets or pay what you can. Children and students are admitted free of charge. Tickets may be purchased at the door:

2020 W Lake of the Isles Parkway, Minneapolis. More information at [islesensemble.org](http://islesensemble.org).



Soprano Maria Jette (Photo Isles Ensemble)



Composer AJ Isaacson-Zvidswa (Photo Isles Ensemble)



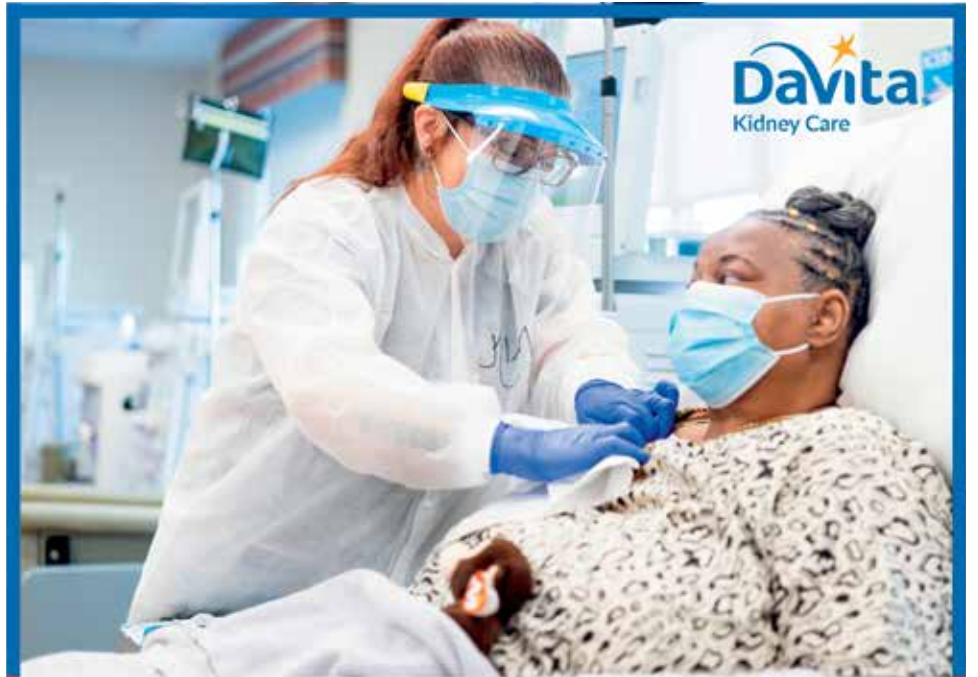
MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL **WARD 7**

**SCOTT Graham**

Progressive and Pragmatic Leadership

[scottformpls.com](http://scottformpls.com)

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



**NEW, ONSITE DIALYSIS CENTER**  
Dialyze conveniently and comfortably where you live!

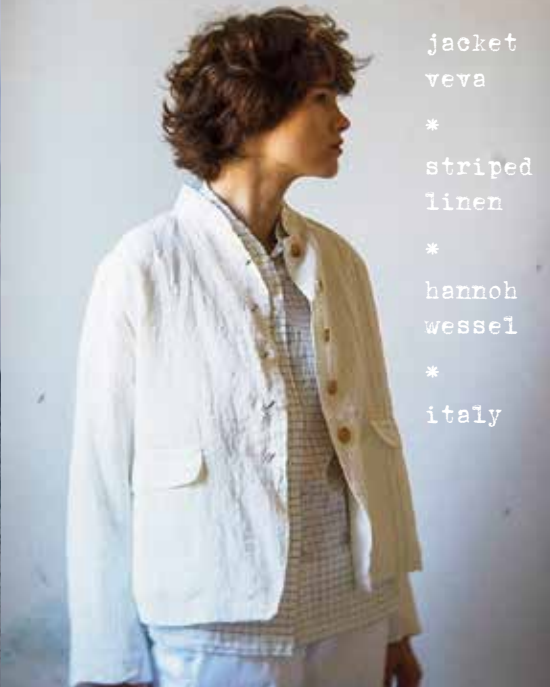
  
**JONES-HARRISON**  
SENIOR LIVING

CALL TODAY FOR A TOUR! 612.920.2030  
3700 Cedar Lake Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55416 | [jones-harrison.org](http://jones-harrison.org)

ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY CARE | LONG-TERM CARE  
REHABILITATION | ONSITE DIALYSIS CENTER



farmers jacket  
\*  
100% linen  
\*  
inis meain  
\*  
ireland



jacket veva  
\*  
striped linen  
\*  
hannah wessel  
\*  
italy

**REMEMBER INTOTO?**

#UPTOWNRENAISSANCE  
#GETDRESSED  
#WOMENPLUSMENPLUSHOME  
#FREEPARKINGINTHEBACK  
#MIKEPICKART

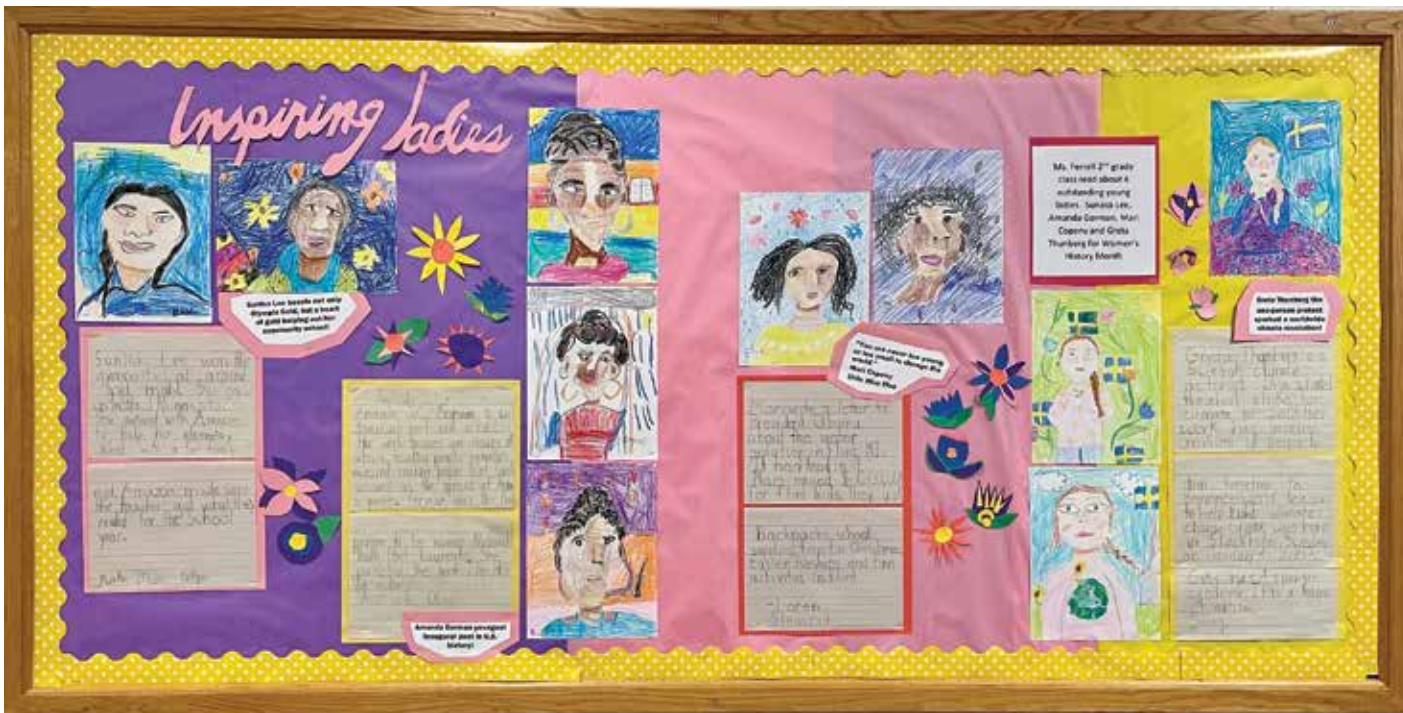
 [combinempis.com](http://combinempis.com)  
1609 west lake street  
612 • 353 • 5163





# Kenwood School: Distinctive Student Experiences, New Funding for Future Growth

By Karin Olson



To celebrate Women's History Month, Ms. Ferrell's second grade class read about four outstanding young ladies: Mari Copeny, Amanda Gorman, Sunisa Lee and Greta Thunberg. Students shared what they learned through art and stories in the halls of Kenwood School. (Photo Karin Olson)

*Karin Olson in a Kenwood School parent and volunteer. She lives in Kenwood.*

### Thirty percent budget increase will benefit all Kenwood Community School students and families next year.

New district and federal funding will help Kenwood Community School support all students in academic, social and emotional growth even more comprehensively next year. While Kenwood's projected enrollment remains the same at approximately 380 students, the budget for the 2023-24 school year will jump by a million dollars to \$4.2 million. This will enable the school to expand staff, reduce class sizes, provide more specialist learning intervention and grow programs for advanced learners.

The additional funds are a combination of compensatory dollars from Minneapolis Public Schools, federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds (established in 2020 in response to the pandemic) and Title I eligibility.

Over the past several weeks, all Kenwood staff and families have had opportunities to provide input about priorities for growth next year. In addition, Superintendent Cox has prioritized math and reading intervention teachers, teacher collaborative planning with specialists, and small group instruction for students who've been identified as advanced learners.

Principal Heidi Johnson explained, "The finalized plan for next year will expand our team and enable us to elevate student engagement, provide more differentiated instructional opportunities, and ground our students' learning in an equitable, positive, inclusive and

collaborative school culture."

### The school will add a total of 10.5 new positions for the 2023-24 school year.

These include a combination of classroom/academic support, specialists and support staff as follows:

- 1) Two teachers for new classrooms in third and fourth grades. This brings the total number of classrooms to 17, reduces class sizes and enables in-person advanced math for fourth graders.
- 2) Two new interventionist teachers, four new interventionist associate educator positions and one social/emotional learning associate educator position.
- 3) Additional English Language teaching support, a half-time technology and testing associate educator and a half-time family liaison.

Said Johnson, "These positions have been funded to help more of our students feel settled, secure, and ready to take on academic challenges at or above grade level."

### The new roles will bolster the existing team of 35 staff at Kenwood School.

"The staff at Kenwood is committed to helping all students thrive as they grow academically, socially and emotionally. The team has worked hard through the pandemic and district changes to be responsive to our students' developing needs. Our recent partnership with Groves Learning Organization to provide excellent phonics and phonemic awareness instruction, and the District's adoption of Bridges and Number

Corner, our dynamic new math curriculum, boost rigor and academic engagement. Our staff is dedicated to the children and families we serve and we're grateful to have more colleagues and resources available to us to support our students' diverse needs. Kenwood remains a very special place to learn and grow."



**Restoration & New Construction**  
Brick, Block, and Stone

**612-309-1054**

Experienced. Referrals.



**Hill & Lake Press**

CIRCULATION 9,000+ HOUSEHOLDS

**ups THE UPS STORE**  
be unstoppable

**VISIT US FOR DISCOUNTS ON PRINTING**

**25% OFF**

**POSTERS  
BANNERS  
YARD SIGNS**

**BUY 250  
GET 250  
FREE**

**BUSINESS CARDS**



Judy Longbottom, owner  
Jacob Hanson, staff member

**2801 HENNEPIN  
MPLS, MN 55408**

**612-822-0022**

**STORE2175@THEUPSSTORE.COM**

**(WE HAVE FREE PARKING! ENTER OFF 28TH AVE)**

**STORE HOURS**

**M-F: 8:30 am - 7 pm**

**SAT: 9 am - 4 pm**

**SUN: 10 am - 3 pm**





Hill & Lake Press is a non-profit newspaper funded and supported by its advertisers and neighborhood associations:

- East Isles Neighborhood Association (EINA)
- Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA)
- Kenwood Neighborhood Organization (KNO)
- Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA)



(Photo Tim Sheridan)

## How a Giraffe Gets Its Spots

By Janet Hallaway

**“It’s really all about the kids!”**

**– Kieran Folliard, Kenwood**

*Janet Hallaway loves writing stories about the people behind building community. She is a Hill & Lake Press board member and lives in Lowry Hill.*

Kieran Folliard and his wife Lisa Kane live across the street from Kenwood Park. Big, bright new windows in their recently remodeled living room offer a birds-eye view of the park’s playground.

When news came that the 100-year-old Burr Oak in their front yard was dying from disease despite best efforts to treat it, they decided to repurpose it into a sculpture. They saw opportunity to bring surprise and delight to the children playing in the park and trekking past their house en route to school.

A friend mentioned a chain saw artist who lived in Northfield. Kieran tracked him down, and shortly thereafter, the artist, Curtis Ingvaldstad, was commissioned for the job. It was then that Kieran and Lisa learned that Ingvaldstad had worked with another couple, on the other side of lake, and transformed their dying tree into a whimsical sculpture of a No 2. Yellow pencil. Creativity abounds in our fair neighborhoods!

For their sculpture, Kieran and Lisa envisioned a tall giraffe, a fitting subject for a sculpture perched on a slope overlooking the playground.

When Ingvaldstad arrived to start the project, he carefully examined the tree. “He had good insights,” said Lisa. Ingvaldstad pointed out how the wood twisted and stretched in certain areas, mimicking the movement of a giraffe’s neck.

After stripping the tree’s bark, Ingvaldstad used his chain saw to sculpt the giraffe’s body, long neck and mane, and a delicately featured head topped with ossicones (First-graders, invited by Kieran and Lisa to meet the artist in their front yard, can tell you that ossicones are short skin-covered horns helpful in combat.)

In November, with temperatures dropping, Ingvaldstad applied a sealer, deepening the color of the wood and preserving it through winter. With the arrival of warmer weather, Ingvaldstad will return to finish his work of art, already delighting kids of all ages.

If you’ve never seen a giraffe get its spots, now is your chance! Ingvaldstad will be sculpting and applying spots to the giraffe. Keep an eye and an ear out for the buzz of his chain saw.





# KNO

## ANNUAL MEETING & SPRING SOCIAL

MONDAY, MAY 1 • 6:30-8PM

@ KENWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER: RAIN, SNOW OR SHINE

- ▶ NICO'S TACO BAR DINNER
- ▶ MEET KNO BOARD MEMBERS
- ▶ SOCIALIZE WITH NEIGHBORS
- ▶ VOLUNTEER FOR A SUMMER EVENT
- ▶ COLORING CONTEST FOR KIDS

FAMILY FUN FREE EVENT HOSTED BY KENWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME & APPRECIATED



COFFEE, CROISSANTS, & COMMUNITY CHAT



SAT, MAY 13 • 10-11:30AM @ KENWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER

GET CAFFEINATED & CHAT WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

LEARN HOW TO VOLUNTEER FOR KNO IN 2023

CHECK OUT THE FUN PROGRAMS AT KENWOOD PARK

ENJOY A COLORING CONTEST FOR FAMILIES



## LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

April 2023



Thank you for your generous support.



### Would you like to be more involved with the neighborhood?

Consider running for a seat on the LHNA Board. Visit [lowryhillneighborhood.org](http://lowryhillneighborhood.org) and apply before 5/1/23. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting in June.



### Interested in the next LHNA Board meeting?

The next LHNA Board meeting will be held Tuesday, May 2nd at 7:00 pm at the Kenwood Community Center (2101 W Franklin Ave). The agenda is available on our website.



### Let's go for a walk!

The temperatures are rising, the ice is gone, and the Lowry Hill Safety Walking Club is starting this month. For meeting dates, times, and locations, please email us - [lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org](mailto:lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org)

Sign up for the LHNA email newsletter at [lowryhillneighborhood.org](http://lowryhillneighborhood.org)





# Spring Social & Annual Meeting Saturday, May 13

**Cedar · Isles · Dean**  
Neighborhood Association



**10 am—2 pm: Free Basic Bike Tune-Ups at Cedar Lake South Beach**

**2—4 pm: CIDNA Spring Social and Annual Meeting at Jones-Harrison Senior Living**

- Join CIDNA for updates from our local elected officials, light appetizers and socializing with your neighbors!
- CIDNA will present its 2023 Annual Report.
- New Board Members for the 2023-2024 term will be elected at this meeting.
- While in-person attendance is highly encouraged, email [info@cidna.org](mailto:info@cidna.org) for a Zoom link.

## Join the CIDNA Board!

In order to continue serving and representing the Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood, the volunteer CIDNA board needs to add 4-6 directors. The board's success depends on the participation of residents who contribute your ideas and leadership to our governance and projects. Please join us.

Scan the QR Code to complete the Board Nomination Form,  
or find the form at [cidna.org](http://cidna.org).



## East Isles Update

**Thanks to all who attended our Annual Meeting!**  
We gathered with new and returning neighbors, heard from city officials, and elected new Board members.

**Join us for the Earth Day Cleanup, and new monthly Lake Cleanups!** Check-in for supplies if needed, and please come for any amount of time—every bit helps.

**The Farmers Market is on hiatus in 2023,** to plan a more collaborative, sustainable 2024 market season.

**We're seeking volunteers for our Summer Social:**  
June 14 evening at Triangle Park. Ping [info@eastisles.org](mailto:info@eastisles.org)!

Visit [eastisles.org/join](http://eastisles.org/join) to:

- 1 Take our survey to help identify priorities in the neighborhood, and share your ideas.
- 2 Join a Committee to address green issues, community safety, transit, outreach and more.
- 3 Donate to support neighborhood events, resources and opportunities.



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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Earth Day Cleanup

**April 22** Saturday, 9:30 AM – 12 PM

Check-in bottom of W 28th St stairs, off E Lake of the Isles Pkwy

*All Lake of the Isles neighbors are invited! Stop by check-in for free cleanup supplies and treats.*

### East Isles Safety Walking Club

**April 26** Wednesday, 5:30 – 7 PM

**May 7** Sunday, 10 – 11:30 AM

Meet at Triangle Park: 26th St & Irving Ave S

*Get outside, meet neighbors and help make our community safer! Bring flashlights as needed.*

### East Isles Board Meeting

**May 9** Tuesday, 6 – 8 PM

Grace-Trinity Community Church · 1430 W 28th St

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

### Lake of the Isles Monthly Cleanups

**May 13, June 10** Saturdays, 9:30 AM – 12 PM

Check-in bottom of W 28th St stairs, off E Lake of the Isles Pkwy

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

### East Isles Summer Social

**Save the Date: June 14** Wednesday evening

Dates subject to change—visit [eastisles.org](http://eastisles.org) for the latest.






**RETHOS**  
**DOORS OPEN**  
 MINNEAPOLIS  
 PRESENTED BY  
 COMCAST

**CELEBRATE THE CITY WE KNOW & LOVE-VOLUNTEER!**

**MAY 13-14**



A TALK ON CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

**BE SET FREE**


We can seem trapped by circumstances—but living a spiritual sense of God-given liberty opens the way to overcome what binds us.



**May 18 @ 7:00pm Thursday**

**LOCATION**  
 Second Church of Christ, Scientist  
 1822 Hennepin Avenue  
 Minneapolis MN

**CONTACT**  
 612 377 5668  
 www.SecondChurchMinneapolis.com



**Nicole Virgil, CS**  
 Christian Science practitioner  
 Member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship

**HOSTED BY**  
 Second Church of Christ, Scientist  
 Minneapolis MN

**BARBETTE**  
 RESTAURANT • AMUSEMENTS

**VOILÀ!**  
 BRUNCH  
**7**  
 DAYS A WEEK

1600 W. LAKE ST. 612.827.5710  
 @BARBETEMPLS BARBETTE.COM



**KEEP CALM BECAUSE SPRING IS COMING**



# Dear Neighbor

A monthly column by Dorothy Richmond



Mr. Rogers with Lady Elaine Fairchilde on hand. (Photo Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood)

*Dorothy Richmond is an experienced Spanish instructor and the author of several Spanish textbooks. She is a longtime resident of Cedar-Isles-Dean.*

Let's talk about one of my personal heroes, Fred Rogers, aka Mr. Rogers. Perhaps you watched "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" as a child. I did not. Whatever his demographic was, when my mother exhorted me to "watch this show," no doubt in an effort to get me out of her hair, I was eight and too old, too worldly, and too sophisticated (all self-diagnosed) to find value in a guy with puppets and a fish tank and a trolley that traveled between reality and fantasy.

That first episode I watched at age eight turned out to be the last until some 30 years later when I rediscovered Mr. Rogers with my daughter, Lily. I can't remember how it started, but it quickly became established: I would pick up Lily from preschool at 12:30, return home where she would wash her hands as I set out cookies and milk on a tray, and we would

retreat to the basement viewing lounge where Mr. Rogers came on at 1:00. Wait – first, I would take the phone off the hook: Nobody was going to interrupt our ritual and intrude on Mr. Rogers, Lily and me.

Lily liked it immediately, and I liked watching her enjoy the show. Then I began to like it! For starters, it wasn't a cartoon. By this point in the parenthood process (Daisy was then seven), I'd had enough "Dragon Tales" and "Clifford the Big Red Dog" to last a lifetime. (That said, I will always remember "Arthur" with fondness and respect.)

What I first noticed and appreciated about Mr. Rogers was that he talked to children as though they were adults, and he spoke to adults as though they were children. His superpower was making people feel older or younger, as needed, and everyone feel valued. Whatever one's age, Mr. Rogers was all about learning about the world – how crayons, or ribbons, or Cheerios are made, or what goes on in a recycling center – and learning about one's self.

The first half, like school, was devoted to instruction. Mr. Rogers always had a topic for the day – maybe friendship, maybe sadness, maybe anger. He didn't steer clear of deep issues, and each often had a song specific to the theme, written by Mr. Rogers himself. Fred Rogers was a trained musician, with a degree in music composition. He was also an ordained Presbyterian minister, and "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" was his ministry. He consistently hosted A-listers – Yo-Yo Ma, Tony Bennett, Rita Moreno, Eric Carle, Julia Child, Bill Nye, the Science Guy, Koko, the gorilla, and more – to perform and discuss their craft (even Koko, in sign language!) Each time, Mr. Rogers would ask, "Did you always want to sing/dance/act/draw/cook/you name it as a child?," reminding all children everywhere that their childhood dreams were important and precious and could come true.

Sometimes Mr. McFeely, the Speedy Delivery man, would drop off a video for all of us to watch. McFeely was Mr. Rogers' mother's maiden name (and Fred's middle name); she knitted all those famous cardigans. Some days we would all go on a field trip, say, to Chef Brockett's bakery, to learn about pan dulce (Mexican sweet bread) and, what do you know? There would just happen to be a Mariachi band in the

adjoining room, and we'd be treated to a performance.

Then we'd return to Mr. Rogers' neighborhood home, maybe feed the fish, and enter the Land of Make-Believe. And what a land it was. Populated mostly by puppets, many voiced by Mr. Rogers, anything could happen: Rocking chairs could fly, one day it snowed cereal, and Lady Elaine Fairchilde, curator of the Museum-Go-Round, could produce dinosaurs, antique telephones, take us to Planet Purple, and, when ticked off, turn everything upside-down. Lady Elaine was my favorite – crusty, sassy, outspoken, with a marshmallow heart that beat to its own peculiar drum. My favorite episode had Lady Elaine leading a marching band only to discover a competing band marching straight towards hers. They collided, but somehow everyone kept going. It was mayhem at its best and had Lily and me shrieking with laughter.

Our time with Mr. Rogers was sacred – pure delight, learning, and growth. At the time, I was working on a book, one that took nearly three years to write and that Mr. Rogers influenced greatly. When I was finished, I included him in the acknowledgements. How could I not?

I think back to that eight-year-old Dorothy who thought she was too old and too cool for Mr. Rogers. I see now that I was too young and too unwise to appreciate the creative and loving genius behind the cardigan sweater.

— Dorothy



## spring

Here we go,  
Time flies past,  
We hope no more snow,  
Then spring will be a blast!

It is hard to say  
About the weather,  
But for Earth Day  
We hope it is better!

In our Twin Cities  
We ought to be thankful;  
No major calamities,  
And we can still get our tank full!

We hope that travelling less  
Needy cars will be in the mix,  
And on Earth Day  
We will still find cars to fix!

Stop by to see us,  
No matter what your ride,  
And if you need us  
We will fix your car with pride!

— Mark & The QC Crew



**Quality Coaches Auto Repair**

38th & Nicollet Ave  
(612) 824-4155 • Quality-Coaches.com

**All makes. All models. Free loaner vehicles.**



## Hill & Lake Press Photographer Tim Sheridan Celebrates 40 Years of Spring Training with the Cubs!

By Craig Wilson, Editor

*Craig Wilson is the editor of the Hill & Lake Press. He lives in Lowry Hill.*

Hill & Lake Press photographer Tim Sheridan, a resident of Cedar-Isles-Dean, spent the month of March doing something he's done for the past forty years — announcing baseball games for the Chicago Cubs.

Sheridan landed the position as the Cubs' spring training public address announcer in Mesa, Arizona while still in college in 1983. According to Tim, "It's hard to believe this is my fortieth consecutive season. It's like I went on spring break one semester and somehow got to keep going every year since."

A Minneapolis native, Tim was raised to be a Twins fan, but his family moved to Arizona during his high school years. It was while he was attending college in Arizona that a professor posed the question to his broadcasting class that changed his life: "Who wants to help out at Cubs' spring training?"

A quick hand raise resulted in Tim landing at the Cubs' old spring training venue in Hohokam Park, Arizona in 1984. That was a momentous season for the Cubs, reaching the postseason for the first time since 1945.

As Tim describes, "Arizona didn't have a Major League team back then and while I was certainly still a Twins fan, getting to sit next to Cubs' legendary broadcaster Harry Caray that first spring and then being able to watch the Cubs afternoon games on cable WGN TV, cemented me as a Cubs fan forevermore."

Tim recounts a unique experience as a young P.A. announcer: "One of my duties was to introduce and then hand my microphone to Harry Caray to sing the 7th inning stretch. Back then, the Cubs only broadcast about six TV games a spring. So, when Harry wasn't announcing, like many fans, he sat in the stands and enjoyed some beers. After seven innings of sun and brew, Harry would make his way up to the press box to sing 'Take Me Out To The Ball Game.' Putting it nicely, that often proved adventurous."

The Cubs position also helped Tim live out some of his childhood Minnesota Twins dreams, such as interviewing Kirby Puckett, talking hitting techniques with Rod Carew, hanging out with Dave Winfield, and playing baseball for a team managed by Harmon Killebrew.

Other highlights include meeting singing cowboy and former Angels owner Gene Autry, palling with actor Bill Murray, singing along with Pearl Jam front man and Cubs fan Eddie Vedder, and holding Cubs pitching legend Fergie Jenkin's Medal of Canada in his hands.

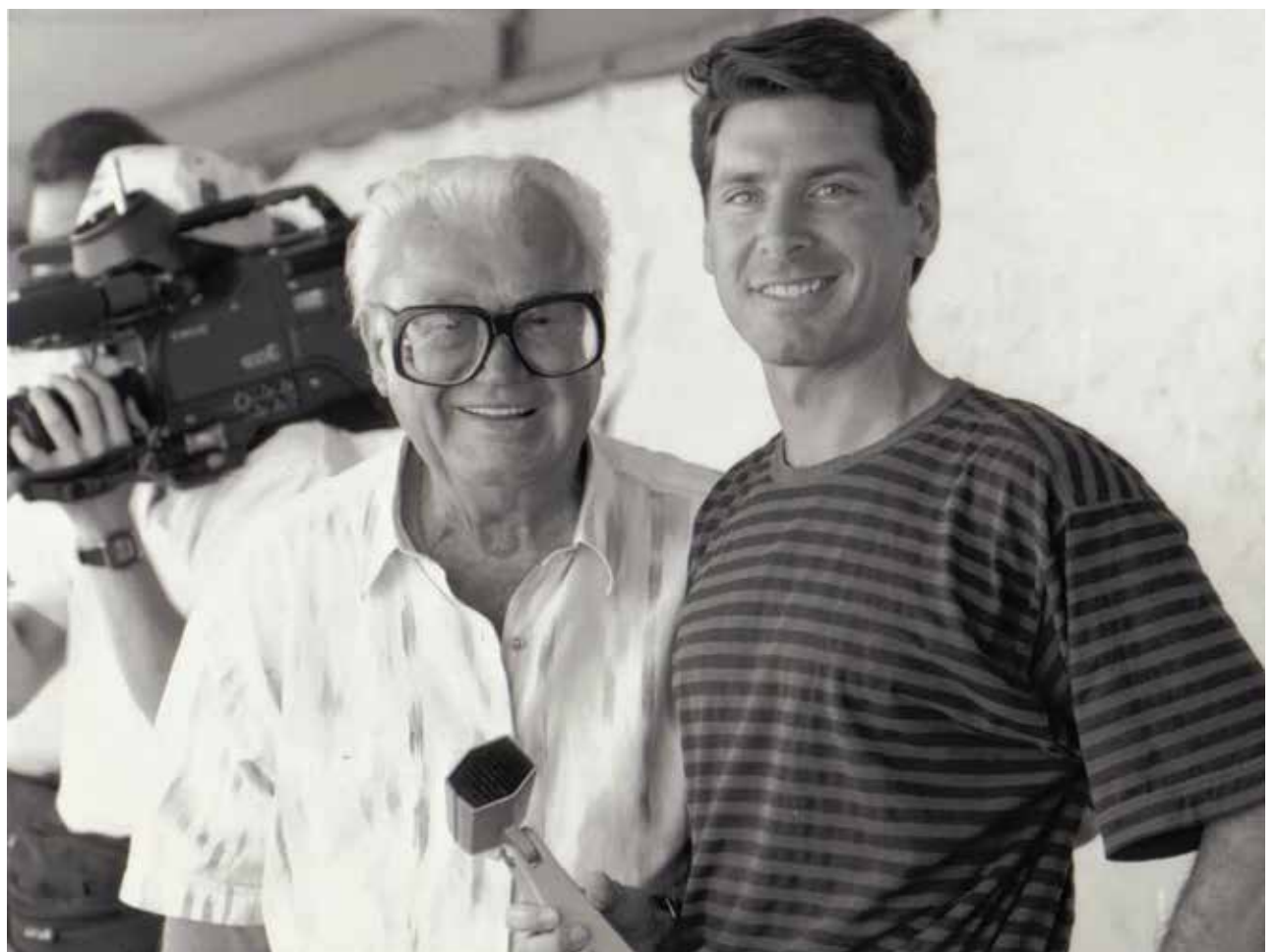
Asked to pinpoint one special moment in his spring training years, Tim pronounced, "Honestly, I love baseball, but it's really the people I've met during my four decades that have made it special and I'm talking about fans and co-workers who have become good friends. A Cubs buddy of mine proposed to his girlfriend on my P.A. mic about thirty years ago, they are married with four amazing kids. Those are truly special moments!"

The Cubs have recognized Tim's service, giving him the opportunity to announce the Twins vs. the Cubs at Wrigley Field on September 22, 2021. The Cubs also presented him with a World Series ring after their historic 2016 World Series Championship.

Reflecting back, Tim says, "It's been one heck of an annual spring break."



(Photos Tim Sheridan)



Harry Caray and Tim Sheridan (Photo Chicago Cubs)