



Hill & Lake Press

‘Where the biggies leave off...’

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

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Loppet Foundation Welcomes the World to Theodore Wirth Park

By Christopher “Coach Pub” Johnson

“The European team members and their fans said they’d never seen anything like our volunteer corps anywhere on the tour.”

Christopher “Coach Pub” Johnson is a Cedar-Isles-Dean resident and former Nordic coach at South-west High School in Minneapolis.

Minneapolis was a shining star on February 17 and 18 when the Loppet Foundation and Theodore Wirth Park hosted The Loppet Cup, a prestigious World Cup Nordic race. More than 180 world-class athletes from 18 nations competed in nearly idyllic conditions, in front of an estimated 40,000 spectators.

The FIS Cross-Country World Cup is an annual competition, coordinated by the International Ski Federation (FIS) since 1981. There are a total of 18 races held at nine different host sites around the world. This year the season ends in mid-March in Scandinavia, where the athletes with the most points will win the overall World Cup — a nine-kilogram crystal globe.

Hosting the World Cup was years in the making.

Originally scheduled to be held in 2020, it was cancelled at the last minute due to Covid. Fast forward to 2024 and Minneapolis was once again center stage. The last World Cup held in the U.S. was in 2001 at Soldier Hollow, Utah.

However, the record-setting warm weather presented quite a challenge to the Loppet Cup organizers. Fortunately, about ten years ago the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and the Loppet Foundation implemented a sophisticated snow-making system so the park can ensure skiable terrain regardless of annual snowfall. Two feet of artificial snow base was laid down on the five-kilometer course. Twenty-eight truckloads of snow were hauled in from the Bloomington ski jump to fill the low spots. Insulated blankets were used to cover south-facing sections.

When seven inches of powder snow arrived on Thursday it was icing on the cake, or at least more snow on the course, and the stage was set for a great race in a picture-perfect park.



Jesse Diggins, Minnesota native and top ranked female skier in the world receiving encouragement during the sprint race warmups. (Photo Christopher Johnson)



Gus Schumacher, of Team USA, on his last climb up the old sledding hill at Wirth Park on his way to a historic victory! (Photo Christopher Johnson)



Young skiers glittered up and ready to cheer for Jessie. (Photo Susan Lenfestey)



Fans arrived from around the world. (Photo Christopher Johnson)



Coach Pub being interviewed by the Norwegian press. (Photo Susan Lenfestey)



Press conference with Team USA's Julia Kern, Jesse Diggins, Rosie Brennen and JC Schoonmaker. (Photo Susan Lenfestey)

Hill & Lake neighbor Steve Kotvis was chosen to oversee an international corps of 300 print and video photographers. They told him that the setting was so beautiful that there was not one bad angle.

The work on the course did not go unnoticed.

Julia Kern of the USA team commented, “I’m so amazed with how the Loppet has been able to

prepare the courses. The grooming was impeccable today. I spoke to other athletes on other teams; they were blown away by the course conditions.”

Athletes also noted the infectious enthusiasm of the spectators. “The crowds and the energy here was like none other we’ve felt on the World Cup circuit,” said Austrian athlete Lukas Mrkonjic. “We’ve enjoyed our time here. It’s been a great experience.”

In the end it’s about the race, and Gus Schumacher of the USA team stunned the athletic field and exhilarated the crowd with a historic victory in the men’s ten-kilometer freestyle race on Sunday.

Team Norway is a force in Nordic skiing, and the last time the U.S. men earned first place at a World Cup event was in 1983 when Bill Koch won in Anchorage, Alaska. This was Schumacher’s first major

Continued on page 9



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.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Our goal is to offer readers diverse perspectives on newsworthy events or issues of broad public concern to the Hill & Lake community. Our copy limit is 300 words and we reserve the right to edit for clarity and length.

Council Member Katie Cashman's Call for a Cease-fire and Divestment from Israel

There have been two letters to the editor recently regarding Ward 7 Council Member Katie Cashman's vote for a cease-fire in Gaza, each focusing on different aspects of the current crisis. I was surprised that neither mentioned anything about Gaza.

The October 7 attack by Hamas that killed 1,200 Israelis was horrifying and tragic, as Cashman has acknowledged, full stop. We have to also talk about the collective punishment in Gaza that has occurred since.

Israel has killed 29,000 Palestinians, including 12,300 children, 340 medical staff, 158 UN staff and 127 journalists. Ten children a day are losing one or both legs. Over 17,000 children have become orphans. Schools, hospitals, ambulances, entire residential blocks, areas that Israel deemed were "safe zones" — all bombed. The entire population of Gaza is currently classified as experiencing a crisis level of food insecurity with half experiencing conditions characterized by "extreme lack of food, starvation,

and exhaustion of coping capacities".

You may not agree with Cashman's support of a cease-fire, but it is what the majority of Americans support, as well as major humanitarian organizations like Amnesty International and Doctors without Borders, and the vast majority of the international community.

We cannot conflate Hamas with Gaza and/or Palestinian civilians. We cannot confuse supporting a cease-fire to protect civilian life with antisemitism. We cannot confuse being silenced with being uncomfortable. And we cannot weaponize feminism or LGBTQ+ rights to help justify Israel's actions. As a queer female, I would argue that what is far worse for the women, girls and queer community in Gaza experiencing oppression, is being outright killed, which over 15,000 have.

Both Jews and Palestinians deserve dignity and safety. What's happening in Gaza can't possibly be how we get there.

*SJ (Shannon) Conk
Bryn Mawr*

The Mayor's Veto of the Cease-fire Resolution

I write to express my strong support for Mayor Frey's recent decision to veto the divisive "cease-fire" resolution passed by the Minneapolis City Council. In a time where unity and inclusivity are paramount, Mayor Frey's leadership is commendable and aligns with the vision our city needs.

The goal of our City Council should be to provide leadership that promotes a unifying, inclusive and

representative vision for Minneapolis. Unfortunately, the recently passed "cease-fire" resolution did just the opposite. It's refreshing to see Mayor Frey prioritize the well-being of our community over divisive measures.

In a city as diverse as ours, fostering understanding and collaboration should be at the forefront of our leaders' agenda. Mayor Frey's veto reflects a commitment to these principles and sends a positive message about the kind of city we aspire to be.

As residents, we appreciate Mayor Frey's dedication to creating an environment where diversity is embraced, and all voices are heard. It is my hope that our City Council continues to work towards policies that unite us and contribute to the betterment of our great city.

*Alex Fisher
Page*

Landmark Home's Fall

Such a sad article in the February issue, really just left me with the feeling the 'rich take care of the rich.' Our forefathers (I mean fathers) really set themselves up, didn't they? Besides this, all the redlining and other neighborhood limitations.

So, the rest of us have to suffer for one individual person. The US has really tipped to individualism, hasn't it?

Again, appreciate the article.

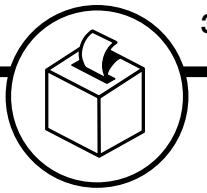
"We grow in life as long as we are interested." — Eleanor Roosevelt

*Calleen de Oliveria
East Bde Maka Ska*



Valentine's Day storm, Bde Maka Ska (Photos Tim Sheridan)





REP. FRANK HORNSTEIN ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT: MARKS END OF AN ERA

By Craig Wilson, Editor

“I have had the privilege of working with Rep. Hornstein for more than 20 years. His commitment to public service, intellect on policy issues and collaboration with those with whom he agreed — and most important those he disagreed with — is what made him so successful in office for so long. His tactful sense of humor and kindness towards everyone he worked with will be hard to replace. Best wishes to my dear friend as he moves on to the next stage of his life and career — it’s possible to do meaningful work after elected office too.”

— LISA GOODMAN,
FORMER WARD 7 COUNCIL MEMBER



Rep. Frank Hornstein (Photo State of Minnesota)

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

In an unexpected turn, Representative Frank Hornstein of District 61A, a stalwart figure within the Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DFL) party, announced his retirement from politics on February 16.

With this decision, Hornstein is bidding farewell to an illustrious 11-term career in the Minnesota House of Representatives, where he was known for his commitment to a range of critical issues through his service on commit-

tees including Transportation Finance and Policy, Ways and Means, Climate and Energy Finance and Policy, and Sustainable Infrastructure Policy.

Throughout his tenure, Rep. Hornstein has had an outsized role in shaping policies crucial to Minnesota's development and sustainability. His experience as a college instructor, and his academic background, with a bachelor's degree in environmental studies from Macalester College and an master's degree in urban and environmental policy from Tufts University, undoubtedly informed his legislative agenda, particularly in championing initiatives related to climate change mitigation, transportation infrastructure and sustainable energy.

Rep. Hornstein's leadership as the chair of such key committees has been instrumental in shaping Minnesota's present and future. His deep understanding of environmental issues and their intersection with urban policy positioned him as a voice of reason in the legislative arena, garnering respect from colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

As we bid farewell to Rep. Hornstein, we recognize the void his departure will leave in Minnesota's political landscape. His dedication to public service and his constituents has set a high bar for future leaders. We extend our gratitude to Rep. Frank Hornstein for his years of tireless service, and we wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

HILL & LAKE PRESS WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND THANKS DEPARTING ONES

By Mike Erlandson, Board Chair

Mike Erlandson is the board chair of the Hill & Lake Press and lives in East Isles.

Hill & Lake Press, Inc., a 501(c)(3) Minnesota nonprofit, is pleased to announce the addition of Brian Lucas, Dominic Saucedo and Andy Schwarm to its board of directors.

Brian Lucas, who grew up in the community and resides in Kenwood with his family, brings a background in communications and journalism.

Dominic Saucedo, who lives in East Isles with his family, brings expertise in creative writing and digital marketing. He spent his formative years in Los Angeles and Oregon, and was motivated to volunteer following the footsteps of his mother who worked for a local paper.

Andy Schwarm, resides in Lowry Hill with his family and brings a wealth of experience in business and finance. He hails from Illinois and has a familial connection to community journalism, as his mother also worked for a local paper and he sees the benefit of community news and wanted to help. He will serve as treasurer.

Departing from the board are Win Rockwell, a founding member of the Hill & Lake Press and a recent president of the board; Janet Hallaway, also a recent president; Phil Hallaway, who recently served as treasurer; and Chas Scheiderer, a board member who developed the paper's budget. Each of these members played an important role in the successful transition of the paper to its status today as a 501(c)(3).

The Hill & Lake Press extends its gratitude to these dedicated volunteers for their tireless commitment to delivering news to our community, "...where the biggies leave off."



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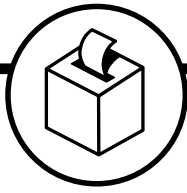
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Rep. Frank Hornstein Retires: These Candidates Want to Replace Him

By Craig Wilson, Editor

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

On Feb. 16, just 11 days before the DFL caucuses, Rep. Frank Hornstein, a stalwart figure in Minnesota politics, announced that he would not seek re-election to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 2024.

With Hornstein's announcement, attention now turns to the race to fill his seat. Thus far four candidates have announced their intent to run for

his seat and to try to secure the DFL endorsement.

We reached out to each candidate to hear directly from them about why they are running. We asked the candidates to limit their response to 300 words. Here's what they had to say in their own words:



Katie Jones (Photo Alice Gao)

Katie Jones

For the first time in 22 years, residents of District 61A will choose a new leader to represent us in the Minnesota House of Representatives after Rep. Frank Hornstein recently announced his retirement.

Rep. Hornstein, or Frank to so many of us, has become a beloved fixture in our community as well as inside the Capitol. He will leave behind a legacy that has made our state more accessible and inclusive through his transformative transit funding and his outspoken voice for civil rights and human dignity.

Frank has been a personal mentor of mine for years — we worked together on climate and transportation policies that have now made Minnesota a national leader and model for the Midwest. I decided to run for this seat because as climate change and extremism continue to pose an existential threat to us all, there is so much more work for us to do for our city and state.

Our community has an incredible opportunity ahead of us as we determine our next generation of leadership at the legislature. As I talk with our neighbors, I hear concerns about climate change, racial and gender justice, public safety, housing, education and struggling business nodes in downtown and Uptown. These are all issues we need to address.

As an engineer, I solve tough problems every day. With a decade of experience serving on bodies including city and state committees and on the Wedge Neighborhood board, I've shown that I can deliver results. I want to fix what's not working, consider the structural issues behind them, and co-create durable solutions.

I hope to continue to bring the community-centered leadership Frank has inspired in so many of us as we boldly tackle the urgent challenges of this moment, and work together to build a more just, resilient and thriving Minnesota.



Dylan McMahon (Photo Chelsey Dively)

Dylan McMahon

I believe that community service and engagement is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy and thriving community. I've served on neighborhood organization boards, on the city's Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee, and as chair of Senate District 61 DFL. I am running because I have the policy knowledge and leadership experience to confront the issues that plague our community and state. I have three priorities:

Economic Recovery. Minneapolis is the economic engine of the state, and District 61A covers both downtown and Uptown. Empty storefronts and vacant offices aren't just headlines. Small businesses that make our communities walkable, workable and affordable need certainty from their political representatives before taking a risk. This issue is bigger than just 61A, and I want to champion this area in the legislature and entertain every idea to bring economic life back to Minneapolis.

Health Care. My older brother was severely handicapped and often in the hospital for the first half of my life. The only reason my working-class family avoided bankruptcy, and thrived, was due to negotiated union health benefits. I support the expansion of MinnesotaCare currently being heard in the legislature. I also support 1115 waivers to ensure that our justice-involved neighbors don't lose their access to medical assistance once no longer incarcerated and expanding benefits to include spending on housing. A housing-first approach has proven to be an early intervention that drives better health outcomes.

Housing. Everything starts with housing. Stable housing directly impacts the ability to live a healthy and productive life. The Twin Cities Metro is short about 80,000 housing units according to Up For Growth in 2022. Not all of this will be built in 61A. In fact, most of the construction happens in our first ring suburbs. Big apartment buildings are the most visible, but there are many more solutions to increasing density and creating housing. I hope to earn your support at the February 27 caucuses and March 23 Convention.



Isabel Rolfes (Photo Molly Burns-Hansen)

Isabel Rolfes

My name is Isabel Rolfes, and I am running for House District 61A.

With my experience at the State Capitol over the last three legislative sessions, I have gained the skills to pass transformational policy to deliver for our community.

As the Legislative Assistant to Majority Leader Jamie Long, I played a key role in engaging community, experts and stakeholders on issues that are most important to Minnesotans. My top priorities are:

Supporting our public schools. Fully funding our public schools to pre-Pawlenty levels so every student can succeed. Schools can't thrive without teachers. When we invest in them, we invest in our kids.

Investing in policy that combats climate change to protect our future generations. This means monitoring the implementation of the 100% carbon-free energy bill and keeping our promises to Minnesotans for a clean future.

Investing in our small businesses that are the backbone of our community. We have seen the density of Uptown rise, but we haven't seen the return of foot traffic on Hennepin. It's time we invest in our local businesses so everyone in 61A has access to what they need to thrive.

Having grown up in rural Minnesota, I learned about the variety of struggles people can face. In my time at the Capitol, I have been able to use that experience to build meaningful relationships with people on all sides of the political spectrum, Democrat and Republican. I know that no piece of legislation is passed alone, but is done through collaboration. And I know how to collaborate.

I am the candidate who has the experience passing a wide array of transformative legislation that helps all Minnesotans thrive. If elected I vow to engage meaningfully with the people of 61A and to amplify their voices and needs at the Capitol.

Please visit IsabelForHouse.com to learn more.



Will Stancil (Photo James McFeeters)

Will Stancil

I'm Will Stancil and I'm running to be your next state representative.

We need more prosperous cities, safer communities and accountable government. Minneapolis and Minnesota face intimidating challenges, but we also have significant resources and extraordinary potential. My campaign is about working with neighbors to get stuff done.

I'm a lawyer and a civil rights expert at the University of Minnesota. As a fifteen-year resident of Lowry Hill, I love this city and the neighborhoods of this district. I serve on the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association board and a federal civil rights committee. I've worked with city officials, federal leaders, suburban mayors and national civil rights advocates.

As your legislator, my core focus would be urban prosperity in Minneapolis and the Twin Cities, achieved through the restoration of public safety and commercial vitality. I'd seek to reform the Met Council's unaccountable governance structure, so the council could focus on its true historic mandate: limiting sprawl, revitalizing growth in areas of intensely concentrated poverty and ensuring that wealthy suburban cities do their fair share to provide affordable housing.

I'll work with anyone and everyone, as long as they share core values like tolerance and respect for democracy. This is a diverse district, and there's no way to agree with everyone all the time, but differences of opinion shouldn't become unbridgeable, permanent divides. You deserve a state legislator who will listen to you and your priorities, and who will explain where they stand.

I'm not afraid of numbers or policy details, and I'm also not afraid to fight on principle when necessary. I've spent my life and career working to build a fairer, more prosperous society where government works, everyone can feel included and everyone can feel safe. As your representative, my top priority would be serving you in this same way.

Caucus Cacophony Turns Symphonic

By Susan Lenfestey

“And while it seemed like it would be impossible to conduct two caucuses in one school lunchroom, the seasoned convener was able to steer both groups through the procedural steps required by law and the new convener read greetings from party leaders with verve and good humor.”

Susan Lenfestey lives in Lowry Hill and is a regular contributor to the Hill & Lake Press. She co-founded the paper in 1976 and serves on its board of directors.

The DFL Ward 7-Precinct 3, commonly referred to as 7-3, caucus on Feb. 27 was the usual blend of neighborly bonhomie and chaos, although far more of the former.

It was held this year at Kenwood School, which is in 7-2, but this year the school played host to 7-3 (Lowry Hill) and 7-4 (Cedar-Isles-Dean) and others. The conveners — one experienced, one a newbie — had arrived to find the school was locked, but somehow the principal was contacted, and the school magically opened.

7-3 and 7-4 met in the school cafeteria. And while it seemed like it would be impossible to conduct two caucuses in one school lunchroom, the seasoned convener was able to steer both groups through the procedural steps required by law and the new

convener read greetings from party leaders with verve and good humor. We do know how to get along!

We were there to elect delegates to the city convention (school board only this year) and to the Senate District convention, where at least four candidates are vying for the seat being vacated by State Rep. Frank Hornstein. Each of them, Dylan McMahon, Will Stancil, Katie Jones and Isabel Rolfes, spoke to the group.

Katie Jones appeared to be the most politically experienced, with volunteers wearing Katie Cashman T-shirts, the Cashman part covered by tape and Jones written in, handing out literature. The other candidates handed out their own literature, no apparent volunteers or T-shirts. All four spoke well and have impressive backgrounds. Their next stop? The Senate District convention at Washburn High School on March 23, where the candidates will vie for the DFL endorsement. After that comes the primary election on August 13.

After hearing from the candidates, attendees split into separate caucuses to elect delegates. Because there were more slots open for delegates than people who wanted to be delegates, there was no contest. Delegates are allotted based on turnout at the previous caucus. Our precincts always have a high turnout, so we get a lot of delegates. I believe last night that number for 7-3 was 47.

On the 7-3 side of the room there were only two resolutions. In truth, they were very hard to hear given the general din in the room, so this is a rough recap. One had to do with protecting free speech on campuses and it passed. The second one called for the state of Minnesota to condemn genocide and divest from Israel. It did not pass.

Our work in 7-3 was done, so I crossed the aisle to listen to the resolutions being presented in 7-4. I only heard the last two. One called for the city to conduct an Environmental Impact Statement

of the Minneapolis 2040 Plan and for the legislature to oppose efforts to exempt Minneapolis from Minnesota Environmental Rights Act. The other one called for making reform of the Met Council a top priority of the 2024 session. Both passed.

And with that it was a wrap. We tidied up and walked out into the blustery frigid night, our civic duty done, for now.



Pictured clockwise from top left - Katie Jones, Dylan McMahon, Will Stancil and Isabel Rolfes. (Photos Susan Lenfestey)

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Weekend Crime Spree Starts With Attack on Kenwood Teen

By Marty Carlson

“Noting Sydney’s hesitation, the woman in the ski mask said, ‘Give us the passcode or we’ll put you in the car and shoot you!’”

Marty Carlson is a regular contributor to the Hill & Lake Press. He lives in Kenwood.

A crime wave swept South Minneapolis over the weekend of February 9, with the Hill and Lake area and Uptown being particularly hard-hit.

Crimes included armed robbery, carjacking, car thefts, and thefts from cars, with at least 17 different “robbery” crimes being reported in the Fifth Precinct alone between Friday and Sunday. Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O’Hara described the spree as “absolutely outrageous.”

While the numbers alone may be shocking, there’s a story behind each of them. One of the first victims of the weekend crime wave was Sydney, an eighteen-year-old high school senior who moved with her family to the Kenwood neighborhood in 2022.

Obviously precocious, Sydney is already engaged with and giving back to the community, working with children as a staff member at the Kenwood Community Center, and serving as youth representative on the board of the Kenwood Neighborhood Organization. She hopes to attend the University of Minnesota in the fall.

Sydney’s shift at the Rec Center ended at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 9. Not suspecting anything out of the ordinary, she began her usual walk home, casually carrying her phone in her hand. When she reached 21st Street, between Penn and Queen, she noticed a red sedan slow behind her and gradually pull to a stop.

A young man in a hoodie exited the car and began walking behind her, initially at a distance. Sydney says she was alert at this point but not panicked, but in very short order the young man ran up behind her, brushed her shoulder and grabbed her phone, then jumped back into the red sedan, which had pulled ahead of them.

At this point, Sydney was more shocked than scared. As the red car approached Kenwood Parkway, she saw a white Kia® pull in front of it. Both cars turned north on the Parkway, and she heard them accelerate. As the reality of what had happened set in, Sydney picked up her pace, crossing the Parkway and hoping to make the two blocks home without further incident. No such luck. Within moments both cars returned and slowed alongside her.

At this point, it’s important to pause and acknowledge the truism that everyone has something in life to deal with. In Sydney’s case, that “something” is a mild case of cerebral palsy, primarily affecting the muscles on the right side of her body.

She says the condition has impacted her life significantly. It makes simple tasks hard, and she was teased quite a bit when younger, but she also believes that working to overcome this adversity has made her the person she is today. That being said, she walks with a perceptible limp, and she walks rather than drives because her right-side muscle issues aren’t terribly compatible with right-side automotive controls like accelerators and shifters.

This overlay made what happened next all the more galling.

As the cars pulled alongside Sydney, they slowed before stopping, and a young woman yelled out “walk faster!” Sydney isn’t entirely sure whether this was a crack at her limp or perhaps an effort to herd her towards a darker portion of the street, but regardless she was scared and outnumbered. She could see at least two people in the white Kia, and there

were at least three in the red sedan.

In short order the cars stopped, and the young man in the hoodie hopped back out of the red sedan with Sydney’s phone, followed by a young woman in a black ski mask. Sydney could see her phone was lit up, and the young woman yelled, “What’s the passcode?” Sydney gave her the first four digits, but hesitated on the last two, mindful that the phone held most of her digital life.

Noting Sydney’s hesitation, the woman in the ski mask said, “Give us the passcode or we’ll put you in the car and shoot you!” Sydney gave up the last two digits, the young man in the hoodie confirmed that they worked, and Sydney’s assailants hopped back into their car, and both cars drove off.

Sydney called 911 as soon as she got home and says she’s grateful to the Park Police officer who responded promptly, saying he was concerned, compassionate and helped her feel safe. Through another device at home, she was able to remotely track her phone, first locating it at Bde Maka Ska, and last locating it as it was heading north before she remotely wiped it.

Sydney says it’s still hard to wrap her brain around what happened but feels lucky to have escaped physical violence. She says it’s made her “smarter,” in her words, more conscious of the steps she needs to take to avoid future incidents (i.e., don’t carry your phone in the open), but she also has moments when it’s jarring to think of the young woman in the ski mask, apparently about her own age, threatening to take her life over a cell phone.

As noted, Sydney’s attack was simply the leading edge of a weekend-long crime spree in the area. That same day there was a carjacking in the East Isles neighborhood, with a rash of robberies and car thefts following on Saturday and Sunday.

The perpetrators appeared to be primarily teens or young

adults, and in all but three of the incidents, the attackers showed or implied a handgun. Several juvenile suspects have been arrested, while others remain at large. Most of the incidents took place in the Fifth Precinct, where robbery crimes are up 149% for the year.

The crime spree also prompted reaction from local officials. Police Chief Brian O’Hara announced the implementation of a new robbery protocol, in which all available officers will be pulled from non-emergency duties in the event of future outbreaks.

In a separate report from KARE-11, the chief also appeared to take aim at Hennepin County Attorney Mary Moriarity’s treatment of juvenile offenders, noting “[w]e are providing negative reinforcement when we are engaging in catch and release, catch and release. We’re almost encouraging them to do this.”

Reaction from Council Member Katie Cashman

Ward 7 Council Member Katie Cashman also appears to have received a significant number of citizen emails. On Feb. 13, she sent an email of her own to constituents, noting a number of common-sense steps that residents can take to discourage crime. In addition, she listed eight policy steps that the City Council should pursue.

Number one was an expansion of the downtown ambassador program into Uptown, which she said would provide union labor. Dead last, at number eight, was more money for actual cops, which she tied to “accountability measures” apparently above and beyond those in the department’s new consent decree.



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Everyone's Entitled to my Opinion: Two Faces of a City

By Susan Lenfestey



On Feb 1, a stolen car was driven at high speed through Lowry Hill and ultimately crashed into a house on Irving Avenue South in East Isles. The driver fled the scene leaving a gun and damaged property in the aftermath. (Photo Craig Wilson)

Susan Lenfestey is a regular columnist and founder and current board member of the Hill & Lake Press. She lives in Lowry Hill.

Like the Roman god Janus, our city has two faces, a beautiful World Cup-worthy face, and an ugly crime-ridden face.

On February 4 we basked in the afterglow of the Luminary Loppet, brought to us by hundreds of volunteers who create an annual festival of fire and ice on and around Lake of the Isles.

Two weeks later the Loppet Foundation hosted the Nordic World Cup in Wirth Park, and visitors from all over the world marveled at our winter wonderland of a city.

But on the intervening weekend roughly 45 serious crimes were reported in the city, most of them involving guns, many of them in the 5th Precinct and our Hill & Lake neighborhoods. And on the second day of the World Cup races we learned that two police officers and a firefighter paramedic had been shot to death in Burnsville.

Where is our city leadership?

It is past time for those on the City Council who have opposed

higher pay for police officers to deal with that second face, and the reality of our public safety crisis.

Our police force is down by one-third, with roughly 580 officers now compared to 892 in 2018. Some 130 officers are eligible to retire in the next two years.

Recruitment efforts are falling short, and with good reason.

The starting pay for a Minneapolis police officer is roughly \$71,000, ranked eighteenth statewide in the state's largest city with a population of 430,000 people. Blaine, population 70,000, ranks first at \$93,000. In Minneapolis, many officers work multiple shifts to make ends meet.

And as we've seen, the job is increasingly dangerous, with shootings of police officers in Minnesota rising from ten incidents in 2019 to 59 incidents in 2023. There is also the chance that a decision made in the blink of an eye will cost your career and earn you a prison sentence. (To be clear, I am not talking about the abhorrent racist behavior of some on the force, but I reject tarring them all with the same brush.)

As a society we need to address the lack of hope facing the young people who are committing these crimes. But as a city we need to keep all our residents and visitors — and police officers — safe. That is the number one job of local government.

Given the ideological drift of the current City Council toward a progressive agenda, how do we stand up for the majority of Minneapolitans who want pragmatic solutions to the serious problems facing our city?

Can we learn from Portland?

Maybe it's time to create a lobby for common sense, modeled on People for Portland. Before you laugh, read on.

"We are ... a voice for Portlanders to take action to rescue our broken city. Our goal is to push elected officials . . . to solve the biggest problems facing Portland: ending inhumane, unsanctioned public camping, restoring safety to our streets and neighborhoods, and cleaning up the trash and graffiti of our once beautiful city."

There may be downsides, but it seems worth a deeper look.

Janus had one face focused on the past and one on the future. He presided over the beginning and the ending of conflict. May the force — and the city of Minneapolis — be with him!



Hill & Lake Press

The 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)



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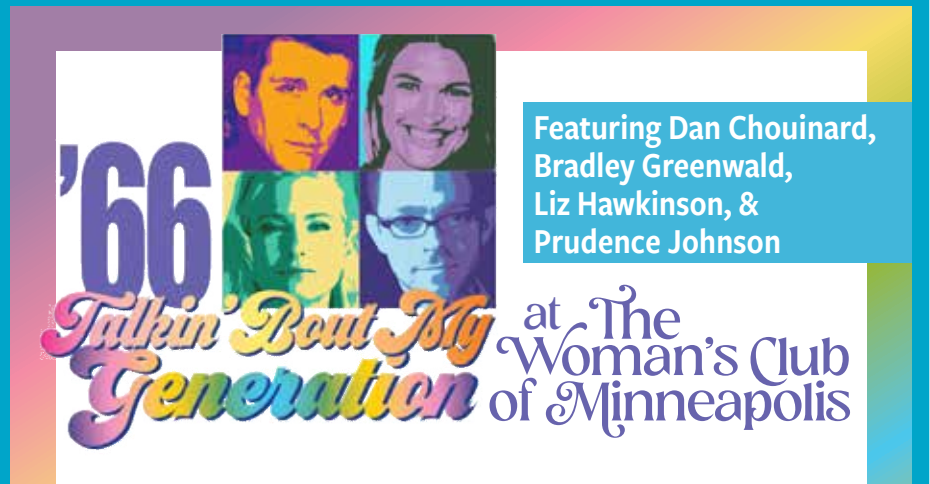
The Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA), needs volunteers to serve on the Board for the upcoming year (May 2024 - May 2025). The board's success depends on the participation of residents who contribute ideas and time to our governance and projects. Please join us!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- March 13, 6PM: Board meeting
- March 20, 7PM: Environmental Committee meeting
- March 27, 7PM: Communications Committee meeting
- May 8: CIDNA Annual meeting
- May 11: Neighborhoods Day

Scan the QR code below to complete the Board Nomination Form

Featuring Dan Chouinard, Bradley Greenwald, Liz Hawkinson, & Prudence Johnson

'66 Talkin' Bout My Generation at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis

Friday, March 22, 7:30 pm

'66 — *Talkin' Bout My Generation* is a wild, rocking musical journey through the cultural and political events of the pivotal year 1966. Go into the studios of radio station WCOM as intrepid announcers offer up the year's local and world news, a call-in trivia program, authentic advertisements, Irma Kvetchovik's "Advice for Modern Living," and a whole lot of fabulous songs. Written and performed by vocalists Bradley Greenwald and Prudence Johnson and pianist Dan Chouinard, with special guest vocalist Liz Hawkinson.

Songs include "Monday Monday," "Sound of Silence," "God Only Knows," "I Remember," "Draft Dodger Rag," "Ain't That Peculiar," "Summer in the City," and more.

"With...Greenwald and Johnson we are talking about... superb vocalists who not only sing with beautifully lush voices but create a whole character in every song."

Arthur Dorman, *Talkin Broadway*

Information & reservations at womansclub.org or 612.813.5300
The Woman's Club of Minneapolis 410 Oak Grove Street Minneapolis



LOWRY HILL NEWS – March 2024

THANKS FOR JOINING US!

January was a busy month in Lowry Hill. Neighbors joined us at Sebastian Joe's instead of a walk on January 20 when temperatures were below zero. Good coffee and good conversation were had.

On January 26 we held a well-attended Neighborhood Safety Meeting at Kenwood Community Center. Lowry Hill joined East Isles and Kenwood in hosting Mayor Jacob Frey, Ward 7 City Council Member Katie Cashman, MPD Assistant Chief of Operations Katie Blackwell, and others, to focus on issues regarding public safety.

Our January 28 Winter Party with East Isles and Kenwood was also a success, in spite of closed skating rinks due to warm temperatures. We gathered around Lake of the Isles, greeted neighbors, relaxed by the fire, and shared hot cocoa and puppy dog tails from Isles Bun & Coffee. Great to see you!

MARCH WALKING CLUB

Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Meet at Sebastian Joe's

Join us for a friendly walk around the neighborhood! This is a great way to stay active and get outside, meet neighbors, pick up litter, and build community. Walk begins at Sebastian Joe's.

APRIL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 2, from 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Kenwood Community Center

All residents are welcome. If you have questions or would like to be on the agenda, please email us at lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org.



SCAN HERE
TO DONATE

Thank you for your generous support.

Sign up for the LHNA email newsletter at lowryhillneighborhood.org

LOPPET FOUNDATION WELCOMES THE WORLD, Front page



Minneapolis accomplishes huge wins with the World Cup and Loppet in the winter that almost wasn't. (Photo Susan Lenfestey)

win on the World Cup circuit, right here in Minneapolis! Schumacher now lives in Anchorage, but has roots in Wisconsin, and his family joined him in celebrating his historic win.

Jessie Diggins, who is currently in first place in the World Cup competition, placed fourth in the freestyle sprint race on Saturday and earned a third-place podium spot at Sunday's ten-kilometer freestyle race. But as Jessie said, her real victory was working with the Loppet Foundation to fulfill her dream to bring a World Cup event to Minnesota, right to our beloved Wirth Park.

**GET OUTSIDE
HAVE FUN**

The Loppet Foundation offers ski rentals and instruction at the Trailhead building on Theodore Wirth Parkway. Learn to ski and you too can glide fast on the same course as the world's best athletes!

The Trailhead
1221 Theodore Wirth Parkway
Minneapolis MN, 55422

East Isles Opposes Park Board's Changes to The Mall Park in Uptown

By Mike Erlandson

"...the master plan should be changed to keep the current street infrastructure as it is today. While expanding this park might make sense, this plan adds no new usable park space to The Mall but does create unsafe traffic patterns and in particular hurts the rental community who live directly on The Mall Park and represent 50% of our neighborhood."

Mike Erlandson is president of the East Isles Neighborhood Association and board chair of the Hill & Lake Press. He lives in East Isles.

The Met Council has a major stormwater project underway in Uptown that could forever change Uptown and East Isles.

The park board is taking the opportunity to leverage the construction to implement changes to a quiet part of Uptown that is resulting in major push-back from the local community.

Very few people have ever heard of The Mall Park, even as they may have walked from end to end the one weekend a year it comes to life, during the Uptown Art Fair.

Today the park functions as a quiet place to walk or sit and offers tree-lined passage from Hennepin Avenue to the Chain of Lakes. It is bordered by rental apartments on the south side and single-family and multi-family homes to the north.

Traffic on the roadway is light, and the street offers parking for those visiting the Walker Library, also located on the park, and for the renters who make up most of the area population and have no off-street parking.

Eliminating Parkway and Adding a Woonerf

The park board's plan would close



The proposed Mall Park from the The Southwest service Area Master Plan. In 2020 the Park Board of Commissioners adopted the Southwest Service Area Master Plan which includes a vision for the future of The Mall Park. Several elements of that plan will be implemented in conjunction with Metropolitan Council Environmental Services' (MCES) sewer construction in 2024. These include a new trail connection to the Midtown Greenway with amenities, a shared-use woonerf, stormwater elements, and some areas of impervious roadway reclaimed for green space. (Photo Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board)

the two westernmost sections of the westbound road, which now connects to the lakes. Users of the road would be able to enter from East Bde Maka Ska Parkway but no longer exit back onto the parkway. Instead, they would be detoured onto Lagoon Avenue, which has blind intersections and high-speed traffic.

The plan also has the park board allocating the bulk of \$479,000 to install a "woonerf." A woonerf is a roadway designed to foster traffic calming. The community criticism has been that while there are areas of the city that might benefit from a woonerf, The Mall Park has no real traffic as it is a dead-end loop.

Community Skepticism

"Much of the confusion in the neighborhood has come from misconceptions around the park board's plans for The Mall Park," said Mark Sloo, who has been actively involved with the community response to the plans. "The plans have changed many times and park board communication has obscured the actual plans for the park all along. For example, the architect-designed plaza adjacent to the Walker Library is still featured on the park board website, however, that plan has been replaced by the woonerf. The elimination of entire sections of the

roadway and parking was also not clearly communicated," added Sloo.

Over 450 neighbors have signed a petition with a link eastisles.org "to have the Park Board reconsider their plan for The Mall Park." The East Isles Neighborhood Association has taken a position against both the woonerf and the closing of a portion of the street.

The community consensus comes from the general belief that The Mall Park could be better for the community with a few enhancements, but the woonerf and road closure add nothing to the area while making it less safe for walkers, bikers and roadway users. Park board surveys were not accessible to many people due to a glitch in the survey system, which prevented the community from being able to express their concerns even though the community is the top decision maker on the organizational chart that governs the park board.

Neighborhood Opposition

A letter to the park board from the East Isles Neighborhood Association states, "We believe the master plan should be changed to keep the current street infrastructure as it is today. While expanding this park might make sense, this plan adds no

new usable park space to The Mall but does create unsafe traffic patterns and in particular hurts the rental community who live directly on The Mall Park and represent 50% of our neighborhood."

On February 20, Park Board Commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer and Board Chair Meg Forney heard from a large group of neighbors who attended the East Isles Board Meeting. Commissioner Shaffer observed, "To keep the road open the Master Plan would have to be amended and that would require more community input." It's worth noting this is something neighbors believe should happen.

Commissioner Forney, who had voted against the closure of the roadway and the woonerf initially, reversed her position after a park historian said the park's "symmetry" had already been breached. The breach took place when the connection to Hennepin Avenue was eliminated years ago. Neighbors were quick to point out that it remains symmetrical today with a complete loop — a loop that will be eliminated when a section of the northwest roadway is closed.

MORE INFO

Please contact your elected officials or visit eastisles.org.

Minneapolis Delivered Winter and Melted Hearts!

Article and Photos by Susan Lenfestey

“...Jessie (Diggins) and the Loppet Foundation and that massive corps of volunteers brought us all a much bigger win. They brought us the World Cup, and with it a reminder of who we can be in this city when we come together to make spectacular things happen.”

Susan Lenfestey lives in Lowry Hill and is a regular contributor to the Hill & Lake Press. She co-founded the paper in 1976 and serves on its board of directors.

What do you do when you want to write about the winter-loving Minnesotans who managed to put on a World Cup Nordic ski race despite an epic thaw, but you know very little about the sport?

You find a neighbor who does. In this case, Chris Johnson, former cross country ski coach at Southwest High, aka Coach Pub.

I would cover the vibe, and Coach Pub would cover the races.

Proudly sporting our Hill & Lake Press credentials, we made our way to the Wirth Park Chalet for the Friday press conference, featuring four members of the USA team including home state hero, Jessie Diggins.

While Coach Pub was paying attention to the skiers and positioning himself to ask good questions, I was sidling up to environmental hero and author (and Birkie skier) Bill McKibben, whom I've met at other climate events. I told him I was covering the races for the Hill & Lake Press. He's a humble man, but he did mumble something about *The New Yorker*.

Being out of my league didn't matter when I arrived on Saturday morning and saw the results of years of persistence and hard work by the Loppet Foundation and the 1,000 volunteers, many of them denizens of Hill & Lake-landia, who had worked on the Luminary Loppet just two weeks earlier.

The volunteers, wearing yellow and blue bibs (whether by chance or choice, the colors of Ukraine) were doing everything from spreading grit on slippery pathways to guiding traffic to sorting garbage, with others providing food and drink in the VIP tent, and still others stationed throughout the park, coordi-

nating media or keeping the course pristine. The European team members and their fans said they'd never seen anything like our volunteer corps anywhere on the tour.

In front of the Trailhead there was a festive vibe, with a variety of food trucks and vendors selling ski garb and fan gear to a throng of exuberant people. Across the street the skiers' tech trailers were secured behind fencing, their windows covered so competitors couldn't see which waxes were being applied to the skis.

Once inside, spectators filled the bleachers near the start-and-finish line, while thousands more spread out over the course to shout encouragement to their favorite skiers. When the races got underway you could hear a roar coming from wherever Jessie Diggins was on the course, like a stadium "wave," only coming from a grove of trees or the top of a hill.

Scattered throughout the park were kids, hundreds of them. Small ones tumbling down the sledding hill oblivious to the athletes gliding by on either side, babies burbling on blankets in the sunshine, 'tweens with a swoosh of biodegradable glitter across their cheekbones, inspired by Jessie Diggins, who may be the Taylor Swift of Nordic skiing. Heck, everyone had glitter on their cheekbones, even

geezers. Everyone was inspired.

And for once, no one was looking at their screens — except for the big one that showed the results — an upset win for Gus Schumacher of the USA Men's team and a solid third for Jessie Diggins of the women's team.

But Jessie and the Loppet Foundation and that massive corps of volunteers brought us all a much bigger win. They brought us the World Cup, and with it a reminder of who we can be in this city when we come together to make spectacular things happen.



East Isles Update

Half our board seats go up for election this spring! Voices from the renter and business communities are encouraged to join the table. Nominate yourself or others online by Apr. 16.

Save the dates for our Apr. 16 Annual Meeting and Apr. 20 Earth Day Cleanup! These are both great ways to meet your neighbors and get involved in East Isles. Monthly Lake Cleanups will start back up again in May.

Safety Walking Club continues to meet bi-monthly. You're invited get to know your neighbors, and put presence on the streets while picking up debris.

The market returns this summer! Re-envisioned as the *Uptown Farmers Market*, 2024 will be a season of pop-up markets across participating neighborhoods, to build toward a weekly market in 2025.

Interested market vendors can submit a contact form, and those keen to volunteer can join our farmers market email list—both available at our website.



eastisles.org/join  

Visit eastisles.org/join to:

- 1 **Donate** to support neighborhood events, resources and opportunities.
- 2 **Subscribe to our news** and follow our social media to get updates on events and resources.
- 3 **Join a Committee** to address green issues, safety, transit and more!



East Isles Board Meeting

Mar. 12 Tuesday, 7 – 9 PM

Grace-Trinity Community Church: 1430 W 28th St

East Isles residents 16+, business owners/lessees, and nonprofit, education and government reps welcome!

East Isles Safety Walking Club

Mar. 17 Sunday, 10 – 11:30 AM

Apr. 6 Saturday, 3:30 – 5 PM

Apr. 21 Sunday, 10 – 11:30 AM

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

Get outside, meet your neighbors, pick up litter and contribute to community safety and spirit!

2024 Annual Meeting

Apr. 16 Tuesday, 6:30 – 9 PM

Grace-Trinity Community Church: 1430 W 28th St

A yearly event to gather together, hear from local leaders and vote for new East Isles board members. Nominate yourself or others now at eastisles.org!

Earth Day Cleanup

Apr. 20 Saturday, 9:30 AM – 12 PM

Check-in: Lake of the Isles footpath, near W 27th St

All Lake of the Isles neighbors are invited! Free cleanup supplies, coffee and treats at check-in.

Dates subject to change—visit eastisles.org for the latest.



Shirley Buchanan, hospitality volunteer.



Carla Pardue, Head of Hospitality.



Robert Mcklveen and Margit Bretzke, hospitality volunteers.



Volunteer Tom Hardel spreading grit.



Andy Williams and Sue Westerman, hospitality volunteers.



Trish Conroy, sustainability and recycling manager volunteer.



Kerry Vermeer, sustainability volunteer.



Hill & Lake Press amongst the "biggies." (Photos Susan Lenfestey)



Laura Lee Moffet, aka "Chili Queen," food lead volunteer in the VIP tent.



Brian Milavetz, infrastructure volunteer.



Clarie Wilson, executive director of the Loppet Foundation, giving a pep talk and offering thanks.

HELP SUPPORT

The Loppet Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose mission is "to connect people to the outdoors through experiences that grow community." To honor their success and support their mission, you can make a donation at loppet.app.neoncrm.com/forms/donate. If you prefer, you can mail a check to:

The Loppet Foundation
 1301 Theodore Wirth Parkway
 Minneapolis MN, 55422

Luminary Loppet: Failure Is Not an Option!

Article by Susan Lenfestey — Photos by Rich Harrison (unless otherwise noted)



The Enchanted Forest. (Photo Terry McDaniel)



Getting started! Ice Wrangler Jen Hedberg saws up donated 300 lb blocks of ice. (Photo Glen Olson)

Susan Lenfestey is a regular columnist and founder and current board member of the Hill & Lake Press. She lives in Lowry Hill.

So said the creators of the Luminary Loppet, when asked how they managed to freeze 1,400 ice luminaries, hang 800 ice lanterns, build the columns of Ice Henge and the cubes of Ice Pyramid and produce an Enchanted Forest in a winter that never really happened.

Everything had to be frozen in the 10-day period of sub-zero temps, then hatched and stored under insulated tarps on the slushy ice of Lake of the Isles while the thermometer soared to 50 degrees under sodden skies.

For the second year in a row the Luminarians had to move the entire magical display of icy ingenuity off the ice and onto the western shore of the lake, something they do with their signature blend of creativity and engineering know-how.

And in the Enchanted Forest, with a little help from their

friends, they persevered, whether snagging 3,600 pounds of block ice from the owner of a commercial ice castle or borrowing an employer's walk-in freezer to create 90 sheet-cake-sized pieces of ice to string into a hanging ice mobile.

Many of these indomitable volunteers go back out the next day to dismantle the installations, destroy any ice that might create a danger, and put the mechanical gear away for another year.

Why they do this is something they'll have to tell you. But it might have to do with the deep connection of working together to create beauty, and seeing awe on the faces of the more than 10,000 people who are dazzled and uplifted by that beauty. Whatever the reasons, we who participate in it or perambulate around it are lucky ducks indeed.



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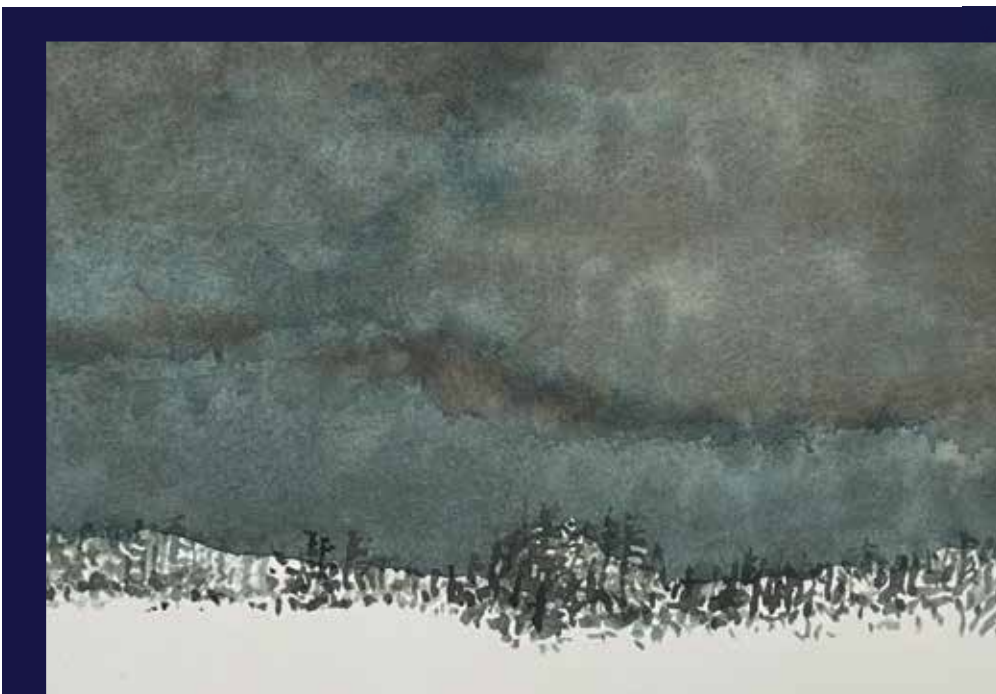



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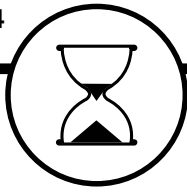
March 9 - April 13, 2024

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Artist Roundtable: Saturday, April 6 from 3-4:30pm

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The Iceman Cometh: The History of the Cedar Lake Ice Company

Article by Josie Owens. Photos courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society.



Cedar Lake Ice & Fuel Co. ghost sign in 2012 on the Vertical Endeavors building at 2540 Nicollet Avenue, behind Icehouse. The sign survives but has faded further since then.

“It’s as warm as the winter of 1877!”

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

It’s not quite a saying, but it is true. We are having an unusually warm winter but not record setting — yet.

Although winter sports enthusiasts gripe and others rejoice at the dearth of snow, for the residents of Minneapolis living 140 years ago a warm winter would be more than a conversation topic as it would have been devastating to the important ice business.

At that time, people did not have the modern convenience of refrigeration and ice makers. Instead, they depended on a 15-inch ice layer that would ensure fresh food and cool drinks in the summer months as well as provide an income for many who worked in the ice industry.

One of the largest and most established ice dealers in the area, the Cedar Lake Ice Company, harvested as much as 75,000 tons of ice per year from the late 1800s until the 1940s. During their 60 years, CLIC had a booming business with several distribution locations around the city and served a tri-state area.

The Ice Trade

Although people had cut and stored ice for personal use, the first person to harvest ice on a large scale as a business was Frederic Tudor.

In 1806, Tudor began an ice trade that cut blocks of ice from New England ponds and shipped them to the Caribbean. The business had plenty of obstacles, including initial heavy losses when the shipments took longer than expected with insufficient insulation.

So, Tudor went big and shipped his ice to India — a 16,000-mile journey — where he established a market and turned a profit. When Tudor died in 1864, he was a millionaire, and the ice trade was a vibrant business with many dealers.

Minneapolis businessmen recognized that the free ice on their lakes offered similar economic opportunities, and around 1868 the Minneapolis ice business started.

Cedar Lake Ice Company

In 1900, the Minneapolis Business Directory listed fifteen ice dealers. One of the oldest and most established was the Cedar Lake Ice Company. It seems that the company formed about 1879 when Sutton’s Ice Company merged with E.C. Babb’s company.

Both were probably cutting ice on Cedar Lake and perhaps merged because of the shortage of ice in 1877-78. They continued to grow the company, sometimes called the Cedar Lake, Calhoun, & River Ice Co., and added many storehouses around the city, allowing their ice delivery wagons to avoid longer trips with melting cargo as they made home deliveries.

The Ice Harvest

In the employment section of the Minneapolis Tribune on January 10, 1907, it says, “Teams Wanted. 75 teams to haul ice Thursday morning from Crystal Lake to James Ave N and 25th. CEDAR LAKE ICE CO.”

Another advertisement on the same page offered employment to men who would work in the ice houses loading cars. These cars referred to rail cars that would transport ice and perishable food.

The ice harvest could start after the ice had frozen to a sufficient thickness. Once the ice was about 15 inches thick, it was strong enough to support the

weight of the men, horses and equipment as well as thick enough to produce ice blocks for efficient use.

An article in the Mankato Free Press explains the process. The ice equipment included long two-handed saws, giant tongs, chains, ropes and horse-drawn ice plows to score the ice and wagons to haul it to storage in ice houses. The ice was cut into 18 inches by 24 inches blocks that teams with sleighs hauled to shore with chains and loaded into horse-drawn wagons or sleighs to be taken to the storage barns.

The greatest danger for workers was falling into open water, especially just before daybreak when one may not be able to see certain slippery edges on the ice. The harvesting was often done in the dark when colder. The work would stop if the temperature reached 35 degrees.

A crew of men in each barn would arrange the ice blocks and cover them with a 10-to-12-inch layer of sawdust which acted as an insulator to slow melting.

In fact, in a good icehouse the ice could last until the following winter. These jobs paid well. When the average American worker earned only \$200-\$400 a year in 1906, Cedar Lake Ice Company paid \$60 a month to its icehouse employees.

The Local Delivery System

Cedar Lake Ice Company was also streamlining the ice delivery service. The company issued coupon books for 500 pounds of ice. Each coupon was for a 25-pound delivery. The recipient would place an “Ice Today” sign in the window to alert the delivery man.

The delivery person would carry the ice with his large tongs on his leather-clad shoulder to the icebox. Some houses had an access door to the icebox from the porch so that the iceman would not have to enter the home, as seen in the Purcell-Cutts House on Lake Place.

The recipient would give a coupon in exchange, so the driver did not have to handle money or transactions. No price is listed in the coupon book. However, in 1908 CLIC’s advertisement in the Minneapolis Tribune said, “WHY FREEZE YOUR OWN ICE when Cedar Ice Co boxes it for 4 times per week for \$1.00 per month.”

The icebox, invented in 1802 by American cabinet maker Thomas Moore, was typically made of wood, lined with tin or zinc and insulated with sawdust. The ice block would last one or two days during the hot summer months. A small drain built into the icebox would direct the melted ice water into a pan underneath the icebox. This pan had to be emptied frequently to avoid getting water all over the kitchen floor.

Minneapolis Fire of August 13, 1893

There were other dangers associated with the ice business. The sawdust, a cheap insulator readily available from the Minneapolis lumber business, was flammable.

On a hot August day in a series of dry days, a fire started at 1:36 p.m. in a building behind the Cedar Lake Icehouse on Nicollet Island.

The New York Times reported that on August 13, 1893, a large fire burned over a square mile of Minneapolis and destroyed 150 houses and 13 mills. The financial cost was put at over \$1 million (\$20 million in today’s dollars according to my calculations). The Minneapolis Tribune was more dramatic as it described “a scene never to be forgotten.” It vividly depicted the “volumes of smoke [that] walled up as from a burning crater.”

The location of the CLIC storage house on Nicollet Island indicates that the company was well established in 1893 and possibly shipping ice down the Mississippi. The full-page ads in the Minneapolis City Directory listed the main office at 256 Hennepin and showed the company was now run by E.C. Babb, Emerson Cole and D.M. Chute. After rebuilding from the fire, they or their relatives would continue to run the company for another 30 years.

The End of the Cedar Lake Ice Company

For the first time in 1912 the Minneapolis Business Directory had a subheading for Manufactured Ice. However, as the ice companies are listed in both sections, it is unclear which of them sold lake or manufactured ice. Only a few had advertisements specifying. It is safe to assume that the manufactured ice business was growing. CLIC had to evolve and diversify for its survival.

Around 1908 with David Chute as the president, CLIC seems to have acquired the Ice Side Market. CLIC faced a new threat when Minneapolis Artificial Ice was incorporated around 1912. Hygienic Artificial Ice followed in 1921 and with its name suggested that lake ice was perhaps not sanitary or good for one’s health.

In the 1930s, when people began to replace their ice boxes with electric refrigerators, the company added coal delivery, perhaps a fuel business already owned by David and James Chute, and was renamed the Cedar Lake Ice & Fuel Co. This business decision allowed for a year-round delivery service — coal in the winter and ice in the summer — to maximize the use of the wagons or trucks.

The writing was on the wall or

perhaps it would be more accurate to say the writing was on the fore edge. Once again, it's not a saying. However, in 1944, Minneapolis Sanitary Ice had a prominent printed advertisement on the paper side of the Minneapolis Business Directory. This was also the last year that the Cedar Lake Ice

Company was listed under Ice Dealers.

It seems that the company sold its fuel business to Northwestern-Hanna Fuel Company as Cedar Lake Coal is listed one last time as a division of that larger company in the 1946 directory. After weathering and accommo-

dating for changes over many years in a growing modern city, the local business finally closed.

The ice from Cedar Lake kept food fresh locally and in transport by rail across the country before electricity became the standard. Starting with only three ice dealers listed in 1869, the Minneapo-

lis ice business had significant growth until electric refrigeration was readily available. The Cedar Lake Ice Company flourished for 60 years and was well-known for employing many people, preserving perishable food and providing a cool drink on a hot summer day.



The Cedar Lake Ice Company at Northeast shore of Cedar Lake, 1896. This building burned down in 1918.



Ice harvester on Cedar Lake, 1928.



Ice blocks were large and heavy, 1947.



The Cedar Lake Ice Company at Cedar Lake, 1947.



Conveyor belt moving ice cubes from Cedar Lake, 1948.



Ice harvesting on Cedar Lake, 1948.



Cedar Lake Ice Co.

▶ NOTE TO READERS:

This information was gathered from business directories, newspapers and items from the Hennepin History Museum. If you have additional images or information to share, please send them to the Hill & Lake Press. We will share them online. And if you'd like to know more about ice, please note that every January the Richardson Nature Center in Highland Lake Park Preserve hosts an ice-cutting demonstration.

An ARTrageous Mardi Gras at Jones Harrison

Photos by Tim Sheridan



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Kenwood Students Drum and Dance With Brother Ghana

Article and Photos by Karin Olson



Brother Ghana M'Baye leads a fourth-grade class in their performance.

Kenwood's first- and fourth-grade students studied beats and moves with Brother Ghana M'Baye for a month, then performed rousing concerts for caregivers and friends. This is the sixteenth school year that Kenwood students have had the chance to learn African drumming and dance from Brother Ghana.

"It's a joy to see kids light up when they work with talented artists like Brother Ghana through our residencies program," said Alyssa Pollack, instructional coach at Kenwood School. "Through unique learning experiences with art, music, dance and even food via experts from the greater Minneapolis community, students gain opportunities to shine beyond the core traditional components of our curriculum." And shine they do!



Fourth graders (from left to right) Nya Myhre, Maren Murphy, Milana Dulaeva, Emma Simpson and Cora Henry.



Brother Ghana M'Baye.




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Students get to use cool drums and African shields.

Visit the Awe-Inspiring Majesty of the Boundary Waters at Groveland Gallery

By Andrea Bubula

“A panel of five Groveland artists will explore the meeting point of art and conservation, drawing from years spent capturing the beauty of the BWCA and studying the region. Topics will move among art, the outdoors and movements to protect one of Minnesota’s greatest natural treasures.”

Andrea Bubula is Groveland Gallery’s new Director and a long-time Cedar-Isles-Dean resident.

Groveland Gallery, a Hill & Lake area venue for artwork by outstanding regional artists, presents BWCA, an exhibition of new works by William Murray, Michael Paul and East Isles artist Charles Lyon. The artists share an affinity for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, each one bringing his own unique approach to capturing the character of the region.

The gallery, located in Lowry Hill overlooking the Walker Art Center, will host a roundtable discussion moderated by a representative from Save the Boundary Waters on April 6 from 3-4:30 p.m. A panel of five Groveland artists will explore the meeting point of art and conservation, drawing from years spent capturing the beauty of the BWCA and studying the region. Topics will move among art, the outdoors and



(Image Groveland Gallery)

movements to protect one of Minnesota’s greatest natural treasures. Participants will be Charles Lyon, Tom Maakestad, William Murray, Michael Paul and Holly Swift.

Neighbors are encouraged to attend the March 9 opening reception of the BWCA exhibit and the April 6 roundtable. I’m excited for the opportunity to share this work, and later hear the artists’ perspectives surrounding their experiences depicting the Boundary Waters. These artists examine the nuances of the natural landscape and show it to us in unique ways. Their willingness to share these experiences allow us into that moment and place.

I first experienced the BWCA for myself in the middle of winter in January 1995. That winter, when my husband and I first moved to Minnesota, we spent a week at the Borderland Lodge within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. This was our introduction to the BWCA and winter in Minnesota. We cross-country skied, saw several moose and signs of wolves, and rode across a lake while tucked into a dog sled. We returned to the BWCA a couple of

summers later with our first canoe and adventurous spirits.

Groveland is well known for exhibiting representational paintings, drawings and fine art prints. The three artists whose work will be on display in BWCA frequently choose to portray the area in their work. Charles Lyon settled in Minnesota in 1994 after spending over a decade living in the Arizona high desert. Charles’s new work is inspired by a love for the Northern Minnesota wilderness. Charles explains, “Traveling by canoe is one of my favorite ways to experience wilderness. Silently gliding over iron-tinged water in the BWCA is deeply satisfying physically and aesthetically. The sky and water merge as one gets lost in the rhythm of paddling. And it is a humbling experience trying to navigate.”

William Murray was born in St. Paul. Before beginning his painting career, William served in the Coast Guard on the Great Lakes and trapped lobster in Nova Scotia. Having sailed for four years on Lakes Michigan and Superior on an ice breaker and a search and rescue vessel, the artist

is no stranger to the wild and challenging landscape of the North. The BWCA region has inspired him for many years, as he has dedicated himself to capturing the area in watercolor.

Michael Paul’s subject matter ranges from the expanse of the Great Plains to the sublime beauty of Minnesota. His realist depictions of still water and evening light celebrate the awe found through experiencing wilderness, the feelings of solitude and openness enhanced by the quiet sensibility inherent in his silverpoint drawing. He writes of this latest work, “In northern Minnesota, a landscape littered with lakes and rivers, water is the main attraction. It is the supporting actors, though, that give it texture and meaning: trees of course, and islands, rocks, cliffs, the forest floor along a portage, or even the soulful call of a loon.”

The artists will be present at the opening reception for BWCA on Saturday, March 9 from 2-5 p.m., and at the roundtable discussion on April 6 from 3-4:30 p.m. The exhibition continues through April 13.

HELPING TO SAVE THE BWCA

Groveland Gallery will donate a portion of sales on April 6 to **Save the Boundary Waters** in support of their efforts to preserve the BWCA.

If you would like to make a donation directly to help save the BWCA, visit [savetheboundarywaters.org](https://www.savetheboundarywaters.org)



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Dear Neighbor

A monthly column by Dorothy Richmond

Dorothy Richmond is founder of the Dear Neighbor column and a longtime resident of Cedar-Isles-Dean.

Dear Neighbor,

It's March, and our calendars proclaim that spring is about to be sprung. Hah! This has been a weird year, with spring-like weather much of the winter — will it be reversed (or “corrected”) in March and April? Who knows?

In any case and any year, the calendar and the weather often are off-kilter. So, instead of seasons of the year, let's talk about seasons of life, and we'll scroll to the end, Death.

I recently lost my old friend, Tom Stegman, to glioblastoma, a nasty killer that took Senator John McCain, the sister of my dear friend, Abby, and the husband of my dear friend, Lois. Glioblastoma works the room like the most unwelcome, uninvited guest to the party we call life.

Tom was a Jesuit priest. I met him nearly 40 years ago when we were young bucks, each embarking on our respective callings, and I was hired to teach Spanish to the novices at the Jesuit Novitiate in St. Paul. The Novitiate had been the convent for nuns who taught at St. Luke's School, next door to its church on Summit Avenue, a stone's throw from the Governor's Mansion.

Having grown up in what can only be described as a tyrannically Catholic home, I found the Jesuits to be more than a breath of fresh air, rather a full-on oxygen tank, with their commitment to education, the needy in every way, and their acceptance of all, allowing one to have a belief system and question it at the same time.

Tom was in my class, one of nine students, all of whom I enjoyed, but Tom was unique. He was razor smart, had studied philosophy (one of my college majors), and when called for expressed a wicked sense of humor. We clicked immediately.

While I have countless memories of conversations and times spent together, two stand out that reveal the depth of his character.

The first involved baseball. Tom was a fanatic — a “stan” in current parlance. Born in Holdrege, Nebraska, he was forced to go out of state to find his team, and became steadfastly loyal to the St. Louis Cardinals. I had neither interest in nor knowledge of baseball — the closest I came to the sport was playing on my 4-H club's softball team.

Tom often wore his red, satiny Cardinals' jacket, which I appreciated mainly because I'd gone to school in St. Louis. It was the late 1980s, years after the Metrodome was built. Tom had attended dozens of games, and when I confessed that I'd never been there he declared it a “heresy” and set out to exorcise my lapse.

Tom got tickets, borrowed a Jesuit car, picked me up, and we went to a game. I remember walking into the sea of blue seats, agog. He got us hot dogs and beer and explained the game to me as if lecturing on an abstruse yet fascinating topic. He knew everything about baseball.

I can't remember who played against the Twins or who won. It doesn't matter; I had a terrific time.

It was May, one of those days when it's warm in the afternoon, but the temperature drops like a boulder after sundown. I hadn't worn a coat. As we left the Metrodome and walked to his car I was cold but didn't say anything. I didn't need to. Without a word, Tom took off his Cardinals' jacket and placed it over my shoulders. Tom was a gentleman.

Tom was ordained in June of 1995. Three weeks later I got married, and Tom officiated. We joked that it was the first marriage for each of us. While I've held steady at one, Tom went on to oversee countless such sacraments.

Jesuits tend to move around a lot, and three years later Tom, now in Milwaukee, called to say he'd be in St. Paul for a few days, could we meet for dinner? He came by the house, met baby

Daisy, and we walked to a nearby restaurant. It was there that Tom served me the second outstanding memory I have of him.

We caught up, talking and laughing, and then it got serious. I asked him, “Now that you've been a bona fide priest for a few years, what's the most important thing you've learned?” Anticipating a pat answer about God's grace and love, Tom surprised me with an answer that blew me away: “I've learned that people suffer more than anyone knows.” He went on to say that many of his parishioners would visit him privately during the week, revealing horrors and torments that left him wondering how they were able to function. Yet, Sunday after Sunday they would show up to Mass appearing as if everything were fine, demonstrating strength and courage he'd come to revere.

Tom was wise and kind and good, and his soul, now certainly with God, is making Heaven an even better place.

A meaningful life is giving more to, rather than taking from, the universe. Tom Stegman led a truly meaningful life.

— Dorothy

P.S. For more on this topic, Google “Luke Priddy, Valley Girl is a Mind Virus” on YouTube. It's brilliant and insightful.



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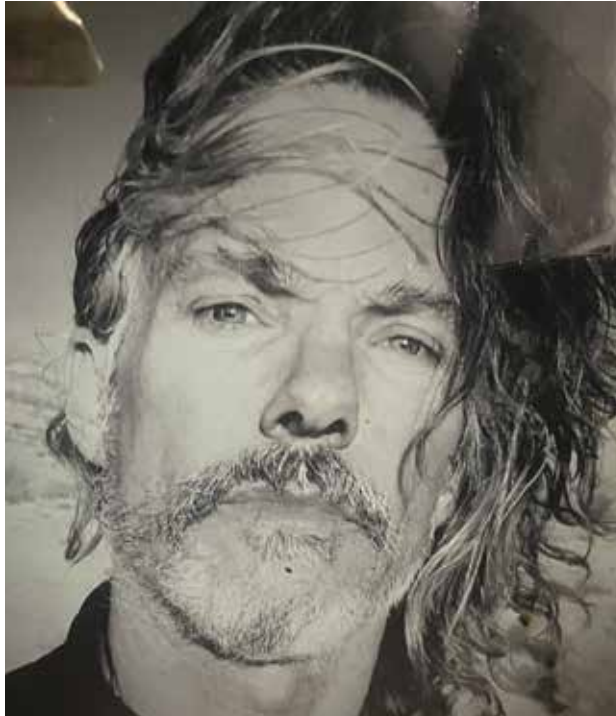
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Wednesday: 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm
Thursday: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Friday: 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Saturday: Closed

Park Board to Rename Overlook Park in Honor of Robert Skafte

By Marty Carlson

“Robert’s support of the park board’s work is decades long, beginning in the 1990’s as he volunteered in both the Overlook and LaSalle Gardens. In 2012, he spearheaded the transformation of the Overlook into a native habitat garden and coordinated the volunteer efforts there each season. His long-term contribution to Minneapolis parks and service within the community is an inspiration.”

— ELIZABETH SHAFFER,
DISTRICT 4 COMMISSIONER



Robert Skafte (Photo Kelly Hayes)

Originally from California, Mr. Skafte arrived in Minnesota as a professional ballet dancer, having spent a decade with the Kansas City Ballet, then moving to an 18-year career with Ballet of the Dolls in Minneapolis. Editor Craig Wilson knew Mr. Skafte, and had this to say: “Robert was a bright light. His incredibly kind disposition was always framed by a warm smile and welcoming eyes. He was the best of Minneapolis — an artist, a community leader, a food activist, an urban hippie, a friendly shopkeeper, a good neighbor and a friend. He would be so honored to know that the park that he helped to create is now named after him.”

For my part, I didn’t know Mr. Skafte, but I knew the Oak Grove Grocery well, having lived in an apartment just a few doors down for most of my 20s. It was a local institution and was what I would describe as an “essential” grocery store: if you truly needed something, they had it, and if they didn’t have it, it probably wasn’t a real need. Put differently, if you were looking for hand-churned butter or just the right olive oil, this wasn’t your place. But, if you’d had the sort of day that required a freezer pizza and a pint of Ben & Jerry’s, the Oak Grove Grocery had your back. It was helpful, unpretentious, and almost always open. And walking down the steps to its half-basement entrance was like stepping out of time into a world that had never heard of gas-station chain stores.

By all accounts, Mr. Skafte was instrumental in preserving the grocery’s essential nature. In the raft of media reports following his murder, neighbors described him as a kind, reassuring presence who always let them know they were welcome. When I walked by the grocery in anticipation of writing this article, it appeared utterly unchanged from when I first came across it 30 years ago, but for two things: the railings by the front entrance are still covered with flowers and other tributes to Mr. Skafte, and the stairs leading down to the entrance are chained off. A sign on the front door reads “closed until further notice,” marking it as another casualty of the violence that took the life of a treasured neighbor and friend. Hopefully the renamed garden will help preserve his memory for a community still grieving.

and his many volunteer contributions to the Stevens Square area, where (among other things) he helped found the local farmers’ market, helped establish the LaSalle Community Garden, and served as greening coordinator for the Stevens Square Community Organization for 16 years.

Overlook Park sits along the heights of Stevens Square, overlooking I-94 between First and Third Avenues, across the highway from the Convention Center. Located on right-of-way land for the Interstate, the parcel has for decades been jointly managed as a park by the state, the city, the park board and (most crucially) neighbors from Stevens Square/Loring Heights. In 2012, Mr. Skafte led a successful effort to transform Overlook Park into a native habitat, which he then worked to maintain on a near-daily basis.

Marty Carlson is a regular contributor to the Hill & Lake Press. He lives in Kenwood.

In a lovely gesture, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board voted unanimously in February to rename Overlook Park in the Stevens Square neighborhood in honor of late resident and beloved community member Robert Skafte.

Readers may recall that in early December, Mr. Skafte was brutally murdered with a golf club while working at the Oak Grove Grocery, just off Loring Park, allegedly by a mentally ill assailant who was arrested after a six-hour standoff nearby. Mr. Skafte was a fixture at the grocery for nearly 20 years and was locally famous for his kindness

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