



Hill & Lake Press

'Where the biggies leave off...'

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

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May 2024

The GARDEN Issue



(Photos Angie Erdrich, Tom Hoch and Mark Addicks)

Recipe for a Perennial Garden

By Mark Addicks
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Native Plants

By Angie Erdrich
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The Living Legacy of Eloise Butler

By Aileen Johnson
Page 14

Kenwood, East Isles Students Win Major Awards at Minnesota State Science & Engineering Fair

By Karin Olson

Karin Olson lives in Kenwood and is a parent volunteer at Kenwood Community School.

Two local students won big last month in recognition of their STEM research and presentations at the 87th annual Minnesota State Science & Engineering Fair (SSEF) at the St. Paul Rivercentre March 22.

Corinne Moran of Kenwood won the Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) Award for her project, "Deciphering DUX4 (Year II): Is transient expression of the DUX4 gene sufficient to cause muscular dystrophy?" ISEF is the world's largest pre-college science competition. With this award, Moran gained the chance to compete amongst thousands of students from around the world in Los Angeles, May 11-17. She also won the Beckman Coulter Award for Excellence in Science, First Place - High School.

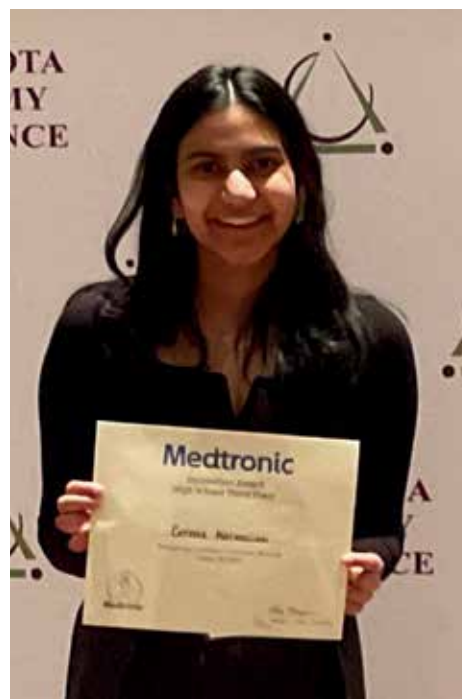
Cerena Karmaliani of East Isles won the Medtronic Innovation Award, Third Place - High School, for her work, "The Absorbency of Home-Compounded Transdermal Pain Medication in Comparison to Industrially Manufactured Voltaren Gel." The Medtronic Innovation Award recognizes students whose projects exemplify excellence through innovative ideas, self-motivated independent work, passion



Kenwood resident and Breck School student Corinne Moran won two awards including the chance to compete in the International Science & Engineering Fair held in Los Angeles in May. Double award winner Cerena Karmaliani lives in East Isles and is a student at St. Paul Academy. (Photos by Minnesota State Science & Engineering Fair)

for discovery and science, and the potential to impact their category or the world. Karmaliani won \$250 plus an invitation to spend a day at Medtronic with a technical fellow. In addition, Karmaliani won the Minnesota Academy of Science Bronze Award.

Additional area students who won awards include Milan Mishra,



whose project "Usage of a Convolutional Neural Network in Drone-Based Algae Bloom Monitoring" won the Aquatic Sciences Achievement Award from the American Fisheries Society, Minnesota Chapter. Mishra was also selected as the alternate for the Regeneron International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF). Michael Setterberg and

Charlotte Vasicek's work together, "Refining the Ring: Engineering Nanobodies for a Faster Path to CSAN Cancer Immunotherapy" won the Minnesota Academy of Science Silver Award.

More than 350 middle and high school students from 58 schools across Minnesota competed in this year's fair. SSEF is organized by the Minnesota Academy of Science (MAS). Participating students advanced from regional science fairs throughout Minnesota to compete in this prestigious state event. Over 40 companies and organizations provided awards valued at over \$20,000.

"The State Science Fair showcases Minnesota students who are asking really interesting questions and using science and engineering practices to solve problems in their communities," said Lara Maupin, MAS Executive Director. "I was impressed and inspired by students' innovation and knowledge, and clearly our judges were too. There's a reason they love giving their time to this event!"

To learn more:

Learn about the SSEF, see the full list of award winners and learn more about their projects, please visit - mnmas.org



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.

Cedar Lake Parkway Closure

A notice recently came from the Minneapolis Park Board informing residents that Cedar Lake Parkway would be closed for much of the summer starting May 7th. This information was apparently incorrect.

At the April Kenwood Neighborhood Association meeting, Kaydee Kirk, outreach coordinator for the SWLRT project, said that while there will be a need to close the parkway again, this won't happen until work is done on the Lake Street bridge. It may be "at the end of the season, or maybe next year." She indicated that Met Council representatives are talking to the park board people to have them clarify this (and perhaps apologize).

Commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer, also in attendance, informed Kaydee that SWLRT contractors had submitted a permit application requesting closure starting May 7th and lasting 100 days. The park board studied and granted this permit request. Commissioner Shaffer pointed out that the permitting process consumes a great deal of staff time, which costs Minneapolis taxpayers and diverts park board resources.

There seems to have been an unfortunate miscommunication originating from SWLRT offices. It happens, and the park board is not at fault. The Met Council will let us know when Cedar Lake Parkway will actually close, and for how long.

*Jeanette Colby
Kenwood*

Our Beloved Blue House

We are the very happy new owners of the Blue House that Susan Lenfestey wrote about in the January issue of the Hill & Lake Press.

Years ago, when we first moved to the neighborhood, I used to joke with my husband that every day I would see new houses — houses that had always been there but somehow eluded me, and then they seemed to appear out of thin air.

For roughly 14 years while living on Fremont Avenue I had walked by the blue house on Girard, but I had never really seen it, until I read about it in the Hill & Lake Press. Perhaps because I was a Lowry Hill neighbor, I connected with the message of hoping that a loving family would move in and honor the storied history of the house.

My husband looked at a Zillow posting of the home, and we were intrigued by the farmhouse feel, the charm, the possibilities. We scheduled an appointment to view the house the following morning.

As we explored the house we fell deeper and deeper in love. Sunlight filled every room, as did the personality of the former owners. We knew we would save as much of the character and history as we could so that after us, another family could experience the same love we were feeling.

Something told me the house would choose us — and luckily the seller did too! Thank you, Ruth Bly, from the bottom of our hearts. I know it is hard to leave a home and the neighbors you have grown to love, but by doing so you have opened the door for a new family to move in and to love it as you have.

*The Baylor Family
Lowry Hill*

Greetings from Amsterdam

The April issue was just forwarded to me all the way over here in Amsterdam.

I lived in Lowry Hill and East Isles and was on their respective neighborhood boards in the 2004-2010 time period (previous name = Beth Kehoe). I also wrote for the Hill & Lake Press frequently during that time.

Lenfesty's article cracked me up. It brought back memories of all of those fun years. Thanks for the moment of nostalgia! And I'm so glad to see this new and improved website and that the paper is going strong!!

*Beth St. John
Amsterdam*

Long Live Hill & Lake Press

The Hill and Lake Press is an example of a successful, local 501(c)(3) non-profit newspaper — supported by and run by its community members.

This very sad article just reinforces the good work you guys are doing. As reported by Alex Kennedy on Axios Twin Cities on April 4, 2024:

"Southwest News Media announced Thursday it will cease publication of all its newspapers at the end of April, effectively shutting down six long-running community media outlets in Twin Cities southwest metro suburbs. Local news has already seen a steep decline nationwide, and now Chanhassen, Chaska, Jordan, Prior Lake, Shakopee and Savage will lose their primary weekly community newspapers — some of which have been in operation for over 160 years. Most American communities that lose a local newspaper usually do not get a replacement, even online. ... The company's sister newspapers in Hutchinson and Litchfield will also close at the end of April, as will its affiliate printing plant Crow River."

Please consider making a tax deductible donation to Hill & Lake Press by visiting hillandlakepress.org. Or support our paper by taking out an advertisement by contacting barb@hillandlakepress.org.

Let's ensure that Hill & Lake Press is around for the next 50 years and beyond!

*Carla Pardue
East Isles*



Doug the Italian Greyhound spotted walking down Hennepin Avenue. (Photo Craig Wilson)

CALLING ALL KIDS!

**EWE WON'T BELIEVE IT!
IT'S TIME FOR THE KIDS' ISSUE AGAIN!**

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SEE PAGE 12!**



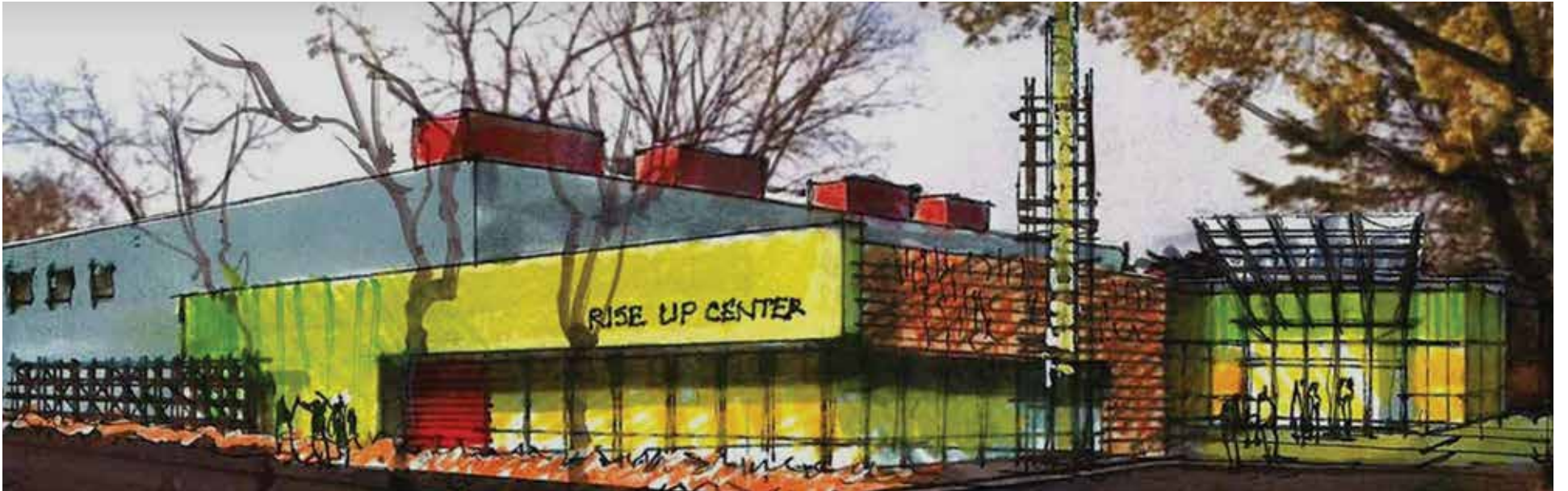
(Painting by Betty Weeks)

**DEADLINE FOR KIDS' ISSUE IS JUNE 15!
EMAIL YOUR ARTWORK, POEMS, JOKES, GAMES, STORIES AND ARTICLES TO -**

JACKIE@HILLANDLAKEPRESS.ORG

EVERYONE'S ENTITLED TO MY OPINION: TENDING THE SOIL TO RISE UP IN UPTOWN!

Opinion by Susan Lenfestey



This image depicts the vision for the transformation of the former YWCA Uptown building into the Rise Up Center. Advocates are currently seeking \$18 million in support from the Minnesota Legislature to support the renovation. (Image Rise Up Center)

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

In late March the YWCA announced that it had found a buyer for its building on Hennepin in Uptown. Tending the Soil, a coalition of Minnesota nonprofits and unions led by Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), had secured \$4.25 million in funding from various sources, including the City of Minneapolis and the Legislature, to purchase the former fitness facility and convert it into the Rise Up Center, a green job-training complex for entry level workers.

At first glance, it's a trifecta. The YWCA needs money, Uptown needs people, and people need jobs. But a second glance raises a trifecta of concerns.

Redundancy

There are many established workforce training providers in the metro area focused on serving BIPOC and low-income people. Migizi, Renewable Energy Partners, Twin Cities R!SE, Avivo, Project for Pride in Living and Summit OIC are just a few. Many of them provide paid on-the-job training.

The State of Minnesota also offers a large range of training programs and funding assistance for adults, youth and immigrants.

Minneapolis College, a public two-year community and technical college, is just around the corner at 1501 Hennepin. Minnesota State colleges and universities are in desperate need of funding for overdue maintenance and updates to stay attractive and relevant to faculty and students, yet their state funding has declined over the past ten years. These colleges may not be immediate options for the population that Tending the Soil plans to serve, but they offer accredited training programs and deserve more public support.

Instead of investing in duplicative efforts and infrastructure that will require ongoing maintenance, the legislature should adequately fund existing programs and schools.

Future funding

To create the Rise Up Center, Tending the Soil is seeking roughly half of the \$18 million total cost from the Legislature, with another \$2 million coming from local government grants. The rest will be raised by a capital campaign and other private funding.

This is a flush year for the state, but the surplus is dwindling, and the Legislature might flip to a less progressive-friendly majority. The city's commercial tax base is shrinking. Though they surely exist, a cursory look at the partner organizations' websites turned up no private donors.

Where will funding come from in future years? Will there be sufficient private support for Tending the Soil to maintain its building and offer its programs, or will it continue to depend on public funding?

Location

Before the NIMBY slings and arrows start to fly, it should be noted that Tending the Soil didn't originally see Hennepin Avenue as a fit. They sought a location on Lake Street, stating that the Rise Up Center needed to be close to the people it serves — working-class communities of color in the area that "bears the scars of decades-long economic disinvestment."

"It's no fun to question the dreams of those who want to do good things, but this project needs a deeper review."

Obviously, they plan to make do with this location or they wouldn't have moved ahead with the purchase. But spending \$18 million to convert a fitness facility into classrooms, offices and a meeting space, in a location ill-suited to their mission, seems like a lot of money for little gain.

There's the flipside of that coin. Anyone walking through Uptown knows that revitalization is much needed on Hennepin too. The George Floyd uprising, the pandemic and the removal of parking south of Lake Street was another sort of trifecta. Even before the chaos of the Hennepin Avenue and Lake Street construction, local businesses had closed or were hanging on by sheer determination and grit.

When the dust clears, what will be the biggest boost to help those businesses recover?

Is it a nonprofit coalition operating a job-training center that relies on tax dollars and private donations to stay afloat? As an old Wellstonian Democrat, I want to say yes.

But as a pragmatic centrist Democrat, I think it's a business. Perhaps a multiple bedroom apartment building designed for families and retirees, not studios for singles, with retail, perhaps daycare, and even a pool on the ground floor.

We would all be better served by something that generates tax dollars to pay for the progressive programs this city so generously funds — and for the public safety we so desperately need.

It's no fun to question the dreams of those who want to do good things, but this project needs a deeper review.



FINANCING FOR THE RISE UP CENTER

Acquisition funds

\$500,000 City of Minneapolis
\$1,500,000 Minnesota legislature
\$2,380,000 Private Financing
\$120,000 Philanthropic contributions

Development funds

\$2,000,000 Local Government Grants
\$3,500,000 Philanthropic Capital Campaign
\$3,500,000 Private Financing
\$9,000,000 Minnesota Legislature

Budget

\$4,500,000 Acquisition
\$18,000,000 Construction, Soft Costs, and FFE

\$22,500,000 Total Cost

Ward 7 Council Member Katie Cashman and Rep. Frank Hornstein attended the EINA annual meeting and said they were interested in hearing the community's views on the project.

Rep. Frank Hornstein (61A)

rep.frank.hornstein@house.mn.gov
651-296-9281

Council Member Katie Cashman

ward7@minneapolismn.gov
612-673-2207

You can also contact:

Rep. Jamie Long (61B)

rep.jamie.long@house.mn.gov
651-296-5375

Senator Scott Dibble (61)

sen.scott.dibble@senate.mn.gov
651-296-4191

To learn more about Tending the Soil visit tendingthesoil.org.

Kenwood Resident Discovers Southwest Light Rail Misalignment With A Tape Measure

Interviewed by Craig Wilson, Editor

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

Marion Collins is a physician and mother and lives in Kenwood. The Hill & Lake Press interviews Collins to learn about what motivated her to measure the light rail misalignment with a tape measure.

What makes co-locating freight rail and light rail so dangerous in close proximity to each other?

Freight rail carries hazardous, flammable materials such as ethanol. Light rail is electric. If freight rail and light rail connect, the electricity could trigger a blast that could have disastrous consequences. BNSF, which runs freight trains further along the co-located corridor, insisted on a blast wall between their trains and Southwest Light Rail in that location for safety reasons.

The alignment in the Kenilworth corridor is supposed to have freight and light rail at least 25 feet apart, mid-track to mid-track. Because train cars extend beyond the rails, trains are actually passing about 21 feet from each other.

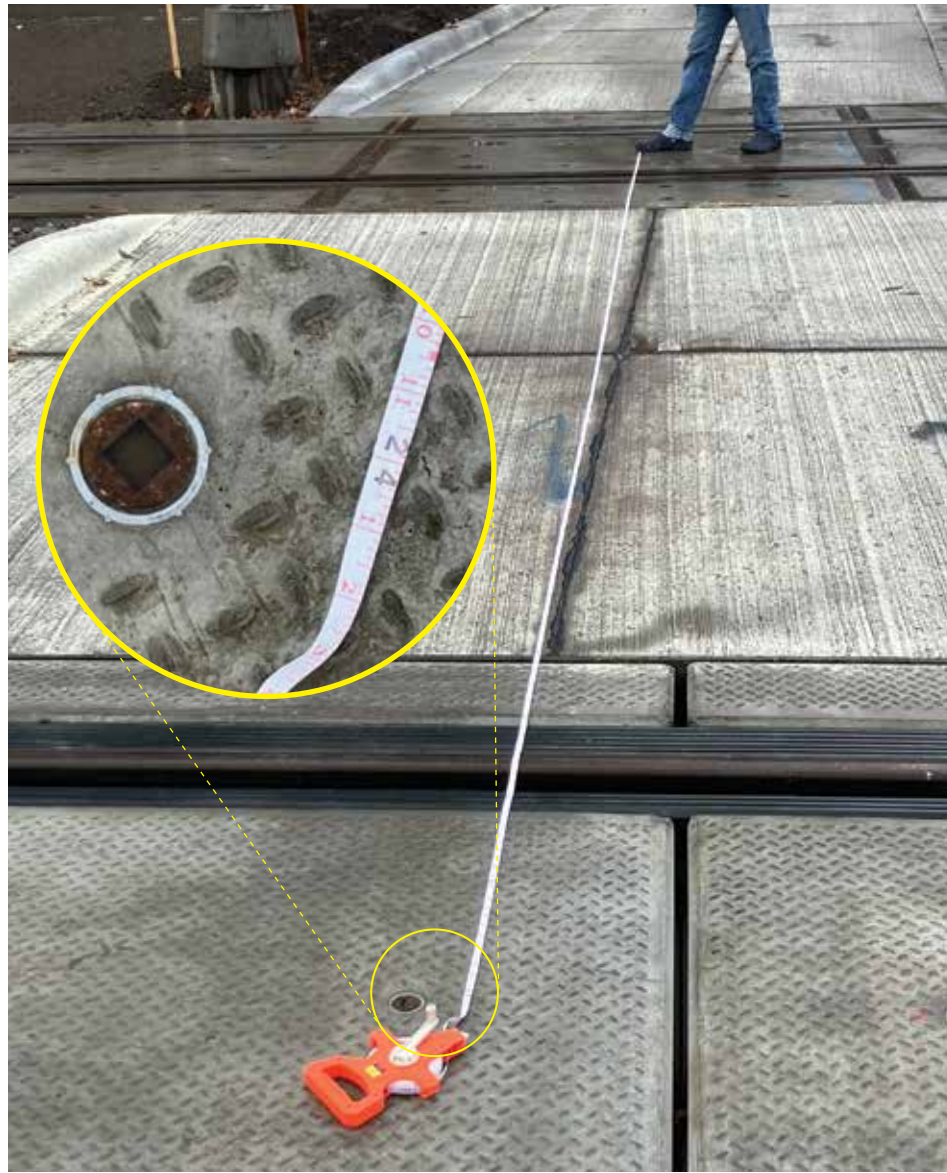
What is the Met Council's commitment regarding spacing?

I asked this very question two years ago, before the rails were placed, when I saw the plans for how close freight and light rail would be to each other. This is the response I received from David Davies, who at that time was our community outreach coordinator for the Met Council, on March 16, 2022:

"The design of the project in the vicinity of freight rail facilities has been developed in accordance with the Metro Light Rail Transit Design Criteria, which includes design standards and specifications to provide security and/or enhance safety. This includes operations and maintenance safeguards to prevent LRT operational derailments, emergency guard rails where appropriate (i.e., a rail or other structure laid parallel with the running rails of the track to keep derailed wheels adjacent to the running rails), and corridor protection barriers for light rail and freight rail where either light rail or freight rail tracks are elevated above the adjacent tracks or the clearance between the centerline of the light rail tracks and the centerline of the freight tracks is less than 25 feet. In addition, where clearance between the centerline of the light rail tracks and the centerline of the freight tracks is less than 50 feet, intrusion detection will be installed.

The West 21st Street area meets the above criteria as the centerline of the freight track and centerline of the closest LRT track will be 25 feet apart."

As a result, if the rails are less than 25-feet apart, which they currently are, there are supposed



(Photos Marion Collins)

to be more safety measures put in place. And at less than 50-feet, there are supposed to be intrusion detection devices (although by the time that does anything, it would be too late). So, the Met Council does acknowledge the potential danger all along this narrow, co-located corridor.

"...the tracks looked really close together. With the Met Council continually ignoring our concerns of safety and livability, I had to see if they were living up to the measurements they touted..."

What motivated you to get out your measuring tape and double check the Met Council's track alignment for Southwest Light Rail?

When I walked out toward Cedar Lake, the tracks looked really close together. With the Met Council continually ignoring our concerns of safety and livability, I had to see if they were living up to the measurements they touted. I wanted to check because they have repeatedly shown their disregard for both the community and safety.

The Met Council is able to operate with impunity because the

government is currently unwilling to stop them. State and Hennepin County residents will have to pay the price in money, safety and livability.

On an ironic side note, as construction was starting, Met Council contractors stuck stakes in our yard, insisting we were "encroaching." Some of these stakes were less than 2 inches from the inside of our fence. I have to wonder, if they were so accurate in determining our "encroachment" down to a mere 1-2 inches, how could they not measure this very important distance between freight and light rail tracks properly?

How was the Met Council able to claim that there is a difference of seven inches versus the 11 inches you have measured?

I am not the only person to measure and come up with 11 or 12 inches short. I don't know how the project manager is able to say there is "only" a 7-inch shortage and insist that they are still building a "very safe line." I wonder if they measured at several points and averaged their results.

How has the Met Council used the law of averages to manipulate sound mitigation as well?

This is a big concern for our community. Gate bells will sound for every light rail train that crosses 21st Street. The Met Council plans to run those trains every 10 to 15 minutes during the day, and every half hour for most of the night. The Met Council hired a sound testing company (can we note this conflict of interest!) to

decide if houses like ours would be eligible for sound mitigation. We were informed we did not qualify. We were told that although the bells will be loud, if that sound is averaged over the course of 24 hours, the average decibel level falls below the threshold for mitigation. Averaging very loud sounds with silence artificially creates a sound level below threshold. This defies common sense.

When I learned this, I asked if I could come stand outside their houses at night and set off fireworks at regular intervals all night long. Would I not be disturbing the peace since I'd keep the "average" below the disturbance threshold? I was met with silence, again demonstrating the Met Council's unwillingness to take responsibility and work with the communities impacted by their project.

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Residential Taxes Expected to Climb in Minneapolis

By Carol Becker

Carol Becker served on the Board of Estimate and Taxation from 2004-2021.

The Minneapolis City Assessor's office exists to estimate the value of every property in the city, which then becomes the basis for property taxes paid in Minneapolis. These estimates are compared to real sales to ensure that estimates are reasonable.

The city assessor presented 2024 total estimated property values to the City Council this month, reporting a decline of 3.1% from 2023 to 2024.

In 2023, the total estimated property value of all property in the city was \$67.5 billion dollars. In 2024, the total estimated value was only \$65.4 billion dollars, a loss of \$2.1 billion dollars in one year.

“The city assessor presented 2024 total estimated property values to the City Council this month, reporting a decline of 3.1% from 2023 to 2024.”

Existing single family homes collectively lost 1.2% of their value citywide, while apartments lost 9.5% of their value and commercial properties lost 8.7% of their value from 2023 to 2024.

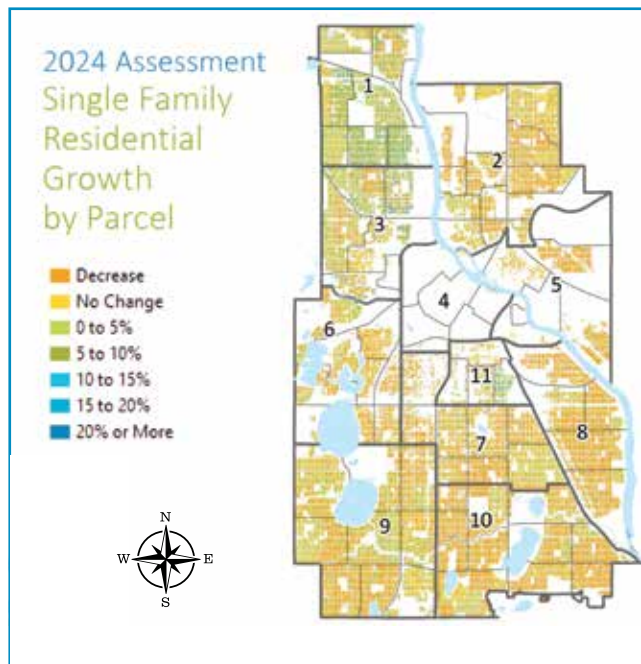
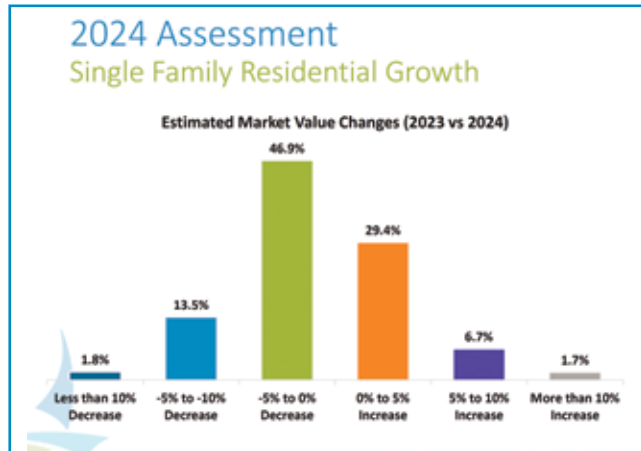
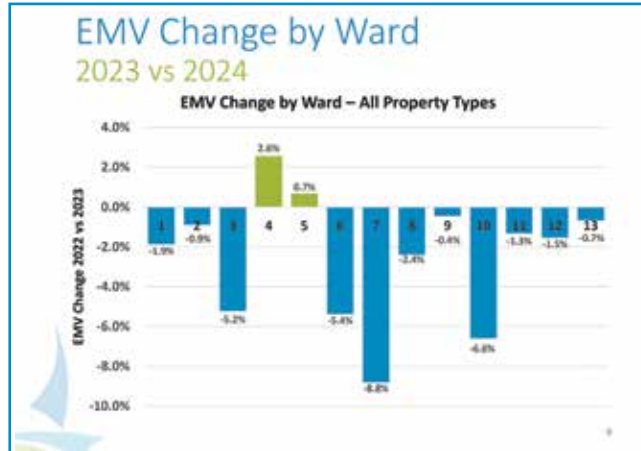
Downtown commercial property saw the largest decline, with a 13% decline in value. Uptown commercial property lost only 0.8% of its total value.

This decline did not occur evenly across the city. Total estimated property value actually increased in North Minneapolis, while the largest decline was in city council wards that at least partially included downtown commercial property.

At 62.2% of single-family homes saw declining home values, while 37.8% of houses saw increases.

Changes in single-family home value did not occur evenly around the city. Total estimated value in North Minneapolis increased but decreased in other parts of the city.

These property values will be used as the basis for 2025 property taxes. Overall, residential property owners will generally see an increase in taxes next year, as the tax burden



(Images City of Minneapolis)

shifts off commercial and rental properties. How much? The amount will vary by property, and residents will need to wait until they get their Truth in Taxation statements next year.



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)



SPRING IS HERE. TIME FOR A SCOOP.

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September 21

Sign up on our website: cidna.org


Please note:

- Plants, tools, & gloves supplied.
- No experience necessary.
- We work in light rain but will suspend or cancel work in severe weather.

**Annual Meeting
Wednesday, May 8
6 PM at Jones Harrison**

Hear from City Council Member Katie Cashman and other special guests at our Annual Meeting.

CIDNA needs volunteers to serve on the Board for the upcoming year (May 2024 - May 2025). Learn more and nominate yourself by going to our website or using the QRcode.



**Neighborhood Day
Saturday, May 11
11 AM - 2 PM at
Cedar Lake South Beach**

Bring a picnic and join us at the beach!

- Free basic bike tune-ups available from 11 AM to 2 PM.
- Cookies and lemonade provided by CIDNA.

You're Invited!

LOWRY HILL ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, June 4 | 5:00-8:00 pm
First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis

5:00-6:00 pm Meet and socialize with neighbors over wine and appetizers.

6:00-8:00 pm Hear from city and neighborhood leaders, learn about LHNA's activities over the past year, and elect new board members.

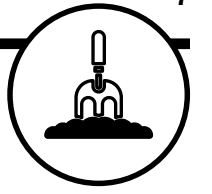


+ Chances to win gift cards to Lowry Hill businesses



Scan QR code or visit lowryhillneighborhood.org for event details and updates.





Inaugural Minneapolis Sculpture Garden Art Fair Celebrates Creativity

By Brian Lucas

Brian Lucas is a Hill & Lake Press board member and lives in Kenwood.

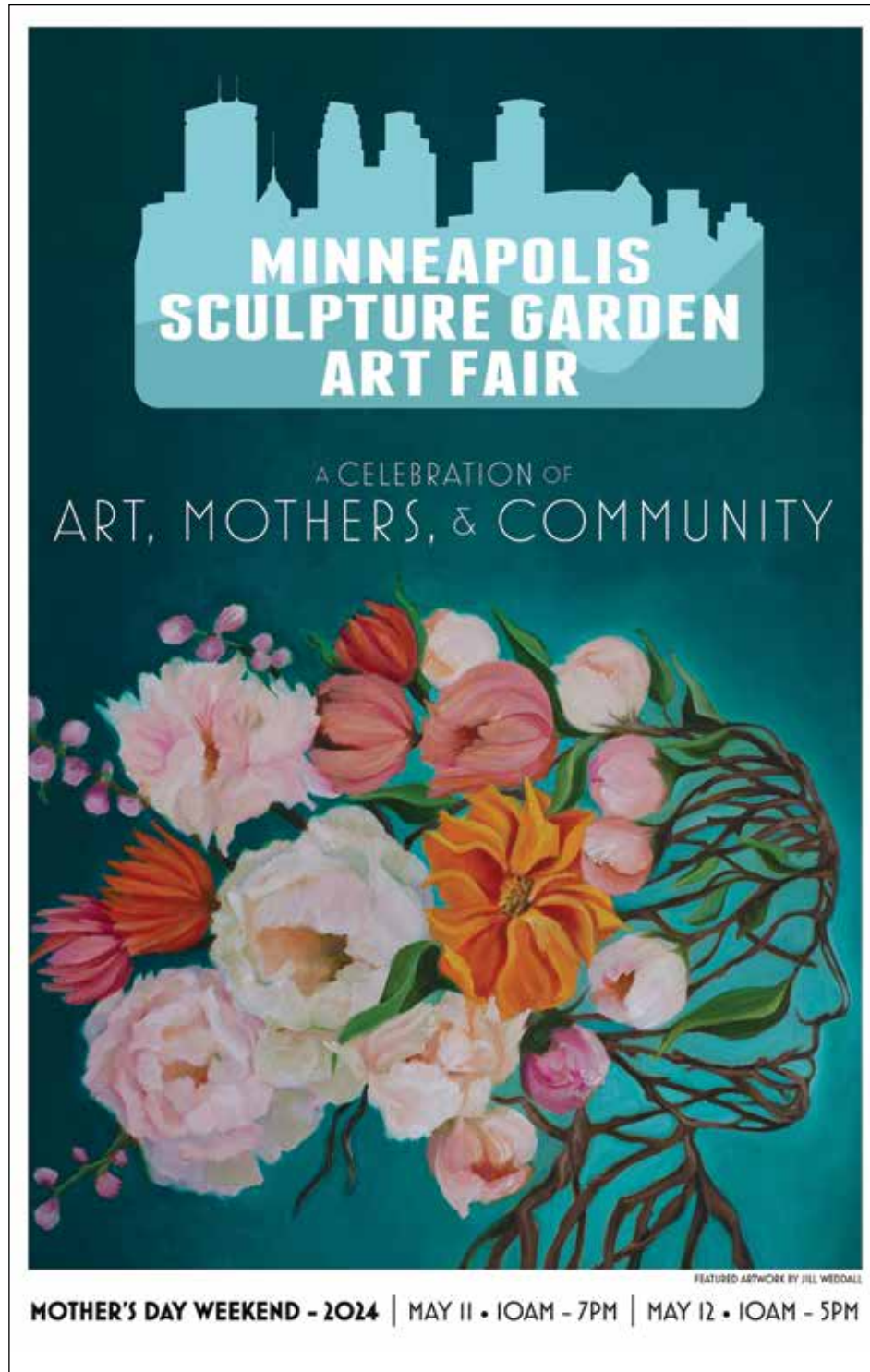
While there's nothing wrong with Mother's Day classics like breakfast in bed and a dried macaroni and glue art creation, a new event in Minneapolis may help families take their celebration of Mom to the next level.

The Minneapolis Sculpture Garden Art Fair is bringing together more than 150 local artists, ranging from painters and ceramists to photographers and jewelry designers, for a two-day event on Mother's Day weekend. From 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Mother's Day, May 12, visitors can take in the art, enjoy fare from popular food trucks, and even raise a toast to Mom at a beer and wine garden from Can Can Wonderland.

"We're hoping this will become an annual tradition for the community... Just being there together is a great gift, and maybe you'll find a perfect something extra for Mom while you're there."

— Jill Hayes,
Event Director

"We're hoping this will become an annual tradition for the community," said Jill Hayes, event director and co-founder of Home-spun Events, the group that also organizes the popular Minnehaha Falls Art Fair. "You can wake up and take Mom out to an iconic Minneapolis location to see some of the most talented artists in our community. Just being there together is a great gift, and maybe



you'll find a perfect something extra for Mom while you're there."

In addition to fine arts offerings, the Sculpture Garden Art Fair will celebrate spring with a botanical marketplace underneath the Cowles Conservatory. Visitors will find plants for sale along with floral arrangements and other artist-created gifts.

The announcement of this new art show came soon after organiz-

ers of the Uptown Art Fair announced that they were canceling this year's event due to heavy road construction. Hayes said the plans for this new show had been in the works for months and were not associated with the Uptown Art Fair decision. She sees the Sculpture Garden Art Fair as an additional opportunity to gather and appreciate the creativity that makes Minnesota a great place to live.

"We have such a vibrant arts community in so many ways, whether it's theater or music or visual arts, and it's important for people to come out and enjoy it," she said. "We need to remember the significance of shopping local and supporting the work of these artists who add so much to our city."

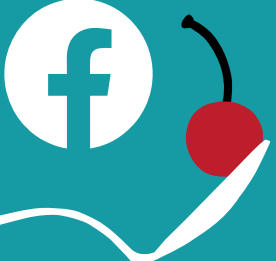
The Sculpture Garden Art Fair is a free event that Hayes hopes will become a Mother's Day tradition in its own right, offering families a way to celebrate Mom and support the local community.

MORE INFO

For more details about the event and information about planning your visit and a list of the participating artists and how to volunteer, visit:

www.home-spun-events.com/sculpturegardenartfair

You can RSVP on the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden Facebook page.




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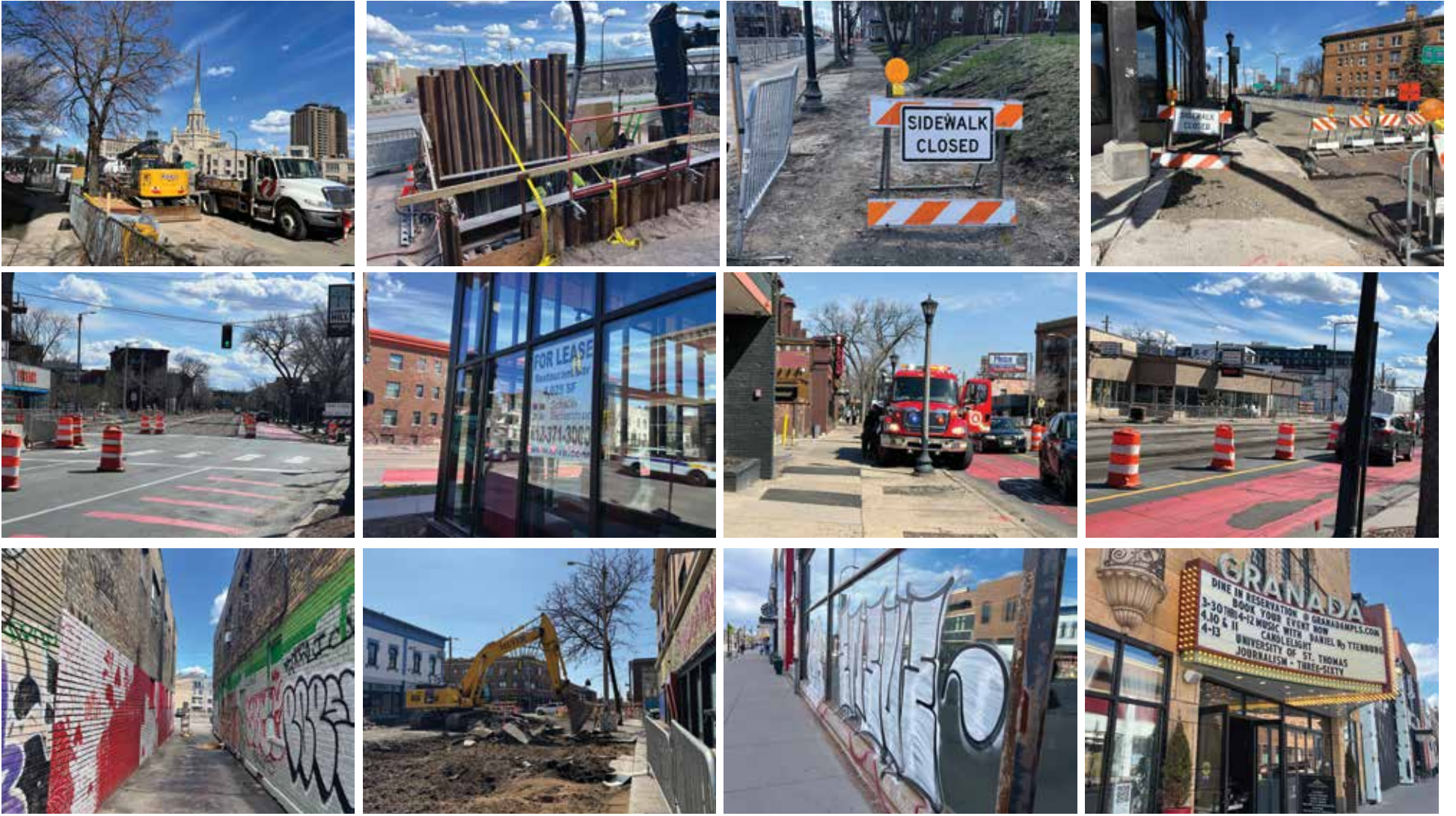


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A Stroll Along Hennepin

Article and Photos



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

On a warm spring day, Susan Lenfestey and I took a stroll along Hennepin Avenue from Douglas Avenue to 31st Street, and on Lake Street from Hennepin Avenue to East Bde Maka Ska Parkway. We wanted to see the extent of the road construction and talk to local businesses about how they are faring.

Starting at Douglas Avenue and again at Franklin Avenue, there are road signs warning southbound lanes to “expect major delays.” (An understatement.) Other signs say road open “for local traffic only.” Nowhere are there visible signs explaining how to access businesses from other streets.

The east side of Hennepin between 26th and Lake Street is completely closed and under construction, with access limited to the far western red bus lane. Recently this

presented a challenge for paramedics and firefighters who responded to an emergency at Red Cow and had to park halfway onto the sidewalk so that vehicles could squeak around the incident and avoid hitting cones. The trickle of traffic around the scene was halted when a large construction truck got stuck behind the firetruck because there wasn't enough clearance room — it created a massive traffic jam until paramedics could leave. Apparently, the city expected no medical emergencies during the two-year construction period.

Businesses on the east side of Hennepin, such as Frattallone's Hardware & Garden, have no access to their parking lot from Hennepin. Instead, people can access it from Girard Avenue South with some planning ahead. Sadly, despite a cheery array of spring flowers for sale in front of the store offering an oasis in the otherwise lonely corridor, the parking lot was empty.

Businesses that rely on the convenience of parking to load things like hardware and landscaping supplies, groceries and dry cleaning appear to be particularly vulnerable.

In contrast, destination businesses with established clientele — like Isles Bun & Coffee, Uncommon Grounds and Combine — have loyal

customers who have figured out ways to navigate through the construction zone and willing to do so for a latte, cinnamon bun or spring outfit. Other businesses, who prefer to remain unnamed, are seeing declining sales and are questioning how they will survive the two-year project.

In what seems like a cruel joke, Lake Street is also under construction for resurfacing and to make other “improvements,” like removing six mature linden trees in front of the Edgewater Condos for a new bus rapid transit station that will occupy half a block and will be lit all night — good for safety and transit access but a nuisance for the condominium dwellers, some of whom planted the trees when they first moved in to the building over a decade ago.

Area businesses are bracing for the impact of limiting parking along the north and south side of Lake Street as dedicated bike lanes and a

“How can the city expect businesses to be able to pay for this with all the disruption to our businesses? It's like being forced to pay a murderer to murder you.”

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Avenue and Lake Street

by Craig Wilson, Editor



bus rapid transit lane are installed. A hair salon at Lake Street and Irving Avenue South has already closed. What's particularly troubling is that this block is one of the more successful commercial nodes in Uptown.

We ended our walkabout crossing a traffic jam on Lake Street with most cars attempting to avoid Lake Street by turning onto East Bde Maka Ska Parkway, where cars were backed up as far as the eye could see. We followed this traffic along Lake of the Isles Parkway and Irving Avenue South as we meandered home. It was about 5 p.m., so nearly peak traffic.

Clearly local government's priority has been transit, not supporting businesses.

That's why the city spent \$1,124,589 on conducting a transit study for Hennepin Avenue and zero dollars (\$0) on a study to create a vibrant commercial corridor. Their

hope is that over time these commercial corridors will thrive due to better pedestrian, bicycle and transit access and an improved streetscape.

This was their aim for Hennepin Avenue between Lake Street and 31st Street too, and that didn't go so well. Even former City Council President Lisa Bender, the champion of that project, admitted it didn't turn out as hoped — yet history is repeating itself.

Area businesses see opportunity for improvements to Hennepin Avenue and accept that the street is old and needs replacement. Mumtaz Osman, owner of Osman Cleaners, clarified, "...we accept the fact that Hennepin Avenue needs to be replaced because it's very old. We are also open to changes to improve its function and aesthetics. What we resent is how the city ignored our concerns about making businesses viable by maintaining access to parking. We have many customers who need to be able to park nearby

so that they can carry their dry cleaning items easily to their vehicles, which the vast majority of our customers rely on. We will now have a large Bus Rapid Transit stop in front of our business, eliminating this parking, and blocking our storefront. The worst thing about this is that we have to pay an assessment for the 'improvements' that we don't support and that may kill our business. How can the city expect businesses to be able to pay for this with all the disruption to our businesses? It's like being forced to pay a murderer to murder you."

Proponents of the plan envision a future where the commercial corridor densifies, with apartments above retail that do not require off-street parking spots, or any cars at all for that matter. This will require real estate to be redeveloped and for businesses to change. They cite climate change as a major motivator for making these bold moves and that the corridor is returning to what

it once was, a pre-car transit strip that existed with the streetcar system long ago.

Area businesses have accepted that there is no going back at this point. Most are skeptical of the plan while some are holding out hope that the increased walkability and bikability of the corridor will support businesses. Time will tell

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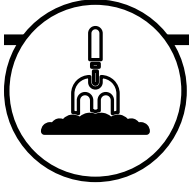
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Recipe for a Perennial Garden

Story by Mark Addicks and Photos Tom Hoch and Mark Addicks

Mark Addicks is a master gardener and lives in Lowry Hill.

One of the reasons we were drawn to our home on James Avenue South was its perennial garden history. The original owners, Mendon and Clarissa Schutt, built the house and created a spectacular set of gardens. The time was 1896, and Eloise Butler was their dear friend. In fact, the Schutts donated many of the original native perennials to Eloise's Wildflower Garden — the first wildflower garden in the United States! — when it opened in 1907.

By the time we bought the property in 2009, the gardens had dwindled to a few annuals and some remaining perennials. Invasive buckthorn had replaced the once verdant garden and over 40 dead trees needed to be removed. So, we started from scratch and decided to pursue a “perennials only” garden with zero grass (both of us had grown up mowing lawns and wanted no more of that).

We did the usual garden preparation things first. After removing dead trees, plants and shrubs, we sectioned the property into distinct areas or “rooms,” assessing each area for sun and shade, and testing the soil, which anyone can still do through the University of Minnesota (<https://soiltest.cfans.umn.edu/>). We then added nutrient-rich compost from the U's Agriculture School (which was free at the time!) and followed the instructions from the U on preparing each garden.

Next came inspiration.

We scanned garden books and design magazines to identify other gardens for ideas. This was — and still is — a favorite pastime as gardens should and will change with time, climate and the amount of sun or shade.

We selected swaths of color for each room, with a specific color palette for each while noting blooming times, plant sizes and textures. We planned to always have something in bloom, identifying roughly six to eight blooming periods so that each garden would unfold and evolve over our short five-month growing season.

For each room, we selected plants and trees to define the space, using arborvitae, Canadian hemlocks, joe pye weed, Japanese maple trees and miniature crabapple and weeping



cherry trees for borders, points of interest and continuity. A bluestone path with lighting was installed to connect and reveal gardens along the way. We also installed five water gardens to manage draining and soil erosion. Ground covers like ajuga and vinca varieties block weeds and add their own distinctive blooms to the broader mix.

Early spring is now marked by tulips, allium, peony and bleeding hearts. Salvia, azaleas, rhododendrons and gas plants follow. Catmint was used to shoulder the paths and wall elevations. May and June feature vibrant performers like foxglove, delphiniums and hollyhocks.

By mid-July, long-blooming beauties like coneflower varieties, bee balm, Russian sage, liatris and day lilies add new color and a home for bees and butterflies. In August, favorites like turtlehead, asters, black-eye Susans, anemone and native hibiscus emerge to lead us to the September equinox. Mixed throughout these blooming periods are

smaller varieties like lamb's ear, treasured for its pale green/gray velvety texture, as well as coreopsis, lady slippers and many others.

“Weeding can be a chore, but we think it's best done with your favorite music lilted, booming or jazzing through your preferred earbuds with a favorite glass of wine nearby.”

Our shaded areas thrive with hosta varieties and ferns joined by martagon lilies, cimicifuga, goats beard and yellow wax bell plants

with their own unique textures, structure and blooms.

We did, and still do, the work ourselves just for the freedom to create without anyone looking over our shoulders. Michael Saphir of Sticks & Stones partnered on the initial design drawings and construction of the path, lighting and two fountain pools.

Any advice?

Weeding can be a chore, but we think it's best done with your favorite music lilted, booming or jazzing through your preferred earbuds with a favorite glass of wine nearby. We think it's best to create a habit of short weeding periods in early morning or early evenings while you take in your garden with the changing light. We also regularly mulch to ensure that open soil areas are covered so as to reduce opportunities for weeds. We never, ever use pesticides or weed inhibitors.

My favorite piece of advice came from a perennial plant vendor at the Minneapolis Farmer's Market years



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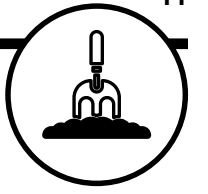
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ago. She noticed me week after week as a novice looking through all her plants. Apprised of my situation — little gardening knowledge or experience — she told me to clear a space, take note of soil, sun or shade, choose my color palette and position

each perennial with size and texture/structure in mind. That way every plant gets its time and attention. Visit the Market every week and buy one or more plants in bloom. Then you will create a garden that is always in bloom.



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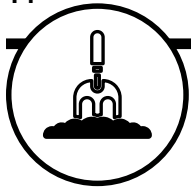
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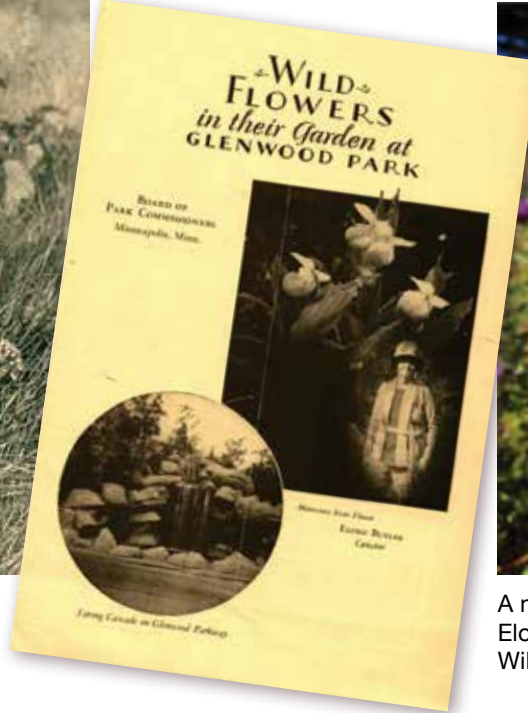
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The Living Legacy of Eloise Butler

By Aileen Johnson



Eloise Butler; Wildflowers of yesteryear; Wild Flowers in Their Garden at Glenwood Park brochure (Photo Hennepin County Library).

A monarch butterfly visits purple aster in the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden (Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary).

Aileen Johnson is a member of the Woman's Club.

The motto of the Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners adopted in 1883 was "Health and Beauty." The motto was chosen by a committee of commissioners chaired by Samuel Chute.

"Health" referred to parks providing fresh air — they would be the city's lungs — especially for the city's children.

"Beauty" signified the board's commitment to creating beautiful places in which citizens could escape from the city. The effect of nature's beauty on personal mental health as well as social and economic health was considered an important benefit of parks back then and still today.

Top amongst our city's restorative natural dwellings is the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary. We know the garden well, but what do we know of the woman who thought herself a *laissez faire* gardener dedicated to the concept of perpetuating the garden in its primeval wildness?

New England Origins

Eloise Butler was born in Maine on August 3, 1851. Her interest in botany was piqued at an early age when she helped her family gather wildflowers and other flora to

make herbal remedies for home use.

She moved to Minneapolis at the age of 23 to teach botany at South High School, where her students playfully teased that being in her class meant spending most of their time traipsing through bogs and swamps.

Eloise Butler was particularly fond of one-cell, microscopic algae called desmids. Her love of algae led her to discover a dozen new varieties including one that was named after her, *Cosmarium eloiseanum*.

In 1907, she established a botanical garden at Glenwood Park as a volunteer and continued in that role until 1911 when the Woman's Club petitioned to have a full-time curator appointed for this much-esteemed wildflower garden.

Support from the Woman's Club

The Woman's Club recommended Eloise Butler for the role and volunteered to donate half her salary for one year. The park board approved but required a nod from its finance committee. When resistance was faced there, the Woman's Club upped the ante and offered to pay for Ms. Butler's full first year's salary. The deal was sealed!

Eloise Butler was by no means a hands-off curator. Each spring she would plan new species and

weed out any unwanted invaders. It was she who personally led visitors — whether singly or in groups — on tours of the garden. She is responsible for the installation of one of the only fences in the park system, which served as a deterrent to all of the deer hoping to make a satisfying meal of her wildflowers.

A Living Legacy

Today the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary encompasses 16 acres filled with over 600 plant species and more than 130 species of resident and migratory birds. It is the oldest existing public wildflower garden in America. How proud she would be to reflect on the continued vitality of this true haven for the flora and fauna of our region and for all of the delight its many visitors have experienced during a walk through her garden!

Eloise Butler died on April 10, 1933. A memorial tablet for her was planned, created and presented by her friends and former pupils on Arbor Day, May 4th, 1934. Still today near the Martha Crone Shelter on a large granite boulder the memorial to Eloise Butler stands. On it are engraved the following words:

"In loving memory of
Eloise Butler (1851-1933),
teacher of botany in
Minneapolis Schools,
Founder and first curator
of this native plant reserve.
This oak has been planted
and this tablet erected by
a grateful public.
To this sequestered
glen Miss Butler brought
beautiful native plants from
all sections of our state and
tended them with patient
care. This priceless garden
is our heritage from her and
its continued preservation
a living testimony of our
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are scattered and here her
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Cedar Lake Park Association Continues Restoration Work on South Cedar Point

By Mark Schmidt

Mark Schmidt lives in Cedar-Isles-Dean and volunteers with Cedar Lake Park Association.

The Cedar Lake Park Association is marking its seventh year of restoration work on South Cedar Point, removing buckthorn and other invasive plants and replacing them with pollinators and other native species.

South Cedar Point is identified as a Volunteer Restoration Area in the Park Board's recently passed Cedar Isles Master Plan, and this year the group will focus on two areas in particular. First is a natural area at the base of the point, identified as "Dry Mesic Forest Woodland," and second is work on the point itself, which one volunteer describes as presently "beyond description" from an ecological standpoint, heavily infested with buckthorn and other invasives.

When the buckthorn is removed from this latter area, volunteers intend to convert it to a more original native grassland, along with creating a resilient buffer area along the shoreline of the lake. This will be highly labor-intensive, however, and apart from the heavy lifting associated with buckthorn removal, other existing non-native plants such as garlic mustard and motherwort will need to be removed by hand.

Once the removal is accomplished, the area will be seeded with tall and short-grass prairie seeds donated by the Cedar Lake Park Association.

Work already accomplished by volunteers can be seen just south of the peninsula. While some buckthorn still remains, significant areas have been cleared by park board staff, and volunteers have followed to introduce native plantings. These areas will still need volunteer weeding and other attention as they become more established.

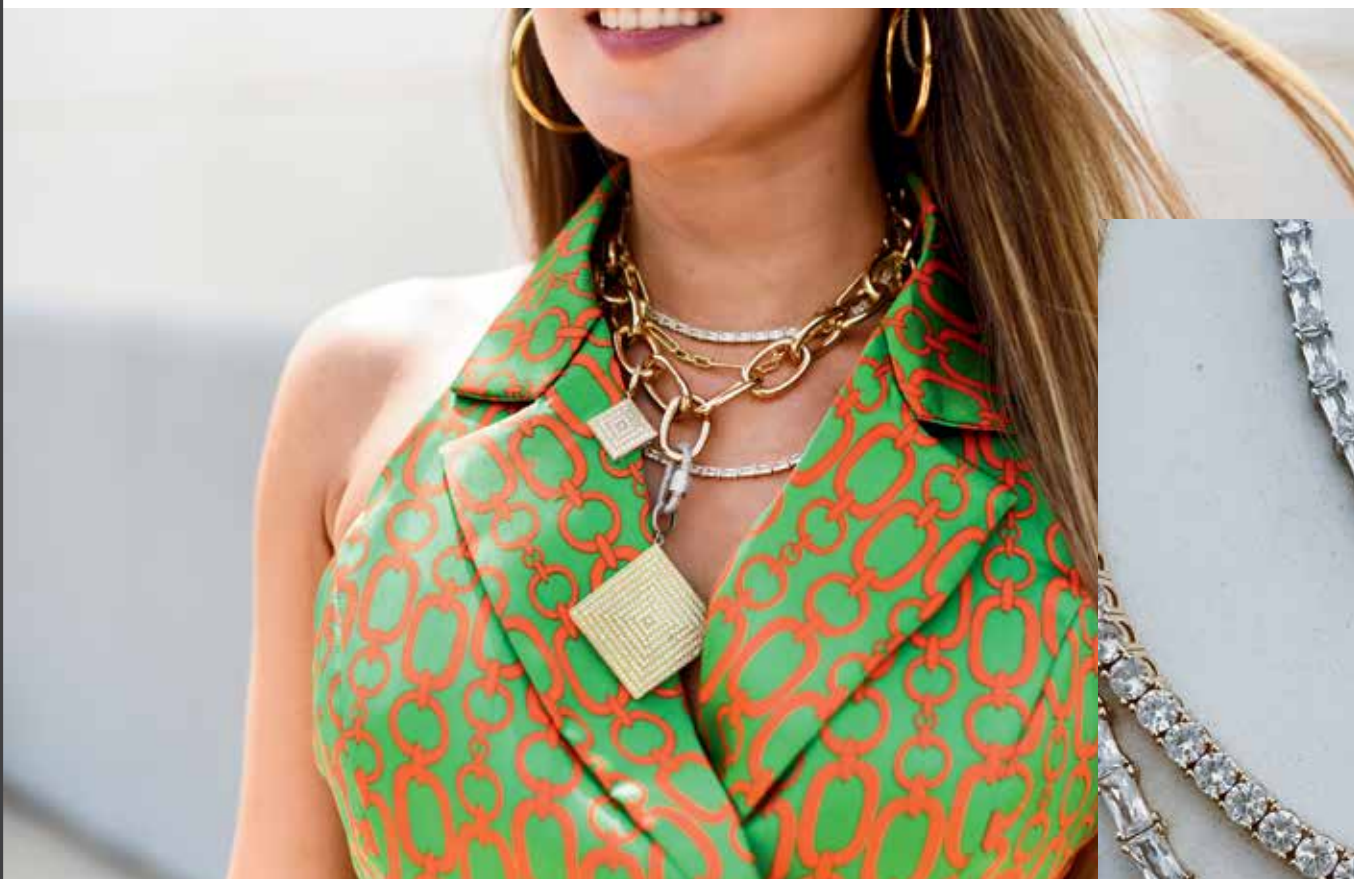
Overall, positive change is coming to the point, and the park association encourages any and all passers-by to look for and enjoy the new native plantings as they sprout and bloom this spring. Anyone interested in volunteering for this important ecological improvement work can contact the Cedar Lake Park Association by visiting.

▶ WANT TO VOLUNTEER?
 Contact the Cedar Lake Park Association at –
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(Image Cedar Lake Park Association).

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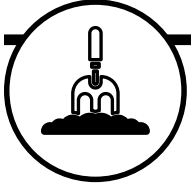


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My Native Plant Journey

Story and Photos by Angie Erdrich

Angie Erdrich lives in Kenwood.

In 2009, I started gardening in Minneapolis with a goal of maximizing the edible potential of landscaping. We planted a Mont Royal plum tree, six apple trees, three North Star cherry trees, raspberries, juneberries and every kind of vegetable. So narrow was my focus on human food that I almost cut down a small oak tree in the front yard.

I wasn't always passionate about flowers.

I wasn't interested in flowers until my husband randomly enrolled me in a class on rain gardens. I was immediately sold on the idea of filtering stormwater to protect Lake of the Isles, and so we installed a boulevard rain garden.

Funny thing, my sisters had been recommending native flowers for years, but their ideas went in one ear and out the other. The Hennepin County master gardener who hosted the rain garden seminar at Walker Library in August 2009 had no idea how she had set my mind on a path that turned into a borderline fanatical "Erdrich Woman Obsession."

"The Hennepin County master gardener who hosted the rain garden seminar at Walker Library in August 2009 had no idea how she had set my mind on a path that turned into a borderline fanatical 'Erdrich Woman Obsession.'"

I evolved!

Fast forward 15 years, my thinking has evolved. The oak, once on the chopping block, is now precious to me for supporting many species. We now grow about 100 varieties of flowers and native plants. I share my successes and lists of resources, including what grows easily, what is great to eat and what matters the most for climate change and species survival with our neighbors who are interested in increasing the ecological and eating potential of their yards. Fast forward 100 years and the plan is that my garden will still be growing and sustaining life.

Prior to moving to Minneapolis in 2009, I organized community/school/hospital gardens. I am a pediatrician, and gardening and health promotion was a side hobby in the rural communities where I worked. My love of growing food is still a big thing, but I am now increasingly focused on providing a sanctuary for living creatures.

I have worked with Metro Blooms, Kenwood Elementary School and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District to install neigh-



Left to right: Rusty Patched Bumble Bee spotted in my garden, September 2023; Narrow leaf coneflower; Bloodroot.



Left to right: Prairie smoke; Narrow leaf coneflower; Monarda punctatum, Spotted beebalm.



Left to right: Bloodroot in bloom; Narrow leaf coneflower; Zigzag goldenrod; Columbine.

borhood rain gardens. Most recently I worked with the Kenwood Neighborhood Organization and the Bureau of Water and Soil Resources to get a \$40,000 "Lawns to Legumes" grant to fund 21 pollinator gardens.

An Appreciation for Ecology

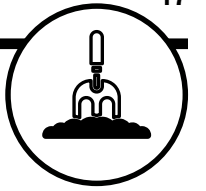
Through Metro Blooms, my idea of beauty changed from admiring the surface loveliness of formal annual plantings to understanding the beauty of functional native plant design. My yard is an everyday connection to beauty while it filters stormwater, fosters biodiversity, provides habitat, feeds the food chain, engages people in nature and frankly pro-

vides entertainment. Our garden is alive with many species of insects, native bees including the endangered rusty patched bumblebee, butterflies, birds and a few precious toads.

Native trees also do all the things mentioned above. Around the lakes, we are lucky to live among tall trees which provide great bird habitat. And I now see many people shifting to alternative landscaping. A neighbor replaced grass with woodland plants. Another neighbor is growing 65 trees, mostly planted very close together, like in a forest where the roots communicate and support other trees. We don't need to plant trees like lollipops!

My #1 crowning achievement was when I photographed a rusty patched bumblebee on a New England aster in our yard. My #2 achievement will be if ever I find a toad in the rain garden at Kenwood Corner!

Good luck with your native plant journey. You will see so much going on above ground, but there is even more life happening below ground. We can all do something to combat species loss and climate change. If you are a landowner, nature's best hope is you, your yard and garden.



My Native Plant Advice

By Angie Erdrich

If you would like to be part of a movement to maximize the ecological benefits of native plants, here are a few ideas learned from my mistakes and from books and following experts online:

1. You don't need to go all in 100%. Even a few native plants will help our native insects, and stopping lawn chemicals, which poison the food chain, will make a huge difference.
2. Don't purchase plants (including trees) treated with systemic insecticides. Chemicals persist in woody plant tissue and can also be expressed in leaf tissue, pollen and nectar.
3. Consider working in community gardens or helping in a friend's garden if you don't have a yard of your own. Local school gardens and the Cedar Lake Park Association always need help.
4. Leave seed heads up in the winter to feed birds. You can also plant the seeds in October or dry them and give them away for others to plant.
5. October is the best time for planting because the seeds need cold stratification. You can plant seed heads of native plants in a protected spot or at the base of an existing plant, then transplant them in the spring or summer.

6. Humans depend on insects. Insects are the structural and functional base of Earth's ecosystem. Unless insects are invading your house, leave them alone.

Helpful websites and books:

1. Facebook groups with local tips: Wild Ones Minnesota, Homegrown National Park, Pollinator Friendly Yards, Pollinators on Native Plants, The Xerces Society.
2. Websites: www.healthyyards.org, wimonarches.org, Wisconsin Monarch Collaborative, xerces.org, twincities.wildones.org, beelab.umn.edu.

Search best larval host plants by zip code at <https://nativeplantfinder.nwf.org>.

3. Heather Holm's website contains many helpful graphics on winter sowing, soft landings, best way to prune in the spring for bee habitat and much more. <https://pollinatorsnativeplants.com>
4. [Bluethumb.org](http://bluethumb.org) lists Minnesota recommended pesticide-free plant sellers.
5. Crucial habitat: create soft landings (diverse native plantings) under oak trees and other keystone trees. <https://pollinatorsnativeplants.com>
6. Xerces.org. Search Buying Bee-safe Plants.
7. Books about planting native trees: Nature's Best Hope, by Doug Tallamy. Mini-forest Revolution. Using the Miyawaki method to rapidly rewild the world, by Hannah Lewis. Editor's note: Hannah's mother Holly Lewis was an early editor of the Hill & Lake Press, and Hannah got her start by writing for the Kids' Issue!
8. Further reading because she writes so well: Dara Moskowitz Grumdahl, The Essential Dear Dara. Chapter "Panic in Bloom" which first appeared 10/10/2013 in MPLS St. Paul Magazine. Looking back, I recall the article influencing me.

My favorites and successes:

1. Fruit trees/bushes for pie and fresh eating: Northstar Cherry, Allegheny Serviceberry, Mont Royal Plum. Not so easy but worth it: Honey Crisp and cross-pollinator Honey Gold apples (search YouTube for how to bag apples in May in Minneapolis to prevent codling moth/apple maggot infestation).
2. Boulevard plantings: after many failures, my boulevard is flourishing almost on autopilot with pasque flower, columbine, prairie smoke, short phlox, common milkweed, liatris, blanket flower, many types of sedums and succulents, and little bluestem native

grass. Seeded celosia, zinnias and cosmos add nice color in late season.

3. Growing and pickling cucumbers is a talent I own. Cool Breeze variety is my favorite for fresh eating and refrigerator pickles, and I grow Cross Country Cukes for dill pickles. My daughter made an embarrassing YouTube video of me promoting my method of growing thousands of cucumbers vertically.

4. I was over age 40 when I realized that monarch caterpillars 100% require milkweed. The caterpillars, not butterflies. Native plants are important because they are larval host plants, food that the larvae can digest. Adult monarch butterflies feed on nectar from a variety of flowers but lay eggs on milkweed. Did you know that almost all larval stages of pollinators rely on particular species of native plants? The caterpillars/larvae literally cannot digest other plants. Monarchs are just one example of plant/pollinator relationship. Many species are at risk of extinction due to loss of habitat and people growing foreign or hybrid plants that caterpillars cannot eat.

5. Important keystone species for restoring insect and pollinator ecology in Twin Cities, urban and suburban areas (examples of a specific species in parentheses): Quercus/Oak (all the oaks, ex white oak, bur oak), Prunus/Cherry (Prunus Americana), Salix/Willow, Solidago/Goldenrod, Aster (New England Aster), Helianthus/Sunflower. In addition, my personal favorites are Liatris Ligulistylis "the Monarch Magnet" and Allegheny Serviceberry. For a perfect list of 30 great trees for our area, search online "Native Trees for a changing climate twin cities wild ones" or try twincities.wildones.org.



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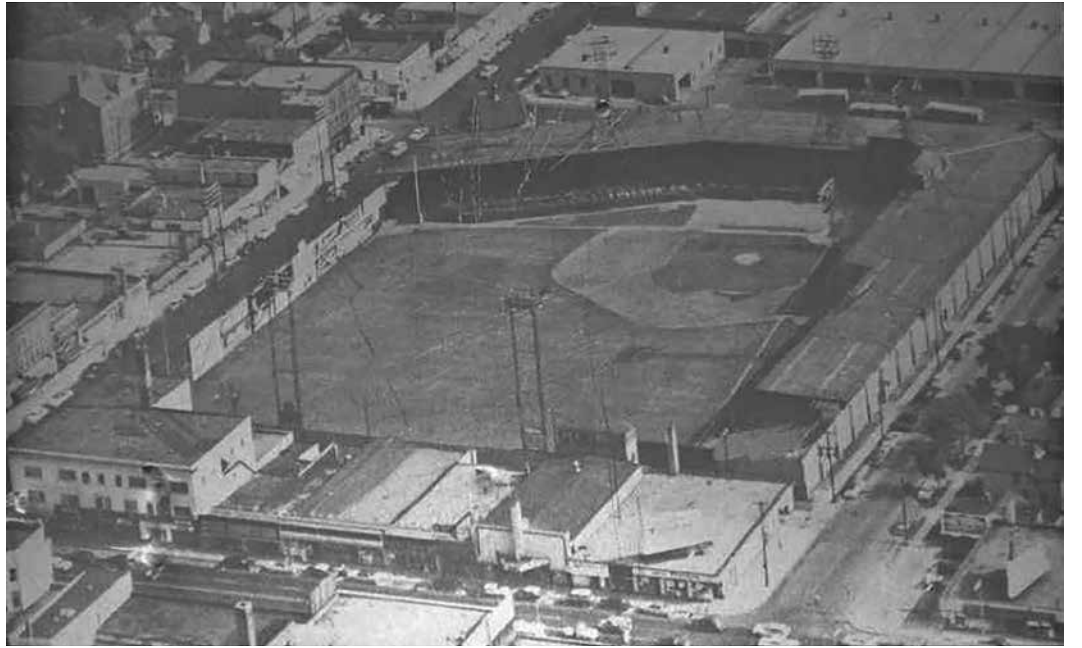
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Take Me Out to the Ball Game: Remembering Nicollet Park

Story by Josie Owens



Nicollet Base Ball Field in 1955 located at Nicollet Avenue and 31st Street. (Photo Hennepin County)



Aerial view of Nicollet Park. (Photo Baseball Bugs)

Josie Owens lives in Lowry Hill.

From 1896 to 1955, Minneapolis baseball enthusiasts could while away an afternoon at Nicollet Park, a bandbox park nestled in the Lake Street business corridor. Easily accessible on the 10 streetcar line, Nicollet Park was the home of the Minneapolis Millers, a minor league team established in 1884.

At that time, many large cities did not have a major league team. A robust minor league system that predated the farm team system offered great baseball viewing and excitement.

Seven miles across the Mississippi, the St. Paul Saints were their greatest rivals. Popular doubleheaders started in one park in the morning and concluded in the other with rowdy fans riding the #10 between the games.

Path to Nicollet Park

On May 23, 1896, the Millers played their last game in Athletic Park (6th Street and 1st Avenue behind the West Hotel). They had played there since 1889 in terrible conditions as it was prone to flooding. The land was abruptly sold in May. The team took a road trip and hoped for somewhere to play on their return.

Four possible sites were discussed with land across Hennepin from Loring Park being the favorite. When the streetcar company said that it could better serve a Lake Street location, a location at 31st Street and Nicollet Avenue was chosen. Within three weeks the field was ready for baseball. It cost \$4,000 and could seat 4,000 fans. The first game in the new park was played against Milwaukee on June 18, 1896.

The first name chosen for the park was Wright Field, after Harry Wright, one of baseball's founding fathers. However, the name was not popular. In 1897, Nicollet Park became the new name.

Advertisers also discovered the ballpark. Wheaties, a long-time sponsor of the Millers on the radio, first unveiled its "Breakfast of Champions" slogan in 1933 on the outfield fence.

Nicollet Park had its drawbacks, but that was part of the charm. Minneapolis Tribune writer Dave Mona described it as "soggy, foul, rotten, and thoroughly wonderful."

Millers

The Millers found success early in their new home. They had only a short time to enjoy clinch-

ing the Western League pennant in 1896 before their best players were pillaged by the major leagues. The Millers fell to last place in 1897.

When they joined the American Association in 1902, they found dependable achievement with Mike Kelley at the helm. Although Mike Kelley oscillated between the Saints and Millers, he ultimately chose the Millers when he purchased them in 1923.

The team won many pennants and saw great players who enjoyed the small ballfield and the opportunity to hit home runs, some landing in Nicollet Avenue where fans would dodge traffic to get the ball.

In 1933, Joe Hauser hit 50 of his 69 home runs at home. The great Rube Waddell pitched for the Millers in 1911 and 1912. He was not salaried but instead was paid \$10 each week if he remained sober. Ted Williams played for the Millers in 1938 and won the American Association Triple Crown (.366, 43 home runs and 142 RBIs) before heading to Boston. Overall, 15 Millers were inducted into Baseball's Hall of Fame.

World Wars and the Millerettes

Although 1917 did not seem to

affect the Millers, the 1918 season was different with their smallest opening day crowd. The team weathered the war years. WWII was more disruptive, with many players joining up. Kelley's short-term solution was the creation of the "All-Nations" team in 1945. This team fielded players that were of Cuban, Irish, Scandinavian, German and Polish descent.

The shortage also provided an opportunity for women to play professionally. The Millerettes were formed as part of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League. They also played at Nicollet Park and drew a crowd, many to root for Borgie (Lorraine Borg), the catcher from Minneapolis. In their uniforms of maroon-colored knee socks and a short-skirted dress bearing the Minneapolis city seal, they played a full schedule.

The home games were short-lived as they had to compete with the Millers for spectators and Minneapolis was unpopular, as it was 400 miles from the nearest girls team. On July 23, 1944, the Millerettes became a traveling team throughout the Midwest. "The Orphans," as they were known, found a new home in Indiana as the Fort Wayne Daisies.



Pruning efforts on Lake of the Isles, spearheaded by local neighborhood associations in collaboration with the park board, aim to enhance views through a comprehensive management plan. (Photo Harvey Ettinger)



This photo, and photos on opposite page: Kenwood and Lowry Hill neighbors tidy up Lake of the Isles on Earth Day. (Photo Courtney Cushing Kiernat)



Minneapolis Millers in 1908. (Photo Hennepin County)



Minnesota, Minneapolis Millerettes

Minneapolis Millerettes in 1944. (Photo Hennepin County)

Nicollet Park exclusively belonged to the Millers again.

Corporate Baseball

In 1945, Kelley sold the Millers to the New York Giants, finally succumbing to the farm team system. He scheduled a final doubleheader against the Saints in 1946 with a record crowd of 15,761. He wanted to give the fans one more game with their favorite players, so he opened the game to all. Fans were allowed to stand on the field to watch their team.

The frustration with the new farm system grew as players were moved up and down and traded to other franchises. The days of a player like Yip Owens or Henri Rondeau playing for 10 years for the team were gone.

In 1951, fans excitedly thought that this was their year with the Millers poised to win the pennant. How could they not, with Willie Mays batting .477 playing centerfield? The Giants brought him up to the majors in May. The winning season ended.

Final Days

Even an exhibition game between Giants and Millers, which was ostensibly a win for the Millers, became an overall loss as the

Giants left town taking the Millers' second baseman Wayne Terwilliger with them.

Minneapolis now increased its effort to get a major league team. The task force focused on building a new stadium to entice a team. On June 29, 1955, ground was broken in Bloomington. The Millers opened their last season in Nicollet Park in 1955.

Satisfyingly, the Millers won the pennant for the ninth time their last year in Nicollet Park. They would play a few years in Bloomington as a Red Sox affiliate but folded in 1960 with the arrival of the Twins.

Epilogue

The neighborhood would look quite different in a short time. The streetcar line closed in 1954. Nicollet Park was razed in 1955. In 1978 the Lake Street Kmart cut off access between Lake and Nicollet Streets. One can find the location of Nicollet Park as it is marked by a plaque remembering when "[s]pectators came from all across the upper midwest to watch the best baseball in the region."

The Millers played briefly at Metropolitan Stadium in Bloomington until the quest for a major league team finally succeeded.

Founded in Washington D.C. in 1901, the Washington Senators agreed to move to the Twin Cities and were renamed the Twins, after the Twin Cities. The Twins played in Metropolitan Stadium from 1961-1981. In 1982, the Twins moved into the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in downtown Minneapolis. They played their first season at Target Field in 2010. Minneapolis baseball has come full circle as fans board the light rail to come to the ballpark to spend an afternoon rooting for their home team heroes. Who says that you can't go back?



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Meet Your Neighbor

Interview and Photos by Craig Wilson, Editor

Michael Pickart, Proprietor of Combine

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

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in a family of educators. My parents and grandparents were friends with George McGovern, and that's where my interest in the political process comes from. I graduated from the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. I love South Dakota — as a matter of fact, we're opening a second Combine location in Sioux Falls this August.

How did you get involved in fashion?

I moved to Minneapolis right after college to work for Norwest Bank (now Wells Fargo) and shopped a lot at a store in Uptown called Bacio, whose owner asked me to come work for her part time.

What was Intoto?

I continued with my bank career, becoming more interested in the fashion retail world, and a few years later Karen Heithoff asked me to help her open a new women's and men's fashion store at 31st and Hennepin called Intoto. Karen and I ran Intoto for almost 20 years. We did a lot of our buying in Paris and Milan, carrying many lines that nobody else had in Minneapolis, like Dries Van Noten, Martin Margiela, Marni, Isabel Marant... Intoto was magical — its reputation grew, we got used to seeing visiting celebrities shopping — Sinead O'Connor, Janet Jackson, Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis... but even more amazing were the relationships that grew from the client family created at Intoto, many of whom are part of the Combine experience today (and now adding children and grandchildren).

What was Uptown like back then?

Uptown was not as busy — a little more relaxed in those days.



Owner, Michael Pickart, at the door to his shop, Combine.

We had our own parking behind the store. Kitty corner from Intoto was Matt & Charlie's shop Room Service, there was Avalanche, Acres with Cord and Jim, and of course the legendary Lucia's restaurant, plus her wine bar, then her bakery — that convergence made our corner of Uptown a very singular experience.

How has it changed?

Let me tell you a story to illustrate my perspective on the discussion about the state of Uptown retail.

Right after the current construction started, one of my regular clients from the neighborhood came in and said, "OK, I'm here to buy some stuff, because I don't want to lose my store." She spent over a thousand dollars, and looking at the bill total, exclaimed, "Good! I wanted a good total today." That's what the people who shop here are like.

What is Combine?

Combine is a little more casual in focus than Intoto was. We have some really great designers

- one of my favorites is Hannah Wessel's women + men line. I'd say knitwear is really the backbone for me: Innis Meain sweaters from Ireland, Lamberto Losani & MJ Watson from Italy. Some great scarves - Hannah, Lost & Found, Mois Mont, Faliero Sarti (which we carried for 15 years at Intoto.) We're lucky to have these vendor relationships, and it's very gratifying to see the renewal of friendships from our Intoto family.

How has Uptown's road closures affected area businesses?

Luckily, we have 20+ parking spaces behind the store (which we share with our building neighbors Aurora Spa and Pinoli), which makes it easy for our customers to avoid the upheaval of the ongoing Lake Street "improvements."

My big concern is the situation across the street where they're putting in the bike lane. Our sister stores Les Sol and Legacy have a much bigger struggle, with the loss of on-street parking. Whoever has made these decisions has really not thought through the impact on the health of our local businesses. I'm lucky to have an established clientele who continue to support us, but it would be very tough for any newer businesses to deal with this.

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Kindergartners Find the School Forest a Year-Round Resource for Learning and Fun!

Article and Photos by Cathy Sullivan

Cathy Sullivan is a kindergarten teacher at Kenwood Community School.

The Kenwood School Forest is an invaluable resource for the students of Kenwood School! Engaging in walking field trips to explore nature is such a fantastic way for our kindergarten students to learn and connect with their surroundings.

Observing the seasonal changes, from the budding of new leaves to the migration of birds, provides endless opportunities for learning and wonder. Exploring the diversity of trees, plants and wildlife fosters a deeper appreciation for the natural world and our interconnectedness.

The emphasis on creative play not only nurtures imagination but also encourages cooperation and social skills among the students. Additionally, the physical activities involved in outdoor play contribute to building strength and promoting overall well-being.

We, at Kenwood School, are fortunate to have such a gem within our school neighborhood. The Kenwood School Forest serves as an oasis in the city, offering a peaceful retreat where students from diverse backgrounds, including multilingual learners, can come together to learn, explore and grow. It's heartwarming to see how nature can unite and enrich communities in such meaningful ways.



May Scavenger Hunt in East Cedar Lake Woods

Leave No Trace Awareness: Take only photos, leave only footprints, leave the woods better than when you arrived. Things that harm the woods: tobacco products (not allowed), new trails and shortcuts, bikes on trails (not allowed because they trample habitat and cause soil erosion), remnants of fires, invasive species, fishing tackle left behind (lead sinkers poison birds, worms become invasive), pet waste.

Linda's Spiral (memorial spiral of boulders)	Good skipping rock	Cedar tree	Columbine	2 Birds in Love	Yellow bird (Goldfinch or Yellow Warbler)	Ball (thrown for a dog?) or other garbage in the reeds	White dog
Buckthorn Village	Fern	Cottonwood tree	Dutchman's Breeches	Painted Rock	Owl (actually, maybe better to give them privacy)	Robin	Leave no trace principles awareness*
Bag of garbage (picked up while you hike)	Cormorant	Squirrel	Solomon Seal	Snail shell	Woodpecker	Chickadee	Oriole nest hanging from a tree near East Cedar Beach
Minnesota School Forest sign	Wood duck	Magical Woven Buckthorn Wall	Jack in the Pulpit	Mud pit	Heron	Woodpecker holes	Evidence of volunteers removing invasive species
Bench for resting	Mushroom or shelf fungus	Muskrat	Spring ephemeral	Turtle basking in the sun	Oriole	Insect habitat	Black dog

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 May, so let's talk about mothers as their day approaches. Mothers come in all shapes and stripes. But most are good, loving and, at the very least, try.

My own mother, my first mother, the one who birthed and raised me, died in 1992, four years after my father passed. Though I was an adult, I was still the first of my peer group to bear the dodgy title of "orphan." It was jarring and hard.

That year I began teaching Spanish at the University of St. Thomas, where they had a program called "Parents on Campus," i.e., if your darling was a full-time student, you could take any class you wanted free of charge so long as there was room — kind of like flying standby.

I loved having parents in my classes. While the majority of enrolled students were taking Spanish because they had to, to fulfill the language requirement, the parents came because they wanted to, and added a wiser attitude towards learning — that it's fun — and this kept the "kids" in line.

In the fall of 1993, my life was seemingly going gangbusters — professionally, financially, socially, romantically — a life many would regard as "having it all." But I didn't.

Then along came Mary.

After any term's first class there was always a line of last-minute students, registration form in hand, awaiting my signature to let them in. This time there was a woman, clearly a parent, who'd positioned herself at the end of the line — standby, I assumed.

Her turn finally came; by then it was just the two of us, but no document in hand, just questions.

First question: "Dorothy, what's your middle name?" "Marie," I answered. Her reply: "I knew it! My mother is Dorothy Marie, my sister is Dorothy Marie, and you're Dorothy Marie. I knew you were meant to be part of our family."

At this point 99.9% of people would think this lady was nuts. I didn't. I simply wondered, how did she know that the one thing missing in my life, the one thing I desperately wanted and needed, was a family?

Our parents' will had been manipulated by one of my siblings, and this betrayal, among others, fractured what was left of the family, transforming it into Fight Club. That's no way to live and, finally, I left the system. It's the hardest decision I've ever made, but the hard decisions we make in life allow us to discover and become who we really are. Still, I was anchorless. My middle name granted me entry to this lovely woman's family? Excellent. I was all in.

In any budding relationship, the usual next step is an invitation to meet for coffee. Not Mary's — she cut to the chase: "Wanna go to Puerto Rico?" My reply: "Sure." Mary explained that she ran a travel agency, was planning a tour of the country in December, that I could go along as the official interpreter. And that's how I spent my winter break. I had a blast.

Eight months later we were back in San Juan on another junket. One afternoon after days of nonstop touring, we kicked back in our hotel room, ordered room service (burgers, fries, a bottle of wine) and watched the preliminary hearings for the O.J. Simpson trial on TV. Now, it was my turn for questions.

I'd just gotten engaged, and I asked Mary to be my mother of the bride. Her answer: "Yes!" Mine was a loving, yet practical, request. I couldn't bear the thought of the empty front pew where my parents should sit. What's more, Mary added, "I'd be honored." And it turned out that though my request was for a day, her response

was for a lifetime.

My Uncle Kenneth walked me down the aisle, and Mary sat in the front pew along with her mother, Dorothy Marie. Mary was listed in the program as "Madre Especial," and that is who she is to this day. I was folded into Mary's family — she was then divorced with four grown children, all of whom welcomed me as I welcomed them into my life.

Mary, whom I call Madre, is now married to a wonderful man, Mike, whom I call Padre. Both of Serbian descent, they call me Dragica, which means precious. At Mary and Mike's wedding, standing in the family photos was one of the happiest moments of my life. Over the years I've called Madre countless times for motherly advice, and she always delivers. Being part of this family didn't change my life: It saved my life.

If your first mother isn't present, physically or emotionally, be open to a new person starring in that role and to her motherly magic. Mothers, like angels, are everywhere and can save broken hearts and souls, as Mary saved mine.

Motherhood, like family, is about love. Happy Mother's Day to all. *Y Feliz Día de la Madre, a mi Madre Especial.*

— Dorothy



3174 DEAN COURT...Sunny interior spaces overlooking a park-like greenspace at this townhome near the City Lakes. Dramatic two-story solarium connects indoor & outdoor settings. Open main floor plan is great for entertaining, living and dining. Upper level features two bedrooms, renovated bath with a walk-in shower and deep soaking tub. Lower level media room/guest space with bath. \$455,000



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SUMMER FUN & WELLNESS 2024

All are welcome to East Cedar Lake Beach and Kenwood Park Events

MAY

- 11** 8:30-11:00 am **Annual East Cedar Lake Beach Clean-Up**
- 11** 9:00 am **Safety Walk & Clean-Up** Meet at Kenwood School
- 19** 9:30-10:30 am **City Trail Loppet Race KNO Cheer Station with Puppy Dog Tails & coffee at East Cedar Lake Beach**
- F-Su** **612 Sauna at the Beach**, Registration required

JUN

- 8** 10:00 am **Safety Walk & Clean-Up** Meet at Kenwood School
- 8** 3:00 pm **Beach Opener Family Event with Brother Ghana & Duniya Drum & Dance** Bread & Pickle and Shaved Ice Food Trucks
- 23** 3:00 pm **Shakespeare at the Beach**
- T/Th** 7:00 pm **Yoga at the Beach**
- W** 7:00 pm **Pilates at the Beach**

JUL

- 1** 7:00 pm **Movie in the Park** *Migration* at Kenwood Park
- 13** 10:00 am **Safety Walk** Meet at Kenwood School
- 13** 3:00 - 6:00 pm **Pirates & Mermaids Family Event at the Beach** Tin Fish Food Truck
- 28** 3:00 pm **Safety Walk** Meet at Kenwood School
- T/Th** 7:00 pm **Yoga at the Beach**
- W** 7:00 pm **Pilates at the Beach**

AUG

- 3** 10:00 am - Noon **Family Fishing on Cedar Lake**
- 10** 10:00 am **Safety Walk** Meet at Kenwood School
- 10** 4:00 pm **Open Eye Theatre Puppet Show at Kenwood Park**
- 18** 10:00 am **Safety Walk** Meet at Kenwood School
- 25** 3:00 pm **Pickup Truck Opera at the Beach**
- T/Th** 7:00 pm **Yoga at the Beach**
- W** 7:00 pm **Pilates at the Beach**

SEP

- 7** 9:00 am - 3:00 pm **SUPER Sale in the Neighborhood**
- 7** 6:30 - 8:30 pm **Fire & Ice at the Beach**
- 14** 10:00 am **Safety Walk** Meet at Kenwood School
- 22** 10:00 am **Safety Walk** Meet at Kenwood School



All Summer Fun & Wellness events are hosted by the Kenwood Neighborhood Organization (KNO) in part, thanks to the generosity of Kenwood neighbors. All KNO events are FREE to all except for Food Truck items. Event vendors may “pass the hat” for optional contributions at each event.

Stay up-to-date on KNO summer events!

