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Hill & Lake Press

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

VOLUME 39 NUMBER 5

www.hillandlakepress.com

MAY 29, 2015

Burnham bridge is comin' down . . .



Operator Scott Mika and his assistant Drew Rhoda, both with Kraemer North America, enjoyed beautiful weather on May 19 as they finished sawcutting the Burnham Road bridge deck in multiple locations prior to removing the deck. A few days later boaters on the Kenilworth Channel were able to enjoy the same unobstructed view upwards as did boaters from 1913, when the channel was opened, until 1926, when the first Burnham bridge was built. City Public Works Project Engineer Meseret Wolana and Engineering Technician Hassan Nur visit the site frequently and are happy to chat with onlookers. Call Wolana at 612-673-3527 or Nur at 612-673-3789 with questions, or visit the project page at ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/all/WCMS1P-136010.

Caption: Michael Wilson. Photo: Dorothy Childers.

Sculpture Garden, Walker Plans impress Lunch with Lisa crowd



Walker Art Center Executive Director Olga Viso (above) and Minneapolis Park Board Project Manager Dana Murdoch delighted an enthusiastic Lunch with Lisa crowd on April 29 with visuals and descriptions of the exciting reconstruction of the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, renovation of the Cowles Conservatory, and a new entrance pavillion and relandscaping for the Walker. The combined \$75 million project, a partnership between the Walker and the Park Board, will result in a fully integrated vision for the Walker's and Sculpture Garden's 19-acre campus, Viso told the crowd, coming as the Walker celebrates its 75th anniversary. Construction is anticipated to begin in late summer or early fall. For more information: minneapolisparcs.org, then "Park Care & Improvements," then "Current Projects."

Caption: Michael Wilson. Photo: Dorothy Childers.

Stakes high as municipal, county officials attempt to slash SWLRT costs

By Michael Wilson

It's crunch time – again – for Southwest LRT as municipal officials react to a menu of options assembled by project planners for slashing \$341 million from the project's budget, which ballooned from \$1.65 million to almost \$2 billion in late April when scores of unanticipated expenses came to light.

The pushback was immediate when the massive cost overruns were made public on April 27. Gov. Mark Dayton declared himself "shocked and appalled" and expressed "serious questions about [SWLRT's] viability and affordability."

Met Council Chair Adam Duinick responded to the new projected \$2 billion pricetag for the line, which even at its previous \$1.65 million figure was already the most expensive transportation project in Minnesota history, by asserting that "we need to take a pause to see how to proceed because this project is on uncertain ground right now." He said that he could not rule out the possibility that the project would be scuttled. "When I say all options are on the table," Duinick said, "I really mean that."

The Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB), made up of commissioners representing Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington counties and charged with allocating funds raised from the five-county quarter-cent transit sales tax, told the Met Council and the Hennepin County commissioner representatives bluntly that CTIB's contribution would remain at \$495 million, or 30 percent of the previous \$1.65 billion figure. CTIB commissioner representatives from Anoka, Dakota, Ramsey and Washington counties have expressed increasing discontent at the increasingly disproportionate share of CTIB revenues going to a single Hennepin County project.

Dayton's ire and Duinick's consternation raised the hopes of many Hill and Lake residents, particularly in Kenwood and Cedar-Isles-Dean, who had been promised for years that freight rail in the Kenilworth corridor was "temporary" and would be rerouted in St. Louis Park to make room for light rail. Perhaps a more sensible LRT route or a less costly mode of transit would now be examined, they thought, particularly in light of deepening concern over freight safety, long-term harm to the ecology of the corridor, and potentially severe construction impacts.

Their hopes, however, were short-lived. Within a few days suburban, Hennepin County, and Met Council officials began outdoing themselves in promising to go through the project's budget with razor-sharp pencils.

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Plant Swap in East Isles



Have perennial plants and houseplants to swap? Join friends and neighbors in East Isles and beyond for a fun swap in the side yard of 2871 Humboldt Avenue South on The Mall. First come, first served, bring one, take one. Bring cash to donate if you don't have plants to swap. For swap how-tos, contact Jenika at jenika@jenikamcgann.com. So far the list includes golden alexander, columbine, bee balm, purple cone flower, host, and lily of the valley plus a variety of houseplants. Includes refreshments. Check for updates at <https://www.facebook.com/EastIslesGreenTeam>.

Health Care Issues Meeting By Dave Dvorak

Despite the health insurance changes under the Affordable Care Act, 265,000 Minnesotans are still without any coverage at all, while countless others are struggling to afford crippling deductibles and copays required by their private insurance policies. The result is that too often, individuals forgo needed health care, putting themselves at serious risk of untreated medical conditions.

The Minnesota chapter of Physicians for a National Health Plan is a nonprofit organization of over 1,000 Minnesota physicians and health professionals advocating for fair, efficient and universal coverage through single payer health reform. On Saturday, June 6th at 10am at the Walker Library, they will be presenting their vision to shape a Minnesota system that will guarantee quality health coverage to all of us without financial barriers. This talk is free, open to the public, and will be of interest to anyone who has struggled with medical bills or who has suffered because they couldn't get the care they needed.

Park Siding Park Gardening Days

May 30, & fourth Saturday of each month through summer. 9am start.

HAPPENINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

JUNE 6, 10:30 AM BARBARA FOGEL EVENT
THOMAS LOWRY PARK

JUNE 6, 10AM HEALTH CARE AT WALKER

JUNE 30, EIRA ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Neighborhood monthly meetings:

CIDNA: 2nd Wednesday, 6pm Jones-Harrison.

KIAA: First Monday, 7pm. Kenwood Rec Center

LHNA: First Tuesday, 7pm, Kenwood Rec Center

EIRA: Second Tuesdays, 7pm Grace Church

beARTrageous in the Community

As spring brings color back to nature, the kids at beARTrageous bring smiles to those in our community. The May Day tradition at this little art studio in the heart of Kenwood continues on to bring spring cheer. This year the Afterschool Arts program kids watercolored and filled over 100 May Day baskets to be delivered to Kenwood residents, business owners and some of the residents in the nearby neighborhood of CIDNA. "It's fun to surprise people with handmade gifts!" Luella Williams age 8 said after delivering a few to nearby residents. Next year we hope to expand our deliveries with the help of other community members by hosting a family May Day basket making workshop the eve before May Day.

This year's May Day celebration at the Kenwood Corner included other festivities to celebrate the first National Independent Bookstore Day. beARTrageous hosted a reading and book signing with local author Lori Evert and her daughter Anja along with a craft, face painting and delicious cupcakes by Nicely Baked. Birchbark Books brought in sisters Heid and Louise Erdrich for a meet and greet along with tasty treats from Heid's latest cookbook. Outside you were also able to catch a glimpse of the Braggart Morris Men dancers dancing in the streets!

Summer Camps at beARTrageous will give kids a chance to create and bring more pop up art into the neighborhood. Check out all of the fun themes the studio will be offering right in YOUR own neighborhood. If you mentioned you read this article when you register for a camp, beARTrageous will surprise you with a gift for your camper too!

For more details check out their new website at www.be-artrageous.com or call the studio at 612.423.7554

Yale Day of Service at Cedar Lake

By Max Musicant

In what has become an annual tradition, a dozen Yale alumni from across the metro conveyed at Cedar Lake Park as part of the global Yale Day of Service. A lively group of neighbors and alumni joined forces, guided by their fearless leaders Ruth and Mary, to pull buckthorn, garlic mustard, and other invasive species. After all the pulling out, it was a joy to put back in too, as the group planted over a dozen sumac trees interspersed between sawed off stumps of buckthorn. It was hard and noble work, work that Yale alumni are grateful and proud to get their hands, knees, and shoes dirty for every year.



Dear Vicky, Max and ALL of the intrepid Elis who helped us on Saturday at Yale Day of Service:

It is ALL OF YOU that we need to be thanking for your service at the Cedar Lake Woodland Restoration site this last Saturday, the 9th of May. The day couldn't have gone better. The timing of our service day was "just right", with the season further along than it was at the same time last year; the company – that's you – was great and "engaged"; the weather was picture perfect – and in addition, the ground had been softened by rain earlier in the week, making it super easy to pull those invasive baby buckthorn, garlic mustard, motherwort and burdock!

And pull we did! We uncovered some beautiful native flora as we removed the invasives that have been choking them – and were particularly excited this year to discover quite a lot of native fern and several varieties of violets, including those that were a true violet color plus lavender, yellow and white varieties and even purple/white combinations!

But that's not all that we did: Some of the volunteers removed more of the larger buckthorn trees while others established a little sumac plantation with planting material furnished by the Cedar Lake Park Association.

Collectively, the site received 45 hours of our loving care – and it really shows!

Your annual contributions continue to inspire us and help us to "jump start" our restoration efforts for the season –and we just can't thank you enough! And our unsecret secret is that you'll want to come again next year, where we'll promise you more opportunities to pull and to plant!

From Ruth Jones

Friends of Thomas Lowry Park invite you to the dedication of a recognition plaque honoring Barbara Fogel for her tireless dedication to the park.

When: June 6 at 10:30am - 12 noon, rain or shine

Where: Thomas Lowry Park, southwest corner by the large planter

What: A brief presentation. Beverages and treats will also be served.

Who: You, your children, your friends and neighbors, and your pets.

Why: To recognize Barb's contributions to our lovely neighborhood park



May Basket Giving at artRageous

Meet Your Neighbor, The Hennepin-Lyndale Reconstruction Project

Craig Wilson explains the Hennepin-Lyndale Reconstruction Project and what to expect over the next few years as it is redeveloped.

Why is the project needed? The Hennepin-Lyndale Avenue corridor provides an important north-south linkage for automobiles and transit service between the Minneapolis Central Business District (CBD) and the Uptown area at Hennepin Avenue and Lake Street, one of the city's most dense housing and entertainment districts. In addition, it provides a critical link for drivers seeking access to I-94 and I-394. The corridor itself also is a destination, with Dunwoody Institute, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, Loring Park, and several churches attracting patrons. The street surface has deteriorated over the years and is in need of replacement. This presents an opportunity to create better traffic flow and pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

Alongside its many attractions and benefits, what significant challenges for users does this critical corridor present?

The roadway is heavily traveled with more than 50,000 vehicles in an average day and congestion is common

More than 50 years of heavy travel has deteriorated the pavement, creating safety issues (potholes!)

Poor signage and confusing lane designations lead to many sideswipe crashes and weaving between lanes

Traffic signals are in need of upgrades to help improve traffic flow

No room to expand the roadway to add traffic capacity

Long crossing distances for pedestrians and bicyclists at the intersections of Vineland Place and Groveland Terrace

Lack of bicycle and pedestrian connections along and across the roadway

To address the identified needs, what are the goals for the project?

- Improve the condition of the roadway/pavement
- Improve the operating efficiency of the roadway
- Improve and expand upon multimodal opportunities for pedestrians, bicycles, and transit users.

How was the final design developed? A Task Force of area stakeholders was organized in spring 2014 by Craig Wilson of the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA) and John Van Heel of Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC) to work with City engineers and project consultants to provide design feedback. Stakeholders included the Walker Art Center, Basilica of St. Mary, St. Mark's Cathedral, Hennepin United Methodist Church, 510 Groveland, the Downtown Council, the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition and other area organizations and residents. The Task Force worked with the City and project consultants on the development of two layout options over the summer of 2014. Two layout options were presented at the August 4, 2014 public open house. The public overwhelmingly favored Option 2. This option was selected to move forward, with some changes based on public comments.* This modified Option 2 was approved by the City Council and includes the following:

- Reconstruction including concrete paving, grading, curb and gutter, pedestrian ramps, striping, lighting, and storm sewer
- Intersection modifications to improve bicycle and pedestrian crossings
- Addition of a pedestrian crossing on north side of Groveland intersection
- Removal of one northbound Hennepin/Lyndale travel lane
- Removal of one southbound Hennepin/Lyndale travel lane (Vineland to Groveland)
- Eleven foot wide travel lane widths

Left turn lane modifications/elimination of "slip ramps" (northbound and southbound Hennepin/Lyndale to Vineland/Oak Grove)

Create dedicated left turn lane (southbound Lyndale to Oak Grove)

Maintenance of the right-in/right-out access from Douglas Avenue to Hennepin (eliminated proposed right-out only)*

Pullout area in front of Hennepin Methodist Church (combined the pullout with the bus stop/right turn lane)*

What is the project budget and how is it being funded? The total project budget is estimated at \$9 to \$10 million. The project was awarded federal aid funding in the amount of \$7.3 million and the remaining costs will be covered by state and local sources, including assessments. The City of Minneapolis has a uniform assessment policy. Whenever a street is reconstructed, the adjacent property owners are assessed a uniform rate for part of the construction cost.

What should Hill Lake residents expect to see in a future Hennepin-Lyndale? The future Hennepin-Lyndale will be a more logical place to drive and a safer place for people to walk and bike though the corridor. Additionally, it will be much greener, with boulevard trees and planted medians—big step forward aesthetically.

How will the realigning of lanes, signal timing and new pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure affect traffic flow according to traffic engineers? Traffic engineers assured the Task Force that more logical lane alignment, improved timing of traffic signals and enhanced integration with pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure will keep traffic flowing more efficiently through the crossroads. You can find the report from

Hennepin-Lyndale Reconstruction to page 8



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SWLRT costs from page one

Met Council Member Jennifer Munt, co-chair of the Southwest Community Advisory Committee, told CAC members at their first meeting following release of the cost overruns that it was full steam ahead for Southwest LRT.

\$341 million – more than a few bike racks

Southwest project planners got their marching orders on May 6 from the Corridor Management Committee (CMC), a group of elected officials from the five SWLRT municipalities and Hennepin County: come back in two weeks with a menu of options from which we can select \$341 million in cuts. And to their credit, project planners burned the midnight oil and met the deadline.

At the May 20 CMC meeting Mark Fuhrmann, Metro Transit's LRT program director, presented a menu of 50 potential cuts. Suburban and Hennepin County officials asked occasional questions, observing Chair Duinick's admonition to reserve reactions for future meetings.

As expected, major cuts centered on eliminating either one, two, or three stations at the end of the line in Eden Prairie. Eden Prairie Mayor Nancy Tyra-Lukens later expressed deep opposition to losing Southwest Station, second from the end. As transit expert and writer Aaron Isaacs notes in a recent post ("Trimming Southwest Light Rail") on <streets.mn>, however, Eden Prairie "opted out" of the Metro Transit system several years ago and established its own luxury express bus service, South West Transit, to downtown Minneapolis – which many riders from Eden Prairie and beyond insist they will continue to use instead of LRT.

Isaacs notes that in August 2013 the Eden Prairie City Council passed a resolution stating that LRT will have to compete with South West Transit's express buses for passengers. "Normally, when a rail line is built, every effort is made to divert bus trips onto it, thereby maximizing the economies of scale that rail provides," Isaacs writes. "Instead, Eden Prairie is

demanding that the region continue to subsidize bus service that diverts riders from LRT." Isaacs' conclusion, guaranteed to win him few friends at Eden Prairie City Hall: "Don't go to Eden Prairie and the money problem is more than solved."

Ten budget-cutting options in Minneapolis

Hill and Lake residents following the SWLRT saga may understandably have assumed that eliminating the south tunnel through the Kenilworth Corridor from Lake Street to the Kenilworth Channel would be the other big-ticket target for the budget-cutters' axe. Folks attending the May 20 meeting were cautiously hopeful, however, to hear that eliminating the tunnel would be a no-net-gain move at best and might in fact cost an additional \$5 million.

According to project staff, eliminating the tunnel would save \$100 million. But running freight, LRT, and the recreational/commuter Kenilworth trail all at grade would require increasing the right-of-way by 25 feet, necessitating the purchase and demolition of 26 Cedar Lake Shores townhomes. [Full disclosure: I live in one of the Cedar Lake Shores townhomes – the red ones with white trim – but my unit would not be required for demolition to increase the right-of-way.]

Additional costs would accrue from grade separation at Cedar Lake Parkway, retaining walls, building a new freight rail bed, and the overhead contact system (OCS) poles to power the LRT trains. Perhaps most significantly, all these items (totaling \$55 million) would push completion of the line back a year, to 2021, costing an additional \$50 million.

Cautiously hopeful, yes. But as one townhome owner whose unit would be demolished to increase the right-of-way said after the CMC meeting, "I won't believe it until I hear the trains running through the tunnel."

Eliminating stations in Minneapolis

Cedar-Isles-Dean and West Calhoun residents have been highly critical about access and connectivity issues at the West Lake station, particularly the requirement of making the dangerous trudge, miserable in inclement weather, up to the top of the Lake Street bridge and then taking a vertical circulation device down to the tracks. The cost-cutters' option: eliminate vertical circulation altogether and leave it to unspecified "others" to "[provide] at-grade crossing of freight." The SW Project Office would in essence walk away from the issue of getting CIDNA residents living north of Lake Street safely and efficiently to the station. It would "require property acquisition or public easement north of the station," presumably in back of Whole Foods and the liquor store, leaving CIDNA residents with an even longer, more torturous route to reach light rail trains.

Three Minneapolis stations – 21st Street, Penn, and Royalston – were offered as potential cost-reduction targets.

Although many Kenwood residents are ambivalent

about the 21st Street station, the city is inclined to view it as a major boarding point for transit-reliant residents along the Franklin Avenue corridor who wish to access the "job-rich" southwestern suburbs. City officials appear to feel that the 21st Street station is "safe" under terms of the Memorandum of Understanding negotiated one year ago between the City and Met Council, but project planners are now proposing to construct just the station infrastructure, not the station itself, listing the station as a "To Be Built" item. While deleting the station outright would trigger a new municipal consent vote, planners claim that the shift to a vague, indeterminate "To Be Built" status would not.

The future of the Penn Avenue station may be shaky. Alone among the five Minneapolis stations, no direct bus access is planned. Instead, Northsiders and Bryn Mawr residents would reach the station via a 500-foot long pedestrian skyway-type bridge extending from the top of the bluff where Penn Avenue dead-ends just south of the I-394 entrance ramp. Commuters would walk high above the freight tracks, probably dodging bicyclists, until they reach a vertical circulation device that would drop them down to the station platform. Kenwood residents could access the station via a trail that starts up on Kenwood Parkway near the water tower. Not exactly a stroll in the park from either direction, even in the best of weather.

Proposed elimination of Royalston is 'extraordinary'

When the option of eliminating the Royalston station was raised, Peter Wagenius, policy aide and long-time LRT point person for both Mayor R.T. Rybak and Mayor Betsy Hodges, felt compelled to react. The Royalston station is seen as the principal access point for residents of North Minneapolis to the Southwest LRT line taking them to the "job-rich" southwest suburbs – precisely the inducement dangled by Hennepin County and the Met Council to persuade an unenthusiastic city to accept the Kenilworth alignment in the first place.

The city was sold a vision that "included economic development at North Minneapolis stations and connectivity for North Side residents at stations that would allow them to access jobs they would otherwise not have convenient access to," Wagenius said. "It was a huge argument in favor of the Kenilworth Corridor." He added that Minneapolis officials had expressed skepticism and worried that the argument had been used to justify the alignment and stations could be discarded at a later date when no longer needed to serve that purpose.

"If the Royalston Station doesn't exist ... how are people in north Minneapolis on the 5, the 19 and the 22, let alone the future C Line and D Line, going to connect to Southwest LRT? How far are we going to make them walk?" an exasperated Wagenius asked. Calling the proposed cuts "extraordinary," Wagenius made it clear that Mayor Hodges would not accept reductions that would diminish service on the city's north side by cutting two of three planned stations there.

Elimination of stations, whether in Minneapolis or Eden Prairie, as well as elimination of the Kenilworth

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MEMORIAL DAY IN LAKEWOOD CEMETERY

by James P. Lenfestey

The French lilacs have passed, the Korean lilacs bloom, and I am hanging out with the dead. It is Memorial Day, set aside for us to bow heavy-headed before those who have bloomed and gone.

So today I am contemplating the shrines, trees, birds and people planted in Lakewood, our serene neighborhood cemetery.

My first stop is the shrine of Paul and Sheila Wellstone. An engraved granite boulder marks the burial in Lakewood's northwest corner overlooking sparkling, breeze-swept Lake Calhoun. A prior visitor arrayed a carpet of long-stemmed white roses and red and white carnations in stately procession around the marker. Many others have placed a multitude of small stones on top of the boulder, markers of those touched by the Wellstones. I placed a flowering branch over the engraved Wellstone name, like a laurel wreath.

I sat on a granite bench and pondered granite thoughts.

Chet and Miriam Myers arrived to pay Wellstone respects while birding in the remarkable Lakewood forest. We reminisced quietly and listened to the melodies of Rose-breasted grosbeaks cascading from enormous white and bur oaks. Red-winged blackbirds and robins also sang while a brown thrasher quietly hunted the grass of an unmarked grave.

Adjacent to the Wellstone boulder a sculpted granite angel guards the Pohlrad family, the remarkable 56-year marriage of Carl and Eloise now passed. I saw that Carl was born on the same date I was, August 23. That small town Iowa boy and WWII vet accomplished quite a bit in his 93 years. Today his family's banks, real estate ventures, bottlers, films and Minnesota Twins are still hitting it out of the park.

I wandered through a forest of other names engraved into the history of commerce in this city: Rudy Luther, Blaisdell, Rand, Wells, Gale, Hale, Washburn, Sit. A massive obelisk commemorates pioneering miller Charles A. Pillsbury, a sculpted sheaf of grain near the base. Nearby lay the marker of George Sturgis Pillsbury, 1921-2012, a worthy bearer of that

powerful name, energetic and full of good ideas and solutions. Next to him was the headstone of his older brother, Charles A. Pillsbury, named after the patriarch, killed in air combat over the Solomon Islands during WWII. Not far away, a second massive obelisk commemorates by name the 18 men killed in the "great grain explosion May 2, 1878."

The center of Lakewood's park-like setting fluttered with hundreds of American flags each representing a veteran of America's wars, a surprising number from the Civil War, Minnesotans the first in the Union to volunteer. According to the Minnesota Historical Society, the 24,000 Minnesota soldiers included "100 free black men, scores of American Indians, and at least one woman."

Perhaps that is why the city mothers and fathers who founded Lakewood in 1871 along rural Lake Calhoun (when Franklin Avenue was the southern boundary of the city), made it non-profit and non-denominational, a generous openness at a time when many cemeteries accepted only those of a particular faith or race.

I drove past the classical mausoleums of the families Wood (Egyptian), McKnight (Greek) and Fitchette (French) and the sublime eighteen-foot tall marker of the Gluek family, a Victorian maiden clutching an eternal red rose. Successful brewers, the Glueks built four

mansions, two of which still stand, bearing other family names today, and this superb statue in Lakewood bearing their own.

I passed on to an eastern section of the cemetery unfamiliar to me, stopping before an arresting Greek temple alone on a knoll. Inside the ranks of Doric columns, carved over the door, were the names "Lowry • Goodrich" of Lowry Hill and Tom Lowry Park, real estate moguls and builders of one of the finest street railways systems in the country. At its peak it ran from Stillwater to Lake Minnetonka. It was dismantled, to the region's eternal regret, as we attempt to rebuild it now.

Finally, I paid homage to Senator Hubert H. Humphrey; his signature etched a foot tall in granite, flowing with the energy of the most effective senator in the history of the United States, according to many historians. Today it is a tabernacle of civil and human rights to all who pass by.

Somewhere inside Lakewood is a plot named "Lenfestey." It is as yet unmarked and unoccupied, available for family and a few friends. I await with pleasure the installation of the "Urban Coyote column" – a granite rolled newspaper with a howling coyote on top. I'd better get this column finished so I can get on to carving that one.



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Multi-Modal Traffic Study

By John Abraham-Watne

The transit woes to be found in the West Calhoun neighborhood are legion: cars blatantly running red lights on Lake Street, pedestrians threatened by fast-moving vehicles, and bicycles trying to cross multiple dangerous intersections to get to Lake Calhoun. Add to that the initial construction and engineering of the Southwest Light Rail project, and there seems to be a recipe for increased confusion and constriction. The city of Minneapolis has been aware of these myriad issues for some time and is planning a major study of the various ways its citizens travel these corridors.

The Multi-Modal Transit Study involves city traffic engineers in concert with two other firms: Short Elliott Hendrickson and Toole Design Group. This study came out of the recent Memorandum of Understanding among the various governmental entities working on the light rail project. According to the city website for this project:

“This is an area wide multimodal transportation study that is intended to assess opportunities to improve safety, access, connectivity, and mobility for all modes of travel surrounding the West Lake LRT Station area.”

According to a flyer handed out at a recent West Calhoun Neighborhood Council meeting, “the study is intended to assess opportunities to improve safety, access, and connections for all modes of travel, with an emphasis on bicycle and pedestrian modes.” The study aims to analyze the ways residents move around this area, the challenges to access they face, and how to improve these areas. The study area stretches up to Cedar Lake Avenue in the north, down to 32nd Street in the south, and spans from France Avenue in the west to Lake Calhoun Parkway in the east.

The study will take a close look at “access to and from primary destination points, movements within the study area including ‘last block’ segments, and consideration of travel through the study area.” City employees and people with the engineering firms have briefed various local stakeholder groups about this project, including the Cedar Isles Dean Neighborhood Association, the Minneapolis Bicycle Advisory Committee, the Minneapolis Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and the Hennepin County Bicycle Advisory Committee.

The first public forum on this study was held April 29th at the Jones-Harrison Residence in the CIDNA neighborhood. Area residents were invited to view maps of the project and to speak with city traffic engineers and those involved with the two engineering firms. Residents were encouraged to write directly on the maps provided their concerns about travelling in this area. Three stages of the project were announced at this meeting: “inventory and analysis” from April-June,



Residents from Cedar-Isles-Dean, West Calhoun, and beyond flocked to the April 29th Community Open House at Jones-Harrison Residence to exchange ideas and provide input for improving pedestrian and bicycle safety and connectivity in the congested West Lake-Excelsior commons area. The Open House was part of the city-led Multimodal Transportation Study. Above: Cedar-Isles-Dean resident Mary Pattock discusses ideas with CIDNA board chair Craig Westgate (right) and city transportation planner and project lead Nathan Coster (left).

Photo: Dorothy Childers.

“concept development” from June-September, and “final recommendations” October-January 2016. There will be two other community workshops taking place in “late summer” of 2015 and December 2015. There were many neighborhood association board members on hand to direct their concerns for this study to the city engineers, and this reporter found it to be a very engaging exercise. According to a flyer given out at this meeting, the study will look at “access to and from primary destinations such as the LRT station, Lake Calhoun, and area retail,” “movements within the study area to identify gaps and barriers to travel,” and “travel routes through the study area.”

I spoke with Nathan Koster, a transportation specialist with the City of Minneapolis and the main community contact for this project. Mr. Koster said the scope of the project will include “community engagement (including a walking tour of the area with key stakeholders), pedestrian/bicycle counts, recommendations for SWLRT and capital improvements.” The walk-

ing tour Mr. Koster mentioned took place April 21 with neighborhood board representatives and city officials. He also said this study should provide “depth and clarity” to the Southwest Project Office’s list of improvements for the area. I asked him why the focus on pedestrian and bicycle access. He described the current environment for those means of transit as “not very inviting” and said the goal was to focus on “last block” connections. He also described the “lack of pedestrian amenities” around the intersections of Lake Street, Excelsior Boulevard, and Market Plaza. He said one goal of this project is to “leverage the timing of the Southwest Light Rail project to enhance the pedestrian and bicycle environment.”

I then spoke with Allan Klugman, Senior Professional Engineer in the Traffic Parking Services Division with the city of Minneapolis about this project. Mr. Klugman has a background in civil engineering and had some good insight into how the city views this corridor. He sees the biggest challenges faced here as the “high density and activity,” “limited number of linkages,” and the fact that the “grid lacks full connectivity.” He said the city is striving to achieve “balance” among the various transportation types and hopes the new West Lake station will attract more development. He confirmed with me the city’s plans for the three open house events: the first to “gather input,” the second to look over “draft ideas” and the third to “present final ideas.” He also stressed that the engineering group will continue speaking to local neighborhood organizations and boards. I asked him about the city’s approach to traffic in this corridor. He stated that the “high traffic” demand here is “not going to change,” but the city still is looking at ways to “reduce the impact of vehicle traffic” and will place an emphasis on “pedestrian/bicycle safety and convenience.”

I also reached out to Ward 13 Council Member Linea Palmisano, who had a major hand in planning this traffic study for the area. Concerning the scope of this study, Palmisano said the goal was to “assess opportunities to improve safety and mobility.” She said that with the upcoming light rail project there will be multiple heavy vehicles trafficking the area and so it will need to be able to handle that level of movement. Concerning the focus on peds and bikes, Palmisano said there have been no “major investments” in these modes of transit. She also said the city needs to invest money to make



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Multi-Modal Traffic Study to page 15

sand upon the waters

By Tom H. Cook

SWLRT costs from page four

tunnel, would require new municipal consent votes in the affected cities. Although an unenthusiastic Minneapolis City Council ended up voting 10-3 last summer to give municipal consent after a politically charged and emotionally draining struggle, SWLRT backers on the Met Council and Hennepin County board might well be leery of undertaking a second vote if important elements of the project were to change significantly.

Three additional CMC meetings are scheduled for June 3, June 24, and July 1 (all Wednesdays) for municipal and county officials to give their opinions about the menu of cost-cutting options. (Go to <metro council.org/Transportation/Projects/Current-Projects/Southwest-LRT.aspx> and click on "Committees" for times.) The stakes couldn't be higher for the future of Southwest LRT.

2015 Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Award Recipients Announced

The following honors were presented at the 25th Annual Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Awards:

Historic Restoration, Rehabilitation, or Adaptive Reuse Project

ASI Turnblad Mansion Kitchen Restoration
Bennett-McBride House

Grain Belt Office Building Rehabilitation
Sandbo Roof Replacement

Valspar Headquarters/VAST Rehabilitation

New Addition to an Historic Building

Emanuel Housing

Grassroots: Advocacy & Education

Legendary Homes of the Minneapolis Lakes

The Steve Murray Award

Barbara Bezat

The Minneapolis Preservation Awards highlight the year's best achievements for transforming a historic property, building, or landscape and reinventing it to incorporate both new and old elements in a way that is respectful to the past.

It's no longer a question of staying healthy. It's a question of finding a sickness you like.

—Jackie Mason

The best thing about getting a flu shot is that you never again need to wash your hands. That's how I see it.

—Chuck Palahniuk

I wake up every morning at nine and grab for the morning paper. Then I look at the obituary page. If my name is not on it, I get up.

—Benjamin Franklin

This column required so many disclaimers it almost did not get written, which may not have been a bad thing. How can I possibly complain about being ill when famine, pestilence, drought, and disease strike so many? There are natural disasters like the earthquake in Nepal and man-made tragedies like plane and train crashes in the news. We have all suffered the premature loss of loved ones, friends and acquaintances to cruel accidents and catastrophic illness.

Let me gingerly state that my "suffering" does not even register on a scale of one being Vexed and ten being Death. I was sick, not life flashing before me, writhing in pain, praying to die, or iron lung, do not resuscitate, gather the children, last rites sick. I had what felt like a 24-hour flu and while there was no writhing, it went on (and on) for over a month. It was finally diagnosed as a mycoplasma infection (walking pneumonia). Bless my family, friends, casual acquaintances, and the kindly woman at Costco who witnessed my coughing and were ready with consolation and advice.

The consolation was great. But the "getting all up in my grill," as we young people say, is tiring. People from many walks of life attempted to diagnose and fix me. Unfortunately none of them had any medical training. A jewelry maker I know thought it was viral, but a leather importer was not convinced it was respiratory. I am sure their inquiries were genuine, but as I entered

the third week of ill health I became more of a Sudoku to be solved. My continued hacking seemed to be a refutation of one friend's medical training (a B- in high school Biology).


When I am in a weakened state, I do not want play Twenty Questions, even it is for my own good. Had there been a change in my diet? Have I been drinking dank water? Moving my bowels regularly? Any foreign travel? Was I getting enough ruffage? Was it viral or bacterial? Was I eating plenty of garlic, had I done the chest rubs, run the humidifier, drunk the 8 glasses of water, kept up on my medications, consumed the soup? Like Dostoyevsky's Grand Inquisitor, one friend hovered. Despite his extensive accounting background, I was not improving. My illness was his failure. Trying to suppress a cough in his presence only made it worse. Was I being passive aggressive? I don't think so, though I will cop to cranky.

When I am ill, my life is a game of Chutes and Ladders. Friends, neighbors, necessary errands, and even fun activities are obstacles taking me away from the goal, which is to be home, where I can wallow in my own germs. When my mind is foggy, everything and everyone seems to be keeping me from being horizontal.


Writing this after recovering, it seems obvious: Why didn't I just stay in bed until I felt better? But as the days pile up I feel that I should be better by now and I continue to drag myself around, perhaps fearing the unspoken scorn of, "Are you still sick!?"

In Annie Hall Alvy Singer (Woody Allen) opines to Annie (Diane Keaton) that life is divided into two groups, the horrible (those in constant pain and facing terminal illness) and the miserable, which is everyone else. He advises her to be grateful she is only miserable.



Tom H. Cook a formerly local writer is able to take even large gel capsule medications without water!




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New Listing: Cedar Lake w/ Charm & Character 3 br./3 ba. Owners Suite, 1st floor office / family, Priv. landscaped yard. 20x20 screened porch. **Ed Bell CBB**

Hennepin-Lyndale Reconstruction from page 3, continued on next page

traffic engineers here

www.hennepinlyndaleproject.com/media/resources/Hennepin-LyndaleTrafficImpactsMemo.pdf.

How long is the timeline for the reconstruction

and will the redevelopment correlate with the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden and Walker's site improvements? The redevelopment will overlap with the redevelopment of the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden and Walker's site improvements. Reconstruction is to commence fall 2015 through 2016. The area will be a major construction zone for the next two years with over \$50 Million in improvements to all three projects.

Are there any additional hurdles? There is concern

about ongoing maintenance of the crossroads. LHNA and CLPC are working with the Task Force and other partners on developing a long-term solution to maintaining medians and boulevards. Look for future articles about this in the Hill Lake Press.

How can people learn more about the project? You can learn more about the project at www.hennepinlyndaleproject.com.

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Kenwood School Creates Habitat for Cedar Lake Park



Buckthorn Busters!

Text and photo by Angie Erdrich

Kenwood Elementary School and the Cedar Lake Park Association (CLPA) teamed up recently as part of a plan to create a mutually beneficial long lasting partnership. On April 28, Principal Aura Wharton Beck invited the entire teaching staff on a hike in the woods, led by CPLA President, Dr. Keith Prussing. Most teachers had never gotten a chance to see the beautiful small trails along Cedar Lake. Many remarked that it was a wonder that such an isolated serene natural place was located only ten minutes from the school. Teachers immediately began hatching ideas for how they could integrate use of the park into the curriculum.

On May 8, the entire 5th grade class hiked to the beach to eat lunch and then met volunteers at the Prairie Restoration area of Cedar Lake Park for a day of planting. Half the group split to the nearby woods to bushwhack a Kenwood Elementary School Trail and to remove some invasive Buckthorn trees. Students were excited to plant wild plum trees and wild flowers such as the Prairie Rose, Pussy Toes, Blazing Star, Prairie Smoke and more. They planted a habitat flower called the Cup Plant that once covered vast stretches of the Northern Plains. This remarkable plant will provide a water source for tree frogs and a bird bath for finches and other birds. A tree frog was found nearby after the field trip! Many thanks to the Kenwood Isles Area Association and the Cedar Lake Park Association for purchasing the plants! and providing an opportunity for the students to learn through community service.

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Hennepin-Lyndale Reconstruction Project perspectives and concluded on page 13.



Groveland Intersection - Looking Northwest



Groveland Intersection - Looking Southwest



Oak Grove / Vineland Intersection - Looking Southeast



Lyndale Avenue - Looking Southwest toward Sculpture Garden

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EAST ISLES RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (EIRA)

By Monica Smith, Recorder

East Isles Residents' Association (EIRA)

Abbreviated Minutes from the EIRA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting on May 12, 2015 at Grace-Trinity Community Church. The complete minutes can be found at www.eastisles.org.

EIRA Outgoing President Dan McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

EIRA Board business

The 2015-16 EIRA officers were elected: Andrew Degerstrom, President; Carla Pardue, Vice President; Nicole Engel-Nitz, Secretary; and Brian Milavitz, Treasurer.

Open Forum

A certificate of appreciation was presented to Dan McLaughlin for his service to the neighborhood.

A winter music festival is being planned (near the lagoon between Lake Calhoun and Lake of the Isles) in conjunction with the City of Lakes Loppet (February 5-7, 2016). A representative from the Loppet offered to meet with the EIRA Board.

A board member expressed concern for an elderly person who may be homeless and living on The Mall. The County can provide supportive services.

Neighborhood and Community Relations is offering Learning Labs. Upcoming sessions are: May 27 – Tips for Neighborhood Organizing and June 30 – Financial Management. Sessions begins at 6:30 p.m. at 105 5th Avenue South.

Andrew Degerstrom presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Staff Report

The Community Participation Program budget was reviewed.

The EIRA Board voted to renew the Directors and Officers insurance policy.

Reminder that board members need to sign the conflict of interest policy each year. The board issued a directive to have all of the committee members review and sign the policy.

The board approved \$1500 for the annual membership mailing and \$250 to create an updated mailing list.

Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7

The Bridge for Youth is selling the properties at 2200 Emerson Ave S and 1209 W 22nd St through a call for offers process.

The Planning Commission approved the application for "Seventeen10" at 1708-14 W Lake St.

Council Member Goodman supports the renovation project at Temple Israel.

REPORTS

Zoning Committee

Temple Israel: The Zoning Committee recommended that the EIRA Board support the Temple Israel (2324 Emerson Ave S) renovation project. The board approved the following:

Be it resolved that the East Isles Residents Association supports the following:

An expansion of an existing conditional use permit to allow for an early childhood center and preschool in the R4 Multiple-Family Residence District

A variance from the specific development standards to allow for the placement of playground

equipment in the required rear yard

An encroachment permit to allow for a retaining wall, fence, and gate around the proposed playground

A public hearing is expected to be held by the Planning Commission on June 15. Construction will begin August 1, 2015 and will be completed in 12 months.

2505 E Lake of the Isles Parkway: The Zoning Committee recommends that the EIRA Board support the variances for the new home construction. The board approved the following:

Be it resolved that the East Isles Residents Association supports variances for the following:

To permit development within forty feet of a steep slope in the Shoreland Overlay District

To vary the yard requirements, specifically front yard encroachment, to allow for an at-grade terrace

To increase the maximum height of a retaining wall from three to four feet

Barbette, 1600 W Lake St, notified EIRA that they are applying for a permit for the Bastille Day Block Party on July 12. Irving Ave will be closed between Lake St and Lagoon from 10:30 a.m. – midnight.

The City is evaluating changes for the zoning ordinance affecting the number of parking spaces for apartments/condos in areas well served by public transportation. A public open house will be held on May 21, Mill City Museum, 704 S 2nd St, 5:30 – 7 pm.

The restaurant tenant at 1800 Lake is interested in expanding their kitchen facilities that would require additional equipment on the roof of the building (in the Shoreland Overlay District). EIRA will ask for a written description of the equipment and will invite them to an upcoming meeting if there are concerns.

The May 19th Zoning Committee meeting will be cancelled due to lack of quorum.

Transportation Committee

With his new duties as EIRA's President, Andrew Degerstrom is resigning as the committee chair.

The City is conducting a Multimodal Transportation Study for the area around the proposed West Lake Station of the Southwest LRT. Public feedback is needed. Take an online survey and give feedback on an interactive map at

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/all/WCMS1P-138480.

NRP Committee

The next meeting will be June 1, 5:30 p.m. at Grace to discuss purchasing and installing new park benches for The Mall using NRP funds. The committee will also review a draft of a policy created by NCR for unspent NRP funds for possible feedback. Comments are due by June 26.

Green Team

Plant Swap, May 31, 1-3 pm at the Demonstration Raingarden, 2871 Humboldt.

The board approved the budget (expected expenses \$590; expected revenue \$600) for the Super Sale, September 12.

The Green Team is promoting community gardens for rental property.

The Green Team is also working on two efforts: Lake Street Challenge (the plan will be presented at the June board meeting) and community solar.

Social Committee

The Ice Cream Social will be July 30. EIRA will likely organize volunteers for the Uptown Art Fair pop booth fundraiser.

Board Review

Summer meeting schedule: the board will continue to meet the second Tuesday of the month at Grace.

Saleem Karmaliani will represent EIRA at the Uptown priorities meeting organized by the Uptown Association.

In accordance with EIRA Bylaws, Article 5, Section 15, the remainder of the meeting was held in closed session for the purpose of discussing the Search Committee's recommendation for the hiring of a new Coordinator. The EIRA Board approved the recommendation to hire John Louis effective May 18. Monica Smith will work with John during a transition period through the June board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. If consistent with EIRA Bylaws, and where the availability of a public document or report in electronic forms exists, copies of EIRA Board agenda items may be obtained by an EIRA member by contacting nrp@eastisles.org.

The next meeting is Tuesday, June 9, 2015, 7 p.m. at Grace-Trinity Community Church, 1430 W 28th Street.

CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (CIDNA)

By Monica Smith, Recorder

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, May 13, 2015

The annual meeting was held at the Jones-Harrison Residence. 50+ residents attended.

Chair Craig Westgate called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Ryan Fox presented CIDNA with a \$1000 check from his employer Bell State Bank & Trust (through their Pay It Forward donation program).

Council Member Lisa Goodman, Ward 7

City staff will be reporting on projects at tonight's meeting for the Multimodal Transportation Study and Burnham Road bridge construction.

Organics composting will be available in CIDNA in spring 2016 (sign up now).

Southwest LRT: Goodman does not think there will be major cuts for the Minneapolis section of SWLRT (in light of the revised budget of nearly \$2 billion). Bigger cuts are expected in the suburbs.

Representative Frank Hornstein, District 61A

The state legislature is in the final days of the session and it is unclear what is going to be resolved.

Hornstein is working on oil and ethanol train safety and asking the railroads for transparency. He wants to partner with CIDNA, West Calhoun and Kenwood to write a letter to TC&W Railroad.

Southwest LRT: Most of the recent cost increases are in Eden Prairie. Hornstein is drafting a letter to the Met Council to ask questions.

Approval of minutes

The minutes from last year's annual meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

CIDNA has \$14,800 in unrestricted funds. The remaining funds are restricted to NRP or CPP programs.

Election of Board Members

Special thanks to outgoing board member Ryan Fox. Ryan will continue to work on Southwest LRT connectivity.

The following slate of returning and new board members was approved. Returning board members: Ed Bell, Lowell Berggren, Stephen Goltry, Rosanne Halloran, Roger Klimek, Barbara Lunde, James Reid, Amanda Vallone, John Wessinger, and Craig Westgate. New board members: Leila Brammer, Sarah Kennedy, Elaine May, and Mike Wilson.

CIDNA Bylaws Revisions

CIDNA's bylaws had not been amended since 2003. Rosanne Halloran presented an overview of proposed changes. A motion to accept the revised bylaws was approved.

Greystar Project, 2622 W Lake St, Deanna Seppanen

The project is a 90-unit upscale apartment building with 8 stories on the Lake St. side stepping down to 3 stories on the Greenway side (to minimize shadowing). The pile driving will be completed by the end of May. They have a temporary dewatering permit for construction (for the elevator pit). There will be no permanent dewatering allowed; the basement is above the water

CIDNA to following page

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CEDAR ISLES DEAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

table. The construction is expected to be completed by August 2016.

Hennepin County Commissioner Marion Greene, District 3

Greene is involved with the following CIDNA issues: Calhoun-Isles Connector Trail, access to the Greenway for tenants in apartments/condos on south side of the Greenway (a fence currently blocks access), and at-grade crossing for Southwest LRT.

Southwest LRT: Work on the project continues as Met Council tries to cut the budget to \$1.6 million. Greene thinks that SWLRT will happen; she does not expect big changes to the Minneapolis portion because of the agreements in place to secure municipal consent.

NRP/PPP Report, Gail Lee

Craig Westgate thanked Gail for her years of volunteer work on behalf of CIDNA.

CIDNA's NRP and CPP funding was reviewed.

Join the CIDNA Garden Group at Park Siding Park; the next event is May 30, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Raingarden program: CIDNA supported seven new raingardens in the neighborhood and one permeable paver project.

Tree grants are available to residents to offset the cost of treating diseased trees, removing and replacing trees. See www.cidna.org for details.

The Park Board is forming a Community Advisory Committee to develop master plan for Lake Calhoun and Lake Harriet improvements. John Wessinger will be CIDNA's representative.

CIDNA is funding a design study for future improvements to Cedar Lake South Beach. The first of three public meetings is May 19, 6:30 p.m. at Jones-Harrison Residence.

Save the date:

Fall Festival — Sunday, October 11, 1-4 p.m.

Art Mart — Sunday, November 22,

The committee meets the 4th Wednesday of the month, 3:30 p.m. at Rustica. All are welcome.

Calhoun-Isles Connector Trail, Ryan Fox

CIDNA is working on a north/south connection between Lake Calhoun and Lake of the Isles via a new trail that would cross Lake St (at grade) from Lake Calhoun at Thomas Ave and connect with the Midtown Greenway (long-term goal is a tunnel; temporary access is a ramp). The trail would continue on the north side of the Greenway to Lake of the Isles. The concept would need to be approved by the Park Board and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority. The park dedication fee from the Greystar project could help fund the trail.

Trammell Crow Project, 3118 W Lake St, Grady Hamilton

The project is a mixed-use, 6-story, 164-unit apartment building and restaurant. Tryg's was demolished and they are working on storm water management and moving utilities. The team is in the process of evaluating their planned construction methods due to the close proximity to other structures.

Multimodal Transportation Study, Nathan Koster, City of Minneapolis

As a result of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Metropolitan Council and the City of Minneapolis for Southwest LRT, an area-wide multimodal transportation study is being conducted for the West Lake Station area. The study is intended to identify opportunities to improve safety, access and connections for all modes of travel, with an emphasis on bicyclists and pedestrians.

The goal of the study is to identify opportunities that can be implemented as part of the Southwest LRT construction or as part of other capital initiatives.

They are in the Inventory and Analysis phase of the study; the Concept Development phase will begin in June and the final recommendations are expected in January 2016.

The project website offers ways to give feedback (including an interactive map): www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/all/WCMS1P-138480.

Burnham Road Bridge Construction, Meseret Wolana, City of Minneapolis

Construction began May 13 and the bridge will be



Craig Westgate, CIDNA Board Chair (right) receives a "Pay It Forward" donation from Ryan Fox, outgoing CIDNA Board Member and Bell State Bank & Trust employee

closed through October. During the closure, there are two temporary changes to traffic flow to allow access to affected properties: a left turn onto West Lake of the Isles Pkwy will be allowed at Dean Parkway and two-way traffic will be allowed on Burnham Road (over the railroad tracks) between Upton/Sheridan and Burnham Blvd.

The channel will remain open through construction with the exception of a few 72-hour periods. The channel will be closed May 18-20 while the bridge is being removed.

For more information: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/all/WCMS1P-136010.

Transportation Committee, Craig Westgate

The price of Southwest LRT increased by over \$300 million (to nearly \$2 billion). The Met Council continues to work on the project. We don't know what will be cut from the project; if anything is cut from the Minneapolis section it will need to go back for municipal consent. Cost cuts will be presented to the Corridor Management Committee on May 20.

Doug Peterson is CIDNA's representative to the Community Advisory Committee.

CIDNA is a party to Section 106 (historic preserva-

tion) for Grand Rounds and Cedar Lake.

There has not yet been a decision in the lawsuit brought by Lakes & Parks Alliance.

Midtown Greenway Coalition, Mike Wilson

The coalition is improving the Greenway by their work with gardening programs, public art, removing graffiti, working with developers, and the Trail Watch program. They are advocating for safer access to the West Lake Station of SWLRT (the current plan has passengers crossing the bike path to access the station). The Coalition has just learned that the black chain-link fence on the south side of the Greenway is owned by the city, not the county. The Coalition will work with the city and residents along the Greenway to identify places where more access points can be created.

Sewer Construction, Ryan Fox

The MCES sewer project is complete. The sidewalk was installed last fall on Sunset between Chowen Ave and Cedar Lake. Trees are being replanted on Sunset Blvd and along Lake St (near the Greystar project).

At CIDNA's urging, MCES changed their policy for claims for property damage as a result of their construction projects.

Announcements

Sign up for CIDNA's monthly e-newsletter by sending a request to info@cidna.org.

Craig Westgate thanked the many neighbors who volunteer their time by serving on the board and on committees, and by organizing our annual events.

CIDNA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations to CIDNA are encouraged and are tax deductible.

Pedestrian and Bike Committee, Steve Goltry

The committee is working on documenting traffic violations in the Lake St/Excelsior Blvd area. The documentation will be shared with team working on the Multimodal Transportation Study.

The committee meets the first Thursday of the month, 7 pm at Caribou Coffee.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next meeting Wednesday, June 10, 2015, 6:00 p.m. at Jones-Harrison.

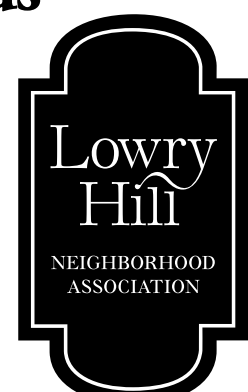
Note to CIDNA residents: sign up for our monthly e-newsletter by sending a request to info@cidna.org.

The Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association would like to thank the residents of

Lowry Hill

for attending this year's Annual Meeting and for your generous support of LHNA.

If you missed the meeting, there will be links to the discussed projects on the LHNA website at lowryhillneighborhood.org



LOWRY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

By Janis Clay, Secretary

LHNA 2015 Annual Meeting Walker Art Center Tuesday, May 12, 2015

President Phil Hallaway called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Seventh Ward City Council Member Lisa Goodman welcomed everyone and discussed the evening program, covering three large upcoming City projects.

Olga Viso, Executive Director of the Walker Art Center discussed planned improvements for the Walker Art Center. The project is a once in a generation opportunity to create a western gateway to downtown. Emphasis will be on greening what is now hardscape along Hennepin Avenue, and creating a light-filled and welcoming new addition. Work will begin in earnest in the fall of 2015 and should be completed by May of 2017. The project will complement renovation work on the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Project Manager Dana Murdoch discussed the upcoming renovation of the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden. The focus is to address deterioration occurring during the twenty five years the Garden has been open, to address drainage issues, and on aesthetic improvements to update the Garden and make it more usable.

Craig Wilson, landscape architect and Co-Chair of the Hennepin/Lyndale Taskforce, gave an update on the Hennepin-Lyndale Reconstruction Project, including a short history and upcoming plans.

Anita Tabb of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board gave an update on neighborhood Park issues, including the Parade Ice Garden renovation, the upcoming recognition program for Barbara Fogel in Thomas Lowry Park, work on a master plan for Lake Calhoun and Lake Harriet, and work on a master plan for the downtown area.

Phil Hallaway spoke about the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association. Dan Aronson gave the Treasurer's Report, and described the Association's sources of funding.

Board of Directors Election

Craig Wilson moved and Anita Tabb seconded the following slate of candidates:

Returning Board Members:
Michael Cockson
Ruth Shields
Rebecca Graham

New Board Members:

Emily Beugen
Jennifer Bickett
Clint Conner
Susie Galiano
Baygan Hartzheim

The slate was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

The Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Ice Cream Social will be held in Thomas Lowry Park on July 14th

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board Minutes Tuesday, May 5, 2015

Present - Board Members: Phil Hallaway, President ; Dan Aronson, Treasurer; Janis Clay, Secretary; Thomas D. Huppert; Mark Brauer; Jimmy Fogel; Sarah Janacek; Rebecca Graham; Michael Cockson; Maureen Sheehan.

Present - Guests and staff: Susie Galiano; Jennifer Bickett; Baygan Hartzheim; Emily Beugen; Suzanne Shaff; Clint Conner; Klara Deeken.

President Phil Hallaway called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Michael Cockson moved and Tom Huppert seconded approval of the April 7, 2015, minutes. All approved.

Introduction of Board Member Candidates: Phil Hallaway introduced five people interested in serving on the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association Board: Susie Galiano; Jennifer Bickett; Baygan Hartzheim; Emily Beugen; and Clint Conner.

Treasurer's Report: Dan Aronson gave the Treasurer's report. We are in good shape financially. We have a balanced budget, and are \$3366 ahead of last year.

Committee Reports:

Environment: Jimmy Fogel moved and Dan Aronson seconded designation of Michael Cockson as LHNA Board Representative to the Citizens Joint Review Committee relating to the Lake of the Isles Renovation Project. All approved.

Zoning and Planning: A presentation concerning the proposed tear-down of 1909 Humboldt will be deferred.

Crime and Safety: Rebecca Graham reported an uptick in crime reports, probably due to the warmer weather.

Events:

The LHNA Annual Meeting will take place Tuesday May 12th at the Walker Art Center. The Board discussed the program and the election of new and returning Board members. Jimmy Fogel will welcome people and keep a sign-in sheet.

Neighborhood Priorities Survey Working Group/Community Participation Program: The Board continued the discussion of neighborhood priorities, and what the LHNA should focus on.

New Business:

Board members Jimmy Fogel and David Weinstein have both reached the term limit under the Bylaws of three consecutive two-year terms. They are both on the Zoning and Planning Committee. Michael Cockson volunteered to cycle off the Environment Committee and onto the Zoning Committee. Clint Connor, if elected, would also be interested in the Zoning and Planning Committee.

LHNA's next Board meeting will be Tuesday, June 2, 2015, at the Kenwood Rec Center. All residents are welcome. Everyone is encouraged to visit the LHNA website at www.lowryhillneighborhood.org, and sign up to receive LHNA's monthly E-Blast about events in the neighborhood. Jimmy Fogel moved to adjourn and Maureen Sheehan seconded the motion. All approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

KENWOOD ISLES AREA ASSOCIATION

by Shawn Smith

May 2015 KIAA 4th Annual Gathering

KIAA had its 4th annual gathering on May 5th in Downtown Kenwood, in front of BeArtrageous Studio and The Kenwood Restaurant.

In attendance were the KIAA board, Hennepin County Commissioner Marion Greene, MPRB Anita Tabb, Park Police Chief Jason Ohotto, 8 serving board members up for re-election, and approximately 80 neighbors.

The gathering began at 6PM. The weather was great and everyone enjoyed complimentary Red Wagon Pizza and beverages provided by KIAA. Janet Hallaway from The Bridge for Youth was available to answer questions regarding her organization and to take donations. BeArtrageous hosted activities for children.

Chair Larry Moran called the meeting part of the gathering to order at 6:45PM. He stated the purpose of the board and highlighted some of the board's activities in the past year: SWLRT work including work on the CAC and mitigation of potential adverse effects to the neighborhood, support of Rec Center events including Shakespeare in the Park, Movies in the Park, Kenwood Carnival, and the Skating Party. He also introduced Matt Spies, who leads the subcommittee working to address concerns over East Cedar Lake "Hidden" Beach. Angie Erdrich gave an update on the Raingarden to be constructed at Kenwood Corner in August 2015.

Larry introduced the board members up for re-election in addition to himself: Jack Levi, Mike Bono, Angie Erdrich, Josine Peters, Jeanette Colby, Ed Pluimer, and Shawn Smith. Larry made the motion for re-election, and the neighbors voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7PM and the gathering continued so everyone could continue socializing and enjoying more delicious pizza!

Updates: KIAA board membership is a great way to get informed and engaged in issues affecting our neighborhood. If you are interested in joining the board, we are seeking new members so please contact us. If you are interested in receiving monthly email updates, please email us at kiaa55405@gmail.com. Also please visit our website at kenwoodminneapolis.org to learn more about the association.

The next Kenwood Isles Area Association Board meeting is Monday, June 1st from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Kenwood Recreation Center. Monthly meetings are held on the first calendar Monday of each month unless otherwise noted. KIAA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event organized by KIAA. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting us at kenwoodminneapolis.org

Beaches & Water Safety

Minneapolis lakes, rivers and beaches are an exceptional experience in the summer, but children and adults who do not have strong swimming skills are vulnerable. The MPRB has 63 wading pools, 12 beaches with lifeguards on duty at nine locations, and two water parks. Additionally, Webber Park Natural Swimming Pool is scheduled to open this summer. Most wading pools will be open May 23-Sept 7, Lupient Waterpark will be open June 13-August 23 and beach lifeguards will be on duty June 13 through late August.

Park Hours

All Minneapolis parks are closed between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. the following day; except along trails and in undeveloped areas. Portions of Minneapolis parks that are undeveloped are closed between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. the following morning.



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Celebrating Independent Bookstore Day



Photo by Dorothy Childers

In celebration of the first nationwide Independent Bookstore Day, Lori Evert and Anja (author and star of the magical new book "The Tiny Wish"), read from their latest book about a tiny girl and her adventures. The event was sponsored by Birchbark Books and held at the beARTrageous Art Studio on West 21st Street.

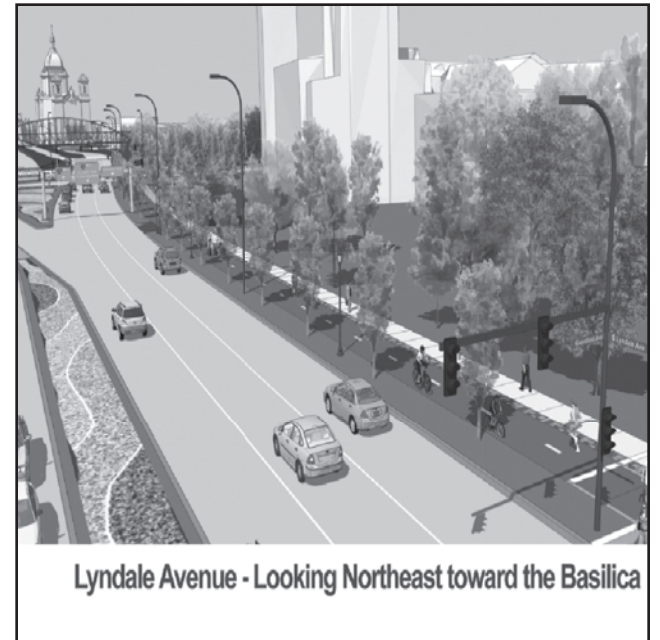
Earth Day Clean-up at Lake of the Isles



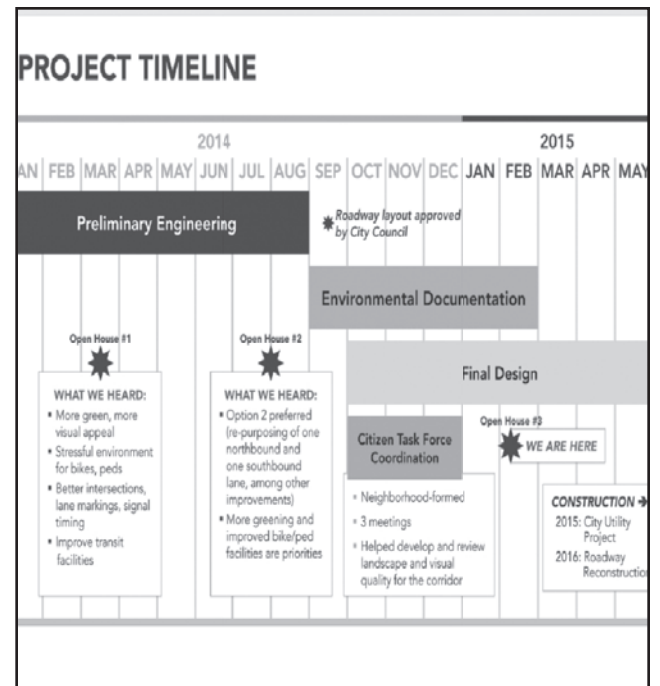
Photo by Dorothy Childers

Mothers and daughters were among the many participants who turned out to help clean up the neighborhood on April 25, for Earth Day Clean-up. Shown here at work, with plastic bags and gloves, at the north end of Lake of the Isles, are left to right: Cynthia Martin with daughters Campbell and Madeleine, and Laurie Leone with daughter Lily Devereux.

Lyndale-Hennepin Reconstruction continued from page 9



Lyndale Avenue - Looking Northeast toward the Basilica



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LETTERS

To the Editor:

There he/she is, friendly and meowing at my back door, a yellow tabby cat. It's the first of May, moving day. I live on a corner, kitty corner, in the truest sense of the words, from an apartment building home to many cats. The cat owner is moving to an apartment where they do not allow pets. The cat has probably lived inside all its life and now it suddenly becomes an outside cat when the owner puts it out or drops it off as he/she moves away. The cat has become a stray and is terrified of its completely new life and surroundings. It looks for the nearest place that resembles home and that happens to be my home on the corner.

I already have a stray cat that at one time was a drop off cat I feed and house year round winter included. I cannot get near this cat. It looks at me from afar and waits until I am through putting its food out and then it comes to eat. I have seen the cat through two winters with a warm house shelter and this last winter a wooden house with heating pads.

And so for what the former owner thinks is a simple solution to their problem becomes a cruel solution for the pet. Most people won't take in a stray cat and so if there is no one available to feed the kitty it becomes feral and starts killing birds and wildlife. The former owner's solution becomes a problem for the rest of us.

They tell us that we can bring animals to the human society or the animal control service. I think they try to find homes for them, but there are too many and so many of the pets are put down in the prime of their little lives. Aside from neutering and spaying programs there needs to be more understanding landlords so the owners can keep their pets and more responsible pet owners who won't part with their pets.

Hopefully this letter will make people think especially the sweet orange tabby's former owners. I will keep the cat as best as I can but I already have two cats in my home who are indoor cats and so the orange tabby will have to spend the rest of its little life outside. So please I am pleading with all pet owners out there if you want a pet take it on for the whole load.

Joyce Aprea Murphy, Lowry Hill

Home Energy 101 Workshop

On Wednesday, June 16th at 6:30 p.m. at Dr. Martin Luther King Recreation Center (4055 Nicollet Ave S), a free Home Energy 101 presentation will be available for all Minneapolis residents. The presentation will cover low and no cost tips to save at home and introduce homeowners to Home Energy Squad Enhanced, a one-stop residential energy saving home visit program.

Home Energy Squad Enhanced visits include a blower door test with an infrared camera inspection to determine insulation voids in attic and walls, a safety check on the home's heating system, and the installation of energy and money saving materials. Installed materials may include compact florescent light bulbs, high efficiency showerheads, faucet aerators, a programmable thermostat, door weather stripping and more. Home Energy Squad Enhanced visits are \$70, but by attending the workshop homeowners can schedule theirs for a discounted price and receive a free energy saving goody bag!

At the end of the visit participants are provided with an Energy Fitness Plan, which includes prioritized energy improvement recommendations. If your home needs insulation or air sealing our crews will provide a quote for the recommended work and connect you with an approved contractor who will honor that quote.

To reserve your spot at the workshop contact Hannah Strong at 612-335-5828. For more information on Home Energy Squad Enhanced visit www.mncee.org/hes-mpls.



Hill & Lake Press
2101 West Franklin, Minneapolis, MN 55405
www.hillandlakepress.com
612-377-5785
Volume 39 Number 5
May 29, 2015
Next issue:
June 19, 2015
Reservation deadline
June 8, 2015

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Hill & Lake Press is a non profit newspaper and funded and supported by its advertisers and neighborhood associations: East Isles Residents Association (EIRA); Kenwood Isles Area Association (KIAA); Cedar Isles Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA); and Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association (LHNA).

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Since March 1976, The Hill & Lake Press has served the community as a non-profit newspaper staffed by volunteers. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Hill & Lake Press.

HILL LAKE PRESS
Selected Real Estate Sales
April 2015

STREET ADDRESS	ORIGINAL PRICE	Seller Contrib	DAYS MKT	SALE PRICE	TYPE	BED	BATH	SQ FT	TAX VALUE	PROP TAX	YR BLT
52 Groveland Terr A315	169,900		36	166,500	C	1/1	779	149,500	2,680	1966	
48 Groveland Terr B309	176,000	5,378	29	179,250	C	1/1	745	148,000	2,249	1966	
3116 W Lake St #218	214,900	6,297	0	214,900	C	1/1	965	150,500	3,311	2007	
2631 Sunset Blvd	399,900	2,900	153	391,500	H	4/2	2,044	202,000	6,347	1973	
1718 Oliver S	500,000		4	500,000	H	2/2	2,299	501,500	9,371	1910	
2822 Humboldt S	599,900	15,750	136	525,000	H	4/4	2,579	508,500	9,218	1913	
2006 Penn S	589,000		42	522,000	H	5/3	2,925	573,000	10,426	1909	
2716 Ewing S	599,000	15,000	255	595,000	H	4/2	3,343	617,500	11,920	1927	
1987 Sheridan S	649,900	7,000	121	649,000	H	3/3	1,963	444,500	7,942	1940	
2001 W 21st St	703,500		0	703,500	H	5/3	2,770	703,500	13,155	1902	
2007 Fremont S	725,000	7,500	18	725,000	H	4/3	3,018	525,000	9,657	1900	
2009 Upton S	775,000		6	805,000	H	4/3	3,240	607,500	11,168	1985	
1728 Knox S	775,000		45	750,000	H	3/3	2,467	675,000	13,105	1900	
2521 Irving S	1,050,000	4,000	0	1,023,000	H	4/5	3,396	700,000	13,330	1909	
2812 Dean Pkwy	1,190,000		2	1,190,000	H	3/4	4,079	630,500	11,931	2010	
2700 W Lake of the Isles	1,995,000		50	1,890,000	H	4/5	6,264	1,576,500	31,889	1910	

Sources: Harvey Ettinger, Steve Havig
Broker Reciprocity Websites / Hennepin County

Condo: C, Home: H, Townhouse: TWN (Go to mplsrealtor.com for additional info)

Park Board, CIDNA begin study of improvements to South Beach



Minneapolis Park Board Project Manager Deb Bartels (left) and Jean Garbarini (right), senior associate with Damon Farber Landscape Architects, led CIDNA residents and others on May 19 through the beginning phase of a three-session planning process to design future improvements at Cedar Lake South Beach. Making improvements to South Beach has long been a priority goal for CIDNA and the neighborhood association is funding the \$40,000 cost of the project. Future meetings are on Tuesday, June 16 and Tuesday, July 14 from 6:30-8:30 pm at Jones-Harrison Home. All are welcome!

Caption: Rosanne Halloran. Photo: Dorothy Childers.

Multi-Modal Traffic Study from page six

these areas “traversable” and to allow more people to walk to various destinations, calling pedestrian connections her “number one priority.”

I brought up with Palmisano the clamor I’ve heard in the neighborhood over the years about the West Lake station being a community destination rather than simply another spot on the line to take the light rail downtown. The Council Member said she agrees this neighborhood needs some kind of “activity center” and that the parks around the lake are difficult to access. She said the West Lake station could be some type of “neighborhood center” or focal point. The Met Council confirmed with me that the proposed station design here is the “Town Square” type, which was described as having “longer, flat roofs and lantern elements that extend beyond the station canopy.”

I asked Palmisano about the type of community outreach she envisioned for this project. She said that both she and Ward 7 Council Member Lisa Goodman agreed that the “consultants have as much raw material as possible” and therefore wants these meetings to have constituents “inform the professionals of the conditions as they exist” in these corridors. She hopes the city and the engineering firms can get some “great data” from the citizen interactions at these meetings.

The Multi-Modal Traffic study is also the end-result of citizen engagement with this project. Just as residents of Eden Prairie agitated for the inclusion of a light rail end station in their city, the MMTS is an outgrowth of Minneapolis residents continuing to lobby their local government officials for what is needed in their part of the city. Residents who hope to affect the direction of this massive infrastructure project should attend the upcoming public meetings and are encouraged to contact their local elected officials about this important engineering project.

Project website:

<http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cip/all/WCMS1P-138480>

Next open house: Late Summer 2015

Final open house: December 2015

FRIENDS OF THOMAS LOWRY PARK

By Suzanne Payne and Barry Lazarus

Good day everyone. Friends hope you have had a chance to walk the Park this spring. If not, please avail yourself of this splendid neighborhood amenity.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE BARB FOGEL REMEMBRANCE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 6 FROM 10:30am to noon in the Park? Please stop by to meet and greet your friends, neighbors and their respective pets and children. Have a refreshment while you schmooze and cruise. Friends will serve (while the supply lasts) water, coffee, puppydog tails, dog treats, cookies, and juice. All this to say thanks to Barb Fogel

Tidying Up

By Madeleine Lowry

When I picked up Marie Kondo’s book, “The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up: The Japanese Art of De-cluttering and Organizing,” I was not sure what to expect. What could the art of de-cluttering mean to me, a person who did not ordinarily associate the word Tidying with Magic?

I certainly knew that tidying was something badly needed at our house. The week prior, I had optimistically placed a huge cardboard box in the hall and indicated that it was for donations to Goodwill. It was still mostly empty. Perhaps with the help of Marie, I could fill it up myself.

Her book begins with tidying tales from her childhood. Her early efforts to sort through her own closets and those of her nearest kin had mixed results. She transmits several lessons to us from these experiments: don’t toss other people’s stuff without their permission (guilty); don’t foist your own purged items on family members and friends (guilty there, too); and only keep things that “spark joy.”

This last bit intrigued me. How many objects in my possession are generators of joy? Precious few. Photos come to mind, a few pieces of art, a collection of handwritten art cards, some dresses and maybe some electronics. Am I supposed to throw everything else away?

Eager to try out her methods, I yanked open a nearby linen closet. I was looking at sheets, blankets, towels, bins of toiletries and cold remedies, extra light bulbs, a few tools, bottles of laundry and carpet stain remover and assorted cleaning supplies. Where was the joy?

Joy, I decided, was too high a bar for some categories of possessions. There are some things you just need like screwdrivers, cotton balls and extra boxes of tissues.

But, Marie is very serious about her tidying disci-

pline. Take each item in your hands, she counsels, and consider it to see whether it sparks joy inside you. If it does not, thank it for its service (“Thank you for teaching me that flimsy bath towels are not worth buying”) and discard it. According to her method intense purging is always the first step, followed by efficient use of storage.

Reading further, I see that there is a particular sequence she recommends for the purging process: clothes first followed by books, papers, miscellany (linen closet would fall under this category) and finally memorabilia. I close the linen closet and head upstairs.

Confronting my clothes closet, I realize that I won’t have enough to wear if I toss all the low and medium-joy items. Taking a different path, I scan the contents quickly for zero-joy items. Plucking these out is easily done and my cardboard box starts to fill. Next, I tackle jewelry and then shoes. My box is now full and I am feeling pretty pleased with myself.

Returning to her book, I can almost hear Marie tut-tutting at me through the pages. She is unhappy with my shortcut to her method. Repeatedly taking objects into your hands to sense joy is a process that naturally hones your decision-making abilities, she instructs gently. It teaches you what you are passionate about since sorting through possessions is a proxy for sorting through our lives. By following her process faithfully, not only do you end up with a clean house, but also a fresh start on life.

Rats. I filled the box, but missed finding my true self! I’ll just have to try this again sometime. Still, I have to say, the extra space in my closet is quite uplifting!

for all the years of care and hard work she dedicated to our Park. When in the Park as you observe how wonderful the Park looks, a silent thanks to Barb and all other volunteers and the MPRB is appropriate. **SATURDAY, JUNE 6 FROM 10:30am to noon. FRIENDS WILL DEDICATE A PLAQUE TO BARB AT 11:15 AM.**



Suzanne Payne reminds all of us to look ahead to the gardening season schedule in the Park. Pete Engelen & crew did much of the winter heavy duty cleanup. Bill Payne has done yeoman’s service in Park cleanup as well. The irrigation commenced about April 30. The MPRB rebuilt the vandalized sign and reinstalled it back

on the corner of Colfax and Douglas. The tulips, daffodils, and rhododendrons are looking especially beautiful these last two weeks.

Please mark your calendars if you can help out in the Park on the dates as follows: the 2nd Saturday mornings 10-12 am of the months of June 13, July 11, August 8, and September 12.

The Park always needs extra hands to assist in Park maintenance. Please ask your friends and children who might also contribute some time to this important task. The Park appreciates all you can do.

Thanks and enjoy this fabulous season.

Summer Hours: Open until 8pm Thursdays!

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