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Providing local news to the Minneapolis lakes community since 1976

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PORCHFEST TURNS UPTOWN INTO A LIVING RADIO DIAL

By Molly Mogren Katt



Skinny Lover performs at Uptown Porchfest 2025. (Photo: Courtney Cushing Kiernat)

Molly Mogren Katt is a writer, entrepreneur and mom who launched HeyEleanor! on Substack to document facing her fears. She is a regular contributor and lives in the Wedge.

“It’s our first time performing with backup dancers,” said Chris Watson of pop punk band, Atomic Lights, between eardrum-blasting songs played as fast and loud as possible.

Those backup dancers? My kids, standing atop our living room’s radiators rocking out behind the picture window, who can now say that their first concert happened on their own front porch.

On Saturday, August 16, the

third annual Uptown Porchfest showcased 87 bands across 35 porches and yards. From Americana to Neo-South Asian Sufi groups, full brass bands and singer/songwriters, a walk around the Wedge felt like turning the dial on your radio. You know, back when people did things like turn a dial on a radio.

Minneapolis resident Lisa Martelly launched the Uptown Porchfest in 2023, modeling it after the Boston event of the same name. “I went to Porchfest every year when I lived in Boston, and it was my favorite way to experience the city.” She craved more involvement with her Minneapolis neighborhood and felt like the Wedge

could support its own Porchfest.

The event is free to attend, and fully volunteer-run. Martelly, along with a small core team of neighbors, reviewed well over 100 band applications, curating a diverse musical lineup, then paired bands with homeowners. “It’s a massive balancing act coming up with a schedule that meets everyone’s needs, preferences, and fits within the space that we have,” says Martelly. “It takes a lot of time connecting all of these people, and if one thing changes there are so many ripple effects.”

This year, Porchfest organizers ended up with more bands looking to participate than porches — prompting a neighbor to ask about ours. Visions of Madison’s Mifflin Street Block Party (IYKYK) danced in my head, picturing drunk college students littering empties on the lawn and asking if they could please use our bathroom. But then I remembered this is Minnesota, not Wisconsin, and after conferring with a few neighbors who’ve hosted in previous years, we said sure.

Atomic Lights, a three-piece pop punk band founded by high school friends in 2012, arrived at noon, helping my husband move our dilapidated porch furniture to the yard. We placed a handful of chairs in the street, both to block off parking and offer seating to whomever might like to hang out. At 1 p.m. on the dot (right on time, not very punk!), 19 bands simultaneously kicked off the festival. Organizers placed bands far enough from each other to ensure that

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CATCH OF THE DAY

By Lori Mittag



Lori Mittag reunites Karla Thompson with her wallet, recovered years after it went overboard in Lake of the Isles. (Image: Jeff Mittag)

Lori Mittag is a volunteer and lives in Kenwood.

It was a stormy morning when three brave kayakers set out to collect trash along the east side of Lake of the Isles.

Rob and Julie White are regulars at this noble task and, this time, brought along their neighbor, Jeff McNaught. Something unusual caught Julie’s eye while she was filling three large bags of trash.

In her words, it was “bobbing up and down” in the water. It turned out to be a coin purse — a very soggy, very gross one.

Elizabeth Shaffer and I happened to be on shore for the East Isles cleanup when Julie tossed the purse up to me.

Elizabeth and I opened it, and the sleuthing began. Inside were a number of credit cards, coins, Toyota keys, a Medicare card and \$200 in waterlogged cash.

The credit cards bore the name “Karla Thompson” and had expired in 2021. There was no driver’s license, but it was easy to guess that Karla was over 65 (Medicare card) and that the purse had been in the water at least four years (expired credit cards).

Elizabeth searched online and found two possible matches. I called the first one listed, a 69-year-old woman living in Plymouth. Jackpot — it was she!

Karla explained that she had lost the purse in 2020, during the pandemic, while kayaking on Lake of the Isles. She was thrilled to have it back, especially since it had been a gift from her sister’s trip to Turkey.

The best part? The purse was made out of cork — which explained why it kept bobbing. Karla no longer owns the Toyota, but she is \$200 richer, with extra money to buy beers at the Vikings game, where she was headed with her sister.



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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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 (750 words for a commentary or space permitting) and we reserve the right to edit for clarity and length.



A bouquet of bright, cheerful gladiolas arrived with a kind note signed "Jill." Thank you "Jill!" (Images: Susan Lenfestey)

Thank You, "Jill?"

These lovely gladiolas were recently left on our front porch, along with an equally lovely note thanking me for my work on the Hill and Lake Press. It was signed by "Jill."

Naturally, I wrote a thank-you to my friend and copy editor Jill Field, who appreciated the gesture — only they weren't from her! And the Rolodex of my brain could call up no other Jills.

So, Jill, whoever you are, thank you. My inability to figure out your identity is no reflection of my gratitude for your kind words and glorious glads.

P.S. Many people donate their time, talent and treasure to make this paper happen. I share these flowers with them.

*Susan Lenfestey
Lowry Hill*

Closing Matriarch, Carrying the Vision Forward

I write today with both gratitude and heartbreak. After only two short months, we have made the difficult decision to close Matriarch, our plant-based restaurant at Lake and Irving.

Many of you know the challenges we've faced with our landlord. From the start, we struggled to secure a signed lease, obtain support for our liquor license and address basic building issues like a leaking roof. Without cooperation on these essentials, it became impossible to continue. It pains me to say that, after investing so much love and energy, we had no choice but to close our doors.

This is not the letter I ever wanted to write. I opened Matri-

arch with the help of my dear friend and co-owner, Crystal Brown, and former Fig + Farro staff who believed, as I did, in creating a space where community, compassion and good food could flourish. We dreamed of building a home for plant-based dining in Uptown. For a brief moment, thanks to you — our guests, supporters and neighbors — we did.

I want to thank every person who walked through our doors, who celebrated with us, and who shared in the belief that food can be a force for joy and change. While this chapter has closed too soon, it is not the end of the story. We are already working on new collaborations, plant-based pop-ups and ways to bring our vision back to life in spaces where it can thrive.

Uptown has always been a place of resilience and reinvention. I'm holding on to that spirit, and I hope you will too. Thank you for your support, your encouragement, and your love. You can follow our next adventures at www.bookofjane.co

*Michelle Courtright
East Bde Maka Ska*

No Appetite for a Hot Dog on the Park Board

Jason Garcia (they/them) is running for the Minneapolis Park Board in District 4, carrying the Minneapolis DFL endorsement from a convention that was so poorly run and riddled with irregularities that the state DFL intervened and punished the Minneapolis DFL — putting it on probation, suspending its budget and stripping its delegates of voting rights in statewide party business.

It took me a moment to place Garcia, but then it hit me: this is the same person who not long ago was parading around on the Wedge Live podcast as "Hot Dog Larry Jacobs."

At the time, I'll admit I laughed. Watching a grown, bearded adult squeeze into a hot dog suit to deliver political commentary was absurd enough to be entertaining. But now that the same person wants my vote, the punchline doesn't land the same.

It's a lot less funny when the costume comes off and the candidate expects to be taken seriously as a public servant — especially when his commentary is caustic and divisive, with a "defund the police" poster hanging on the wall behind him.

Wedge Live is in the business of ridiculing people. If Garcia's plan was to build a brand by mocking politics and politicians, fine — wear the bun, slap on the mustard and call it performance art. But when that performance shifts into a campaign for elected office, the joke feels like it's on the rest of us.

From what I gather, Garcia, an anti-car activist, was especially upset about the Park Board's decision to keep the Uptown Mall open for emergency access and parking instead of turning it into a narrow sloped lawn with little

utility. I thought the board got that one right. Elizabeth Shaffer represented District 4 well and will serve Ward 7 on the City Council even better. Replacing her with someone who treats politics like a condiment-covered ideological sideshow would be a downgrade.

It wasn't long ago that this ideology meant allowing encampments in parks and refusing to let state troopers use Park Board restrooms. What's next — removing cars from parkways and defunding the Park Police?

For me, it's simple: I won't be voting for the hot dog. I'll be voting for Jeanette Colby.

*Mark Sloo
East Isles*

DFL Mailer Misleads Voters

I was surprised to receive in my mailbox a campaign mailer for Omar Fateh and other Minneapolis candidates falsely claiming the endorsement of the Minneapolis DFL. This is deeply troubling.

The Minneapolis DFL, already under state supervision for its wrongful endorsement of Fateh for mayor, should have known better. The organization distributed literature on behalf of Fateh and others, highlighting his endorsement for mayor — even though that endorsement had been stripped before the materials were delivered to tens of thousands of homes across the city.

This was a serious breach of trust. The Minneapolis DFL should be ashamed and must issue a public retraction. Candidate Fateh's campaign, too, owes Minneapolis voters a formal apology for allowing this misleading material to circulate.

A candidate who benefits from a misbegotten endorsement and then permits the distribution of a mailer that blatantly misrepresents the facts raises serious concerns about character and integrity. A vote for Omar Fateh is, plainly, a vote for corruption.

*Lee Munich
Former Minneapolis City Council Member Ward 7*

Katie Cashman's Budget Vote Dimmed Ward 7's Lights

Remember how long we waited for the city to fix streetlights damaged by copper wire theft? Most of the damage was along the parkways — especially around the Chain of Lakes, right here in Ward 7.

In his budget, Mayor Jacob Frey designated \$1 million to replace the copper wiring with aluminum. Then, astonishingly, Ward 7 Council Member Katie Cashman voted for a budget amendment diverting half of that money to purchase new pedestrian-level streetlights in Council Member Robin Wonsley's Ward 2.

Unfortunately, the amendment passed with support from the council's Democratic Socialists

of America majority, with whom Cashman votes about 85 percent of the time:

“Amending the 2025 Mayor’s Recommended Budget in the General Fund (00100) to appropriate \$500,000 one-time within the Public Works Department, Street Lighting (6850100) for increased pedestrian-level lighting in the Dinkytown and Marcy-Holmes neighborhoods pending eligibility as a Pedestrian Street Lighting Corridor.”

The amendment forced the city, during a time of painful belt-tightening, to raid its contingency funds to restore money desperately needed for streetlight repair citywide — especially in Ward 7.

How unfortunate that we were first victimized by thieves and then let down by our own council member. That’s why it was mind-bending to see Cashman on KSTP a few days ago celebrating the repairs as if she had supported them all along.

This time, let’s elect a council member we can trust — Elizabeth Shaffer.

*Mary Pattock
Cedar-Isles-Dean*

Back in the Light Thanks to Katie Cashman

Streetlight repair in Minneapolis has been a long-standing challenge. Due in large part to the theft of copper electrical wiring, neighborhoods across the city have been left in the dark in recent years. This is a serious safety concern for residents and visitors who want to enjoy our streets and parkways after dark.

In 2024, the city’s Public Works team repaired 10 miles of street lighting. An impressive number, but not enough to keep pace with copper thefts and the resulting outages.

Enter Council Member Katie Cashman, who worked with the mayor’s office and Public Works to secure funding for 20 miles of repairs in 2025. Crews are now installing low-resale-value aluminum wiring and tamper-resistant screws around Lake of the Isles, with Cedar Lake and Bde Maka Ska next on the list.

This is a major win for Ward 7, which is why I was disappointed when Cashman’s electoral opponent suggested that funding pedestrian lighting repairs in Dinkytown and Marcy-Holmes somehow came at the expense of work around the lakes. Don’t those neighborhoods also deserve safe, well-lit streets?

This accomplishment required the leadership of Cashman, her council colleagues, the mayor and Public Works to make both the budget and logistics work. With so many competing priorities in the city budget, Cashman stuck with this issue. Now that repairs are underway, she continues to receive weekly progress updates from Public Works, which she shares in her biweekly Ward 7 newsletters.

This is a real issue being resolved in large part thanks to the dedicated work of Council Member Katie Cashman — a prob-

lem-solver and leader who follows up and follows through for our community.

*John Maternoski
Loring Park*

A Vote for Cathy Abene Is a Vote for Clean Water and Strong Parks

Count me among the many people in Park District 6 — and throughout our park system — who are huge fans of Cathy Abene, our current Park Board president and District 6 commissioner.

Cathy has worked tirelessly for our environment and for a strong and effective Park Board. She has protected and cleaned our waters, used Park Board resources responsibly, and managed staff and assets with fairness and steadiness.

As president, Cathy has shown that she can intelligently and respectfully handle complex challenges and build consensus, even in difficult times. She has prioritized clean water initiatives, supported shoreline restoration and tree canopy expansion, and strengthened partnerships with neighborhoods and community organizations.

She has also been a steady hand on the budget, ensuring resources are spent wisely and transparently to fulfill the Park Board’s mission.

Cathy’s professional expertise as a civil engineer, her commitment to environmental stewardship, and her proven ability to lead with integrity make her an outstanding public servant. She has earned our trust, and she has earned another term.

Please join me in supporting Cathy Abene for another four years as District 6 commissioner.

*Constance Pepin
Linden Hills*

Elizabeth Shaffer Listens Before Leading

We are supporting Elizabeth Shaffer for Minneapolis City Council in Ward 7 because she listens first and studies issues carefully before drawing conclusions.

Too often in today’s political climate, the mentality is to claim all the answers up front. But we live in a representative democracy, and in our experience, good governance comes from weighing many different sides before making decisions.

Elizabeth has shown she understands this, and she has proven her ability to do it well through her thoughtful work on the Minneapolis Park Board.

That is why she will have our vote.

*Chuck Malkerson & Carolyn Hall
Loring Park*

Katie Cashman Delivers on Public Safety

When George Floyd was killed more than four years ago, the elected leaders of Minneapolis pledged to fix the Police Depart-

ment and the city’s public safety system at large.

In the years since, many of those leaders have quietly retreated from those promises, even as the system continues to fail people. People like Amir Locke, unjustly killed by police in Ward 7 in 2022.

Or Davis Moturi, who made call after call to 911 pleading for protection from a neighbor who later shot him while he trimmed a tree in his front yard last year.

Not to mention the many victims of property crime who never get a call back, or unhoused neighbors left to brave the elements because there are not enough affordable homes or shelter beds.

Leaders who have remained committed to reforming our public safety infrastructure have been true beacons. Ward 7’s City Council member, Katie Cashman, has been one of them.

Cashman understands that public safety requires more than simply voting to increase the police budget each year. She has led efforts to expand the city’s tools to prevent, respond to and solve crime, including violence prevention specialists, mental health crisis responders and civilian investigators.

She has also worked to address the conditions that contribute to unsafe neighborhoods by voting for more shelter beds, more affordable housing, faster and lasting streetlight repairs, and protections for vulnerable renters and workers.

This fall, I encourage you to cast your first-choice vote for Katie Cashman, an elected representative who still believes in walking the walk.

*Douglas Pearson
Downtown West*

Colby Offers the Skills and Vision Our Parks Need

I am supporting Jeanette Colby for Minneapolis Park Board District 4 because she has proven herself over several decades as a diligent, thoughtful and effective community leader. Colby has devoted countless hours as a volunteer, diving into the details, studying the facts and making reasoned arguments that consistently support our community’s goals.

She is an adult in the best sense of the word — steady, reliable and equipped with excellent executive skills. I have no doubt she will provide outstanding constituent service, much like Commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer has done so admirably. Colby understands that listening, problem-solving and clear communication are at the heart of public service.

Beyond that, Colby is the right candidate for many reasons. She brings deep experience in community service, a collaborative style that builds bridges and a genuine respect for our parks and neighborhoods. She knows how to balance big-picture vision with the practical work of governance, ensuring that decisions reflect both values and facts.

District 4 deserves a commissioner who combines dedication

with competence, and Jeanette Colby is that person. I will proudly cast my vote for her.

*Aileen Johnson
North Loop*



Fran Davis (Image: H. Bonnewitz)

Honoring the Life and Legacy of Fran Davis

We write to honor the memory of our neighbor and dear friend Fran Davis, who recently passed away and leaves behind a remarkable legacy in our community.

Fran was more than a successful real estate professional — she was a connector, a nurturer and a champion for those around her. To work with Fran was not simply to buy or sell a home; it was to be welcomed into the community, embraced with her characteristic warmth and generosity.

Her smile and positive attitude were ever-present, and her counsel was freely offered to anyone in need. She gave tirelessly of herself, serving on many boards including the Guthrie Theater, Children’s Theatre, MinnPost, Women Winning and the Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association. Her contributions went far beyond financial support — she offered her energy, her strategic insights and her extensive circle of friends, rallying them to join her in supporting causes she held dear. They showed up not just because they loved the cause, but because they loved Fran.

Fran was also deeply engaged in politics, lending her time and talents to candidates at every level of government. And when it came to community, her legendary New Year’s Day gatherings were among the most coveted invitations in town.

Though she stood just five feet tall, Fran’s presence loomed larger than life. She will be profoundly missed by all who knew her, and by countless others whose lives were touched by her service, even if they never met her in person.

Her legacy lives on not only in the organizations she strengthened and the people she touched but also through her beloved sister, Barb, who will continue carrying forward the spirit of these two extraordinary sisters in action.

Minneapolis has lost one of its brightest lights. Fran Davis’s spark will continue to shine through the community she loved so deeply.

*Lily, John, Dawn and Mike
Erlandson
East Isles*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Happy 100th Birthday Barbara!

Barbara Dow with Kids' Gallery Club members in 1947. From left: John Strand, Elden Nelson and Ray Garin. (Image: Unknown)

Longtime East Isles resident Barbara Dow recently celebrated her 100th birthday. She lived in her historic home on Lake Place for 64 years, until her mid-90s. She grew up near Minnehaha Creek and 50th Street, graduating from Washburn High School and the University of Minnesota.

Dow taught elementary students in Minneapolis Public Schools for many years, beginning in 1963. At Waite Park Elementary, she led Minnesota's first high-potential class, and the curriculum she created became the foundation for gifted and talented programs throughout the state. While still an undergraduate, she also taught an art history class at the University of Minnesota. Later, she taught for 28 years at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and worked at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's information desk for 22 years, retiring at age 85.

She has many stories from teaching gifted children. One favorite: when a book dealer donated volumes to her classroom, a 9-year-old volunteer asked, "Mrs. Dow, do you want these cataloged as Dewey Decimal or Library of Congress?"

A master gardener when there were only 30 in Hennepin County, Dow also served as an officer of the Minnesota Herb Society. She sewed her own clothes and cooked and baked everything from scratch. With her children, she camped, skied, canoed and enjoyed countless outdoor adventures.

She was an active athlete in her youth, ice skating and cross-country skiing and playing volleyball, tennis and badminton. As an adult, she favored long walks around the lakes and was a longtime daily swimmer at the Uptown YWCA.

Today, Dow continues to enjoy classical music, follow current events and read stacks of books from the Hennepin County Library.

*Sandra Nelson
East Isles*

A Quieter Cedar Lake Parkway Brings Newfound Peace

With the closure of Cedar Lake Parkway at Burnham Road, I recommend everyone take a stroll along the parkway. Earlier this summer, before the closure, crossing the street felt unsafe because of the high volume of vehicles, some speeding upward of 35 to 40 mph.

Now the atmosphere is transformed. The street is quieter, more tranquil and feels safer. With less through-traffic, the experience is much more parklike. (Local vehicle access remains, so anyone who needs or wants to drive can still do so.)

At Point Beach, I hear the whistling wind through the trees instead of accelerating engines. I notice the high-pitched trill of a cedar waxwing instead of the thrum of motors. The difference in the park experience is remarkable.

I wasn't living in Minneapolis during the COVID parkway closures, but my neighbor said this current state reminds him of that time. I admit I'm jealous of those who got to enjoy the parkways closed to cars. Today, Cedar Lake Parkway feels like a relaxing escape, not a loud, stressful roadway.

*Benjamin Lester
Bryn Mawr*

America's Longest Dinner Table to Transform Nicollet Mall

Dinner du Nord, a new large-scale dining event, will take place Thursday, Sept. 11, on Nicollet Mall in downtown Minneapolis. The event will feature 2,000 diners, 40 restaurants and food trucks, and 280 tables, creating what organizers say will be America's longest dinner table.

The event has two goals: to strengthen Nicollet Mall's role as Minnesota's premier destination for entertainment and to support Minneapolis restaurants and food trucks, many of which are still recovering from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Dinner du Nord is everything that makes Minneapolis great — creative, welcoming and rooted in community," Mayor Jacob Frey said. "We're setting the longest dinner table in America right here on Nicollet Mall, not just to showcase our incredible restaurants and food trucks, but to bring people together in the heart of our city. This is about supporting our hospitality workers, celebrating our diverse food scene and proving once again that downtown Minneapolis is where bold ideas come to life."

The concept was inspired by Savor the Summit in Park City, Utah, which features long tables set up along Main Street. Dinner du Nord departs from that model with menus and pricing designed to welcome diners at all budget levels. Restaurants will offer

meals ranging from taco platters at \$18 to fine dining experiences at \$230, with taxes and gratuities included.

Organizers say the event builds on Minneapolis' tradition of community gatherings such as National Night Out. Proceeds will benefit Help the House Foundation, which supports workers in the restaurant industry.

To participate, visit www.dinnerdunord.com, review the menus of the 40 participating restaurants and food trucks, purchase a ticket from the restaurant of your choice

by Sept. 6, and arrive on Sept. 11 ready to dine.

Sponsors include the City of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Foundation, Hospitality Minnesota, Meet Minneapolis Downtown Council, Southern Glazer's, Inter-mix Beverage, the Star Tribune, Mpls.St.Paul Magazine, the Minneapolis Film Society and herd impact.

*Scott Mayer
Loring Park*



Restaurateurs, Dinner du Nord sponsors and Minneapolis officials toast their collaboration to bring diners to Nicollet Mall. (Image: Anonymous)



Joan Grove celebrates her 90th birthday with Tom Hoch and Mark Addicks. Grove, Minnesota's first female secretary of state, is remembered for modernizing the office, championing voter participation and serving as a trailblazer for women in politics. (Image: Anonymous)

GRADING OUR CITY LAKES: A LESSON FOR OUR CITY

By Susan Lenfestey

Susan Lenfestey is a regular contributor. She lives in Lowry Hill.

After mats of aquatic weeds spread across Lake of the Isles this summer like mold on an old peach, it was a pleasant surprise to read that the C grade given by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to our city's Chain of Lakes is considered "a triumph of environmental restoration."

How can such a mediocre grade be considered a triumph?

According to Greg Stanley, author of the August 16 article in the Star Tribune, a C would not be a good grade in the wooded and undeveloped parts of the state. But for the four city lakes that collect runoff from roads and urban development, the scores are remarkable.

Stanley writes, "By the 1990s, the lakes were in bad condition and getting worse. The marshes, woods and prairies that once surrounded the chain had long been drained away and paved . . . Water clarity was declining. Algae blooms were frequent."

"A Minnesota Pollution Control Agency report found that Cedar Lake, the first in the chain, had nearly three times the phosphorus it had before development. Along with that phosphorus, a toxic stew of pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, chemicals and oils was piped directly into the lakes from lawns and streets through storm-water systems."

Then there was an amazing turnaround, thanks to citizens who took action, and the partnerships that resulted.

"It was immediately clear that Minneapolis would not be able to fix the problem alone. Spurred on by citizens, the city formed a Clean Water Partnership with several agencies and organizations including the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, St. Louis Park, Edina and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District."

According to Stanley, they divided up the \$12.4 million cost of the restoration project and started

work in 1995. This included dredging phosphorus-laden silt from smaller upstream lakes and creating ponds near the larger lakes to collect toxins and allow cleaner water to flow through.

"The city also increased its street sweeping program and started a public education campaign to cut down on the pesticides, grass trimmings and fallen leaves washing into the lakes."

That triumphant C grade also serves as a reminder of the days when realistic solutions mattered more than ideology, and comity was valued over combat.

It took good governance — creativity, collaboration and com-

"That triumphant C grade also serves as a reminder of the days when realistic solutions mattered more than ideology, and comity was valued over combat."

promise — as well as an engaged group of citizens, to pull our lakes back from the brink.

Those three Cs are sadly missing in today's political grind.

Whether it's the decrees emanating from the Oval Office, destroying partnerships and the planet with the stroke of a madman's pen, or the ideological purity required right here in River City's DFL, we are also on the brink.

As with the lakes, the health of our city depends on civility and cooperation between its citizens. The Minneapolis DFL needs to address its dysfunction, laid bare



Citizens, agencies and local governments lifted Minneapolis lakes from failure to a triumphant C grade — a reminder that cooperation and compromise can restore not just waters but civic life. (Image: Courtney Cushing Kiernat)

in the debacle of its recent convention, and come up with an agenda that doesn't alienate so many Minneapolitans who are tired of infighting and oratory, and just want the city to provide basic services, safe streets and a level playing field for all. And clean lakes.

We are part of a shared watershed. What happens upstream trickles down to us. How we conduct ourselves as a city sends rip-

ples across the state. We need to pull our oars as one, or at least stop using them as cudgels.



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Jeanette Colby

DISTRICT 4

for Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board

My mission is to keep our parks cared for, our voices heard, and our community strong.

COLBYFORPARKS.ORG

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NORTH COMMONS PARK BREAKS GROUND: A PROMISE MADE, AND A PROMISE KEPT

By Craig Wilson, Editor



The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has broken ground on a \$45 million renovation of North Commons Park — the largest neighborhood park investment in city history — promising long-awaited facilities and programs shaped by North Side residents to improve health, equity and community life. Pictured at right is Shawn Lewis with the Minneapolis Parks Foundation. (Images: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board)

Craig Wilson is a former board member of the Minneapolis Parks Foundation and the editor of the Hill & Lake Press. He lives in Lowry Hill.

The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board just broke ground on a \$45 million renovation of North Commons Park, the largest investment ever made in a Minneapolis neighborhood park.

To learn more, the Hill & Lake Press recently spoke with Shawn Lewis, the Minneapolis Parks Foundation's community relations manager, about why the North Side's iconic park is a smart investment in the future of the city.

A crowd of more than 200 turned up for the groundbreaking at North Commons Park on July 29. Why is this park improvement important to North Minneapolis?

There are a lot of promises that get made in underserved or disinvested communities, but when those promises aren't kept, that leads to disappointment, and that leads to frustration. Neighbors feel like "people want to come into our neighborhood here and just do things to us, and not do things with us."

This project at North Commons has been a long time coming, but it's been built on a lot of community engagement about what North Side residents want to see in this park — especially for the 10,000 kids who live within walking distance.

So what you're going to see is a large new field house with three basketball courts and an indoor running track, community rooms for teens and seniors, a fully rebuilt water park where kids can learn to swim, great community and after-school programs that can help tackle some of the health disparities we have in North Minneapolis by providing safe space for year-round exercise, and access to nature without having to leave the community.

I think that's why we're seeing

this cross-section of folks from the African American community who were so thrilled about the groundbreaking. Because the construction means this is a promise made, and a promise kept.

The Minneapolis Parks Foundation has secured more than \$16 million in private contributions toward the project's \$20 million campaign goal. What's your pitch about why this park improvement is important to everyone?

Minneapolis always likes to talk about its access to parks, or great biking paths, but when you hear "We're number one!" you should also be asking, "For

"In 2020, I was hospitalized for 13 days with COVID-19, four of them on a ventilator, and when I recovered my sister told me, 'It must be because God isn't finished with you yet. You've got more work to do in this community,' and I thought to myself, 'That's right — North Commons must be one of the things I'm here to get done.'"

whom?" Because for communities of color, with different demographics, you see a different story.

Minneapolis is an economic engine for the whole state —

think of it like a car engine with four cylinders or four pistons. For Minneapolis to truly be the top-rated city it claims to be, every geographical area needs to run well, and right now, North Minneapolis isn't working with the same resources as other parts of the city.

Investing in parks is one way to make that happen. Study after study tells us that every dollar we invest in parks returns at least four additional dollars in things we all benefit from like reduced crime, improved public health and new economic opportunities.

You've been making the rounds at local meetings and gatherings for a few years to make sure North Minneapolis is informed and engaged in this project. What have you learned about what North Commons means to North Minneapolis?

It's in the name, I think. North Commons — a place that belongs to all of us, where we feel welcome, where the community gathers for events like the Festival for Fathers and so much more.

People often tell me, "I grew up there." And when you have that personal connection, you want to make sure it's still there, and even better, for the generation coming behind you.

Especially after George Floyd's murder and the pandemic, I think we all saw just how important our parks are to us — me included.

In 2020, I was hospitalized for 13 days with COVID-19, four of them on a ventilator, and when I recovered my sister told me, "It must be because God isn't finished with you yet. You've got more work to do in this community," and I thought to myself, "That's right — North Commons must be one of the things I'm here to get done."

How can people contribute?

If you want to give directly, you can visit the Transforming North Commons page at the Min-

neapolis Parks Foundation's website.

But the broader definition of philanthropy I like encompasses the three Ts: time, talent and treasure.

If you've got time, or some expertise you can share, being a coach, being a mentor to kids, that's an important contribution.

Your treasure includes both your money and your social networks — letting people know how important this park is to the community.

If you've been impacted by North Commons positively or negatively, it's important for us to hear what that experience was, because we want to leverage the positive, and we want to avoid repeating past mistakes.

All of that community input will help make this project more successful.



**HELP
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**

If you'd like to honor this work, please consider making a charitable contribution to the Minneapolis Parks Foundation in support of the North Commons Project. Your gift will help revitalize one of Minneapolis' most important community parks, ensuring that North Commons continues to serve as a space for recreation, culture and connection for generations to come.

You can learn more and make a contribution here:
mplsparksfoundation.org/support-north-commons





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Details + map: eastisles.org/sale










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STATE DFL COMMITTEE REVOKES FATEH ENDORSEMENT: MODERATES AND SOCIALISTS AT ODDS

By Terry White

Terry White is a regular contributor. He is also the author of the Better Minneapolis newsletter and podcast. He lives in Field.

The Minnesota DFL Constitution, Bylaws and Rules Committee announced on August 21 that they had revoked State Senator Omar Fateh's Minneapolis DFL endorsement.

Fateh won the endorsement July 19 at the Minneapolis DFL City Convention in a second round of balloting conducted with badge voting. But the committee ruled that the convention's first round electronic voting process "was substantially flawed" resulting in an improper outcome that left DeWayne Davis off the second round of voting.

The committee, known as the CBRC, includes 30 voting members: two from each of Minnesota's eight congressional districts, 11 from the State Central Committee, two from the State Executive Committee, and the state Party Chair, Richard Carlbom. For this vote, two members recused themselves, leaving 28 votes cast. The final tally has not been released.

Party officials said that about 100 challenges to the convention were filed, including one from Mayor Jacob Frey's reelection campaign. During an August 19 hearing, challengers and respondents presented arguments to the committee. The challengers were tied to moderate, left-center candidates, while those facing challenges were aligned with the more left-leaning Democratic Socialists of America faction of the DFL.

According to a draft DFL press release, the committee found "clear and convincing evidence" that the first round of convention votes contained a substantial undercount. That error eliminated mayoral candidate DeWayne Davis from advancing to the second round, the committee said. Officials determined that not all eligible delegates were counted, rendering the results invalid.

Findings

The committee reviewed challenges stemming from a discrepancy between the number of checked-in delegates and alternates, 1,028, and the official vote tally of 577. Party rules allowed 800 delegates to vote. The final voting pool was determined to be 754, of which 176 votes — about 23 percent — went uncounted.

The committee concluded that the ballot results were unreliable and should have been disregarded at the convention. Because they were not, officials ruled that the subsequent ballot was invalid.

Endorsements for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board were allowed to stand. According to the committee, that vote was conducted by a show of delegate badges rather than electronically and involved only one round of voting. Some challengers, however, argued that the use of badges made it difficult to confirm whether all who

voted were credentialed delegates. The late hour of the 13-hour convention limited the ability to validate those votes.

Other findings by the committee: the entire Ward 5 credential book was lost; the master check-in sheet at registration was not properly secured resulting in the opportunity to replace, delete or alter ballot ID numbers; non-members of the credentials committee accessed the unsecured digital record of credentials; and upgrading of alternates was flawed resulting in some not receiving their blue voting badges.

Remedies

In addition to revoking Fateh's endorsement, the committee barred the Minneapolis DFL from endorsing a mayoral candidate in 2025. The local party was also placed on two years' probation under the supervision of the DFL State Executive Committee. As part of that probation, the Minneapolis DFL must submit a best practices plan and a compliance plan.

Impact

The decision gives all Minneapolis mayoral candidates who sought endorsement access to the party's voter database, known as VAN. Normally, access is reserved for endorsed candidates unless no endorsement is made.

Political observers note that DFL endorsements in Minneapolis often carry significant weight with voters, and most endorsed candidates go on to win their races. With no endorsement in the 2025 mayoral contest, voters will rank their top three choices from among 15 candidates without direction from the city party.

Fateh has the option to appeal the ruling. In a statement, he said he was "disappointed and angered to see 28 party insiders revoke the endorsement and overturn the votes of hundreds of Minneapolis residents."

Several elected officials issued a joint statement condemning the action, including U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar, state Sen. Zaynab Mohamed (Fateh's sister-in-law), Hennepin County Commissioners Irene Fernandez, Marion Greene and Angela Conley, and Minneapolis City Council Members Elliott Payne, Aisha Chughtai, Jamal Osman, Jason Chavez and Aurin Chowdhury.

Mayor Jacob Frey's campaign praised the ruling. "I am glad that this inaccurate and obviously flawed process was set aside," his campaign said in a statement. "The outcome of this election now rests where it should — with all the people of Minneapolis."

Analysis: Rethinking Minneapolis' Endorsement Process

The Minneapolis DFL's unprecedented loss of authority in this year's mayoral race has renewed debate over whether the caucus and convention system should continue.

Critics argue that the process is flawed and unnecessary. City elections are nonpartisan by law and already use ranked-choice voting,



A Minneapolis DFL flyer proclaiming Omar Fateh's endorsement was sent to likely Democratic voters even though his endorsement had already been officially revoked. Critics allege the mailing was done deliberately, noting that this type of campaign literature is not typically distributed this early but rather closer to the election. (Images: DFL)

reducing the influence of party endorsements. The Minneapolis DFL, a volunteer-run organization, has struggled to manage caucuses and conventions, often leading to disputes, appeals and lengthy challenges.

Some observers suggest alternatives. One proposal would allow any registered DFL candidate who collects at least 250 voter signatures to access the VAN, a resource typically reserved for endorsed candidates. Others argue the party should focus on educating voters about all candidates rather than steering support to a single contender.

Endorsements also carry less weight in practice, critics say. Many DFL elected officials endorse candidates regardless of the local party's decision, leaving voters to sort through endorsements from unions,

advocacy groups and individuals.

Some reform advocates say that eliminating local party endorsements, combined with ranked-choice voting and nonpartisan ballots, could shift attention away from convention maneuvering and toward city governance.

The controversy has already drawn national attention, with the New York Times reporting on the DFL committee's decision. Party leaders emphasized that the electronic system used in the city convention will not be used in the November general election, which as usual will be conducted on paper ballots.

DFL CITY CONVENTION RESHUFFLES PARK BOARD RACE

By Marty Carlson

Marty Carlson is a regular contributor. He lives in Kenwood.

Unlike this paper, politics doesn't take a month off in August for the kids' issue. Although that might be something to consider, July and August were eventful months in our local politics.

July brought drama with the DFL City Convention. The first mayoral ballot failed, scrambling ensued, Jacob Frey delegates walked out, Omar Fateh was endorsed for mayor, and a slate of Park Board candidates was endorsed by the delegates who remained. Challenges were filed with the State DFL, and a lengthy hearing was held in mid-August. Shortly before this issue went to press, the Fateh endorsement was revoked, and the Park Board endorsements were allowed to stand.

The Minneapolis DFL is now on probation with the state party for the next two years and is prohibited from endorsing anyone for mayor in 2025.

The impact of all of this on the Park Board races has been profound.

Rather than the "no endorsements" predicted by many observers, the delegates who remained in the convention's harried final hour endorsed candidates for eight of the nine Park Board commissioner positions (no endorsement in District 5, which covers Southeast Minneapolis).

In District 4 (the seat currently occupied by Elizabeth Shaffer that encompasses most Hill & Lake neighborhoods), the nod went to local activist Jason Garcia.

In District 6 (which includes CIDNA and West Bde Maka Ska), former Minneapolis School Board member Ira Jourdain was endorsed over incumbent Park Board President Cathy Abene.

Cue the dominoes. In short order, at least four candidates, most seen as "moderate," withdrew from the race: incumbent Billy Menz (District 1), District 4 candidates Paula Chesley and Conrad Zbikowski, and at-large candidate Tim Peterson.

Meanwhile, in District 4, Paula Chesley's departure prompted Kenwood resident and former Park Board candidate Jeanette Colby to throw her hat into the ring. In District 6, by contrast, Abene remains in the race and is actively campaigning in what is now a two-way contest with Jourdain.

This is a long way of saying that the races in the Hill & Lake area have been substantially reshuffled in the last two months. As the newcomer to the race, Jeanette Colby is profiled below.

Remaining District 4 candidates Jason Garcia and Andrew Gebo were profiled in the June issue. Gebo responded to a request for a follow-up interview; Garcia did not. In District 6, Cathy Abene (profiled in the March issue) spoke with us, while Ira Jourdain did not respond to an interview request.

MEET THE CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT 4 AND DISTRICT 6:



(Image: colbyforparks.org)

District 4 – Jeanette Colby

Although a late addition to the District 4 race, Jeanette Colby is well-known to many in the area. In addition to a number of community volunteer roles, Colby previously ran for the District 4 seat in 2017, withdrawing after Jono Cowgill received the DFL endorsement at the city convention.

The daughter of a minister, Colby moved to Minnesota as a toddler, living first in Austin, then moving to Minneapolis, where she graduated from the now-shuttered Marshall-University High School in Dinkytown.

Colby's parents divorced when she was 11, and while she remembers many lean years growing up, she said that both her parents highly valued education. Colby worked a variety of waitressing jobs (including a stint at the Dinkytown Deli) during high school and college, and graduated with a B.A. from Georgetown University, majoring in government, with minors in French and theology.

After finishing college, Colby got a tutoring job in Nice, France. While it was a shoe-string existence, being in Nice allowed her to pursue a certificate degree in European Studies. When her year of tutoring was up, she moved to Brussels, where she obtained a

masters-equivalent degree from the University of Brussels, also in European Studies.

At the end of her European sojourn, Colby moved back to Minnesota. There, she met her now-husband, Dave (married 33 years), and began pursuing further graduate work in program evaluation at the University of Minnesota.

During this time, Colby worked a variety of jobs in that field, ranging from work at a small consulting firm on international trade exports to a position at the Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement (CAREI) at the University of Minnesota (where she worked for former Kenwood neighbor Kyla Wahlstrom).

Colby says that running for District 4 commissioner reflects a sustained interest in parks; she just wrapped up a seven-year career as an arts administrator for Edina Parks and Recreation, and she currently serves as a board member for the Kenwood Neighborhood Organization (which she previously chaired).

Colby has also served as co-chair of the community advisory committee for Southwest Light Rail and has been a board member for the Cedar Lake Park Association. For the past 17 years, she has been a guide at the Minneapolis Institute of Art and is a ceramicist in her free time.

From an issues standpoint, Colby says she hopes to continue the legacy of outgoing commissioner Elizabeth Shaffer, taking a pragmatic approach to the office that's responsive to community concerns. Shaffer has endorsed Colby in this race.

Colby lists her top issues in this campaign as (1) adequately maintaining existing assets; (2) supporting community safety efforts, including creative programming; (3) protecting and promoting healthy lakes and waterways; and (4) being both realistic and innovative in crafting Park Board budgets.

Colby says she's excited about new projects such as Upper Harbor Terminal and North Commons, but also wants to anticipate challenges, such as a changing environment and likely budget constraints.

Asked about The Mall and parkway closures, Colby said she supports the East Isles Neighborhood Association's position and the Park Board's ruling requiring the Met Council to restore roadways after subsurface work in the area concludes. She believes the current master plan has flaws, including inadequate emergency access to south-side apartments

and legal issues with roadway abandonments. When funding becomes available, she said that the community should be reengaged to decide what's best.

On parkway closures, Colby supports occasional event-related closures but opposes permanent ones, arguing they reduce accessibility and inclusivity, especially around the Chain of Lakes.

More information on Colby can be found at: colbyforparks.org.



(Image: gebo4parkboard.com)

District 4 – Andrew Gebo

Unlike former candidates Chesley and Zbikowski, Andrew Gebo says he was never in doubt about staying in the race until November. He says that voter choice is a good thing, and he's actively campaigning.

Asked about the convention, Gebo says it was his first, so it was hard to put into broader context, but he didn't feel good about the process at the end of the day, even though he believed the results would stand. Unlike Chesley and Zbikowski, Gebo did not file a challenge with the State DFL. He said there appeared to be a quorum for his vote, and that Jason Garcia won a clear majority of the delegates for District 4.

That being said, Gebo is plowing forward, and says his positions haven't changed. He was glad to be asked about two high-profile issues, The Mall and parkway closures.

As regards the Park Board's recent vote to keep The Mall's existing roadway configuration (Hill & Lake Press, May 2025), Gebo says he regards that as a missed opportunity: Removing portions of roadway was a part of the Southwest Area Master Plan, and the parts at issue could have been removed at no cost to the Park Board.

As for parkway closures, Gebo says that while he enjoyed the closures during the pandemic, he's opposed to making them permanent. Doing so would impair access, in his view, particularly for the elderly and disabled. Gebo says he would support some temporary weekend closures, particularly if they are event-related and could generate revenue for the Park Board.

When he's not campaigning on his own behalf, Gebo says he has been an active volunteer for Jazz Hampton's mayoral campaign and for Ward 7 incumbent Katie Cashman's reelection bid.

More information on Andrew Gebo can be found at: gebo4parkboard.com.



(Image: cathyabene.com)

District 6 – Cathy Abene

In District 6, incumbent commissioner and board president Cathy Abene is also staying in the race, despite losing her bid for the DFL endorsement. Abene, a professional engineer in her day job, says that she wants to continue doing substantive work on the Park Board (the multi-jurisdictional effort to improve water quality in the Chain of Lakes is of particular interest).

She says that when she talks to constituents, they are much more interested in parks-related issues than DFL politics. Abene says that in her experience many in District 6 agree on the issues of the day and don't want them politicized.

One of the positives to come out of the convention, according to Abene, is that voters are more aware of the substantive differences among candidates, and she is predicting good voter turnout in November based on her early engagement.

Asked about her position on The Mall and parkway closures, Abene says she stands by her vote to require the Met Council to restore the roadways to the current condition after the Council's subsurface work is done.

Abene says that the existing master plan appears to suffer from fatal flaws, among them not accounting for adequate emergency access, particularly to the apartment buildings on the south side, as well as legal issues pertaining to roadway abandonments.

Abene says that when money comes in to

implement this portion of the master plan, the community will be reengaged, and further discussions will ensue. As to parkway closures, Abene's position is similar to Gebo's: she supports occasional events-related closures, which already happen regularly, but opposes permanent closures, in part because they would make parks less accessible and inclusive for all, particularly around the Chain of Lakes.

More information on Abene's campaign can be found at: cathyabene.com.



(Image: iraforparks.org)

District 6 – Ira Jourdain

Although he did not respond to an interview request, the campaign website for Ira Jourdain (not previously profiled in this paper) says that he has lived with his family in Kingfield for the past 10 years and served two terms on the Minneapolis Board of Education, representing District 6.

While Jourdain endorsed incumbent Cathy Abene in her initial run for Park Board in 2021, he's challenging her now and has the endorsement of the city DFL.

Top issues are: (1) providing recreation and opportunities for youth and seniors; (2) navigating the challenges of Trumpism; (3) environmental stewardship and tree canopy; and (4) respect for park workers and their unions.

More information can be found at: iraforparks.org.



(Image: jasangarcia.org)

District 4 – Jason Garcia

Jason Garcia did not respond to our request for a follow-up interview. You can read their full interview in the June issue or visit jasongarcia.org.

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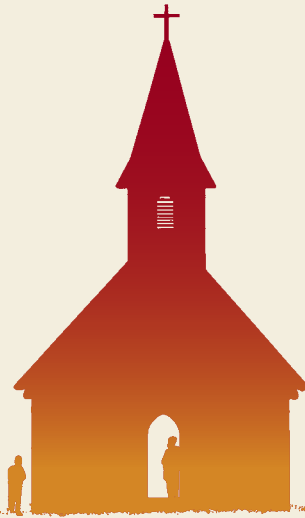
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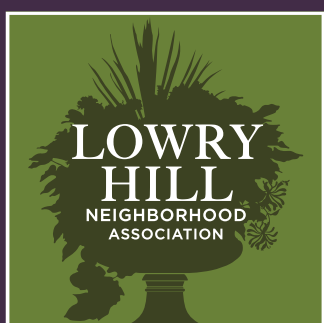
Lowry Hill Update

Thanks to all who attended Fishing in the Parks! Special thanks Kenwood and Cedar-Isles-Dean neighborhoods for partnering on the event, and to MN DNR for providing fishing gear and training. We hope everyone had a blast!

The Super Sale is coming quick! Mark Sept. 13 on your calendars, and plan your route on our interactive map!

Did you know storm drain street trash pollutes lakes and rivers? Debris breaks down in the elements, then drains into our waters. But adopting a drain is free, and takes only a few occasional minutes to maintain: mn.adopt-a-drain.org

LHNA's board meetings are back at Kenwood Community Center, join us first Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm!



Uptown Farmers Market

Thursdays, 4-8 PM Through Sept. 25
W Lake St & Girard Ave (beside Seven Points)
The market is in its final stretch, and LHNA is a proud founding sponsor! Shop local on Thursdays.

Lowry Hill Board Meetings

Sept. 2 • Oct. 7 1st Tues. 6:30 – 8 PM
Kenwood Community Center: 2101 W Franklin Ave
Join us for neighborhood updates! To join the agenda, please email lhna@lowryhillneighborhood.org.

2025 Neighborhood Super Sale

Save the Date: Sept. 13 Sat. 9 AM – 3 PM
100+ sales will sweep Lowry Hill, East Isles, East Bde Maka Ska, Kenwood, Cedar-Isles-Dean, and The Wedge!

Lowry Hill Neighborhood Walks

Sept. 20 • Oct. 18 3rd Sat. 10 – 11:30 AM
Start + end at Sebastian Joe's: 1007 W Franklin Ave
Join us for friendly walks around Lowry Hill! Get outside, meet neighbors, pick up litter, and build community.

Open Streets Hennepin Ave

Sept. 20 Sat. 11 AM – 5 PM
Hennepin will close to host spaces to bike, walk, roll, and foster connection among neighbors and businesses.

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Mary Baker Eddy, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany pg. 210

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WHY GO?: LITT PINBALL BAR

By Jason Suss



LITT Pinball Bar on Hennepin reinvents the old Liquor Lyle's space as a family-friendly hangout by day and nightlife spot by night. With more than 45 pinball machines, a menu of creative hot dogs, burgers and apps, and a full bar with late-night service until midnight, LITT offers something for everyone — from kids and casual players to serious pinball competitors. (Images: Courtney Cushing Kiernat)

Jason Suss spent 15 years in tech before leaving the corporate world to pursue his passion for proper cocktails. He's spent the last 12 years on both sides of the bar at many local restaurants. This month he's launching a new column called "Why Go?" to highlight interesting reasons to visit and support our neighborhood bars and restaurants. Jason lives in Lowry Hill and owns @AProperPourJason.

My main reason to go?

If you search Google Maps for full-service restaurants in our neighborhood open after 11 p.m. on a Tuesday, you can count the results on one hand — even if you lost a few fingers in a fireworks mishap.

I tend to work late, and non-chain options for a sit-down meal are scarce. LITT to the rescue. They serve their full menu until at

least midnight every day. Sometimes you just need Buffalo wings or a French dip in the wee hours.

So, dig behind the couch cushions or empty the change cup in your car and head to LITT with those quarters. I think you'll have a flippin' good time.

Fun for the whole family — imagine Liquor Lyle's, but kid friendly.

It may sound like a stretch, but hear me out: LITT Pinball Bar is exactly that. It's the new spot in the old Liquor Lyle's building (pour one out for Lyle) on the tricky Franklin-to-26th Hennepin corridor. Fortunately, parking and access instructions are posted on their website.

Yes, it's technically a bar, but it's all-ages until 8 p.m. That means you can bring the kids, grab lunch (check out their \$10 lunch deal: burger or dog, chips and a drink) and play some pinball.

The refreshed but still "Lylesque" space serves apps, burgers, sandwiches, and 10 creative hot dog options — including vegan and gluten-free. There's also a full bar with specialty cocktails and craft beers for adults, plus brunch on weekends.

It's surprisingly wholesome given the building's history. They even have a private party room that seats 30. For those looking for more of a nightlife vibe, DJs play on weekend nights.

LITT began as TILT on 26th Street near Nicollet, with a focus on pinball, hot dogs and drinks. When the old Lyle's space became available, the owners expanded both the menu and the number of machines.

Speaking of machines, they have more than 45 pinball tables ranging from the newest hits to vintage favorites. Plays cost 50 cents to \$1. Pinball might be one of the few things besides Arizona Iced Tea to resist inflation — \$10 should keep a couple of kids busy long enough for you to enjoy a beer.

Like any hobby, pinball has its serious fans. At LITT, you'll find regulars who are loyal to a machine, compete in tournaments and track scores through apps that scan the QR codes on the machines.

Then there are casual players like me, wandering from table to table.



(Images: courtesy of LITT)

MINNEAPOLIS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN PRESENTS: PETER WILLIAMS: HOMEGOING — A CALL AND RESPONSE

By Josie Owens



“Peter Williams: Homegoing—A Call and Response” at MCAD honors the late artist’s legacy with a powerful exhibit curated by Keisha Williams, pairing his vibrant, socially charged works with pieces from 15 artists he influenced. Together, they explore the Black American experience — its trauma, resilience, and joy — through painting, sculpture, photography and video. Free and open to the public Aug. 22–Nov. 1, with an opening reception Sept. 5. (Images: MCAD)

Josie Owens is a regular contributor. She lives in Lowry Hill.

In 1975, Peter Williams (1952–2021) earned his BFA at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and embarked on an extensive art career as a social commentator, storyteller and professor. He is now being welcomed home to MCAD with the powerful and visually rich art exhibit “Peter Williams: Homegoing—A Call and Response.”

Keisha Williams, the director and curator of Galleries and Exhibitions at MCAD, has created a masterful show by focusing on three areas of Williams’ canon and surrounding his artwork with those of 15 fellow artists he once studied with, mentored or inspired.

Little has been overlooked in her tribute to this important artist. The blue walls complement the colorful artwork. The didactics include the artists’ words along with relevant and historical context.

She has included a variety of artworks, including sculptures, paintings, photographs and videos. All focus on the complexities of the Black American experience. Keisha Williams wants you to feel the joy but also confront the message as “we honor legacy and celebrate life.”

Homegoing can mean welcoming someone back but also refers to the “funeral tradition in the U.S. Black community that celebrates a loved one’s release from this life and a reunion with God.” These “homegoings,” rooted when enslaved people were not allowed to gather in groups, include a call and response element.

This exhibit explores that concept as these artists call and respond to each other about issues like incarceration, police brutality and racism as well as how to refute those and find peace. Keisha Williams has selected a Peter Williams work — vibrant, powerful, and often humorous — and surrounded it with other artworks that draw and build on that subject.

For example, in the section “Colorful Hard Truth,” Williams’ “Voyage Then and Now” (2019) has interconnected timelines of both a cruise and a slave ship and calls out with its images of violence and incarceration. Across

from this painting, four other artists respond. Jovan Speller’s manipulated photographs of her family’s land ask how one can trace heritage when the mechanisms for doing so aren’t there.

Candice Davis’ artworks, dyed with her own blood, call out the throughline of generational trauma. In “Cotton Dreams” (2021), Sayge Carroll asks whether her father ever fully escaped the cotton fields when he finally became a “briefcase man.” Bobby Rogers responds positively in “Family Ties” (2022) by rebutting the myth of the absent Black father with a photograph of three Black males finding joy in the face of systems designed to tear the Black family apart.

In the section “Speak Up, Document, and Leave a Record,” the exhibit focuses on the Black Lives Matter movement that was recorded on iPhones and exposed the world to racial profiling and police violence. Williams’ “[I Can’t Breathe Mother]” (2020) contains a shrouded photographer, eerily like a hangman, photographing the words “I can’t breathe Mother” in place of a Black body. At Derek Chauvin’s trial for the murder of George Floyd, Sean Garrison documented the emotion of the crowd outside who were braced to hear “not guilty.” He recorded a collective gasp of “love rising” at the guilty verdict with light swirls of blue in “Walking on Air” (2021).

The final section, “Ascendance,” asks where Black people can go during time fraught with pain and sorrow. This section includes Williams’ “Jesus Died For Somebody’s Sins, But Not Mine” (2020), a portrait of George Floyd ascending to heaven, as well as his Afrofuturistic work in which Black astronauts escape Earth and end the cycles of oppression. Leslie Barlow’s “Heavenly” (2025) offers escape in the Black cosplay community. Lamar Petersen invites respite in floral gardens. Leeya Rose Jackson’s “Universal Change” (2023) is a large colorful graphic artwork that inspires with an Octavia Butler quotation from her dystopian novel “The Parable of the Sower.”

When asked about the impact of his artwork, Peter Williams said, “[Viewers] are see-

ing their relationship either as a Black person, or to Black people, or their relationship to death or meaningfulness or authority in some kind of balance or counterbalance, counterweight to the way the world is operating right now.” Keisha Williams also hopes that by interacting with these layered pieces, the viewer will understand that Black Americans “have experienced this and look at all this beauty.”

**PETER WILLIAMS:
HOMEGOING**

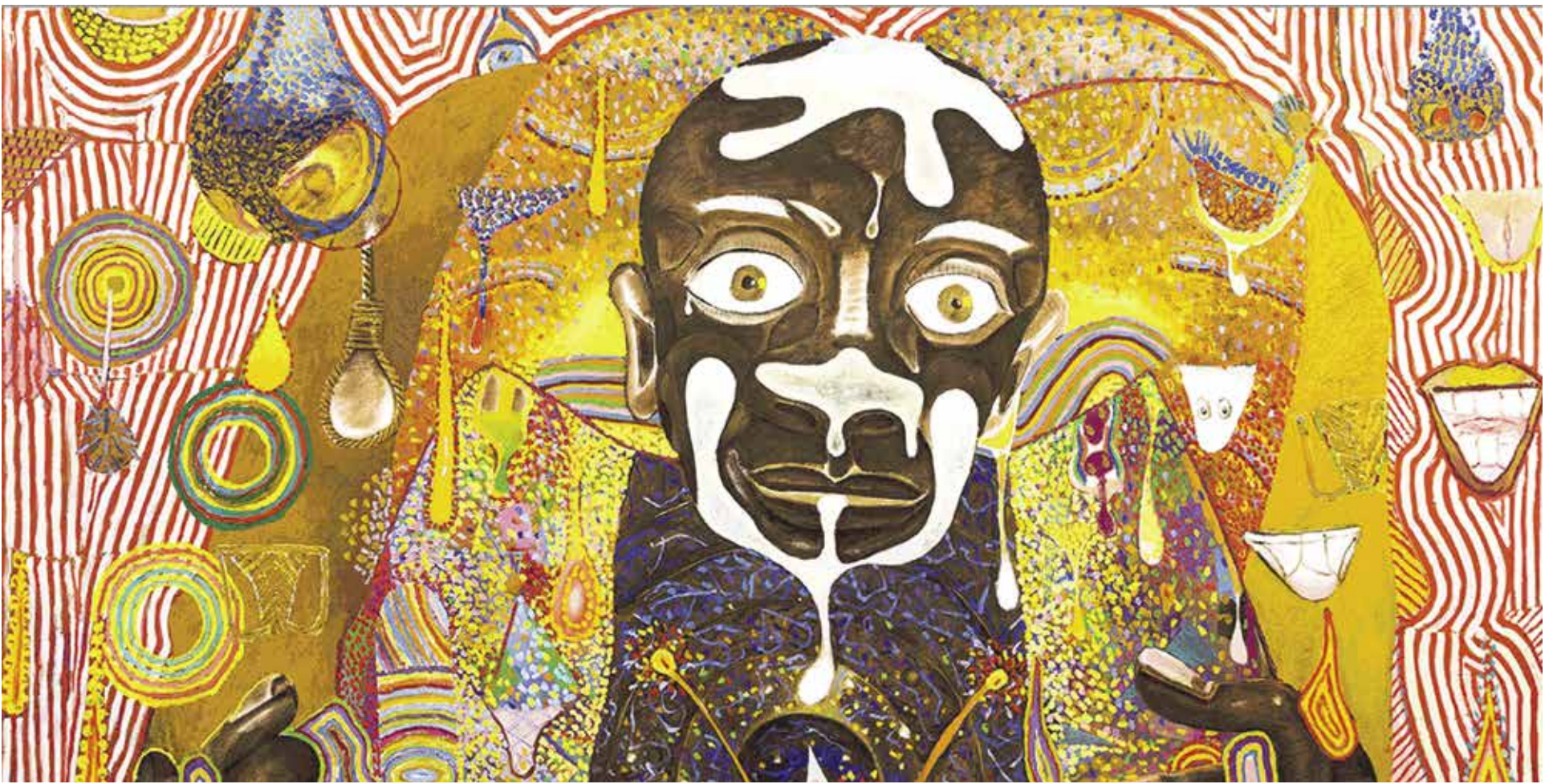
**A CALL AND
RESPONSE**

“Peter Williams: Homegoing—A Call and Response” is in the MCAD Main Gallery from Friday, August 22 to Saturday, November 1. The gallery is open from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and is free to the public.

The opening reception, which is also free, is on Friday, September 5, from 6–8 p.m., offers an opportunity to meet many of the artists in the show.

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PORCHFEST TURNS UPTOWN INTO A LIVING RADIO DIAL Front page

there's not sonic competition. It worked. When I needed a break from the face-melting sounds at my address, I meandered a block south on Colfax to find Dee Langley and the Masked Accordions, an ensemble of 13 accordion players mid-"Edelweiss." The juxtaposition felt equal parts surprising and charming.

"I love how much fun musicians have playing for such a big crowd," says Martelly. "I love seeing the neighborhood come alive and seeing our public streets used like this. There's something delightful for everyone."

Biking, public transit or parking a few blocks outside of the neighborhood and walking makes for a more enjoyable experience. I will

admit that stepping out the front door to four hours of back-to-back bands whilst lounging in my own yard had me feeling like Travis Kelce at a T-Swift show; a bona fide VIP. A few food trucks set up around the area, but you wouldn't have regretted bringing a snack (of course Babas, Leaning Tower and Tender Lovin' Chix are so close). Oh, and did I see you discreetly carrying around a beer in a can koozie? No I didn't, and even if I did, we mind our own business in the Wedge because snitches get stitches.

I grew up in Stillwater but moved to Minneapolis 20 years ago. Friends and family (let's not forget perfect strangers, too!) ask why I'd live in such a so-called hellscape, with all the

crime and drugs and construction and other unsavory things they hear about on the news. I love living somewhere with a true sense of place — where people don't all look the same, practice the same religion, speak the same language — but when someone says, Hey, let's dedicate an entire afternoon to celebrating local bands playing all sorts of music on our front porches, the neighbors say, Sounds fun, what can I bring? Thousands of people show up ready to party respectfully. It's fun for adults and kids, and with the main event wrapping by 5 p.m., you can still barbecue in a neighbor's back yard and be in bed by 10.



Neighbors turned porches into stages at the third annual Uptown Porchfest on Aug. 16, with 87 bands across 35 yards filling Uptown with music ranging from punk to brass to accordions. Thousands came out to enjoy the afternoon of free, local performances. (Images: Courtney Cushing Kiernat)



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JUSTICE ALAN PAGE: PART TWO

Interview by David Piper



Justice Alan Page (Image: David Piper)

David Piper is a retired judge and regular contributor. He lives in Kenwood.

This is the second of a two-part series about Justice Page. The first was published in the July issue and dealt with his formative years, and this article deals with his professional careers, his family, the Page Foundation and his relationship with Diane. The first article incorrectly named his siblings. His siblings are Twila, Marvel and Howard. His children are Nina, Georgi, Justin and Kamie. This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

How do you compare your time as an NFL player with service on the Minnesota Supreme Court?

I loved the competition with the Vikings and Bears, giving it my all. When I was on the football field, I was 100% there.

Same in law school, with my family and on the Supreme Court, I was 100% there. I have always been able to compartmentalize things in my life.

Football is entertainment. Its enduring value... you know, on the grand scale of things — not very much. It's good entertainment for the moment and provides some good memories. At least this is my view of it. No enduring social value.

The law — and my opportunity to serve on the court — I guess the best way to describe it is, while on the court, you know, I would go back and — trying to figure out what to say in an opinion or how to analyze a case — you go back and read cases from the 1860s.

Well, think about what I was doing then. Somebody, you know, 150, 200 years from now, coming back and reading the opinions that I wrote or the cases that I was involved in. I mean, there's just no comparison between the two.

How did you end up on the Minnesota Supreme Court?

I started off just wanting to practice law. I worked at the law firm Lindquist & Vennum for five years and then in the Minnesota Attorney General's office for seven years.

Private practice was not my cup of tea. The practice of law is a business, and I did not like that. I loved working in the Attorney General's office under Skip Humphrey, giving clients my best legal advice without worrying about whether the client was going to come or go or anything else.

A weird thing happened in 1982 or 1983. I woke up one morning and, in the newspaper, there was an article saying that Governor Perpich was going to appoint me and some other people to judgeships in Hennepin County.

That was out of the blue for me. But it made me think that maybe, maybe — it could be for me. The law is about doing justice. And it made me think that maybe there was something I had that I could contribute to the judiciary. Over time, as I developed as a lawyer — because then I was basically a new lawyer.

I mean, thank God, he didn't appoint me then. It would have been a disaster. But as I developed as a lawyer, as I began to understand who I was as a lawyer, what my strengths were, what my interests were, and it became clear to me that what appellate court judges do was where my interests and strengths lay. And thinking about that, I thought, well, if someday you become a district court judge, you can use that as sort of the steppingstone to the appellate courts.

In 1990, reasoning that the people of Minnesota should decide who should serve the full term, I filed to run against incumbent Supreme Court Justice Glen Kelley. I had nothing against Justice Kelley personally, and he was close to retirement. But before I left the Secretary of State's office, Justice Kelley had resigned, and the vacancy had been filled. I sort of took it personally. I was not pleased.

In 1992 Governor Arne Carlson extended incumbent Supreme Court Justice Lawrence

Yetka's term so that Justice Yetka could maximize his retirement benefits. I filed a lawsuit against Governor Carlson and others asserting that it was unconstitutional for taking Justice Yetka's election off the ballot.

Some people thought I was crazy, and others thought I was right. The Minnesota Supreme Court (consisting of retired appellate judges, because of the obvious conflict of interest) agreed with me, and I went on to win the general election. Again, I had nothing against Justice Yetka personally.

During the primary and general election all I heard was, "he's not qualified, he's just a football player," or he is "just a dumb Black football player." Nobody asked my opponents whether they were qualified.

The people of Minnesota had none of it. I am forever grateful to the voters of Minnesota. They put their trust in me and gave me the opportunity to serve. And the rest is history.

How did you like being on the Supreme Court?

I absolutely loved it. You know the old saying, or the old cliché, "It's what I do, not who I am?" Well, for me, being on the court was close to being who I am.

The cases were interesting to me. When I was running, we came up with the slogan "A Justice for All," and I took that to heart. I was there to represent everybody in all cases — in cases that I liked and didn't like.

The people in them deserved — no matter who they are, no matter what the case was, no matter its dollar value, no matter whether somebody's liberty was at stake — each case deserved all that I could give it.

How did you meet Diane?

In the spring of 1971, I had a meeting at General Mills. After I left the meeting, I realized that I had left my satchel behind. While waiting for my satchel, I met Diane, who was working in market research.

She volunteered at the Blaisdell Boys Club that primarily worked with African American boys in south Minneapolis. And she asked me to visit the boys she volunteered with.

It took me a while to respond to her invitation, and she would say I was a little slow on the switch. We started talking, a phone call here, a phone call there. It became clear to me that she was someone special and she somehow liked me.

I am very shy. Very shy. I eventually asked her out to lunch. Again, she said I was slow on the switch.

We married in 1973. She was one incredible human being. She had the ability to read



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people in an instant. She could lift people up and make them better than what they might otherwise have been. And she absolutely did it for me.

Our relationship is difficult to describe. I could not tell where I ended and she began, or where she began and I ended. I think it is hard for people to understand.

How did the Page Foundation come into being?

Diane and I came up with the idea in 1988, the year I was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. We decided that being inducted would be great, but there had to be something more to it than just another pat on the back for being a good football player.

We concluded that we had both the obligation — but also the opportunity — to create opportunity for others so that they might have the same kind of success that both of us had.

Education is unique in that regard. It can put anybody in the position to have the opportunity to achieve their hopes and dreams. And it's grown by leaps and bounds.

Are you pessimistic or optimistic about the future?

I have four children and four grandchildren. They're wonderful human beings, and I love spending time with them. Children are my hope for the future. They're the ones that keep me energized. Hard not to be hopeful when you spend time with young people.

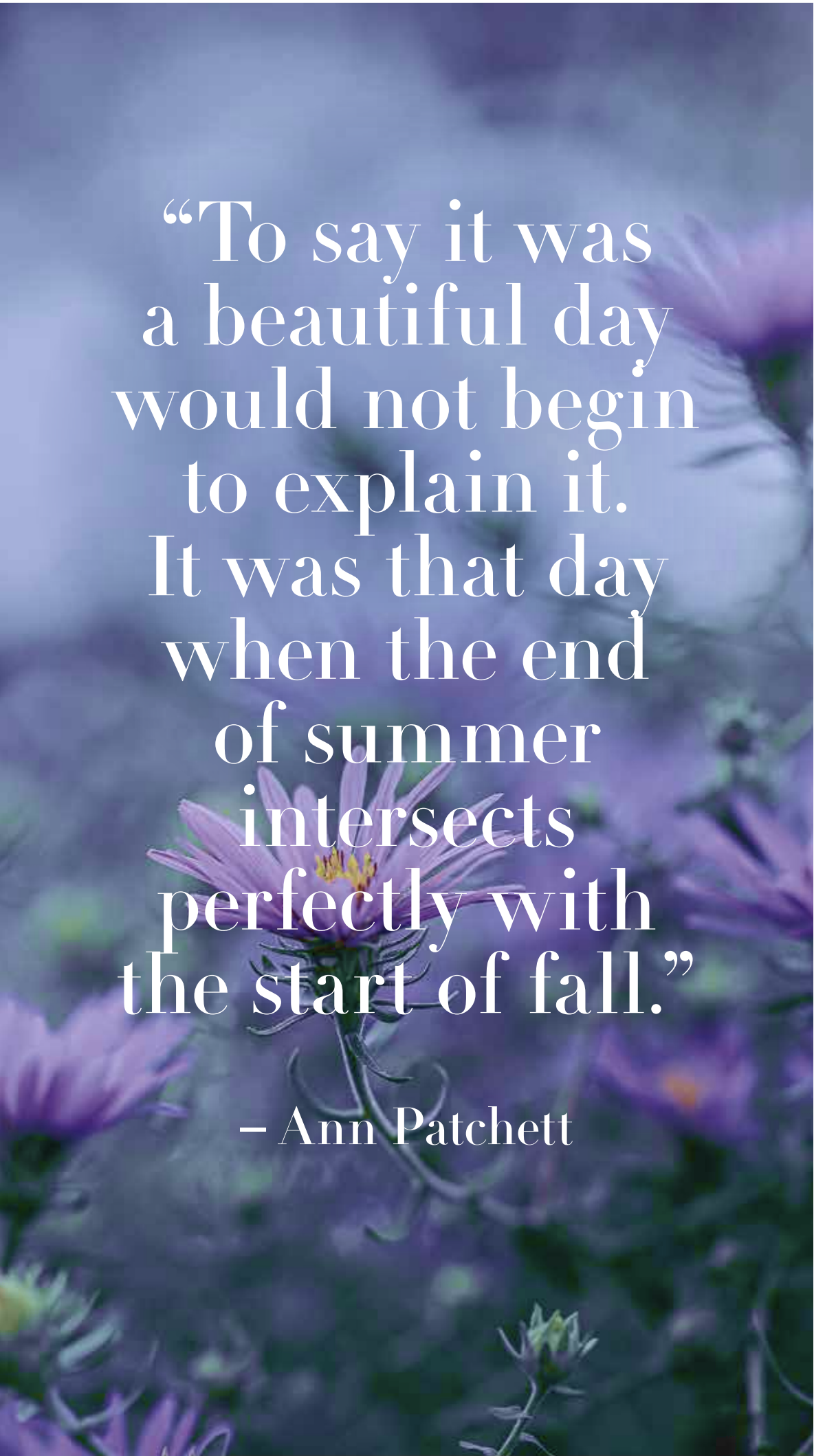
What are you most proud of and — I know it sounds morbid — how do you want to be remembered?

If I had to say there is something I'm most proud of — it's Diane. I mean our relationship.

And, you know, I suppose inclusive of that is the things that we tried to do. Trying to make this world a better place.

We have been fortunate, and we've had the opportunity to do — to try to do — good. And there are those who would say, "Well, but why?" Because this is it. Because — as Paul Wellstone said — "we all do better when we all do better." And not everybody's been as fortunate as we have. And I think we both believed that we have some obligation — given our good fortune — to try to lift others up.

One of my good friends — he would put it this way. Kevin Warren, the CEO and President of the Chicago Bears — spoke to our Page Scholars once and he said, "You know, as you ride the elevator of success to the top, you only have one responsibility. When you get to the top, send the elevator back down. Don't expect or wait for the elevator to go back down on its own. Send it back down."



“To say it was a beautiful day would not begin to explain it. It was that day when the end of summer intersects perfectly with the start of fall.”

– Ann Patchett



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Moments at Summer's End

Photos by Courtney Cushing Kiernat



Kayakers glide across the Kenilworth Channel between Cedar Lake and Lake of the Isles on a summer afternoon.



Colorful flowers brighten a boulevard near Lake of the Isles for all to enjoy.



Mushrooms spring up across the landscape in a quiet invasion after summer rains.

UPTOWN FARMERS MARKET — Thursdays from 4 to 8 p.m. at West Lake Street and Girard Avenue South. The final market of the season is Sept. 25.



Giant bubble makers entertain kids at the Uptown Farmers Market, adding whimsy to a summer afternoon.



Music fills the air as visitors relax and enjoy the Uptown Farmers Market's festive atmosphere.

BEFORE ASPHALT: HENNEPIN AVENUE'S ROOTS AS A DAKOTA TRAIL

By Craig Wilson, Editor



Traffic narrows along Hennepin Avenue in Minneapolis as crews carry out a major reconstruction project on a corridor that began as a Dakota trail connecting St. Anthony Falls to the city's lakes. The work is part of the city's effort to balance cars, buses, bikes and pedestrians on one of its busiest streets. (Image: Craig Wilson)

Craig Wilson is Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian), a landscape architect and urban planner who lives in Lowry Hill.

Long before road construction, streetcars or 1980s punk rockers, Hennepin Avenue began as a Dakota trail stretching from St. Anthony Falls to the Chain of Lakes and today's Uptown.

For generations, the Dakota people lived across the region, calling the falls Owámniy-omni, "the place of the falling water." From there, well-worn paths branched in all directions, linking villages, hunting grounds and gathering places. One of the busiest cut southwest toward Bde Maka Ska and Cedar Lake — the route that later became Hennepin Avenue.

The trail hugged high ground and avoided the Devil's Backbone ridge, today traced by Mt. Curve Avenue. It wound around wetlands, taking the most efficient line between river and lakes. That angled path still stands out, slicing diagonally through Minneapolis's otherwise orderly grid.

European settlers in the 19th century quickly adopted the Dakota route. Surveyors

folded it into the town plan and named it Hennepin Avenue, after Father Louis Hennepin, the 17th-century missionary who wrote about the falls. The practice was typical of the time: Indigenous infrastructure was retained, but Indigenous origins were erased.

"Hennepin Avenue is more than asphalt. It is a reminder that Minneapolis sits on Dakota land, and that every step forward follows the footsteps of those who walked it first."

By the mid-1800s, the renamed avenue carried wagons and horse-drawn trolleys between the industrial riverfront and new residential neighborhoods near the lakes. Hennepin became the spine that connected work and leisure — just as the Dakota trail had before.

The street's evolution from Native path to city artery reveals the layered history of Minneapolis. Every phase of development — milling, streetcars, department stores, music clubs — rests on the lines first drawn by Dakota travelers.

Even as Hennepin Avenue gained fame as the city's entertainment corridor, its original role as a connector endured. Today, debates continue: how to balance cars, buses, bicycles and pedestrians on one of Minneapolis's most storied streets.

Hennepin Avenue is more than asphalt. It is a reminder that Minneapolis sits on Dakota land, and that every step forward follows the footsteps of those who walked it first.

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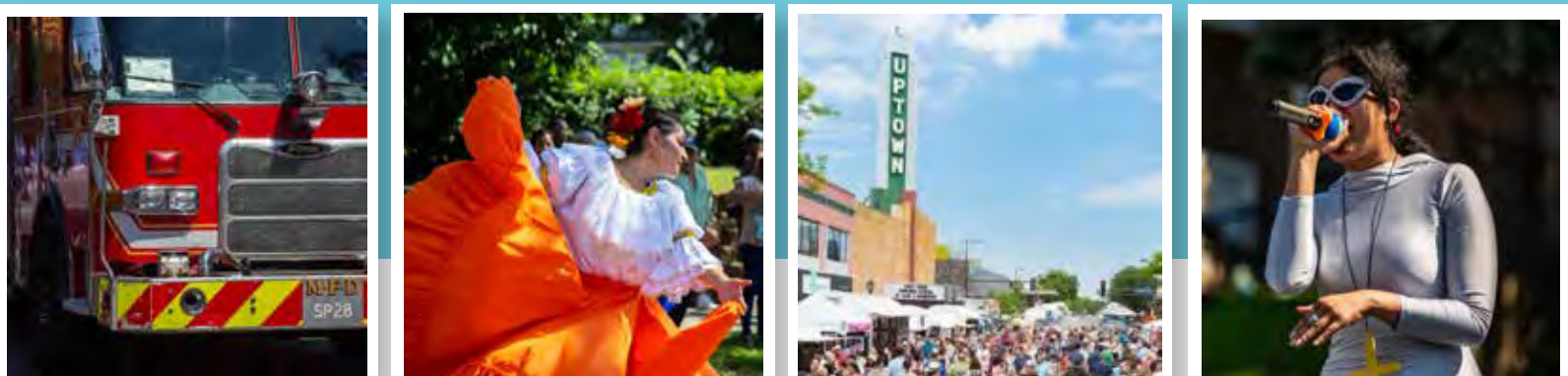
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A PASSPORT TO CLEVELAND

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,

One of my favorite questions is this: If you died, went to hell, got kicked out for overcrowding, then were reincarnated for eternity to work full-time at a job leaving you thinking Sisyphus got off easy — what would it be?

It's a probing question designed to elicit and reveal our least inherent talents, greatest fears, vulnerabilities and feelings of helplessness. The answer is easy for me: a three-way tie for CPA (too many numbers); any job that requires driving and navigating; tech support (read technology). There are others, but these are my Big Three.

All three played out one week this summer when I needed to renew my passport.

Destination: Cleveland.

Explanation: My passport expired in June, I don't have a Real ID, and my current driver's license is good for another three years. Two birds; one avicidal stone.

A lot has changed in ten years. Google said I could renew my passport online. Great! No driving. I got as far into the process as I would doing my own taxes: name, address, birthdate, SSN. "Upload photo" shut it all down. Getting an official passport photo alone would require driving somewhere, followed by skills far beyond my ken.

Back to Google. Offline options: DMV (no way — endless lines); Government Center (way more no way — endless lines + driving + parking downtown). That left Triple A, the least bureaucratic and closest (2.2 miles from my house, by Byerly's in St. Louis Park), where I was

helped by the friendliest and most knowledgeable Alice I've ever met. I recounted my harrowing online attempt and she rolled her eyes knowingly: "Don't do that — nine out of ten are rejected — a typo or misplaced comma, and it's all over."

The photo: I combed my hair, sat, was told to remove my glasses and not smile. Click. Alice said she needed another shot. Recalling my two-second beautification prep, surely it was the camera's fault, but still asked why. Alice chirped, "You look scary." Lemme see! She was right. Static Electricity Ball scary. I tamed the mane. Click and, though far from pageant-ready, I wasn't about to pay for a third photo (the second is free) as I'd already budgeted the procrastination rate of 30 extra dollars to expedite the renewal. I paid and Alice handed me forms and mailing envelope. I asked how long it would take to fill them out. "Twelve minutes." Alice is a pro.

I began to fill out the forms in the waiting area but quickly became overwhelmed and went home. I was done for the day.

The next morning, fueled by coffee, black pen, and commanding dread, I got down to business. On page three (of four) I made a mistake, crossed it out, remembered Alice's hair-raising admonition that error = rejection, and was back at Triple A where she greeted me, then growled at my blunder. She also noted that I'd addressed the envelope all wrong: regular passports and those expedited go to different locales (how was I to know? Go ask Alice), the Post Office does the deed with official stickers, and gave me a new page to correct and envelope to not sully. I finished the forms at Alice's desk and she graded them: A+!

I told her the Post Office was the next grisly leg of this journey. "Oh, don't do that — just go to Byerly's; they have a Post Office right there." It was 9:15.

Fortuna's wheel up, then a quick downturn. I

learned so much useless information on this mission, like that Byerly's Post Office doesn't open until 10:00. And thus, I was off to the Elmwood Post Office branch which, according to Google Maps, is a merciful one-tenth of a mile from Byerly's, decried and denied by radical road construction.

I could see the Post Office's American flag, but might as well have been in China to figure out how to get there. I parked in U.S. Bank's vast lot next door but, once parked, could no longer see the flag. I asked a woman inside the bank how to get to the Post Office. She winced, as empaths do in the presence of another's distress, and pointed out the window: "There."

It had rained nonstop for days, and a mud-filled moat separated the bank from the Post Office, me from my passport, my sandals from further wear.

There was no line at the Post Office. I did not wonder why. The clerk knew what to do and did it. I asked her plaintively, "Can I go home?" Yes!

Next year I'll go abroad, but for now I'm just a broad with a passport. To Cleveland.

— Dorothy



Neighbors Review Landscaping Plans Along Southwest LRT Corridor

Photos by Courtney Cushing Kiernat



Residents whose homes border the Southwest LRT (Metro Green Line Extension) recently gathered to learn more about landscaping plans along the corridor. Project staff outlined what neighbors can expect in terms of plantings, screening and trail connections as the construction phase winds down. The multiuse trails paralleling the LRT line are being paved and are scheduled to open some time in 2025, offering new pedestrian and bicycle connections through the area.

FINDING HOPE IN THE FACE OF TRAGEDY

By Courtney Cushing Kiernat



On August 27, 12-year-old Sophia was critically injured in the Annunciation school shooting, while her brother, Anthony, endured the trauma of witnessing it. Their mother, a pediatric nurse, rushed to help not knowing it was her own children's school. Please keep this family in your prayers and, if able, donate or share to support their healing. (Image: GoFundMe)

Courtney Cushing Kiernat is a regular contributor and photographer. She lives in Kenwood.

The HCMC pediatric nurse had just finished her shift when she got the call about the mass shooting. She threw her scrubs back on, jumped in her car and headed toward the hospital — only to learn en route that the shooting was at her children's school and her daughter was among the critically injured.

When Ozzy, my therapy dog, and I later saw her, she was dressed in scrubs but there as a mother. Through her own tears and grief, she thought of others and asked that we also visit with the kids and families waiting outside. Even in unimaginable pain, she chose compassion.

It's Wednesday evening, Aug. 27, 2025, the day two children — ages 8 and 10 — were killed, 17 others injured and countless traumatized in a mass shooting at Annunciation Catholic School.

I am struggling to make sense of it all. How could a 23-year-old be so angry and vengeful as to intend to murder children and devastate families, witnesses and their own loved ones?

The questions are endless, but the answers may never be fully understood, accepted or acted upon to prevent another tragedy like this one.

It is overwhelming and can be paralyzing — maddening for someone like me, who likes to fix problems and tends to see the glass as half full. But where is the hope in this?

Unsure what to do, I turned to what I could: I drove to HCMC, also known as Hennepin Healthcare, with my dog Ozzy to do what we do every week — provide a glimmer of hope, respite or happiness for staff, patients and families as a dog therapy team. It is the most rewarding volunteer work imaginable.

The entire hospital carried a sense of hush.

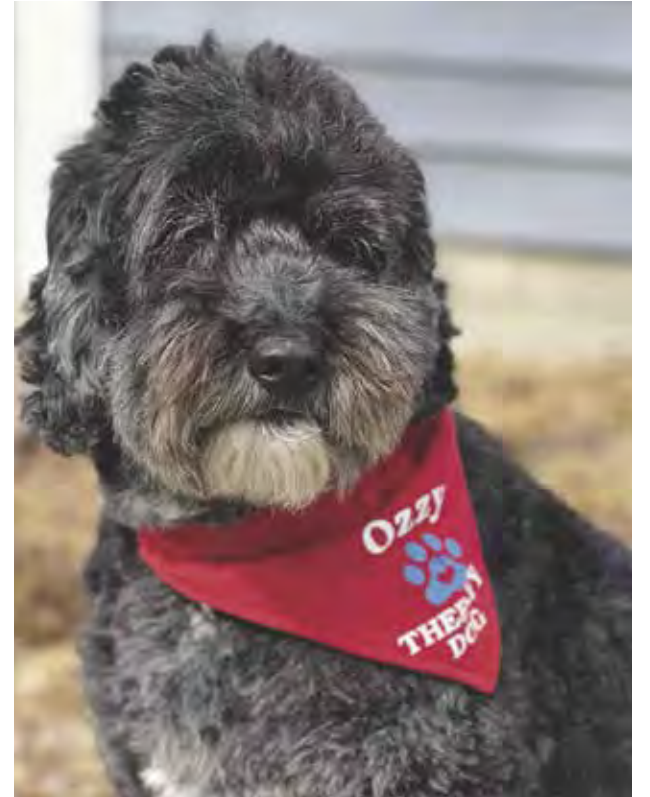
I expected chaos, but instead found calm. Entering through the emergency department, I saw staff caring for patients with compassion and expertise, as though they had not just faced a mass casualty event.

I was in awe of these lifesaving superheroes, but quickly reminded myself they, too, are only human — carrying their own trauma from today.

“Next time you can, please take a moment to thank a first responder, a health care worker or anyone who goes out of their way to bring goodness into the world. We all need reminders that our good deeds — big or small — make a difference.”

From the emergency department, we walked to the pediatric ICU, where many of the critically injured children were taken. Again, I was struck by the care and compassion of the staff in such an emotional and stressful situation.

I saw a chaplain comforting a distraught parent; the hospital COO checking on staff to ensure they were caring for themselves while caring for others; a surgical nurse who, after tending to a patient, broke into tears while petting Ozzy; a child life specialist strategiz-



Ozzy, the beloved service dog at HCMC, recently brought comfort to families and children affected by the Annunciation school shooting in South Minneapolis. With his gentle presence and calm spirit, he offered love and reassurance during a time of unimaginable pain, reminding everyone that healing can begin with even the smallest moments of compassion. (Image: Courtney Cushing Kiernat)

ing how to support staff once the adrenaline wore off; and a doctor who made sure Ozzy and I visited the young sibling of a critically injured child — still in their school uniform.

We witnessed the aftermath of unimaginable evil today, but also countless acts of kindness and compassion that show even in the darkest times, there is reason for hope.

I am deeply grateful for the phenomenal care and humanity the HCMC team brings to our community every day. They give me hope, especially when tragedy strikes.

Next time you can, please take a moment to thank a first responder, a health care worker or anyone who goes out of their way to bring goodness into the world.

We all need reminders that our good deeds — big or small — make a difference in the lives of others and our community. They bring us hope in humanity and in the future.



TAKE ACTION

If you want to take action, here are ways to help:

Donate to Sophia and her family at GoFundMe. Visit the campaign page titled “Support Sophia, and the Forchas Family Recover.” Every contribution — big or small — helps directly with medical and family support.

Give to the Minneapolis Annunciation Response Fund. The Minneapolis Foundation has established a response fund to aid victims and their families. You can donate easily via text: **Text “ACF1” to 41444** to contribute directly to the fund. Funds will be managed in coordination with the Annunciation community to ensure equitable distribution.

Support comfort care at HCMC. Provide toys for patients and siblings or meals for families and staff by giving to the Hennepin Healthcare Foundation: www.hennepinhealthcare.org/hennepin-healthcare-foundation/