The Linden Hills Line
www.lindenhills.org - The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council - January/February 2019

Two Exciting Lake Harriet Events - One Day!

Art Shanty Projects Partners with Kite Festival - January 26

Lake Harriet Kite Festival
Saturday, January 26 from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Lake Harriet near the Bandshell
The Lake Harriet Kite Festival attracts hundreds every year for a day full of outdoor fun, both on and off the ice. Organized by the Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board along with Linden Hills Neighborhood Council and East Harriet Neighborhood Association, this FREE family-oriented outdoor event is great for all ages and abilities.

Bring your own kite or buy one at the festival. Check out the huge kites and highflying talents of the Minnesota Kite Society. Enjoy music, ice fishing, snowshoeing and more. Assorted food trucks will be onsite to serve hot food and beverages for purchase. And if you get cold, cozy up to a fire pit or take a break in the warming tent.

Other Kite Festival activities include:

- FREE s’mores sponsored by LHinC
- Arts and crafts by Mia
- Fat tire bike riding by Farmstead Bike Shop
- Wintery nature hikes by MPRB naturalists

The Kite Festival is still looking for volunteers to help. Volunteer shifts are 2-hour increments. Duties include helping with ice fishing, snowshoeing, fire pits, set-up and teardown and more! If interested, contact Erica Chua at echua@minneapolisparks.org or 612-230-6479.

Thanks to TEA2 Architects for its premier sponsorship of the event.

Art Shanty Projects
Saturday, January 26 from 12:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Lake Harriet near the Bandshell
This year, Art Shanty Projects will be joining the Kite Festival on Lake Harriet for a fundraiser and community celebration featuring all-day art shanty performances, activities and art!

Last winter, Art Shanty Projects made its Minneapolis debut on Lake Harriet. The frozen art festival, featuring 22 artist-designed shanties and dozens of live performances, attracted more than 40,000 visitors to Lake Harriet.

Due to budget shortfalls, the Art Shanty Projects decided that it was not able to provide an on-ice program this winter, but intends to return to Lake Harriet in 2020.

To help make that happen, Art Shanty Projects invites you to stick around for a twilight after-party in a heated tent! Partake in bingo, raffles, s’mores and more - all to support the organization and next year’s event.

Partners currently include Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, Peace Coffee, and Pat's Tap. Art Shanty Projects is coming out of hibernation this winter for just one day to celebrate the spirit of ASP and its return to Lake Harriet in 2020! Hope to see you there!

To read more about Art Shanty Projects or to donate, please visit: artshantyprojects.org

INSIDE: Help Design Neighborhood Parks, Support the Arts at Southwest & Tag us on Instagram!
City Council Approves 2040 Plan
On Friday, December 7, Minneapolis City Council passed the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan by a vote of 12-1. Minneapolis 2040 is a plan that shapes how the city will grow and change, covering topics such as housing, job access, the design of new buildings, and how we use our streets.

Ward 13 City Council Member Linea Palmisano was the lone dissenting vote. In an email to constituents, Palmisano wrote:

“I could not, in good conscience, support a plan that asks for community input, but that also went to such lengths to ignore and discredit that same input. This is unfortunate, too, because this plan has amazing goals. I still support those goals and I support many pieces of this plan, but I could not vote for it.”

For more from Council Member Palmisano, please read her column inside this newsletter.

After gathering comments at an October community meeting, the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council also put together a formal response to the second draft of the 2040 plan. The response was approved unanimously by the board on December 4th and was sent to the city. You can read LHiNC’s response at:

lindenhills.org/2040-response-lhinc-draft2/

LHiNC Neighborhood Grants Available
Twice a year, LHiNC awards grants of up to $1,000 to organizations or projects that make Linden Hills a better place to live and work.

Recent grant recipients include:
• Midwest Food Connection
• Prime Time – SWHS after-school program
• The RUBIES – All female robotics team at Southwest High School
• The Southwest Lake Community Choir

If you are interested in applying, please visit lindenhills.org/grants for grant guidelines. The deadline to apply for the Spring grant cycle is March 15. Please contact info@lindenhills.org, if you have any questions.

Help Shape the Future of SW Minneapolis Parks
Over the past seven months, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board staff held 100+ public events to collect ideas and input from Southwest community members about local parks. Using this information and working with a design team, MPRB has developed initial concepts for every Southwest Minneapolis park.

The next step is to hold public workshops to ask people to view and comment on initial park design concepts. Each workshop includes kids’ activities and refreshments.

Park Design Workshops will be held on the following dates:

Thursday, Jan. 31, 2019, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Lynnhurst Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S
This workshop will also have information on the Minnehaha Parkway Regional Trail Master Plan.

Monday, Feb. 4, 2019, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rec Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S

Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Whittier Recreation Center, 425 W 26th St.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 2019, 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Jones-Harrison Residence, Centrum Rm., 3700 Cedar Lake Ave.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, all concepts will be posted to the SW Parks Plan project page (minneapolisparks.org/sw) on Jan. 31, along with a link to an online survey to provide feedback.

In addition, paper copies of the park designs and comment cards will be available at the Linden Hills Recreation Center starting Jan. 31. And, MPRB staff will present the designs at the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council meeting on February 5, 2019, held from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Linden Hills Recreation Center.

Rapid Bus Project Coming to Linden Hills

Metro Transit Wants Your Input
Metro Transit is planning to improve transit service with the E Line rapid bus project. E Line would follow Hennepin Avenue in downtown Minneapolis, and Uptown Metro Transit is starting a Corridor Study to evaluate E Line routing options on more segments of Route 6 south of Uptown, along West Lake, Xerxes and France.

On the northern end, we are looking at routing options along 4th Street and University Avenue. Changes to the Route 6 and other connecting bus service will also be included in the study. Metro Transit would like your input to help determine where the E Line will go.

For more info, to complete a survey and receive updates, please visit: metrotransit.org/e-line-project

Tag LHiNC in Instagram!
LHiNC wants to repost your photos of Linden Hills to highlight the uniqueness of our neighborhood. Please tag #mylindenhills, and we will repost our favorite photos (crediting you, of course!). And while you are at it, give linden_hills_council a follow!
Ward 13 Update
From Council Member Linea Palmisano

Happy New Year! I want to take this opportunity to share a few thoughts on a sometimes chaotic and busy year at City Hall. From implementing our minimum wage policy, passing Municipal ID, and chairing the 2019 budget to policy efforts for the liquor license referendum, police efforts and the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan, there is a lot I am proud to have worked on.

It has been non-stop in my second term, and our new Council adjustments bring both excitement and challenges. My colleagues and I share a very strong and dedicated position on prioritizing affordable housing in Minneapolis. While we don’t completely agree on how to increase affordable housing options, and probably because these solutions are different in different areas, it is important to know we share that vision.

One item I did take exception to in 2018, however, was the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan. I have already expressed my disappointment about how input was collected, the lack of proper analysis of the public feedback and the narrative through which this plan was presented; but what is important now is to reflect on what I learned from this process.

One major takeaway I had from the 2040 Plan efforts was the City’s overall failure at citywide engagement. Despite all the listening sessions, social media posts, neighborhood events and other methods, this effort begs for significant improvement to gather meaningful feedback. I called this out throughout the process with the expectation that we would see changes, yet nothing changed. This was why I used my ward budget to do extra outreach on 2040 this past year, but unfortunately we were the only part of the city that did so. This points to a need for better approaches and tools to solicit feedback from all residents.

That is why I have been collaborating with the City’s Communications department to audit our City communication services, to better understand where our failures lie in obtaining that kind of robust engagement. We need the buy-in of those most greatly impacted, and we need to hear from them. When we say we are doing something for everyone, we need to include everyone.

Our city’s future requires better tools and methods when we look to enact major citywide initiatives. So let’s learn from our mistakes and actually reach residents. I’m open to hearing your ideas for how we do that better going forward.

Yours in Service,
Linea Palmisano
13th Ward Minneapolis City Council Member

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Town Hall Meeting with Senator Dibble and Representative Hornstein

Saturday, January 26 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Mount Olivet Church (Door #3), 5025 Knox Ave S.

Senator Scott Dibble (DFL-Minneapolis), Representative Frank Hornstein (61A), and Representative-Elect Jamie Long (61B) invite constituents to attend a town hall meeting to preview the upcoming legislative session, ask questions, share stories and perspectives, and meet their elected officials.

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“Give Kids a Smile” at Linden Hills Dentistry

Saturday, February 2, 2019
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Linden Hills Dentistry,
4289 Sheridan Avenue S

Linden Hills Dentistry would like to continue to extend the opportunity for underserved children in our neighborhood to receive complimentary dental care on Sat., February 2nd. Please help spread the word! Contact Linden Hills Dentistry at 612.922.6164 ASAP to reserve your appointment.

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Linden Hills History Study Group

Robert E. Fischer and Sand Souvenirs at Minnehaha Creek
Thursday, February 28 7:00 p.m.
St. John’s Episcopal Church, 4201 Sheridan Ave. S.

Join the Linden Hills History Study Group – Everyone is welcome

Robert Fischer was the most unusual artist ever inspired by Minnehaha Falls. From about 1900 until 1940, he created tens of thousands of delicate sand designs in clear glass containers, using nothing but the natural colored sands found in Minnehaha Park. Only a few of these still exist.

Fischer lived in the Falls neighborhood for decades, and also worked as a Park Board commissioner, poet, patent medicine manufacturer, and as a policeman.

Historian Karen Cooper will tell the story of Robert Fischer, his sand art and his varied careers. Karen has spent many years revealing Minnehaha Park history and uncovering the stories of the characters who inhabited the area.

Suggested donation is $5 for non-members of LHHSG. Visit www.lindenhillshistory.org for information about upcoming events. If you have questions, please call 612-926-0646 or email contact@lindenhillshistory.org.
North Star: Stories of Minnesota’s Black Pioneers, Thursdays, February 7 & 28, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m., Celebrate Black History Month! Join us for a screening and discussion of this Emmy Award winning two-part Twin Cities Public Television documentary. Feb 7: Making Minnesota Their Home; Feb 28: Changing Minnesota

Support the Arts at Southwest High School

Hot Notes on a Cold Night Cabaret Fundraiser for Performing Arts
Saturday, February 9, 6:30 - 11:00 p.m.
St. Mary’s Greek Orthodox Church, 3420 Irving Avenue

Hot Notes on a Cold Night Cabaret celebrates the high-quality Theatre, Dance, Choral, Orchestra, Guitar and Band programs at Minneapolis’s largest public high school.

This year, it will cost over $100,000 to fund the Performing Arts at Southwest. Minneapolis Public Schools pays approximately $2,500 of that. Hot Notes is where we close that gap.

Tickets available at https://e.givesmart.com/events/bPA/

Join Southwest Lakes Community Choir

Love to sing? Southwest Lakes Community Choir is a fun, non-auditioned, mixed choir that sings a variety of styles and genres. The choir is led by Nathan Knoll, who has 15 years of experience directing at the high school and college levels and was the former director of Southwest High School’s choral program.

The spring session runs from Feb 21 through May 16, with a friends and family concert on May 23. Rehearsals will be held at the Friends Meetinghouse (4401 York Ave. S.) on Thursdays from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The fee for the session is $130, and scholarships are available.

Register online at https://form.jotform.com/kerenprice/spring-2019communitychoir. Questions? Contact Keren Price at kprice@prons.net or 612-296-7816.

SWHS Seniors Give Back Through Lawn Care Services

This past summer, four Southwest High School seniors launched a charitable lawn care service for Linden Hills residents. “We wanted to give back to the community, because it has inspired us and helped us grow,” said Alexander Matoushek, one of the four creators of “Laker Lawn Care”.

As part of their IB Diploma CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) Project, Alexander, Owen Dean, Caelan Kleinhans and Charlie Shors developed the charitable lawn care business, intending to donate all proceeds to charities.

The group chose both local and global charities to support. “Over the summer, we earned $2,500 serving 25 customers. By carefully managing our expenses, we were able to donate $2,400 to three different charities: Southwest Foundation, the Minnesota Environmental Fund and Feed My Starving Children,” reported Caelan Kleinhans.

The Laker Lawn Care team intends to continue their business into next summer and perhaps beyond. They can be found at lakerlawn-care.weebly.com and on social media @lakerlawn-care.
LHiNC Approves Funding for Carbon Soil Study

On January 8, the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council voted unanimously to fund and support a soil restoration project for the neighborhood. The project will be headed up by Linden Hills resident and LHiNC Environmental Committee member Ginny Halloran and Kassie Brown from Renaissance Soil.

The project will begin in the spring, when Halloran and Brown convert a section of the trolley path into a demonstration site, showing residents how to create healthy carbon-rich soil lawns. This process called carbon sequestration helps to reverse climate change by pulling CO2 out of the atmosphere. It also helps the environment by making lawns less susceptible to drought and in need of watering, because healthy soil can store more rain water deep in the soil. This also reduces fertilizer runoff into our lakes and rivers. Additionally, pollinators thrive on a healthy carbon rich lawn.

The purpose of the project is to train interested neighbors on how to create such a lawn. Stay tuned for more information on how you can get involved with this exciting sustainability project sponsored by Linden Hills Environment Committee and executed in partnership with Renaissance Soil throughout the upcoming year.

Take Environmental Action, Join LHiNC Committee

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a report in Fall 2018 that outlined the dire consequences that will accompany the failure to act on the climate crisis. The Environment & Sustainability Committee of the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council seeks to do our small part by protecting the environment, educating our neighbors on actions we can all take, and reducing our collective footprint by integrating environmentally sustainable policies and programs into the fabric of Linden Hills.

We invite all of our neighbors to join the committee and share your ideas as to how we can truly make a difference. We typically meet at 7:00pm on the third Tuesday of the month at Bremer Linden Hills (4278 Sheridan Ave S). The next meeting is February 19. Questions? Please contact committee co-chairs Leah Fish (lpklemmt@gmail.com) or Robert Haider (robert.j.haider@gmail.com).

LHiNC Launching New Neighborhood Website

After months of work, LHiNC is getting ready to launch a new neighborhood website at lindenhills.org. The goal of the project is to provide an easy to navigate, informative and engaging online resource for the community. The new website will provide the latest neighborhood news and events, point people toward updated community and city resources, and make it easy to get involved in the council and the neighborhood. Look for the new site sometime in February 2019!

Also, follow us on Instagram at linden_hills_council

Minneapolis Climate Action Events

Boomerang Bags Sewing Bee
Sat., February 16 from 10:00am – 5:00 pm
2720 W 43rd St - Above Wild Rumpus

Join Minneapolis Climate Action for a Boomerang Bag Sewing Bee. Donated fabrics are sewn by volunteers into beautiful and unique reusable bags, helping to cut down on the need for single-use plastic and paper options.

Please bring your own machine, if you want to sew. If not, don't worry. Feel free to bring an iron, scissors, fabric, or just yourself! And they sincerely appreciate fabric donations, including reusable bags.

To attend the sewing bee, enter the glass door to the right of Wild Rumpus, climb stairs to landing, and enter the door on the left. Stay for as little or as long as you can!

Please RSVP at mplclimate.org/boomerang-bags.html

Minneapolis Climate Action Annual Fundraiser
Saturday, March 23rd at 7:00 PM
2720 W 43rd St - Above Wild Rumpus

Mark your calendar for Minneapolis Climate Action’s Annual Fundraiser - “Is Laughter Carbon Neutral? An evening of improv and dancing featuring The Theater of Public Policy”.

In addition to improv and dancing, the night will feature food, drinks and auctions. All proceeds go towards MCA and its mission to create an environmentally sustainable Minneapolis.

We would love to have Linden Hills businesses and organizations sponsor our event! Please email Wendy Ponte at info@mplclimate.org, if you are able to support our efforts and our legacy in Linden Hills.
Linden Hills Park Update

Linden Hills Winter Fest is Friday, January 25, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Linden Hills Park. Join the fun at this annual neighborhood celebration of winter! Festivities will include horse-drawn wagon rides, ice skating under the stars, music, sledding, roasting marshmallow and more!

Ice Skating at the Park
The ice is open for free skating, as well as hockey. Bring your skates or find loaners at the park. The warming room is scheduled to be open through Presidents' Day, February 18, weather permitting. Warming room hours are Monday through Friday 3-9 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sundays noon to 6 p.m. Stop by to enjoy the ice before the season ends.

Check out the “People of Linden Hills”
Each month, LHiNC’s E-Newsletter features an extraordinary volunteer, interesting neighbor or person within the businesses who make Linden Hills a rich and vibrant community. This month, we are featuring one of Linden Hills’ favorite dogs - Jäger of Settergren’s Ace Hardware. Check out the article at: lindenhills.org/people-of-linden-hills/. Subscribe to the LHiNC E-news at lindenhills.org/enewsletter/

We Love our Neighborhood Renters
All LHiNC meetings, committees, and events are open for the participation of our neighborhood renters as well as all homeowners.

If you are a renter and would like to learn more, please contact us at info@lindenhills.org.

And don’t forget to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter to get neighborhood news even faster!

Follow us!
Linden Hills Neighborhood
on Facebook and
linden_hills_council
on Instagram

Sign up for the Nextdoor neighborhood forum at nextdoor.com and connect with your neighbors

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The Linden Hills Line is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (LHiNC).

The Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), City of Minneapolis Community Participation Program (CPP), and LHiNC provide funding to print and deliver the newsletter.

Youth groups can earn $500 by providing delivery. Contact us for more information.

The Linden Hills Line welcomes contributions from residents. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity and relevance. Advertising and anonymous editorial contributions are not accepted.

To submit articles, contact LHINC at 612-926-2906 or email info@lindenhills.org. Article submissions for the March/April issue are due March 1, 2019.

Editor: Becky Allen