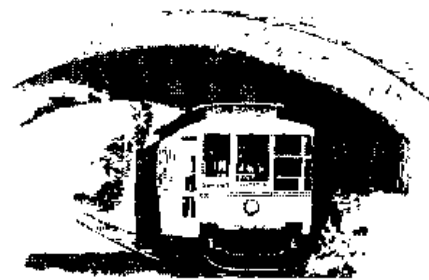


The Linden Hills Line



A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LINDEN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (LHiNC)

MAY/JUNE 2007

Saturday, May 19

Garage Sales ♦ 43rd & Upton Activities

Sunday, May 20

Linden Hills Park - 43rd & Xerxes

Parade ♦ Food ♦ Music ♦ Art Fair

Games ♦ Pony Rides ♦ Silent Auction

See details in the yellow Festival Insert, visit www.linden hills.org or call 926-2906.



Monster House—Haunted or Your Neighbor?

Potential Zoning Changes for Minneapolis

LHiNC has received many calls regarding McMansions, monster houses, tear-downs, in-fills and the general character of Linden Hills' housing. The LHiNC Board and Zoning Committee are aware of these issues. City Council Member Betsy Hodges reports that this was among the most important issues she encountered when door knocking during her 2005 campaign.

Continued on page 2 ...

LHiNC Seeks

Volunteer Treasurer & Volunteer Bookkeeper

We need you

LHiNC, a 501(c)(3) organization, is looking for a couple of volunteers to help with financial record keeping. We need one bookkeeper and one Treasurer (a LHiNC Board position). Join a supportive group of Linden Hills volunteers making Linden Hills better. For more information, contact LHiNC at info@linden hills.org or 926-2906. ♦

Prairie Garden SOS!

Have you noticed the prairie garden at the Lake Harriet Community School playground near 50th & Washburn? LHiNC, working with the Fulton Neighborhood Association, funded the creation of that prairie garden and it needs some TLC. If you have an interest in native plants/prairie gardens and would be interested in discussing the project and/or helping to care for the garden, contact LHiNC at 926-2906 or info@linden hills.org. ♦

**Don't miss the
Silent Auction at the
Linden Hills Festival on
May 20.**

**Proceeds benefit the
neighborhood.**

**Check out the items in
the Festival Insert.**

**Bid for your
community!**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

LH History Study Group Event	2
Gardeners of LH Events	2
The Block that Saved Their Elms...	3
Cool Ideas for Global Warming	3
LH Park Events & Activities	3
Linden Hills Live!	3
Reviving with Remodels	4
Nominate Treasures	4

Como-Harriet Streetcar Line Begins Thirty-Sixth Season

A Linden Hills icon, the Como-Harriet Streetcar Line, opens its 36th operating season Saturday, May 5. **Come down to Lake Harriet and enjoy a nice trolley ride.**

- Weekends (May 5—November 18) 2:30pm until dusk
- Weekdays (May 19—September 7) 6:30pm until dusk
- Wednesday afternoons (June, July and August) 1:00-4:00pm
- Holidays 9:30am until dusk



The all-volunteer group needs Operators to keep the historic trolleys rolling. It's very easy to learn how to operate the trolleys, and it only takes a few hours of training and practice. Come and be a part of living history—the trolley Operators at Como-Harriet are carrying on a Linden Hills tradition that goes back to the 1880s! Contact Rod Eaton at 763-576-0608, rpeaton@comcast.net or go to www.trolleyride.org. ♦

Monster House, continued from page 1 ...

Following is a timeline of important events surrounding this issue:

- **July 7, 2006:** The LHiNC Board passed the following motion: *“The Linden Hills Neighborhood Council requests that the city of Minneapolis adopt specific Zoning codes to require newly constructed homes and remodeled homes to more closely match the neighborhood properties in terms of height limits and in the ratio of home-size to lot-size.”* The motion was crafted by the LHiNC Zoning Committee in response to numerous calls and emails from concerned residents about the size of new homes being built in the neighborhood.
- **July 20, 2006:** City Council Member Betsy Hodges sponsored a community meeting to discuss the issue of tear-downs and in-fill housing. More than 80 people attended.
- **January 12, 2007:** Hodges presented a Zoning Code Amendment to the City Council. Those changes were as follows:
 - ♦ **Limit total square footage of home-to-lot-size to 50 percent, with exceptions for desirable building features;**
 - ♦ **Reduce height limit from 35 to 30 feet;**
 - ♦ **Reduce percentage of impervious surface from 75 to 65 percent;**
 - ♦ **Define natural grade to prevent houses that artificially exceed height limits**
- **March 22, 2007:** Hodges hosted an open house to explain and discuss the proposed Zoning Code Amendment. Over 200 community members attended. Following this meeting additional changes were added to the proposed ordinance, including details about walk-out basements.
- **April 9, 2007:** A public hearing was held before the Planning Commission regarding the proposed zoning code changes. The Commission will discuss the issue again on May 7 to understand how the changes will affect existing structures (after this issue went to print).

LHiNC understands that housing issues are important to residents and will continue to work with Council Member Hodges' office to ensure that all voices of the neighborhood are being heard, both *for* and *against* the changes. If you have concerns or want more information, contact Council Member Hodges' office at 673-2213 or betsy.hodges@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. ♦

Commercial District Walking Tour

*Saturday, June 16, 10:00am-12:00pm
Begins at 2732 W. 43rd Street*

Three early 20th century buildings are the subject of the Linden Hills History Study Group's (LHHS) June event. During the tour you'll look for period decorative elements and clues to past tenants like the post office, library, Masonic Lodge and phone company.

The tour will be handicap accessible and will occur rain or shine. Cost is \$3 for non-LHHS members. Light refreshments will be served. **Register by June 13** by contacting JoEllen at 926-0646 or info@lindenhillshistory.org, or go to www.lindenhillshistory.org. ♦

Gardeners of Linden Hills Events

- June 12, Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden—celebrating 100 years
- July 16, Imperfect Garden Tour
- August 21, Imperfect Garden Tour

The Linden Hills Garden Club meets monthly, usually the third Tuesday of the month, at 7:00pm. New members are welcome. Contact Christine Gepp at 926-0387 for more information. ♦

The Block that Saved Their Elms

Get \$50 and a discount to save your elm

Last summer, under the leadership of Chris and Jack Jaglo, the 4200 block of Beard saved its elms. The block, with its beautiful arch of elms, is one of few remaining in Linden Hills. Its residents didn't want to take a chance that it wouldn't continue. The trees were saved by treating them for Dutch Elm Disease (DED). Treatment contributions came from block residents, including those without elms, and a contribution from LHiNC's Environment Committee. All Linden Hills residents benefit from the leafy beauty of these mature trees.

If you have an untreated elm on your boulevard or property, now is the time to get it treated. Although the cost is between \$300-400, having a diseased tree removed can cost thousands of dollars.

The Rainbow Tree Care Company will give Linden Hills residents a discount of approximately 25% on DED treatment. Contact Rainbow at (952) 922-3810. In addition, the LHiNC Environment Committee will contribute \$50 toward the cost of treating *boulevard* elms. Contact LHiNC at 926-2906, info@linden hills.org or www.linden hills.org. ♦

Thanks

for the Giving Tree

A big Thank You goes to Linden Hills resident Sue Franklin, of Susanna Franklin Design, for the great Giving Tree logo and layouts that she provided for the LHiNC Environment Committee's ongoing educational and fundraising efforts.



Linden Hills Park

Summer registration for programs and events has begun. There are activities, classes and fun for everyone.

SWAC Sports registration is open for tennis and track. Fall sports information will be available in July for soccer, football and volleyball.

Enroll your child in **Children's Field Trips** this summer.

New Summer Programs!

- Yoga for Teens
- Skyhawks Sports Camps (ages 6-12) for baseball, flag football and soccer
- Free After Splash Outdoor Movies
- Free Summer Reading Program

Linden Hills Park is located at 43rd & Xerxes. For details regarding any of these programs and more go to www.minneapolis parks.com or call 370-4913.

Cool Ideas for Global Warming

LHiNC's Creating Sustainable Community (CSC) Committee is inspired by and is grateful for the amazing resources freely offered by the people in Linden Hills and the MN State University (MSU) Urban Studies program.

MSU graduate students hosted three public meetings during March and April. These meetings were sponsored by the CSC Committee and focused on neighborhood ideas about actions that can be taken to lessen the effects of global warming. A summary of the meetings was presented to the LHiNC Board and a report should be available online by summer. The committee will then work on plans to implement the ideas. To contact the CSC Committee or view the report this summer, go to www.linden hills.org. ♦



Linden Hills Live!

Summer evenings and great music

Thursday, June 21

Thursday, July 19

Thursday, August 16

6:30pm-9:00pm

Parking lot at 43rd and Upton

Linden Hills Live! has become a tradition that many residents wouldn't consider missing. **The events feature local bands, first time solo performers, jugglers and, this year, will include songs from the Lake Harriet Community School musical, *Grease*.** If you would like to perform or volunteer, please call Bryce Hamilton at 920-6268. ♦

NEIGHBORHOOD CALENDAR

Details at www.lindenhills.org

MAY

- 19-20 Linden Hills Festival
21 Zoning Committee*
22 Environment Committee*

JUNE

- 5 LHiNC Board Meeting*
12 LH Gardeners Event (pg 2)
16 LH History Event (pg 2)
18 Zoning Committee*
19 CSC Committee Meeting*
19 Housing Committee*
21 Linden Hills Live! (pg 3)
26 Environment Committee*

JULY

- 10 LHiNC Board Meeting*
16 LH Gardeners Event (pg 2)
16 LH History Event (pg 2)
16 Zoning Committee*
17 CSC Committee Meeting*
17 Housing Committee*
19 Linden Hills Live (pg 3)
24 Environment Committee*

AUGUST

- 7 National Night Out
12 Remodeled Home Tour (pg 4)
14 LHiNC Board Meeting*
16 Linden Hills Live (pg 3)
20 Zoning Committee*
21 Housing Committee*
21 CSC Committee Meeting*
21 LH Gardeners Event (pg 2)
28 Environment Committee*

CSC=Creating Sustainable Community
* 7:00pm at the Linden Hills Park
For details contact LHiNC.

Sign up for LHiNC's
e-newsletter at
www.lindenhills.org

Celebrating Community: Reviving with Remodels

As Southwest residents gear up for the home remodeling season, Ben Kolkman, a local real estate agent with Great Minneapolis Real Estate and a member of the LHiNC Board, announces the second annual *Southwest Remodeled Home Tour*.

The tour is an effort to bring the community together to better understand how early 1900's homes can be adapted to the lifestyle and culture of today's homeowners.

Ben has worked with four neighborhood associations, who will use the proceeds to benefit the following:

- Lake Harriet Kite Festival
- Lynnhurst Community Center
- Linden Hills Library
- Fulton Festival & Rainwater Management Program

The tour will feature 15 recently remodeled homes and **will take place Sunday, August 12**. Tickets are \$9 in advance. Neighbors who have completed a remodel by August 1 are encouraged to enter their projects in the tour. For more information or tickets, contact Ben at 925-5990 or benkolkman@greatminneapolis.com. ♦

Nominate a Great Neighbor

Do you know neighbors who are always helping others? Consider nominating them for a 2007 Linden Hills Treasure Award. Treasures will be recognized at the October Potluck & Bonfire. **Take a moment to give thanks and recognition to a good neighbor** by filling out a nomination form at www.lindenhills.org or contact LHiNC at 926-2906 or info@lindenhills.org. ♦



LHiNC Home Improvement Loans

Low Interest Rates
Loan Amounts up to \$15,000
Generous Household Income Limits

Contact Jim Hasnik
Center for Energy & Environment
335-2650 or jhasnik@mncee.org

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Linden Hills Line welcomes and encourages contributions from residents. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity and relevance to the coverage area. Anonymous contributions and advertising are not accepted.

To submit articles contact LHiNC at 926-2906 or info@lindenhills.org. The next newsletter deadline is July 10, with delivery the weekend of August 5.

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