



Next General Meeting: May 17th 2017 7pm 690 13th Ave Logan Park

Logan Park Local History

Peg McQuillan Porter and her husband, Al Porter, sat down with me in the front porch of their home on a warm October evening. Neither Peg nor Al had spent much time in Logan Park before shopping for a house here last winter. Choosing a house can be a weighty process, where one logically considers price, school districts, safety, and proximity to one's work. But as we do with other important decisions, we often abandon reason at the last minute and give the final call to our gut. When the couple drove down Logan Park's tree-lined streets, past the quaint homes, and around its park, it was difficult not to feel that *it-factor*. The feeling only intensified when they walked into 1319 Adams Avenue NE. "We felt at home. Right. Away," Peg said affirmatively.

The emotional process of parting with a beloved object is no different than acquiring one. Peg and Al knew theirs was one of several offers on the house, so they wrote the sellers a letter promising to "fill her with books and music, and to respect and love her." The former owners valued that shared commitment, and sold the home to Peg and Al.

As I walked through their home with them, it appeared that they had made good on their word. But I discovered their commitment to place extended far beyond the walls of 1319 Adams. In February, they started attending meetings about Logan Park's comprehensive plan. In April, they actually moved in to their house. Peg emphasized their desire to be part of the neighborhood.

"A few weeks ago, a neighbor asked me to let their dog out while they were out of town for the weekend. That's what I wanted," Peg said, pointing to an adjacent house as dusk approached.



"Virginia, one of my other neighbors, is a firecracker. She gave me tomatoes and I almost wept."

The screened-in front porch holds a special place for Peg and Al. There, they can see and be seen. They can wave to their neighbors, develop routines and regular relationships. They repeatedly professed a desire to be visible and active community members. The porch facilitates these nodes of connections.

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Logan Park Neighborhood Association

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Community Meeting Wed. May 17th

- Tamara Downs and Russ Henry from the Local Food Initiative, speaking on food gardens and rain gardens
- Chief Ohotto from MPD -Body camera discussion
- Nick Galli from Fairvote MN, speaking on Ranked Choice Voting
- Board Elections

Childcare Available

Logan Park Local History Class

Saturday, June 17th from 9:30 to 11:00 am

Elim Baptist Church, Room 403

685 13th Ave NE

Cost is \$15 to attend

Contact Michael Tolan

Email: mtolan@mnpreservation.org

Landscape Revival Native Plant Expo & Market

Saturday June 3rd from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Cub Foods Community Pavilion

1201 Larpenteur Ave West, Roseville

Free and open to all, rain or shine!

Expo: Learn about native plants and their many benefits from local conservative organizations.

Market: Purchase plants native to Minnesota and accessories from a variety of local growers. No cultivars, no systematic insecticides. Cash and check only.

Senior Community Services' Home Program

Our home program provides accessible, reliable, and affordable indoor and outdoor chores. Low-cost household services are available for people age 60 and over, regardless of income. Services include:

- Snow removal, raking, and lawn mowing
- Interior and exterior painting
- Window washing, laundry, and housecleaning
- Errands and grocery shopping
- Minor repairs and plumbing
- Installation of safety devices

Call Senior Community Services' Home Program at 952-746-4046 to schedule your services today.

Art-A-Whirl® Weekend May 19-21

Art-A-Whirl® is an open studio tour in Northeast Minneapolis showcasing the work of NEMAA members. Art-A-Whirl® is a federally-registered trademark of NEMAA.

Volunteers Needed!

Be among the first to get a Logan Park logo t-shirt by volunteering to help with the LPNA fundraiser. We will be staffing the 807 building parking lot at Broadway and Quincy.

Times are:

- Friday May 19th, late afternoon/early evening
- Saturday May 20th, mid morning—late evening
- Sunday May 21st, late morning—late afternoon

If you have a few hours to donate leave your contact info, t-shirt size, and when you can help at loganparkna@aol.com.

The event coordinator will contact you with more info and details. Thanks in advance for helping with success of this fundraiser!

Events and Activities at the Park

Summer Registration going on now! Check out all our programs at www.minneapolisparcs.org

Summer Activities:

Summer Meal Program

Free , June 19th through August 18th, Ages 1-18

Lunch 11:30 to 1:00 and Snack 3:00 to 4:00 pm

The Summer Food Service Program provides children nutritious meals during summer vacation. Meals are available on a first-come-first-serve basis. The Summer Food Service Program is free to all children 18 and younger.

Free MIA Art in the Park Workshop # 73237

Monday through Friday, June 26 to June 30 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, Ages 10-14

Limited to 15 participants

Join an artist from the Minneapolis Institute Art in creating an artwork based on masterworks from the Mia collection. Be ready to dig deep and look close as you to exercise your creativity in this free workshop. You must pre-register.

Family Yoga #74996

Ages 5 & Up, FREE

Fridays June 23rd through July 28th from 12:00 to 1:00 pm

Certified yoga instructor, Kailen Nelson, makes yoga fun and accessible to kids and families while giving them tools to develop physically, mentally, emotionally and socially. Exercises include posture practice, breathing, meditation, story-telling, creative games, partner yoga and calming techniques. Side effects include expanded awareness of self and others, being respectful, increased confidence, increased physical capabilities and feeling good for no apparent reason. This class will be held outside at Logan. Come early for free lunch!

Beginning Tai Chi and Qigong #71873

Ages 18+ , Cost \$42

Tuesdays starting June 20th through August 8th from 6:15 to 7:15pm

For centuries, the Chinese have recognized the beneficial effects of Tai Chi to reduce stress and improve health, balance, and flexibility. Join Certified Instructor Marie Mathay in this gentle, slow-moving series of ancient Tai Chi exercises designed to enhance physical and mental well-being. Great for beginners, this class introduces basic Tai Chi and Qigong principles and movements, activates internal energy, and promotes the calming harmony of body, mind, and breath. All ages and abilities welcome.

Nature Nuts: Butterflies and Bees Half Day Camp #73910

Ages 4 & 5, Cost \$30

Monday-Thursday starting July 31st through August 3rd from 9:00 to 11:00 am

These little creatures have a very big job! Flutter and buzz through the park. Be a scientist and learn to safely observe pollinators at work. Dissect a flower to see all the parts up close. Sip nectar, visit flowers, do a bee dance, even build a bee house to bring home! Plant seeds for butterfly babies and create pollinator inspired art.

Instructor: MPRB Naturalist Mary

Events:

Book it to the Parks

Wednesday, June 21st at 2:00 pm

To commemorate Minnesota Public Radio's (MPR) 50th anniversary and our brand new Little Free Library (LFL) Logan Park with the with The Minneapolis Foundation (TMF) and the Minneapolis Parks Foundation to celebrate the unveiling with a "Book It to the Parks" a local author, celebrity or community volunteer will read one children's book at Logan Park.

Movie in the Park

Monday July 31st, at sunset

Film showing: Space Jam

Jazz Mobile

Wednesday August 9th from 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Logan Park Local History Continued

A few weeks before we spoke, Al answered the doorbell and found an older woman standing in front of the house. Her name was Sue Adamek; the house had been built for her grandfather in 1906 and her father was among its first inhabitants. Would she like to come over for dinner sometime?

Sue's grandfather, Chas Lebeck, came to the United States from Sweden in the 1880s, moving to somewhere near Ashland, Wisconsin to fell trees. He married Hanna Turner, a woman from a nearby village in Sweden, at a Swedish Lutheran church on the north side of Minneapolis in 1885. He then began working for Bardwell Robinson, sash-and-door manufacturers, and later, the H.S. Johnson Company as a construction foreman. She doesn't know who actually built the house for him, but suspects his connections within the industry gave him flexibility in its design and control over the tremendous quality of the woodwork.

He and Hanna lived in the house with their three children, including Carl, Sue's father. Carl remained until he started at the University of Minnesota in 1920. Her uncle Roy and grandmother remained on Adams Street until she passed away in 1953.

Sue would go to her uncle and grandmother's house for special occasions, and fondly recalled eating her grandmother's rice pudding, the beautifully polished wood throughout the house, learning how to make holly-hock dolls from the trees planted by the house, sitting by the coal-burning fireplace, her Grandma's English—strong, but with a thick Swedish accent.

They had a television fairly early on—or at least earlier than her own family had a television—and an icebox. Her grandmother did not want to get a telephone because “she was afraid she'd spend all her time on the phone talking all day because people would be calling her constantly.” But her grandfather insisted upon it, both as a business practicality and because “he also wanted to be sure that things were American in their home.” They never spoke Swedish around the house, and he always made sure to vote. Sue recounted stories from her father about how her grandparents offered their home to recent immigrants from Sweden and helped them find their footing in their new country. Those new-arrivals often filled all the cots lined up on the unfinished third floor. A legacy of commitment to community runs from the house's origins to the present day.

As does an appreciation for detail. Peg guided me into the dining room and admiringly pointed to the sliding doors with polished oak on one side and the maple on the other. “Who does this anymore?”, she exclaimed.

Part of Peg's immediate attachment to the home is its age—the craftsmanship, the warmth, the intangible sensation of memories imbedded in the woodwork. The simple feeling that they exist adds to the place's appeal. It makes them feel like they're contributors and participants in 110 years of history. That desire for a connection to the past and present is built upon the same fundamental values: a commitment to being part of something bigger than yourself, a sense of obligation to community.

Our conversation turned to the gentrification of Northeast. I asked these new residents about their opinions on the polarizing subject. Peg remarked she doesn't want the area gentrified, she just wants it cared for. To her, gentrification means no teardowns, rehab of existing properties, no fanciness and elaborate buildings, no developers that will only lease to safe tenants like chain businesses. It means preserving the places which support—and have supported—community. The deep history baked into homes like 1319 Adams and the old brick warehouses here provide a build-in infrastructure for connection to place, and, as Peg and Al found out after meeting Sue, people, too.

By Michael Tolan, Community Engagement Coordinator, Preservation Alliance of Minnesota

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