2019 Fulton Small Grants Recipient: Lake Harriet Upper Campus
By Jason Walker

Thanks to a grant from the Fulton Neighborhood Association, the Lake Harriet Community School Equity Team was proud to present an evening with Dr. Margaret Hagerman on May 1 at Southwest High School.

Dr. Hagerman, a professor of sociology at Mississippi State, studies racial dynamics by interacting with children in the context of their everyday lives, and is the author most recently of “White Kids: Growing Up With Privilege in a Racially Divided America.”

About 175 community members attended her presentation at Southwest, where Dr. Hagerman described how she has observed well-meaning white parents perpetuate racial stereotypes and maintain systemic racial inequities through their behavior – choosing which neighborhood to live in; which school to attend; or how they let their children play. She also focuses her research on “Racial Socialization,” or the ways parents communicate with children about race.

“We have to understand what’s going on with white children to understand how racial stereotypes perpetuate through generation to generation,” she said. “All children are growing up in a racialized social system.”

Her research identified five key findings: 1) White kids see race; 2) What parents say matters much less than what they do – actions speak louder than words; 3) Kids have different ideas about racism, inequality and privilege; 4) Kids don’t simply adopt the views of their parents; and 5) White families reproduce racial inequality.

During her visit, Hagerman also addressed the Lake Harriet staff and spent time with students. The LHCS Equity Team would like to thank FNA for its generous support in bringing an expert on such an important topic to our neighborhood.

Block Party Kits Available for Summer Fun

Starting to plan your summer neighborhood get-togethers? In order to support further community building, Fulton Neighborhood Association has put together two Block Party Kits that are available to Fulton residents to check out for their block parties and gatherings. The kits have fun activities for all ages and are available free of charge. You can reserve one of the kits by contacting us at: info@fultonneighborhood.org.

Block Party Kit 1: net (with volleyball, badminton and pickleball), mini-golf, Yard-Zee, chalk, bubbles and frisbees

Block Party Kit 2: bean bag toss/Tic Tac Toe, mini skee-ball, Giant Jenga, chalk bubbles and frisbees

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Meet the FNA Board: Ray Klahr, FNA Secretary

Ray has lived in Fulton Neighborhood for three years. She was drawn to Fulton from Downtown Minneapolis because of its walkability to local businesses and nature, the awesome farmers market and proximity to public transportation. She joined the Fulton Neighborhood Association (FNA) in 2017 because she wanted to find a way to be more involved in the neighborhood.

In the past, Ray has worked to raise the voice of the community by helping create and analyze data from a neighborhood-wide survey and has created Block Party Kits (see p. 1) to add more fun and games to local celebrations. This year she is focused on reaching residents who are less aware of FNA and increasing the presence of art in the neighborhood. Ray works for Hennepin County in Organization Development – helping her team and leaders be more effective and engaged in their work. She loves to spend time trying a new recipe, traveling to a new place or attending concerts and music festivals.

Summertime Fun in Fulton

We’ve got some fun activities planned for you this summer in the neighborhood. Mark your calendars and make plans to join us!

3rd Annual Fulton Ice Cream Social

6:30-8 p.m.
Thurs., July 18
Pershing Park

Movies in the Park

The Sound of Music

Dusk
Sat., Aug. 3
Pershing Park

Pershing Park Update

New Summer Park Programs

Check out the new programs at Pershing Park this summer! The park will have card clubs and field trips for active adults; teen activities; field trips, naturalist programs and computer classes for school-aged youth; dance and gymnastics classes for preschoolers. Please contact Pershing Park at pershing@minneapolispark.org or 612-370-4928.
2019 Fulton Farmers Market Opens May 18

The Fulton Farmers Market, located in the parking lot of Lake Harriet United Methodist Church near 49th & Chowen, re-opens for the season on May 18 and will run every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. through Oct. 26. Make it part of your weekly Saturday morning routine to shop for locally grown and produced foods while connecting with your neighborhood community. Did you know that you can do your grocery shopping at Fulton? Meat, eggs, produce, fruit — we have it all, grown by local farmers. So come on down, grab a cup of coffee, enjoy story time (9:30 a.m.), music (10 a.m.-Noon) and stick around for lunch. We have a number of new vendors this season, as well as your longtime favorites. Visiting the market is a great way to get kids out of the house in the morning or show out-of-town friends and family what Minnesota is all about.

The 2019 season of the Fulton Farmers Market is shaping up to be a great one — we look forward to seeing you there!

Fulton Environment Committee at Fulton Farmers Market

And while you’re at the Farmers Market, stop by to see the friendly folks at the FNA Environment Committee table. Starting on May 25, committee members will be greeting market-goers and sharing information for those interested in organic lawn and garden care, protecting our waters and living in a sustainable way.

The committee recently helped with the Earth Day clean-up efforts in the neighborhood and would also like to remind neighbors that we can make every day Earth Day by picking up after our pets and placing litter in the trash or recycling bin.

Minneapolis Community Education Summer Musical

Auditions

Adults of all ages and youth who will be in 11th grade or older in Fall 2019 are welcome to audition. Minneapolis Community Education is committed to equity, diversity and accessibility. Actors, singers and dancers of all backgrounds, abilities and experience are encouraged to audition.

May 16
5 or 6 p.m.
Edison High School, 700 22nd Ave NE

May 17
5, 6 or 7 p.m.
Justice Page Middle School, 1 West 49th St

Register for your preferred time at mplscommunityed.com. Walk-ins also accommodated.

Pit Orchestra and Tech Crew members also needed. More information at: commed.mpls.k12.mn.us/summernusical.

Performances will be July 12-20 at Southwest High School.
Who’s in the ’Hood: Loft Antiques
By Carolina Li

Who’s in the ’Hood is a new feature highlighting the unique people and places of Fulton neighborhood.

For over two decades, this beloved antique store has been a literal cornerstone of the busy intersection at 50th and Xerxes. Over the years, many intersections and streets in Minneapolis have changed with the ebb and flow of commerce, yet this particular intersection has managed to stand the test of time and retain much of its look, all the while stocking a true treasure trove of gems from our recent past.

Currently co-managed by Sandy Gooley and Kaye Monroe, Loft Antiques opened its doors in its current location in 1996, but not many know that its history goes back even further and in a different location. Growing up, Sandy remembers riding in the station wagon with her mom, Barb Gillham, visiting estate sales and garage sales on the hunt for rare and valuable antiques. A mother and homemaker, Mrs. Gillham worked hard to create her own business and establish an antique store. Together with nine other women, Gillham opened her first store in 1976. Aptly named “Loft Antiques,” it was located in the second floor loft apartment space above where you find Vinaigrette today. The ten women worked hard, heaving furniture, lamps and other antiques upstairs to the loft and creating a cooperative business model. Sandy would often visit her mom and help out in the store after school or on weekends and eventually joined the business.

In 1996, the current corner location became available for lease, offering 4000 square feet of space and a unique opportunity to expand the scale of the antique store. It was then that Sandy and four other women decided to take the leap, signed the new lease and moved to the more spacious location. The five women continued to operate under their old cooperative model in which they co-owned and shared the lease, hours of operation and other responsibilities, meeting once monthly. In addition to sharing the business, they had many other elements that brought them closer together: they all lived in Minneapolis and were all in the similarly busy life-stage of raising children, so that, over the years, the partnership led to bonding and friendship as well.

Working busily, they quickly filled the space with fresh flowers, plants, vintage oak furniture, hand-painted ceramics, elaborate crystal chandeliers and countless other treasures and relics from eras past, creating the store much as we know it today, with its distinctive aesthetic of each area of the store set up as if it were a living room, a bedroom or a kitchen. When stepping across the threshold, the overall impression is more that of being in an inviting space and a well-curated home rather than just being in a shop. If there is such a thing as shabby vogue or shabby glamour, this is it. Eclectic in scope, the pieces range from 19th Century to mid-century, encompassing a variety of styles and periods.

“Hunting for antiques, repurposing, painting and fixing each object is a fun challenge. What sets the store apart is its size and the variety we offer. We have something for everyone: tables, lamps, costume jewelry, postcards, vintage signs, books... all set up on two full floors. From the high-end collector, to a young person simply looking for a cool object to to use as part of a bedroom’s décor, you’re sure to find something that will catch your eye” Sandy explained. The items in the store are carefully chosen with quality as the first criterion in mind, focusing on solid, well-made items of old that feature details and techniques of craftsmanship. “It doesn’t have to be expensive to be quality,” Gooley asserts.

At present, 13 women and three men are part of the cooperatively shared business. A year ago, the store held an opening to celebrate an extra 100 square feet of newly-acquired space. No doubt the business will continue to evolve and be a landmark of 50th and Xerxes. If you’re feeling nostalgic and in need of a brief trip to the past, you don’t need to go far. Just a quick visit to Loft Antiques will provide you a respite from an age of mass production and standardization and, instead, offer passage to a bygone world.