

**125-R-19**

**A RESOLUTION**

**Designating that Portion of Lake Street  
Between Asbury Avenue and Wesley Avenue with the  
Honorary Street Name Sign, “Thomas H. Brinkmann Way”**

**WHEREAS**, Thomas H. Brinkmann has been a vital member of Evanston’s community, graduating from Northwestern University and being appointed one of the youngest Dean faculty members to Northwestern’s Engineering School, before serving the community as an Alderman during the 1970’s; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Brinkmann, in his capacity as Alderman, opposed the longstanding, established discrimination of minorities by local realtors who sought to keep Evanston firmly segregated, and organized a caucus of fellow Aldermen and Alderwomen to establish Evanston’s first Fair Housing Review Board and to fund public housing; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Brinkmann chaired the committee that oversaw the drafting and adoption of the first Liquor Control Ordinance in the Northshore Chicagoland area, post-Prohibition. This ordinance permitted liquor sales in restaurants for the first time in over forty (40) years and paved the way for Evanston’s thriving restaurant sector; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Brinkmann chaired the Human Services Commission hearings that resulted in Evanston’s first-ever funding of day care; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Brinkmann chaired the hearing that resulting in funding “Operation Nutrition,” Evanston’s first open pantry/food depository; and

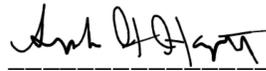
**WHEREAS**, Mr. Brinkmann continued to serve the community in his post-retirement years, leading senior citizen and Northwestern alumni reunion bus tours of the City and giving talks on the City at the Evanston King Home,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT:**

**SECTION 1:** The foregoing recitals are hereby found as fact and incorporated herein by reference.

**SECTION 2:** On behalf of the entire citizenry of the City of Evanston, the City Council hereby expresses appreciation for Thomas H. Brinkmann by designating that portion of Lake Street between Asbury Avenue and Wesley Avenue "Thomas H. Brinkmann Way."

**SECTION 3:** This Resolution 125-R-19 will be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

  
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Stephen H. Hagerty, Mayor

Attest:  
  
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Devon Reid, City Clerk

Approved as to form:  
  
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Kelley A . Gandurski, Corporation Counsel

Adopted: January 13, 2020



Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department  
2100 Ridge Avenue  
Evanston, Illinois 60201  
T 847.448.4311  
TTY 847.448.8064  
www.cityofevanston.org

## City of Evanston Honorary Street Name Sign Application Form

**PURPOSE OF PROGRAM:** The Honorary Street Name Sign program was established to allow citizens the opportunity to honor people who have contributed greatly to the City of Evanston through cultural, historic, or humanitarian acts. Request for an honorary designation has to originate with an Alderman and each Alderman may have one honorary designation approved each year. Honorary street name signs are displayed for a period of ten-years and the portion of a street so designated is one block long. The program is administered by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Board through the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department. Final approval is granted by the Evanston City Council.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE APPLICATION BELOW:

NAME OF HONOREE: Thomas Henry Brinkmann Way  
(as it would appear on the street sign)

PROPER STREET NAME: Lake St

INTERSECTING STREETS AT EACH END OF THE ONE BLOCK AREA:  
Asbury Ave and Wesley Ave.

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY, AND GIVE A BRIEF EXPLANATION FOR EACH OF THE APPLICABLE CRITERIA. A STREET CAN BE NAMED FOR AN INDIVIDUAL, OR GROUP/DESIGNATION.

CULTURAL IMPACT TO CITY: As an Alderman during the 1970s, Brinkmann opposed the long standing, established discrimination of minorities by local realtors, who sought to keep Evanston firmly segregated. He organized a caucus of fellow Aldermen / Alderwomen to vote to establish Evanston's first Fair Housing Review Board and also voted (in a tie vote) to fund public housing (which the mayor resolved, in favor). Bringmann also chaired hearings that resulted in the amendment of the Sheltered Care Ordinance to protect the rights of individuals in nursing homes and revised the Four of July Parade Ordinance to permit the participation of all social groups.

HISTORICAL IMPACT TO CITY: Brinkmann chaired the committee and oversaw the drafting adoption of the first Liquor Control Ordinance in the Northshore Chicagoland area (post Prohibition). This ordinance permitted for liquor sales in restaurants for the first time in over 40 years and paved the way for Evanston's now thriving restaurant sector. Prior to its adoption, the Liquor Control Ordinance was controversial issue with many opponents in and outside of Evanston. As its key proponent, Brinkmann appeared on the Today Show and made other key appearances in support of the measure. He drafted the Ordinance, itself, directed its adoption, and in post-retirement years advised the city on matters regarding the original scope of the Ordinance and its implementation.

X HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS:   Brinkmann chaired the hearings that led to the conversion of the Levy Center from youth to senior citizens use – this change was supported by the Levy family and resulted in further funding to the Center. Brinkmann also Chaired the Human Services Commission hearings that resulted in Evanston’s first ever funding of Day Care. He was the Council’s liaison to the Mental Health Board and worked with the Board to bring funding recommendations to the Council. Brinkmann chaired the hearing that resulted in funding “Operation Nutrition”, Evanston’s first open pantry / food depository. He conducted meeting with police and youth groups to diffuse loitering confrontations in the Sherman downtown area and revised the controlling ordinance with the approval of both groups. Finally, Brinkmann was a key supporter and served on a commission that adopted a police firearms usage policy (following the shooting death of a fleeing felon).

X CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH EVANSTON:   Brinkmann’s adult life and his entire career was based in Evanston (outside of his service during the Korean War). He was a graduate of Northwestern University and in the 1950’s was one of the youngest Dean faculty members then appointed to Northwestern’s Engineering School. Throughout his life, Brinkman loved Evanston and took and avid interest in the history and development of the city. Beyond his time as an Alderman in the 1970’s Brinkmann in post-retirement years led senior citizen and northwestern alumni reunion bus tours of the city. He also gave talks on the city at the Evanston King Home and shared his personal writing on the city’s history with audience members.

X GEOGRAPHICAL RELATIONSHIP OF STREET TO FOCUS OF INTEREST

The proposed honorary street sign would be located on the block of the first house Brinkmann purchased in Evanston (1322 Lake St.). Brinkmann lived in this location for over 20 years with his wife Nancy and raised three Children there. Brinkmann’s son, grandson, and two great Grandchildren continue to live in Evanston and are submitting this application to help honor Brinkmann and his service

X A LIVING INDIVIDUAL (EXCLUSIVE OF CITY OF EVANSTON STAFF)

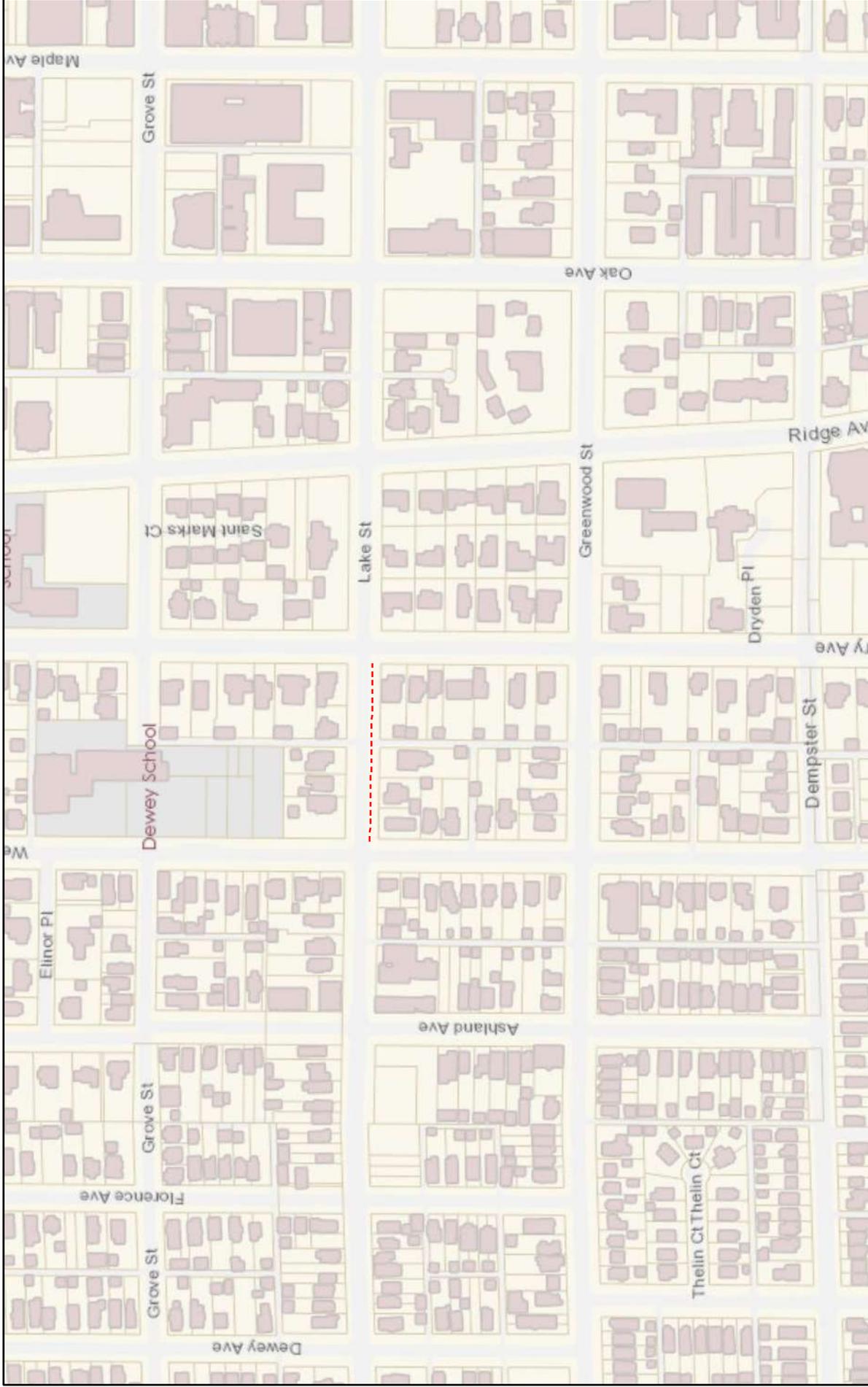
Signature of Applicant:  Donald Wilson  Date:  10-20-19   
(Aldersperson)

Applicant’s Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email:  dwilson@cityofevanston.org

Submit completed form to:  
City of Evanston  
Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department  
2100 Ridge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201  
Fax: 847-448-8051  
[pbelcher@cityofevanston.org](mailto:pbelcher@cityofevanston.org)

# Thomas Henry Brinkmann Way



November 8, 2019

--- User drawn lines

1:4,000

0 0.0325 0.065 0.1 0.13 mi  
0 0.05 0.1 0.2 km