



**We build Pride on the Southside**

# RIVERSIDE EDITION

THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**April 2020**

VOL. XXX, ISSUE 12

*This newspaper is recyclable. It is made with renewable resources--pulp wood and soy ink.*

## Ego



BY TONY BOUZA

“That Tony Bouza, he sure is full of himself, isn’t he?”

Thus, did a wonderful old lady describe me to her companion as they left a talk I’d given.

“You enter a room, big, loud and aggressive and suck the air out.”

Thus, did a group of knowing executives describe me during an assessment session.

“He’s got a Messianic Complex.”

This was the evaluation of a management team sent to analyze my performance.

Vox Populi. Vox Dei.

“How did you two meet?”

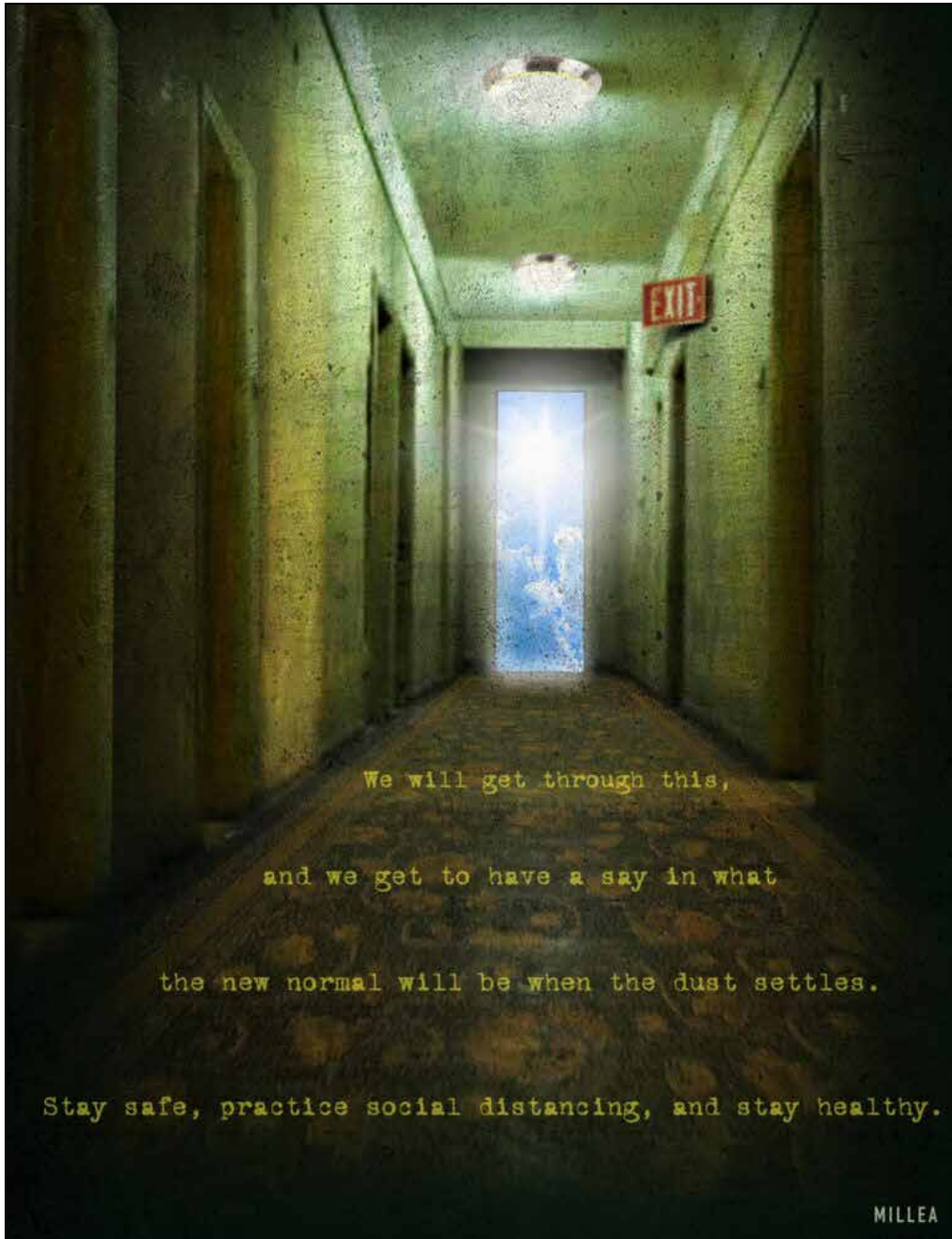
This is the brilliant question a wag directed at Woody Allen and Soon Yi Previn at a fancy Manhattan party.

The gravamen of my thought is that such observations must lead to tortured introspection if wisdom is to have any hope.

I always felt the Police Federation’s jibes were a sovereign antidote to hubris.

The ego is an indefatigable monster, for-

**See Bouza, page 10**



## COVID-19 offers an opportunity to re-examine the status quo

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

Well shit, this is scary. Every day we hear about more cases of the virus in Minnesota. In our community, employees at Seward Co-op’s Franklin store and Mayday Café have tested positive. Museums, schools and retail stores are closed. Grocery stores are still open,

but shelves are empty, items are running out. My family is staying in for the time being. My husband is working from home and our daughter is home from day care.

In all of this we are incredibly privileged. We have health insurance, we are able to work from home, we are under 65 and have no underlying

health issues. But we are painfully aware that we will inevitably know people who get this virus, likely getting it ourselves, and I fear we will know at least one person who will die from it. Hopefully we are wrong.

This virus has drastically altered the way that we live. Air travel is collapsing, cities and even

**See Changes, page 10**

## Jubilee

BY ED FELIEN

April.

“When April the sweet showers fall  
And pierce the drought of March to the root, and all  
The veins are bathed in liquor of such power  
As brings about the engendering of the flowers.”

—Chaucer

“April is the cruellest month, breeding  
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing  
Memory and desire, stirring  
Dull roots with spring rain.”

—T. S. Eliot

The month of beginnings.

Passover.

Death and Resurrection.

The time to plant the empty fields.



image: Bob Millea

As the Book of Leviticus tells us in Chapter 25, every 50 years there will be a Jubilee. All prisoners will be freed. All debts will be forgiven. No one will pay rent or a mortgage. No one will work. We will live for a year off the bounty of the land. For a year we will all be equal. We will all be brothers and sisters in the same family.

**See Jubilee, page 13**

**Our 11th Annual  
Celebrate Spring on  
East Lake Street  
Pages 2 & 3**

**Earth Day  
Pages 7, 8 & 9**



# Celebrate Spring on East Lake Street

## East Lake Street in COVID-19 Times, 2020

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Normally, our focus on East Lake Street would include a couple of diverse dining experiences, a quirky little retail shop or two, maybe a race, festival or sports event, or some theaters, music venues or art galleries. In any case, you would be enticed to get out there and explore, experience and mingle with your neighbors. But of course,

you can't do that right now, since for about half of March, and most if not all of April, the entire state will have been on stay-at-home orders. Now, what you may want to know is: What is even open, even if on restricted hours or restrictions on how many can go in? Where can I get curbside pickup food if I get tired of my own cooking? What vital suppliers deliver to the home if I can't even go out

due to illness? So that's the kind of information we're trying to bring you this strange and historic month of April 2020, and to do so, we will go a few blocks afield of Lake Street to both north and south.

At the time of writing, almost all large and medium grocery stores in the area are open with varying degrees of social distancing protection. You can shop in person at Cub Foods Minnehaha Center, Target Minnehaha Center, Longfellow Market (3815 E. Lake), Aldi—both Hi-Lake Shopping Center and 2912 28th Ave. S., and the Seward Co-ops, both on Franklin Avenue and the Friendship store on 38th Street. I am not sure about distancing practices



### ESTIMADO CLIENTE DEL MERCADO CENTRAL

DEBIDO A LA DECLARACION DE EMERGENCIA CON RESPECTO AL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) EL GOBERNADOR DE MINNESOTA DIO LA ORDEN DE QUE A PARTIR DE LAS 5:00 DE LA TARDE DEL MARTES 18 DE MARZO DE 2020 Y POR DOS SEMANAS, TODOS LOS NEGOCIOS CON COMEDORES COMUNES DEBERIAN CERRAR ESAS SECCIONES PARA EVITAR QUE EL PUBLICO SE SIENTE A COMER EN ESOS COMEDORES COMUNES.

LES COMUNICAMOS QUE LOS RESTAURANTES Y ALGUNOS OTROS EXPENDIOS DE ALIMENTOS CONTINUARAN VENDIENDO SUS PRODUCTOS UNICAMENTE PARA LLEVAR.

USTED PUEDE ORDENAR COMIDA PARA LLEVAR EN PERSONA O POR TELEFONO. LOS TELEFONOS DE LOS RESTAURANTES, PANADERIA Y EXPENDIO DE JUGOS SON LOS SIGUIENTES:

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• MARIA'S RESTAURANTE	612-728-5433
• THE BEST TACO	612-728-5424
• LA LOMA RESTAURANTE	612-728-5437
• COCINA SAN MARCOS	612-728-5427
• LA LOMA TAMALES	612-728-5430
• PANADERIA EL MEXICANO	612-728-5426
• LA REYNA DE LOS JUGOS	612-728-5407

OTROS NEGOCIOS QUE OFRECEN OTROS PRODUCTOS O SERVICIOS PERMANECERAN ABIERTOS DEPENDIENDO DEL NEGOCIO INDIVIDUALMENTE. LE AGRADECEREMOS SU PACIENCIA Y ESPERAMOS VOLVER A LA NORMALIDAD LO MAS PROTO POSIBLE. GRACIAS POR VISITAR MERCADO CENTRAL.

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at all of these stores, but Seward Co-op regulates the number of shoppers at the door, and are also, for now, not charging for paper bags and discouraging people from bringing bags or containers from home. Seward Co-op just initiated a limited online ordering with curbside pickup at both locations, but it's limited to over-60 or special needs customers. Check their website at [seward.coop](http://seward.coop) to see if you qualify and check it out. They plan to roll it out to the general public in time. If you want delivery now, one option I've tried with great results is Instacart, for the Wedge Co-op or for Target. (Please tip generously.)

For medium-sized and convenience store-type places, we have partial information. La Alborada, a Latinx small grocery at 1855 E. Lake, was open recently. The Produce Exchange at Midtown Global Market is taking online or phone orders for curbside pickup. Check out [midtownglobalmarket.org](http://midtownglobalmarket.org) for contact details for the produce market as well as the restaurants mentioned below. Los Arcos, the convenience store in the rear of Mercado Central is reportedly open. The Tom Thumb convenience store at 2402 E. 38th St. is open normal hours. Everett's, at 38th Street and Cedar Avenue, is open part time. Other convenience stores along East Lake include Lake and Park at 700 E. Lake, Amigos One Stop at 3159 Chicago, a Stop & Shop at 1715 E. Lake and another at 2225 E. Lake, Dur Dur (African) Bakery & Grocery Store at 1552 E. Lake, La Mexicana at 1522 E. Lake, Holiday (also has gasoline) at 3550 Cedar, Speedway at 4320 E. Lake, and Walgreens at 3121 E. Lake. We believe these are all open at least part time. For medications, both over-the-counter and prescription, Walgreens and Tar-

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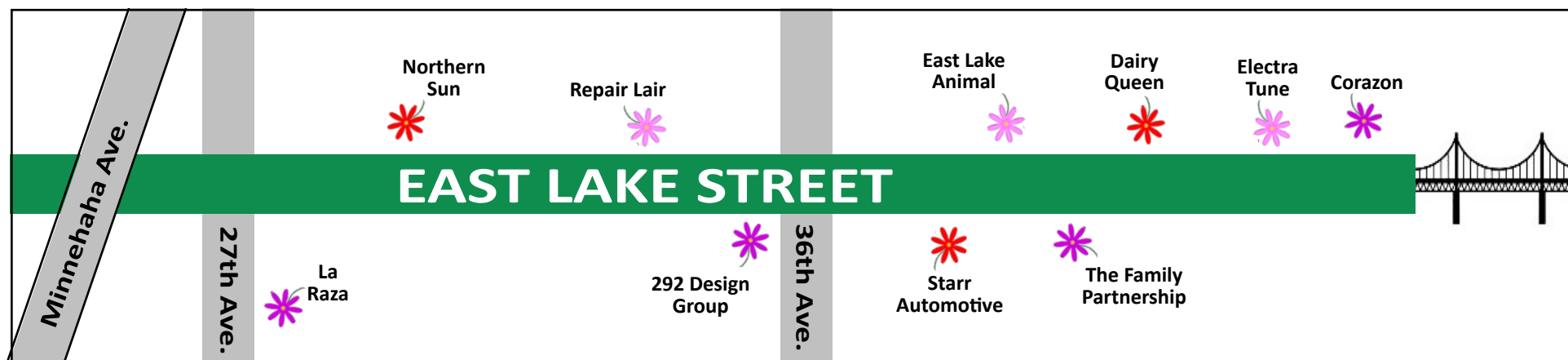
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Steven Olson, D.M.V. • Travis Anderson, DVM





get, mentioned above, are resources. Almost all pharmacies remain open. Also, Rituals Aromatherapy in Midtown Global Market is offering curbside pickup at 612-729-5522.

If you're having trouble paying for groceries right now, there are a number of free food programs either remaining in business or operating for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. Sisters Camelot is giving away produce at Walker Church on Tuesday afternoons. I believe they have one other distribution site on Thursdays. Need is outstripping availability right now, so to avoid disappointment, email [foodshare@sisterscamelot.org](mailto:foodshare@sisterscamelot.org) to get up-to-date information on if and how you can access their food share. Walker Church has suspended free community meals on Tuesdays but is continuing grocery give-away while they can still get supplied, but pre-bagged rather than choose your own. The one-hour window for pickup at the church starts about when Sisters Camelot is finishing, i.e., 5 p.m. They also ask that you email ahead to [office@walkerchurch.org](mailto:office@walkerchurch.org). In some cases, they can reserve you a bag and deliver it to your home. The Salvation Army has a food shelf open Monday and Wednesday afternoon and Tuesday and Thursday morning at 1604 E. Lake St. Pillsbury United Communities is distributing pre-filled bags at the usual food bank hours at both Waite House (2323 11th Ave) and the Brian Coyle Center (420 15th Ave.) See the website [pillsburyunited.org/programs/food-distribution](http://pillsburyunited.org/programs/food-distribution) for days and times. Provision Community Restaurant has a model where they get food donations from restaurants and suppliers, and money from donors and pay-what-you-can (including zero) from patrons and normally serve a sit-down restaurant-style meal—dinner selected weeknights and Saturday brunch. During the COVID-19 crisis, they are giving out box meals 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday from their location at 2940 Harriet Ave. S. Last but not least, Soup for You Cafe at Bethany Lutheran Church on Franklin Avenue is still "in business" (pay what you can, including zero). Instead of cafe-style soup lunches, they are handing out bagged lunches to go, same hours as before, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or as supplies last.



**Provisions Community Restaurant's special COVID-19 program**

Restaurants have a choice of converting to curbside pickup takeout and/or deliveries, or closing completely during the stay-home period. A number of favorites in the community, including the May Day Cafe and the Co-op Creamery Cafe, have simply had to close for the duration. Modern Times Cafe, a great place for both vegan and omnivore brunches and lunches, is mostly closed for the duration. Read the heartfelt message from the owner and if you can, contribute to the fund to keep the staff going

during the period of shutdown. [gofundme.com/f/modern-times-cafe-covid19-fund](https://gofundme.com/f/modern-times-cafe-covid19-fund). However, they are also selling a few key menu items to go via curbside pickup—sauces, pancake batter, fresh hash browns, sourdough or gluten-free bread—as well as sauces and merch to be delivered; email [moderntimes3200@gmail.com](mailto:moderntimes3200@gmail.com) to order. The pickup times for food are Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to noon. See page 5 for more details. Restaurateur Kim Bartmann was apparently already struggling with declining business in the early days of the pandemic, and when the stay-at-home order came out, sadly all the restaurants in her "empire" closed except

Barbette, which began offering a limited menu of curbside pickup. What was really sad, for all involved including Bartmann, is that she was not able to make the last payroll for the closed-out staff. The latest word is that they have applied for an emergency small business loan to remedy this and have also reopened Tiny Diner on East 38th Street for curbside.

On the other hand, here are some of the places we know of that are offering one or both options of delivery or curbside pickup. Pizza Luce—what

can I say? You can hardly tell the difference. They are still open their miraculous hours to 2 a.m. and still offer free delivery, plus now the option of curbside pickup. Don't pay with cash and tip generously. There's online ordering at [pizzaluce.com](http://pizzaluce.com). Cafe Racer, at 2929 E. 25th Street, is offering a to-go menu in two parts—either ready-to-eat a la carte or a meal kit with instructions that serves four to six people. (The meal kit is more affordable.) There are two ways to get your food—curbside pickup, or delivery within their delivery area. There are two ways to order—by email or by phone. There is only one way to pay—electronically. Go to [caferacermn.com/#about](http://caferacermn.com/#about) for details, delivery area, and hours, then select Menu and To-go to see your food options and prices. They also deliver through both UberEats and Bite Squad. Check online services Bite Squad, GrubHub and Door Dash for up-

to-the-minute delivery options, more than we can list here. Other favorites we last heard were open for curbside or delivered meals: Gandhi Mahal on 27th Avenue, the Himalayan at 2910 E. Lake, Merlin's Rest at 3601 E. Lake (they're doing their pub quiz on Facebook Live!), most of the dining spots in Midtown Global Market including Hot Indian Foods, Sabbai Cuisine, Ja-keeno's, and even the Eastlake Craft Brewery (see link above in grocery section), most of the dining spots in Mercado Central (see illustration), and finally, even though it's pretty far from Lake St., one of my favorites, Zen Box Izakaya on Washington Ave. S. (order at [zenbox.com](http://zenbox.com).)

Finally, those promised resources. Check out this directory of mutual aid for everything from running errands to small money grants: [mutualaidhub.org](http://mutualaidhub.org). Zoom in on the map until you can see eight dots on Minneapolis.

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# First Avenue

BY ED FELIEN

Twenty years ago, Marty and Martha Roth used to write reviews of films and theater for Southside Pride, and their son, David, used to go to First Avenue. Now David works for KTCA and has produced a 60-minute documentary of what First Avenue meant to his generation. We asked Marty and Martha what they thought of his work:

"The music venue First Avenue, in downtown Minneapolis, rises from its ashes. The lingering echoes achieve full voice in a film about its 40-year history that has just been released and made available online by your friendly public television station. We can't deny that one of the producers is our son, but we'd have loved it anyway. It's that good in its blend of video, stills, voiceover and talking heads.

The film includes priceless footage of Prince, Ike & Tina Turner, the Replacements and many other touchstones of the rock (r)evolutions in popular culture."

<http://twincitiesmusichighlights.net/venues/depot/>

Steve McClellan, the tastemaker who booked the bands through the torturous history of First Avenue, will be hosting a New Music Showcase live at the southsidepride.com website every Friday and Saturday night from 8 to 10 p.m. starting soon.

Watch this space!

Steve McClellan wants to correct my assessment. He says he was just a cog in the machine, and there were a multitude of collaborators, both staff and musicians, "that were DEFINITELY major players in guaranteeing the venue survived the hard times, allowing it to still be open today."

## VIRTUAL EVENTS

### Lester Literary Update

The Loft's Virtual Wordplay, presented by St. Catherine University and the Star Tribune, will run April 7—May 9. These free online events (donations welcome) will include conversations with authors and maybe some plays. The rolling schedule of events is listed here: <https://loft.org/festival/wordplay-schedule>.

And don't forget your local bookstores. They need your help. Please order from them if possible!

Next Chapter Booksellers; Magers & Quinn Booksellers; The Irreverent Bookworm; Subtext Books; Moon Palace Books; Red Balloon; Wild Rumpus; Excelsior Bay Books; Birchbark Books; Cream & Amber; Valley Bookseller; Storied Owl Books.

### Polyvinyl Announces 'Stay Home'

Midwest independent record label, Polyvinyl Record Co., is proud to announce the release of 'Stay Home'—a 16-track compilation featuring previously unreleased music, demos, and covers from various artists on the Polyvinyl roster. Available now exclusively on Bandcamp for Pay What You Want (starting at \$5

USD), with all proceeds going directly to the artists involved. What originally began as a way to help support the Polyvinyl artists affected by COVID-19, quickly grew into a project spanning more than half of the label's active roster. 'Stay Home' includes brand new covers by Owen (The 1975), Palehound (Karen Dalton), Squirrel Flower (Emmylou Harris), Hazel English (The Mamas & The Papas), and Xiu Xiu (Kim Jung Mi). The compilation also features previously unreleased singles from Chris Farren and Radiation City, along with intimate album demos from Yumi Zouma, of Montreal, STRFKR, and The Get Up Kids.

The compilation's titular theme, 'Stay Home,' doubles as both a social plea—a worldwide effort to help "flatten the curve," while giving nod to the sprawling classic on American Football's landmark self-titled debut.

Fans can also pre-order a limited edition 'Stay Home' tee, designed by Polyvinyl art director, Janelle Abad, PWYW starting at \$15 (comes with a digital copy of the release) with 100% of profits going to the artists. 'Stay Home' is now available, exclusively on Bandcamp: <https://polyvinylrecords.bandcamp.com/album/stay-home>

### Walker at Home: Food for Thought

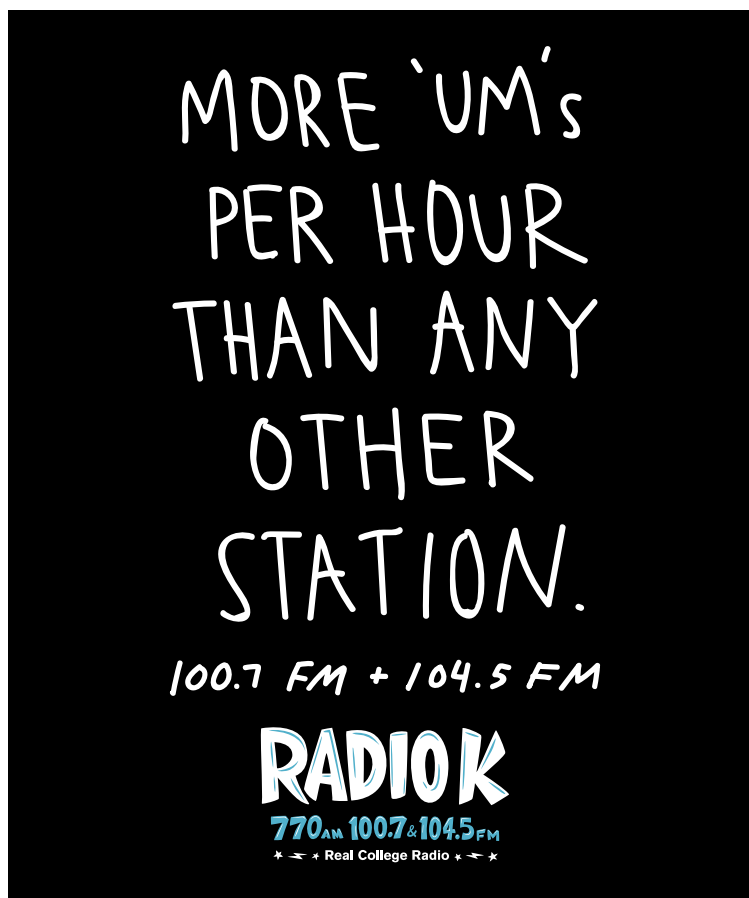
As we continue to explore new ways to bring you art digitally, the Walker team is focusing on two topics that are very much on our minds these days. Let's start with community, more specifically collaborative communities.

### Walker Curator Pavel Pyš on Community, Collaboration, and Food

How do members of a community work best together? As we think of vital parts of our own community (a big shout-out to first responders, service workers, medical staff, and other heroes!), we share *Side by Side: Collaborative Artistic Practices in the United States, 1960s–1980s*, the newest addition to the Walker's *Living Collections Catalogue*. Visual Arts curator Pavel Pyš introduces the volume, which "explores the work of artists whose practices were highly collaborative, interdisciplinary, and often aligned with concurrent social movements." That sounds like just what we need now. View it here: [https://walkerart.org/magazine/pavel-pys-haus-rucker-co-living-collections-catalogue?utm\\_source=wordfly&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=INS\\_WalkerAtHome\\_040720&utm\\_content=version\\_A](https://walkerart.org/magazine/pavel-pys-haus-rucker-co-living-collections-catalogue?utm_source=wordfly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=INS_WalkerAtHome_040720&utm_content=version_A)

### Common Ground: Haus-Rucker-Co's Food City I and Collaborative Design Practice, by Ross Elfine

The role of food seems especially meaningful as we "shelter in place" and share meals with family or yearn for a gathering with friends. The notion of nourishment, through food or through art, is also on our minds right now. Chapter 3 of *Side by Side: Collaborative Artistic Practices in the United States, 1960s–1980s* tells the story of Haus-Rucker-Co's *Food City I*, a participatory event staged outside the Walker in 1971. Food, of course, has featured prominently in art—from prehistoric cave paintings of hunting scenes to a certain big cherry on a spoon, from the still life drawing class's focus on fruit to feasts depicted in famous masterpieces. Read it here: <https://walkerart.org/collections/publications/side-by-side/>



## RIVERSIDE EDITION

The Southside Pride Riverside Edition is a monthly newspaper containing neighborhood news, religious events and a community calendar delivered on the third Monday of the month to over 100 locations in and around the Riverside community. We are proud of the racial and cultural diversity of the Southside, and we oppose racism and other efforts to keep us apart as a community.

If you want to share some news of your church, school or organization, please write us at:

### Southside Pride

3200 CHICAGO AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55407

CALL US AT 612-822-4662

email us at [editor@southsidepride.com](mailto:editor@southsidepride.com)  
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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride / RIVERSIDE EDITION

[haus-rucker-cos-food-city-i-and-collaborative-design-practice?utm\\_source=wordfly-&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=INS\\_WalkerAtHome\\_040720&utm\\_content=version\\_A](https://www.southsidepride.com/haus-rucker-cos-food-city-i-and-collaborative-design-practice?utm_source=wordfly-&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=INS_WalkerAtHome_040720&utm_content=version_A)

### CANCELLED or POSTPONED EVENTS

#### Coming to the Table (CTTT)

Third Saturdays  
10:30 a.m. to noon

MEETING ONLINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

For more information, please email Peacebuilding at [info@mnpeace.org](mailto:info@mnpeace.org)

At Coming to the Table (CTTT, [www.comingtothetable.org](http://www.comingtothetable.org)), descendants of those who were enslaved and descendants of slave owners and all those interested in engaging safe constructive dialogue, come together to envision the U.S. as a just and truthful society that acknowledges and seeks to heal the racial wounds from the historical trauma of slavery, and the racism it continues to spawn. Join Peacebuilding Associate Trainer Crixell Shell and others invested in transforming trauma into nonviolent power. Since seats are limited, please sign up for this free event at [www.cttt-mpls.eventbrite.com](http://www.cttt-mpls.eventbrite.com). Questions? Email [info@mnpeace.org](mailto:info@mnpeace.org).

3rd Annual Spring Floral Exhibition 2020

#### Studio Pintura

##### EXHIBITION NOW VIRTUAL

Selected artworks by local and nationally known artists. Juried by Steven J. Levin.

To browse all the works, including those that could not be delivered to the gallery, please visit [StudioPintura.com](http://StudioPintura.com). Videos also available!

A complete Studio Pintura Fine Art Gallery tour: <https://youtu.be/KPAhH7k4isY>

Our guest juror, Steven J. Levin, announcing the awards and giving some commentary on the pieces and his process: [https://youtu.be/\\_65J3nWVBSY](https://youtu.be/_65J3nWVBSY)

#### Groveland Gallery

##### VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Gallery works can be enjoyed by browsing the website at [www.grovelandgallery.com](http://www.grovelandgallery.com). Purchases can be made by phone or email.

25 Groveland Terrace  
Minneapolis, MN 55403

#### Classics Lost 'n' Found Theater Company

##### SPRING PRODUCTIONS POSTPONED UNTIL JULY

Classics Lost 'n' Found Theater Company has announced that their Spring 2020 production, "Twelfth Night" by William Shakespeare, originally scheduled for May performances, has been postponed due to the current health crisis. The new dates are planned for July 24-25 and July 31-August 1. These dates are tentative and subject to change. Should there be no improve-

ments with the present situation, it will be postponed again. For more information, contact Noreen Brandt at 612-724-4539

#### Diabetes Support Group CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Trinity Apartments  
2800 E. 31st St., Mpls.  
Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors sponsors a monthly diabetes support group for adults with Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes. The group is facilitated by Beth Peltzer, MSW.

#### Tai Chi for Health CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
2730 E. 31st St., Mpls.  
Tai Chi is a low impact, slow-motion exercise that is adaptable to individual abilities. The classes vary between sitting and standing and include slow, easy movements aimed at quieting the mind, improving breathing, coordination, flexibility and strength. Registration is not required. Classes cost \$5 each

#### Makers Mornings

##### CANCELLED UNTIL LATE MAY

American Swedish Institute  
2600 Park Ave., Mpls.  
Join other makers for this new weekly opportunity to work, share and learn in a relaxed, communal setting. Whether you knit, carve, weave, sew, spin, crochet or do some other fascinating thing with your hands, we invite you to bring a project to work on. All are welcome, regardless of

level of ability or craft of choice! Come for as long as you like and bring your own works-in-progress, materials and tools. This group will meet in ASI's Lindberg Stuga.

#### Hennepin County Master Gardeners Learning Garden Tour CANCELLED

The Hennepin County Master Gardeners Annual Learning Garden Tour was to take place on Saturday, July 11, 2020. This event has been CANCELLED due to COVID-19. We're saddened by the news. This was one of our main volunteer events during the year where we get to work

directly with the public providing them opportunities to learn on various horticultural practices, as well as displaying a number of host Master Gardener home gardens. We look forward to our next tour on July 10, 2021 - we hope to see you there!

In the meantime, we suggest these various resources to help our new and existing fellow gardeners.

- Univ. of MN Extension Yard & Garden - <https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and-garden>
- Ask a Master Gardener - <https://extension.umn.edu/master-gardener/ask-master-gardener>

### Help Wanted

## Production Assistant

We need someone to help with production of programming.

Must know zoom and facebook-live.

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Dylan Alverson from

## Modern Times:

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# Restaurants closed

BY STEPHANIE FOX

On March 16, in response to a rising number of COVID-19 virus cases, Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey declared a local public health emergency, closing or limiting access to bars and restaurants except for take-out orders and delivery, until April 1. The same day, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz also ordered dine-in restaurants and other gathering places to close. Then, on March 25, Walz extended the restaurant-closing order until May 1. The extension of the ordered closings was not unexpected by those in the restaurant industry.

## Hard times at Modern Times

At Modern Times, by the first order to close, the restaurant was already dark, its staff laid off and applying for unemployment insurance payments.

Dylan Alverson opened up his breakfast and lunch cafe, Modern Times, the brightly painted building at 3200 Chicago Ave., nearly a decade ago, almost on a whim, after spotting the empty restaurant space while out in the Central Neighborhood with his young daughter. Using money he made from selling his bike shop in Olympia, Wash., and with help from friends, he made the building usable.

He gave the place what he calls a casual “hippievibe,” serving food made from local products, offering veg-

an, vegetarian and omnivore food to crowds of neighbors. It soon became a neighborhood institution.

But, on March 15, a day before the official restaurant closures were announced, Alverson learned that at least two people living nearby had tested positive for the COVID-19 virus and made the decision to close up until the virus danger had passed. He distributed perishables to members of his laid-off staff and to neighbors, but announced that he would not open for takeout.

“Ending up contaminating someone with a deadly disease and possibly putting people at risk isn’t worth it,” he said.

“I knew someone within one degree of my staff with the virus,” he said. “I’m a little stressed out. I have 21 employees and no income. I thought by shutting down and laying people off now, the staff would get to apply for unemployment early.” On a brunch day, he said, the cafe would typically employ four servers, a dishwasher, three cooks and a manager, but even if they decided to do takeout, they’d be down to three staff people—only three jobs out of nine would be saved.

Alverson said that he’s keeping busy. “I have three children who are not in school. I’ve been home-schooling them. I walk my two dogs on the Greenway every morning at 7 a.m. I’m also doing a lot of paperwork,

applying for a new SBA disaster relief loan and a new state business loan.” He is also managing a gofundme page, after finding out that their insurance would not cover payroll costs, utilities and rebuilding the food supply after reopening. He hopes to raise \$30,000.

“If it goes on longer, I am not sure what we’ll do,” he said. “There are some things I have been thinking about. Perhaps offering more of a grocery service or soup and bread that we could control from our end, things being germ free.”

He is currently selling the Modern Time’s hot sauces, mugs, T-shirts and sweat-shirts to bring in income. “I want people to take this seriously. I know a lot of people with compromised immune systems or who are elderly, and they are scared. It’s especially hard on them. It’s going to take everyone working together on all of this,” he said.

As of the afternoon of April 23, Modern Times gofundme page had brought in \$19,147.

## A very strange grand opening at Heather’s Restaurant

Heather Asbury had hoped to open Heather’s restaurant in the former home of Mario’s Pizza Parlor, at 5201 Chicago Ave., at the end of 2019. The building had been vacant for 15 years, and when work began on the building last April, it became the subject of years of speculation among the residents of nearby neighborhoods. “It was a tricky old building and needing a lot more attention than we were expecting,” she said.

The restaurant had a soft opening during the first two weeks of March, the staff experimenting with the menu

while curious locals walked by, peering through the windows to get a glance at the newly remodeled interior. A grand opening was set for March 18. Then, on March 15, the city’s mayor and the governor announced that restaurant and bars would be closed except for takeout or delivery services.

“We had no idea, no clue that this would happen. We were originally set to open in November but there were construction problems. It’s a strange time to start a restaurant. It’s not easy.”

The government closing order was unexpected, but Heather’s was ready.

“We’d put in a walk-up window with plans to use it for serving ice cream in the summer, but that’s now our service window. People can call or order online if it’s cold or rainy or snowy,” she said.

“We’ve been very busy—busier than we would be if we were open for sit-down service,” she said. “We want to keep our staff employed. We lost some people who decided to quarantine on their own, which I support. Some didn’t want to work with the public, but others are healthy and really wanted to work. Some workers no longer have their second job, a problem, especially with kitchen workers, who often have several jobs.”

There were adjustments. The restaurant had been getting its pastries from Rustica bakery, but when that bakery closed its facilities, they scrambled to find another and found Lynnhall bakery in Uptown. “It’s a good partnership,” she said.

“We have to put all our glassware and plates in storage. And, I had to hire new

people. When this is over, some of my new kitchen staff will go back to their old jobs and some are students who will go back to school, but I want to keep most of them on.

“We have limited hours, 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., but we’re serving the entire menu,” she said. “The phone orders drop off after 7:30 and we close the window at 8 because once it gets dark, it’s hard to serve through the window.

“We still do breakfast, lunch, dinner. We try to keep it interesting. But, it is what it is,” she said. “Words really can’t describe this.

“We will keep going until we can go back to normal,” Asbury said. “For now, we completely switched gears. When this is over, we may have to have a new grand opening. The neighborhood is most wonderful. They welcomed us with open arms.”

## Kim Bartmann’s collapse

BY DAVE TILSEN

Many have heard the horror story of the Bartmann group of restaurants. She all but closed the doors to her seven restaurants, laid off over 200 employees and then could not make her final payroll. She has been grilled in social media, and truly, those employees have every right to be angry. The restaurants were collecting the tips that were put on credit cards (most of them) and then reporting them as income on paychecks. This will turn out to be a good thing on unemployment for servers, but it also exacerbates the injury of missing the final checks.

Kim Bartmann’s public statement, “Please know that I’m doing everything I can to make it right. I’m seeking investors. I’m applying for the SBA’s economic disaster relief loans. We’re pursuing catering contracts, selling gift cards, and petitions to be able to sell wine and beer with delivery and takeout. I will do everything humanly possible to make it right,” did little to help the economic situation for her employees. There is just nothing good about this situation.

Over the years, the Bartmann group has shown great creativity, communi-

See Bartmann, page 10



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# Celebrate our Planet on Earth Day

## Saving the Earth like we mean it

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

I got addicted to a computer game called Onnect. Before I deleted it in exasperation, I was playing it an hour a day or more. I loved this game, but not enough to pay for it, so I had to watch some really annoying ads over and over, until my ire at the ads overtopped my jonesing to play the game. The one that sticks with me was very relevant to Earth Day, which was Wednesday, April 22 (although with COVID-19 raging, celebrations were subdued, i.e., canceled). In this particularly infuriating ad, a mom and her little girl are doing their separate things in a beautiful upscale kitchen, when a glass of water gets knocked over. Mom reaches for a wad of paper towels. Daughter asks, “Mom, where do paper towels come from?” Mom replies, “Um—trees, I think.” Daughter can’t just leave it alone. “A lot of trees?” (Cut to Mom’s face, looking guilty and helpless.)

Yes, the somber narrator informs us, it IS a lot of

trees. In fact, it’s “94,000 trees every day in the U.S. alone.” The ad then goes on to sell us bamboo-sourced paper products, which is not what infuriated me; I’m in favor of bamboo products. Not content with just saving trees, the new socially-responsible company is also PLANTING trees. A LOT of trees? Oh, my, yes. They have already planted 150,000 trees! And they’re going to try to plant a million trees in a year. You can see the ad here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4s4GmHoiKeM>. And for those who don’t glom onto math problems as quickly as others, here’s what I found so annoying: In almost a year, this company (Seedling) planted enough trees to replace a mere 36 hours of harvesting just for paper towels and toilet paper. In their very aspirational and ambitious next year, they would replace their evil industry’s destruction of —gasp—11 whole days’ worth of trees (one million)! But what really brought me all the

way to fury, as well as confirming my pervasive “we suck” feeling about American capitalism, was seeing



**Brianna, a cow who escaped slaughter while pregnant, and her daughter Winter**

what some less “special” countries of the world are doing about deforestation and carbon sequestration shortfalls. The same week I deleted the game from my iPad, I saw a news flash that Ethiopia had recently broken an official Guinness World Record in its friendly competition with India over

“afforestation,” the opposite of deforestation. The standing record, because the book has not been updated

yet, is 50 million trees in 24 hours, planted by volunteers across India in 2016, not as a marketing ploy. (That would cover about 18 months of U.S. paper products.) Ethiopia, however, planted seven times that many, over 350 million trees, in only 12 hours. One million trees in 365 days or

350 million trees in half a day? And is it worth paying over two dollars a roll for bamboo toilet paper to feel this good? (Sarcasm.)

I am hoping my little rant will serve to introduce the topic of what should be a well-worn angle on environmental values and responses to climate chaos—what you might call an existential mental barrier or simply first-world ambivalence about these issues (the first world, my world, being the only one about whose thoughts I am entitled to speak, but not the only valid viewpoint there is). The reason we often encounter a barrier when we try to think strategically, ethically, individually, and perhaps, ideologically about the problem of the environment is that there are, in fact, several barriers there. In other words, dualisms, fake mental walls between concepts. Ideologically, there is the wall between capitalism and socialism. In terms of individual responsibility,

See *Earth Day*, page 8

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# Celebrate our Planet

**Earth Day, from page 7**

there is the wall between individualism and communitarianism. Ethically and strategically, there is a wall between what we think is our responsibility and within our power, what we think ought to be our responsibility and within our power, and what actually is within our power. And these various walls cut across the problem in different directions, and we as individuals can be on different sides of one wall but the same side of another wall

as any other given individual. Consider a person who identifies as a socialist, who thinks they know what a capitalist is but actually doesn't, who also identifies as an individualist, and who tends to greatly overestimate both their own power and their own responsibility. This person doesn't think a lot about ethics, but if pressed would be a relativist. Then consider their comrade, who also identifies as a socialist, but as a communitarian one, who believes in moral absolutism, and who tends to greatly un-

derestimate their own power, but overestimate their own responsibility. Now imagine these two individuals trying to come to agreement on, let's say, the best way to control carbon emissions. Does this sound familiar? Do you think you may have actually had this conversation at some point? What normally happens here, in the best of circumstances, is that the discussion grinds to a vaguely uneasy halt at some point—too many variables, too much complexity. Mental passivity sets in. Well-meaning people either recycle or don't, give up their car, or make rather pathetic arguments about why they can't, go vegan and assume that's enough, or do something else but feel guilty every time they eat cheese or chicken.

You come to the very understandable view that you can't possibly do all the right things for the environment, and still live. And you're right, you can't! For one thing, there are systemic factors beyond your control,



**A forested valley somewhere in Africa**

so that you participate in the destruction, or die, or close to it. For another thing, bad actors (or sheer ignoramuses) will lay a guilt trip on you that because you can't unilaterally drop a certain destructive behavior, you have no right to struggle against it, or demand alternatives. Consider pipelines. People who don't see a problem with pipelines love to accuse active opponents of pipelines of hypocrisy, because they buy gasoline,

take airplanes occasionally, and actually have the audacity to heat their homes in the winter, and use electricity to charge their cellphones. Or take my outsized aggravation with the hapless executives of Seedling Inc. and their pathetic one million trees. OK, so I should be happy that Marc Benioff, CEO of Salesforce and another green capitalist (which to my mind makes about as much sense as a reptilian rabbit or an

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# et on Earth Day

atheist priest), has proposed a global tree-planting project called the One Trillion Tree initiative (see 1t.org). Well, OK, maybe, but how should I feel about what British ecologist Thomas Crowther has to say about it: “If tree

planting is just used as an excuse to avoid cutting greenhouse-gas emissions, then it could be a real disaster.” So, this could either “save the planet” or it could be a huge greenwashing scandal that costs someone (probably not

Benioff) \$300 billion. (See <https://bit.ly/2Xoref8> for the whole story.) I actually think I have a partial but workable solution you can use in your own life. I haven’t bottomed this out into a full system yet,

but I’m working on it. First, you give up any thought of perfection, purity, or power that you don’t actually have. Then you take a fearless and searching inventory of your own values. What matters the most to you—your health, your family, the survival of the human race, the survival of the ocean (the human race being a lost cause) or something else? Do you care equally about human suffering and animal suffering or does one matter more? Do you believe in a higher power and/or an afterlife or is that crazy stuff? You also take an inventory of what you can

do, what you cannot do, and what falls in between. Then you do a ton of research, and try to determine which actions—going vegan, giving up your car, moving off the grid, eliminating plastic, growing mushrooms, going back in time and killing Hitler—are going to give you the highest return in your most valued areas and the highest personal satisfaction. Then you do those things. And you don’t give in to regrets, guilt or blame, but teach everyone you know how to do the same. I reckon that, plus the fall of capitalism (obviously!), will ultimately save us.

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Accidental parasites of time,  
  
You, filthy microbes of cancer,  
Ephemera of invincible eternity,  
  
You, who try to fill your vanity  
With abominable crimes,  
  
You, insensible butchers of animals,  
  
Notorious destroyers of pastures,  
  
You, contaminators of oceans,  
Deleterious polluters of rivers,  
  
You, menacing beings of harmony,  
Transgressors of universal laws,

You,  
Who deliberately have put me through  
The tormenting agony of dying  
By  
Strewing your treacherous dark web of  
Your unworthy ambitions, all over my face,  
Shadowing my generous fertility and  
Rendering me sterile,  
  
Behold,  
For the time has come for you  
To feel my wrath and my fury  
Boiling lava over you  
To flow every day,  
  
Kneel,  
Your tiny mortal beings  
In front of the immortal cosmos,

For the shiny heavy sword of Universal justice,  
Punisher of transgressions, guardians of  
The eternal laws,  
Over your thoughtless heads to fall  
With vengeance and rage  
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Those who would survive  
Shall feel the torturing pain in Their hearts  
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Uncountable years!

- Demetrios Trifiatis





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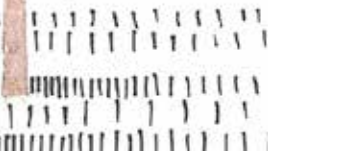
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# ‘No Shortcuts’ forum at Shir Tikvah

BY ISABELA ESCALONA

A coalition of labor unions, religious leaders and social justice organizations held a panel as part of a Week of Action on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at Shir Tikvah Synagogue. Rabbi Arielle Lekach-Rosenberg led the participants in a traditional Jewish covenant ceremony where elected officials joined in the call to end workers’ rights abuses and displacement amidst the housing crisis in the Twin Cities metro.

Arturo Hernandez, a construction worker who shared a story about working on a Dominion project, said, “This is happening everywhere—Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas. These companies are taking advantage of vulnerable people. Workers are scared to come forward. I’ve reported these violations and nothing happens.” Barbara Luvene with African Career and Education Resource (ACER) discussed the intersection of workers’ rights and housing justice: “If you want tenants to do right by you, you must do right by tenants. We are not just cus-

tomers, we are your community.”

Many other elected officials joined the forum, including Mayor Mike Eliot from Brooklyn Center, Council Member Simon Trautmann from Richfield, Council Member Kissy Coakley from Minnetonka and Council Member Jenna Carlton from Bloomington, and Council Member Margaret Rog from St. Louis Park participated in the covenant ceremony in solidarity with workers and tenants.

The forum educated and encouraged elected officials and housing decision-makers to prioritize the concerns and the rights of workers and tenants in the financing and construction of affordable housing. Speakers at the forum explained how the current systems allow developers to obtain generous financing, public subsidies and tax incentives to maximize their profits at the expense of workers and tenants.

The event was sponsored by Jewish Community Action, CTUL, ACER, MRLF, LIUNA, Minneapolis Building Trades, and Carpenters Regional Council.

## Changes, from page 1

countries are shutting down, health care systems are being overwhelmed, and people are dying. In many ways this pandemic has highlighted the weaknesses of our system. We need a universal single payer health care system. We need better protections for workers, especially independent contractors and tipped workers, so that people have the option to avoid potentially lethal illnesses without risking their financial stability. We need a system that ensures ALL Americans are able to retire at a reasonable age so that they are not faced with having to continue to work customer service jobs such as grocery store cashier even as hordes of people, many of whom are statistically likely to carry the virus, panic-buy toilet paper.

This crisis has brought out the worst in some and the best in others. We have seen the concrete damage that our individualistic, dare I say, selfish culture has reduced some to through panic-buying and supply hoarding. And, on the other end of the spectrum, some are refusing to change their behaviors to limit the spread of the virus. We have seen horrible instances of racism and xenophobia. But we are also seeing many people come together in the U.S. and around the world to help others whether they know them or not.

I hope that this experience will encourage our leaders to reevaluate our priorities as a people. Governor Tim Walz classified grocery store workers as emergency personnel and that provides them with vital benefits such as access to free child care. It also recognizes that these employees have endured the risks of large crowds stocking up and panic-buying, and it also appreciates their vital

role in keeping the rest of us fed.

At the federal level, this is an opportunity to drive home the importance of a universal single payer health care system in the U.S.

Now is the time to remind our political leaders that measures such as a Universal Basic Income (UBI) will do far more to keep the economy afloat than bailing out banks and corporations.

There has been an encouraging amount of bipartisan talk about something that would be very close to a UBI, but right now it is questionable how long this program might last and there are efforts to limit its scope. Checks should begin to go out to anyone with a social security number as soon as possible and they should continue to go out every month until the threat has passed. To put a means test on any relief would unnecessarily slow the transmission of the money through complicated bureaucratic hurdles. If rich people end up getting checks, it would open up a wonderful opportunity to remind politi-

cians that we are already in desperate need of reforming our tax code, and that the rich and large corporations need to start paying their fair share.

There are a number of ways we can support those impacted by the virus and the resulting shut-downs locally as well. Restaurants are still offering takeout and some have expanded their delivery options, but if you don’t want to take the risk, you can buy a gift certificate. Some restaurants such as Modern Times and Seward Café have set up fundraisers to keep themselves afloat. I would also encourage people to make donations or volunteer with organizations serving the homeless and/or those with food insecurity, such as St. Stephens and Second Harvest Heartland.

We will get through this, and we get to have a say in what the new normal will be when the dust settles. Stay safe, practice social distancing, and stay healthy. Oh, and you probably don’t need an entire year’s supply of toilet paper.

.....

## Bartmann, from page 6

ty solidarity and progressive leadership as she grew her business. She has hired experienced managers, as well as given people a chance to grow in her organization. Her block parties, like the ones during Pride, Bastille Day and others have been landmark community events that have employed local musicians and artists, and who doesn’t know someone who has performed at the Bryant Lake Bowl?

.....

## Bouza, from page 1

ever tempting us to inflate our self-image. In time I came to see mine as my greatest enemy.

Humility requires self-examination, skepticism to all flattery and clear sights.

We admire art because it contains truth—or a tortured search thereof. What is the artist attempting? To convince us of the worth of her discovery.

Truth matters.

Quentin Tarantino is some wonderful artist. Created one of the best flicks ever—“Pulp Fiction.”

And yet, even Homer nodded.

I saw “Once Upon A Time in Hollywood.” Awful—and a lie to boot. Great performances but still a lie. No Sharon Tate murder. She gets only a delightful cameo in the flick. No analysis of the charismatic evil genius Charles Manson. Only riveting examples of the great thespian talents of DiCaprio and Pitt, in that order. Bravura perfor-

mances.

Yet truth will out—and it must.

In “Inglourious Basterds,” Tarantino posits the absurdity of a mass annihilation of Nazis, including Hitler. A silly fable.

And yet—in that very same scene of apocalypse, Tarantino reveals the fascinating truth (I hope) that Emil Jannings, the great German actor (“Blue Angel,” etc.), was a devout Nazi. Geez, I didn’t know that.

And Woody Allen makes films I must see even as I abhor his surrender to lustful and impermissible appetites.

Think of the characters in fiction who, upon discovery of their moral blindness, gouge their eyes out.

Our lust, ambitions, greed and other dark impulses must be understood if they are to be confronted. In hubris lies blindness.

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# Small businesses and nonprofits respond creatively to the COVID-19 pandemic

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

What do an instructor from a technical college, a pair of socially conscious small businesses, and a robotics class from a suburban high school have in common? They are all providing creative solutions to the problem of shortages of PPE (personal protective equipment) to healthcare and other “frontline” workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Instructor Jazmine Darden at Dunwoody College of Technology is using 3D printers to create “ear-savers” for workers who have to wear masks with ear loops. These can become painful after many hours on the job, leading to inflammation or headaches. Ear-savers are a gadget that the ear loops can hook onto, which then goes behind the head without putting pressure on the ears. Irondale (New Brighton) High School students in the Knight-Krawler Robotics team are also using 3D printers, but they’re making the transparent full-face shields that you have (hopefully) only ever seen in movies. They’re using leftover supplies, and buying more with the money they had banked to go to a robotics competition, canceled due to COVID-19. When that runs out, local businesses have pledged funds for more. Also making face shields with 3D printers is a partnership of two very local, very niche businesses who already had an ethos of “giving back.” One is Woodchuck USA, which makes custom wood products, and then plants a tree for every order sold. The other is

Kind Lips; they make lip balm, donating 20% of the proceeds to anti-bullying campaigns. It seems everyone, from private individuals, to small clubs and social groups, to unexpected partners like these, is getting in on the PPE, face mask and hand sanitizer shortage project.

We’re looking at how a crisis like a global pandemic can call forth amazing resilience and creativity from so many. Sometimes, as in the examples above, it’s how someone with extra time on their hands solves a problem or organizes a teamwork contribution to fighting the pandemic. Sometimes it’s how a small business comes up with a new delivery model on the spot to keep from going under. Sometimes it’s how a nonprofit or service provider, an artist or a performer, finds a new way to do their work when social distancing cuts off the old way. And sometimes it’s just a matter of how the disruption and the loneliness of isolation have caused many new communities to form, using new ways of connecting. On that subject, some of my comrades and I have been discussing pods. This is a way of organizing people that has roots in both mutual aid networks, which are all the rage now; even AARP is mapping mutual aid networks ([aarpcommunityconnections.org/find-group/](https://aarpcommunityconnections.org/find-group/)) as well as restorative justice. In fact, if you access the AARP link, one of the local links you’ll get to is called simply Twin Cities Mutual Aid (<https://tinyurl.com/r27har4>) and it’s all about pods, includ-

ing existing neighborhood pods in the Twin Cities, and how to form your own, and how to do a resource inventory called “pod mapping.”

While sectors of the health care industry associated with acute care, emergency medicine, respiratory health and other sectors in the front lines of the COVID-19 fight are working overtime, other sectors of health care are forced to idle. General medical clinics, dentists, chiropractors, physical therapists and many others cannot practice, or only respond to emergency cases. Some have also created new telehealth programs, and you can get diagnosed via video, or your PT can send you an exercise routine online. Another area that normally relies on face-to-face or group settings is mental health. The walk-in counseling center is still open, but not to walk-ins; you have to call and set up a Zoom counseling session. A friend of mine is a young, newly-qualified psychotherapist who is also interested in mindfulness as a therapeutic practice for himself. He has started a small group Zoom-based daily meditation practice modeled on Suzuki’s Zen Mind, Beginner’s Mind. This has been a real lifesaver for me, and I tune in every day (almost) for a dose of Zen.

A related area is that of exercise classes in gyms and studios and dojos. There seem to

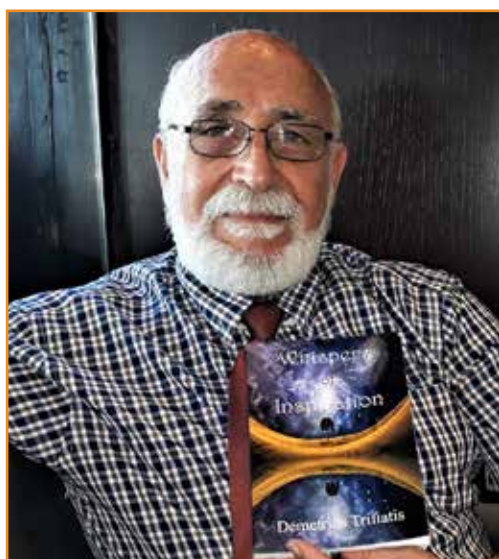
be hardly any that have just shuttered. Most are using YouTube, Facebook Live, or Zoom to deliver routines to those at home. Some rely on pay-if-or-what-you-can donations and are open to everyone, while some have membership portals to go through. An innovative dojo/studio in St. Paul, Grappler Station, is an example of the former. You can access their online programs and see what they’re doing via Facebook at [facebook.com/grapplerstation/](https://facebook.com/grapplerstation/). Even though they normally rely on membership fees to exist, the YWCA simply put a nice selection of exercise class videos, from HIT and “Chisel” to chair yoga and gentle stretching, on their site open to everyone. Check out [ywcampls.org/fitness-membership/group-fitness/ywca-on-demand/](https://ywcampls.org/fitness-membership/group-fitness/ywca-on-demand/). Even Nokomis Healthy Seniors has an exercise video ([tinyurl.com/ybjhguwx](https://tinyurl.com/ybjhguwx)) in the form of a long video loaded into a Google doc. Mpls.St.Paul Magazine did a long article that lists scores of Twin Cities gyms and studios offering virtual exercise; see it here: [mspmag.com/health-and-fitness/the-gym-is-closed-now-what/](https://mspmag.com/health-and-fitness/the-gym-is-closed-now-what/).

Nonprofits too often rely on personal closeness or social gathering to do their missions. Some nonprofits are linked with a traditional business model, be it a cafe or a theater or something else. The popular Café Meow in Uptown is actu-

ally an animal rescue organization. During COVID, their cafe is closed, but they still foster cats and place them for adoption, and you can “meet” their foster cats via video. Check out their Facebook page for details. Local puppet theater Z Puppets had a major show opening, “Through the Narrows,” collide with coronavirus, so they put it online for over a month and it was a great success. In the Heart of the Beast, which was already going through major “creative disruption,” recently offered a series of online art workshops called Chrysalis May Day, with artists Graci Horne, Ifrah Mansour and Mike Hoyt, each teaching unique skills of puppet craft the last weeks of April. See [hobt.org](https://hobt.org) for more.

For traditional small businesses, sometimes they turn to paying it forward while struggling to stay in business. Hot Hands Pies and Biscuits in St. Paul is doing a good take-out business in their bakery, but have added an option to buy a gift card for a stranger to their menu. See their Facebook page for more. And some businesses just want (you) to have fun. Flying Dutchman Spirits of Eden Prairie is making waves with their innovative Quarantini kits. See what that’s about at <https://www.flyingdutchmanspirits.com/>.

## Demetrios Trifiatis Whispers of Inspiration



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EVENTS

ONLINE EVENTS AND RESOURCES

**Bahá’i Center of Minneapolis**  
3644 Chicago Ave., Mpls.  
Please visit the Bahá’i community of Minneapolis website at <https://www.minneapolisbahai.org/>. Here you will find information about upcoming and past Holy Day celebrations, as well as news, announcements and information.

**Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
4120 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Mpls.  
For information on virtual worship, sacred music, and other church activities, please go to <http://www.bethel-mpls.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/BethelLutheranMpls/>.

**Calvary Lutheran Church**  
3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.  
Sunday worship at 10 a.m. via Facebook Live and Zoom. Online Group Meetings: Calvary members are actively leading discussion and study groups during this time. Please visit our website at [www.clchurch.org](http://www.clchurch.org) for more information.

**Catholic Church of the Holy Name**  
3637 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Mpls.  
There will be no public Masses through April 30. Reconciliation by appointment only. Please call 612-724-5465. Visit our website at <https://www.churchoftheholynam.org/> for Archdiocesan links to Mass online, on TV, and other Mass/prayer resources.

**Catholic Church of St. Albert the Great**  
E. 29th St. & 32nd Ave. S., Mpls.  
At the request of the Archdiocese, we have canceled all further “live” masses in the church. However, we ARE live-streaming the Sunday morning mass at 9:30 a.m. on our St. Albert the Great Facebook page. Please join us there, and be safe and prayerful in this distressing time. <https://www.facebook.com/StAlberttheGreatMpls/>

[www.facebook.com/StAlbertTheGreatMpls/](https://www.facebook.com/StAlbertTheGreatMpls/)

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
3430 E. 51st St., Mpls.  
[www.faithlutheranmpls.org](http://www.faithlutheranmpls.org)  
Sunday Worship and Midweek Devotions online on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAMEkjtIORYXnd-mlow/> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/felcmpls/>  
Join the Zoom meeting of the Wednesday morning Bible study: <https://us04we.zoom.us/j/5862684310> or join by telephone -Meeting ID:586 268 4310 (this is a phone number to call if you don’t want to use computer).

**First Free Church**  
5150 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls.  
We’re not closed. We’re online. Sunday services will be posted at 9 a.m. to our Facebook and YouTube pages. [www.firstfreechurch.org](http://www.firstfreechurch.org)

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS**  
1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., Mpls.  
Sunday Worship recordings online at [www.holycrossmpls.org](http://www.holycrossmpls.org). Scroll to mid-page on the homepage to see recordings and bulletins to follow along.

**Hope Lutheran Church**  
5728 Cedar Ave. S., Mpls.  
In a desire to do our part, Hope Lutheran Church has moved worship from a physical gathering in our Sanctuary on Cedar Avenue to an online gathering until at least the end of April 2020. To learn how to connect to our worship services, please click on the Worship Tab on our website. [www.hopempls.org](http://www.hopempls.org)

**Living Spirit United Methodist Church**  
4501 Bloomington Ave., Mpls.  
Worship with us from home! In complying with Minnesota’s stay-at-home order, all in-person activities, including worship and supper, are cancelled until further notice. Please visit our website to learn more about how we’re maintaining community in

the meantime. [www.livingspiritumc.org/online](http://www.livingspiritumc.org/online)

**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
2400 Park Ave., Mpls.  
Due to COVID-19 and the recommendation of the ELCA and Governor Walz, Messiah has decided to suspend Sunday worship until further notice. We make this decision prayerfully and will instead be posting podcasts of the sermon online. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and hope to resume Sunday worship at Messiah soon. “Energized by Worship, we reflect God’s Love in the community with activities of service that positively transform lives.” Please visit us at <https://www.messiahlutheranmpls.org/> for online services, devotions and bulletins.

**Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church**  
4101 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Mpls.  
Please visit our website for opportunities to connect each week at <https://minnehahacommunion.org/>. View Sunday worship services and download bulletins online, join us for a Zoom virtual coffee hour on Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m., or for Monday Kid Time on Zoom from 1 to 3 p.m.

**Mt. Zion Lutheran Church**  
5645 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls.  
In consideration of the public health concerns related to COVID-19 and per the recommendation of the Minnesota Department of Health, worship services at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church have been cancelled until further notice. Stay well. May God bless and keep you!

**New Creation Baptist Church**  
1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.  
Please visit our website at <https://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.org/> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NewCreationBaptistChurch/> to access sermons and Bible study teleconferences online.

**Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church**  
5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.  
[www.nokomisheights.org](http://www.nokomisheights.org)  
All in-person worship and activities suspended. We may be separated, but we are still a church and a community, physically distant but faithfully together. Connect with our online community on Facebook and YouTube, and join us as we navigate these challenges together. A new worship goes up on YouTube every Sunday at 10am, and all are archived, so you can view the ones you missed. <https://www.facebook.com/NokomisHeights/>

**Plymouth Congregational Church**  
1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.  
All Plymouth meetings and in-church Sunday services canceled until further notice. Please visit our website at <https://www.plymouth.org/> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Plymouth-CongregationalChurch/> to view online worship services, bulletins and announcements.

**St. Joan of Arc Catholic Community**  
4537 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. S., Mpls.  
For video masses, musical performances, church bulletins, and other news, please see our website <https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/> or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/St-JoanMpls/>.

**St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral**  
519 Oak Grove St., Mpls.  
For the sake of the Common good, Saint Mark’s doors are closed until further notice—still there is so much you can practice from home. Visit our website at <https://ourcathedral.org/> for links to Daily Practices and past livestreams and video archives.

**Temple of Aaron**  
616 Mississippi River Blvd. S., St. Paul  
Please visit our Facebook page for updates on the synagogue’s programs, schools, and services. <https://www.facebook.com/Temple-of-Aaron-202015025137/>

**Trinity Lutheran Congregation**  
Augsburg College, Hoversten Chapel  
Riverside & 22<sup>nd</sup> Aves., Mpls.  
[www.trinitylutherancongregation.org](http://www.trinitylutherancongregation.org)  
Online worship available anytime on our YouTube channel: Trinity Lutheran Congregation

**Walker Community United Methodist Church**  
3104 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Mpls.  
Until further notice, Walker Church will be closed for all non-essential operations. Services will continue online via Zoom and Facebook Live at 11 a.m. to noon on Sundays. Visit our website at <http://www.walkerchurch.org/> or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/walkerumc/> for more information.

ONGOING

SHARING FOOD

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
2511 E. Franklin Ave., Mpls.  
**612-332-2397**  
Soup for You! UPDATE  
The Soup for You! Café will be closed to normal dining, but we plan to distribute bag lunches at the regular entrance to the Café, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. <http://www.bethany-inseward.org/>

**Calvary Lutheran Church**  
3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.  
**612-827-2504, ext. 205**  
The Calvary Emergency Food Shelf is available for area residents each Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon.  
Pre-packaged bags of food will be distributed at the elevator entrance (on 39<sup>th</sup> St., with the blue awning). Volunteers will be available to direct you to the correct door. There are eligibility requirements. On our website, [www.clchurch.org](http://www.clchurch.org), click on the “Food Shelf” link in the “Out-reach” tab, or call the food shelf office at 612-827-2504, ext. 205.

**Groveland Emergency Food Shelf**  
1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.  
**Basement of Plymouth Congregational Church**  
**612-871-0277**  
Monday – Friday  
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Entrance on Groveland Ave. between Nicollet and Lasalle.  
<http://grovelandfoodshelf.org/>

**Minnehaha United Methodist Church**  
3701 E. 50th St., Mpls.  
**612-721-6231**  
In order to fight food insecurity in our neighborhood, as of April 9, 2020, the Minnehaha Food Shelf will still be open on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. We have instituted protocols to maintain appropriate social distancing. <https://www.facebook.com/MinnehahaFoodShelf/>

**New Creation Baptist Church**  
1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.  
**612-825-6933**  
We’re still here to serve you on the first through fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until we run out of bags. Be safe and God bless! <https://www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf/>  
Food Shelf  
Saturdays (except 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays)  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
(Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

**Walker Community United Methodist Church**  
3104 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Mpls.  
**office@walkerchurch.org**  
Tuesday Meals: Our regular Tuesday meals will be suspended until shelter-in-place orders end. We will still have groceries available for pickup on Tuesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. <http://www.walkerchurch.org/>

## The Riverside Religious Community Welcomes You

*Christian*

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. ALBERT THE GREAT**  
E. 29th St. & 32nd Ave. S.  
612-724-3643  
[www.saintalbertthegreat.org](http://www.saintalbertthegreat.org)

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY NAME**  
3637 - 11th Ave. S.  
612-724-5465  
No Masses through April 30  
Reconciliation by appointment only  
Pastor: Fr. Leo Schneider  
*A welcoming Roman Catholic community*

**MINNEHAHA COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
4101 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.  
\*612-722-9527  
<https://minnehahacommunion.org/>  
Virtual Sunday Worship online  
Sunday Coffee Hour on Zoom at 10:45 am  
*Pastors Dan and Sally Ankerfelt*

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION**  
Augsburg College  
Hoversten Chapel  
Riverside & 22<sup>nd</sup> Aves.

612-333-2561  
[www.trinitylutherancongregation.org](http://www.trinitylutherancongregation.org)  
Online worship available anytime on our YouTube channel: Trinity Lutheran Congregation  
Pastors: Jane Buckley-Farlee & Alem Asmelash  
Office: 2001 Riverside Ave.  
*Reconciling in Christ*



*All Directory Churches are Wheelchair Accessible*



# Pandemic brings out the best in our neighborhoods

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

During this period of time when most of us are not anywhere near the coronavirus, yet closer than we think, we are watching and waiting and wishing the best for our family, friends and neighbors. Finding ways to get through the gloom and worry of this time, many community members have come up with creative responses. It seems as though sheltering in place and staying home have driven up our desire to be connected to one another.

## Pollinator gardens (enough of them) ensure our food supply

While the threat of COVID-19 hangs over our heads, we haven't forgotten about caring for the Earth. When the threat has subsided, we will continue taking care of our Mother Earth, not out of altruism but rather as a mutually beneficial/respectful relationship. That is, it is in our best interests to nurture the Earth.

In May of 2019, Minnesota Governor Tim Waltz signed legislation that set aside \$900,000 for pollinator-friendly native plantings. The money, available through the Lawns to Legumes program, was dispersed in small grants to homeowners and in big grants to local governments and nonprofits to create "demonstration neighborhoods." The Corcoran Pollinator Project (CPP), together with Corcoran Neighborhood Organization (CNO) and Metro Blooms, received a big grant, for \$40,000. Many other neighborhoods received them as well, including Longfellow. These projects are crucial because the bees, butterflies and moths that undergird our food supply by pollinating crops need our massive support; they are seriously endangered, susceptible, vulnerable.

According to Douglas Tallamy, an entomologist at the University of Delaware (from an article in The Smithsonian, April 2020), the endangered pollinators could be revived through a "rewilding" of America. He would like to see native flora blooming in every square foot of the land not paved or farmed. One of his frequently cited statistics: "86% of the land east of the Mississippi is privately owned. A large fraction of that is cultivated for food or planted in lawns. For ecological purposes [those areas] might as well be a parking lot." A desired outcome of his work would be the linking of pollinator-friendly patches from coast to coast to feed the creatures we count on.

Minnesota will be doing its part. CPP started seeds for 10,000 plants last December, which are now coming up, and the grant will help them start more seeds next year in addition to installing many more gardens, not only in Corcoran but in Phillips as well. It will now be possible to hire people to do workshops, work on garden design, do broader outreach, provide work for youth crews, and create a tool library.

There are obstacles because of the virus, of course, but the response has been flexible. CPP, CNO and Metro Blooms will be offering online workshops and are exploring how to facilitate garden creation using social distancing as long as it's needed.

The Corcoran + Phillips Pollinator Project is a "grant program that provides funding for native plantings and pollinator-friendly trees and shrubs for your yard to protect our pollinators, other wildlife and our environment. The program includes training on how to care for your landscape."

For more information, and to sign up for the pollinator project, contact [lilah@metroblooms.org](mailto:lilah@metroblooms.org) or call 612-293-4027.

The first online workshop is from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, May 14. It's free to residents of Corcoran and Phillips neighborhoods. To register: [bluethumb.org](http://bluethumb.org) (check workshops page).

## Online compassionate communication

There's a Facebook group called COVID19-Delivery, Twin Cities Metro, MN organized by a woman named Laura Nilles. People who need something and for whatever reason aren't able to get it (usually food) can post their situation, and volunteers in the group respond. They coordinate their times and locations (covering the entire metro area—you can join the metro area that corresponds to you) and somehow or other the needs are met. The only commonality among the participants is their willingness to ask for help and their willingness to provide it. Nobody's genetically related or brought together by an ideology, philosophy or belief system.

## Exercise options at home

Exercising alone does nothing for your social isolation, but it's still good to keep exercising. Watching exercise videos helps you stay on track and maybe feels a little less lonely.

The YWCA has put out six exercise videos, all of which are on You Tube (YWCA On Demand). One afternoon I did about 23 half-assed minutes of a half-hour routine (somewhat challenging) called Fitness Barre. I already did Chair Yoga, although I get tense trying to relax. I know. Anyway, it's fun. (I started exercising when I was 65. Before that I was afraid of having a heart attack. When I turned 65, I figured it was too late to die young so it didn't matter. The last 10

years of exercising have gone very well. No heart attacks or strokes. Just a little fitness.) So, whatever your reasons for not exercising, you probably can overcome them. I think having a video right in your own home makes the whole thing so much easier. Now might be a good time to start if you haven't already. These are the YWCA classes available: Fitness Barre - 30 minutes; Cardio HIIT - 25 minutes; Chisel - 25 minutes; Core Fit - 15 minutes; Vinyasa Yoga - 40 minutes; Hatha Yoga - 35 minutes; Chair Yoga - 30 minutes; Cool Down & Stretch - 10 minutes.

I just learned of a new video series put out in response to the pandemic by Happy Human, Jesse and Amber Walker's Minneapolis-based personal training company. The theme is Move, Meditate and Make a Difference. Filmed in their home, the mood is casual and involves Mom (Amber), a professional personal trainer, Dad (Jesse), and their participating charming children. Amber leads 20 minutes of workout (I'm not kidding, but you can create your own pace of course because no one is watching), and then Jesse leads a short meditation. Their videos are on You Tube, or you can join them by Zoom at 8:30 in the morning. Sign up at [www.happyhumanfitness.com/mmm/](http://www.happyhumanfitness.com/mmm/).

## Dental care by phone

My dentist, Dr. Terry Bongard, is calling all his patients on the phone to go over their dental history, general health



Jesse and Amber Walker of Happy Human

history and potential concerns since he is limiting his face-to-face, in-person care to emergencies. He said that the idea of doing dentistry or health-care remotely has been around for a long time, but now with COVID-19 it will probably be used a lot more. How much will stick, time will tell. He is now taking online courses in teledentistry. Calling on the phone is of course "old technology," he said.

## Going for walks in the neighborhood

I don't know how advisable it is at this point to continue going for walks in the neighborhood. If you do venture out, be sure to wear a mask.

Until now, I've noticed the sidewalks covered with messages: "I can't wait to give you a hug." "Just breathe. This too will pass." And lots of hopscotch games—hop, hop, step, step, twirl to the right, twirl to the left. On one block of 41st and 42nd Avenues, neighbors have placed posters with poetry on their doors or windows, sometimes a poem continuing

from one house to the next.

I saw stuffed animals in windows everywhere, placed there so that small children out on treks with their parents could look for them and maybe make up stories about them. Somebody started it and now it's a "thing." I imagine the parents asking, "What kind of animals do you see? How many? What color? What are their habits? What are their natural habitats? Are they friendly? Scary? Are they extinct?" It felt lovely to participate in this collective fairyland. I put a brown sock monkey and a red imaginary TV animal in my windows. On each one I taped an arm to the window, trying to make them look like they are waving.

At 34th Street and 42nd Avenue, across from Turtle Bread, there's a fanciful new business—closed for now—called Belle's Tool Box, a corner lot with a rain garden, a gazebo and curved pathways designed for children and their parents to do projects together. Along its fence on 34th Street, there's a drop box created especially for COVID-19. Perfect for our current moment, and afterwards too, it invites neighbors to bring cards or pictures for our older friends who might be isolated. Communications should be placed in baggies or ziplock bags. Co-owners Lucy Elliott and Jen Cantine will take the messages to Healthy Seniors, along with stamp money they donate, and the organization will sanitize and mail them.

## Jubilee, from page 1

A tiny virus has stopped the only world we knew, and the world we knew was the marketplace. We bought and sold, face to face. We don't do that as much anymore.

The world has changed. Suddenly, we are all one family, trapped alone in our homes but unified in our common understanding, knowing that we must all do what we can to slow down the spread. We are all in this together.

All of us.  
We are all in this together.

We can no longer afford poverty and hunger and homelessness. We know those conditions can intensify contagion and produce super viruses that could overwhelm us. Those that are homeless should now check into a nice hotel and order room service if you're hungry. That would be best for all of us. There are hotel rooms that are empty. The federal government has programs that will reimburse the hotels, and the hotels will be happy to have the business.

We shall live a year without money. We will pay no rent. The

rent will be paid by the federal government, and the landlords will be reimbursed. We will pay no mortgages. The banks will be reimbursed. There will be warehouses of food. Enough for everyone. Health care and education will be free.

This is the Jubilee imagined in the book of Leviticus.

This is the world imagined by the Apostles, Acts 4:35: "And distribution was made unto every man according as he had need."

It is the vision of the Pilgrims' Mayflower Compact to "combine ourselves together into a civil body politic."

April is the beginning of the Jubilee Year.

But it probably can't last a year.

After a couple of months everyone will want to get back to work.

The corporations and the president will try to sell the idea of a "Return to Normalcy" like Harding in 1920, trying to calm the radicalism that erupted in reaction to World War I and the Spanish Flu epidemic. And Harding led to "Keep Cool with Coolidge," and then to Hoover and the Great Depres-

sion and, finally, to the New Deal and Franklin Roosevelt.

People are ready for a New Deal now. We don't need to wait 12 years. Everybody now understands the social necessity of Medicare for All. It is in our direct interest that everybody gets tested and treated. My health is dependent on your health, and your health is dependent on mine. We are all connected.

We know the minimum wage must be a living wage. We know education, especially for nurses and doctors, must be free. We know there must be a massive public works program to repair our roads and bridges.

We know our world can be a better place than it was. We can make the hopes and dreams of ancient prophets and early apostles come alive. We can take comfort that the world is rich enough to celebrate a Jubilee—that all our brothers and sisters can be taken care of, that no one needs to go hungry or homeless.

"To what purpose, April, do you return again?  
... like an idiot, babbling  
and strewing flowers."  
—Edna St. Vincent Millay



# Notes from the desk of peace activist Polly Mann (b. Nov. 19, 1919)



## In-depth news about the California fires

I find that in order to understand the news behind the news, I usually have to seek sources beyond the usual sources; mainstream media too often glosses over information vital for real understanding. The recent fires in California are an example.

In November 2018, a spark from a transmission tower operated by the Pacific Gas and Electric company (PG&E) set off a conflagration that destroyed the town of Paradise in Sonoma County. At least 85 people, mostly poor and elderly, were killed; 14,000 homes were obliterated; and all plant

life on 240 square miles was burned down.

When 2019 rolled around, more fires were generated and PG&E responded by repeatedly shutting off power to millions of people, resulting in the closure of schools, gas stations, food markets, etc. Meanwhile, the company's shareholders and investors have prospered greatly, reporting \$4.5 billion in dividends. The firefighting state budget had been underfunded. Twenty northern California mayors have demanded that the state take over management of the company. California prison inmates have been used as firefighters.

Climate change, rising summer temperatures and lengthening fire seasons are factors in the growing number and intensity of wildfires. These realities have to be factored in. If California does not address this issue in a meaningful way, then the problem should be assumed by Congress. A step in that direction has been made in the use of prison inmates as firefighters. Who knows – maybe a class in firefighting in vocational schools?

## The memories and questions of history

The title of the book is provocative: "To End All Wars," and the accolades found on the book's cover from other writers convinced me I should read it. I didn't read it all in one day, but I tried.

I thought it might be more or less a philosophical examination of war. However, it was the First World War that it covered. I found it to be among the best, most thought-provoking and compelling books I've read in many, many years. It chronicles in detail the operation of the war, British attacks against the Sudanese in Africa and the discovery of gold.

To list all the most important events and famous people covered in the book

would require many, many pages so I am merely listing a few of them.

1. Women were granted the right to vote;
2. The author, Adam Hochschild, and Rudyard Kipling advocated for military conscription;
3. James Keir Hardie, anti-war socialist, editor of union newspaper;
4. Emmeline & Sylvia Pankhurst, influential women suffragists;
5. King George and Queen Mary of Britain installed as Emperor & Empress of India;
6. French and German socialists issued statements of solidarity;
7. Sylvia Pankhurst organized women to protest for voting rights;
8. More than 50,000 Germans working in Britain.

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# U.S. attacks Venezuela

BY SARAH MARTIN

This past month, Venezuela's President Nicholas Maduro wrote a letter to the people of the world denouncing the latest, treacherous U.S. escalation against that country. When the U.S. government should be entirely focused on the health and safety of U.S. citizens, the Trump administration has once again threatened the peace and stability of Venezuela.

On March 26, U.S. authorities charged Venezuelan authorities, including President Maduro, of drug trafficking and terrorism and out-

geously placed a \$5 million bounty on their heads.

Pino Arlacchi, the former executive director of the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Prevention, says that in his 40 years of anti-narcotic work, he never came across evidence of Venezuela's involvement in the drug trade—instead saying that the U.S. and Colombia drive drug production and consumption. As an expert on the Italian Mafia, Arlacchi says the U.S. government is actually the party behaving like an organized crime unit in its treatment of Venezuela.

It is no coincidence that the day before, on March 25, the Venezuelan government announced that an arsenal of

sophisticated weapons had been captured close to the Colombia-Venezuela border. According to the Venezuelan government's investigation, these arms were for military and paramilitary personnel training in camps in Colombia that were part of an operation to kill President Maduro, his family and other high state officials and to attack Venezuelan civil and military sites. Mr. Cliver Alcala, a retired general of the Venezuelan army, admitted to being in charge of the operation. He said the weapons were purchased through a contract with Juan Guaido, the U.S.-supported, self-proclaimed and illegitimate president of Venezuela, as well as with U.S. advisers and a representative of the Colombian president and

government.

Although Alcala was named by the U.S. in the letter charging Venezuelans with terrorism and drug trafficking, he was curiously and suspiciously seen shaking hands with his captors as he left the country without handcuffs on a VIP flight to Miami.

Then, in one of his daily COVID-19 press conferences last week, surrounded by military officials, Trump announced that several warships will be deployed into Caribbean waters just north of Venezuela. In this bizarre scene, with the nation's attention and concern on the pandemic, he left viewers bewildered as he talked about drugs and drug addiction. However, the message was

clear. This move and these warships are yet another escalation of threats against the government of Venezuela and its people.

In his letter, President Maduro wrote, "Brothers and sisters of the world, you can be absolutely sure that Venezuela will stand firm in its fight for peace and that, under any circumstances, it will prevail. No imperialist aggression, however ferocious it may be, will divert us from the sovereign and independent path that we have forged for 200 years, nor will it distance us from the sacred obligation to preserve the life and health of our people in the face of the frightening global pandemic of COVID-19."

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