



We build Pride on the Southside

**NOKOMIS
EDITION**
SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**MAY
2019**

VOL. XXIX, ISSUE 14

Big Beasts

BY TONY BOUZA

Editor's note: Once again, I vigorously disagree with Mr. Bouza's analysis. Please read my note at the end of his essay.

Cineaste.

Today's word—and, since confronting the English language on Dec. 22, 1937, I've grown increasingly fond of this really powerful tool. At about that time I began my affair with movies. One of the first was a horror pic that was actually a rewrite of Shakespeare's "Richard III." How tricky is that? (It was titled "Tower of London.")

I came to appreciate the artist's role as prophet—and nowhere was it more striking (for me) than on the Silver Screen. Ultimately, I came to rely on movie makers' views of the world.

So, I asked the folks here in Geezerland to get "Leviathan."

It is a contemporary view of Russian society—and a baleful one indeed.

The film depicts a society awash in vodka and corruption—yet curiously remains a rickety democracy.

The central characters lie, cheat, drink and cut every corner. The corruption—among officialdom, friends and family—is so pervasive and hopeless as to preclude any attempt at rescue, reversal or circumvention.

Yet the mayor worries about his re-election and



Will a giant apartment complex replace Bergan's?

BY DEBORAH SMITH

Bergan's SuperValu on Cedar Avenue across from the Hiawatha Golf Course will soon be just a memory for people in the Ericsson, Northrop and Hale neighborhoods.

Developers are moving ahead to replace it with a 5-story, 72-foot-tall, 125-unit apartment building occupying the block bounded by Cedar and Longfellow Avenues, 47th Street and Minnehaha Parkway. A 23,500-square foot retail/commercial space would occupy most of the first floor. Project drawings show a grocery store in that space, but the developer, Trammell Crow, has not disclosed specific plans.

The redevelopment area does not include Washburn-McReavey funeral home, Caribou Coffee, Grand Ole Creamery or Carbone's/Cork and Dork.

While people in the neighborhoods surrounding Bergan's are sad to see it go, most are not against redeveloping the block, they are just concerned with what has been proposed.

There are a number of reasons this plan needs closer scrutiny and significant modification.

Part of the site is located within the FP Floodplain Overlay District, which requires

that the lowest floor be elevated 1 foot and the finished fill elevation must be no lower than 1 foot below the regulatory flood protection elevation, and the fill must extend the same elevation at least 15 feet beyond the outside limits of the structure. The developers are asking for a Conditional Use Permit to reduce the minimum extension of fill from 15 ft. to 0 ft. beyond the limits of the structure. This is in an area already prone to flooding, and no environmental study has been done.

This planned building is needlessly high. The city's Shoreland Overlay ordinance, adopted in May 1988, states that buildings should not be higher than the tree line, and it gives 2.5 stories or 35 feet as the recommended height limit. Even though it appears the City Council has usually ignored the Shoreland Overlay rules, the variance requested for this project is stunning: the developer wants to DOUBLE the allowable limits, to 64 feet for the roof deck and 72 feet to the top of the stair and elevator towers.

They are also asking for a variance for the building taking up more of the site than is currently allowed: to increase the maximum (usable) floor area ratio (F.A.R.) from 2.38 to 2.5.

The city's new comprehensive plan, Minne-

Fire Bob Kroll!

BY ED FELIEN

When Mayor Frey announced an end to fear-based warrior training for Minneapolis police, Police Federation President Bob Kroll announced his Federation would offer that warrior training free to Minneapolis police officers.

Warrior training was cited as the principal cause of Officer Yanez's killing of Philando Castile. It was that kind of conditioning that was probably responsible for the Minneapolis police killings of Travis Jordan, Thurman Blevins, Jamar Clark and Terrance Franklin.

Tragically, the mayor and police chief acted only after it became obvious that Mohamed Noor (a black officer) killed Justine Damond (a white woman) as a result of this training and conditioning.

Black lives didn't matter.



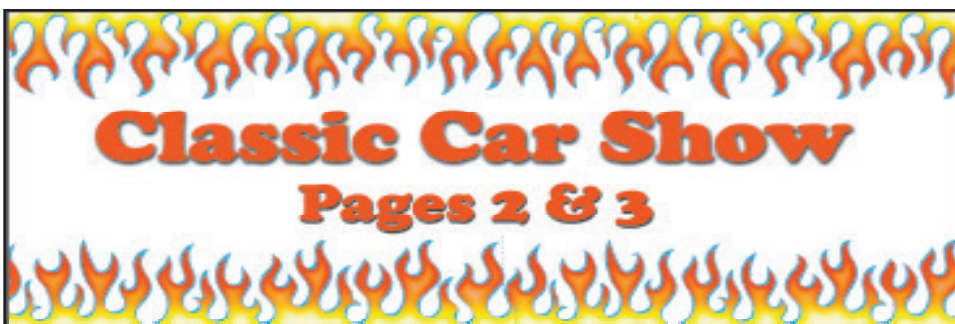
What Kroll did when he attempted to establish a contrary training program was to countermand a very clear policy directive from the mayor and chief of police.

Civil Service Rule 11: "Causes for Disciplinary Action: Misconduct is the failure to comply with any work rule, policy, ordinance or law or any behavior that would offend a reasonable person." "Insubordi-

See Bouza, page 10

See Bergan's, page 11

See Bob Kroll, page 11





10th Annual Classic Car Show

Sunday, June 9, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

On the corner of 48th Street and Chicago Avenue between Elliot and Columbus Avenues

Presented by **South Chicago Avenue Business Alliance**





Annual SCABA Car Show is set for June 9!

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The South Chicago Avenue Business Alliance (SCABA) will host its 10th Annual Classic Car Show on Sunday, June 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the intersection of 48th Street and Chicago Avenue in South Minneapolis. As in other years, the car show will feature a wide variety of classic cars and trucks from the 1940s through the 1980s—and hopefully some cars even older than that! Spectators

will be admitted FREE to the show! Everyone is invited to stop by and “stroll through the past” while dreaming about the cars from yesteryear!

Mike Kmiecik, president of SCABA, welcomes everyone to this year’s car show, which has become a true “summer neighborhood celebration,” and looks forward to receiving the support of the entire area to make the day a success.

All types of classic cars and trucks are welcome to enter the show, with just a small registration fee per vehicle (\$10 day of show). Trophies will be awarded in various classes. The car show will feature a “bounce house” for kids, as well as a D.J. spinning classic ’50s – ’80s tunes, plus a “paint truck” for the kids to work on during the show. Door prizes will be given away throughout the day. Anyone can win.

Visit the SCABA website at www.48chicago.org for more information, or “Events Calendars” in Autoswalk.com or MSRA.com.

Of course, all of that would be in addition to the great restaurants and stores around the 48th and Chicago business node.

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10th Annual

Classic Car Show

Sunday, June 9, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

On the corner of 48th Street and Chicago Avenue between Elliot and Columbus Avenues

Presented by South Chicago Avenue Business Alliance



local businesses various promotional opportunities.

1) "Goodie Bag" donations (total cost to business estimated to be \$10-\$100) – "Goodie Bags" go to every classic car owner who enters our show. We put donated items in the bag, such as pens, magnets, coupons, etc., but we are also looking for other items that will give our Goodie Bags a unique flavor.

2) Door Prize donations (cost estimate: \$25-\$100) – The door prizes generally have a minimum value of at least \$25 – and every business that donates a door prize receives promotional credit during the show.

3) Sponsorship Participation (cost estimate: \$150-\$750) – We are looking for businesses to sponsor our Car Show Awards (e.g., "Best In Show," "Spectators' Choice") or our D.J. or Jump House. Your sponsorship will be noted throughout the show and on our website.

Please contact us ASAP if you are interested in any of our promotional opportunities. For more information, please visit our website at www.48Chicago.org, or contact Mike Kmiecik at 612-203-6077 or John Dorgan at 612-721-4116.

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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

EVENTS

Nokomis Healthy Seniors Events

Thursday, May 16, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Bethel Lutheran Church
4120 17th Ave. S.

"Healthy Seniors 25th Anniversary Open House."

Entertainment, light lunch, a video and testimonials will be part of the celebration. Free, but RSVPs required. Call 612-729-5499.

Thursday, May 30, 11:15 a.m.

"Lunch and Bingo." We'll share a meal at 11:15, followed by a spirited game of Bingo. All are welcome. Reservations required. Call 612-729-5499.

Sand Flats Garlic Mustard Pull

Tuesday, May 21, 6 to 8 p.m.

River Gorge Sand Flats near West River Parkway in Minneapolis

River Gorge Sand Flats near West River Parkway in Minneapolis

Join us for an evening of invasive species removal at the Minneapolis river gorge sand

flats, known for their large sandy beaches and wonderful river-edge view. Working alongside Friends of the Mississippi River staff, volunteers will remove garlic mustard—an exotic plant invading many areas of the river gorge and out-competing native plant species.

The Restorative Justice 101 Training

Thursday, May 23, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

2720 E. 22nd St.

RJ 101 teaches the principles, philosophies and practices of Restorative Justice via lecture and experiential education methodologies for empowering our communities. Professionals, paraprofessionals and laypersons are welcome to attend. Traditionally, restorative justice has been an alternative approach within the criminal justice system that focuses on the personally identified needs of the victims, the offenders and impacted community members, instead of focusing solely on satisfying abstract legal principles and/or punishing the offender. The RJ 101 Training takes re-

storative justice philosophies and principles and moves beyond the criminal justice system to trainees' daily personal and professional spheres of influence. The Restorative Justice 101 Training is co-sponsored by Seward Longfellow Restorative Justice and the Minnesota Peace-building Leadership Institute. Early Tuition: \$150; Standard Tuition: \$180; Optional CEs/CLEs: \$35.

The Tree Show

Through Saturday, May 25

Vine Arts Center

2637 27th Ave. S.

612-728-5745

www.vineartscenter.com

The Vine Arts Center invites you to join us in celebration of our beloved teachers, the Trees. This show is a body of art work inspired by our love of trees and created by Vine Arts Center member artists. A variety of artistic media will be included, such as paintings, drawings, photography, textiles, ceramics, sculptures and installations.

All events are free and open to the public.

Special Events

Friday, May 17, 6 to 8 p.m.

Artists talk. VAC artists featured in "The Tree Show" will be on hand to talk about their work. The Vine Arts Center is open on Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Springtime Foraging Saturday, May 25, 12 to 2 p.m.

Meet at Midtown Greenway & Humboldt Ave. S., Mpls. 55408

They say that April showers bring May flowers... What they don't tell you is how many of those flowers are tasty wild edibles! Join Maria Wesserle and Four Season Foraging as we explore the Midtown Greenway and learn what wild edibles and medicinals spring has to offer. Plants we will probably encounter include garlic mustard, burdock, dandelion, plantain, and many others! Sliding scale \$15-\$35. For more details or to register, please visit www.fourseasonforaging.com/events, email info@fourseasonforaging.com, or call 612-440-5958.

Intersections: 4Gotten Parts of the Whole Connected passages Eyes Wide open Embracing Rebirth June 1 - 28

Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. & Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Vine Arts Gallery
2637 27th Ave. S.

A nine-month journey into the mind and experience of native-born Minnesota artist Ellen Sweetman (Minnetonka). Honoring and embracing the art process, challenges associated with thinking, and leading with intention, the artist pioneers difficult path-

ways to a brighter homecoming. Sweetman dismantles her layered identity, old belief systems and education, and ideas behind acceptance. Utilizing all the tools in her toolbox, she unlearns and begins anew, discovering her own unique process of creation and becoming reborn in art. **Conversations with Friends (CWF) Training Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Conversations with Friends is a ministry to people in ICE detention. At this time, our greatest need is for pen pals, but those who attend will also be trained in visiting so that if/when we receive approval to visit at the Sherburne County Jail, they can participate if interested.

This article (<https://imm-print.com/spotlight-conversations-with-friends/>) published on 7/6/17 by CIVIC (now known as Freedom for Immigrants) describes the CWF visit ministry at the Freeborn County Jail. For more information, www.conversation-swifwithfriendsmn.org.

151st Memorial Day Observance

Monday, May 27, 10 a.m.

Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery. Intersection of Cedar Ave. and Lake St.

Please join us for the 151st Memorial Day celebration at the city's oldest existing cemetery.



NOKOMIS EDITION

Southside Pride Nokomis Edition is a monthly community newspaper delivered on the First Monday of the month for free to homes and businesses in South Minneapolis from 35W to Hiawatha, and from Elliot Park to 42nd Street.

We publish 18,000 copies each month. 18,000 are delivered door-to-door to homes and another 1,000 are left in area businesses and public buildings. 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
or edfelien@southsidepride.com

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PRINTER.....Cannon Valley Printing



• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

Our keynote speaker is Lt. Col. Lori Allert, U.S. Army, with music by the Seward Community Concert Band and Readings and Posting of the Colors by students from the Minnesota Transitions Charter School.

If possible, please bring a lawn chair. Service animals only, please.

At 1 p.m. there will be a seated history talk followed by an optional walking tour. Light refreshments will be served.

American Indian Month Trivia Night

Wednesday, May 29, 6 to 8 p.m. (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Moon Palace Books
3032 Minnehaha Ave.

Test your knowledge at this American Indian Month-themed trivia night at Moon Palace books! Hosted by Native Governance Center (a Native American-led non-profit), this event is free and open to the public. Winning teams will receive fabulous prizes! Food and beverages will be available for purchase at Moon Palace's Geek Love Cafe during the event. Space is limited, so make sure to arrive early.

FREE and open to everyone
For more information, email lauren@nativegov.org or call 651-571-0826.

Beastly Bash: A Wild Summer Night

Saturday, June 8, 6 p.m. to Midnight

Minnesota Zoo

13000 Zoo Blvd., Apple Valley 55124

The Beastly Bash, Minnesota's premier outdoor summer event, supports the Minnesota Zoo's mission and access programs for children and families. This year's event features exciting animal encounters, signature cocktails, delicious food stations and an inspirational program hosted by KARE 11's Minnesota Bound co-host Laura Schara. Guests will also be treated to a special mini-concert by Prince's former band, the New Power Generation, featuring songs by Minnesota's beloved musical icon. The party will continue into the night with desserts and a dance party fit for the finest nocturnal revelers featuring music by award winning DJ Shannon Blowtorch.

Free Peace Literacy Educator Training Workshop

Friday & Saturday, June 21 & 22, 9 a.m. (coffee); 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (workshop)

First Universalist Church
3400 Dupont Ave. S., Mpls. 55408

Purpose: To inspire and empower Twin Cities teachers, counselors, social workers, community educators, charter school leaders, home-schooling parents, pre-school teachers, public and private school leaders—to create a values-centered and trauma-informed education community.

Our workshop leaders are:
*Paul K. Chappell, Director of Peace Literacy Education at the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation in Santa Barbara, Calif., <https://paulkchappell.com> and <https://www.peaceliteracy.org>

*Dr. Sharyn Clough, Professor of Philosophy, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Ore., <http://people.oregonstate.edu/~cloughs/> and sharyn.clough@oregonstate.edu

• Social Emotional Learning is part of the workshop.

• Continuing Education Credit Units will be available. School teams are encouraged!

• Educators from greater Minnesota and out-of-state are welcome.

• The workshop is an ecumenical space with no religious affiliation endorsed or assumed by the workshop facilitators.

The Peace Literacy Education Team at First Universalist has charted a course to make the Twin Cities one of the nation's first Peace Literacy hubs. Our opportunity now is to make peace literacy the foundation of all education and community building in Minnesota. For more information, email Pat Gottschalk at TCPeaceLiteracyEduc@yahoo.com.

To Register for a free ticket: <http://tinyurl.com/PeaceLiteracy>

MUSIC

Here Comes the Sun Friday & Saturday

May 17 & 18, 7:30 p.m.

St. Michael's Lutheran Church
9201 Normandale Blvd., Mpls. 55437

The Edina Chorale is excited to present its spring Pops concert, "Here Comes the Sun." Along with a couple of Beatles favorites, the Chorale will be performing popular songs from Tony award-winning Broadway musicals, nostalgic pieces from the past decade, and a few current pop chart hits. The audience will delight in going down a musical memory lane with songs from Benny Goodman and "A Chorus Line." Popular music from Manhattan Transfer and current tunes from "The Greatest Showman" and "Walk the Moon" will bring the music full circle. A reception will follow each concert.

Ticket prices: \$20 Adults, \$15

Seniors (65+) and Students (K-12) free.

To purchase tickets, contact any Edina Chorale member or order online at edinachorale.org.

THEATER

Cinema in the Cemetery Saturday, May 25, 7 p.m.

Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery
Cedar Ave. & Lake St.
Time for our annual Buster Keaton silent film with live accompaniment. Join us at Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery for "Sherlock Jr." This classic film has been designated One of Best 100 Films by the Library of Congress. Gates will open at 7 p.m. Movie will begin around sundown (sometime between 8 and 8:45). Bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on. Kids welcome. Service animals only. Tickets \$10 at the gate (cash or check only). Snacks available for purchase.

Blood Knot

May 17 - June 16, Wednesdays - Saturdays, 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, 3 p.m.

Pillsbury House Theatre
3501 Chicago Ave. S.

612-825-0459 (Box Office)

www.pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org/

Athol Fugard's "Blood Knot" is a parable of two brothers who share a one-room shack near Port Elizabeth, South Africa. Equally important today as it was at the time of its 1961 premiere, the play is a poignant, piercing metaphor for racial tension, powerfully acted by James A. Williams and Stephen Yoakam.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased at pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org or by calling the box office.

Matilda

April 28 - June 23

See website for times:

www.childrenstheatre.org

Children's Theatre Company
2400 3rd Ave. S., Mpls. 55404
Inspired by the twisted genius of Roald Dahl, this is the story of Matilda. Her dreadful parents can't stand her. Her headmistress is a horrible, nasty, name-calling, life-sucking tyrant who puts kids in cupboards with nails and broken glass. (And you thought you had it bad.) This captivating kid-power romp revels in the anarchy of childhood. Celebrating the tenacity of the small, Matilda proves that the strength to be yourself (along with a little telekinetic power) will prevail at the end of the day.

The Right Here Showcase

The Off-Leash Art Box

4200 E. 54th St.

612-724-7372, www.righthereshowcase.weebly.com



The Right Here Showcase celebrates its 5th anniversary of highlighting and showcasing the most original performing artists located right here in The Twin Cities. Through an annual public call and a panel review, four performing artists are awarded financial commissions plus technical and promotional support to present a new work of contemporary performance especially for the Showcase. Led by Artistic Producer Paul Herwig, 2008 McKnight Theater Fellow and 2005 City Pages Artist of the Year, The Right Here Showcase provides our community its only annual juried platform to support Minnesota-based, mid-career contemporary performing artists, and to introduce new audiences to their work. Full festival details are posted at www.righthereshowcase.weebly.com.

June 6-7-8-9 & June 13-14-15-16 Th. - Sat. 8 p.m., Sun. 7 p.m.

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I am fighting for the future my daughter deserves – and now I am facing eviction

BY VANESSA DEL CAMPO CHACON

Four years ago I moved here from Mexico with my family and four friends. When we arrived, everything was new and foreign. We didn't know where to go or how to start our lives over. But we found this apartment. I liked it because the neighbors speak Spanish, there are Mexican stores nearby, and it made us feel a little less lonely. So we made it our home.

It hasn't been easy. My husband works long hours to scrape money together so I can support my son who is studying to be a chef in Mexico. I stay home with my daughter, Regina, but she is only 1 year old and I get lonely.

It's not what I pictured when I moved here, but I have gotten to know the women who stay home and my other neighbors. I look after my neighbors' kids while they work, and we are a community now. My home and my community are what keep me going; I don't know what I would be without them.

My neighbors and I are united around a dream. We have been organizing, training ourselves and raising money to purchase our homes so we can own them as a housing cooperative. Our landlord, Steve Frenz, has ignored our buildings for a while, so

we have learned how to make a lot of our repairs ourselves and we take care of each other. About a month ago my door broke, and I was desperate because I felt unsafe because I was unable to lock my door. My other neighbor came over and fixed the door for me, and even taught me how to do it myself next time.

We have met with Frenz about our concerns many times. We have raised over \$126,000 and allocated over \$4.78 million in financing to purchase our homes. Unfortunately, he still hasn't agreed to sell us our buildings. Instead, my family and three other families are now facing eviction.

At the end of March, my neighbors and I received court summons for eviction proceedings. I knew this could happen, but it still broke my heart that Steve and Jennifer Frenz are trying to break up our community. My neighbors and I are like a family. Our children are growing up together, we look out for each other, and we stand united when we face struggle. Steve and Jennifer Frenz aren't just evicting four families from our homes, they are tearing apart a community.

Our first appearance in court was on Friday, April 5, and since then we have had two other pre-trial hearings. At all three hearings, we have been greeted by amazing community support. It is very empowering to have so many people caring for one

another and being there to support each other in court. After the most recent hearing, the referee is deliberating about whether or not to allow us a jury trial and hopefully we will find out what will happen next to our homes.

Even as Steve and Jennifer Frenz are moving forward with evictions, we have continued to build our community and care for our homes. Recently, we organized a brief rally and protest to pay for our buildings' water bill. Steve Frenz hadn't been paying the water bills for our five buildings since January 2019 and our water was about to be shut off. We decided to pool our money together and pay the water bill of over \$6,000 dollars. While Steve Frenz has been neglecting our buildings for years, we know our homes better than he does and we are ready to own them as a housing cooperative. We held a rally on the second floor of the Minneapolis Public Service building and then paid the bill to set the path for the cooperative ownership we soon hope to achieve in our buildings.

In mid-April we decided to have a community celebration, to connect with supporters throughout the city and to celebrate our homes and community. We held a gathering in my home, in my building. Thanks to the warmth and love that we have created as a family in our homes, the party was a beautiful celebration of

home and community.

Over 200 tenants and community members gathered and shared food, music and built closer relationships. I was amazed by how many people came out to support us and to see where we live. I was happy that so many people were able to witness that we are making Steve Frenz a good, market-rate, reasonable offer that will allow everyone to win. We are ready to purchase our buildings to run them as a housing cooperative, allowing over 35 families of color to stay in our neighborhood and build a culture of cooperation across the city. We were also joined by Hennepin County Sheriff Dave Hutchinson. He spoke to why he doesn't want to carry out evictions in our homes, and why he thinks our offer to Steve Frenz is a fair offer. "I support the sale because it makes the transition easier, and we (the sheriff's office) don't have to get involved," said Sheriff Hutchinson during a brief speech in front of my neighbor's home that is facing eviction. He added: "Everyone in the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County talks about the dream of homeownership and that we are all together united as a community regardless of what we look like, who we love or who we pray to. If we can get this sale, it's going to make families' lives better, it's going to make the community better."

Now, more than ever, we need the



support of our neighbors and allies across the city. Depending on the referee's decision, I could face eviction as soon as May. We will continue to organize to protect our homes, and for the cooperative we deserve. Join us in fighting for long-term, dignified, affordable and safe housing for everyone in Minneapolis. Sign our pledge to act by sending a message with the word "Stay" to the number 474747. For more information on our campaign and how to get involved visit

www.defend22avecoop.info.

PRIDE program helps sex trafficking survivors

BY LORENA PINTO

As a native of Peru, I never imagined living in sub-zero temperatures, let alone walking snowy streets to provide outreach to sex trafficking survivors. But every week, staff from The Family Partnership's PRIDE program and the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center (MIWRC) walk in the Phillips and Powderhorn neighborhoods to meet sex traf-

helping to find shelter. Some survivors need access to taking a Rule 25 chemical assessment, which is the gateway to accessing alcohol/drug treatment.

When victims of sexual exploitation are ready, the PRIDE program (which stands for Promoting Recovery, Independence, Dignity and Equality) offers comprehensive services in a non-judgmental environment. We know we need to be persistent (we are in our 41st year) because this issue is persistent. Last year, our program increased outreach and service delivery to survivors of sex trafficking by 42% over 2017.

What are barriers to leaving sexual exploitation?

1) Poverty. In 2018, 98% of the people PRIDE served were living in poverty. Of those, 56% were living in extreme poverty (\$25,750 for a family of four) and 42% were living in poverty (\$51,500 for a family of four) as defined by 2019 Federal Guidelines.

2) Housing and employment. If survivors have criminal records, that can be a big barrier to employment and housing. We help survivors get their criminal records sealed or expunged. PRIDE also

offers an evidence-based coaching program, Mobility Mentoring, as a way to help participants develop skills to escape intergenerational poverty.

3) Populations facing disparities. Populations served by the "On the Streets" outreach program face multiple disparities, including higher rates of incarceration, addiction and homelessness than the general population. Of those reached, 68% were American Indian, and 22% African American. For PRIDE overall, 36% of people served were African American, 26% Caucasian, 16% American Indian and 15% were multiracial.

What we are doing to help

1) Serving all ages, from 10 to 56 years old. PRIDE is one of the few programs that provides services across the lifespan, because it may take years for someone to fully leave. In 2018, 61% of survivors we served were from age 25 to age 65. That is an important service distinction, since the Minnesota Safe Harbor legislation covers services for those age 24 and young-

er (with no criminal charges for those 18 and under), leaving a significant gap for those age 25 and older.



Lorena Pinto

2) Increasing public awareness. Our staff increased educational trainings on recognizing signs of sex trafficking and what to do if someone is sexually exploited by 522% in 2018 (859 people reached vs. 138 in 2017).

3) Engaging with businesses and residents. We regularly engage with residents and business owners about our activities through the Love East Lake and Phillips/Powderhorn neighborhood associations. We have an intern who brings a lived experience voice to these meetings. Many business owners have our materials on hand, or call us when we may be needed to help someone. For example, we are working with a laundromat owner to establish a new "Clean Clothes for All" project.

4) Continuing the Street Outreach program. Warmer weather means more street activity. Our program started in late 2017, and will continue this year thanks to

funding from the City of Minneapolis Health Department. In 2018, the PRIDE and MIWRC teams provided outreach to 317 individuals. Of those, 91% of survivors were engaged on the streets of the Phillips and Powderhorn neighborhoods of Minneapolis and 9% on Minneapolis' Northside.

I chose to move to Minnesota because of our state's progressive work to end sexual exploitation—but there is much more to be done. I believe in the power of a community to make changes to the underlying issues that families with low incomes face, from access to affordable housing, to resources for education and economic mobility. It's my belief that we are creating change that gets me out of bed in the morning, and motivates me to walk the streets and listen to more survivor stories.

How to connect with us: I am the director of the PRIDE program and can be reached at Lpinto@thefamilypartnership.org. Our 24-hour Crisis Line is 612-728-2062 or 888-774-3399. You can view our full PRIDE report for 2018 at www.thefamilypartnership.org/media.

The Family Partnership

PRIDE

Sex Trafficking Survivor

24-Hour Crisis Line

612-728-2062

OR

888-774-3399

ficking survivors where they are.

You may see us with purple clothing or "On the Streets" outreach bags. Our goal is to connect with people and offer services and support. We lend a hand with immediate needs, such as offering gloves and hygiene products, or



What's new on 34th Avenue?

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BY ED FELIEN

You can't see it, but the change has been profound. Drive down 34th Avenue and it looks like nothing's changed (other than the encroaching construction!). The houses, the commercial buildings, everything looks the same, the way it's always been.

But it won't be that way forever.

The city has passed its 2040 Plan that up-zones the entire city.

I wrote to Council Member Andrew Johnson: "What are the zoning changes planned for 34th Avenue from 42nd Street to 58th Street?"

He responded almost immediately: "At a high-level ... with the 2040 Plan, south of 51st Street, 34th Ave will go from a maximum allowable 2.5 stories to 3 stories.

Between 42nd and 51st (proximity to the LRT station and through "downtown NENA" [Nokomis East Neighborhood Association]) it will go to 4 stories as maximum allowable."

The city plan would allow the purchase and demolition of all the homes on 34th Avenue from 42nd Street to 51st Street, and the replacement of those homes with 4-story apartment buildings, and if the quality of construction followed the standards set in other parts of the city, then the apartments could be 4 stories built out to the curb, with tarpaper that looks like bricks stapled over plywood. The cheap quality of construction and the elimination of "luxuries" like lawns and parking spaces could provide maximum profit to developers.

Of course, that nightmare



House for sale on 34th Avenue

probably won't happen (at least, not right away), the city reassures us. Johnson continues: "It would be great to see some well-designed in-fill development that can enhance the charming main street feel of downtown NENA, but despite this unprecedented time of activity, there just hasn't been interest. This is due to a number of factors that make 34th somewhat challenging, and the zoning changes won't affect that in a substantial way."

Johnson is probably right. The change would be gradual.

You'll notice the new apartment building, but it won't seem to change the nature of the neighborhood. The neighborhood will change, but at a rate that seems normal.

There have been strong objections to the 2040 Plan from inner city neighborhoods. They know, for them, the change will not be slow and will not seem normal. Developers have long been coveting inner city blocks for construction of apartment buildings. Land prices are cheaper in the inner city, and the city is

See 34th Avenue, page 8

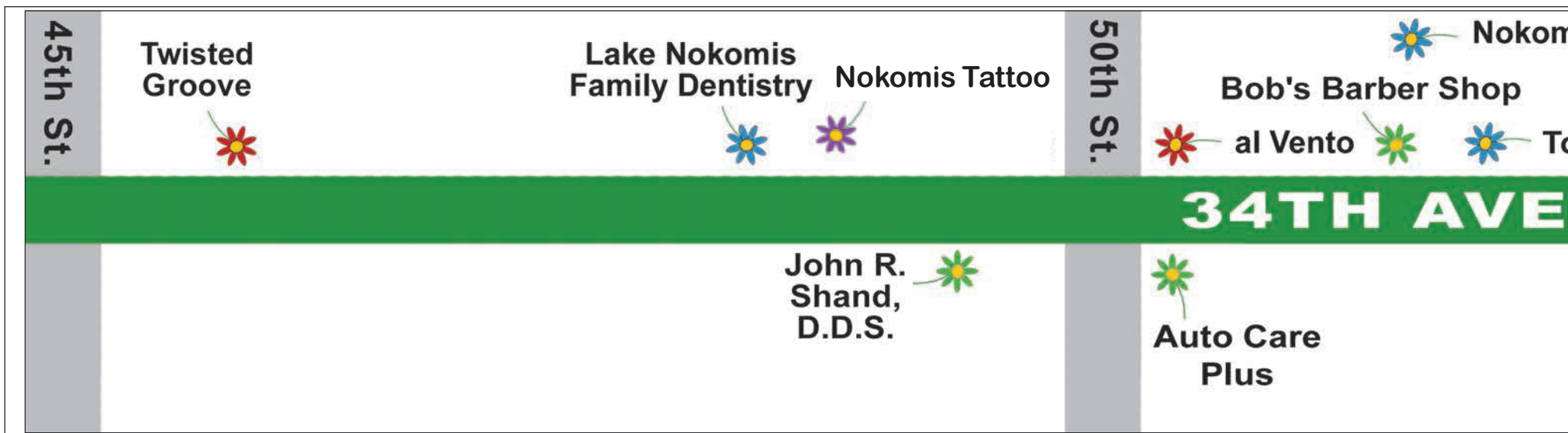
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Celebrate Spring

34th Avenue, from page 7

willing to give them tax breaks and free money if they promise to call some portion of the building affordable housing.

The Metropolitan Council said for 2018, the affordability limit was 80% of the area me-

dian income. In 2018, the area median income (AMI) for a household of four was \$94,300. Under these limits, a family of four could earn up to \$71,900 to qualify for affordable housing. They could rent a 2-bedroom apartment for \$1697 a month.



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34th Avenue Reconstruction

Currently [5/7/19], there's a 2 BR, 1 bath house for rent in the Phillips Neighborhood at 2800 Cedar Ave. for \$1,095 a month. If that house gets taken for the construction of an

apartment building, along with other actually affordable houses in the inner city, then a family with two children will have no option but an apartment and no possibility of a private yard



and a swing set.

This means the elimination of communities of color, African American, Hispanic, Somali, Hmong, etc. that now live in Phillips and Powderhorn.



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g on 34th Avenue



And this is done in the name of racial justice to provide affordable housing to minorities. It's the same justification a general used to justify burning an entire village in Vietnam, "We

had to burn the village to save it."

It means less green space and a greater concentration of poverty, and that's a formula for more social problems and prescription for trouble.

But those problems are far removed from 34th Avenue.

Council Member Andrew Johnson's first responsibility was to look after the interests of people living in the 12th Ward: "I worked with residents who expressed concerns to build consensus among neighbors and amended the proposed zoning to better fit the neigh-

borhood."

People in the inner city should be disappointed that their Council Members didn't take the same interest.

Johnson: "I have held four meetings in Ward 12 in partnership with our three neighborhood associations (LCC,

SENA, and NENA) to share information, answer questions, and most importantly, hear from constituents."

The neighborhoods at ground zero in the inner city didn't have anything like that kind of input and discussion.

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Bouza, from page 1

the film did get made in Russia. It would never have been allowed in China.

Even the Russian Orthodox Church engages in a suave, sophisticated complicity with the system.

Portraits of former leaders—Brezhnev, Gorbachev, Yeltsin and others—are used as target practice while Putin hangs demurely on an official's wall.

In the harbor lie the rotting hulks of once valued ships—and

the skeletal carcass of a whale. Omens.

The plot is simple but one of Nicolo Machiavelli's major concerns—the taking of a neighbor's land by an official. Nicolo wrote you could rape a man's wife or even kill his kids and still harbor the hope of a reconciliation, through cleverness. And didn't the Duke of Gloucester say, "Was ever woman in this humor wooed ... and won?" as he walked beside her behind the funeral bier of the man Richard had murdered? But,

Nicolo wrote, if you take a man's land—kill him. Hope of reconciliation is dashed.

The film ends badly for the hero. He is falsely convicted of murdering his wife. She actually committed suicide but officialdom finds it convenient to store him. His son, about 15, drinks beer with his little friends.

Every scene is bleak—windy, overcast, raining,



A young Tony Bouza doing security for the NYPD for a visiting dignitary

competition and prosperity. And we do too. The joyless alcoholism and corruption of Russia dooms its citizens. China cannot win in a competition with us. How a nation is ruled decides the destiny of its people.

It is a great irony of history that cruel, merciless, greedy capitalism needs freedom while altruistic socialism has mostly been dictatorships that stifled prosperity. Deng

Tsiao Peng understood the need to capitalize China's economy, but neither he nor his successors could afford the unbridled freedom capitalism requires. Putin, meanwhile, seems to preside over a ramshackle and ungovernable conglomerate of 30,000 clerks.

Happy viewing. Russia must be a whole lot freer than we commonly believe—or the vodka lobby has created a long commercial for its product. But the inescapable message is that a hopeless, joyless society is no place for Man The Wise.

[Editor's Note:

First, "Cineaste.

"Today's word—and, since confronting the English language on Dec. 22, 1937, I've grown increasingly fond of this really powerful tool."

But "cineaste" is a French word, slang from the 1920s.

What sort of perverted message is intended here?

His first film is a horror film based on King Richard III that becomes his matrix for measuring political power relationships. So, in spite of (or maybe because of) the paranoid madness of Rasputin, Stalin, Trotsky and Lenin, he likes the Russian corrupted democracy more than the Chinese.

He calls Cuba and Venezuela failed socialist experiments. I think it's too early to judge. They will be measured by history.

He appreciates the successes of Scandinavian socialism, but he fails to appreciate that Russia, China, Korea, Vietnam, were under attack from the capitalist government of the U.S. as soon as they declared themselves socialist. Socialism has been under attack everywhere in the world except Scandinavia, and Scandinavia is the exception that proves the rule. When you're not being bombed or invaded, you can develop a peaceful, democratic society that has socialist and capitalist features. It is the function of the U.S. government and military to attack and undermine socialism everywhere they find it. Our government will destabilize a socialist government, create angry crowds, finance the opposition and arm a revolt. Their government will respond defensively. They may limit free speech because they can't tell what's a genuine protest and what's a CIA rent-a-crowd. They are on alert. They are at war, with us, and we can't understand why people in the world don't like us.

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St. Paul native, Nick Diffatte, has won multiple national awards for both magic and comedy. At only 23, he's already headlined on the Las Vegas strip, at the famous Magic Castle in LA, and on the Late Late Show with James Corden

Nick views the world through his Spectacle Shoppe glasses. ...Even as he makes some of it disappear.



See Different

Uptown, New Brighton, and Grand Avenue

2040 Plan, a boon to developers

BY CLAIRE ROBERTSON

The 2040 Plan would be the biggest boon developers might have had in any major American city ever, and it will disadvantage many of the people it purports to help as well as most Minneapolis homeowners. Why?

First, allowing more than one structure on the already small lots in most of Minneapolis will reduce green space by at least half in the city, thus both worsening air and other pollution and quality of life, as pointed out in Southside Pride.

Second, those who are least able to afford houses, who own those that are affordable now, will be the first to be forced out because developers will make their houses the first targets for buyouts, and will then build more structures and convert them to rentals. Once “improved” in this way, the properties will be worth more, meaning that those forced out will either need to rent to stay in the city, or to move out farther, where they can buy another house for less and commute to work, thus increasing pollution.

Third, converting whole neighborhoods to rentals in this form of “blockbusting” by developers will erode the tax base as well as the rental properties, as hard experience teaches us. Successful developers and corporations more often than not avoid taxation commensurate with their wealth, as the Trump tax

“reform” bill as well as long-term U.S. trends concentrating wealth at the top, demonstrate. Plus, profits increase on rental properties when they are not properly maintained, thus degrading the neighborhood. Most landlords, for instance, do not provide tenants with lawn-mowers, but code dictates that the lawn must be mowed, while keeping up with major repairs inside is all too often neglected to increase profits. Tenants do not build equity in property, and often cannot afford to buy a house. The best insurance that properties will be maintained properly is owner occupation, but this reform [2040 Plan] seems aimed at generating a city of tenants while eroding Minneapolis’ tax base.

Fourth, making Minneapolis’ lower-income neighborhoods into exclusively rental properties is politically deadening and will increase crime, especially crimes against property. We have already seen this in many neighborhoods, but the removal of restrictions will simply increase its pace and subject more neighborhoods to it. Why maintain or improve it if you do not own it? Why worry about damaging it when landlords neglect it? Why should landlords fix it if their profits improve without doing it? What kind of stake do tenants have in local politics, especially if they are likely to be moving elsewhere, always seeking better or more

affordable lodgings? But then, disenfranchising whole neighborhoods seems to be the goal the city is pursuing by getting rid of both neighborhood associations as well as affordable single family houses.

Fifth, is the city prepared to triple or quadruple infrastructure investment in schools, roads, bridges, etc., to handle the population increase proposed? That seems unlikely, especially when the tax base erodes.

So, the removal of restrictions on residential zoning will have the opposite effect of what is intended. Throwing in the justification of promotion of diversity in neighborhoods is mere window dressing intended to pacify liberals. I presently live in South Minneapolis

in a neighborhood that is already diverse and becoming more so, without the 2040 Plan. If the City Council pursues this plan, will they have the will power and courage also to pass stringent controls on landlords concerning maintenance and inspections of rental properties (funding tripling the inspectors’ numbers, for instance), as well as taxation of the income from them? After all, it seems like improving the tax base by making Minneapolis into commercial property should be a priority of the plan, but that seems unlikely. The plan seems to involve a return to 19th and early 20th century lack of regulation; we all know what that got us—and I thought we wanted to avoid more urban pollution and

congestion.

Improving the situation of those who can least afford suitable residential housing rests mainly with remedies that have been tested but not pursued as much as they should be. Funding schools and teachers, especially those in low-income neighborhoods, and improving wages are key, as well as lack of discrimination in hiring and providing affordable mortgages, which should be tax deductible again. Many other remedies are available, but making a bad situation worse for those who can least afford Minneapolis housing, while enriching those who are already advantaged, should not be seen as a remedy.

Bob Kroll, from page 1

nation (failure to follow a directive from a supervisor)."

The Federation labor agreement with the city says, "It is understood that the City, through its various Departments, has the right to establish reasonable work rules and regulations," and Section 8.01 says, "The Federation, its officers or agents, or any of the employees covered by this Agreement shall not cause, instigate, encourage, condone, engage in or cooperate in any strike, the stoppage of work, work slowdown, the willful absence from one's position, or the abstinence in whole or in part from the full, faithful and proper performance of the duties of employment, regardless of the reasons for so doing."

Why weren't Kroll's actions misconduct and insubordination, a violation of the city's right to establish reasonable work rules and a direct attempt to interfere with the

"faithful and proper performance of the duties of employment"?

Why hasn't he been fired? I asked former Minneapolis Police Chief Tony Bouza what he thought about warrior training. He said the training didn't really matter. It was about discipline and accountability. He never had a police shooting in the nine years he was chief, "I ruled with an iron hand. They feared me, and they knew what would happen if they stepped out of line."

Police work is tough. It's a hard and a dangerous job. USA Today did a study, and they concluded cops were in the 14th most dangerous occupation in the U.S. There were 14.6 fatal injuries per 100,000 officers in 2016. The median annual wage is \$59,680.

The seventh most dangerous job in the U.S. was collecting garbage and recyclables. They had 34.1 fatal injuries per 100,000 workers. Their

median annual wage is \$35,270.

Our city sanitation worker's job is more than twice as dangerous as police work for a bit more than half the pay.

They're the quiet heroes working for the City of Minneapolis.

Council Member Alondra Cano, chair of the Public Safety Committee, responded to this commentary:

"I invite Police Federation President Bob Kroll to join the much needed work of police reform to better serve our communities. However, calling for free 'warrior training' that our Mayor has stood up against goes completely against the values of helping to establish more connections and understanding between our rank and file police officers and our Minneapolis residents. We can and should do better than that."

Bergan's, from page 1

apolis 2040, is currently under review by the Metropolitan Council. The Planning Department's staff report on this project states that the proposed future land use classification is "corridor mixed use," which intends the property to serve a larger market area and encourages mixed-use, multi-story development.

"The proposed built form for this site is Corridor 4, which directs new and remodeled buildings to reflect a variety of building types on both small and moderate-sized lots," the staff report states. "Building heights should be 1 to 4 stories. Requests to exceed 4 stories will be evaluated on the basis of whether or not a taller building is a reasonable means to further achieving Comprehensive Plan goals."

So, this project has also blown past the city's new higher-density rules, which aren't even official yet.

Where's the affordable housing?

As people of modest incomes are painfully aware, there is an affordable housing crisis not just in Minneapolis but across the metro area and nation. The City Council has pressed hard for new developments to include at least 10% of the units as affordable at 60% of Area Median Income. None of the proposed apartments in this project would fall into the affordable category. Supposedly, the reason for increasing the density of Minneapolis is to make housing more affordable. So, how do market-rate apartments crammed into this block help to solve that prob-

lem?

In addition, there are three businesses on that block which will be negatively affected by a building of this size. There will be almost no parking for the Washburn-McReavy funeral home facing the Parkway, and minimal spots for both Carbone's restaurant and the Cork and Dork liquor store.

It is also apparent that the "modern" style of the proposed building is nothing like anything near it. Even the SuperAmerica (now Speedway) station tried to make its remodeled building fit into the neighborhood. The Shoreland Overlay District rules also require that the city consider the scale and character of surrounding uses.

The Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association hosted a public meeting about this proposal on Wednesday, May 8, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy. Even though it was stated that this was just an informational meeting, we felt like the project was a done deal. We did find out that Lunds/Byerlys is the grocery store that will be moving into the proposed store, and that there will be no affordable housing included. The developer's representative made it very clear that they had no intention of reducing the height of the building, and it was made even more clear that, since this is entirely up to the city planning commission, it will be approved.

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Peace of Pie Festival

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

One day a member of Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church (MCLC) said out loud, “I want to feed people pie,” and her thought did not fall on deaf ears.

The Peace of Pie festival was born, and will be held in the fruit tree orchard of Adams Triangle across the street from the church on Sunday, June 9, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Everyone is invited to have free pie and coffee while celebrating and learning more about special organizations in the community. Tables and booths will be set up representing wonderful resources: MCLC’s Healing Hub and Sensory Library; Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly; Midtown Farmers Market; Adams Orchard Group; Longfellow Restorative Justice Organization; Transition Longfellow and more.



Throughout the afternoon there will be live music including Zac Harris and his jazz trio.

You can sign up in advance to enter the pie-baking contest, which will be judged by local chefs. After your pie is judged, you can either share it at the event or take it home for your family. The other free pie will be provided by members of the congregation, or businesses — whoever wants to donate.

You can also show up in your favorite apron, be it heirloom, funny, homemade, or whatever, and show it off in a “runway” fashion show.

MCLC is now working with the Longfellow Community Council (LCC) on a grant for the event, and hopes for them to be a partner.

The LCC sponsors the orchard of fledgling trees, only 3 years old, which have yet to bear fruit. Unlike most orchards where all the trees are of the same kind, this one is a mixture of peach, pear, plum, serviceberry, apple, apricot and cherry. (All those nearby fruit trees must have inspired the PIE idea.) They were planted with a grant to the LCC and are maintained by a volunteer committee. MCLC provides water and a hose. The long-term goal is to have a community source of fruit free to everyone, and to make people more aware of trees.

The Peace of Pie Festival sounds like a great occasion. Anyone can sign up to participate on any level at longfellowpop.org.

The church is located at 4101 37th Ave. S.

EVENTS

ICOM Prayer Vigil change of location
Tuesday, May 14, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

8th Circuit Court of Appeals
316 N. Robert St., St. Paul 55101
Hosted by Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM).

There will be no ICOM vigil at the Whipple Building in May as originally printed in Southside Pride.

ICOM’s Mission Statement: “Interfaith Coalition on Immigration engages in courageous spiritual, multicultural action in solidarity with immigrants and refugees to achieve justice and stand up to systems of oppression.”

For more information go to ICOM’s Facebook page.

Free Community Clothing Giveaway, & Free Lunch

Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
2600 E. 38th St.
All are welcomed.

Quidditch Tourney
Sunday, May 19 after worship

Bethel Lutheran Church
4120 17th Ave. S.
612-724-3693

bethel@bethel-mpls.org

Bethel is hosting our 2nd Quidditch Tourney. It will be a potluck, with matches played at appropriate age levels. All are welcome!

[In the Harry Potter Lexicon, Quidditch has seven players on each side: the Keeper, the Seeker, three Chasers and two Beaters. One player is also appointed as the Captain.

Professional teams will also have a manager. Quidditch has three balls: a Quaffle, two Bludgers and the Golden Snitch.]

Conversations with Friends (CWF) Volunteer Training

Saturday, May 25, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Contact stevekraemer@outlook.com for location

Conversations with Friends (CWF) is a volunteer organization dedicated to visiting and supporting detained immigrants in Minnesota, primarily through letter writing and detention center visits. Unitarian Universalism’s First Principle calls on us to affirm and promote the inherent worth and dignity of every person; the Second Principle calls on us to act for justice, equity and compassion in human relations. The message of Steve Kraemer, director of CWF, speaks to these Principles: the interconnections that bind us all together, regardless of where we were born or the languages that we speak, and the way that we can be a source of light for others during their darkest days.

The following statement is from a current CWF volunteer:

“I’ve been volunteering for over a year and have found the experience to be quite profound. I’ve had 5 pen pals in this time, some for only a month or two and some for many months. It really is possible to build a friendship through letters and to provide comfort and moral witness to these friends. Our immigrant neighbors are suffering, and detention is spiritually and morally crushing. Our acts of kindness can be a lifeline.” --Amy L.

There is no cost for the training but everyone must preregister so that we have enough food, handouts and, most importantly, space. To register or if you have questions, email Steve at stevekraemer@outlook.com. We’ll email a registration confirmation along with detailed directions. At this time, our greatest need is for pen pals, but those who attend will also be trained in visiting so that if/when we receive approval to visit at the Sherburne County Jail, they can participate if interested.

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612-721-5025

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–Wednesday Supper, 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.

***New Creation Baptist Church**

1414 E. 48th St.

612-825-6933

–Food Shelf, Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

(Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

***Minnehaha United Methodist Church**
3701 E. 50th St.

612-721-6231

–Food Giveaway, fourth Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.

Events at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

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–NA Group, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.; Fridays, 7 p.m.

–Senior Exercise, Mondays, 10 a.m.

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Powderhorn resident volunteers at Humanitarian Respite Center in Texas

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

When people come into the U.S., through various entry points at the southern border, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) considers them a danger until proved otherwise. Once an asylum seeker has passed the “credible fear” interview and can show they have a family member or sponsor somewhere in the U.S. who will take them in, they are given a court date and loaded into buses and often dropped off at some kind of charitable volunteer facility that will help prepare them for the next leg of their journey.

Ten miles from the border, in McAllen, Texas, that charitable facility is the Catholic Charities Humanitarian Respite Center, which is staffed by Catholic Charities and assisted by thousands of volunteers, most of them from McAllen and the others from across the country. Since 2014, when the center opened, roughly 100,000 people from south of the border have passed through its doors, receiving food, clothing, showers, respect and kindness.

My friend Andi Kuenning, who lives in the Powderhorn neighborhood, went there as a volunteer for two weeks in November 2018. She went through Children’s Disaster Services (CDS), a mission of the Church of the Brethren. Her task was to care for the children of migrants as they transitioned from ICE detention to a completely new culture.

Volunteers from CDS are “Specially trained to respond to trau-

matized children, and provide a calm, safe and reassuring presence in the midst of the chaos created by tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, wildfires, and natural or human-caused disaster,” according to the CDS website.

Andi speaks Spanish and was a teacher of young children with special needs before retiring last year. After completing the rigorous CDS training she was then assigned to a team with three other CDS-trained women.

When the team arrived, the Humanitarian Respite Center was extremely busy, and there was no one available to give them any orientation. Somebody had them sign in and gave them a parking permit to put on their rental car and then they went straight to the area designated as Children’s Play Area and got set up. (They never did meet their contact person, nor did they meet the famous nun, Sister Norma Pimentel, who directs the Rio Grande Catholic Charities and founded the center.)

In Andi’s report, she wrote, “We ask the children, ‘Do you want to play?’ and most come in to play with us. Only a few stay away.

“We brought with us a large suitcase full of toys and materials, but used mostly crayons and colored pencils, paper and coloring books, playdough, puzzles, playing cards, and dominoes. We got adult coloring books and colored pencils and asked the teenagers if they want to color. They mostly do. Some of them play cards together. When we give out blank paper to color on, we get lots of

pictures of butterflies, flowers, houses, trees, suns, and rainbows. The little girls start giving them to me, and sometimes write on them, ‘yo te quiero Andrea.’ Occasionally we read stories; one day a young boy asked me to read him a book, by the time we got going, several other boys were listening too, some of them older. At times the kids asked for a book to read, other children said they didn’t know how to read. There were some children who did not speak Spanish, but an Indigenous language.”

Buses coming from the detention center arrived every afternoon, dropping off about 300 exhausted people. Most had been in ICE detention for two to five days. Many were sick and throwing up. They had been kept in the infamous “freezers” or “hieleras.”

When people arrive, they are always given new shoelaces right away, since all shoelaces are taken away in detention. Children are given stuffed animals and many women request hair ties.

It is very difficult to maintain hygiene in such a crowded area as the center. The CDS team did what they could by bleaching down the tables in the children’s area. Hand sanitizer is always available and the floor in the main area is swept regularly. There are showers in the building and also in a truck (trailer) in the parking lot. People are given clean clothing. But for sleeping, people have to use the sleeping mats, pillows and blankets piled off to one side of the large, main room. Everyone sleeps wherever there is room. There is an overflow

space that holds about 90 people. Andi was told that as many men as possible sleep in the smaller back room, leaving mostly women and children in the larger area.

Most stay one night and then leave as soon as their relatives/sponsors send them a bus ticket, and in some cases a plane ticket.

Andi describes what lies ahead for the weary travelers: “Each adult is given a red bag (a reusable grocery store bag) filled with supplies—snacks for the bus ride, hygiene products, etc. Each family has a large manila envelope. On one side it says in large letters: ‘Please help me. I don’t speak English. What bus do I need to take?’ The other side has their bus schedule written on it. Most are taking three or four buses to get to their final destination.”

The number of children in the play area varied throughout the day—there were fewer after buses left in the morning and more in the afternoon after buses arrived, sometimes up to almost 50.

“The children are glad to play, to have something to do,” Andi writes. “I am amazed at how so many of the children just settle in and play happily, despite all they have been through on their journey to us. Sometimes when new kids come in, other kids recognize them from the detention center, and they reunite excitedly and with hugs, so happy to see their friends.

“Sometimes the littlest ones would want their parents ... We would just go to the front and hold them up to see if someone claimed them. We always found them. But

one day a somewhat older boy, maybe 7 or 8, was looking for his mother, crying hysterically. He was so upset he couldn’t talk. A staff person finally took him and was able to help him look for his mother and reunite them.”

Andi will never forget “the mother who had been separated from her adult son at the border because he was sick—She had no way to find him because she happened to be carrying his phone when they were separated; the father traveling with a daughter (maybe 12 or 13 years old) because he needs to get her away from the gangs in Honduras; the man who talked about how they treated them ‘like animals’ in the hieleras; the many parents who were with just one child, and had left others back in Honduras or Guatemala.”

Andi wrote, “Each night we went back to our motel totally exhausted. It was intense work but gratifying. Many parents thanked us (I felt like we did so little for them, but after their experience in detention, having people who showed them respect and compassion meant a lot). Much of what we did seemed to be handing out coloring pages, sharpening pencils, and helping kids do puzzles, but it was providing a safe and nurturing space for the children to be, as they waited for the next step of their journey.”

Andi is on the list to be called again by Children’s Disaster Services.

The Democrats and the Farmer-Labor Party

BY STEPHANIE FOX

While most states have their Democrats, only in Minnesota do we have the Democratic Farmer-Labor Party, the DFL, the result of the coming together of the far left Farmer-Labor Party and the more moderate Democrats, 75 years ago this month. On April 15, 1944, the two parties joined forces in a political marriage that still exists today.

Led by the then-college professor Hubert Humphrey, members of both parties voted to change their name to the Democratic Farmer-Labor Party, or the DFL.

The two parties had been splitting the popular vote for years, which allowed the Republicans to control Minnesota's state government. The Democrats hadn't

elected a governor in 30 years or a senator in 80 years. The Farmer-Labor Party had lost both U.S. Senate seats and four out of five seats in the U.S. Congress to Republicans.

The Farmer-Labor Party had advocated for workers, farmers and the unemployed during the early years of the 20th Century and the Great Depression. The Democrats played second fiddle during that time, but post-war, pragmatism was needed to advance Minnesota's liberal politics.

Separate, they were losers. Together, they became a formidable political party.

To celebrate, party members and members of various labor unions came together on Tuesday evening, April 16, for one of many gatherings planned for 2019. The

event was led by Jim Beers, chair of the Minneapolis Regional Retiree Committee (MRRC), History Committee and the Retiree Council Executive Committee, at the Communications Workers of America Union Hall on Lake Street in South Minneapolis.

The evening included entertainment by the Twin Cities Labor Chorus and a few teaser scenes from an in-progress upcoming documentary, "The Farmer-Labor Movement—a Minnesota Story," presented by filmmaker Randy Croce, who along with Tom O'Connell wrote and produced the film. The film included interviews at the Minnesota State Fair of people answering questions about the origins of the Farmer-Labor part

of the DFL. (Most didn't know.)

The two filmmakers currently are funded by three grants and are hoping to receive another from the Minnesota Historical Society. "We have to pay for some of the historic photos and film we use and we're renting equipment. It can be more expensive than many people would think," says Croce. The documentary is expected to be released next year.

The evening also included a panel discussion where local political figures and organizers answered questions from the audience. Panel member Keith Ellison spoke against large monopolies, something he says is again becoming a problem, especially in the information and tech industries.

Beers says that Minnesota's liberal political history is still important, even today. "For me, the Farmer-Labor Party is inspirational. Its legacy still inspires today's organizers, young union leaders and other progressives," he says.

More events commemorating the Farmer-Labor Party and the DFL will be held throughout 2019, dates to be announced during the summer and fall.

Those who wish to donate to "The Farmer-Labor Movement—a Minnesota Story" can send contributions to Tom Beer, treasurer, FLEC%, 2421 29th Ave. S., Mpls., MN 55406.



Chelsie Glaubitz Gabiou, President of the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation AFL-CIO

Veronica Mendez Moore, Co-Director at Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en la Lucha (CTUL), a Workers Center in Minneapolis

Ken Martin, Chair of the Minnesota DFL

Jamie Gulley, President of SEIU Healthcare

Keith Ellison, Minnesota Attorney General

Amy Bacigalupo, Farm Beginnings Program Director at the Land Stewardship Project

Theodore Wirth's legacy is crumbling!

BY KATHRYN KELLY

It's a beautiful spring evening. The nets are up and people are playing tennis on the courts at East 43rd Street and 26th Avenue South. But, if you venture east along 46th and 47th Streets you will see three sets of tennis courts that are dismal and crumbling. They look abandoned, with no nets and no tennis players. How can this be?!!

When Theodore Wirth became superintendent of the Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board (MPRB), in 1904, one of his goals was to provide recreation within walking distance of every child in

the City of Minneapolis.

These tennis courts are one of the biggest parts of his legacy. Yet, the current MPRB commissioners have, apparently, abandoned them.

So, why is the court on 43rd Street so well maintained? The MPRB DOES NOT maintain it. A private tennis club maintains it and teaches tennis to kids. With this, the club gets exclusive blocks of time on these courts during the summer. This is a laudable endeavor, and these reserved times would not be so egregious if it weren't for the fact that the nearby tennis courts are in disrepair and unusable when the "good" courts are

reserved.

Where is the MPRB spending our taxpayer money? The MPRB is allocating \$275,000 in 2019 to the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan, which will destroy another of Theodore Wirth's legacies, the Hiawatha 18-hole golf course, and turn it into a swamp. How many of these tennis courts could be refurbished and maintained with this money?

The MPRB needs to take responsibility for MAINTAINING their existing assets BEFORE chasing new, shiny "pie-in-the-sky" projects.

Note: Just like the tennis courts, Theodore Wirth built golf courses in every part of the city so that golf was accessible to all City of Minneapolis residents, especially kids.

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Doors Open Minneapolis

BY LAURA HALL

Have you ever walked by a majestic old building and wondered about its history? Have you ever stopped and stared at a modern building and been in awe over its creative design and innovation? Or, is there a business or organization in your neighborhood you wished you knew more about? You will have a chance to satisfy all these curiosities at the first Doors Open Minneapolis on May 18-19. One hundred fifteen locations around Minneapolis will be opening their doors to the public for a weekend full of free tours of historical landmarks, cutting-edge buildings, cultural treasures, and re-adapted buildings.

This event allows the public behind-the-scenes access to buildings in the City of Minneapolis that are architecturally, culturally, or socially significant.

Listed below is a sampling of notable places to visit.

Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder Building

Tracey Williams-Dillard, the current publisher of the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder and the granddaughter of the original

founder, Cecil E. Newman, explains how people walk by the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder building every day, but they do not necessarily know what is inside the building.

The Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder is a publication that we should all know about. It is the longest running Black-owned newspaper in the state of Minnesota. In 2015, it was named as a local historic landmark and was granted this official title for its involvement in the civil rights movement, its affiliation with historical figures Cecil E. Newman and photographer Gordon Parks, and for being a resource and representative for African Americans in South Minneapolis. And as stated on their website, "For the past 84 years, the MSR has established itself as a trusted voice for the diverse Black communities of Minnesota—championing voices and stories that might otherwise go unheard."

During Doors Open Minneapolis, visitors will be able to see how the paper is put together and have a look at some of the very early Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder newspapers and photos. Additionally, visitors will be able to see an old style "addressograph," which was once used for putting labels on their newspa-

pers and which was also operated by the 8-year-old Williams-Dillard when her grandfather was running the newspaper.

<http://spokesman-recorder.com/>
3744 4th Ave. S.

Wing Young Huie/The Third Place Gallery

Wing Young Huie—a local photographer and public speaker—opened The Third Place Gallery in May 2011 and breathed new life into a space that had previously sat empty for 47 years. On Wing's website it states, "The third place is a term used in the concept of community building to refer to social surroundings separate from the two usual social environments of home and the workplace." In Wing's third place, he connects people through inviting in guest artists, hosting karaoke events, and leading games of ping pong.

In Wing's gallery, you will also find the photography that has brought him both local and international recognition. His photography captures honest slices of life, featuring people from a diversity of ages, races and cultures. At Doors Open Minneapolis, over a 100 of his photographs will be on display: photos that encompass the last 40 years of his photography career, starting with some of the first photos taken of his parents in Duluth to photographs from his 2018 book, "Chinese-ness." On his website, Wing describes "Chinese-ness" as "part documentary, part meta-memoir, and part actual memoir." Through these different angles, he looks at the influences that go into creating

personal identities and reflects on what life might have been like for him if he had been on a different life trajectory than that of being a photographer.

<https://www.wingyounghuie.com/>
3730 Chicago Ave S., Studio B

Mixed Blood Theatre

The building that houses Mixed Blood Theatre has been a place of lively activity since its construction in 1887. Built for use as a fire station, and then later used by a community development organization—which was also the incubator for Mixed Blood Theatre, as Keri Clifton, the chief engagement officer for Mixed Blood Theatre., explains. The current Mixed Blood Theatre, of course, isn't fighting any physical fires; instead, they are fighting a different type of fire, a metaphorical fire that addresses heated topics in

the political, gender, class and racial realm.

To help them continue tackling these heated topics, Mixed Blood Theatre underwent a renovation in 2015. The renovations and the inner workings of the old firehouse will be part of the tour during Doors Open Minneapolis. Some of these inner workings include the firemen's sleeping quarters, which are now used as a rehearsal hall; original lockers from the firehouse, which are also still in use as storage units in their offices; and the original firehouse windows.

<https://mixedblood.com/>
1501 S. 4th St.

For a complete listing of Doors Open Minneapolis locations see <https://www.doorsopenminneapolis.org/>.

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