



**NOKOMIS
EDITION**

SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**JULY
2019**

We build Pride on the Southside

VOL. XXIX, ISSUE 20



BEFORE:

This is what Minnehaha Creek looked like before the Park Board or vandals rolled boulders under the 30th Avenue footbridge to create Boulder Dam.

Copyright © 2010 John A. Weeks III

Boulder Dam is down!

BY ED FELIEN

Somehow, as mysteriously as it appeared, Boulder Dam has disappeared.

For more than a year, Southside Pride has called for the removal of the boulders under the 30th Avenue footbridge. The Barr Engineering study of Minnehaha Creek identified this rock weir as the control point for the water level of Minnehaha Creek and Lake Hiawatha. Finally, frustrated by the lack of action by the Park Board and their refusal to answer my questions, I filed suit in Hennepin County District Court to compel the Park Board to remove the boulders:

Edwin Felien, Petitioner

v.

Brad Bourn, President
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
2117 West River Rd. North
Minneapolis, MN 55411, Respondent

A WRIT OF MANDAMUS TO COMPEL THE MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD TO PERFORM THEIR DUTY TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC WELFARE

With the authority of Minnesota Statute 586.01, ISSUANCE OF WRIT, we ask the Court to enjoin the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (Defendant) to remove boulders that are raising the level of Minnehaha Creek and Lake Hiawatha and causing flooding of area homes and the Hiawatha Golf Course.

The Barr Engineering Minnehaha Creek Survey: http://savehiawatha18.com/commentary/mprb_documents/February-2017-Stormwater-Surface-Water-and-Groundwater-Anal-

[ysis-Summary.pdf](#), commissioned by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board on February 6, 2017, says that the control point of the water level of Minnehaha Creek is a rock weir under the 30th Avenue footbridge. That high point is 810.7 feet above sea level. The highest point of a sewer line crossing Minnehaha Creek is 808 feet above sea level. If there were no other obstructions and the backfill, sand and silt flowed naturally downstream, removal of the rock weir could lower the water level and surrounding water table by 2.7 feet.

The Barr study said the purpose of the weir is “unknown.” Perhaps the best summary analysis of the weir is by Tiffany Schauler, Project and Land Manager for the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District in an email sent to me and Michael Schroeder, Assistant Superintendent in charge of Planning Services:

“In your November 19, 2018 Southside Pride article <http://southsidepride.com/2018/10/16/down-with-boulder-dam/> you quoted Michael Schroeder saying: ‘I have a meeting with MPRB staff next week to look into this further. I understand the boulders were placed to mitigate a head cut in the stream, but I don’t yet know when—perhaps 10 years or more ago. There might have been some displacement since they were originally placed, perhaps through playful creek activities ... I’m not sure...’

“In looking at John A. Week’s bridge inventory for Minnehaha Creek (<https://www.johnweeks.com/minnehaha/pages/fl0.html>) the pictures posted on his website from 2010 show riprap located under the bridge embankments along the creek bank but no rocks across the

See Boulder Dam, page 5



AFTER:

This is what it looked like when the boulders were in place last summer.



NOW:

This is what Minnehaha Creek looks like under the 30th Avenue footbridge today.



The subtle art of losing

BY TONY BOUZA

Every essay is a drip between the Scylla of truth and the Charybdis of offending.

What is your responsibility to readership? It is really a sort of sacred trust and central to my pretensions to integrity—pathetic though they be. The reader must be served. The writer is a steward of trust.

I find it painful to write of our police chief.

Chief Arradondo is a wonderful man—flattering, generous, thoughtful, knowledgeable and altogether a real pleasure to be with. But I’ve concluded he is a loser.

There are two litmus tests by which to infallibly gauge the worth of any police chief: 1) a vote of no confidence by the police union means the chief is probably holding cops accountable and they don’t like it, and 2) a union’s praise usually means the chief is probably not trying to guide and control police behavior.

The cops want to be protected whatever they do. The Damond case is a great example of how this works.

One of the big problems here is Minnesota Nice. We’ve persuaded ourselves that it is an unalloyed asset. It isn’t. It is an enabling device that keeps pleasant,

inoffensive functionaries in office ad infinitum. It may be nice but it can be expensive.

Chief Arradondo tolerates a boondoggle that would’ve made me puke—a bloated, duplicative, superannuated bureaucracy of supernumeraries. Worthy of Gilbert and Sullivan.

He didn’t create it—or, really, much extend it, but he allows it to continue and does nothing to impede its progress. Across the River, St. Paul seems to be eliminating some organizational fat: horse patrols and motorcycles.

When Napoleon was asked which soldiers make the best generals, he responded,

“Lucky ones.” The same goes for chiefs. But which cops do I think make the best chiefs? Unpopular ones.

Every police chief in America benefits greatly from Roe v. Wade yet accepts personal credit for the dramatic reductions in crime. No one should be shocked by such hypocrisy, but I will confess to chagrin for not having been born later.

After 36 years of police service and over 20 of expert witnessing all over the nation, I will modestly assert there is not one single chief I’d call a model or a reformer in the style of Patrick V. Murphy (NYPD, 1970-1973, a brief but glorious reign).

All tolerate racist acts, enjoy their lives in bed with the union, encourage bloat, duplication and inefficiency and generally have a really wonderful time. I envy their party. On top of all this, the great bargaining skills of the

police unions have provided such wonderful salaries and benefits as if to make corruption both unnecessary and unthinkable. What a lovely moment to be chief.

It is curious that Mr. Noor, the shooter, referred to the victim as “the threat,” thus objectifying and dehumanizing her. That’s what people do to engender scorn for “the other.” Labels are powerful psychological tools. Australia, I was told by a native, is in hysteria over this call.

So, I confess my invidiousness and bewail my fate. Had I been able to counsel my parents to hold off a couple of years, I’d have been heir to the Roe v. Wade peace dividend still washing over an unknowing and unappreciative America.

I fervently pray Chief Rondo is not pissed at me. I would hate to lose the atten-

See Bouza, page 3

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hello Ed,

Mr. Tony Bouza, The subtle art of losing, does a good job of describing the cause of government bloat. A government official who is “a wonderful man—flattering, generous, thoughtful, knowledgeable

and altogether a real pleasure to be with,” who tolerates a bloated bureaucracy. An official who allows bloat and inefficiency to continue, a government official who would rather be nice and inoffensive, rather than adversarial, is expensive for the taxpayer. If Mr. Bouza admires only one chief of police he has ever met, then integrity at the top must be rare. Thank you Mr. Bouza for pointing this out. Your courage and integrity are needed to reduce government bloat. Mr. George Will says achievers with little character often rise to top positions in media and government. Mr. Bouza’s writing is the antidote for that.

Thank You Mr. Bouza!
John O’Neill

WE BUILD
PRIDE
ON THE
SOUTHSIDE

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.



Uptown, New Brighton, and Grand Avenue



Bouza, from page 2

tiveness of this good man, and it is genuinely painful to write this.

El bono publica must be observed.

Thus passeth earthly glory.

And, in its midst, I have to complain of his handling of the Damond shooting once again. By not charging the

driver and coercing his testimony, the authorities—all of them—enabled an accomplice to give testimony (cops call it testi-lying). And there should be a Firearms Disclosure Review Board Inquiry into the matter. Where is it? The settlement—capitalized—is coming. Repent!

My fundamental quarrel with Chief Rondo and his

peers is that they fail to appreciate that they are management, the union is labor, and the relationship is adversarial. Horrors—conflict!

A sense of history would help. Does anyone remember the MPD from 1970 through 1979? Charles Stenvig? Hello—anyone there?



Last month, Chuck Turchick made many of the same complaints to Mayor Frey and to the City Council:

DEAR MAYOR FREY,

In a May 9, 2019, WCCO-TV report, the narrator says: “Mayor Frey says he and the chief will take a wrecking ball to the blue wall of silence and make sure officers understand their duty to serve and protect” (at 1:35 of video). According to reports of a community discussion held two days earlier, Chief Arradondo said, “If we had a wall of silence, I would take a wrecking ball to that wall.”

We are getting mixed messages. The mayor, in an indirect quote, seems to believe there is a blue wall of silence within the MPD, and the chief of police, in a direct quote, seems to believe there isn’t. It may be that the chief interprets a “blue wall of silence” as meaning that every single officer will lie. A May 8, 2019, article in the Southwest Journal, reporting on that same May 7 community listening session, includes the following: Arradondo “said the phrase implies that ‘every single officer in the department is involved in covering up something.’ ‘Have we had officers who have lied? Absolutely,’ he said, but ‘I do not believe that every single man and woman who wears the uniform comes to work lying.’”

The question is: Do you and Chief Arradondo agree that, as in most police departments, there is a significant problem in the MPD of officers covering up for one another in incidents involving possible officer misconduct?

If you do, and if the WCCO-TV report was correct that you said you were going to take a wrecking ball to this practice, I am curious as to what you have done along those lines since that May 9 report. I have looked for something on your city website, as well as on your Twitter account, since that date and have found nothing specific. Has anything been done to address this issue? Do you have something in the works?

As you may know, as far back as 2004, former MPD Ser-

geant Michael Quinn raised this issue in a book he wrote specifically about this topic, with multiple examples given demonstrating its widespread presence within the Minneapolis Police Department. So, this is hardly a new concern regarding the MPD; it didn’t come to light only from the Mohamed Noor trial. It’s at least 15 years old, and really far older than that. But I am not holding you responsible for what’s been done in the last 15 years. I’m only asking what’s been done since that media report of May 9, or what you plan to do in the future.

Yours,
Chuck Turchick

DEAR MAYOR FREY AND
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS,

Many people who call for greater police accountability applaud when an officer is sentenced to prison and when the city settles a lawsuit concerning an officer’s conduct. I am not one of them. More often than not, such lawsuits make allegations about the city’s conduct as well, that is, allegations of systemic problems that in part led to the officer’s conduct. And when the city settles such a lawsuit, none of those allegations are confirmed or refuted. And if those allegations are in fact true, since the city doesn’t publicly say so when it settles these lawsuits, we citizens never know what systemwide changes are needed. That is not a “transformational” result.

In the recently settled lawsuit with the Ruszczyk family, for example, the complaint alleged in paragraphs 46 and 47 that when officers Noor and Harrity were hired, only one psychological test was administered, despite the fact that national best practices said that multiple tests should be used. And paragraph 283 reads: “The inadequate assessor and assessment procedure in place since 2012 ensured that the city hired MPD offi-

cers that are unable to safely and effectively perform their duties as police officers.” Were those allegations true? If yes, are they still true? Were changes in psychological evaluation made after this incident? If so, are any further changes needed? If the previous evaluation system was inadequate, might there be an issue of current officers who had been deemed fit for service under that system? We don’t know, and we may never know, because there has been no real public discussion of these claimed inadequacies.

Paragraph 210 reads: “Numerous other [other than Officers Noor and Harrity] MPD officers repeatedly refused to provide statements to the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office during its investigation of the July 15, 2017, shooting of Justine.” And paragraph 214 reads: “Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman stated that during his 19 years as a prosecutor, ‘this [was] the first time that [he’s] ever had to subpoena police officers to tell [prosecutors] what they know.’” And paragraph 219: “Numerous MPD officers continue to hamper the Hennepin County Attorney’s Office ability to investigate and prosecute alleged wrongdoing by their fellow officers.” Are those allegations true? If they are, does the MPD have a problem? And if it does, is there a remedy to that problem? And if there is, who is trying to fix it—and how? All questions unasked and unanswered because of the way we handle settlements of lawsuits in our litigious society.

Or paragraph 222: “Not only are MPD officers routinely not disciplined when they change their stories or fail to cooperate with investigations into fellow officers, the Minneapolis Police Federation is empowering them to do so. There has been no response by the city, former Chief Harteau or current Chief Arradondo to curb this practice of behavior by MPD officers and the Minneapolis Police Federation.” True? If so, fixable? We don’t know, and we may never know, because

that’s the nature of lawsuit settlements.

Or paragraph 226: “The MPD’s continued failure to discipline officers, through defendants and policymakers Chiefs Harteau and Arradondo, causes MPD officers to act with impunity and without due regard for the Constitution and laws of the United States, including 42 U.S.C. §1983.” Is this true? Did the city, in settling this lawsuit, agree with this allegation? I doubt that it did, but we really don’t know. Do the plaintiffs in this lawsuit have evidence that would support this claim? If they do, has the city examined it?

These are just a few of the systemic allegations that can be found simply by skimming through the complaint in this lawsuit. When such lawsuits are settled, maybe in a narrow sense we get “justice for Justine,” but we don’t get anything close to justice for Minneapolis residents. Practices and policies that may have led to the tragedy do not get aired in public, let alone addressed through making necessary changes, if such changes are needed.

So, I would suggest that the city adopt a policy that when lawsuit settlements are made, especially large settlements

involving police conduct, a report be issued in conjunction with those settlements that addresses each of the systemic allegations made in the complaint: Which allegations does the city reject, and why? Which allegations does the city accept, what is the evidence supporting those allegations, and what is the city doing to remedy the situation? Only then can we citizens be assured that such lawsuit settlements will lead to transformational outcomes.

Although in the Justine Ruszczyk Damond settlement no such public accounting has been rendered, in your efforts to determine what lessons can be learned from this tragedy, I urge you to begin those efforts by looking at the allegations—in particular, the systemic allegations—made in the complaint itself. Maybe that won’t be sufficient, but surely it’s a necessary starting place. And while no report accompanied the settlement in this case, you surely could still issue one, explaining what the city has learned from this tragedy, what changes have been made as a result, and what further changes are needed.

Yours,
Chuck Turchick

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

Good gun news

It's seldom, if ever, one reads good news about guns. So, this bit of news should be well received. There exists a group with a mission antithetical to that of the National Rifle Association (NRA). It's called GUNS DOWN AMERICA, organized in 2016 in Orlando, Fla., as a result of the mass shooting incident there. Its mission, as given by its founder and executive officer, Igor Volsky, is to compel the financiers of the gun industry banks to support gun control. The group set up a grading system for these financiers, i.e., banks and legislators. The basis for the grades was publicly available information gathered from media reports, regulatory documents, campaign finance filings and other sources. After the Orlando shooting, Delta Airlines, Hertz and several other companies broke with the NRA. Some banks have changed their positions on loans for guns. Bank of America has announced a new policy.

A grading system was devised to indicate banks' policy on gun loans. Six banks had failing grades. Citigroup announced it would work only with clients that restricted gun sales. Bank of America said it would stop funding companies that make military-inspired firearms for civilian use. Marianne Lake, JPMorgan Chase's chief financial officer, said last year the bank's link to military-style firearms has "come down significantly." Tricia Schultz, a Wells Fargo spokeswoman, said the bank planned to invest more than \$10 million over three years in studying gun-violence prevention and in improving school safety. Her total statement, however, was

somewhat ambiguous: "We do not believe that the American public wants banks to decide which legal products consumers can and cannot buy." Overall it was good news.

Taxes and prison health care

If you haven't read the article about health care in U.S. prisons in the March 4th edition of The New Yorker magazine, you should. Even if you're not particularly concerned about prisons, you really should. If for no other reason than that your taxes could be reduced with an efficient system, read it. It's not short—a full eight pages, but as I said, it'll be well worth your time. The following are a few statistics to get you started:

1. Between 1980 and 2015, the U.S. prison population increased from about 500,000 to over 2.2 million.
2. Today the U.S. makes up about 5% of the world's population yet has 21% of the world's prisoners.
3. Though African Americans and Hispanics make up about 32% of the world's population, they comprised 56% of all incarcerated people in 2015.

There are more than 3,000 jails in the U.S., which house some 700,000 people. After the passage of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the jail and prison population jumped from about 300,000 in 1980 to more than 10,000,000—that's 10 million—today. The standard of care that incarcerated people have a right to receive was set by the American Medical Association.

Companies that provide health care are now spending about \$10,000,000,000 (that's 10 billion).

Julian Assange

The case of the journalist Julian Assange is in the hands of Western authorities thanks

to Ecuadorian President Lenin Moreno. Their media is scraping the bottom of the barrel with increasingly absurd claims. Yet there is no evidence. Assange was under total surveillance while in the embassy.

The truth is that since Moreno came into power the country has been making fast strides toward modifying its economy. As the Wall Street Journal reports: "Central to Mr. Moreno's shift was an interest in deepening ties with the U.S. Mr. Moreno ended Ecuador's alliance with Venezuela and a leftist bloc of nations, choosing instead to pursue a trade deal with Washington. Ecuadorian business leaders hope removing Mr. Assange from the embassy will speed up talks for a trade agreement with Washington."

After former Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa tweeted a picture of a document showing that Moreno's government was "auditing" Assange's asylum and his naturalization in Ecuador, WikiLeaks asserted that a bailout for the country from the International Monetary Fund was conditioned on its "handing over Assange and dropping environmental claims against Chevron" for its pollution of the Amazon. In February Ecuador signed a deal securing the controversial IMF loan for a total of \$4.2 billion, in addition to another \$6 billion from other U.S.-dominated financial institutions like the World Bank. After the IMF deal was struck, Ecuador laid off more than 10,000 public-sector employees, slashed spending and decreased the minimum wage.

WikiLeaks' decision to publish the details of Moreno's use of offshore bank accounts in Panama, entitled INA Investment Corporation Papers, appears to be the main cause for the president's decision to expel Assange from the embassy. Ecuadorian Communications Minister Andrés Michelena even claimed that

the INA Papers were a conspiracy plot between Julian Assange, the former president Rafael Correa and the current Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro.

While Moreno was in Washington for the Inter-American Dialogue, INA, journalist Helena Villar grilled him: "There is some information and the former president said that there was a link between the decision about Assange and the promotion of the INA Papers and the debt with the IMF. What do you have to say about that?"

"A lie," Moreno said, "We only tell the truth."

The smear follows a well-established pattern: The U.S. or one of its allies captures an official enemy, and in order to quash any domestic or international support that might ensue, it lies and does whatever is possible to dehumanize their captive.

Affordable Housing

Something has to be done about the ever-increasing gap between the poor and rich, especially as it relates to the availability of affordable housing for those who need it. The National Low Income Housing Coalition reports that in no state in the union can a full-time worker earning minimum wage afford to rent a modest two-bedroom apartment. Why? Because: (a) huge numbers of American jobs have disappeared due to mechanization or have been outsourced to China, India, Mexico and other poor countries, and (b) under capitalism the pressure on wages and increased rent prices have made homelessness a predictable consequence for millions.

Across the country, homeless people have engaged in the acts of basic survival—sleeping, eating, etc., in some of the only spaces open to them—in parks, libraries and other public spaces. Their re-

actions to their condition have been pathologized or criminalized by law enforcement. Often, they are forcibly removed from their temporary lodgings or arrested and their needs are ignored.

Research shows that the economic gap between rich and poor has profoundly negative effects on society and is a cause for increasing rates of alcoholism and drug use, teenage pregnancy, a breakdown of trust, and mental health issues such as depression and suicide. Unfortunately, those made rich under capitalism have little sympathy for lesser-enriched Americans.

As I said—something has to be done about affordable housing.

Salaries of Hedge Fund Managers

The publication Institute Investor recently published its list showing the ranking of the annual income of hedge fund managers. Topping the list was Ray Dalio, the co-founder of Bridgewater Association, who estimated his annual earnings at \$2 billion—that's \$2,000,000,000. Following are other top winners:

*James H. Simmons of Renaissance Technology at \$1.5 billion (last year's top man).

*Kenneth Griffin, founder of Citadel, made \$870 million.

*John Overdeck and David Siegel, founders of Two Sigma, made \$820 million each.

Other "top dogs" were listed. But my most favorite bit from the article was the following paragraph: "But the magnitude of the hedge fund managers' compensation raises a very basic question about whether capitalism is 'broken.' After all, even if Mr. Dalio took home \$5 million, the rest of his income could pay 10,000 families \$150,000 each."

Republicans: The Key to Better Transit

BY JOHN CHARLES WILSON

While transit users in the Twin Cities rejoice at improvements such as the new C Line “over North,” many are still annoyed by the thinning out of “plain old bus service,” which has gradually occurred over the past few decades. While the Southside Pride readership area has been spared much of this, what happens in Saint Paul and the suburbs should concern us too, as it impairs our ability to travel. Additionally, it should be remembered that in the 1970s and 1980s, being an MTC bus driver was considered a prestige job. Nowadays, Metro Transit has such a hard time filling positions they had to institute an emergency 1% service cut last year. What happened?

It all comes down to the “F” word. No, not the one you yell out when you realize you’re waiting for the bus at the wrong time because you looked at the weekday schedule and it’s Sunday. The other, more important “F” word: funding. In its heyday, the MTC

was well funded by the State Legislature and had the power to levy a dedicated property tax for transit.

Minnesota was a more progressive state back then, but more importantly, even the conservatives in the Republican Party understood the value of a functional transit system to the Twin Cities. The MTC tried to fulfill its mandate, but some of the far-out suburbs just didn’t yet have enough people to support a good bus service, yet they had to pay just as high a tax as the inner cities. So, you had places like Shakopee, where there was maybe a bus or two for rush hour commuters to downtown Minneapolis, but the total they paid in property tax was more than the value of service received.

This led to some suburbs seceding from the MTC service area, forming Plymouth Metrolink, Maple Grove Transit, Southwest Transit, and the MVTA. These separate systems, though leaving much to be desired, have largely been improvements over what existed before. (Plymouth is a disappointing exception—the old



Medicine Lake Bus Company was actually better, but I digress.)

Since then, the MTC and its successors, MCTO and Metro Transit, have been in a downhill decline and have fallen into severe disfavor with outer-suburban and rural Republican members of the legislature.

There are two main reasons for this antipathy: first, the allegedly high levels of crime and dysfunction

in the Twin Cities; and second, that Metro Transit is “too” Minneapolis-centric.

I know this because I know someone who personally lobbies at the Capitol on a different issue and knows the legislators personally.

Unfortunately, the less funding it gets, the more any transit system has to focus on its most loyal patrons, who, in the case of Metro Transit, happen to be people in or going to Minneapolis. The way to get back the lost levels of service in Saint Paul and the suburbs that didn’t secede is to increase the funding, with an earmark if need be.

The Met Council, which oversees Metro Transit, may need to consider running some demonstration routes to show these legislators what it can do if given a chance. For example, there is currently an express service from various places to the U of M. Perhaps a similar service needs to exist from neighborhoods with concentrated

pockets of state employees to the Capitol complex. Additionally, there could be off-peak services aimed at the recreational activities crowd—for example, a bus service direct from the western suburbs to Uptown with no transfer in “dangerous” downtown Minneapolis required—or excursions to high-tourism areas like Stillwater and Excelsior. (Point of history: 100 years ago, Excelsior was a major streetcar destination because of the amusement park and other tourist activities. If it worked then, why can’t it work now?)

My contact who gave me this information suggests that additional funding should be provided by a 10-cent tax on plastic drink bottles. The local transit system should get 5 cents and the public schools should get 5 cents. In areas of the state with no transit, the schools would get all 10 cents.

I’ll raise my Diet Mountain Dew to that!

Boulder Dam, from page 1

creek itself. In looking at the picture you posted on the November 19, 2018, Southside Pride article, it looks like perhaps these rocks may have been moved from the bridge embankment to the center of the creek. This certainly is a possibility as Michael Schroeder noted above. In my experiences on other creeks across the state, I have observed people often playing in the water and moving rocks around.”

According to experts who have studied the problem, there is no legitimate reason to obstruct the flow of Minnehaha Creek with a rock weir at the 30th Avenue footbridge. We know that the raising of the water level of Minnehaha Creek and Lake Hiawatha has caused serious financial hardship to homes in the immediate neighborhood and to the maintenance of Hiawatha Golf Course.

Therefore, be it ordered by this Court that:

A hearing on this matter shall be scheduled by this Court;

The respondent shall explain to this Court why the boulders that control the level of Minnehaha Creek should not be removed;

Without justification of a legitimate purpose, this Court shall order the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to immediate-

ly remove the boulders and allow for the natural flow of Minnehaha Creek.

Dated: June _____, 2019
Judge, Hennepin County District Court

Now that the rock weir/dam is gone, the suit probably doesn’t have to go forward. However, the photos don’t convince me that all the rocks are gone and that this point is no longer the control point for the water level.

I wrote to the Park Board to ask Superintendent Bangoura for an interview to clarify. I received this from his staff member, Robin Smothers:

Ed,

Thank you for your request. We will let you know the Superintendent’s July availability for an interview next week.

Robin Smothers, Media Relations and Social Media Manager

I sent this email in reply:

Hi Robin,

Thanks for getting back to me.

I look forward to an opportunity to sit down with the Superintendent for an interview.

As you may know, I have filed a motion in District Court for an order of a Writ of Mandamus ordering the Park Board to remove the

boulders at the 30th Avenue footbridge that was the control point for the water level of Minnehaha Creek and Lake Hiawatha, according to the Barr Engineering study. Miraculously, the boulder dam has disappeared. It is difficult to know if the removal is complete and the site is no longer the control point for the Creek and Lake. If the removal has eliminated the boulder dam as the control point, then a court action would be unnecessary and moot. We have a court date set for August 12. I have to serve papers on the Park Board before July 12 in order for the action to go forward. If I could get confirmation from Barr Engineering or some other reputable engineering firm that the boulder dam is no longer the control point for the water level by early next week, then I will withdraw my action.

Attached are photos of the present condition of the remains of the rock weir. It is difficult to tell from the photos if the remaining boulders continue to impede the flow of the Creek. We need a hydrologist to confirm or deny that the weir no longer acts as the control point.

Thank you very much for your efforts in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,
Ed

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Will more neighbors make our city greener?

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

Many people agree that increasing the housing density of an area will decrease the CO2 emissions per person through increased efficiency. For example, people won't have to drive as far, or perhaps won't have to drive at all, because there are more likely to be resources they can access nearby. A 2013 interactive map created by UC Berkley seems to bear this out. In it, zip codes are color-coded based on household CO2 emissions. There is a stark contrast between "green" inner cities where emissions are lower per person (31.6 metric tons of CO2 per household annually in my zip code of 55404) compared to our "red" suburban neighbors (70.3 metric tons of CO2 per household annually in zip code 55346 which is in Eden Prairie). <https://coolclimate.org/maps>.

But is this causation or correlation? The authors of the study that goes with the map warn against depending on density to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, "It would be incorrect to say population density is correlated with lower household carbon footprints." And, "Given limited technical capacity in cities, we suggest that population density has limited poten-

tial and calls for more tailored solutions; which in our view are urgently needed." <https://coolclimate.org/files/coolclimate/Jones-Kammen-Carbon-Footprint-FAQ-EST-1-10-2014.pdf>

According to this study, income more accurately determines greenhouse gas emissions than density. Specifically, lower-income people generate fewer emissions due to lower consumption. "Higher incomes translate to important social, cultural and economic benefits, but higher incomes also generally correspond with higher consumption and greenhouse gas emissions." And, "If policies can control for income, or even encourage lower-income infill, then population density has a strong potential impact on lowering greenhouse gas emissions of those locations."

Minneapolis could easily accomplish the goals of equity and reducing our carbon footprint by actively supporting subsidized affordable housing. But the city's current plan to encourage more market-rate housing in the hopes that it will drive down the cost of housing will not result in lower housing prices. As Alissa Luepke Pier, an AIA-honored architect and Minneapolis City Planning Commission



vice president, said in a recent interview, "Let me be clear: Adoption of this policy without adequate safeguards will cause great, long-term harm to low-income families and communities of color, and there is no way to undo the damage once Pandora's box has been opened." <https://www.planningreport.com/2019/06/17/minneapolis-planning-commissions-alissa-luepke-pier>

We could very easily increase our city's carbon footprint by attracting more middle- to high-income residents, who will in turn generate more carbon emissions through increased consumption of goods. In fact, this will likely lead to a future of

"carbon gentrification." A recent study, which specifically focused on the impact of tech companies on cities, found that, "From the carbon analysis so far, when density results from more high-income residents, the low-carbon benefits of that density get wiped out. We believe the carbon emissions in these neighborhoods are staying the same or increasing." <https://phys.org/news/2019-03-green-carbon-footprint.html>

Let me be clear. I think that there has long been room for increasing the density of our city. I have specifically chosen to live in a medium density environment (I live in a townhome with duplexes on either side and an apartment building across the street). But the direction that the city is currently moving in will not create the livable green city so many of us dream of for our future. Specific policies the city could explore to achieve this future would be:

- Implement required density increases such as Portland's Zone 2.5 in which any new structure built on a standard lot must be two or more units. Prior to the passage of the Minneapolis 2040 Plan this could have been a place where home owners and advocates for increased housing could have worked together. Many home owners have been very frustrated with neighboring houses being torn down and replaced by McMansions. This 2.5 zoning would make it less profitable to tear down existing homes because they could not be replaced by upscale homes, and the former zoning and mass requirements would

have eliminated the threat of larger apartment complexes which home owners can find concerning.

- Allow rooming houses again. The city's current stance against rooming houses needs to change. Rooming houses offer many benefits, from being an affordable housing option to environmental benefits through shared kitchen and bathroom facilities. One of the most cost-effective ways to achieve this would be through the conversion of existing buildings, which would have its own environmental benefits. The city could implement policies in the spirit of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan that would give incentives to preserve existing houses by converting them to rooming houses.

- Remove the requirement to get a rental license if a home owner chooses to rent out a room in a house they live in. Preferably the city would set up resources so that home owners could confidently find tenants and work on incentives to encourage people to take on boarders.

I agree that Minneapolis' policies should evolve and change over time, and I agree that there are changes that can and should be made now. Our city is at a crossroads. We can deregulate and shut down discussion about what our future should look like or we can work together and find solutions based in science, not profits. Our city has long benefited from the active engagement of its citizens. We need to improve access to this engagement for all residents, not shut down engagement completely.

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Celebrate Summer on 66th Street

special pullout section

Richfield a nearby destination for affordable summer fun

BY STEPHANIE FOX

Looking for some fun this summer? Richfield might have just what you're looking for, with parks, pools, music, food and even a wilderness adventure. Richfield's parks have a lot to offer.

Head south on Portland Avenue.

Just past the Crosstown, turn left at 64th Street into the vast green space which is Veterans Memorial Park. There you'll find Wheel Fun Rentals, a playground with equipment for climbing and a snack shack with a 10-hole mini golf course. Rent a golf club for a \$9-game (\$2 cheaper for those younger than 11, older than 62

and members of the military), and after that, grab one of the take-out restaurant's excellent malts, cones or pizzas.

The mini golf course has just been renovated, adding some realistic features and making it accessible for



Memphis-style BBQ at Southern Soul Wings and Ribs

disabled mini golf players. The course is shaded, with fountains and "ancient rock formations" installed between the greens.

"It's a great location for dates, for kids and for families," said Rachel Rademacher, the location manager.

"And the ice cream is really good. We have a new combo special with a pizza, two drinks and two cones for \$19.

"And you can rent bikes and ride them all around the park. Some bikes can fit up to six people."

Sit on the patio with your meal, or if it's raining, take a seat at a picnic

table under the picnic shelter, except Saturday mornings throughout the summer, from 7 a.m. until noon, when up to 20 vendors, many who travel to the metro from faraway farms, sell their wares at the Richfield Farmers Market.

Eichten's Hidden Acres, a three-generation farm, brings in their natural cheeses from Center City, including the popular Gouda in flavors such as dill, hot chipotle and tomato basil. And, at the Minnesota Food Forest, from Taylors Falls, you can find honey, mushrooms, ramps, fiddlehead ferns and homemade fruit leathers.

Or, pick up some pickled vegetables or maple syrup from Lynnette Labeau's table. And look for Early Boots Farm table, selling cuts of sustainably-raised beef, from their 200-acre farm near Sauk Center.

If you want an easy but deli-

See 66th Street, page 8

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Ice cream, pizza and malts are some of the features at the Wheel Fun mini golf course.

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cious meal, you can choose from six types of authentic savory homemade pirogue, a traditional Eastern European dumpling, at Natasha’s Pirogue stand. They’re frozen and ready to take home. Just thaw, heat and serve.

And, of course, if you’re already hungry, stop by Southern Soul Wings and Ribs where Rebi Humes, her husband, Malcolm, and sister Jackie Berrie serve up amazing Memphis-style smoked pork ribs or wings, served with a spicy sweet sauce. They also serve a Memphis-style mac ‘n’ cheese, (in the South, mac ‘n’ cheese is a vegetable), grilled brats, green beans and other Southern staples.

“I hope to bring Memphis hospitality to Minneapolis,” said Rebi. Humes

moved to the Twin Cities from Memphis 25 years ago and started cooking Memphis-style for friends and family, who encouraged her to go pro. Ribs are \$8 for three. Wings are \$6 for four.

This is their first year barbecuing for the public. While they hope to



The 2-plus story water slide is popular with swimmers.

expand in the future, for now, they are a Richfield Farmers Market exclusive. “Show up early,” said Humes, “or we might run out.”

The market also features artisans, early in the season before the produce and other foods take over, including jewelry, household goods and essential oils. And, if you have a gardening question, there are experts there to answer them at the Master Gardener table.

From the Farmers Market, it’s a short walk to the Richfield swimming pool, where 500 to 700 people come to cool off on hot summer days. The large 50-meter pool was built in 1961 and includes a popular and twisty double water slide, added in 1991, as well as water volleyball, two lap lanes, a diving board and a kiddie pool with climbing equipment and fountains. The main pool is wheelchair accessible. Season passes are available for individuals and for families.

Next door to the swimming pool is Richfield’s ice arena, home to the Minnesota Magicians, a junior ice hockey team in the North American Hockey League’s Midwest Division. The league auditions players aged 16 to 20 years,



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who can use the team as an opportunity to improve their skills and perhaps, get seen by a recruiter and get a college scholarship. Last year, 20 hockey players moved on to colleges. This year's team has been chosen and hockey season starts in September. The games are open to the public.

For other ice lovers, the two rinks offer skating lessons for all ages, open skating and open hockey. And, of course, the Ice Arena is the home to the Richfield Curling Club with leagues, camps and classes. All equipment is provided, but wear a clean pair of tennis shoes.

One door down is the park's brand new community band shell, where concerts are held every week through July. For adults, there are a variety of music choices, from classical to blues, reggae, mariachi, bluegrass and rock on Thursday evenings. For kids, there are interactive concerts, magicians, live animals from the Minnesota Zoomobile and more. Kids' events are Tuesdays starting at 11 a.m. Check online for performance schedules.

A visit to Veterans Memorial Park should include a stop at the Honor-

ing All Veterans Memorial. Spend a moment to remember all those who gave their lives in America's wars. From there, it's only a few steps to the Fred Babcock VFW Post 5555. The VFW's mission is to foster camaraderie among those who served in wars, but the public is invited to enjoy their restaurant's new, extensive menu. Try breakfast, lunch or dinner or enjoy cocktails from their full bar.

There's live music and dancing and even gambling, including Texas Hold 'em games on Friday evenings and Bingo on Tuesdays and Sundays. It's fun and affordable. Oh, yes—they still hold their traditional meat raffle on Wednesdays.

A mile or so from Veterans Memorial Park is the Wood Lake Nature Center. This could be a secret place except that for years, every school child in Richfield, from preschool through 5th grade, visits three times a year as part of their science and nature classes. The Center is in the middle of Richfield, a half-block from gas stations, Pizza Luce and the Market Plaza shopping mall.

But, walk up to the main gate and the city sounds begin to fade, replaced



The Wood Lake Nature Center is popular with wildlife photographers.

by the sounds of more than 220 species of birds that make their home there over the course of a year. Foxes, raccoons and turtles—some vulnerable—are there, too. The Nature Center includes a freshwater cattail marsh, a mixed lowland forest and a restored prairie providing space for a number of species of animals and plants.

A half century ago, the 150-acre natural park was a recreational lake with lakeshore homes surrounding it, said naturalist Scott Ramsay. That changed in 1960 with the development of Ike's interstate highway system. The creation of highways I-35W and I-494 lowered the water table 10 feet. "It became a cattail marsh. Then in 1966, the Richfield Beautification Committee offered three options," he said. "They said, turn it back into a lake, build a golf course or build an ice rink."

But a letter from Les Blacklock, a renowned local nature photographer, asking that it become a nature center, changed their minds, and today, the Wood Lake Center is home to summer camps, a nature center and museum, as well as three miles of walking trails.

The place is popular with birdwatchers, hikers, photographers and people just needing a little bit of nature in their week. Be sure to bring your binoculars. Visitors can enjoy the wildlife-viewing area, educational programs, an amphitheater and a picnic area. In the winter, ski trails open up as well. And, many trails are accessible by wheelchairs in the warmer months.

There are programs throughout the year, including the annual Urban Woodland Half Marathon and 5K. There are summer camps for young people and adult programs including a book club and bird hikes. Check their schedule for a chance to learn to collect sugar maple sap for syrup, lessons on collecting and cooking wild plants, the muskrat safari, advanced marsh exploring, even instruction on natural resource management. All classes are led by staff naturalists.

More than 70,000 people visit the Center each year. If you go, don't keep it a secret. It is a magical place. And if you go, if you are lucky, you might see ducklings.



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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

Making a Difference in Lives of East African Women

Wednesday, July 10, 1:30 p.m.

Nokomis Square Co-op
5015 35th Ave. S.

Nokomis Healthy Seniors will host a Health and Enrichment program on "Making a Difference in Lives of East African Women: A Firsthand Account," presented by a Nokomis Square Co-op resident, on Wednesday, July 10 at 1:30 p.m. Free; all are welcome. No reservations required.

Lunch and a Movie

Thursday, July 11, 11:15 a.m.

Nokomis Healthy Seniors inside Bethel Lutheran Church
4120 17th Ave. S.

Join Nokomis Healthy Seniors for "Lunch and a Movie" on Thursday, July 11. We'll share a meal at 11:15 a.m. and then we'll watch the movie "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" in our own theatre. All are welcome. Reservations required. Call 612-729-5499.

Nature After Dinner: Turtle Time

Thursday, July 11

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Dodge Nature Center, Farm Entrance 3, 1701 Charlton St. in West St. Paul
Turtles in Minnesota spend most of their lives in the water. Come learn about how important the waters of Minnesota are to these very cool creatures. You will learn all about turtles and their aquatic lives as you meet them up close.

This program is designed for kids ages 3-8. All children must be accompanied by at least one adult. Families are welcome. Pre-registration is required. Cost: \$10 per child. 651-455-4531, DodgeNatureCenter.org

North by Northwest – Experimental Films from Fargo/Moorhead

Thursday, July 11 at 7 p.m.

(Doors at 6:30 p.m.) **T**
Bryant-Lake Bowl
Cabaret Theater Calendar
810 West Lake St.

Filmmakers Kyja Kristjansson-Nelson and Raymond Rea will present experimental non-fiction and animation at July's installation of Cellular Cinema. Representing the Fargo/Moorhead area, Rea and K-Nelson will share an evening of personal storytelling, exploring family history, genealogy, mythology, memory, immigration, gender and sexuality. Reservations 612-825-8949 and www.bryantlakebowl.com \$6-\$12 sliding scale. Website: <http://cellularcinema.org/>

Joe Kopel + My Town Improv

Friday, July 12 at 7 p.m.

(Doors at 6 p.m.)
Bryant-Lake Bowl Cabaret Theater Calendar

810 West Lake St.

An improv comedy and music double feature! My Town performs a fully unscripted, long-form coming of age narrative that will leave you nostalgic. They'll be followed by Joe Kopel, a trio vessel for rock, pop and songwriting. With seasoned locals Ben Neitge on drums and Leng Moua on bass, the music brings to life classics like John Prine and darker contemporaries like David Bazan, while finding a rhythm of its own. Reservations 612-825-8949 and www.bryantlakebowl.com \$10/\$7 in advance. More info & tickets: https://www.bryantlakebowl.com/theater/joe-kopel-my-town-improv/?mc_id=1396

Family Farm Tour

Saturday, July 13

10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Dodge Nature Center, Farm Entrance 3, 1701 Charlton St. in West St. Paul
Sheep, goats, pigs, chickens and horses are awaiting your visit to the Dodge Nature Center farm. Learn about the farm as you meet the animals and tour the pastures, barn and hayloft.

All ages are welcome. Dress for the weather, this program is held outdoors. Pre-registration required. Cost: \$7 per person; ages 2 and under are

free. 651-455-4531, DodgeNatureCenter.org

Red Hot Art Festival

Saturday, July 13

11 a.m. to 6 p.m. **A**

Stevens Square Park
Stevens Square Community Organization, the official neighborhood organization serving the Stevens Square-Loring Heights neighborhood in South Minneapolis, is proud to announce the 18th annual Red Hot Art Festival. Hosted at Stevens Square Park, this beloved annual festival, produced by the neighborhood group, is unique among a Twin Cities summer season, teeming with events that embrace emerging local artists and dedicated to the DIY heart and soul of Minneapolis culture.

Thanks to a new partnership with Vision Loss Resources, Red Hot Art Festival will make itself the first "Touchable Art Fair," providing specially-trained sighted guides to welcome people who are blind or have low vision, and allowing visitors to physically touch some or all of an artist's work. "Touch tours" are increasingly available at museums, but festival organizers are unaware of any other art festivals providing this specific accessibility strategy. <https://www.facebook.com/events/362785344333085/>

Twin Cities World Refugee Day

Sunday, July 14

12 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Loring Park, 1382 Willow St.
Twin Cities World Refugee Day is a family-oriented day of celebration that highlights the stories, arts and cultures of the thousands of refugees in Minnesota and the light they bring to our community. The purpose of TCWRD is to provide a platform for refugee stories and artistic practices, to honor their lives and raise awareness of the millions of refugees in the world who have been forced to flee their homes. The annual event is held each year to recognize refugees' journeys to their new homes through celebration and education. TCWRD is a proud community event that is planned and implemented by volunteers.

This event is FREE and open to the public!

-A cultural stage will profile at least 15 cultural artists/groups representing at least 10 nationalities inclusive of dance, music, spoken word and other unique performances by a multitude of performers.

- A resource fair involving at least 50 different organizations that support Minnesota

refugees.

- A media relations booth will make community and organizational leaders available for interviews.

- A volunteer booth will deploy 60 volunteers to assist with various aspects of the event.

- 15-20 food and art vendors selling unique food, beverages and art will be on site. Come experience amazing performances while connecting with the diverse communities Minnesota is home to!

Vegan Invasion

Sunday, July 14

Noon to 5 p.m.

Lake Monster Brewing
550 Vandalia St. #160, St. Paul
Vegan Invasion: Food Festival & Drink Sampler, organized by Reverie Mobile Kitchen and The Herbivorous Butcher, celebrates its inaugural event at Lake Monster Brewing on July 14, 2019 from noon to 5 p.m. Sample unlimited alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages including beer, wine, cold brew, kombucha and more while DJ Jake Rudh spins records on the patio. Enjoy the best plant-based eats from many of your favorite vegan businesses and shop cruelty-free retail vendors as well.

Ticket prices include a souvenir glass and unlimited samples from all drink vendors. Vendors include but are not limited to Surly Brewing, Tin Whiskers Brewing, Bent Brewstillery, Crepe and Spoon, Pizza Control, Deane's Kombucha, Misfit Coffee and more.

Still Counting Sheep?

Senior Social and Health Talks

Tuesday, July 16, 10:30 a.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31st St.
Come learn how sleep changes as you age and how not getting enough sleep can change your overall health. Find out from Erin Golden, Sleep Physician at Hennepin Healthcare, what can be done to get a better night's sleep. Sponsored by Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors <http://www.lshealthyseniors.org/>

Minnehaha Falls Art Fair

Saturday, July 20

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **A**

Minnehaha Falls Park
4801 Minnehaha Ave.
Minnehaha Falls is one of Minneapolis' oldest and most popular parks featuring a majestic 53-foot waterfall, limestone bluffs, river overlooks, Sea Salt Eatery, many walking and hiking trails and more! And now, for the first time

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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

ever, Minnehaha Falls will be the site of Minnesota's newest Art Fair! Celebrate dozens of local artists at the first annual Minnehaha Falls Art Fair. Peruse a wide variety of mediums including paintings, ceramics, textiles, screen-printing, woodwork-ing, photography and more. There will be items UNDER \$30 at every artist booth! More info at 612-296-7371 or www.minnehahafallsartfair.com


Tri-Loppet Saturday, July 20

Put your skills to the test in this ultimate summer ad-venture race! The Tri-Loppet is a point-to-point off-road triathlon using the Minneapo-lis Chain of Lakes and trails in Theodore Wirth Park. Paddle 7K, run 5.5K and mountain bike 13K – all in the heart of the city!

The Tri-Loppet is open to both individuals and relay teams, and will take participants through some of the best land and water trails that Minneapo-lis has to offer. Kayak, canoe or SUP your way along the Chain of Lakes with awesome views of the downtown Min-neapolis skyline, run on some of the city's most beautiful natural trails and bike along Wirth's new system of sin-gletrack. Once you cross the finish line, enjoy a fun sum-mer afternoon at The Trail-head with live music, food for purchase and a free Surly beer for all race participants. All off-road and a ton of fun, this is a race experience you're sure to have a blast competing in!

This is a Hoigaard's Challenge event, learn more here: <http://bit.ly/2HZp2Kd>

Campfire Songs and Stories Monday, July 22

6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. 

Dodge Nature Center, Main Office Entrance 1, 365 Marie Ave. W. in West St. Paul Join us in the Dodge for songs and stories around the camp-fire. Hear funny stories, tall tales and outright lies. Join in singing some classic camp-fire singalongs. Then roast a marshmallow or two, or more. Pre-registration required. Cost: \$7 per person; ages 2 and under are free. 651-455-4531, DodgeNatureCenter.org

Mississippi Market's \$3 Community Dinners

Thursday, July 25 and
Thursday, August 22

5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

622 Selby Ave., St. Paul Market is pleased to announce the return of its \$3 Commu-nity Dinners this summer. These events will be held

on the fourth Thursdays of July and August from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the co-op's East 7th store. Each dinner will feature an affordable Market Made meal, live music from local musicians, free food samples, community partners, raffle prizes and more. Vegan and gluten-free options will be available at both dinners. Save the dates to celebrate community with good food, great people and live music. All are welcome!

July 25: Garlic Rosemary Chicken or BBQ Tofu & Potato Salad

August 22: BBQ Pulled Pork or Jackfruit Sandwich & Coleslaw

Roots & Kinship

A community gathering to revitalize our relationships with Mother Earth and each other

Friday, July 26, 6:30 p.m.

Lake Nokomis Community Center Picnic Shelter 2401 E Minnehaha Pkwy. Lyla June, musician, public speaker and performance poet of Diné (Navajo), Tsétsêhéstâhese (Cheyenne), and Scandinavian lineages, explores indigenous resur-gence, reclaiming European indigenous roots, forgiveness, reconciliation and love as a revolutionary force.

The Wisdom Dancers, tradi-tional dancers and singers drawing from Balkan, Greek and Asia Minor lineages. Share the collective joy of traditional songs and dances as tools for healing. Through dance they connect with their roots and explore ways to live in right relationship in Minnesota.

FREE. Please bring a blanket for sitting on the ground or your own chair. In the case of rain, we will meet inside the Lake Nokomis Community Center.

ASL interpreted. Accessible seating available.

More information at wisdomdances.com or <https://www.wisdomdances.com/events/rootskinship/>

Foraging Summer Herbs Saturday, July 27

Noon to 2 p.m.

Midtown Greenway and East 28th

Summer is a time of lush growth that provides awe-some opportunities for the urban forager. These include wild herbs that produce amazing aromas, lend bright flavors as seasonings and give numerous health benefits to boot! Join Maria Wesslerle and Four Season Foraging as we learn how to identify, har-vest and prepare the herbs of summer. This workshop will

be discussion based; we won't actually collect or concoct any of the herbs, but we will learn a lot about them! Meet at the intersection of the Midtown Greenway and East 28th St. in Minneapolis. Sliding scale \$15 - \$35. Space is limited. For more details or to register, please visit fourseasonforaging.com/events, email info@fourseasonforaging.com, or call 612-440-5958.

Paws and Effect, at the Min- nesota Family Fringe

Saturday, July 27, 1 p.m.

Sunday, July 28, 2:30 p.m.

Friday, August 2, 7 p.m.

Saturday, August 3, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 4, 1 p.m.

Barker Center for Dance 500 21st Ave. S., Minneapolis 55454

Off-Leash area is thrilled to announce the return of their wildly popular show "Paws and Effect," starring a real dog, to the 2019 Minnesota Family Fringe! "Paws and Ef-fect" is a visually rich, surreal production exploring the jour-ney of a girl who doesn't fit in, and a stray dog she befriends who teaches her how to show love and acceptance to others and especially herself. Featuring OLA's signature award-winning interdis-ci-plinary style, the performance blends company choreog-rapher Jennifer Ilse's highly theatrical movement with Paul Herwig's elaborate visual set design using live projected animation. Performers include Off-Leash Area's own Jennifer Ilse, Katie Kaufman and Lily the Doberman.

This show with a dog will be performed at the Barker Center for Dance in Minneapolis. The Barker Center. We swear this is a coincidence.

The Minnesota Family Fringe is a juried sub-festival of the popular Minnesota Fringe Festival, centered on kid- and family-friendly performances. "Paws and Effect" is a visual smorgasbord about adventure and acceptance—a delight to children of all ages and to adults as well!

Information on festival events and schedule at: www.minne-sotafringe.org/family-fringe

Regina High School Class of 1969 50th Reunion

Saturday, September 14

Minneapolis Marriott Hotel Calling all graduates of Regi-na High School Class of 1969! Our 50th Reunion will be held on Saturday, September 14 at the Minneapolis Marriott Hot-el. For further information, please go to www.classcre-ator.com/Minneapolis-Min-nesota-Regina-1969 or call 612-729-3500.

What Would Crazy Horse Do?

July 10 - 13 @ 7:30 p.m. and July 14 @ 2 p.m.



Turtle Theater Collective

Performing at the Mixed Blood Theatre

1501 South 4th Street

<https://whatwouldcrazyhorsedo.brownpapertickets.com/>

Turtle Theater Collective is proud to present the region-al premiere of "What Would Crazy Horse Do?" by Larissa FastHorse, an award-winning playwright, director and cho-reographer and an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. It's a dark comedy set on a Lakota reservation in South Dakota, loosely based on real events about a single photo and the strange bedfellows it reveals: the Klan and a tribe of Indians joining together for a Pow Wow. Ernest Briggs, Artistic Director of Turtle Theater Collective, said, "I had the honor of being a part of the Minneapolis staged reading of 'What Would Crazy Horse Do?' in the spring of 2016 ... I knew the moment I took part in this reading, I wanted to see this show performed, if only to start a conversation and to remind people to be vigilant, because sometimes the people who speak softly can do more damage to our society than those who shout loudly." Performances at Mixed Blood Theatre: July 10 - 13 @ 7:30 p.m. and July 14 @ 2 p.m. Advance tickets available at <https://what-wouldcrazyhorsedo.brownpapertickets.com/>; door tickets cash only.

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Ashley has labels

BY ASHLEY FRAYED

There is a lot of controversy in the mental health community about what these labels mean. Some say labels are demeaning. Others feel that labels help people who have a mental health issue be more easily understood.

Everything and everyone are labeled in our culture. Some connote positive. Others connote negative. As knowledge about how a label affects a person or entity evolves, labels change. At one time the label "mentally retarded" was accepted as the correct label. However, the generally accepted term is now "developmentally disabled."

One might wonder, what is the difference? A term like "mentally retarded" has only the meaning we as a culture ascribe to it. At one time, a person with limited cognitive abilities was generally considered inferior as a human being. One way to know this

is to realize how the label is used in different contexts. For instance, "You retard!" was a way of insulting someone. Just the word "retarded" was so commonly used as a slur toward anyone in any situation, that over time, the professional community began to realize that the label had to change. The label just carried too much stigma. The term "mental retardation" no longer exists in professional texts describing the underlying cognitive deficit.

Back to the label of "schizophrenic." It too has been used as a colloquialism that means, "Stupid, bad, confusing, awful," and so on. This is the label that has been attached to myself and others with the same diagnosis. As a result of that sad fact, I cannot escape the label or its implications. If I tell someone that I have schizophrenia, that person will, for the most part, view me as scary, awful, confused and just plain crazy. I have

seen this within my own family. As soon as my diagnosis was known, I was immediately removed from the labels I had earned. My former labels were, "successful, driven, brilliant, fearless," etc. While things have changed for people with cognitive deficits, formerly referred to as "retarded," those labeled "schizophrenic" are still ridiculed.

The label "schizophrenic" has other negative connotations. Often a suspect in a grisly murder will attempt to use schizophrenia as a mental illness defense. The suspect/defendant knows the symptoms of the actual illness and will claim to have heard voices, aka "command hallucinations." Because of this, persons like myself are associated with violent and grisly acts. Many times these defenses work in criminal proceedings. What I have learned through receiving continuing mental health care is that persons who carry the "schizophrenia" diagnosis are much more likely to be the victims of violent crimes than the average person.

Back to the question, what does a label mean to persons who carry it? It depends on the label and the connotations it comes with. I feel that until the professional mental health community changes the diag-



nosis into a different word, the shaming and suspicion will continue. I live in fear that my diagnosis will be discovered. I do not want the consequences of the misuse of the label to affect my life. It has hurt me romantically, professionally and spiritually. It hurts. It hurts a lot.

Now that I have adequately explained what these labels mean, I feel that it is my duty to come up with a new label for those diagnosed as schizophrenic. I am currently in the process of finding ways to end stigma. Though the task itself is daunting, I continue this work because it has to change. I have to use my imagination. I have to convince the professional psychiatric community to change the label that is used in the "Diagnostic Manual of Mental Disorders." That publication is updated from time to time. As a former attorney, I do have some persuasive skills that I can draw strength from.

A label that has stigma must be replaced. I have thought of a few reasonable alternatives.

One label that describes the symptoms of schizophrenia

without stigma is "spiritually gifted." Of course, it is obvious that this is a herculean task. Another word with no stigma attached is "crazy." Some people may react negatively to that. The term "crazy" has many different meanings in different cultural contexts. The culture where I reside mentally is "Urban/Hip-Hop." In that world, "crazy" means the best of the best. If someone who shares that culture with me says, "That album she dropped was crazy," I know that it is a very highly regarded album. Something good.

In conclusion, a word has no meaning unless we ascribe one to it. The challenge faced by those bearing the label is how to get the majority of fellow community members to agree on one term only. The possibility of using an "Urban/Hip-Hop" label is within my reach. For others, this will never change their view in my lifetime. However, one hopeful fact is that as a whole, the professional mental health community is committed to political correctness.



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:

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Line 3 has been stopped, at least for now, and maybe forever

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

The first oil pipelines were installed in 1853, in Canada. Rockefeller took over the oil pipeline industry in the U.S. toward the end of the 1800s on the East Coast and it spread from there until today, thousands of miles of oil pipelines cover the globe. The first electrification of buildings, ever, in the history of the world, took place toward the end of the 1800s in New York City. From then until now—a very short period of time—the entire world has become dependent on the comfort and efficiency our energy systems provide. During this intense period of development, human beings have plundered the Earth.

By 1950, the majority of U.S. energy came from fossil fuels—petroleum, natural gas and coal.

That worked fine for a while. Then in the 1970s we started hearing we might run out. That was our big concern. Shortly after that, the concern was the excessive carbon emissions caused by the use of fossil fuels as well as the methods used to extract them. So now, in 2019, we know that fossil fuels are no longer an option and our only chance is to somehow go to zero emissions.

The time to gradually wean ourselves off of fossil fuels would have been in the '70s and '80s when the news first came out about what fossil fuel emissions were doing to our atmosphere and environment. But that didn't happen. Commerce, industry and government by and large have been lagging behind.

The company that owns and operates the six oil pipelines that crisscross northern Minnesota, Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership, based in Alberta, Canada, is only just now thinking about gradually getting away from fossil fuels. On its website, the company talks about gradually reducing the amount of fossil fuels in use, but they are talking extremely gradually. Otherwise they wouldn't be trying to substitute a new line for one of their northern Minnesota oil pipelines, Line 3, which was built between 1962 and '65, and is wearing out, becoming too expensive to repair, and potentially dangerous. In 2014, instead of terminating the line, the company made plans to build a new line to replace the old one. It was going to be 36 inches in diameter rather than 34 and would follow a slightly different route through Minnesota, adding 55 miles, but would end up at the Superior, Wis., terminal, like the current (old) Line 3, and from there, as usual, the tar sands crude oil would be delivered to refineries in the Midwest, eastern Canada and the Gulf Coast.

Environmental activist Akilah Sanders-Reed has been involved in opposition to the new Line 3 since the beginning. Her dedication to saving the environment is complete, from her college degree in environmental studies and history, to her work with MN350 and The Power Shift Network, to her many hours of environment-related volunteer work.

She explained her many reasons for opposing the new Line 3, as well as the old Line 3, which is currently operating at half capacity:

1) Enbridge wants the last leg of the replacement to follow a new path, between Clearbrook, Minn., and Superior, Wis., instead of following the existing mainline route shared with several other Enbridge pipelines. The problem with clearing the new path, which has already started, is that it is cutting through forests, destroying pristine wilderness and natural wildlife habitats.

2) The old line is already disrespectful of Native lands and dishonors treaty rights. The new line, although not going through Indian reservations, would go through land used by Indigenous people for rice, a major source of livelihood. Already Indigenous people say the ecosystems are changing and they can't do traditional practices. [As I understand it, traditional practices mean working with nature, while the high level of industrial development practiced by the West means controlling nature. Those two mentalities are incompatible.]

3) If and when the new line is finished, the old line would be left in the ground, harmful and hazardous. Minnesota, unlike Iowa, has no laws that regulate the method of deactivating an old pipeline.

4) Young people with pre-existing mental health conditions are being impacted by the destabilization brought to their northern Minnesota environment as pipeline construction goes on.

5) The possibility of spills and leaks that would poison the water and damage the soil is always there. There have been many oil spills from equipment installed less than 10 years prior to the leak. Greenpeace reported that over the past 15 years, Enbridge averaged a leak every 22 days.

6) Why take the risk of spills when the demand in Minnesota is down 18% in the last 20 years, and Minnesota refineries are running at capacity. And, as more climate policies are enacted, the demand will continually drop.

In April 2015, Enbridge applied to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) for a

"certificate of need" and a "route permit."

Over two years, 2015 to 2017, the Department of Commerce held numerous public meetings and public comment periods to get input and feedback. It went through various drafts of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and on August 17, 2017, it released the final EIS, a 13,500-page document. A comment period was open until October 2, 2017, to receive comments on the adequacy of the final EIS. Sanders-Reed said that "from start to finish, the Department of Commerce was adamantly opposed to the new Line 3."

In another part of the process, Akilah Sanders-Reed was present every day for three weeks of hearings in the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH). "When something really big and complicated is contested, it is delegated to a judge in the OAH, in this case Judge Ann O'Reilly, who oversaw public hearings in a three-week-long process," Akilah said. The judge, instead of the PUC commissioners, listened to the testimony of experts, such as the Youth Climate Intervenor, Honor the Earth, Friends of the Headwaters, five tribal governments (Red Lake, White Earth, Mille Lacs, Fond du Lac, Leech Lake), Sierra Club, the Northern Water Alliance, land owners from the affected counties, and the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

After three weeks of listening, Sanders-Reed said, the judge had to read the transcribed pages and make a recommendation to the PUC. Judge O'Reilly recommended, in April 2018, that it was not legal to permit Enbridge to build the new Line 3—the proposal costs were too high for society.

Enbridge's report of the proceedings notes only the ruling of a second administrative law judge, who deemed the Final Environmental Impact Statement "adequate."

Next, Sanders-Reed was present at a second set of hearings, in June 2018, held by the PUC commissioners for five eight-hour days over a two-week period. In these hearings, the five PUC commissioners asked questions of the parties, the same people Judge O'Reilly had listened to, plus members of the general public.

Sanders-Reed said there were about 30 people present in each of these sessions. Also, 94% of the public written comments that came in were opposed to the new Line 3.

At the end, the five PUC commissioners approved the new Line 3. "We have to stick to the law even though it's not what we believe," they said, according to

Sanders-Reed. She related that as they relayed their decision, two of them broke down in tears because of their concern about the old pipeline, over which they have no authority: The question before them was only about the new pipeline. The commissioners said they felt like they had a gun to their heads and if they didn't give Enbridge everything they wanted, Enbridge would continue using the old, broken down and dangerous pipeline. Kate O'Connell from the Minnesota Department of Commerce said Enbridge's arguments were extortion of the state.

Just now, on June 3, 2019, the Minnesota Court of Appeals ruled that missing from the 13,500-page EIS is a study on the impact of a spill in the Lake Superior watershed, which must be supplemented before the new pipeline can again be considered.

Walker Orenstein in MinnPost, June 4, wrote, "The court sided with a coalition of tribes and environmental nonprofits in reversing a decision by the state's Public Utilities Commission. The ruling may delay Enbridge's progress toward building the \$2.6 billion project."

More obstacles to the pipeline's completion appeared Tuesday, June 18. Minnesota Public

Radio reported: "Enbridge's proposed Line 3 oil pipeline replacement likely could see more delays, after two state agencies involved in the project said Tuesday [June 18] that the permitting schedule for the pipeline needs to be revised."

"I believe the scales are tipping," says Akilah Sanders-Reed. "The movement is winning over this extractive industry that's hurting people."

"Keystone 10 years ago said it was a done deal, and it's still not built. Five years ago, two other tar sands pipelines were canceled—Energy East and Northern Gateway, in Canada. Enbridge had another project out of North Dakota, Sandpiper Pipelines, which was stopped in the courts.

"[Activists who make a difference] are always a small group, not the majority. It's a big and powerful group, but relatively small. The group who chooses to stake out a claim on what was once considered impossible, doesn't have to include all the people."

"I really do believe there are enough people who are motivated enough to build the movement."

I.C.E. PROTEST

JUNE 30, 2019



An hour before the march was to begin the skies opened up in a torrent of rain, as though weeping for the sins of our nation. But as carloads of marchers began to arrive, the rain stopped and a cool breeze cleared away the oppressive heat of the previous day. And the marchers assembled. One hundred, two hundred, three, they kept coming until we were more than a thousand strong. We filled the street for two blocks chanting: ABOLISH I.C.E. SHUT DOWN THE DETENTION CENTERS. Stop separating families! End the Muslim Ban. DON'T CAGE KIDS. And we took over the streets as we shouted our message for a mile and a half march. Did you hear us? Do you hear us? Will you join us? —Dan Leisen

EVENTS

Summer Music Series

Tuesdays, July 9, 16, 23 & 30, 7 p.m.

Temple Israel
2324 Emerson Ave. S.
Mpls. 55405
Plymouth Congregational Church, at 19th Street and Nicollet Avenue, is grateful to Temple Israel for hosting its Summer Music Series while Plymouth's sanctuary floors are being refinished. On July 9, Minnesota Orchestra principal flutist Adam Kuenzel performs. On July 16, Monroe Crossing will play bluegrass. On July 23, Plymouth soloists will sing classics from Rodgers & Hammerstein. And, on July 30, Bradley Greenwald will be joined by Sonja Thompson for English Parlor songs. Don't miss these great

concerts! Please note: There is free parking behind Temple Israel.

Fare For All Express and the Shoe Bus

Wednesday, July 10 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
2730 E. 31st St.
Fare For All is an organization that buys fresh fruits, vegetables and frozen meat in bulk to save buyers up to 40 percent off grocery store prices. Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone. The more people who shop, the better. Fare For All accepts cash, credit, debit and EBT cards. Shop between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. Shoe Away Hunger is a partnering program where footwear is turned around to provide an eco-friendly means of support for Feeding the Fu-

ture programs. New and gently used shoes cost between \$3 and \$7. All are encouraged to shop at the Shoe Bus.

Lunch and Music in the Garden

Sunday, July 14, noon
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
2730 E. 31st St.

We will fire up the wood-fired oven and make pizzas for lunch! Music will be provided by the OK Factor, a violin and cello duo. Suggested donation of \$5 for the lunch.

OLP Day: A Neighborhood Luau

Sunday, July 14 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church
5426 12th Ave. S.
South Minneapolis! Join Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church and School as we



"We are all the leaves of one tree. We are all the waves of one sea."
— Thich Nhat Hanh

celebrate our Parish Feast Day! We begin Mass at 10 a.m. to celebrate Mary, Our Lady of Peace. The Neighborhood Luau begins at 11:30 a.m. and will include a free pig roast, yard games and more. Free. All are welcome!

Open Streets Lake + Minnehaha

Sunday, July 21 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
2730 E. 31st St.
Holy Trinity will be giving away free, uncooked ears of corn and decorating kids' bikes (while supplies last) for Open Streets Lake + Minnehaha.

Musical Open House—Hymn Sing

Tuesday, July 23 11 to 11:30 a.m. Lunch Noon to 1 p.m. Hymn Sing in the sanctuary with Timothy Strand

Mindekirken, The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church
924 East 21st St.
Guest musician Timothy Strand is the Director of Music Ministry at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in St. Paul where he oversees a very active program of choirs, instrumentalists and concerts. Tim is a proud graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College where he studied organ and served as tenor section leader of the Gustavus Choir and received his Masters of Music degree from Indiana University School of Music with emphasis in church music and organ performance. An

active freelance accompanist, he plays for Magnum Chorum and just this past year served as pianist for Kim André Arnesen's "Holy Spirit Mass" that was performed by the Together in Hope Choir in Rome this past fall. He performs frequently, accompanying choral demo recordings for both Augsburg Fortress and Morning Star Music Publishers. He also proudly celebrates his "dual" ancestry: Swedish on his father's side and Norwegian on his mother's side—the perfect combination! \$7 donation is requested at the door.

Events at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

3430 E. 51st St. (kitty-corner from the Nokomis Library)
612-729-5463
July 13 – Blind Ministry will meet at Trinity First Lutheran School, 1115 E. 19th St. this month only
July 13 – International Youth Gathering service event at Faith from 9 to 11 a.m.
July 19 – Life Line Screening from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 1-800-897-9177 to make an appointment.
July 28 – Worship Service outdoors at 10 a.m. followed by fellowship.
August 3 – Book Club: "Great Alone" by Kristin Hannah.
NA Groups – Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. and Fridays at 7 p.m.
Exercise Group – Mondays at 10 a.m.

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www.saintalbertthegreat.org

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www.firstfreechurch.org
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www.holycrossmpls.org
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5300 10th Ave. S.
612-825-6846
www.nokomisheights.org
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Back to the '20s?

BY KATHRYN KELLY

At the last Hiawatha Community Advisory Committee meeting in June, Assistant Minneapolis Park Board Superintendent Michael Schroeder referred to my research about constructed wetlands, and stated that the Park Board is not doing a constructed

wetland; they are doing wetland restoration.

I researched constructed wetlands because the Park Board stated that one of the main goals of reduced pumping and creation of this new wetland was to mitigate pollution. What I found was that the EPA calls this type of wetland a constructed wetland. Constructed wetlands for pollution mitigation are complex systems to design, build and maintain. Also, the EPA lays out several site selection criteria for a constructed wetland that this site fails to

meet: do not build on a floodplain, do not build on peat, do not build near adjacent properties and do not build on property with a high volume of water throughput.

So, now, it appears that the Park Board is no longer claiming that this reduced pumping plan will mitigate pollution. Instead, they just want to restore the wetland back to what it used to be in the 1920s. Does this mean that the park building, the softball field/ice rink, the playground and the wading pool on the

east side of Lake Hiawatha need to be demolished? Like the golf course, this location used to be part of Rice Lake and was manufactured from the dredged spoils of the lake. Also, the area around and feeding into the park property and Lake Hiawatha has changed dramatically since the 1920s. A massive number of parcels are developed and farms in the upper watershed are gone. Those properties are not going back to what they were.

So, restoring this property

back to what it was in the 1920s is a pipe dream. It is like putting a horse and buggy onto 35W. Therefore, I am still searching for a reason which requires the destruction of the 18-hole golf course. So far, every reason given by the MPRB has been debunked.

And, let us remember Park Board President Bourn's question to Mr. Schroeder last year. He asked, "So, no one is making us do reduced pumping. If we do this, we are doing this because WE want to?" Mr. Schroeder replied, "Yes."

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