



**We build Pride on the Southside**

**NOKOMIS  
EDITION**

**SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH**

**AUGUST  
2019**

**VOL. XXIX, ISSUE 23**

## Bloat, and more bloat

BY TONY BOUZA

[On Sunday, July 29, the StarTribune reported: "Arradondo told reporters after a meeting of the City Council's public safety committee that he wanted to add 400 more street officers by 2025 in order to keep pace with attrition and population growth.

"Last week, Arradondo shared a startling statistic: Over a 12-month period dating back to last summer, police officials counted 1,251 instances in which no squads were immediately available to respond to a Priority 1 call, such as a shooting, domestic assault or a drug overdose. And because of the way the data is compiled, that number might actually be higher, police say."]

No thanks to any police chief in America, crime has never been lower. Thank Harry Blackmun and his Roe v. Wade, or even Clinton for his welfare reforms.

Yet bloat abounds.

Idiots get elected to Drain the Swamp and dumb voters believe it.

The British Admiralty had the most clerks when it had the fewest ships.

I took some real serious heat when I shifted from all two-cop patrols to one in 1981. I could

**See Bouza, page 11**



## NENA's Kickball Tournament raises money for neighborhood causes

BY STEPHANIE FOX

The last Saturday in July was sunny with temps in the lower 80s, a rare perfect summer day. In East Nokomis, it was also a perfect afternoon for a new event, a neighborhood kickball tournament. Six teams faced off at Keewaydin Park's baseball fields, vying for a trophy and bragging rights as top kickball athletes.

The contest was a fundraiser for the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, raising money to repair the Bossen Community Mural on 58th Street; to install new bike racks; and to wrap local utility boxes with art photos of the area. But the games were more than that. It was a chance for people to come together for some fun.

Teams paid a \$50 reg-

istration fee and NENA sold beverages and burgers to raise extra money. Players had to be at least 15 years old but did not have to live in the area. Teams needed to have at least eight players, but most had more.

"We had a good turnout," said Liz Brophey, NENA's vice chair, as she sat in the shade, selling snacks. "People are having a good time. We have six teams with more than 60 people participating. Some teams are actual regular teams and some are just groups of friends who came out to play for today."

"We all played this game as kids, in middle school," said Adam Somers, a board member representing the Wenonah neighborhood, who served as a referee. "It's a back and forth game and brings us back to our childhood roots."

Kickball is similar to baseball but instead of baseballs and bats, a pitcher will toss a large red rubber ball across home plate and the "batter" will try to kick it and attempt to run the bases before being tagged. The tournament was organized so that each team played at least three games, more if they moved into the playoffs.

Jeremy Mabis-Rowe and his husband, Corey, members of the Stonewall Sports-Ballers, a GLBT team, brought along Tyson, an 8-year-old shar-pei dog, the unofficial team mascot, who watched the games as he lounged on the nearby grass.

As with the other teams, there are no tryouts to be on the Stonewall Sports Ballers, one of 16 regular teams in the GLBT league. "My favorite part is taking the

**See NENA Kickball, page 13**

## Why?

BY ED FELIEN

Why did Patrick Crusius kill 22 people in El Paso? Did he see himself as a hero trying to stop the Mexican invasion of Texas? There is conclusive evidence he was directly inspired by the racist rhetoric of President Trump. Did he believe he would be the single spark that could start a prairie fire? That his act would inspire a race war that would make America white again?

That vision of a race war is what Donald Trump is selling. And that's the message 45% of American voters are buying.

People are horrified, terrified by the acts of white supremacists, and this terror plays right into Donald Trump's hand. He promises to be the law and order leader, even as he motivates white nationalist mass murderers.

Hitler was the law and order candidate in 1933 in Germany. Right wing terrorists were creating social chaos and then, four months after Hitler was sworn in as Chancellor, the Reichstag burned. Most historians agree Hitler was probably responsible for the fire. Chaos was the midwife of authoritarianism.

Donald was taught racism by his father. Fred Trump was arrested in Queens for refusing to take off his hood in a Ku Klux Klan march. He and Donald got millions from HUD to build houses, and they were under court orders to cease their practices of housing discrimination against people of color.

Woody Guthrie:

*I suppose that Old Man Trump knows just how much racial hate*

*He stirred up in that bloodpot of human hearts*

*When he drewed that color line*

*Here at his Beach Haven family project*

Hitler hated the Reichstag. He called it a useless debating society. They couldn't get anything done. Of course, it was the Nazis who blocked any meaningful legislation.

In much the same way, Mitch McConnell has blocked any attempts to regulate the sale of guns. It's a cruel logic that allows the Republicans to spread terror through the sale of weapons of war and claim to be defending the Bill of Rights and the right of citizens to bear arms.

Hitler wouldn't allow socialists or communists to vote in the Reichstag. They were unpatriotic.

Trump is going after The Squad, telling them to go back to where they came from. They don't love this country. They should leave.

**See Why?, page 13**



**Our 10th Annual**  
**Celebrate Summer on**  
**Lyndale Avenue**  
**Pages 7, 8 & 9**





# CELEBRATE DIVERSITY DAY

WITH THE MINNESOTA TWINS



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VS



TUESDAY,  
AUGUST 20

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\*LIMITED ONE GIVEWAY ITEM PER FAN



# Savers, Perkins and a laundromat

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

On arriving in MSP after a two-week trip to Germany visiting family, I found out that the Perkins in my neighborhood, the last remaining Perkins in Minneapolis, had permanently closed a few days earlier. The next day I went to an event near the house I grew up in and discovered that the laundromat nearby has also permanently closed. After the recent closing of the Savers on Lake Street (again, the only one in Minneapolis) and after walking the streets of cities with buildings hundreds of years old, some still pockmarked by WWII, and playgrounds repaired and maintained

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Disposal  
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Stainless Steel Appliances

cally, but even if it is replaced by something great, it's unlikely that the new business will serve as vital a function to people of so many income levels as did the laundro-

Minneapolis are not an option for me and my family for a number of reasons.

Having relatives overseas means we regularly have guests that stay a minimum of two weeks at a time; we also have a child and I work from home. This means we need a minimum of three bedrooms (full disclosure, the house we live in only has two bedrooms but has a basement that can and will one day be finished). It is very rare to find a condo with three bedrooms in Minneapolis. It's also surprisingly difficult to find a condo building that has two-bedroom units but offers a guest room within the building for rent.

And when it comes to the two-bedroom units available ... in my experience many of the two-bedroom condos in Minneapolis, especially new construction, don't have windows in the second bedroom! I find it especially disturbing that these units usually consist of a master suite with a sweeping wall of windows while the secondary room (as in the option for the kid's room) has no windows at all. I would be less upset by this if it were the exception rather than the norm. Apartment buildings built in Minneapolis, whether as rental or owner occupant, also have a frustrating

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- \$50 Monthly Pet Rent
- \$200 Fee
- 2 Pet Limit
- Must Be Spayed/Neutered

Parking

- Garage: \$150
- 65 spaces; Assigned Parking

Lease Length

- 9, 12, 18

Interior

- Elevator

Cats Allowed

- 1 cat \$25, 2 cats \$40/monthly
- \$300 Deposit
- \$25 Monthly Pet Rent
- \$200 Fee
- 2 Pet Limit
- Must Be Spayed/Neutered

Property Information

- Built in 2019
- 85 Units/6 Stories

Services

- Controlled Access
- Maintenance on site
- Property Manager on Site

lack of outdoor space. If they have any private outdoor space at all, it is often limited to small and narrow balconies. The lack of windows and outdoor space are problems for me personally but also things that I consider to be problematic for the city to condone and endorse through our building policies.

The really frustrating thing is that it doesn't have to be this way at all. On our visits to Europe and the Middle East we have seen many wonderful configurations of high-density housing that allow for plenty of windows and access to outdoor space, both historic and new construction.

But the reality is, based on current market values and activity, the Savers and Perkins will be replaced by apartments like "Luna" next to Davanni's, set to open in the fall, where rents start at \$1,250—for a 451-sq-foot studio—and bedrooms without windows seem to be standard. <https://www.apartments.com/luna-minneapolis-mn/4kmtryh/>

Whatever goes in on these sites, I doubt it will be in any way, shape, or form accessible to those who patronized any of the previous establishments during their decades of business. There is something chilling in that.

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Phoenix - 676 SF

Levels 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

for decades, these combined closings felt like a gut punch.

Change is inevitable, but changes that so disproportionately impact lower-income people and that are likely to lead to drastic gentrification leave me frustrated and concerned with the future of this city. There is also the question of what is likely to replace these businesses. The building that houses the laundromat is unlikely to change physi-

mat. I expect apartments of some sort to replace the Savers and the Perkins.

There is nothing inherently wrong with apartment buildings. In fact, I would love to live in a condo. The problem I have is with the housing that is built in our city. Quite frankly it's crap. Condos as they are constructed in

Expenses			
Recurring		One-Time	
Assigned Garage Parking	\$150	Admin Fee	\$200
Cat Rent	\$25	Application Fee	\$50
Dog Rent	\$50	Cat Fee	\$200
		Cat Deposit	\$300
		Dog Fee	\$200

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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

### WAMM Second Monday Movies

**Monday, Aug. 12, 7 p.m.**  
Peace and Justice Building  
4200 Cedar Ave. S.  
Mpls. 55407

**T** “The Suffragette” paints an eye-opening picture of what life was like for women before the actions of the Suffragettes turned the tide toward equality. Inspired by true events, this powerful drama is set in 1914 in early-20th-century Britain. *Suffragette* movingly explores the passion and heartbreak of those who risked all they had for women’s right to vote—their jobs, their homes, their children, and even their lives. Directed by BAFTA Award-winner Sarah Gavron and written by Emmy Award-winner Abi Morgan. All are welcome! Always free and open to the public. Free popcorn. A chance to discuss the film follows the showing. This is the first in a series of three films about women activists: September, Rachael Carson; October, Emma Goldman.

**Art Works Eagan  
Song Writing for Wellness  
Mondays: 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
Aug. 12, 19, 26  
Sept. 9, 16, 23, 30  
Oct. 7, 14, 21**

**M**  
3795 Pilot Knob Road  
Eagan, MN 55122

Come join us at Art Works and learn to express yourself through music! No experience needed! With instructor Tim Cheesebrow, you will be given all the tools and help you need to find that

hidden songwriter in you! As a finale to the class, participants will have the option to have their compositions played by a professional band. However, participants can also choose to never have their compositions played publicly. This class offers each participant the ability to learn and express freely with no pressure for an end product or performance. For those students that would like to hear their compositions performed, there will be a dress rehearsal on November 1, in preparation for a live performance scheduled at Art Works on November 3!

The class costs \$160 per person, but for people with military service history, we are pleased to offer a “pay as you can” registration fee. We are able to completely subsidize the class cost for several participants. Any amount you can pay will stretch our available funds to help more participants! [admin@artworkseagan.org](mailto:admin@artworkseagan.org)  
Phone 651-330-4242  
This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

**Women in the Woods:  
Bee-youtiful  
Tuesday, August 13 and  
Wednesday, August 14  
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.**  
Dodge Nature Center, Farm  
Entrance 3

1701 Charlton St. in West St. Paul, 55118  
Honey bees have a female-dominated society. Join Dodge Naturalist Pam Welisevich to learn about the myths that buzz around bee life and about bee impostors. ‘Tis the season to harvest honey and this golden treat has many health benefits. Taste a sample during your visit, courtesy of the nature center honey bees. Become more comfortable and knowledgeable about the natural world by joining other women interested in getting outside. Start with a glass of wine and social time before going to the woods to fine tune your survival skills.

This program is for adult women ages 21+. Pre-registration is required. Cost: \$20 per person. 651-455-4531, [DodgeNatureCenter.org](http://DodgeNatureCenter.org)

### Wild Fruits of Summer Workshop

**Saturday, August 17th  
1 p.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Midtown Greenway and 27th Ave. S., Mpls. 55406  
Discover the richness of foraging in the city! Join Maria Wesserle and Four Season Foraging as we learn about common wild fruits that grow in urban areas, including wild plums, raspberries, cherries, and aronia. Wild plums and aronia should (hopefully!) be ripe and ready to harvest. We will also discuss other common wild edibles found along the way. Meet at the intersection of the Midtown Greenway and 27th Ave S. in Minneapolis. Sliding scale \$15-\$35. Registration required. For more details, please email [info@fourseasonforaging.com](mailto:info@fourseasonforaging.com) or call 612-440-5958.

### Twin Cities Iranian Culture Week

**Sunday, Aug. 18 to Sunday,  
Aug. 25, 4 to 9:30 p.m.  
Sunday, Aug. 18, 7 to 8:30 p.m.  
(opening reception)**

Artspace Jackson Flats  
901 18 1/2 Ave. N.E.  
Mpls. 55418  
Iran has been in the news lately, but most Minnesotans know very little about that ancient civilization’s rich cultural heritage. Minnesota’s Iranian-American community wants to change that. Twin Cities Iranian Culture Week will showcase local Iranian-Americans whose creative work in art, music, crafts and scholarship reflects that heritage. Highlights will include a multimedia art exhibition, lectures on Iranian history and culture, performances of Iranian music and poetry, a sampling of Iranian foods, and a crowd-sourced digital display of photographs by Minnesotans who have visited Iran.

### Hosmer Library Reopening Celebration

**Monday, August 19  
5:30 to 8 p.m.**  
347 East 36<sup>th</sup> St., Mpls. 55408  
Hosmer Library reopens on Thursday, August 15 at 9 a.m. following a yearlong renovation. In recognition of the reopening, all are welcome to join county officials, library staff and neighbors for remarks and a ceremonial ribbon-cutting on Monday, August 19 at 5:30 p.m. Immediately following the ceremony, Kalpulli Ketzal Coatlicue will kick off the community celebration with a traditional Aztec dance performance. From 6-7 p.m., try the Picture Wagon mobile photo booth, enjoy an outdoor story stroll and scavenger hunt for families, and join the library’s Teen Tech Squad for a workshop. “For over 100 years, Hosmer Library has been providing library service to our residents,” said Hennepin County Commissioner Angela Conley. “Now that the renovation is complete, that service tradition continues in a reimagined space. I’m looking forward to celebrating with the community.”

**Ride the Cyclone  
Wednesday - Friday, Sept. 11 -  
13, 7:30 p.m. (previews)  
Saturday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m.  
(opening night)  
Thursday, Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m.  
(audio-described)  
Sunday, Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.**

**T**  
Jungle Theater  
2951 Lyndale Ave. S., Mpls. 55408  
The Jungle Theater kicks off its 2019–2020 season in September with the regional premiere of “Ride the Cyclone,” a funny and charmingly dark musical that The New York Times labels “delightfully weird and just plain delightful.” Wildly original, the new musical is part comedy, part tragedy and wholly unexpected. In this hilarious and outlandish story, directed by Artistic Director Sarah Rasmussen, the

lives of six teenagers from a Canadian chamber choir are cut short in a freak accident aboard a roller coaster. When they awake in limbo, the Amazing Karnak, a mechanical fortune teller (Jim Lichtscheidl, “Small Mouth Sounds,” “Little Women”), invites each to tell the story of a life interrupted—with the promise of a prize like no other—a chance for one of them to return to life. The six teenagers – who sing their hearts out – are portrayed by Shinah Brashears, Gabrielle Dominique, Michael Hanna, Becca Hart, Jordan M. Leggett and Josh Zwick. A four-piece band, with Mark Christine (keyboards/“Fly by Night”) serving as conductor, accompanies the cast. Tickets are \$40 - \$50. Preview performances are \$15. Rush tickets are offered every night of the week, based on availability two hours prior to the performance, and there is special Friday night pricing for students, 55408 neighborhood residents and employees, and those under 30 years of age. Tickets and more information are available at 612-822-7063 or [www.jungletheater.org](http://www.jungletheater.org). Connect with the Jungle on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @jungletheater

**Touch-a-Truck Event  
August 21, 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**  
2841 S. 5th Ave., Mpls. 55408  
Join us for our 35W@94: Downtown to Crosstown Project Touch-a-Truck event to touch and explore vehicles of all kinds! Kids will get to climb behind the wheel, get up close, and see what it’s like to drive a real dump truck or snowplow! Attendees will also get a coupon for \$2 off a slice of pizza from Urban Ventures Farm Stand Pizza Oven. MN Nice Ride and Adaptive Cycle will be on-site providing information on bike commuting and MnDOT representatives will be at the event talking about the project. Free family fun for people of all ages. Come experience what big trucks are really like. This event is part of the 35W@94: Downtown to Crosstown project between 43rd St. and 15th St. in Minneapolis. More information: [mndot.gov/35w94/#about](http://mndot.gov/35w94/#about)  
To request an ASL or foreign language interpreter: 651-366-4720. To request other reasonable accommodations: 651-366-4718 or call the Minnesota Relay service toll-free at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY, Voice or ASCII) or 711 or email your request to [adarequest.dot@state.mn.us](mailto:adarequest.dot@state.mn.us).

**Regina High School Class of 1969 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion  
Saturday, September 14**  
Minneapolis Marriott Hotel  
Calling all graduates of Regina High School Class of 1969! Our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion will be held on Saturday, September 14 at the Minneapolis Marriott Hotel. For further information, please go to [www.classcreator.com/Minneapolis-Minnesota-Regina-1969](http://www.classcreator.com/Minneapolis-Minnesota-Regina-1969) or call 612-729-3500.

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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

### Sandbox Theatre's "Bone Mother"

**September 19 – 27, 7:30 p.m.**

The Museum of Russian Art 5500 Stevens Ave., Mpls. 55419 Sandbox Theatre, in partnership with The Museum of Russian Art, will perform their all-new production, "Bone Mother," on September 19-27 at The Museum of Russian Art.

A world premiere show in a one-of-a-kind venue, "Bone Mother" is folklore come to life in the air above you. A new play created from scratch by Sandbox's aerial wing, The Swingset, "Bone Mother" is an examination of femininity's untamable perseverance, its kinship with nature, and its expression through a spectrum of gender—all in the face of society's history to deny, ignore, repress and vilify its progress.

*In the depths of a dark Russian forest, in a house perched atop chicken legs and surrounded by a fence of flaming skulls, lives a hideous old crone named Baba Yaga. Do you dare enter? In the forest there are wild things—ostracized, forgotten, shadow things. And you. Who will you be in the moonlight?*

In mythology, as in our society, women who don't fit in have long been dismissed as witches and reviled as evil. But can naming it "evil" really be fear of its power? Its influence? Its wisdom? Why must women cultivate fear to be seen and heard? Production Schedule – all performances at 7:30pm

Thursday, September 19 – Preview and Press performance  
Friday, September 20 – with Opening Night Reception to follow

Saturday, September 21 – ASL Interpreted performance  
Sunday, September 22 – with post-show discussion with the music-makers of "Bone Mother"  
Wednesday, September 25 – Pay-What-You-Will (\$5 and up)  
Thursday, September 26 – ASL Interpreted performance, with post-show discussion with "Bone Mother" makers and members of the TMORA staff  
Friday, September 27 – with Closing Night Reception to follow.

Tickets: \$5-\$40 <https://bonemoth-er.bpt.me/>

Discounts available for TMORA members, Students, Seniors and Sandbox subscribers.

### Ananya Dance Theatre World Premiere

**Friday and Saturday, Sept. 20 and 21, 7:30 p.m.**

**ASL- Friday, Sept. 20**

The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University  
2004 Randolph Ave.  
St. Paul 55105

Ananya Dance Theatre (ADT), the leading creator of contemporary Indian dance in the global arts and social justice movement, brings its seventh inspiring production and collaboration to The O'Shaughnessy. They'll unravel time and unwritten histories in "Sutrajāl: Revelations of Gossamer" as a poet, one of the few surviving humans in an imag-

ined Broken City, bears witness.

In this compelling dance performance, the narrative centers on the life-forms that flicker in and out in the circuitous streets and despair-laden corners of the Broken City. Who were the folks who danced all night at the Global Feminist Funk Underground Club, now haunted and empty? Who were the people who lived their lives fully here before they disappeared? How did they labor? Love?

Throughout Sutrajāl (which means "network of connections" in Bengali), the artists of ADT connect their performance with a philosophy of social justice, creating original dance theater about the extraordinary work and dreams of women around the world, and to inspire audiences through visual and emotional engagement.

Sutrajāl is conceived and choreographed by ADT founder Ananya Chatterjea in collaboration with the artists of ADT, stage director Marcus Young and with the support of guest artists Tish Jones and Douglas R. Ewart and guest dramaturg Sharon Bridgforth. Her creative team includes Renée Copeland (sound design and score composition), Kevin A. Jones (lighting design), Annie Cady (costume design) and Chelsea M. Warren (scenic design).

The performance is part of the Women of Substance series.

Tickets are \$19-\$32 (discounts for students, seniors, military, MPR, TPT, groups).  
Ticket Office: [theoshaughnessy.com](http://theoshaughnessy.com) or 651-690-6700.

### Amitav Ghosh

**Thursday, September 26, 7:30 p.m.**

Grace-Trinity Community Church

1430 West 28<sup>th</sup> St., Mpls. 55408

Rain Taxi presents the award-winning author of the best-selling Ibis Trilogy, Amitav Ghosh, to the Twin Cities. Ghosh presents his new novel, "Gun Island," a globetrotting, folklore adventure novel about family and heritage. This event is free and open to the public!

Attendees can visit our event

page at <http://www.raintaxi.com/amitav-ghosh/> to RSVP and be

entered into a prize raffle at the event, as well as pre-purchase a signed copy of "Gun Island," which includes a reserved seat. About "Gun Island": On a visit to his birthplace, Kolkata, a Brooklyn-based dealer in rare books finds his life becoming entangled with an ancient legend about the goddess of snakes, Manasa Devi. While visiting a temple deep within the vast mangrove forests of Bengal, he has a disturbing encounter with the most feared, and revered, of Indian snakes, a King Cobra. This is followed by a series of increasingly uncanny episodes that seem to dissolve the borders of the human and non-human. Peopled with a diverse cast of characters, and set in places that range from the Sundarbans to Los Angeles and Venice, Amitav Ghosh's "Gun Island" is a beautifully realized novel that effortlessly spans space and time. It is the story of a world on the brink, of increasing displacement and unstoppable transition. But it is also a story of hope, of a man whose faith in the world and the future is restored by two remarkable women.

About the author: Amitav Ghosh is the author of the acclaimed and bestselling Ibis trilogy, which includes "Sea of Poppies" (short-listed for the 2008 Man Booker Prize), "River of Smoke," and "Flood of Fire," all published by FSG. His other books include the novels "The Circle of Reason," which won the Prix Médicis étranger, and "The Glass Palace," as well as the 2016 nonfiction book "The Great Derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable." Ghosh was awarded the Padma Shri by the Indian government in 2007, was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2009, and received the Jnanpith Award in 2019.

More info about the author and this event can be found here: <http://www.raintaxi.com/amitav-ghosh/>

## MINNEAPOLIS monarch festival festival de la monarca

This year's Monarch Festival will occur on  
**Saturday, September 7, 2019, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
**at the Lake Nokomis Community Center.**



The annual Monarch Festival – Festival de la Monarca celebrates the monarch butterfly's amazing 2,300 mile migration from Minnesota to Mexico with music, food, dance, hands-on art, native plant sales and plenty of opportunities to get up close with monarch butterflies, learn about their habitats, and what you can do to make a difference.

The Festival will be held just east of the Lake Nokomis Community Center in the area bounded by E. Minnehaha Parkway, Woodlawn Boulevard, and E. Nokomis Parkway.



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# Crime and Safety Meeting spotlights property crimes in far South Minneapolis

BY STEPHANIE FOX

NENA's annual Crime and Safety Meeting on July 16 brought residents from beyond the boundaries of the East Nokomis Neighborhood. People came from all over the city's largest police precinct—the 3rd—arriving at the NENA office on a warm summer evening to hear from officials, to find out about criminal activity in South Minneapolis and to learn how to avoid being a victim of crime.

There to meet with their constituents were the two City Council members from the 11th and 12th Wards, Jeremy Schroeder and Andrew Johnson. Also attending were Sandra Filardo, the city's assistant county attorney and police Lt. Gary Nelson.

The biggest problem in the East Nokomis and other far South Minneapolis neighborhoods are property crimes, especially burglaries from homes, garages and cars, said Nelson. In June alone, there were 38 of these burglaries reported.

"These are mostly preventable. The key is target hardening. Keep valuables locked up," he said. Garages are a leading target for thieves.

"We get a lot of bikes stolen from garages. And lots

of snow blowers and lawn mowers. So, chain your bike even if it's in the garage. If you are mowing your lawn in the front, lock the garage doors in the back," Nelson said. "Don't just rely on a little doorknob lock. Put a deadbolt lock on your doors."

"The very best deterrent is having a dog," he said. "Very seldom will I go take a report where there is a dog. It doesn't matter if it's a little dog or a Great Dane. Burglars don't want the confrontation."

Most property crimes do not end with an arrest, with only 13 arrests for burglaries committed in the area during the first half of 2019. One of those arrests was made from a string of break-ins earlier this summer at the Creamery, El Burrito and the 5-8 Club. Nelson said the perpetrator was already under surveillance, with a police tracker on his vehicle. The businesses had videos of the crimes as well.

For crimes at homes and apartments, most often there is nothing the police can do after the fact, since there are few clues to follow, said Nelson. And, once a crime is reported, it often takes hours for the police to show up.

The problem of investigation and response times stems from a lack of police officers,

Nelson said. "There are a lot of things going on in the city. We have a finite amount of resources. We have significant challenges in neighborhoods like Phillips, including opioid addiction, homelessness, sexual exploitation and livability issues. We're busy with those. And in NENA, we have only one patrol car."

The morning after the July 16th NENA meeting, local media was filled with stories about Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo, who was demanding that the city hire at least 400 more patrol officers in the next six years.

"We have been operating with the idea that 600 officers are adequate and it is not," he told the City Council's Public Safety Committee. Adding 400 more patrol officers would mean that more cops could get out of their cars and not just spend their time racing from call to call, he said.

But, many on the City Council are not on board with adding more crime patrol officers, or any officers at all.

"What I hear from my constituents is that they need a quicker response time," said Schroeder, representing the city's 11th Ward. "We would like to see what we all can do as citizens to make things

better. We all want better response times. People want a beat cop in their neighborhood or to add a police substation. We need more of a budget for cops, but these things might not happen. Officers are doing great work, but this is about getting better results."

"Public service is a core service of any city," said Johnson, who represents the 12th Ward. "When crime picks up, it might be only one or two individuals who can do a lot of damage. We need to work on relationships. And, the council can request meetings for information and do analysis so police can focus on what they need to do."

But Johnson said he is convinced that more police could serve the area better if assigned to traffic enforcement, especially with roads and streets closed due to construction projects. "We can be more efficient with more traffic enforcement. There is next to none now."

Tracy Van DeBoo, who lives in the Hale neighborhood, related how her home was broken into on June 25. "We had a deadbolt and an enhanced strike plate on our door. They broke in with a sledgehammer and stole a DSL camera with a memory card with pictures of all our kids. The police dusted

for fingerprints but I haven't heard back," she said the next day.

"We can't continue having just one squad car going from call to call," she said. "I voted for Jeremy, but he has his own agenda and now, as far as this is concerned, I don't think that the constituents are being served."

Assistant County Attorney Sandra Filardo said that people could help get a larger police presence by reporting crimes. She hopes to encourage everyone to report any kind of crime, even the most minor, which she says can help determine the need for more police. "We take these reports and put resources where the hot spots are," she said. "Resources are determined by how many crimes are reported and the monthly increases in crimes. Even if there is a car break-in and nothing was taken, report it."

Jennifer Neale, the neighborhood's crime prevention specialist with the Police Department, encourages residents and block clubs to schedule a free home security check from the Minneapolis Police Department. She can be reached at 612-673-2839.

## Better transit needs better roads

BY JOHN CHARLES WILSON

There are internet forums where people discuss every issue under the sun. Yes, even obscure subjects like public transit have their own online discussion groups. And, as you can guess, many people in those groups have the "transit vs. roads" or "transit vs. cars" misconception. Interestingly enough, very few people ever think "transit vs. bicycling" or "transit vs. walking," even though those formulations could be just as logical, or illogical as the case may be.

The truth is we need good roads, appropriately designed to be useful to all classes of traffic. For example, in the Netherlands, they have a policy of making roads safely accessible to bicycles. Busy, high-speed streets usually have a bicycle path physically separated from both the car lanes and the sidewalk, not just

a painted lane that used to be called the "shoulder." Whether or not the United States should adopt a similar road construction ethic is something I'll leave to the bicycling advocates, but the point is that roads can be constructed in such a way as to respect more than one type of traffic.

The Southside Pride readership area and other South Minneapolis thoroughfares will finally be getting bus-only lanes. They have been sorely needing something like this since at least the 1980s. Hennepin, Nicollet and Chicago Avenues between Franklin Avenue and Lake Street will be getting "the treatment." These bus lanes will come at the expense of street parking during rush hours.

One lesson learned: there is a conflict between on-street parking and efficient operation of bus service, especially on very busy



streets. What can be done to alleviate this conflict? I can think of three things that could help: 1) Encourage people to park around the corner, not on the main street. 2) Encourage businesses to allow public use of their parking lots, especially after business hours. 3) Encourage conversion of vacant lots to public parking. If I recall correctly, this last one was done on Eat Street (Nicollet Avenue) several years ago and was a real blessing to the neighborhood.

One thing that does not work, except in limited circumstances, is the combined bus and bicycle

lane. These are very dangerous to bicyclists, ironically for the exact same reason they were originally considered to be a good idea: buses and bicycles tend to operate at the same average speed of 10-15 miles per hour. However, those averages stem from different factors. For a bicycle, that is the actual speed most people are capable

of pedaling on a consistent basis, whereas a bus may be going 30 miles per hour for a few seconds, then suddenly have to stop and start again to pick up and drop off passengers. This means that buses and bicycles trying to share a lane get in each other's way—an accident just waiting to happen! That said, one place this concept does work is the wrong-way bus lanes on Marquette and 2nd Avenues downtown. During rush hour, only buses get to use the lanes, and there are so many of them there is no room for anything

else anyway. However, most buses that use the wrong-way lanes are rush-hour-only expresses, and when it's not rush hour you can practically hear a pin drop on those streets. Buses still use the lanes, but at drastically reduced numbers. Bicycles are allowed to use the lanes at those non-rush hour times. This concept is called "temporal separation."

Physical and temporal separation of different types of traffic, going different speeds and having different weights and sizes, is a major key to making road traffic safer and less frustrating for everyone. Those of us who advocate "alternative" transportation would do well to remember that advocating against cars and roads is counterproductive, and we would be best off advocating for appropriate road designs for all traffic. Let there be peace on Earth, and on our roads, and let it begin with me.



# Celebrate Summer on Lyndale Avenue

special pullout section

## Four entertaining Lyndale Avenue locations you might not know about – but should

BY STEPHANIE FOX

For many, Lyndale Avenue is just a quick way to get from point A to point B in South Minneapolis. What a lot of people don't know is that there are places along the way where you can find music, laughter and a chance to learn about new and interesting diversions. Slow down a bit and you'll discover these places.

**Rock 'n' Roll and More  
James Ballentine  
VFW Post 246  
2916 Lyndale Ave. S.**

Forget your outdated idea of a VFW as a dimly-lit bar (with

ham sandwiches) located in some third-ring suburb. The James Ballentine VFW Post is a perfect fit for the Uptown groove. "It's not your typical VFW," says manager Paul Diets. "It's more than just a stuffy old bar.

"We got a restaurant, live music, dance parties and charitable gambling," he says. "We have three bars—one if you want to dance, one if you want to watch a game, and another quieter, more traditional blue-collar bar. On a typical weekend night, we can get 300 people over the course of an evening.

"It's a very Uptown place," he says. "Most of our customers



The Uptown VFW

come from areas about five miles around, but we do get some of the people who come here from the far suburbs, for the music."

The music can vary. Bands and DJs offer rock, punk, country or hip-hop. Dancing is encouraged. Every third Tuesday night there are free comedy shows with drink specials.

The restaurant's extensive menu offers choices from the traditional deep-fried cheese curds or tater tots, to swankier selections like the Whiskey Bacon BBQ Burger, the Cuban Sandwich and the all-American breakfast poutine (crispy fried potatoes topped with scrambled eggs, deep fried cheese curds, pico de gallo and sausage gravy) served all day. There are several vegetarian choices, too. Desserts include

cheesecake and tiramisu.

The drink menu options — beer, wine, the hard stuff and sophisticated cocktails — are available at reasonable prices.

The VFW is available for all kinds of events, from weddings to corporate lunches. The Post also supports local charities, opening for Sisters' Camelot food giveaways and clothing drives.

The biggest draw is the nightly karaoke, from 9 p.m. until close, with music from all generations. "Karaoke draws large audiences. Business was looking dismal and then, four or five years ago, we started karaoke. It saved the Post," says Diets.

You don't need to be a member or a veteran to join in with the fun. The only restriction is that after 7 p.m. on weekdays and 8 p.m. on weekends, the club becomes adults only. Kids are always welcome for breakfast, lunch and early dinners.

Look for the American flag mural on the front of the building. There's plenty of parking in the back.

**Rolling with Laughter  
HUGE Improv Theater  
3037 Lyndale Ave. S.**

HUGE Improv Theater is famous with local stand-up fans for its improvisation comedy shows, where audiences can find hilarity for as little as \$8 (more for double features).

See Lyndale Ave, page 8

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58th St.

# on Lyndale Ave.

beauty of the rocks and minerals on Planet Earth with others who understand, or want to understand, that beauty.

ZRS's biggest sellers are crystals and polished rocks, but fossils are popular, as well. There are some impressive fossils, interesting enough to bring people into the store. In one corner, there is a full-sized skeleton of a young cave bear they've named Boris. You can find examples of ancient petrography, too.

The owner, Kelly Lund, is a paleontologist and geologist, who leads collectors' tours throughout the Midwest and beyond. For those with the time to spend, expeditions include 16-day trips to Morocco or Australia, where enthusiasts can collect their own rock or fossil treasures.

The next trips include "Rockin' in Morocco" and "Collect Badlands Fossils and Black Hills Minerals," both in October. Closer to home, the shop gives classes in a variety of subjects, including lapidary and crystal spirituality, with learning opportunities for those wanting to know about more personal healing.

One new customer came in on a late morning when she and her friends were waiting for the restaurant next door to open. "I didn't know this place was here. It's like a huge museum," says Rachel Grestock, surprised. "My grandmother is an artist who does jewelry with polished rocks and minerals," she says. "I'm going to have to bring her in. She'll love this."

Dogs are welcome at ZRS. Come often and the staff will soon know your dog's name. The store also supports animal charities.

**Rock On!**  
**The Enchanted Rock Garden**  
**6645 Lyndale Ave. S.**

On the other end of Lyndale Avenue, in a small strip mall, is The Enchanted Rock Garden. The store has been at the current location since 2001, serving generations of rock and fossil enthusiasts. The shop is somewhat chaotic and jumbled, welcoming and fun, crowded with rocks, fossils and beautiful crystals that some say have healing powers.

Owner Pete Giangrande has been a mineral fan since he was a young child, bringing rocks home



**Boris, the skeleton of a cave bear, stands guard at ZRS Fossils and Gifts.**

from a neighbor's garden. He's a fan of fluorescents, large crystals and "English minerals"—the essential minerals found in foods.

Mary John is one of the people to see if you want to learn about other kinds of healing minerals. She helps her customers find just the right healing crystal, one that has a personal connection, and can show how to use them effectively.

Everyone who works at the

store is friendly, knowledgeable and eager to help customers, from beginners to experts. Some of their customers have been coming in since The Enchanted Rock Garden opened for business.

When already-seasoned rock collector 8-year-old Cam arrived from Prior Lake with his mother, Katie, he was clutching three months of savings, hoping to find just the right rocks to purchase.

Bob Metzgar, a mineral expert, was there to help him. Cam got involved in his hobby through his first-grade teacher, also a rock and fossil fan. When he grows up, Cam says, he would like to be a paleontologist. (Metzgar got involved through his children.)

"This piece of lapis is the same kind of stone used for King Tut's mask," Metzgar tells Cam, holding up a deep blue rock. "It's a stone that has represented royalty for thousands of years."

"This agate," he explains, as he holds up another large segment of translucent rock, "is from Brazil. And this one is called an angel agate because it looks like it has angel wings."

The Enchanted Rock Garden has an impressive choice of fossils from the inexpensive ones to those costing several thousand dollars. "That one is an ancient herring fossil, found in Wyoming," Metzgar says, pointing to an imbedded fish. (It isn't, he jokes, pickled herring.)

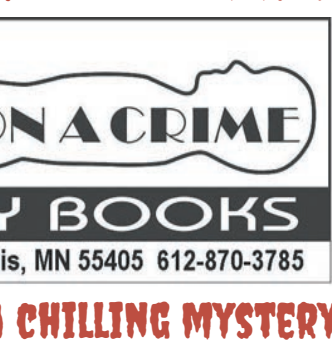
Keep your eye out for the 4-foot-tall amethyst crystal near the front door. And, bring your youngest rock hounds in for their choice of a polished stone from the "treasure chest." They're free for kids.

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

Zealand. So, the New York Times article about gun usage in New Zealand drew my attention.

The New Zealand government has banned the use (or possession) of guns. For those people still possessing them, the government would buy them at what is considered a fair price. Mike Johnson, the commander of the district's police department, told reporters that gun owners would be paid \$300,000 for 324 now-illegal guns.

This occurred as the result of a March 2019 gun attack on a mosque where 51 people were killed and several others wounded. New Zealand's prime minister announced that semi-automatic weapons would be included in the ban. Police are also trying to seize unregistered arms.

A 2017 small arms survey estimated that there were 1.2 million guns in New Zealand, which has a population of 4.8 million people. I suspect there would be a fierce political battle in the U.S. were

such a ban submitted either to Congress or to a vote of the public. New Zealand does not have a strong political pro-gun lobby or the National Rifle Association to contend with.

### U.S. federal government revisits death penalty

The federal government is going to execute five people start-

ing in December of this year, the first such event since 2003. Although the death penalty is legal in 30 states, executions called by the federal government are rare. There have been only been three since 1988. Executions are not cheapo. The average cost of one is \$620,932. In 2014, following a botched execution, President Barack Obama directed the Justice Department to conduct a broad review of the process. There are now 61 inmates on death row

and five are slated for execution this year.

Norway has done away with executions and it has also done away with lifetime imprisonment. There each inmate has a cell with a bathroom, television, desk and computer. Guards are encouraged to maintain friendly relations with prisoners. I wonder what it would take to convince our government to follow the Norwegian plan and eliminate executions?

### Guns banned in New Zealand

During World War II my husband spent about a year on duty in Australia and his letters to me from there exacerbated my interest not only in Australia, but also New

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# Trump weaponizes racism

BY LYDIA HOWELL

Donald Trump’s racism can’t be sincerely debated now. His press conference speechwriter-created “denouncement” of racism is meaningless—which Tweets and his next rally ranting will contradict.

Racists, neo-Nazi and white supremacist militia groups claim Trump as their own.

Trump is directly quoted by the mass murderers who massacred Muslims in Christchurch; killed praying Jews in the Pittsburgh synagogue; and targeted Latinos in El Paso. Trump’s defense of Charlottesville “fine people” white supremacists was a warning—excused by many.

For years, Trump was the biggest megaphone of the “birther” conspiracy theory against President Obama—a Big Lie worthy of Nazi propagandist Josef Goebbels. He kicked off his presidential campaign defaming Mexicans as criminals, recently adding “disease-ridden” as he relentlessly scapegoats Latinos—continued at his Cincinnati rally, two days before El Paso.

African Americans, since

slavery’s end, and every non-British immigrant group arriving here, have been told, “Go back to your country!” Trump basked in his “Send them back!” Tweet against congresswomen of color—being chanted by his supporters.

Trump demonizes Black-majority cities, code for African Americans; calls for violence by police and border patrol or crowd members. Reported hate crimes have escalated since Trump’s election. Cell phone videos document reinstating 21st-century Jim Crow segregation: White people call police on Black people daring to be in public places: family BBQ at a park, sitting in Starbucks, on college campuses, children with a sidewalk lemonade stand.

Mosques are burned down. White men assault Muslim women, tearing their headscarves off. “Lone wolf” stalkers prowl racist websites, arm themselves with arsenals and murder Muslims.

Threatening assault or calling ICE, whites terrorize Latino people—citizen or not—for speaking Spanish. Trump cages immigrant children, moth-

ers and men in filthy conditions, embodying the idea that “dirty,” “diseased” immigrants deserve deportation.

Today, Trump encourages border patrol violence and police brutality, drops DOJ civil rights investigations and passes his Muslim Ban.

Dehumanizing treatment is always deployed against scapegoated groups from Indigenous people rounded up for removal to Black people under slavery. Nazi Germany’s anti-Jewish laws were imitated by our legal segregation “Black Codes”; concentration camps were modeled on the near-genocide of American Indians—in Adolph Hitler’s own words.

Compare 1930s newsreels of Nuremberg rallies to MAGA events. “Make America Great Again” boiled down to its essence early on. “Remember in the old days when that guy [Black protester] would be taken out on a stretcher?”

At Trump’s May 8th Florida rally, Trump said immigrant “invasion” over and over, asking, “How do we stop this invasion?” A crowd member shouts, “Shoot them!”

This president who rarely smiles and doesn’t laugh, responded with smirks, chuckles and making a joke: “That’s only in the Panhandle you can get away with this stuff. Only in the Panhandle,” to his grinning supporters—who cheered wildly.

I dare my fellow white people to google “American lynching postcards”: Often smiling mobs gathered around hanging or burned corpses of Black men, women and children—sometimes entire families with picnic baskets reveling in white supremacist violence—a hateful ideology Trump rouses in his crowds.

The El Paso shooter’s manifesto used Trump’s racist rhetoric: “I must defend my country against invasion.”

Historical ignorance erases Latino people living for centuries in Texas and the Southwest—one-third of Mexico before U.S. annexation. The world’s oldest ongoing terrorist group is the KKK—metastasized into multiple neo-Nazi militia and white supremacist groups nationally.

White backlash surged after electing our first Af-

rican-American president. The internet spreads hate like wildfire and easy-access weapons of war with unlimited bullets embolden alienated white men.

Trump’s racist bullying from the presidential bully pulpit is rocket fuel, directly responsible for hate crimes and massacres, aided and abetted by power-mad Republicans and too many dithering Democrats.

Mass-murderers killed more people in 13 hours in El Paso and Dayton than U.S. soldiers died overseas in the last two years—while Trump kept golfing at his New Jersey resort.

With white supremacy the biggest domestic terrorism threat, there’s no neutrality for white people. Basic humanity and our democracy declare that decent white people must resist. We must drown out Donald Trump and his white supremacist supporters with our louder, loving voices—voices and votes.

LYDIA HOWELL is a Minneapolis journalist and host of “Catalyst” [kfai.org](http://kfai.org).



**Bouza, from page 1**

then answer emergency calls at twice the rates—although 911 would not be brought in for two years—another battle. We had 700 cops and no promotions for nine years. At the end we still had bloat. And I said so.

Today, cops work four days a week—and second jobs for three. They don’t have to pay the 20 million dollar settlement because they don’t live here. Their out-of-control actions—here and everywhere in the U.S. (including my alma mater NYPD)—continue with no interruptions. They’ve abandoned aggressive and legal police approaches like Decoys, Stings and Stakeouts.

Lots of chiefs—few workers.

The inefficiency, lack of accountability and waste are disgraceful—and—yet, not a finger is lifted to change anything. The technical term for all this—in case you’ve forgotten—is featherbedding.

Is it as bad as under Mayor Charles Stenvig (3X in the ’70s)? The honest answer is yes and no! Yes, there are bloated ranks, four-day weeks, union power and such. The huge settlements, yes, but, no, there is not the naked,

blatant spoils system of political rewards. The union is in charge, but they are not the mayor.

One-person patrols and 911 enabled us to promise—and deliver—response to all genuine emergencies within six minutes. Four-day weeks and two-person patrols make this an impossible promise to keep.

A cop shoots and there is no accountability, only an obscene settlement. There used to be Firearms Discharge Review Boards.

Who, in our system, gets rewarded for reforms? No one. Instead, enablers get plaques of praise from the union. Everyone recoils from the horror of a vote of no confidence.

Capitalism works because if you don’t produce you are fired. If your product isn’t great a competitor eats your lunch. America’s greatness lies in its capitalist capacity to create wealth. Policing is socialism. No one gets fired and it’s a free lunch.

I’ve cited one example after another in countless essays and my actions during a career that spanned 36 years and three agencies. If you plugged my name into a NYPD chatroom you’d get a flood of denunciations for what a fool and idiot I am. A friend

of mine did so and was really shocked.

And how have chiefs responded? “More cops are the answer.”

My answer was fewer cops and work them smarter.

That view, you’ll be shocked to learn, was wildly unpopular with five of the 13 council members there in the ’80s. They relied on the police union for money, votes and support.

The answer is really quite simple—appoint the union president as chief of police and cancel the charade.

The incumbent, whose style and personality I envy, answers the diminishing challenge to America’s cops by calling for more hires. Flood the swamp. Catchy.

What the police chief should do—if he really wanted to do the right thing—is call for fewer cops. Work them eight hours in a five-day week, control overtime, reduce the supervisory numbers dramatically, install accountability and remain the charming, sweet person he is.

There’s a wonderful NYPD expression for all this—but don’t read on if you’re easily offended: “They’re pissing all over you and telling you it’s raining.”

• • • • •

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Contrast between real world and the movies

The May 2019 Southside Pride carried an article by Tony Bouza in which he considers the film “Leviathan, or The Death of Stalin” as an accurate assessment of Russia, and he extends this assessment to Cuba and Venezuela and compares these countries with Scandinavia.

Chief Bouza praises Scandinavia for promoting freedom, inventiveness, competition and prosperity. He adds that “we do too.” Regrettably, the Chief is living in the fantasy world of the Silver Screen concerning the USA.

Let us review the case of Cuba. The leader of that country, when the Chief played his role of “Security for a Visiting Dignitary” in the 1960s, was Fidel Castro. Castro had ended the regime of the dictator Fulgencio Batista, a U.S. puppet, in January 1959. Batista ruled by murder and terrorism against efforts by Cubans to bring freedom, inventiveness and prosperity to Cuba.

What did Fidel Castro achieve

with his overthrow of the U.S. puppet Batista? He enabled his people to receive free education all the way to advanced university degrees. As a result, the Cuban people now have Universal Health Care for All, from medical personnel trained in Cuba. We should not forget that even U.S. citizens are now receiving medical training in Cuba, FOR FREE! A number of graduates from the Latin American School of Medicine in Havana are now practicing medicine in the U.S. They could not receive such an expensive education in their own country. Does the Chief know about this little detail?

With my deep respect to this cineaste aficionado, I hope that he will avoid confusing what he may have seen, on the Silver Screen, with the actual reality in our physical world.

Sincerely,  
Enrique Gentzsch



EVENTS

**Fare For All**  
**Wednesday, August 14**  
**3:30 to 5:30 p.m.**  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
2730 E. 31<sup>st</sup> St.  
Mpls. 55406  
Feature this week is a “Hot Buy Grill Box.” \$30 will buy a trove of meats: salmon fillets, boneless skinless chicken breasts, beer brats, pub burgers, pork tenderloin, chicken wings, beef kielbasa and more. Fare For All accepts cash, credit, debit and EBT cards.

**Performing Arts Camp**  
**Monday, August 19 to**  
**Friday, August 23**  
**10 a.m. to noon daily**  
**Auditions on Friday, August 16, 10 a.m. to noon**  
Nokomis Heights Lutheran

Church  
5300 10th Ave. S.  
Mpls. 55417  
Nokomis Heights Lutheran is hosting a Performing Arts Camp. Led by professional theater instructor Kim Kokx, the week-long camp for kids age 4-16 will conclude with the hit musical show “Aladdin, Jr.”! Auditions are Friday, Aug. 16, 10 a.m. to noon. Everyone will get a part! The camp runs Monday through Friday, Aug. 19-23, 10 a.m. to noon each day. Tuition is \$95 and includes everything—scripts, costumes, and instruction. Sign up online at [www.srspshows.org](http://www.srspshows.org) today!

**Lunch and Music in the Garden**  
**Sunday, August 18, noon**  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
2730 E. 31<sup>st</sup> St., Mpls. 55406

Join us for lunch and music in the garden following the 11 a.m. service on August 18. Kelsey and Kaia Porter will be our musical guests. \$5 suggested donation for the wood-fired pizza lunch. All are welcome!

**First Free Church**  
**Baptism and Picnic**  
**Sunday, August 18**  
**Baptism, 10 to 10:50 a.m.**  
**Picnic, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
First Free Church  
5150 Chicago Ave.  
Mpls. 55417

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
**Outdoor Worship Service**  
**Sunday, August 18**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
1720 Minnehaha Pkwy.  
Mpls. 55407

**Living Spirit United Methodist Church**  
**Outdoor Worship Service**  
**Sunday, August 18**  
**10:30 a.m.**  
Minnehaha Falls bandshell  
Minnehaha Regional Park  
4801 S. Minnehaha Dr.  
Mpls. 55417

**Worship on the Front Lawn and Blessing of the Animals**  
**Sunday, August 25**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church  
5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls. 55417  
Nokomis Heights Lutheran will hold its annual Worship on the Front Lawn and Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, August 25 at 9:30 a.m. Following worship there will be treats for all, including our furry friends. In case of rain, the worship and blessing will be in the Courtyard.

**Pop-up Family VBS**  
**Sunday, August 25, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church  
5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls. 55417  
We’re sailing with Noah and his zoo! Melanie LaPointe from Community Emergency Service will describe CES’s Ani-meals program (that’s meals on wheels for four-legged clients!), and as a fun service project, we will be packing food for pets. In case it rains, we’ll just move inside. Stories, games, crafts, and a picnic lunch for kids age 3-11 and their families. FREE.

**Backpacks for Refugees**  
School’s out for the summer, but the many children arriving with refugee status this summer will need backpacks for school in the fall. This would be a perfect donation drive for your church or office. We invite you to donate one or many backpacks for all ages and genders. For more information, please email the Minnesota Council of Churches Refugee Services at [rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org](mailto:rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org) or call 612-230-3219. Thank you!

**Red Cross Blood Drive**  
**Saturday, September 7**  
**9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church  
5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls. 55417  
Make your appointment by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code NHLC to select your time slot.

**Craft Fair**  
**Sunday, September 8**  
**11 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church (lower level)  
3430 East 51<sup>st</sup> St.  
Mpls. 55417  
In conjunction with the Nokomis East Business Association block party. Lots of handmade items! Free food at the block party. For more information call 612-729-5463.

**Refugee Sunday**  
**September 8**  
Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

5300 10th Ave S.  
Mpls. 55417  
Guest speaker at Forum (9 a.m.) and Worship (10 a.m.) will be Marta Erling Spangler, Gifts Officer from Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), to share what LIRS is doing in the midst of the present refugee crisis.

**Hakuna Matata Children’s Choir**  
**Sunday, September 22**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
Mindekirken, the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church  
924 East 21<sup>st</sup> St.  
Mpls., 55404  
Hakuna Matata Children’s Choir is made up of children from Kenya, East Africa. Most of these children are from the slums and from a very poor background. “Connect with a Child” Children’s Choir is dedicated to spreading love, hope and joy while raising awareness for the desperate plight of orphans and other vulnerable children. Their colorful clothing, pounding drums and sweet voices demonstrate their hope and dream for a brighter future. Their inspirational stories of resilience have instilled hope in the hearts of all those who have seen them perform. Hakuna Matata Children’s Choir only consists of children that have been sponsored by different families who gave them the opportunity to better their future life through education over the years. Accompanied by a team of adults, the Choir presents the vision and mission of “Connect with a Child” in every place it visits. The experience they acquire from traveling around the world gives the children exposure to other cultures, broadening their worldview. It also gives them confidence and boldness and helps them rise up out of their own situations of sadness and despair. Everyone is invited! There will be a free-will offering to the performing group.

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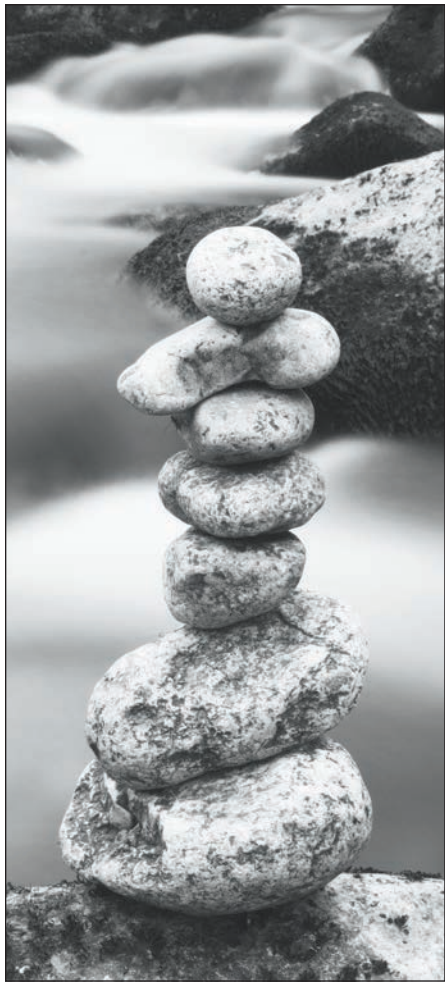
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# Simplicity, Community, Justice, Peace



BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

In “Mennonite values in a warming world,” David C. Garen articulates spiritual guidelines for living on the Earth. (The piece was printed as a “web-exclusive” for [themennonite.org](http://themennonite.org).) Garen is a retired hydrologist who spent most of his professional career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Weather Service, and is a member of Portland (Oregon) Mennonite Church.

He talks about four Mennonite values that can critique our current system; diagnose causes of the climate situation; and “envision responses.” They are: Simplicity, Community, Justice, Peace.

Garen talks about them from his own personal experience and cultural knowledge; they are of course not exclusive Mennonite property.

## Simplicity.

“This is the value I believe is most pertinent in addressing climate warming and other environmental problems. ...

“We must recognize ... that all consumer goods coming from our system have an embedded carbon and environmental footprint in the materials used in their manufacture, their shipping and the energy used to operate them. ....

“The ethic of simplicity is needed as a guiding consumer principle along with a commitment to following this principle even if it causes some inconveniences or leads to doing without. ....

“Many still look to technology to solve climate warming and other environmental problems, ... The ethic of simplicity should lead to a more skeptical view of technology, more caution in preserving what is good before adopting new technol-

ogies, and more willingness to have modest lifestyles and consumer behavior rather than looking for technological fixes to enable maintenance of our existing system and lifestyles.”

## Community.

“A strong sense of community leads one to think beyond just individual concerns or even those of one’s family and friends and ultimately to widen the circle of consideration to include all people in the world as well as the earth itself. Climate warming now requires such a global conception of community. ...

“So even though our capitalistic system and consumer culture are based on the idea that purchasing decisions are purely a matter of individual choice, in reality every purchase has environmental and social impacts, many on a global scale.”

## Justice.

“It is tragic to realize that

nations and future generations that have contributed little or no carbon emissions will be the ones most affected by climate warming.” ...

## Peace.

“Climate warming and environmental degradation are symptoms of humans committing violence to the earth and not living at peace with it. This violence is inherent in our current system. It stems from a worldview that considers humans separate from nature and the world as a machine, an object of human domination and control, and a pool of resources to be exploited for human desires.” ...

At the end of Garen’s article, this sentence stands out:

“This level of critique and response is needed to find real solutions ... rather than treating only symptoms with technological fixes or a few simple personal actions and leaving the system essentially intact.”

• • • • •

## Why?, from page 1

Hitler was able to carry out his program of rounding up socialists and communists and Jews and Gypsies because he had strong support in the local police, and they worked closely with the SS.

Trump has ICE and a lot of friends in the local police. The FBI warned in 2006 that white supremacists were joining local police departments. In Minneapolis, the head of the Police Federation, the police union, is also the leader of City Heat, a motorcycle gang that

flies Confederate flags and wears Iron Crosses, made up of cops from the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area, allied with City Heat from Chicago that has a similar history of white officers killing black men.

Hitler was able to organize racist bullies throughout Germany. It was a potent army. They would bully and lie. Liberals were powerless against them. When the bullies attacked them, they ran away.

Three months ago we argued in these pages that the

city should fire Bob Kroll for misconduct for disobeying direct orders of the chief of police and mayor to not independently train police officers in the fear-based shoot-to-kill warrior program. The matter, according to Assistant Chief Mike Kjos, is in negotiation.

You wonder, who’s running the MPD? The liberal mayor or the head of the Police Federation?

You wonder. And, then, you worry.

• • • • •

## NENA Kickball, from page 1

competition out of sports and focus just on having fun. It’s not just about winning. But, it’s a way to meet people and to socialize.”

Across the park, playing on another field, were the Cross-town Kickers who lost to the Nokomis Tattoo Hot Stuff, one of two teams sponsored by Nokomis Tattoo. Later in the day, the Hot Stuff faced off in the first round of playoffs against the Nokomis Tattoo Devils, beating the Hot Stuff

in a close match.

Other teams in the competition were the Kick Drums, (their motto: All about the “base”) and 2 Legit to Kick.

In the final game, the Stonewall Sport-Ballers defeated Nokomis Tattoo Devils, winning the gold trophy and bragging rights until next year’s tournament. But the big winner was the Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, which managed to raise more than \$800 in registration fees,

food sales and donations. “The event was a success, especially for our first year of doing it,” said Somers. “It was a great first year to build a base. We had six teams, and I believe they will all be back next year and we will get more.”

“A few people even asked our vice chair, Liz Brophy, how many years we have done this event. It is always refreshing to hear a compliment like that for a first-time event,” he said.

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# How the world works

BY RICHARD TAYLOR

In his book “The Grand Chessboard,” Jimmy Carter’s former National Security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski wrote, with refreshing candor, “The three grand imperatives of imperial geo-strategy are to prevent collusion and maintain security dependence among the vassals, to keep tributaries pliant and protected, and to keep the barbarians from coming together.”

The vassals are primarily Germany and Japan, which, having been crushed in their bids for independent empires by the Allied Powers in 1945, have been allowed to flourish by the U.S. as long as they dance to the tune of the piper in Washington. Fifty-six thousand U.S. troops in Japan and 34,000 in Germany remind Tokyo and Berlin of the merits of keeping to the beat.

The supreme tributary state is Saudi Arabia. Ranked behind only the U.S. and China in military spending, Saudi Arabia spent \$83 billion on its military in 2018, far above the \$13 billion spent by its alleged adversary Iran. Saudi Arabia spends such an outlandish sum because American weapons contractors profit handsomely from supplying weapons to the Saudi tyranny, a family-based dictatorship. The Saudis shovel their oil money to the U.S., and the U.S. makes sure other countries don’t mess with the Saudis. And, since it is a tributary state, the U.S. aids such ghastly Saudi rampages as the assault on Yemen, the worst human rights plight in the world today.

For American policy makers, Iran is one of the barbarians. A barbarian country is one that upsets “stability,” a term that refers to a political context where nothing disturbs American interests.

By 1953, Iran disrupted stability and earned barbarian status by nationalizing its oil industry, thereby stripping British oil companies of their lucrative business.

With the CIA in the lead, the U.S. and the U.K. overthrew the democratic, parliamentary regime of Mohammed Mossadegh and installed the dictator Reza Pahlavi. Given the CIA’s pivotal role, London had to fork over 40% of its oil concessions to U.S. companies.

By reversing the oil nationalization and hosting American companies, Pahlavi’s Iran became a tributary state that served U.S. interests. However, given popular opposition to the regime, Pahlavi erected the Savak, a secret police outfit that murdered and imprisoned its opponents. By 1979, even the Savak couldn’t stem popular revolt; Pahlavi was overthrown and the Islamic Republic of Iran emerged, led by Ayatollah Khomeini.

Iran reverted to being a barbarian, a status that persists to this day. In 1979, the U.S. imposed sanctions, harming the people but not the regime. During the grisly 1980-88 Iran/Iraq War, the U.S. actively supported Saddam Hussein—including supplying him with technology to produce chemical and biological weapons technology. And while Iraq faced no retaliation for striking the USS Stark with two missiles, killing 37 sailors, the USS Vincennes deliberately shot down a civilian Iranian airliner in April 1988, killing all 290 people on board, an act that pushed Khomeini to settle with Saddam.

Fast forwarding to today, Trump has further intensified U.S. hostility by ditching the nuclear treaty, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), and imposing the harshest sanctions to date—even though Iran has abided by the treaty’s main provision of not producing nuclear fuel and the rest of the world wants the treaty observed.

Given steady U.S. hostility, it’s not surprising that Iran would seek a way to deter a U.S. attack, a pursuit reinforced by the fact that it’s common knowledge that the U.S. feels free to attack countries

that can’t deter American might. Iraq and Libya are recent examples. Asked about Iran’s alleged nuclear program, veteran Israeli military analyst Martin Kreveld raised eyebrows in Tel Aviv and Washington by replying, “Had the Iranians not tried to build nuclear weapons, they would be crazy.” On June 14, 2019, The New York Times inadvertently boosted the rationale for the North Korean nuclear program and a potential Iranian one by noting that, “North Korea already has nuclear weapons, giving it leverage Iran can only imagine.”

If possessing nuclear weapons seems a potent way of deterring attack, why did Iran agree to the JCPOA? One reason is that its leaders expected an American and/or Israeli attack on its nuclear facilities before they were fully operative. And there’s precedent for this. In 1981, American-supplied Israeli warplanes wiped out the Osirak nuclear plant in Iraq, even though this plant proved to be a civilian research facility. Ironically, the attack then pushed Saddam Hussein to start a secret nuclear weapons program.

Another reason Iran signed the treaty stems from an unintended consequence of George W. Bush’s aggression against Iraq in 2003. By crushing the Sunni regime and dissolving the army, Bush provided space for the Shiite majority to take power in Baghdad. Many of its leaders had previously found refuge in Shiite Iran; they returned to Iraq to assume positions of power in the state. So, Bush’s sledgehammer morphed into a boomerang that spread Iranian influence in Iraq and beyond, to Syria and Lebanon.

It ought to give warmongers in Washington, like National Security Council boss John Bolton, pause that U.S. aggression succeeded in fostering Iranian “strategic depth.” That depth furnishes Iran with means other than nuclear weapons to inhibit U.S. and Israeli military action. For exam-

ple, Iran’s ally in Lebanon, Hezbollah, can fire tens of thousands of rockets into Israel, enough rockets to overwhelm Israel’s missile defense systems.

Finally, Iran has enough military power to curtail the flow of oil tankers as they move through the Strait of Hormuz into the Gulf of Oman. Given that one-third of the world’s daily oil shipments pass through the strait, a major blockage would send oil prices soaring and the world economy into a tailspin.

Nonetheless, no one can guarantee that a terrible war won’t occur. And if the alleged Iranian nuclear program is billed as the source of a conflagration, it’s vital to point out that mainstream media have mostly ignored covering other approaches to checking the nuclear menace in the Middle East. The most important nuclear treaty, the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT 1970), requires periodic review conferences to foster the goal of stopping the spread of nuclear weapons. In a 2015 run-up meeting to a conference, Iran agreed to participate in making the Middle East a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone (NWFZ).

Dismayed by Iran’s willingness to create a NWFZ, Obama refused to attend the meeting, squelching this progressive step. U.S. opposition was no mystery: A Middle East NWFZ would have required Israel to open up its nuclear complex to international inspection and eventual dismantling. But Israel is a prime U.S. ally, and its nukes hover menacingly over conflicts in the region.

Also, mainstream media should remind the American people that Article 6 of the NPT requires that countries that possess nuclear weapons must make good faith efforts to eliminate them. If they don’t, countries that have committed to forgo nukes come to regard the treaty as a ploy by the possessing countries to maintain a monopoly on the weapons, a monopoly that confers an add-



ed source of intimidation—or worse.

Recently, Donald Trump threatened to destroy Iran should it threaten U.S. interests in the Middle East. We must note that Article 2(4), of the United Nations Charter requires that, “All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.” Since the United Nations Charter has the status of constitutional law, Trump, by violating the Constitution, has committed a grave impeachable offense.

Through a long and tortuous process, a body of legally-binding international law has emerged; it demands that peaceful and mutually-binding means be used to rid the world of nuclear weapons. Given the Trump administration’s disdain for international law and the emergence of tanker attacks that echo the “fake news” of the 1964 Gulf of Tonkin incident, the peaceful resolution of issues with Iran requires an informed, ever more vigilant, and active American citizenry.

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# You can work for climate justice

BY ALLISON ANDRADE

The U.N. warns that the world is “on course to exceed the temperature threshold” of warming, meaning another 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit (1 degree Celsius) above that set out in the Paris climate agreement. Many cities and community organizations in our country have set out to hold themselves accountable to the climate agreement, even if our federal government does not. Becoming green in the Twin Cities is easier and more accessible than ever. The new industries being created are becoming accessible to everyone, and so are the economic benefits. The nonprofit group Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light takes an intersectional approach to work toward climate justice. Climate justice entails building resilient, regenerative and equitable economies when combating climate change.

This July, Youth N’ Power camp in North Minneapolis was a lead-

ership opportunity for youth from the Twin Cities. The kids learned about regenerative systems that cultivate community. The camp was organized by the Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light in conjunction with the Redeemer Center for Life and the Northside Youth Program. The camp taught about the entrepreneurial prospects, policy and permaculture of renewable energy through a climate justice lens. After understanding how power is generated and about whole system approaches, they learned about the financial incentives from Energy Smart, a business that helps other businesses conserve and use energy efficiently.

If you’re feeling inspired by what Youth N’ Power camp did for this diverse group of students, there are steps you can take as an adult to save money through living a carbon-neutral life. A low-cost energy audit is available through the Center for Energy and Environment for homeowners and renters who are CenterPoint Energy natural gas customers or Xcel Energy electric customers.

If you own a local business, Energy Smart will audit you for free. Energy Smart worked with the Midtown Global Market to update their parking to LED lights; the project will be paid off in two years, while the LEDs will last for 15 years. Projects like these pay for themselves over time, and the Center for Energy and Environment is offering low-interest loans to business owners.

During this meeting the auditors identify opportunities for energy efficiency to meet your energy goals while saving you money. You can also conserve energy by programming thermostats, turning off lights and implementing other practices that use less energy. Low-cost purchases to lower your energy consumption could mean buying insulation for your hot water pipes or LED light bulbs. This can lower your energy bill during the summer, on top of saving an average of five dollars per bulb on your energy bill in a year.

After lowering your energy consumption, investing in renewable sources to get your energy



Youth N’ Power campers at the Capitol meeting with Rep. Frank Hornstein

is the best way to come closer to being carbon neutral. This creates green-collar jobs and has been a source of income for many farmers across the state through wind and solar fields. If you are a homeowner in Minneapolis with a roof suitable for solar you can be a part of the Just Solar Bulk Buy organized by Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL). If your roof is not suitable, or if you rent an apartment or condo, you can subscribe to a community solar garden to save money on your energy bill while supporting clean energy and your commu-

nity. According to Emily Minge, the solar outreach coordinator at MNIPL, “You are supporting community-based clean energy and a diverse and equitable solar workforce, while making an investment that will benefit you financially.” By becoming a part of the Twin Cities residential Solar Bulk Buy, program community members can save as much as 60% on a solar installation. The panels are estimated to pay for themselves within 10 years while lasting up to 35 years. You will have 15 years of nearly-free electricity and added value to your home, and there are low-interest loans available.

If you are interested in the Solar Bulk Buy, reach out to Emily Minge at [emilyminge@mnipl.org](mailto:emilyminge@mnipl.org). The deadline to apply for this bulk buy program is Aug. 31, 2019.

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