



We build Pride on the Southside

**PHILLIPS/
POWDERHORN**
FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**August
2019**

VOL. XXIX, ISSUE 22

Addendum

Edwin Felien

v.

Brad Bourn, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

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

Court File Number:
27-CV-19-10595

To be heard before the Honorable Patrick D. Robben on Aug. 12, 2019, at 9:45 a.m.

On July 15, 2019, The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board sent out a document via email: "Hiawatha Golf Course Property Master Plan Facts and Misconceptions: Due Diligence on Data." The document refers to the Barr Engineering Study: "Hiawatha Golf Course Area Water Management Alternatives Assessment Water Management Alternatives," prepared for Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, City of Minneapolis, and Minnehaha Creek Watershed District 6/21/2017.

https://www.minneapolis-parks.org/_asset/x8rh4/June-2017-Water-Management-Alternatives.pdf

On page 23 of the Barr document is a profile map of Minnehaha Creek that indicates the control point for the water level is a rock weir under the 30th Avenue footbridge. Either this information is out of date, since many of

See Addendum, page 10

An Appeal

to the readers of
Southside Pride:

Please come to the hearing on Monday, Aug. 12, before The Honorable Patrick D. Robben in Hennepin County District Court, Courtroom-1756, 300 South Sixth Street, in the Hennepin County Government Center, at 9:45 a.m. to hear Edwin Felien, Editor and Publisher of Southside Pride, argue that the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board should be ordered to remove boulders in Minnehaha Creek that Barr Engineering has determined are the control point for the high water levels of Minnehaha Creek and Lake Hiawatha.

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



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.



AFTER:

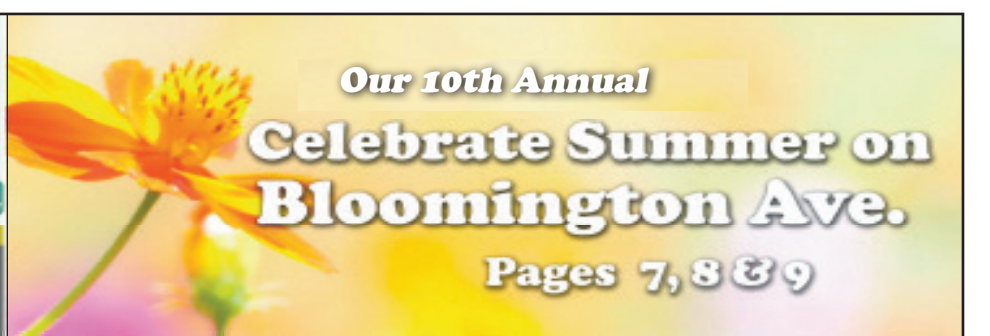
This is what it looked like when the boulders were in place last summer.



NOW:

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

See Boulder Dam, page 10





Celebrate! Open Streets Franklin Avenue

DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Open Streets Franklin Avenue is on Sunday, Aug. 25, this year, as ever from 11 a.m. to 5

p.m. Just like last year, the route stretches from Portland Avenue to 27th Avenue in the east (a block shy of the Seward Co-op store). As each year's Open

Streets builds on the successes of the last, Open Streets keeps getting bigger and better. And 2019 is no exception. So, let's dive right in.

First the details which the devil is in. Plan your day, plan your route. You will only be able to cross Franklin at certain intersections, and these will have long waits. You can download and print a free pass for Metro Transit, all day and almost all routes, and there is an LRT station right in the middle of the route, slightly east of the American Indian Cultural Corridor, and also a frequent bus route, the #2. Or



Open Streets unicycle



Seward Coop at Open Streets

you can ride a bike, skate, walk, or catch a Lyft to a good entry point. No doubt you can think of other options too. But have a heart for the surrounding neighborhoods and don't drive unless you have to, and park as far away as you're able. You

can bring your well-behaved and leashed pet. In fact, there are usually pet-specific activities. Definitely bring your kids, grandkids and friends. Bring money; you're gonna want to buy something, a cool drink if nothing else (and probably

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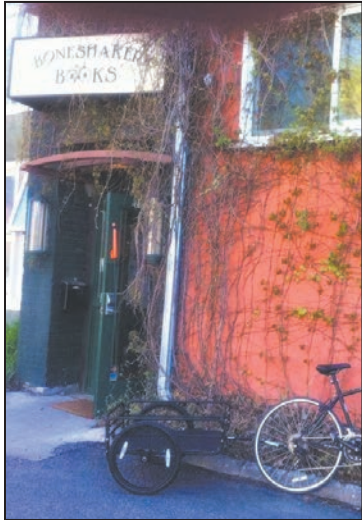
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something else). The sponsors of Open Streets change slightly each year, although some are core—Our Streets Mpls, Metro Transit, Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Other sponsors are specific to



Boneshaker Books

different streets. For this year, Franklin Avenue's sponsors include Lyft, AARP, Geico, Centertpoint, Xcel, and All Energy Solar for the whole city, and for this event: Hope Community, Seward Community Co-op, KFAI radio station, Music in MN, and the Childrens Hospitals. Although it's not listed as a sponsor, the Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI) is hosting an entire segment of the route called the American Indian Cultural Corridor.

Open Streets have tended to resolve into nodes of activity, and last year this was made official. The hubs this year are: at Portland Avenue, Hope Community, Inc.'s celebration of family, youth and hope; from 11th Avenue to Bloomington Avenue, the American Indian Cultural Corridor (with NACDI, the Minneapolis American Indian Center, and All My Relations Gallery) featuring music, dance, art, food and more; at 23rd Avenue, Boneshaker Books featuring an interactive card game of AUTHORS that encompasses the entire route; and at 25th Avenue, the Mini East African Street Festival

(with Seward Civic and Commerce Association) featuring the food, music, dance and culture of East African communities. Because of the timing of this article, none of the planning is finished in time for publication, so we can't tell you specifics about what to expect. Hope Community, NACDI, and Seward Civic and Commerce Association did this last year, so it will probably be quite similar. Expect Hope Community to have at least one sound stage with some up-to-the-minute music and perhaps spoken

word performances. Expect kids' art activities here and also maybe outside of Articulture farther east along the Avenue. On the American Indian Cultural segment, check out the art at All My Relations Gallery, shop at the MAIC or at Ancient Traders, rest your feet at Pow Wow Grounds coffee shop. Probably Dream of Wild Health will be selling fresh produce from the garden. There will be drumming, and powwow-style dancing, and traditional crafts. At Boneshaker, there will be books for sale, I am fairly cer-



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See Open Streets, page 4



Open Streets from page 3

tain. Nearby businesses Seward Cafe, Welna II Hardware and Hoffman Guitars will probably have a sidewalk sale. Maybe Precision Grind Coffee will have some music or something, but if not, it's another good place to stop for a snack.

The East African Street Festival could be called the Ea't African Street Festival. Try both Somali and Ethiopian fare, and then compare. Sample some coffee from the people who invented it. The Somali Museum Dance troupe will be dancing in the streets. Farther east still, Seward Co-op will be selling food along with community and food policy, and hosting other activities in front of its Creamery Co-op Cafe and office building at 26th Avenue. They are partnering with Fair State Brewing (a cooperatively owned brewery in Saint Paul),



Dream of Wild Health – Four Sisters Farmers Market

Feral Beverage Co., Sonny's Ice Cream and Springboard for the Arts. They will also have live music; Van Nixon and Mayyadda are signed up to perform.

There will be food trucks. A lot of these, along with the information tablers, sign up in the final weeks, so we can't tell you who they are yet. But from the Open Streets central office we did get a list of food vendors that have come on board already—besides Seward Co-op, look for Laune Bread—a pop-up and subscription microbakery; Seward Makes—a brand-new community and commercial kitchen on Milwaukee Avenue; You Betcha Kimchi; Serious Jam; Northstar Kombucha; Philly Station; Hennepin Schools—as part of the free snacks in the summer program; and Soberfish—purveyors of Thai and Japanese food on the Avenue. Also, Driscoll's #BerryTogether Berry Truck, Pharaoh's Gyros food truck,

Fresco's Garden food truck, and the Philly Xpress food truck.

Finally, another great feature of Open Streets, especially if you're a political junkie, is the roving politicians, wandering petition signer-gatherers, and information booths by radical organizations you have yet to know. We know that Cam Gordon of Minneapolis City Council and Angela Conley of Hennepin County (or at least their teams) will be there. And, of course, Mayor Jacob Frey cannot physically pass up a possible photo op, especially if there are also goats or pigs in the picture. (JK! We love you, Mr. Mayor.) Who else will you be able to spot? Extra points if you get into an argument with them. Also look for Extinction Rebellion to be selling their excellent artistic swag, all in service of trying to save humanity (us) from extinguishing ourselves. Here's to a future where every day is Open Streets.

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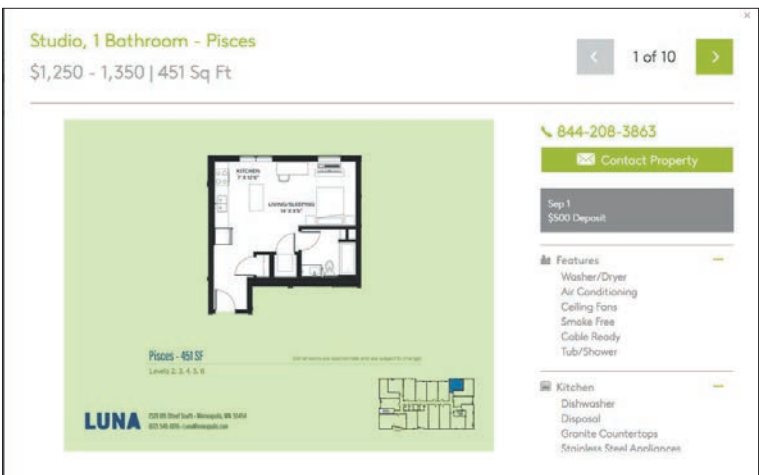
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Savers, Perkins and a laundromat

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



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

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 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

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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.



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 physically, 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 laundromat. 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 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

but has a basement that can and will one day be finished). It is very

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Bloat, and more bloat

BY TONY BOUZA

[On Sunday, July 29, The Star-Tribune 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.

Idiot 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 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 ac-

countability 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.”

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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

Celebrate Summer on Bloomington Avenue

Good Morning, Bloomington Avenue!

DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

This article is about good health, mental health—and breakfast. Obviously, these things are quite interconnected. We had a very fun Sunday morning breakfast at Hot Plate, a diner on Bloomington Avenue and 52nd Street. Hot Plate has been around for over a decade, having been started by Sam Beberg and Carrie Lewis in the 2000s, but bought by the present owner, Carmen Santana, about two years ago. Santana kept what was most popular—most of the kitschy decor, the diner prices, the breakfast signature dishes—and then expanded the space and adjusted the hours. Hot Plate no longer serves lunch, and closes at 1 p.m. on weekdays (still open to 2 p.m. on weekends, and



Hot Plate interior

opens at 8 a.m. every day) and has flirted with a Taco Night. The new dining room in the back almost doubles the space. Be warned that waiting periods to get a seat can approach 45 minutes on weekend peak times. In the spring through fall, there is a charming and restful covered patio with lots of seating where you can wait, and they won't

even mind if you bring an “outside” coffee drink to while away your wait time. Hot Plate also delivers, using GrubHub.

The breakfast offerings are in two broad categories—Minnesota-themed Americana diner favorites, such as the Grand Marais scramble with smoked trout and asparagus, buckwheat-pumpkin waffles, or a caramel pecan roll, and Mexican-Minnesota-style items like chilaquiles or breakfast burritos. It's hard to say which is better, or more popular. The former category will come with home-fries, which are nicely not greasy or over-seasoned. The latter come with hot sauce and sour cream. A hard choice.

Hot Plate, unlike pretty much every other small local business we have covered here, does not appear

to have a Facebook page. Brave move! They do have a barebones website and plenty of Yelp reviews, all good.

There's a nice little upscale strip mall across the road from Hot Plate and its neighbors (two massage studios and a lawyer) wherein is found Cake (a plus-size, gently-worn fashion store) and a vintage furnishings store and the Music Lab (5159 Bloomington Ave. S.). The Music Lab is primarily a music school for both kids and adults, but it includes several other things related to music, including an occasional performance venue. As it says on their super well-organized website, “Our instructors are all performing musicians, and we try to pass our love of performance on to our students by offering optional opportunities to play in front of an audience, in our own performance space or in local venues.” Their latest offering, which just started in July, is “Music for Minis,” group lessons for ages 2 to 4. They also have summer


camps (just wrapped up for this year) and a unique class called Rock Lab for youth, described as “an awesome group-musical-situation where three or more students are paired up with different Music Lab Instructors and learn how to play



A Music Lab studio

in a band together. We will teach you songs to play that you may already know, a few that you don't know and, best of all, we will teach you how to improvise and create your own original music together.” That does sound awesome. Music competencies taught in private

See *Bloomington Ave*, page 8



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Celebrate Summer

Bloomington Ave, from page 7

lessons include voice, songwriting and piano, bowed string instruments such as violin and cello, woodwinds and brass, guitar, banjo, mandolin, and other string folk instruments, including electric guitar, drums and percussion, and miscellaneous such as accordion and harmonica. The Music Lab also rents out their spaces when not in use for rehearsals, performances, meetings and gatherings.

As exciting as these spots in the shopping strip are, there is a new one opening soon that has got us

even more excited. As you may have gathered from previous pieces, I get really excited about books. Irreverent Bookworm, which is “softly” opened at limited times now (Mondays and Tuesdays, 5 to 9 p.m. plus occasional sneak preview Saturdays—there was one last Saturday) and will open for real in September, is like my ultimate dream of a neighborhood bookstore. Clean, well-lit, well-curated, a mix of mostly used but some new books, comfy chairs, a cat, and a homey vibe all are inviting me to love this place. It’s also a family and woman-owned store. They have a sign in the win-



Irreverent Bookworm

dow explaining why they opened a bookstore—“Do you see any other bookstores around here? And no, the book section of Target does NOT count.” LOL. As I arrived at Hot Plate about 12:50 that Sunday morning, I thought the bookstore was open, because I saw people going in and out, but then when I checked at about 1:50 p.m., it wasn’t. The internet explained everything. There had been a celebration of the one-year anniversary of the Feminist Reading Group hosted there. That’s a good sign too. The store has an excellent website at <https://irrevbooks.com/>, where you can sign up for news and

maybe get there for the grand opening; also a Facebook page and a really beautiful Instagram account. In addition to books, the store also sells literary swag, and, through a service called libro.fm, a huge selection of audiobooks.

One thing that was not special (OK but unremarkable) about breakfast at Hot Plate was the coffee. (They also have espresso drinks but we didn’t sample them.) If you’re more of a coffee enthusiast and insist at a minimum knowing the roaster, you could do a lot worse than to breakfast at May Day Cafe at the corner of 35th and Bloomington. In ad-

dition to the coffee (which is always served at the perfect temperature), there are two things they have that are integral to a sublime breakfast experience and getting rarer every day: fresh-squeezed orange juice and almond croissants. Fresh-squeezed orange juice is a whole ‘nother level compared to even the best pre-packaged stuff. And it’s being displaced in the foodie world by such things as kombucha, smoothies, switchel and kvass. All of which have their place but are not my choice for the tender fasting stomach. As for May Day Cafe’s almond croissant, it’s the best in the world. I can say that, because I have compared it to those from London, Vienna, and Paris. [!!!!]

However, if you have dietary or allergy considerations, while May Day does cater to these to some extent, you might want more selection. Sift Gluten-free at the corner of 46th and Bloomington (former Sisters’ Sludge space) has recently expanded their scones, pastries, muffins and cookies to include a large choice of products free of gluten as well as dairy, eggs and soy. And both of these cafes offer excellent coffee from popular roasters. Just around the corner from Sift you’ll find Green Bee Juicery at

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Mural at CUHCC

1526 E. 46th St. I remember seeing them in the food business incubator at Chicago and 37th before they made the big time. Green Bee is closed Monday but opens at 8 a.m. other days. They cold-press the juice from fresh local produce to maintain peak enzyme activity to ensure that the juice is as nutritious as possible. They also produce nutmilk, which, like the juice, is completely raw, never heated. Green Bee Juicery also cares about sustainability, sourcing most of their stuff from local farms. You can also buy Green Bee products online at <https://www.greenbeejuicery.com/order-1>.

All this talk about health has maybe made you wonder if you're getting the best care you can from your current doctor or clinic. Or maybe you're in need of a good but reasonably priced dentist, or a psychother-

apist. Have you considered checking out CUHCC, pronounced "kook" but stands for Community University Health Care Center? This clinic can be found at the northernmost end of Bloomington Avenue, where it starts from Franklin Avenue. You will know it by its distinctive mural (pictured). I very gratefully turned to CUHCC for health care after returning from a 13-year sojourn in the U.K. It appears that if you haven't been "in the system" for a while, at least back before the ACA, you literally could not get health insurance at any cost, because they didn't know how to rate your health. When a freak accident caused me to bloody and bruise my nose, a friend took me to CUHCC, where I explained my uninsured and unwaged status to them. They not only gave me great health care, but they shepherded

me through the process of applying for Medical Assistance or MN Care so I could get back into the insurers' all-powerful databases and get basic care in the interim. CUHCC is part of the University of Minnesota medical network, including dentistry and psychotherapy. They also have a strong social component of legal advice, health care navigation and case management. They also provide victim advocacy and can provide interpreters in Spanish, Somali, Hmong, Lao and Vietnamese. I still use CUHCC for my dentistry needs because they are as good as any private dentists and always reasonable, no matter what your income. CUHCC has a great website, but you still have to call them to make an appointment. You can, however, donate money to them online.

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

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 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 starting 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 cheap. 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?

Addendum, from page 1

the boulders blocking the course of Minnehaha Creek have been removed, or the removal of the boulders has not changed the control point and the rock weir is still the control point for the water level of Minnehaha Creek and Lake Hiawatha. In either case, it is essential for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to commission a new survey that indicates the new profile of the level of obstructions blocking the exit of Minnehaha Creek from Lake Hiawatha.

On July 22, 2019, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board sent out a document via email: "Hiawatha Golf Course Property

Boulder Dam, from page 1

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-Analysis-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

Master Plan Facts and Misconceptions: Groundwater Pumping and Dredging," in which they say,

"An investigation of the creek revealed at least 19 introduced and natural downstream obstructions in the creek's first 2,200 feet downstream of the lake, all of which have the potential to control the elevation of water in the lake to some degree.

"It's not possible to remove all those obstructions, which include a regional sewer interceptor pipe measuring more than ten feet high and requiring an earthen cover. That structure was constructed in 1925, nine years before the course opened."

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 Schaulfer, 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/f10.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 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

As we said in our brief, the "regional sewer interceptor pipe" is the principal obstruction to the flow of Minnehaha Creek: "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." All other sewer lines or natural obstructions are below 808 feet. The two possible exceptions to this are the unused municipal gas line at 28th Avenue and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dam/weir at 27th Avenue.

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 immediately 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

But it is a deliberate distortion to claim there are 19 obstructions when there are only two that could possibly rise above the 808 feet of the regional sewer interceptor.

Therefore, we ask this court to order the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to commission an updated profile survey of the obstructions in Minnehaha Creek from the outlet from Lake Hiawatha to Minnehaha Falls.

Further, we ask this court to order the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to cease making false and misleading statements regarding obstructions in Minnehaha Creek.

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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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 example, 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 peo-


ple 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 added 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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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / PHILLIPS/POWDERHORN EDITION

Hiroshima Nagasaki Remembrance

With support from Veterans for Peace, Chapter 27, Women Against Military Madness (WAMM) and the Saint Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee, events again will be held in remembrance of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Hiroshima Nagasaki Commemoration Committee offers these events to the community to encourage reflection on the past and hope for the future through action in the present. It calls for the total abolition of nuclear weapons throughout the world as one measure of ensuring a just and lasting peace.

Lyndale Park Peace Garden at Lake Harriet in Minneapolis: Monday, Aug. 5, 6 p.m.

Commemorative Tea Ceremony Tuesday, Aug. 6, 7:30 a.m.

Keynote speaker Larry Johnson, storyteller, Vets for Peace; Sadako story by Elaine Wynne and Sage Curry-Wynne; Music by Jo Bolles; Bell ringing by Veterans for Peace, Chapter 27; Haiku

Global Harmony Labyrinth in Como Park, St. Paul: Thursday, Aug. 8, 7 p.m.

Letter from Nagasaki Mayor Taue; Music by Musicians from the Saint Paul Civic Symphony; On that Summer Day; Readings by Jay Kvale; Labyrinth dance by Alys Ayumi Ogura

Nature After Dinner: Flight of the Butterfly

Thursday, August 8 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Dodge Nature Center, Farm Entrance 3 1701 Charlton St. in West St. Paul, 55118

The flowers are in full bloom on the prairie! With the flowers come colorful butterflies. Spend an evening learning about the life cycle of these amazing insects. Catch and release them from your insect net and learn clues on how to tell a moth from a butterfly. 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

Sustainable Cohousing: Collaboratively Living with People and Planet Saturday, August 10 10 a.m. to noon

Southdale Library, Helen Young Room, 2nd floor, Edina 55435

Presentation by Mark Carsten Anderson—AIA, CPHC, Anderson Sustainable Architecture, LLC.

Mr. Anderson will talk about how energy-efficient cohousing helps people live healthier and more comfortably by fighting climate change with

cost-effective building investments. By thoroughly understanding his client's goals and organizing them in a way that aligns with sustainable design principles, Mr. Anderson creates highly livable, healthy, comfortable, exciting, yet economical buildings. Combining Passive House and photovoltaic systems design knowledge, he aligns energy consumption and production, optimizing their design and minimizing costs, for a durable and beautiful project.

After Mr. Anderson's presentation, Bassett Creek Cohousing, LLC (www.bassettcreek.us) will show two short videos about cohousing to prompt discussion:

TED Talk, Grace Kim: How cohousing can make us happier (and live longer)

PBS Newshour: Cohousing communities help prevent social isolation

BASSETT CREEK COHOUSING, LLC is a small, grassroots group that's passionate about energy-efficient cohousing—an exciting housing alternative that mitigates climate change and builds real community. We'll discuss how cohousing promotes quality of life, combats climate change and present our site search initiative. Contact: bcrk@cohousing.org

WAMM Second Monday Movies

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

Mpls. 55407

"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.

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

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

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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!

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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.

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 Wesseler 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 or call 612-440-5958.

Dakota Sacred Site Tours

Sunday, Aug. 18, 1 to 5 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 29, 1 to 5 p.m.

St. Peter's Catholic Church 1405 Sibley Memorial Hwy. St. Paul 55150

Healing Minnesota Stories and the Minnesota Council of Churches are excited to announce dates for open Dakota Sacred Site Tours. These tours visit sites in the Twin Cities sacred to the Dakota people. Participants will learn about the history of our land in a way that facilitates healing. To register for one of these transformative experiences, please contact Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs, Director of Racial Justice, at jimbear.jacobs@mncchurches.org.

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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / PHILLIPS/POWDERHORN EDITION

Hosmer Library Reopening Celebration

Monday, August 19

5:30 to 8 p.m.

347 East 36th 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."

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
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.

Regina High School Class of 1969 50th Reunion

Saturday, September 14

Minneapolis Marriott Hotel
Calling all graduates of Regina High School Class of 1969! Our

50th 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 or call 612-729-3500.

Sandbox Theatre's "Bone Mother"

September 19 to 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 7:30 p.m.

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://bon-emother.bpt.me/>

Discounts available for TMO-

RA members, Students, Seniors and Sandbox subscribers.

Amitav Ghosh

Thursday, September 26

7:30 p.m.

Grace-Trinity Community Church

1430 West 28th 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!

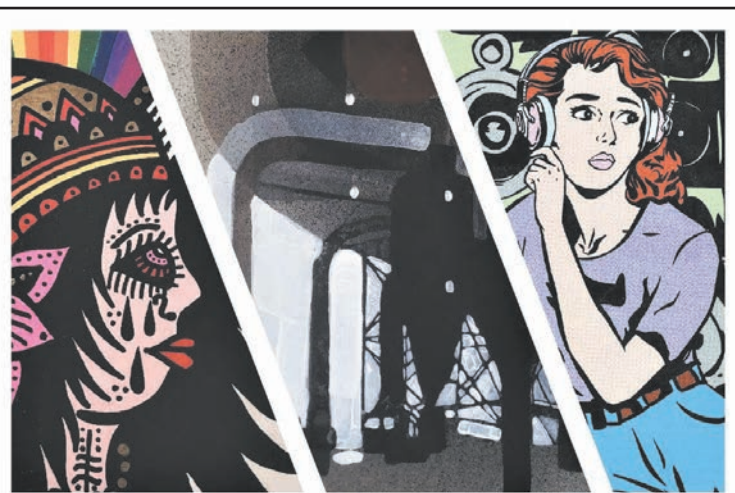
Attendees can visit our event page at <http://www.raintaxi.com/amitav-ghosh/> to RSVP and be entered into a prize raffle at the event, as well as pre-purchase a signed copy of "Gun Island," which includes a reserved seat.

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/>



TRIPARTITE

BLACK DAZE - GROE - BIAFRA

Opening Thursday July 25th 6-11pm

Modus Locus Gallery

3500 Bloomington Ave Minneapolis, MN

TRIPARTITE brings together three distinctly different "street artists" to share the gallery walls at Modus Locus. In this exhibit, each artist brings their own unique perspective to their somewhat elusive public art endeavors.

GROE's body of work embodies and reveals the relationships active graffiti participants encounter: the bold, colorful, calculated decisiveness of the graffiti style connecting with its environment—filled with uncertainty and forgetfulness.

BIAFRA critiques traditional America by questioning the white culture that surrounds traditional values and taking a critical look at cultural problems, both political and ideological. The artist hides layers of information in all his work to give insight to the content and history of each piece.

BLACK DAZE is constantly generating bright, bold characters and images in multiple media: murals, paintings, drawings, stickers, T-shirts and prints. Seemingly drawing from mythology and his own imagination, the artist's work conjures magic from the imagery of the ages.

Each artist will have additional merch to purchase: stickers, t-shirts, posters, prints, etc. Please check back for additional events during the month for opportunities to meet the artists and buy their wares.

Exhibition: July 25th - August 31, 2019

Opening Reception: July 25th, 6-11pm

Address: 3500 Bloomington Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55407

Viewing Hours: Wednesday thru Friday 4-8pm, Saturdays 12-4pm and by appointment. Private rentals can affect gallery hours.

Modus Locus is a flex-use gallery space located in Powderhorn Park, Minneapolis, which celebrates arts and events by local and global residents. For additional information about the gallery and event rental space, contact: mirna@moduslocusmpls.com

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EVENTS

Free Corn Feed Sunday, August 11 3 to 6 p.m.

Calvary Lutheran Church
parking lot
3901 Chicago Ave. 55407
All are welcome!

Lunch and Music in the Garden

Sunday, August 18, noon
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
2730 E. 31st St. 55406

We will fire up the wood-fired oven and make pizzas for lunch! Music will be provided by the Porter Sisters. Suggested donation of \$5 for the lunch. All are welcome!

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 or call 612-230-3219. Thank you!

Hakuna Matata Children's Choir

**Sunday, September 22,
1:30 p.m.**

Mindekirken, the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church

924 East 21st 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.



"Your preparation for the real world is not in the answers you've learned, but in the questions you've learned how to ask yourself." --- Rainer Maria Rilke

ONGOING

Coming to the Table (CTTT)

Third Saturdays

10:30 a.m. to noon

Sumner Library
611 Van White Memorial Blvd.
Mpls. 55411

(To reserve your seat, please RSVP at www.cttt-northmpls.eventbrite.com.)

Fourth Mondays

7 to 8:30 p.m.

Wedge Table Classroom
2412 Nicollet Ave.
Mpls. 55404

(To reserve your seat, please RSVP at www.cttt-southmpls.eventbrite.com.)

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

enced educator. The classes are free and open to members and non-members. Hebrew language proficiency is not required. No reservations necessary. For more information call 651-698-8874. Or visit www.templeofaaron.org.

Meditation Sundays

10 a.m.

Plymouth Congregational Church
1900 Nicollet Ave.
Mpls. 55403

Join this ancient spiritual practice. No experience is necessary and everyone is welcome! No fee and no registration required. More information at 612-871-7400 or www.plymouth.org.

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3901 Chicago Ave. S.
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Sunday 7:45 am (Church)
Sunday 9 & 11 am (Gym), Weekday
Tue. & Thu. 8 am (Orleans Chapel)
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office@walkerchurch.org; Website:
walkerchurch.org; FB: [Walker Community United Methodist Church](https://www.facebook.com/walkerchurch);
Sunday Celebrations & Children's Program 10:30 am
Community Meal Tue. 5:30-6:45 pm



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**Sunday, Aug. 11, 3-6 p.m.
3901 Chicago Ave. S.**

**Southside Pride would
love to include news
about your faith-based
communities for our
free religion calendar.**



**Contact Katherine at
katherine.southsidepride@gmail.com
or call 612-822-4662.**

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 leadership 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



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

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 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 community. 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, and go to an information session! The next will take place on Wednesday, Aug. 7, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the MNIPL meeting space inside the Gandhi Mahal restaurant at 3015 27th Ave. S. The deadline to apply for this bulk buy program is Aug. 31, 2019.

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 reader-ship 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.

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 Lake Como 651-487-8046

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