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FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**December  
2019**

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## Transactional Analysis

BY TONY BOUZA

Once a guy gets to my age, he needs to ask himself whether he's ever engaged in sexual harassment, in any form: "An unexamined life . . ."

Well?

After a mental search, I remembered. It was August 1994. Erica was selling her jewelry at the Uptown Art Fair. I spelled her for a latrine break.

I was sitting in the empty stall when a middle-aged woman led a tall, younger girl inside by an insistent hand. A kinetic scene.

"What do you mean by telling my daughter a big-breasted girl like her needs large earrings?"

Knocked back by this furious accusation, I thought frantically. I apologized profusely for what I was sure was a misunderstanding, but she'd have none of it and sustained her assault.

Angrily, she led her daughter out with a final message: "You'll never get my vote."

I was then engaged in an amateurish and quixotic doomed quest for public office.

I searched my memory and finally remembered: "A statuesque woman like you should have large earrings."

What the daughter had heard was some grotesque version.

I'd attended a course on Transactional Analysis in 1973, and it changed my life.

Now, I reflexively studied the exchange and con-

**See Bouza, page 15**



Minneapolis Novas celebrate a previous championship win in the Eveleth Holiday Tournament.

## Prospects for Minneapolis high school hockey

BY TYLER SYNKIEW

After graduating 10 seniors in a 9-13-3 2018-2019 season, the Minneapolis boys' hockey team looks to refocus for the 2019-2020 season. Despite graduating nearly half their varsity team last year, the boys still have 11 upperclassmen this season, including six seniors, many of whom have a couple seasons of varsity play already under their belts. These upperclassmen are expected to be leaders for this team. They will show the younger skaters the way, building a foundation for years to come as the team tries to find its identity.

The team officially started its new season when whistles blew to begin practice on Nov. 11 in their practice facility, the Parade Ice Gar-

den. The hockey season is long and grueling, possibly lasting until a couple weekends into March. That being said, especially with a young team, staying fresh is the key, which can be done perhaps by scheduling days off based on how the team feels in busy parts of the season, or even by rotating players to give starters a rest and allowing younger players to gain varsity experience.

For many, this will be their first experience playing at this high of a level; learning curves and rough patches are expected. Though there may be some rough patches for the boys this season, expect them to persevere and thrive through any adversity that may come their way. This is a skill that will carry these young men through

life. This team and its coaches understand that hockey is more than just a game. Especially at this level, it's a way to help young boys progress into mature adults. The skills they gain from this sport are necessary skills that will be useful in all aspects of life. It's important to understand that this is just one piece of the puzzle.

Though relatively inexperienced, Minneapolis will be put in the spotlight this season because of its nationally televised game in January. As part of "Hockey Day in Minnesota," the Minneapolis boys will square off against Warroad, a hockey powerhouse from the north, on a Saturday game that will be televised by Fox Sports North. Although being the underdogs in this game,

**See Hockey, page 5**

## 'Git outta here!'

BY ED FELIEN

That's what it sounds like, "Git outta here!"

The Planning Commission last month just approved zoning changes that will ultimately mean the removal of communities of color and those of us who live in the inner city in affordable housing and replace us with Young Urban Professionals in five-story apartment buildings.

I wrote the following to the Planning Commission and the City Council:

You are being asked to approve staff recommendations for guidelines for development projects of 20 or more units that will accompany inclusionary zoning changes anticipated in December. The recommendations are from your consultant, Grounded Solutions:

"Draft Policy Recommendations—Minneapolis Inclusionary Zoning, October 2019, On-site Affordability Requirements, Rental—

- Option 1: 8% of units affordable at 60% of Area Median Income (AMI); no City financial assistance; revisit after 18 months

- Option 2: 20% of units affordable at 50% of AMI; City financial assistance (Tax-Increment Financing) available

- Option 3: Half the 60% AMI requirement (4% of units) affordable at 30% of AMI; no City financial assistance."

The average median income for Minneapolis is \$60,789. In an apartment building of 20 units, Option 1 would require 1.6 units be made available to people earning \$36,473.40 or less a year. Option 2 would require 4 of the units be made available to people earning \$30,395.50 or less a year. And Option 3 would make 8/10 of 1 percent of 1 unit available to persons earning \$18,236.50 or less a year.

This cannot seriously be called creating affordable housing.

The proposed inclusionary zoning changes will allow three-, four- and five-story apartment buildings in the inner city, from Broadway to 42nd Street South. These changes will not affect the traditionally white neighborhoods. Renters who live in the affected areas who have found affordable housing will be evicted and removed. Communities of color will be gentrified and be replaced by young urban professionals.

One out of every five people living in Minneapolis (20.7 percent) is living in poverty. They earn less than \$25,750 a year for a family of four. <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/minneapolis-mn/>

By eliminating existing affordable housing, this new policy will dramatically make things much worse.

**See Git Out, page 14**







# Happy Holidays!

## Cooking with Pride – Staff Recipes

### Recipe for the Republic

George Washington, on Oct. 3, 1789, issued a Proclamation declaring the last Thursday in November to be a day of Thanksgiving “for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed—for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted—for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.”

But it was not perfect harmony in the early Thirteen Colonies. Thomas Jefferson and John Adams fought nasty electoral battles. Aaron Burr shot and killed Alexander Hamilton to settle political differences.

But the Republic survived.

Today, the Republic is being tested once again. Are we to continue to be a nation governed by laws enacted for the common good, or are we to be subject to the whims of a mad king? We are undergoing a trial now to test the strength of our Constitution. Congress is exercising its right and responsibility to hold our President accountable.

We should all be thankful that it works as well as it does.

—Ed Felien

### Slow Cooker Stuffing with Extra Veggies

This stuffing is packed with flavor and veggies. The veggies are cut small so they don’t overpower the stuffing. This recipe uses the slow cooker to save much coveted oven and stove space for other Thanksgiving goodies. Makes about 12 servings.

Ingredients:

¼ cup butter  
2 cups chopped onion  
½ cup chopped green onion  
1 cup chopped celery  
12 ounces sliced mushrooms  
2 cups finely chopped greens (tatsoi and spinach work well)  
½ cup chopped fresh parsley  
12 cups bread, cut into bite-size cubes (Sourdough tastes great in stuffing. You can also mix in half whole wheat bread for extra fiber. Make sure to use day-old bread for better texture.)  
2 tbsp. mixed fresh herbs (e.g., sage, rosemary and thyme)  
2 cups vegetable or chicken stock  
2 eggs, beaten  
salt and pepper to taste

1. Melt butter in a pan over medium heat. Cook onion, green onion, celery and mushroom for several minutes until soft. Add salt and pepper to taste.

2. Place bread cubes in slow cooker. Add cooked vegetables, greens, parsley and herbs. Mix well.

3. Add just enough broth to moisten bread (about 1½-2 cups). It’s better to start with less and add more later if needed.

4. Pour in eggs and mix well.

5. Cook on high for 2 hours. Check halfway through to see if more broth

is needed. Add more salt and pepper if needed.

—Raina Goldstein Bunnag

### Fake Cheese Cake

I’ve been making this simple dessert for 40 years at least. In the family we call it “lemon cheese cake” even though we know it’s not. It’s a delicious fake cheese cake (a jello dessert) made from stuff in cans and boxes. It might be a pleasant surprise at Thanksgiving if you want to present it along with the traditional mincemeat and pumpkin pies.

You can buy a graham cracker crust or make your own with 15 or 16 two-part graham crackers, crushed, and 1 stick (1/2 cup) of melted butter. Put the crackers in a large freezer bag and roll over them with a rolling pin. Children find this very satisfying. Mix with melted butter and press into a large (10-inch) pie pan. Save some crumbs to sprinkle on top when the filling is almost set.

Add 1 cup boiling water to a package of lemon jello (or mango jello) and stir for five minutes, or maybe three. Just make sure it’s long enough to prevent rubbery jello. Stir in the juice of one small lemon or lime. Whip together an 8 oz. package of cream cheese (room temperature) and 1 cup of cold evaporated milk. When jello has cooled, fold it into the cream cheese/evaporated milk mixture. Very patiently, spoon the liquid by small spoonfuls into the crust (if you pour it, the crust will be displaced) and put it in the refrigerator to set. Voila.

—Elaine Klaassen

### Aunt Betty’s Polish Rolls

Eastern European cookery is known for its delicious sweet “rolls” with a rich butter-and-sour-cream-laden yeast pastry, rolled up jellyroll-style, filled with nut paste, poppy seed paste, or pureed dried fruits such as prune or apricot. With names such as potica in Slovenian, strucla or makowiec in Polish, and tons of other names such as diosbeigli, povitica, or orehnjaca, these have migrated to America under names like prune roll, or Pittsburgh nut roll. But my family always called them Polish rolls. We didn’t actually have any Polish heritage to speak of in our family, but our beloved Aunt Betty (one of my Dad’s four younger sisters) married a Polish guy and got this recipe from her mother-in-law. You think of it more as a Christmas or Easter treat, but I get impatient to have some as soon as the weather turns cold and so to me it’s perfect for Thanksgiving. My whole extended family has decided they agree. We often used canned filling to make the poppy seed or prune variety, and our nut filling (pecan instead of the more common walnut) is simplicity itself with just five ingredients.

A lot of recipes for this—OK, every one I have ever seen except my own—recommend such quaint practices as proofing the yeast, scalding the milk, and various periods of resting the dough overnight in the fridge, or letting it rise and punching it down. Some of the recipes use powdered sugar instead of flour for dusting, or have a confectioner’s glaze or even icing. That’s all well and good, but our recipe dates from the 1950s and doesn’t have any of that. And it works, so just trust.

Pastry ingredients for two large or three small rolls  
½ lb. unsalted butter (2 “sticks”)  
1 tbsp. sour cream  
3 cups all-purpose flour  
3 tbsp. granulated sugar  
½ cup milk  
4 eggs, separated  
1 pkg. active dry yeast

Filling of your choice (Solo poppy seed, Solo prune, or nut filling (below))

Nut filling ingredients (enough for two rolls)  
1½ cups pecans, ground coarsely  
1 egg white  
1 cup brown sugar  
½ tsp. vanilla  
Pinch of salt

Put two of the egg whites into a small container and whisk them until just frothy, not foamy. Make the filling, if using, with half the remaining egg whites (i.e., one). Just combine the ingredients. Open the cans and check the filling if using that. (Sometimes these things sit on the shelf for decades.)



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# Happy Holidays!



Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease a large sheet pan and line it with parchment. For the rest, you'll need three bowls, a rolling pin (floured), a floured surface for rolling, a candy thermometer, and a small saucepan. In the largest bowl, cream the butter and sour cream together. In the medium-sized bowl, put the flour in, add the sugar, and whisk them together. Put the milk in the saucepan and warm it to exactly 100 degrees F. Put the milk into the smallest bowl and add the egg yolks and the yeast, and whisk it until smooth.

Add 1/3 of dry mixture and 1/3 of milk mixture to the large bowl with the butter mixture and stir with a wooden spoon until combined. Repeat twice more so it's all in. Rub a little butter on your clean hands and knead the mixture in the bowl very well, at least five minutes, until it's elastic and glossy. Divide the dough in half (or thirds for smaller rolls).

Roll each portion out into a rectangle about half an inch thick, about 9 by 12 inches if you divided dough into two parts. Spread filling from one short edge to about an inch shy of the opposite edge, and 1/2 inch in from the two long edges. Roll from the full edge to the other short edge, tucking the ends in so no filling shows. (At this point you can freeze the dough if you want to bake some or all later.) Place the rolls far enough apart to allow some expansion in baking, seam down. Bake them for about 50 minutes, then remove them and paint the top and sides with egg wash. Return to the oven for 10 to 15 more minutes. Keep checking because oven temperatures vary and you don't want them to get too brown. Let the rolls cool to room temperature on a rack if you have one, then cut them into thin slices for serving. If you're keeping one

for later, leave it unsliced and wrap it tightly in foil.

—Debra Keefer Ramage

## Fresh Cranberry/Raspberry Relish

1 c. fresh cranberries, finely chopped in food processor (plus 1/2 c. whole cranberries)  
1 green apple, peeled, cored, finely diced  
1/3 c. sugar  
1/3 c. frozen raspberries, thawed  
juice of 1 lemon wedge

Mix ingredients together. Chill.

This is a favorite at our Thanksgiving table, and is usually the first leftover to disappear.

—Bridgit Jordan

## Mom's Tomato Mac & Cheese

4 cups uncooked medium shell pasta  
1 cup milk  
1 egg  
4-5 medium tomatoes  
16 oz. sharp cheddar, shredded  
Preheat oven to 375.  
Cook pasta al dente.  
Blanch and peel tomatoes, then dice.

Whisk egg into milk.  
After pasta is done, drain and cool a few minutes, then mix with egg/milk mixture, tomatoes, 2/3 of cheese, salt & pepper,

Pour it all into a buttered (or sprayed) casserole dish, cover, and bake for about 40 minutes.

When knife comes out clean (so you know the egg is done), remove the cover and sprinkle on the rest of the cheese. Put it under the broiler until cheese melts and begins to brown. Delicious warm, but also great for leftovers!

The first family Thanksgiving after I became a vegetarian, I came home to find my mother making MOUN-

TAINS of her mac & cheese. She said she knew I would eat that, even if I didn't eat any of the other holiday foods!

## Jackie Schmidt's Quick Cobbler

3/4 cup flour  
3/4 cup sugar  
3/4 cup milk  
4 tbs butter  
tsp baking powder  
dash of salt  
2 cups fresh sliced peaches (or one large can if fresh not available)  
Cinnamon-sugar (1/2 cup sugar with 1 tablespoon cinnamon)

Set oven at 350.

Put butter in 8-inch casserole dish, and set into warming oven to melt.

Remove dish from oven when butter melts, and put sliced peaches into butter.

Mix flour, sugar, milk, baking powder & salt.

Pour mixture over peaches, and sprinkle with about 2 tbs of cinnamon-sugar.

Bake in 350 oven until cobbler browns and fruit is soft, about 50 minutes. Delicious hot, alone or with vanilla ice cream.

When I was a kid, I liked cold leftover cobbler with milk on it for breakfast.

—Rebecca James

This is a tale of the recipes of three women: my grandma, my mom, and my mother-in-law, and the piquant red dishes they served to accompany Thanksgiving turkey and stuffing. Grandma's was the easiest, and also the most unappealing to me as a kid: Open a can of jellied cranberries from both ends, slide the quivering red mass onto a pretty china plate, and set it on the table. Make sure to leave it intact, so the indentations from the can add a decorative touch. Voila.

My mom, on the other hand, always cooked fresh whole cranberries from a recipe straight out of the Betty Crocker cookbook. Here it is if you don't have it. I still make it myself every year.

## Cranberry Sauce

Wash 4 cups fresh cranberries. Stir together 2 cups water and 2 cups sugar in saucepan. Heat to boiling; boil 5 minutes. Stir in cranberries. Heat to boiling; boil rapidly 5 minutes. Cool. Cover; refrigerate at least 8 hours.

This is super easy to make; the best part is hearing the cranberries pop their skins in the boiling water. I never make a whole batch, or else I would have cranberry sauce till Groundhog's Day. Just cut the recipe in half. Don't skimp on the sugar! I know 2 cups is a lot, but just go with it. Also, it doesn't have to be refrigerated for a full 8 hours—half that time is plenty.

Those years when my mom and my grandma were together at the same Thanksgiving dinner, we had both kinds of cranberries, the jellied canned ones and the fresh cooked ones. Everyone remained civil.

Enter my mother-in-law. Her proud Danish heritage required her

to make Rødkaal (Red Cabbage) for holiday meals that involved roast fowl, whether Thanksgiving or Christmas. I had my misgivings at first, but quickly came to love the dish. Here's the recipe:

## Red Cabbage (Rødkaal)

Shred 1 medium red cabbage. Heat 2 tbs. butter (or bacon fat if you want to go big) and stir in cabbage until all parts are touched by the hot fat. Add 1/2 cup vinegar, 1/2 cup water, 1/4 cup sugar, 1 tsp. salt, a pinch of ground cloves, and a bay leaf. Cover and simmer until tender. Stir in 1/4 cup currant jelly.

This recipe also can be easily cut in half, to fit the size of your gathering. I love the way the aroma fills the house, so I make it now, too, every year. My Thanksgiving plate always has two spots of red on it—my mom's bright magenta, sweet-tart cranberry sauce, and my mother-in-law's deep maroon, sweet-and-sour rødkaal. The best of both worlds. But as for the jellied cranberries in a can? Sorry, Grandma—I love you dearly, but no can do.

—Katherine Schaefer

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# Up-zoning remembered

BY EARL NETWAL

Prior to being elected to the City Council in 1973, I was an elected and active member of the Minneapolis Model City Plan-

ning and Policy Board, which was made up of citizen representatives elected by precincts within the Model City area (a broad area roughly between Cedar and Lyndale and I-94 to around 38th

Street).

Housing was a big deal. The area consisted of some of the oldest housing in the city. There was a big demand for housing, and the leading edge of the baby boomers started flooding the area because it was close to downtown jobs and close to the university. The area had relatively low rents, although they were increasing in the face of the demand. The downside was that much of the housing was clearly substandard, with many houses dating back to the late 1800s and pre-WWI era.

As would be expected, much of the attention was on ideas to upgrade the housing stock with loan and grant programs aimed at housing rehab; political support for ideas like rent control and tenants' rights; and ending redlining. Also explored were new housing utilizing defensible space for security, as well as innovative ownership structures. Less flashy was an examination of just how the area slipped into decline.

People tend to like to find villains, and two were identified: absentee landlords and two-and-a-half story walkups.

While a significant majority of the entire area had already been converted to rental property, there were still sections of the neighborhoods I represented

with a core of owner-occupied single-family homes and owner-occupied duplexes. These residents were concerned about their neighborhood and its short- and long-term prospects. These people tended to fall into two groups: long-term survivors and young urban pioneers—demographically, the old and the young.

The young within the model city effort looked to the old to explain what had happened and why. They heard tales of one and then another owner-occupied home on their block selling to investors as urban flight and the suburban life lured people away, not to be replaced by homeowners. Tales of tall grass and peeling paint diminishing the overall look of the neighborhood. And a cycle began, as one after another escaped before their property values declined further, except for those who could not or would not.

They told stories of developers acquiring two or three adjacent properties and then informing the adjoining neighbors that they would be building an apartment building and to either sell now or suffer the increase in traffic and unknown new neighbors. The process was called blockbusting and it occurred throughout the area.

At that time, the entire residen-

tial area of my ward was zoned R-6 under the then-in-effect zoning. That was the highest possible density level and was the same as was required for the Cedar Square West complex, also in my ward.

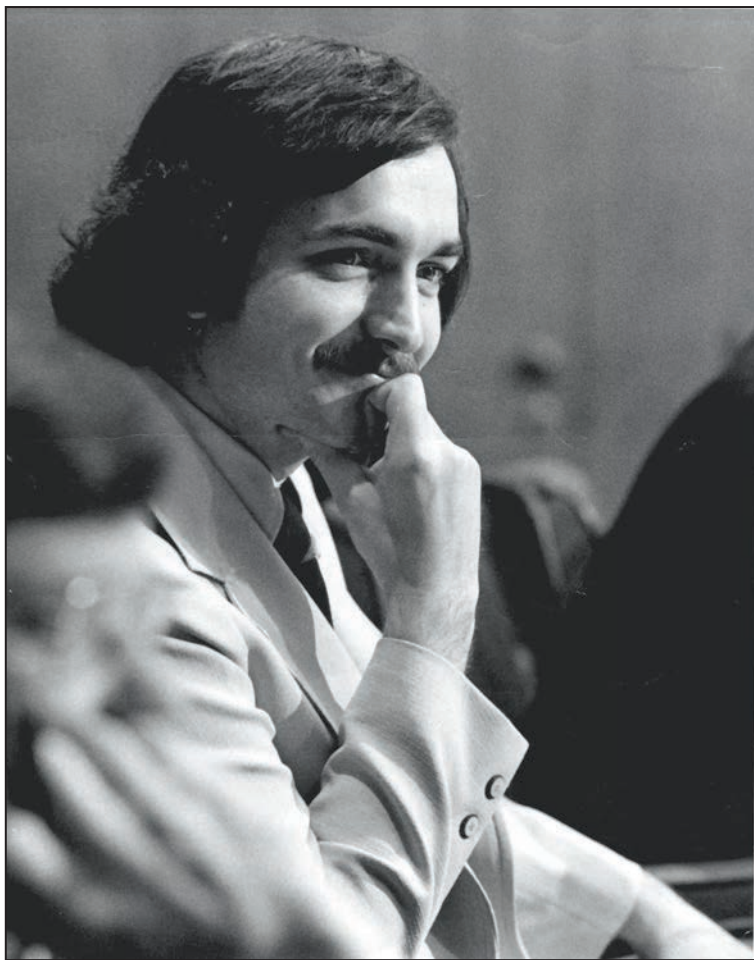
In essence, it was as if there were no zoning restrictions at all. The result was that many, many blocks of previously single-family or duplex housing were host to at least one apartment building. This added to street congestion, mobility rates and coincidental crime issues—and a transformation of the neighborhood from being family-oriented to one less so.

Within my ward, the area with the largest residual base of homeownership was in the Whittier neighborhood. Together with activists from the community, we began what was called a 40-acre study. This was required because courts have ruled that a city cannot reduce the zoning on a property "capriciously." Changing the zoning on a block of single-family homes from Cedar Square West densities to that of single-family homes, according to the courts, constituted an illegal taking of property rights from the property owners without compensation. The typical city block is approximately 3.5 acres, meaning that an area of 12-14 blocks would satisfy the courts. The actual study area was much larger.

The study started with a property-by-property identification of the actual use for every parcel in the study area. This was done by city staff and then presented at neighborhood meetings, along with recommended new zoning classifications. These recommendations generally reduced the zoning level to that of the existing uses. Several well-attended neighborhood meetings ensured that the stakeholders in the community were informed and demonstrated support for the change.

The resulting zoning changes made homeownership a less risky endeavor in the "inner city" and may have indirectly assisted in improving the availability of mortgages in the area. Equally important, the process allowed citizens an active role in claiming and defending their neighborhoods.

In hindsight, if I were to go back and make a change to the results, it would have been to allow more density along arterial streets, while protecting the interior blocks. This happens to be my idea for the current situation in Minneapolis as well. Blanket higher zoning leads to disruptions and potentially disinvestment by owner-occupants. This, in turn, leads to eventual decline in the quality of the housing stock. That was the lesson we learned back in the Model City days, and it remains true today.



Earl Netwal, 1975

## The future of our trash at Lake Hiawatha

BY KATHRYN KELLY

On Nov. 15, an exhibit debuted at The White Page at East 34th Street and Cedar Avenue South in Minneapolis (<https://the-white-page.org/>). Called "Final Report—Lake Hiawatha—Anthropocene Midden Survey," it displays a large collection of trash collected from Lake Hiawatha in South Minneapolis. This collection of trash has been gathered from Lake Hiawatha over several years by Sean Connaughty and The Friends of Lake Hiawatha. The amount and diversity of the trash is impressive and concerning.

This trash is due to the fact that Lake Hiawatha is the dumping ground for most of the storm sewer water in the Minnehaha Creek watershed. It comes from South Minneapolis and communities as far away as Lake Minnetonka. The majority of the trash enters Lake Hiawatha directly from the following sources: at least four storm sewer pipes that drain South Minneapolis water directly into Lake

Hiawatha; and inbound Minnehaha Creek, which carries water and trash from a huge portion of the Minnehaha Creek watershed.

Included in the exhibit is a historical perspective of Lake Hiawatha and the area, with a short history of the lake from the time of the habitation of the Dakota people to the development of the park by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. Ethan Neerdaels Goodroads Village gave an interesting presentation about "being a good relative," illustrating the Dakota perspective of the Dakota people's connection to the land.

A synopsis of observed wildlife at the lake and a satirical look at the items found, from a future perspective, complete the exhibit.

This exhibit is an eye-opening look at the way we, as people and governments, do little to maintain a clean and healthy environment for ourselves. Is it time for our government officials to really take the lead in mitigating this trash?





# Neoliberal vs. socialist politics in the Minneapolis housing market

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

Two members of the Collaborative Planning Committee (CPC), which was initiated by Council Member Phillipe Cunningham as a way to engage community residents in the process around the development of the Upper Harbor Terminal (UHT), recently resigned. In their letter of resignation, Tessa Antilla and Paul Bauknight said something that cuts right to the heart of the challenge we face as a city and as a nation in our efforts to grow and/or improve our communities: “A fundamental challenge to the city’s goals of equity and inclusivity for the UHT development is its grounding in a market-based real estate development process. Real estate development is an extractive wealth building process. It must engage a capitalist system that is not now nor has it ever been equitable.” (citation: <https://www.vox.mn/post/two-top-members-resign-from-city-planning-committee>)

While the letter penned by Antilla and Bauknight was specifically about the UHT, it resonated with me as a reflection of the current political rift in American politics. We are at a moment politically when we are finally seeing serious questioning of our neoliberal

status quo and a rise in Democratic socialism as championed by Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

In discussions of housing development and housing affordability, neoliberal policies argue for market-based solutions with a focus on supply and demand. This is exemplified by the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), which drafted model legislation for state lawmakers: “Affordable Housing Construction Stimulation Act” of 1995 states, “In order to increase the construction of low-income housing, this act allows certain requirements a developer must meet under a municipal housing or building code to be waived ...” ([https://www.alecexposed.org/w/images/6/62/1A0-Affordable\\_Housing\\_Construction\\_Stimulation\\_Act\\_Exposed.pdf](https://www.alecexposed.org/w/images/6/62/1A0-Affordable_Housing_Construction_Stimulation_Act_Exposed.pdf)). And ALEC currently states on its website, “Creating a market-oriented housing supply to fit demand and encourages the creation of affordable housing through market forces can boost a state’s human capital and help to develop an area’s economy.” (<https://www.alec.org/issue/economic-development/>). The recently-adopted Minneapolis 2040 Plan falls under this philosophy when it comes



to creating affordable housing.

Meanwhile, also in Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA) is pursuing a federal program called Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) to fund rehabilitation of public housing that is suffering from too-long deferred maintenance (<https://www.minnpost.com/metro/2019/04/the-minneapolis-public-housing-authority-is-changing-the-way-it-does-business-and-some-city-council-members-are-worried-about-it/>). According to the

Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder, “RAD’s program structure allows housing agencies to partner with private and nonprofit enterprises to secure funds, as well as to change one form of subsidized housing to another.” According to MPHA, these private funds would be borrowed from banks, philanthropic organizations, or foundations and that these “investors” would receive tax credits in exchange for their investments (<https://spokesman-recorder.com/2019/06/06/public-housing-rehab-sparks-fears-of-privatization/>). Call me a cynic, but the idea of private investors (even philanthropic organizations or foundations) giving millions of dollars to MPHA for some tax credits just doesn’t add up to me.

Encouragingly, at the national level, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez recently released her “Green New Deal for Public Housing Act,” which would not only put tax dollars at work on deferred maintenance in public housing, but would also implement energy efficiency retrofits at the same time (<https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/gnd/public-housing>). This bill has incredible potential to improve the quality of housing for so many people while reducing not only the operational costs of public housing but also greatly

reducing the carbon footprint of this housing. But it doesn’t stop there! The bill would also eliminate federal caps on the construction of new public housing units. The growing push for better and more public housing options can also be seen in the “Homes Guarantee” proposal put forward by People’s Action. (<https://www.citylab.com/equity/2019/11/green-new-deal-public-housing-sanders-ocasio-cortez-retrofit/602002/>)

While these pushes for public housing funding at the federal level are encouraging, they are still in the early stages. Even if we are able to achieve great reforms to funding for public housing at a federal level, will MPHA’s pursuit of RAD for our current public housing stock hamper future opportunities under more progressive legislation? Could the redevelopment of UHT benefit from the funding proposed in Ocasio-Cortez’s bill? While I understand the desire to move quickly on these issues, could we perhaps benefit from slowing down our timeline a little? It would be a tragedy for the city to give away so much of what we have when we could be on the cusp of such awesome opportunities to pursue equity and environmental justice in our city.

## Hockey from page 1

Minneapolis has one advantage: They will be the hometown team, playing in front of friends and family from around the area. This game is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and the boys will surely use what they learn from it as they progress as a team.

Under the spotlight of national television, the boys will learn how to adapt to this type of atmosphere so that when they begin playing in big games, they will not be shell-shocked, as they will have had prior experience. This experience will carry them a long way

as the boys will be prepared for later on in the year, or in the next couple of years as they try to win big games, and maybe even win the section, which would punch them a ticket to the Minnesota State Hockey Tournament at the Xcel Energy Center (home of the Minnesota Wild) in March.

The Minneapolis boys’ hockey team has a lot to look forward to. With a young core, and experienced upperclassmen to mentor them, and many opportunities this year to accumulate even more experience, this team has a bright future ahead.



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## WARNING

### Powderhorn Lake Aerator Operation

An aeration system will be operated on Powderhorn Lake, located in Minneapolis (Hennepin County). Operation will begin on approximately December 21, 2019 and will continue through April 30, 2020. Thin ice and open water may be present. Please stay clear of marked areas.

For questions regarding the operation of this aeration system, please contact the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board -Environmental Operations at 612-230-6400



EVENTS

**The George Maurer Group Holiday Show**  
**Monday, Dec. 2, 7 p.m.**  
St. Joan of Arc Gym  
4537 Third Ave. S., Mpls. 55419  
By popular demand, the George Maurer Group returns to St. Joan of Arc with just the right proportions of refinement, roguishness, and relatability, along with their trademark lighthearted flair. With special guest vocalists Ann Michels and Jeff Engholm, and featuring Jim “Mr. Grinch” Ten Bensel. Doors open at 6:15 p.m., concert starts at 7 p.m. Seating is Open Seating in the General Admission Seat Sections. Tickets \$25 adults, \$10 students [www.stjoantickets.com](http://www.stjoantickets.com).

**Star of Wonder Christmas Party**  
**Friday, Dec. 6, 6 p.m.**  
Living Spirit United Methodist Church  
4501 Bloomington Ave. S.  
Mpls. 55407



**Church of the Holy Name**  
3637 11th Avenue South  
Minneapolis MN 55407  
612-724-5465  
Rev. Leo J. Schneider, Pastor

**Christmas Mass Schedule:**

**Christmas Eve**  
5 pm & 10 pm

**Christmas Day**  
10 am

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Celebrate the wonder of Christmas with us as we transform our humble sanctuary with beautiful greens, warm lights, whimsical ornaments, and of course a Star of Wonder atop our tree. Help as little or as much as you’d like! There will also be Christmas-themed cookie decorating, crafts, and games throughout the evening. No matter your age or who you are, we will welcome you with a smile and a cup of peppermint hot cocoa.

**Breakfast with Saint Nicholas**  
**Saturday, Dec. 7, 9 to 11 a.m.**  
Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church  
5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls. 55417  
Enjoy a free breakfast, games, crafts, Advent resources and stories with Saint Nicholas—the real person who inspired Santa Claus. And stop in at Saint Nicholas’s Gift Shop for holiday items and baked goods, fair trade and alternative gifts, and a book fair for kids.

**Christmas by the Creek**  
**Sunday, Dec. 8, 4 to 7 p.m.**  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.  
Mpls. 55407  
Beginning at 4 p.m., gather at the creek for a bonfire, Christmas treats and beverages. Sing Christmas carols! Fun activities for children! At 5 p.m., join us for “A Festival of Lessons and Carols” (indoors), then continue the fun at the bonfire! All are welcome at this free event. Donations of canned goods will be received for CES (Community Emergency Service).  
[www.christmasbythecreek.com](http://www.christmasbythecreek.com)

**Blue Christmas Taize**  
**Friday, Dec. 13, 7 to 8 p.m.**  
Minnehaha United Methodist Church  
3701 E. 50<sup>th</sup> St., Mpls. 55417  
Take an opportunity to slow down, to rest in silence and music. On the second Friday of each month at 7 p.m. from October through May, Minnehaha United Methodist Church offers a Taize service; a time of sanctuary, a time for prayer, a time for community, and a time for silence. As we sing and pray, our hearts are opened so that we may hear God speaking to us.

**Carols & Chili**  
**Saturday, Dec. 14, 3:15 p.m.**  
Living Spirit United Methodist Church  
4501 Bloomington Ave. S.  
Mpls. 55407  
Want to get into the Christmas spirit? We will be caroling door-to-door around the neighborhood; meet at Living Spirit at 3:15 p.m. if you want to participate. Later we’ll gather back at the church for a chili dinner. There will be at least five different types of chili (including a vegetarian option). If you can’t make the caroling, that’s okay—join us at the church when the chili portion of the event starts at 5 p.m.

**Children’s Christmas Pageant**  
**Sunday, Dec. 22, 10:30 a.m.**  
Living Spirit United Methodist Church  
4501 Bloomington Ave. S.  
Mpls. 55407  
Join us for worship and experience the beloved Christmas story as told by the children of Living Spirit. Expect creative storytelling, joyful music, and messy, imperfect moments that will fill you with Christmas spirit.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship**  
**Tuesday, Dec. 24, 10 p.m.**  
Living Spirit United Methodist Church  
4501 Bloomington Ave. S.  
Mpls. 55407  
Come hear the Christmas story and sing familiar carols. At the end of the service, everyone will receive a candle so we can flood the darkness with glowing light while singing “Silent Night.”

ONGOING

**Sharing Food**

**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](http://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](http://www.cttt-southmpls.eventbrite.com).)  
At Coming to the Table (CTTT, [www.comingtothetable.org](http://www.comingtothetable.org)), descendants of those who were enslaved and descendants of slave owners and all those interested in engaging safe constructive dialogue, come together to envision the U.S. as a just and truthful society that acknowledges and seeks to heal the racial wounds from the historical trauma of slavery, and the racism it continues to spawn. Join Peacebuilding As-

sociate 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.ctttmpls.eventbrite.com](http://www.ctttmpls.eventbrite.com). Questions? Email [info@mnpeace.org](mailto:info@mnpeace.org).

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
**2511 E. Franklin Ave.**  
**Mpls. 55406**  
**612-332-2397**  
Soup for You serves a free community meal every weekday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The meal is open to everyone—no exceptions! Volunteers will take your orders and serve you at the table. This is not a soup kitchen, but rather a space to build community! Donations are of course welcome!

**New Creation Baptist Church**  
**1414 E. 48th St., Mpls. 55417**  
**612-825-6933**  
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Saturdays (except 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays)  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
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**Living Spirit United Methodist Church**  
**4501 Bloomington Ave. S.**  
**Mpls. 55407**  
**612-721-5025**  
Community Supper  
Wednesdays, 5:45 to 6:30 p.m.

**Minnehaha United Methodist Church**  
**3701 E. 50th St.**  
**Mpls. 55417**  
**612-721-6231**  
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**Christmas Day Service at 9:30 am**  
**Dec. 29 Lessons & Carols at 10:30 am**  
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Sunday 9 & 11 am (Gym)  
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Website: [walkerchurch.org](http://walkerchurch.org);  
FB: Walker Community United Methodist Church  
Sunday Celebrations & Children’s Program 10:30 am  
Community Meal Tue. 5:30-6:45 pm

Remembering Pastor Supt. Vernell Thomas

Pastor Supt. Vernell Thomas has served over 60 years in the ministry and as Pastor of Greater St. Paul Church of God in Christ for 53 years. He began his ministry at age 19 under the leadership of Supt. D.L. Smith of Texas. He moved from Texas to Milwaukee, Wis., where he continued his ministry. There he met the love of his life, Loretta Ann Lee. They were married



Dec. 20, 1957. They had six children. He was called to St. Paul Church of God in Christ in Minneapolis, Minn., in 1966, where he continued to minister until the Lord called him home.

Our community as a church under the prayerful guidance of the Pastor Supt. Vernell Thomas and First Lady Loretta Thomas is recognized as a church of love that continues to stand for the Word of God with no compromise. We are equipped with several ministries to meet the needs of the total man. A ministry which includes: family ministry, bible study, worship service, women’s and men’s ministry, children/youth ministry, and prison ministry.

Pastor Supt. Vernell Thomas transitioned from earth to glory on Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, at 10:30 a.m., surrounded by family. By faith his legacy will continue with the church, his loving wife of 62 years, Loretta Thomas, and their children: Anita (Edward III) Smith; Vernell Jr. (Beatrice); Lori; Darren (Sheran); Kevin (Darcey); along with 16 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. He also leaves his sister, Essie Armstrong, brothers Plural Thomas (Eloise), Manor (Billie Jo), and Jean. He was preceded in death by daughter Sharon, his father, S. Thomas, and his mother, Varrie Thomas. Services have been held.

“The steps of a good man are ordered by God and he delighteth in his way.” Psalm 37:23





# Redemption

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

This holiday season, I am contemplating redemption. I am initially inspired by a nontraditional modern Christmas carol by Bruce Cockburn, dating from an album released in the early 1990s, "Cry of

a Tiny Babe." The chorus proclaims, "Redemption rips through the surface of time in the cry of a tiny babe." Cockburn is a devout Christian (as well as a radical leftist), but I am concerned with more than the concept of redemption in traditional Christianity, broad as that may be. Before we distinguish other concepts of redemption, let's examine what the currently orthodox Christian view of redemption, and set of "beliefs" about the birth of Jesus, are. Cockburn's song casts familiar scenes in a different light. It starts out with a shocker: "Mary grows a child without the help of a man. Joseph gets upset because he doesn't understand." Interestingly, his view of the miracle of Mary's pregnancy is a lot closer to the Islamic view of it than the Christian. Wait, Islam has a "view"

of Mary and Jesus? Oh, indeed, and I will go into that more in a few paragraphs, except they are respectively Maryam and Isa. Islam, however, does not have a view of Joseph, at least he's not part of Isa's story in the way he is of Jesus' story. In Islam, the entire people of Nazareth get upset because they don't understand. More on that later.

Continuing with our carol, the baby is born in the "fullness of time," is visited by three "wise astrologers" who "get pretty close to wrecking everything," because Herod, "a paranoid man" sends "death squads" after them, and they are forced to "head out for the border and get away clean." In an interview on NPR 14 years after his song first came out, Cockburn explained: "I had this idea that, listening to the existing

world of Christmas music, something I could contribute to it would be to try to retell the

biblical story in contemporary

**See Redemption, page 8**

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# Happy I

## BROUGHT TO YOU BY THESE SEN

### Redemption, from page 7

terms, and I thought of it as a spaghetti Western in a way. You could take the same elements of that story and put them in a Sergio Leone film and it would be powerful. And in doing that, I brought the people into some sort of different perspective than you get from the biblical stories. The vision of Mary that we've inherited through history, for instance, doesn't sound like any Jewish woman I ever met, so in the song she kind of has a bit more of a personality. ... But Mary and Joseph are—I tried to make them human characters and multidimensional characters and Herod and the song just

basically tells the story, but in different terms than we're used to hearing it."

There have always been some Christians who accept parts of this story and reject others. (Even the four Gospels have different stories.) Of course, a major debate about Jesus, which reflects on the philosophical debate about redemption, is his relationship to God. Jews and Muslims agree on rejecting, not the existence of Jesus, but his divinity, his being the "son" of G-d or of Allah, of the existence of "the Trinity" and whether that crosses a line into polytheism. Seriously, wars have been fought and people have died over these questions, and that is just



Persian image of Isa and Maryam

among the self-avowed Christians. In modern times, we have theologians who research the "historical Jesus" and therefore have other quibbles, doubts and strained explanations. The late Marcus Borg was one of the most eloquent and beloved of these modern-day doubters. After recounting the list of Christmas miracles—virgin birth, star of wonder, wise men, prophecies—he wrote: "To be candid, I do not think that any of this happened ... Yet I am not a 'debunker' of these stories. I do not dismiss them as 'fables' or 'fabrications' or 'falsehoods.' Many in the modern world do see the two options as 'it happened this way' or 'it didn't'—and if it didn't, then we are dealing with delusions and deceptions ... There is a third option. Namely, the Christmas stories with their miraculous elements were not intended to be 'factual' in the sense of reporting what actually happened. Rather, they are early Christian testimony, written roughly a hundred years after Jesus' birth. They testify to the significance that Jesus had come to have in their lives and experience and thought. The stories are parabolic, metaphorical narratives that can be

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# Holidays!



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true without being factual.” Not surprisingly, this third way does not appease the fundamentalists, who label Borg as a “false prophet.”

In Judaism, the concept of a redeemer is part of Mosaic law. There is the goel or kinsman-redeemer, who is a family member

with the duty to redeem things lost to debt or disaster and keep them in the family. This is the basis of the story of Ruth, and how she, a polytheistic woman of Moab, a very young widow, came with her Jewish mother-in-law to Israel and married Boaz, which

led to the founding of the line of King David, and ultimately to the birth of Mary/Maryam who bore Jesus/Isa. So that was some act of redemption on the part of Boaz, who is barely known and yet, in a sense, altered history. We know that there must have been

a non-transactional, spiritual meaning to redemption as well, because in the book of the same name, Job suffers on his bed of ashes but cries out, “I know that my Redeemer lives!” This came to be identified by Christian scholars as yet another Jesus prophecy, but whatever, that’s what they do.

The concept of redemption and the concept of sacrifices are closely aligned in both Jewish and Christian scripture. This is how we get Jesus, possibly (in my view) “just” a prophet, but one whose main message was “God does not want your burnt offerings and legalistic piety, just love one another,” and yet who was apparently made a sacrifice

himself. One part of the Mosaic law on sacrifices relates to the red heifer. In a marvelous display of sibling rivalry, the Quran shows Allah thoroughly trolling the Jews over this red heifer business in Sura 2 “Al-Baqara” (the longest sura in the Quran). To shorten the tale, Moses says they need to sacrifice a cow, and the people say “what kind of cow?” Moses goes back to God and comes back with “a heifer.” But what color of heifer? A golden shining yellow one. That’s pretty rare right there, but no, they demand even more restrictions. “We can’t tell one cow from another, how do we know?” It’s

See *Redemption*, page 10

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#### Redemption, from page 9

never plowed a field or worn a yoke, and has no blemish on it. According to Islamic scholars, this “displayed the stubbornness of the Children of Israel, who asked unnecessary questions of the prophets without readily following any commandment from God; had they slaughtered a cow, any cow, it would have been sufficient for them, but instead, as they made the matter more difficult, God made it even more difficult for them.” It’s worth noting that some (Christians again, surprise!) equate the red heifer with Jesus. Also, some believe the second coming of Jesus cannot occur until the Third Temple is built in Jerusalem, which requires the appearance of a red heifer born in Israel. Clyde Lott, an American cattle breeder, is attempting to breed red cows (which are currently nonexistent) and ex-

port them to Israel in the hope that this will—ahem—immanentize the eschaton. (Google it.)

So, the Islamic stories of Isa and his mother Maryam are intriguing, including many of the same elements as the Christian story (virgin birth, cousin John the Baptist, miracles, Bethlehem birthplace) and lacking many others (no manger, no betrothed husband, no wise men, no shepherds). Instead of a manger, Maryam, who fled to Bethlehem to escape the angry neighbors and relatives who didn’t believe she was still chaste, was provided by Allah



Jesus is the most-mentioned person in the Quran by reference; 187 times in all, 25 times by the name Isa directly.



Red Heifer

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The Jordan River where Jesus/Isa was baptized. Photo by Beivushtang at the English language Wikipedia [CC BY-SA 3.0]

with a formerly dead date palm tree to labor and give birth under, and a magic holy spring for water. She was told to pat the tree if she needed dates and they would fall into her lap. Later she went back to Nazareth to try to rejoin her family. The people wanted to punish her for having a baby out of wedlock, but the infant Isa spoke from his cradle to defend her and they withdrew in awe. This was Isa's first miracle. He went

on to fashion a live bird from clay, to heal lepers, to raise four people from the dead, to call a giant cooked fish down from heaven to feed a multitude, and to be given a Book from Allah, the Injil (gospel), which makes him a Messenger, at least on a par with Muhammed. The date palm tree and Isa speaking from the cradle recall another lesser-known Christmas carol, the Cherry Tree Carol. Here, Joseph is again

doubting Mary's chastity, and refusing to gather cherries for her, at which Jesus speaks from the womb, and commands a cherry tree to bow down so that his mother may have cherries. Unlike Marcus Borg, with all due respect, I believe each and every one of these stories, although the one about Clyde Lott really strains my credulity. Have a happy and peaceful holiday, whatever you believe!

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Sundays, Dec. 1, 8, 22, 10:30 am

**"Simply Christmas"**  
Children's Pageant  
Dec. 15, 10:30 am

**Holden Evening Prayer Service**  
Wednesdays, Dec. 4, 11, 18, 6:00 pm  
(Soup Supper Dec. 4 & 11, 5:30 pm)

**Blue Christmas Service**  
Dec. 21, 3:00 pm

**Christmas Eve Service with Communion:**  
Dec. 24, 7:30 pm.

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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride / PHILLIPS/POWDERHORN EDITION

**Safe Place: Homework Help**  
**Monday – Friday, 3:30 to 6 p.m.**  
 Trinity Lutheran Congregation  
 2001 Riverside Ave, Mpls. 55454  
 Adult students and children are all welcome. Tutors are available for all levels. If you are interested in being a volunteer or tutor or if you need more information, contact [tutoring@trinitylutherancongregation.org](mailto:tutoring@trinitylutherancongregation.org) or 612-333-2561.

**Makers Mornings**  
**Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon**  
 American Swedish Institute  
 2600 Park Ave., Mpls. 55407  
 Join other makers for this new weekly opportunity to work, share and learn in a relaxed, communal setting. Whether you knit, carve, weave, sew, spin, crochet or do some other fascinating thing with your hands, we invite you to bring a project to work on. All are welcome, regardless of level of ability or craft of choice! Come for as long as you like and bring your own works-in-progress, materials and tools. This group will meet in ASI's Lindberg Stuga.

**Earth-friendly gifts featured at Textile Center**  
**Nov. 1 - Dec. 24** **A**  
 (Meet the Maker Fest,

Saturdays, Nov. 2 - Dec. 14)  
 2019 Holiday Gallery Shop  
 3000 University Ave. SE  
 Mpls. 55414  
 At a time when protecting the earth's natural resources, ecosystems, climate and atmosphere for the next generation is top of mind, Textile Center's 2019 Holiday Gallery Shop will feature a plethora of earth-friendly fiber gifts, ranging from sustainable, organic, or local fibers; naturally or over-dyed textiles; repurposed materials, upcycled fashions, and even items to help one live a more sustainable life. The 2019 featured artist, Wendy Richardson of Brooklyn Park, Minn., showcases hand-dyed and embroidered vintage linens. New for 2019 are Indian artisan textiles. Abdul Jabbar Khatri and Sufiyan Khatri, artisans from Bhuj, Gujarat, India, bring a selection of accessories and textiles made from historic techniques, which provide incredible opportunities to support Indian artisans, mainly women, in their communities.  
**MEET THE MAKER FESTS:**  
 Each Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., (Nov. 2 - Dec. 14) the Holiday Gallery Shop hosts artists in person with trunk shows, demonstrations of their

technique, hands-on "try it" opportunities, prize drawings and more.  
 Textile Center is unique as America's national center with a mission to honor textile traditions, promote excellence and innovation, and inspire widespread participation in fiber art. A dynamic hub of fiber activity for 25 years, Textile Center is centrally located in the Prospect Park neighborhood of Minneapolis and easily accessed via public transportation or car. For more information: <http://textilecentermn.org> or call 612-436-0464.

**A Passion for Drawing: Musings in the Moment**  
**The Art of Anita White** **A**  
**Oct. 24 - Nov. 31**  
 Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church  
 511 Groveland Ave., Mpls. 55403  
 The Hennepin Avenue UMC Fine Arts Committee is excited to present the art of Anita White for our current exhibit in Carlson Hall on display from Thursday, October 24th to November 31st. "Drawing is a way to navigate daily life. A way to interact and honor others. To find joy and beauty and the hidden humor that bubbles up in challenging moments."  
 –Anita White  
 To read more about this artist and her work, please visit the Fine Arts webpage at: <http://haumc.org/fine-arts/>.

**Studio Pintura's Small Works Salon** **A**  
**Nov. 16 - Jan. 4**  
 Studio Pintura Fine Art Gallery  
 Northrup King Building  
 #293 and #294

1500 Jackson St. NE, Mpls. 55413  
 At Studio Pintura we are opening one of our favorite exhibitions of the year, the Small Works Salon, featuring over 90 works by more than 30 artists. There are paintings and drawings, collage, and sculpture, all under 12" x 12". A perfect place to browse, shop, or relax during the busy holiday season.  
 Gallery Hours: Thursdays and Fridays, 2 to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, noon to 6 p.m.; or by appointment. [www.StudioPintura.com](http://www.StudioPintura.com)

**Edina Chorale's Holiday Concert: Love, Joy, and Peace**  
**Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.** **M**  
**Saturday, Dec. 14, 3 p.m.** **M**  
 Calvary Church  
 5300 France Ave., Edina, 55410  
 The Edina Chorale will open its 2019-2020 Concert Season on Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. and again on Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. with its holiday performance of "Love, Joy, and Peace." This concert is the first in a 3-part series entitled "The Legacy of Music," celebrating the choir's 35th year anniversary. The Edina Chorale's new Artistic Director, Paige Armstrong, will be making her directorial debut with a variety of traditional, spiritual, and familiar holiday pieces. "Love, Joy, and Peace" is a musical journey exploring each theme as an important part of the holiday season. The program features movements from larger masterpieces such as Handel's "Glory to God" from the Messiah and the final movement of Dona Nobis Pacem by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Also included are modern arrangements of traditional holiday tunes such as "Joy to the World," "Little Drummer Boy," "Deck the

Hall," and "Silver Bells," along with several holiday choral favorites. This concert is the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season!  
 A brief reception will follow each concert. Tickets are Adults \$20, Seniors \$15, Students K - 12 free.  
 Please visit [www.edinachorale.org](http://www.edinachorale.org) for more information.

**Fort Snelling Lions Club Santa Brunch**  
**Saturday, Dec. 7**  
**10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**  
 Mt. Calvary Lutheran School Gym  
 6541 16th Ave. S.  
 Richfield, 55423  
 Menu: French Toast Bake, Chocolate Chip Pancakes, Bacon/Beef sausage, Fruit, Rolls, Orange Juice, Coffee, Milk  
 Tickets: Adults \$6; Children 8-16 years \$4; Under 8 years FREE; Max for family unit \$20  
 We will have Christmas music and games to play. Santa will be there to visit the children and for photo opportunities. Contact Lion Mary McSorley at 612-248-5156 for information or RSVP.

**Sing-a-Long-a Sound of Music**  
**Dec. 7 - 8, 3 p.m.** **M**  
 Get ready to yodel, Minneapolis, as the Riverview Theater will once again present Sing-a-Long-a Sound of Music during the holiday season. Sing-a-Long-a Sound of Music, a popular annual event at the Riverview that began in 2014, includes a screening of the classic film musical — and a lot more. This unique theater experience offers interactive fun for moviegoers of all ages. Each show begins with a vocal "warm-up"

### FIND YOUR EVENT:

**A-ART** **M-MUSIC** **D-DANCE** **T-THEATER**



### PHILLIPS POWDERHORN EDITION

Southside Pride Phillips/Powderhorn Edition is a monthly community newspaper delivered on the First Monday of the month for free to homes and businesses in South Minneapolis from 35W to Hiawatha, and from Elliot Park to 42nd Street. We publish 16,000 copies each month. 15,000 are delivered door-to-door to homes and another 1,000 are left in area businesses and public buildings. We are proud of the racial and cultural diversity of the Southside, and we oppose racism and other efforts to keep us apart as a community. If you want to share some news of your church, school or organization, please write us at:

### Southside Pride

3200 CHICAGO AVENUE SOUTH  
 MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55407

Call us at 612-822-4662

e-mail us at [editor@southsidepride.com](mailto:editor@southsidepride.com)  
 or [edfelien@southsidepride.com](mailto:edfelien@southsidepride.com)

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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride / PHILLIPS/POWDERHORN EDITION

led by Katie Holmes, Riverview events manager and host for the event, which will feature a live musical accompaniment. Holmes takes audience members through their complimentary "magic moments fun packs," which contain props to be used at strategic points throughout the film.

Of course, the event would not be complete without the costume competition. While costumes are not required, many people show up as nuns, goat herders, and baronesses — or even as scenery, such as the infamous Hills. If it's from the movie, it's fair game. Prizes are awarded to the best adults dressed in costume, and all kids who dress up walk away with a prize. Whether you sing loud and proud in a hand-made costume or not, the important aspect of Sing-a-Long-a Sound of Music is that it's completely inclusive. Said Holmes: "The big thing is just to come and watch 'The Sound of Music' with 600 of your closest friends and neighbors."

"The Sound of Music," the most successful movie musical of all time, which stars Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer, Eleanor Parker, Richard Haydn, and Peggy Wood, will be shown in big-screen Technicolor, complete with lyrics on screen so you can sing along. The audience can even play a supporting role in the film, telling characters what to do and how.

General admission for this special event is \$12 for adults, \$7.50 for children and seniors. Advance tickets are available for purchase at [www.riverviewtheater.com](http://www.riverviewtheater.com). Note that Sing-a-Long-a Sound of Music regularly sells out in advance, so reserve your tickets now.

### The Viking and The Gazelle Nov. 29 - Dec. 15

**T** Mixed Blood Theatre  
1501 S. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Mpls. 55454  
"The Viking and The Gazelle" is a romantic comedy about the budding courtship of a Twin Cities couple with the role of race thrust upon their relationship. African-American Michelle was born and raised on Chicago's Southside, while White Robert is from the Minneapolis suburb of Hopkins. Sparks fly in the hearts of the new couple, yet a happy ending is no foregone conclusion. With a cast of seven characters overall, Michelle and Robert find love's battlefield surprisingly fraught with the biases of society, including with their trusted confidants, not to mention Robert's deep dark secret. In a space and time in the land of "Minnesota Nice" where racial bias is seemingly diminishing, tough and relevant conversations erupt in this wonderful play that, though pointedly frank, does not take itself too seriously. Go to [www.thewaterfrontproductions.com](http://www.thewaterfrontproductions.com) for tickets and show times.

### December at Bryant-Lake Bowl Bryant-Lake Bowl

**T** Cabaret Theater  
810 W. Lake St., Mpls. 55408  
**A Very Die Hard Christmas**  
Nov. 30 - Dec. 21

"Yippee Ki Yay, Father Christmas!" Back for the eighth year comes the holiday treat with all the trimmings: singing, dancing, and bloodshed! Don't miss this yuletide tradition combining the action and suspense of Die Hard with the sentiment of everyone's favorite TV Christmas specials loaded with music, magic, and mayhem! Tickets \$20/\$18 in advance. Reservations at 612-825-8949 or [www.bryantlakebowl.com](http://www.bryantlakebowl.com).

### "Letters to Santa... ASSEMBLE!"

**Dec. 5 - 27**  
One Woman. 10 Characters. Viciously Funny. This critically-acclaimed holiday show hits the Bryant-Lake Bowl stage at full tilt. Janelle Ranek is a literal one-woman sketch comedy tour de force. "Letters to Santa...ASSEMBLE!" is driven by Ranek's fearless comedy style. Each character has their own bizarre requests to Santa, some naughty, some nice and some downright ridiculous. This is NOT your ordinary holiday show. Tickets \$15/\$12 in advance. More info at [www.bryantlakebowl.com](http://www.bryantlakebowl.com).

### The Dirt: A Discussion on Minnesota Farming

**Tuesday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m.**  
McNamara Alumni Center, Memorial Hall  
200 SE Oak St., Mpls. 55455  
Norway House, as part of its Peace Initiative, is sponsoring a second in a series on "climate change comes home," a moderated discussion on Minnesota farming: THE DIRT, with Greg Bohrer, ag program director at Environmental Initiative; Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin, president and CEO of Regenerative Ag Alliance; and Dr. Nick Jordan, Dept. of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, University of Minnesota.  
The event is free and open to the public. To RSVP, email [info@norwayhouse.org](mailto:info@norwayhouse.org) or call 612-871-2211.

"The care of the Earth is our most ancient and most worthy, and after all our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it and to foster its renewal is our only hope."  
— Wendell Berry

### Sospiri di Natale

**M** **Friday, Dec. 6, 7:30 to 9 p.m.**  
St. Clement's Episcopal Church  
901 Portland Ave., St. Paul 55104  
**Saturday, Dec. 7, 7:30 to 9 p.m.**  
The Art Gallery @ Hennepin Methodist  
511 Groveland Ave., Mpls. 55403  
This holiday season, Sospiri presents a concert of baroque music inspired by nativity stories. From vivacious guarachas, jácara, and villancicos of Spain and Latin America, to evocative songs by seicento Italian composers like Monteverdi and Merula, Sospiri brings an intensely expressive and playful style to

this diverse repertoire. Sospiri is a baroque chamber ensemble featuring singers Nerea Berrondo and Janna Kysilko, with Phillip Rukavina on lute/theorbo, Bruce Jacobs on portative organ, Dick Hensold on recorder/bagpipes, and Joe Dolson on baroque violin. Tickets: \$15 (\$5 for MNCare/MA cardholders). More info at [www.sospiri.org](http://www.sospiri.org).

### The Rose Ensemble presents "And Glory Shone Around: An Early American Christmas"

**Sunday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m.** **M**  
Saint Joan of Arc Chapel  
4537 Third Ave. S., Mpls. 55419  
Discover the music that gave birth to Bluegrass. The Rose Ensemble evokes the warmth of hearth and home. With special guest Dan Chouinard, singers Alyssa Anderson, Bradley King, Daniel Mahraun, and Jordan Sramek, plus instrumentalists Ginna Watson, David Burk, Josh Schwalbach, and Luke Pickman. Tickets can be purchased at [www.stjoantickets.com](http://www.stjoantickets.com), or by calling 612-823-8205.

### The Diary of Immaculee Illibagiza

**Wednesday, Dec. 18** **T**  
**7 to 8:30 p.m.**  
Holy Name Church  
Garvey Hall  
3637 11th Ave. S., Mpls. 55407  
Everyone is welcome to Neighborhood Night! Join us for viewing and lively discussion of the documentary story of Immaculee and her escape from the Rwandan Genocide. This is an inspiring story of bravery and hope. Come, learn and get to know neighbors! Coffee included. Bring a friend! No cost/no registration. For more info: [www.churchoftheholyname.org](http://www.churchoftheholyname.org); 612-724-5465.

### Holiday Party

**Thursday, Dec. 19**  
**10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
Bethel Lutheran Church  
4120 17th Ave. S., Mpls. 55407  
Get your picture taken with "Santa Vern," enjoy a delicious lunch provided by Minnehaha Senior Living, and enjoy entertainment by "Rick and the Resistors." You can also visit with our nurse and get your blood pressure checked and take home a holiday gift! Pre-registration is required. Call 612-729-5499 or email [info@nokomishealthyseniors.org](mailto:info@nokomishealthyseniors.org).

### Minnehaha Food Shelf Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

**Wednesday, Jan. 8**  
**5 to 7 p.m.**  
Lake Nokomis Lutheran Church  
5011 31st Ave. S., Mpls. 55417  
Treat yourself to a great meal and help your community at the same time. There will be a band and opportunities to win prizes. Join us for good food and fun! For more information: [www.minnehaha.org/foodshelf.html](http://www.minnehaha.org/foodshelf.html). Tickets are \$15 per person and children (ages 10 and under) are free.

## A Procession, A Prayer, A Cry Through the Streets of Our City



**Sunday, Dec. 15, 4 p.m.**  
**Gather at Powderhorn Park**  
**beginning at 3 p.m.**  
**3400 15th Ave. S., Mpls. 55407**

Join the Posada—the journey of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter—in a bilingual, multi-sensory procession of prayer and solidarity. We will sing. We will travel one mile from Powderhorn Park to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2742 15th Ave. S., Mpls. 55407.

We will walk for those that journey with hope toward the U.S. border. We will walk for those separated from their families by borders. All proceeds from a freewill offering will go to two groups that accompany immigrants through legal proceedings.

At the church there will be a bonfire, food, music, and a living Nativity.

Come! All ages. Dress Warm and Walk together.

For more information contact The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts.

[semillacenter@gmail.com](mailto:semillacenter@gmail.com) // 612-724-3862 // Facebook:  
Semilla Center #WeComeBearingPeace

This event is initiated by St. Paul's Lutheran Church and The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts. With cooperation from Edina Community Lutheran Church, St Stephen's Lutheran Church, Immanuel Lutheran Church and In the Heart of the Beast Theatre.

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## Invitation

Michael Bloomberg

Let's talk!

First, let me say how grateful we are that you have decided to sit at the table. We want you here. You are without any doubt the best representative of the bourgeois liberal faction of the Democratic Party. You are very rich, very experienced with the operation of how government works, and your news service is the living bible for capital investors. We need you. You are welcome to sit down with us and tell us your solutions to our common problems.

We believe healthcare is a right, and to guarantee healthcare to everyone in America we need your help. Help us figure it out. How do we pay for it?

We need a large capital investment in renewable energy. Immediately! How do we pay for it?

We know the top tax rate in 1960 was 91 percent on income over \$200,000 or \$400,000 for married filers—the equivalent of \$1.5 and \$3 million today. Today the top tax rate is 37 percent. That's a difference of 54 percent from our pockets to yours. The Trump tax cuts are choking the government. The military/industrial complex is bankrupting the treasury in the same way their forefathers did when they caused the collapse of Greece and Rome.

So, welcome aboard, Michael Bloomberg.

Buckle up.

We're facing some violent headwinds.

We're going to need to stick together through this.

—Ed Felien, Editor/Publisher

### Git Out, from page 1

It is critically important for the Planning Commission and the City Council to appreciate that the author of this plan, Grounded Solutions, is the creature of the same banking interests that created the housing crisis of 2008. Last month's National Conference was sponsored by Wells Fargo (a "Game Changing Sponsor"); Citibank (a "Visionary Sponsor"); Fannie Mae and JPMorgan Chase & Co. ("Benefactor Sponsors"). The chair of the Executive Committee of Grounded Solutions is Robert Burns; he is also the senior vice president of Community Development for Citibank.

As you know, it was racist redlining by Wells Fargo and US Bank that enabled high closing costs and high interest rates that doomed the African-American community in North Minneapolis and created economic hardships in South Minneapolis.

We reported in Southside Pride:

"The wheels of justice grind slowly but exceedingly fine.

"Sometimes it takes an earthquake to shake up City Hall. In this case it was Myron Orfield's report on housing discrimination in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, which documented that the area lost \$20.5 billion as a result of racist redlining in lending practices by mortgage bankers in the Twin Cities. Most of that money was lost to homeowners who had to pay higher interest rates and higher origination fees, but a lot of money was lost to municipalities and counties that saw their tax base shrink as a result of foreclosures."

<https://southsidepride.com/2014/06/02/racism-redlining-and-reparations/>

The municipal elections also spelled doom for the re-election hopes of Betsy Hodges and Blong Yang, who had refused to prosecute Wells Fargo and US Bank for their racist crimes against the people of Minneapolis.

But now, this City Council, after the fox has eaten the chickens, wants advice from the fox about what to do next and how to get more chickens.

This City Council has the power to end homelessness in Minneapolis. It could require all new apartment construction be required to rent only to people living in poverty. Rents would be subsidized by federal, state and county funds, but the program would actually save those governments money because it would be treating one of the principal causes of legal and medical problems for homeless people, and an ounce of prevention would be worth a pound of cure.

There are all sorts of possibilities, but the Grounded Solutions plan seems to offer too little em-

pathy for affordable housing for the people who can least afford it. The banks need to be at the table, but they shouldn't monopolize the conversation. We need to take some time to listen to solutions from people who have had some experience with poverty and homelessness.

I would respectfully request that the Planning Commission advise the City Council to pause in their deliberations and consider the effect these changes will have on the inner city.

Further, the Planning Commission might consider directing staff to consult with those communities most affected by the lack of affordable housing and design housing priorities that best offer solutions to their problems.

Finally, there is a great deal of concern in the Powderhorn community about the dramatic increase in property taxes for next year caused by increased valuation. Are the city assessors already anticipating the speculative prices of anxious developers?

It is sad to think our houses are worth more if we're not in them.

### A response from Council Member Cam Gordon:

People are right to be concerned about displacement and gentrification in our City. As more people move to Minneapolis, current low-income residents are at a greater risk of being displaced. So-called "Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing" is being converted to higher-rent housing. It is getting harder for families to be able to afford to buy a home, and the homeownership gap between whites and people of color in Minneapolis is among the widest in the nation. Renters are often trapped in an exploitative rental market with unstable, unhealthy and undesirable housing options. People continue to experience homelessness in Minneapolis. Family homelessness has declined, but the number of unsheltered single adults has increased.

This crisis has many different causes, including the overall economy, the lack of affordable housing units, and particular barriers that some people experiencing homelessness—including the opiate crisis—are facing. This has put tremendous strain not only on service providers but also on neighborhoods, public safety services and more.

Buildings continue to be the main driver of carbon emissions in Minneapolis, with housing as a significant subset. Energy burden is part of overall housing cost burden, and falls disproportionately on the poorest residents. It is also often a "hidden" cost of housing, not included in the rent or mortgage payments that are com-

municated at the time someone chooses a home. Increasing energy efficiency reduces not only climate impacts but overall housing costs. And housing that is badly maintained can lead to a number of different health problems, including lead poisoning, asthma and more.

To address these problems related to housing, the City of Minneapolis has taken a number of actions since 2017 to build, rehab and stabilize affordable housing; to promote home ownership; to reduce racial disparities; to address homelessness; and to increase energy efficiency in housing—and we need to do more.

We have accelerated investment in affordable housing, passed renter protections, initiated a Missing Middle Housing pilot program, approved an energy disclosure ordinance, provided energy efficiency support, created a 4d program to provide property tax reductions for landlords who offer lower rents, passed an advance notice of sale ordinance, and funded renter legal services for those who need them.

Still, we need to do more.

To meet this ongoing challenge, the City of Minneapolis should consider a number of additional policy solutions, including: an inclusionary housing ordinance that would require some affordable units to be included in new apartment buildings; a tenant opportunity to purchase policy that would give renters the right to purchase the buildings they live in when the owner of the building wants to sell it; rent stabilization laws that would limit rent increases; inclusive financing tools that would allow residents—both homeowners and renters—to pay for energy efficiency improvements through energy savings; tenant relocation assistance rules that would require relocation costs for tenants to be paid by owners of buildings that lose their rental licenses; a sustainable building policy that requires all buildings—including housing—that are supported by the city to meet a higher energy and environmental performance standard; bigger investments and a new levy dedicated to public housing; greater flexibility to allow more affordable and innovative housing options like intentional community cluster developments, accessory dwelling units on more properties, and single room occupancy.

As the number of people who want to live in Minneapolis grows, the rising cost of housing has resulted in too many families struggling, and often failing, to cover housing costs. The free market system has failed to meet the housing needs in our city. Our city government can and should do more to ensure that all our residents have a healthy, safe and decent home to live in.



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# Hands off Bolivia

BY SARAH MARTIN & ED FELIEN

Fifty people rallied at an emergency response called by several Twin Cities area peace and justice groups to show opposition to the U.S.-supported coup in Bolivia.

The protest was held Thursday, Nov. 14, at 5 p.m. along the sidewalks at Lake Street and Bloom-

ington Avenue in Minneapolis. The Minneapolis action was one of many protests happening all over the world in solidarity with the progressive movements of Bolivia.

The event was co-sponsored in Minneapolis by the Anti-War Committee and Women Against Military Madness.

A statement issued by orga-

nizers said in part, "We protest in Minneapolis to speak out against the military coup in Bolivia, and the role of the U.S. government in this coup. The people of Bolivia, who are struggling to defend economic and social gains won under the leadership of President Evo Morales, are struggling to stop this coup. The U.S. government is clearly the sponsor of the coup. The goal of the coup is to restore the absolute authority of the Bolivian elites who rule as clients of the United States.

"The U.S. government has worked overtime to turn back the left-wing tide sweeping Latin America. The struggle in Bolivia, and all of Latin America, continues between the forces that want to empower the people and those that want to maintain the power and wealth of the rich," the statement continued.

Sarah Martin of WAMM said, "The whole history of the U.S. in Latin America has been to maintain the interests of large U.S. corporations in the region against any attempt by the rank and file people to take steps to rebuild society in their interests. The coup in Bolivia is only the latest example of this whole history."

Evo Morales won re-election

Oct. 20. In an open primary he got 47.1 percent of the vote and his nearest opponent got 36.5 percent. If a candidate got more than 40 percent of the vote and was more than 10 percent ahead of their nearest opponent, then there was no need for a general election and that candidate was supposed to be declared the winner.

Luis Fernando Camacho, a right-wing Catholic fascist from Santa Cruz, led his Youth Group from Santa Cruz in demonstrations that were violent enough for his fascist allies in the police and military to advise Morales to leave town because they couldn't protect him. They beat members of Congress, burned their houses and ransacked Morales' home. They have long been supported by U.S. agencies bent on destabilizing Bolivia.

When Camacho entered the presidential palace with a flag and a bible, the priest at his side said, "Pachamama will never return to the palace. Bolivia belongs to Christ."

It is important to appreciate the deeply racist beliefs of Camacho and his followers. They are Mestizos. They claim some European ancestry, and this, they claim, entitles them to rule as the Spanish

and the rich families have done for years. They consider the Indigenous as inferior.

Another important factor is that Bolivia contains 50 percent to 70 percent of the known reserves of lithium, a mineral essential for solar-powered batteries. Tesla and Canadian firms were negotiating with the Bolivian government, but Morales wanted a more socially responsible agreement. He was close to signing an agreement with a Chinese firm when the coup happened.

When Julius Caesar crossed the Rubicon River he ended the Roman Republic. When Franco took over Spain, with the help of Hitler and Mussolini, he ended the Spanish Republic. The CIA has overthrown democratically-elected governments in Guatemala in 1954 and Chile in 1973 and established military dictatorships, but they flopped badly when they tried to invade Cuba at the Bay of Pigs in 1961.

Thousands of Indigenous people marched through the capital Thursday after the coup. They are well organized and disciplined. If there were another election today, Morales and his movement would win again, but, for now, the fascists in the police and military have won.



Taylor LaFan and Autumn Lake holding signs in front of Mercado Central on Lake Street. Photo by Meredith Aby

## Bouza, from page 1

cluded the mother and daughter mistook my language. They responded honestly and correctly. Confrontation.

So, whose fault, as we like to ask?

I concluded—with little doubt—it was mine. I'd been airily flip and disrespectfully familiar with an innocent young woman who misconstrued my words and intent.

The temptation to wallow in self-pity was strong, but I demurred. I had been wrong and they'd responded honestly.

A quarter century later a friend reported that his son's girlfriend had told him I'd been flirting with her at a cook-out.

OMG, in today's parlance.

I had to, once again, review my conduct.

She'd asked me to opine on her ex-husband's wish to be a cop.

With fatal consistency my response was flip, dismissive and obsequious to lame humor.

Again, the woman had responded honestly, forthrightly and even courageously. Another

wallowing temptation to resist for me.

What I could never resist, to my real regret, is to subvert everything to the service of humor. I do love humor. But do I love it too much?

Very likely, yes.

The exercise is important for its contribution to the examined life. In these two incidents I felt the strong urge to self-righteous indignation. How comforting! How helpful!

Really? Helpful?

The very opposite.

To become real persons, we must look first within for the flaws. I've found that I've rarely had to look further.

The T. A. course taught me a number of things: There are no simple transactions; question everything; look within first and try to become a more effective worm. Or is it gorilla?

And to conclude with my first question—I really think that most female accusers are acting in good faith and telling the truth as they've experienced it.

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