

# Southside Pride

*We build Pride on the Southside*

**NOKOMIS  
EDITION**  
SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
**May  
2020**

VOL. XXX, ISSUE 14

*This newspaper is recyclable. It is made with renewable resources--pulp wood and soy ink.*

## Great events and shadows



BY TONY BOUZA

It is a bromide and cliché that crises present opportunities—but these are honored mostly in being ignored. The comfortable status quo.

The public understands and supports drastic action in a pandemic. The MPD could abandon two-person squads and answer twice the 911 calls—even with a virus-ravaged force. Good luck with that.

It is said that great events cast their shadows before them. Did the coronavirus?

Actually, yes.

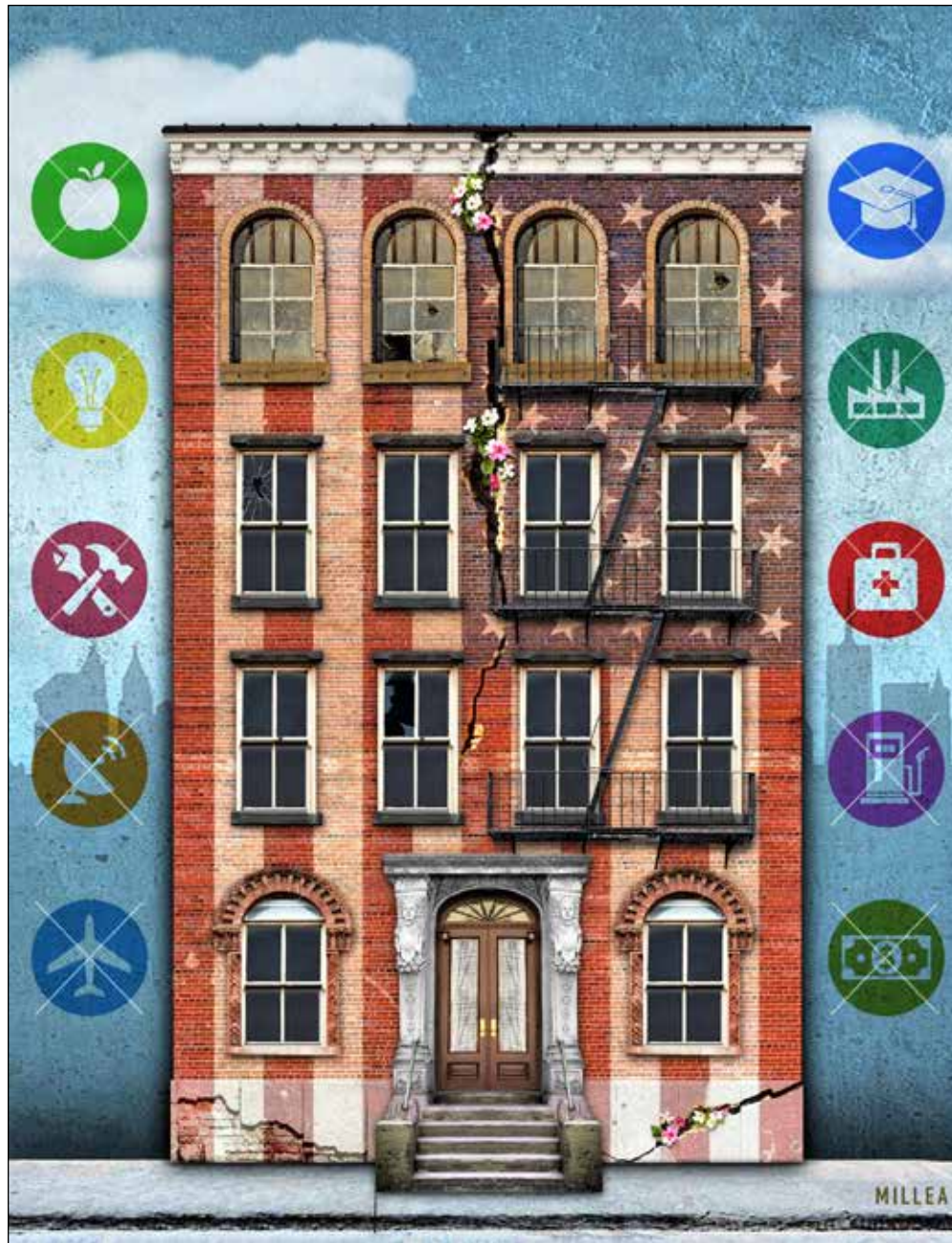
Our Oracle at Adelphi—The Dow Jones Average—regularly warned, early this year, of the cataclysm overtaking us in the form of a virus. The market hates uncertainty and the outlines of The Plague terrified it.

The reality amply justified the disquiet.

My wacky theory is that about three million people rule America—a little under the fabled 1%.

Who are they?  
Doctors, lawyers,

See Bouza, page 9



## All talk, no action

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

Many hoped that our city's 2040 Plan would be a solution to our affordable housing crisis, the idea being that an increase in housing stock would drive down prices through the market pressures of supply and demand. In the wake of this global pandemic, any weakness in the housing market will most immediately de-

crease the construction of new housing of all types. As builders face uncertainty over whether units are likely to be bought or rented, investors will pull money from projects and construction will cease. Market forces will halt new construction, holding prices as high as possible. The market protects profits, not people.

In this moment, we are also seeing huge numbers

of people losing their jobs with no way to pay rent or mortgages. At the national level, Rep. Ilhan Omar has introduced promising legislation to cancel rent and mortgage payments during the pandemic. The bill also includes two funds to compensate landlords and lenders for losses. <https://omar.house.gov/sites/omar.house.gov/files/Omar%20-%20Rent%20%26%20Mort->

See All Talk, page 3

## DFL endorses Fateh over Hayden

BY DAVE TILSEN

The state DFL decided that all Senate district conventions would have to be online this year because of the threat of the COVID-19 virus. This had never been done before, and none of us knew how it was going to turn out. A lot of people put in a lot of energy here in South Minneapolis to make it work and the results were announced on Thursday, May 7, after ten days of online voting.

There were 582 ballots cast. Of these delegates, 420 voted for Omar Fateh, 153 for Sen. Jeff Hayden, 7 votes for no endorsement and 2 abstentions. That is 72.4% for the challenger.

Sen. Hayden has raised questions about the integrity of the list of delegates. He has



Omar Fateh

Jeff Hayden

questions about whether all of them are legitimate residents of the precinct. The process the DFL uses to police this is the Credentials Committee.

A credentials committee made up of delegates selected at precinct caucuses, and composed of members of both campaigns, worked hard to validate the voting delegates and to obtain correct emails. They emailed the delegates first, and for those that didn't respond, they snail-mailed and phone-called. They also responded to the challenges from each campaign with investigations and deliberations. They verified addresses with whatever means they

See District 62, page 10

Our 11th Annual  
Celebrate Spring on 34th Avenue  
Pages 6 & 7

# Local businesses: open, closed, restricted ... ?

**Restaurant/Café/Pub**

**A&J Chicken and Fish (Lake Street).** Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Door Dash & Postmates. No curbside pickup. Usual hours. Grab and go.

**Bagu Sushi & Thai.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Bill's Chinese Garden.** Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Door Dash, Grub Hub & Seamless. Curbside pickup. Usual hours.

**Birchwood Café.** Closed to public. Online or phone orders delivered by Toast with Curbside pickup. Thu - Sun from 4 p.m. Some grocery items, bakery and house-made bulk available.

**Bull's Horn.** Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. No delivery. Curbside or counter pickup. Family meals sometimes. Restricted hours.

**Café Racer.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by business. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Family meals.

**Carbone's on Cedar.** Open to public with restrictions. Call for information. Delivery by business. Curbside pickup. Usual hours. Grab and go or brought to your car.

**Cardinal Tavern.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad & Uber Eats. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Cedar Inn.** Open to public with restrictions. Phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Grab and go.

**Chatterbox Midtown.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Dilla's.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. No curbside pickup. Usual hours.

**Dragon Wok.** Open to public with restrictions. Call for information. Delivery by business, Bite Squad & Door Dash. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Grab and go.

**DQ (38th Street).** Open to public. No online and phone orders. No delivery. Curbside pickup. Usual hours. Walk up order to-go.

**DQ (Lake Street).** Open to public. No online and phone orders. No delivery. Curbside pickup. Usual hours. Walk up order to-go.

**DQ (Minnehaha Ave).** Open to public. No online and phone orders. No delivery. Curbside pickup. Usual hours. Walk up order to-go.

**El Burrito Mercado.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Door Dash. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Gandhi Mahal.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Door Dash. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Hamburguesas El Gordo.** Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad & Uber Eats. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Himalayan.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Hot Indian Foods at MGM.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders.

**Infused Life Plant-based Eatery at MGM.** Closed to public. Phone orders only. No delivery. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours. New restaurant!

**Jakeeno's at MGM.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, Door Dash & Grub Hub. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Jakeeno's (Chicago Ave).** Open to public with restrictions. Online or phone orders. Call for information. Delivery by business. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Grab and go pre-order online or phone.

**Khyber Pass (St. Paul).** Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Door Dash, Grub Hub & Seamless. Curbside pickup. Usual hours.

**Manny's Tortas at MGM.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad & Grub Hub. Curbside Pickup. Restricted hours.

**Merlins Rest.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Online whisky [Scottish spelling] tastings!

**Mi Casa Mexican Kitchen.** Open to public with restrictions. Phone orders. Delivery by Uber Eats. Curbside delivery. Restricted hours. Brand new restaurant!!

**Midori's Floating World Café.** Open to public with restrictions. Call for information. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Grab and go.

**Heather's.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Modern Times.** Open to public with restrictions. Pre-order by phone or email or order takeaway at the café if available. Entryway pickup. Restricted menu posted daily (Facebook). Restricted hours.

**Northbound Smokehouse Brewpub.** Open to public with restrictions. Walk up order to-go, phone for curbside, wait on patio. Also beer.

**Parkway Pizza.** Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by business. Curbside pickup. Usual hours. May request "no contact" on online orders.

**Pineda Tacos.** Closed to public. Phone orders. Delivery by Door Dash & Postmates. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Pizza Luce Seward.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by business. Curbside pickup. Usual hours. Full menu!

**R.A. MacSammys.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Door Dash. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Smoke in the Pit.** Open to public with restrictions. Phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. No curbside pickup. Pre-order grab and go.

**Soberfish.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad & Door Dash. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Pre-order grab and go.

**Standish Café.** Open to public with restrictions. Call for information. No delivery. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Pre-order, phone only, grab and go; family meals available.

**The Bungalow Club.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. No delivery. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Full meals, changes daily, parking lot pickup.

**The Howe.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad & Uber Eats. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

**Town Hall Station.** Closed to public. Online and phone orders. No delivery. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Also beer to go.

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## Don't Waste Your Trials

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# Worth Watching

BY ED FELIEN

If you read (and, you're reading this) you probably spend a lot of time on the internet these days. There's a lot of wonderful stuff out there. Here are some things I found recently ...

But first, what is it you miss most about social isolation? Isn't it a hot, sweaty bar



Cadillac Kolstad

evocations of that ecstasy is Cadillac Kolstad playing boogie-woogie piano at Palmer's Bar with Cornbread Harris. Here's Cadillac Kolstad & the Flats with Cornbread Harris playing "Cornbread Stole My Gal From Me" from September 9, 2008:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RSATM\_A110

It will be a while before we can return to that kind of hot and funky rock and roll, but Stephen McClellan, who for 30 years was the man who booked the music at First Avenue, is doing his best to keep the fire alive. He'll be starting an internet online music showcase featuring performances and interviews with local musicians.

He says, "So, on May 22, playing loud rock and roll and bodies dancing to a passionate beat? One of my favorite

### All Talk, from page 1

gation%20Cancellation%20Act%20One%20Pager%20and%20Legislative%20Framework.pdf

Meanwhile, Mitch McConnell is already bringing up the deficit and reducing spending, AFTER giving away more than \$3 trillion with no oversight to corporations.

In Minnesota, Gov. Walz ceased all evictions and foreclosures, but payments will be due once the crisis is over, merely pushing the problem forward. Many local city council members in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Richfield have signed a letter to Gov. Walz asking for an executive order that would suspend rent payments for the duration of our peacetime emergency. https://www.minnpost.com/state-government/2020/04/local-officials-call-for-canceling-rent-payments-in-minnesota/

The weakness with this proposal is that while it offers enforceable protection for renters, it merely suggests that lenders suspend foreclosures and late payment penalties. If homeowners and landlords are unable to pay their mortgages, we will see a slew of foreclosures once the governor's peacetime emergency is lifted. This is not good for the overall economic health of our communities. Perhaps more importantly, it puts tenants in greater jeopardy. Let's be real. An individual landlord is more likely to work with a tenant who owes back rent and/or needs to renegotiate a lease than a bank owner will be.

There will be a pilot program on the internet called 'Yellin' At McClellan,' or more accurately, 'Stories & History' from the thousands of local musicians that have gone underground during this coronavirus. This first program will examine a group called Sargasso, or more specifically, the artists Bob Nordquist and Leo Whitebird, and discuss the impact and interaction that make their music one of the hidden treasures that lie beneath the mainstream and part of the vitality and diversity that is our Twin Cities music scene."

We'll be keeping a close eye on Steve and his gang, and we'll post a link to his new show as soon as we get it.

Did you catch the Dorothy Day biography on Channel 2: "Revolution of the Heart: The Dorothy Day Story?"

https://www.pbs.org/video/revolution-of-the-heart-the-dorothy-day-story-lwz697/

When I read a Catholic

to stretch the limited funds we have, and lenders and landlords should be willing to negotiate lower payments when the alternative would be no payment/default. I suspect, however, that there would need to be some sort of further action required to get lenders on board. To that end I would suggest that rules around foreclosure be tightened, for example a moratorium on commencement of foreclosure procedures in the state of Minnesota for the duration, and not to be lifted until six months after the peacetime emergency ends.

Going back to Rep. Omar's bill, it is noteworthy that, "The bill also seeks to create an optional fund to fully finance the purchase of private rental properties by non-profits, public housing authorities, cooperatives, community land trusts and state or local governments in an effort to increase the availability of affordable housing." https://thehill.com/home-news/house/493558-omar-introduces-legislation-to-cancel-rent-mortgage-payments-during-pandemic

We entered this global pandemic with an affordable housing crisis. This problem will explode if we don't take the necessary concrete actions now. We also need to start thinking about housing differently. Housing is a human right and must be aggressively addressed. The need for quality, and truly affordable, housing was acute before. It will be overwhelming in the wake of this pandemic.

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Worker that someone had left at St. Helena's Church when I was still going there many years ago, I thought that was the way Jesus meant for us to live. Dorothy Day was a wild Greenwich Village radical in those in pain, the more radical you become to overcome that pain. I don't think it is possible to go backwards. I really feel that Jesus would want us to go forward and to be out there where the people are in pain. I believe that about Jesus. I always say, Jesus never said worship me, he said follow me, so that is what I am trying to do."

When I was growing up in South Minneapolis, we would wait for new motion pictures to play the downtown theaters, then they would play (at reduced rates) in the local movie theaters; first the Riverview, then the Nile on 38th Street and 23rd Avenue, and then the Leola on 50th and 34th Ave. The Riverview is all that remains of that golden era of movie palaces in South Minneapolis. During the pandemic they're running a virtual film festival.

One of their offerings is a documentary based on Thomas Piketty's international best-seller, "Capital in the Twenty-First Century." And, if you think a documentary about an economics text would be boring beyond belief, then you are in for a pleasant surprise. The film shows how capital, the accumulation of wealth, has stayed in the hands of the 1 percent for more than 300 years. There are repeated clips of Reagan saying, "Make America Great Again," encouraging nostalgia for post-World War II prosperity without acknowledging that the prosperity was based on a progressive tax rate that taxed incomes over \$200,000 at 91 percent.

Go to http://www.riverviewtheater.com/show/show/2791

It's worth watching.



Sister Brigid McDonald

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# Celebrate Spring on 34th Avenue

## Hard Times on 34th Avenue South

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

The Nokomis area centered around the business hub of 34th Avenue South and East 50th Street was already experiencing upheaval before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. While some businesses were doing well—the Bull's Horn, Town Hall Lanes, the hardware store and others—some were teetering, closing, or despite being popular and well-loved, were running on thin margins.

The two neighborhood associations that operate on behalf of the surrounding neighborhoods—Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA) and Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA)—were both struggling with declining revenues for neighborhood associations, rising costs, and structural uncertainty due to the expiration of the Neighborhood Revitalization Pro-

gram and the looming changes—still undefined—under the new neighborhood plans from the city of Minneapolis. Then it was 34th Avenue's turn for road construction.

And now, the businesses and households, the Nokomis Library,

the schools, the elders' residences and the churches in Nokomis are devastated along with the rest of the world by a pandemic.

As we have done in previous neighborhood focus articles since March, we'll run through who's

closed, who's open and under what new circumstances, for good or ill, and then we'll concentrate a bit on the situation with Hennepin County libraries, now that the COVID-19 pandemic has been closed to the public for almost two months.

First the bad news. Two eateries iconic to the Nokomis area, but on opposite ends of the sophistication spectrum, both succumbed to other pressures and closed late in 2019. Boss Pizza and Chicken apparently closed with little fanfare in the fall, and Al Vento, a favorite white-tablecloth establishment with very good traditional Italian fare, closed with little warning in late November.

Definite COVID-19 victims in the area, although they are hoping to bounce back in the aftermath, are Town Hall Lanes, which is part of a brewery "family" of restaurants, and managed to stay open for delivery

a few weeks before giving up, and Sassy Spoon, a unique, modern counter-service place with a line in gluten-free stuff. Sassy Spoon closed on March 16 and has still not managed to re-open in COVID mode.

Better news is to be found at the Bull's Horn, which is open for takeout, curbside pickup only, with online ordering Tuesday through Saturday, 4 to 8 p.m. You can get beer or wine to take home with your meal. Every now and then, they lay on a gourmet special; a couple of weeks ago it was a meal kit of ramen noodle soup with smoked duck breast.

Mel-O-Glaze, a venerable and beloved bakery known for its donuts and fancy decorated cakes, appears to be open as normal except of course for "dining in." I'm not kidding about the venerable part; Mel-O-Glaze was opened by the present owner's parents in 1961.

MacDonald's Liquor Store, where you can bring your well-behaved dog in to shop with you in better times, was on restricted hours from mid-March until May 2, but is now back to their normal hours, open seven days, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays and slightly less Saturday and Sunday. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing (it's a cozy shop).

Another place that's remained open throughout, with accommodations to preserve the health of staff and customers, is Oxendale's supermarket. As in other shops, wear a mask there, shop efficiently, don't handle things you're not going to buy, etc. Oxendale's, like many of the larger groceries, is also stepping up donations to food shelves.

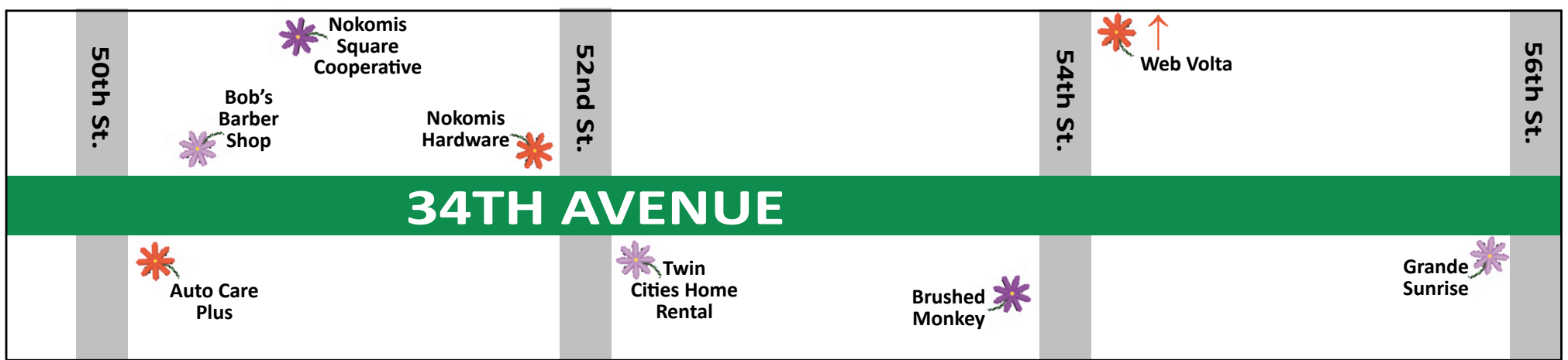
Nokomis Hardware, too, has stayed open for the most part throughout March and April and into May. They have recently introduced a special service for customers who can't or shouldn't have in-person visits to shop. You can phone their staff and discuss your needs, and the staff will shop for you, take your payment details by phone, and bring your purchases out to the parking lot to deliver to your car. They're also selling a very nice-looking Nokomis T-shirt (pre-order from their website <https://www.nokomishardware.com>) with proceeds to benefit local small businesses.

Nokomis Shoes is another mainstay of the retail hub around 34th Avenue. While they have been closed to the public since mid-March, fortunately they already had an online sales system, and while they don't have curbside pickup, only delivery, they waive delivery fees for orders over \$100.

In the services arena, Nelson's Auto Repair is also on the avenue, at 54th Street. This very highly rated business, like most auto repair, auto sales and service stations, is open normal hours.



AFSCME members have been protesting Hennepin County Library's curbside pickup service and staff re-assignment to homeless shelters in hotels.



Library closings and reduced light rail services are squeezing homeless people even more, and the Hiawatha encampment is back this spring with over 100 tents.

SENA has its offices on 34th Avenue now, next door to the Bull's Horn. The SENNA staff (already much reduced before the pandemic) is mostly working from home and meeting via Zoom, as is the SENNA Board. (By the way, they need a couple more board members, so if you live or have a business in either Standish or Ericsson, please consider running.) As I mentioned before, it's a very tricky time for neighborhood associations, with many uncertainties about the future.

And now we come to Nokomis Library, my favorite spot in the area. And it's been shuttered since mid-March. Librarians working from home are available for a number of online resources, from technical ad-

vice to homework help, and are also at work on increasing the library's online assets and services. Some of the Book Clubs which are also on Meetup.com are having Zoom meetings, and children's story times have moved to Facebook Live.

But all is not well in library land. The Hennepin County Library system has made the national news, and not in a good way. An online magazine called Bookriot published a piece titled "Librarians in Pandemic Distress: Layoffs, Napkin Masks, and Fear of Retaliation," by Kelly Jensen on April 24, 2020. Here is an excerpt:

"For institutions ranked among the most trustworthy and beloved, it's shameful how the individuals

who comprise libraries are treated as disposable ... As the pandemic lurches forward, more and more libraries are doing something unexpected during a period of time when the digital services they provide are vital: They're laying off workers or pushing them into alternate emergency jobs for which they're untrained or unqualified. Librarians in Hennepin County, Minnesota, were told they could be assigned to work in hotel-based homeless shelters... [Note—with no hazard pay, PPE or training!]

"[T]he furloughs and layoffs that are occurring now are symptomatic of larger trends in our fields towards greater precarity of workers and lack of funding across different types of libraries and archives: unpaid internships, term-limited positions, low pay, employee surveillance, lack of benefits, anti-union management, outsourcing of technical services, eliminating positions upon retirements, etc.," said one of the advocates who requested to be anonymous. "I think like we are seeing elsewhere (in health care, housing, finance), the COVID-19 crisis is not creating new inequalities and disparities, but rather surfacing ones that have been percolating for a long time."

On the same day, AFSCME Local 2822 and other Hennepin County library workers were out protesting, for the second week in a row, Hennepin County's decision to keep eight libraries open for curbside pickup of books. Library specialists, the union and nationwide

members of the #closethelibraries campaign, say these "services" are unnecessary, unsafe without using PPE, and if using it, wasteful, when even doctors and nurses don't have enough. Some library staff are asking the public not to use this service but to use e-books or other alternatives.

From an NBC News report on the pushback from library workers and advocates, this quote:

"I love what I do, but nothing we can do right now is more important than keeping people safe," said ([Callan]Bignoli, a Boston-based librarian and one of the leading organizers of the #closethelibraries campaign. "Using masks and gloves to deliver library books is gross. There are medical professionals, nursing homes and immunocompromised people who need them more than librarians do."

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**ONLINE EVENTS AND RESOURCES**

for Archdiocesan links to Mass online, on TV, and other Mass/prayer resources.

**Catholic Church of St. Albert the Great**  
E. 29th St. & 32nd Ave. S., Mpls.  
At the request of the Archdiocese, we have canceled all further "live" masses in the church. However, we ARE live-streaming the Sunday morning mass at 9:30 am on our St. Albert the Great Facebook page. Please join us there, and be safe and prayerful in this distressing time. <https://www.facebook.com/StAlbertTheGreatMpls/>

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
3430 E. 51st St., Mpls.  
[www.faithlutheranmpls.org](http://www.faithlutheranmpls.org)  
Sunday Worship and Midweek Devotions online on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAMEKjtlORYXnd-mlow/> and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/felcmpls/>

**First Free Church**  
5150 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls.  
We're not closed. We're online. Sunday services will be posted at 9 a.m. to our Facebook and YouTube pages. [www.firstfreechurch.org](http://www.firstfreechurch.org)

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS**  
1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., Mpls.  
Sunday Worship recordings online at [www.holycrossmpls.org](http://www.holycrossmpls.org). Scroll to mid-page on the homepage to see recordings and bulletins to follow along. Bible Study via Zoom at 10:30 a.m. (see calendar for info).

**Hope Lutheran Church**  
5728 Cedar Ave. S., Mpls.  
In a desire to do our part, Hope Lutheran Church has moved

worship from a physical gathering in our Sanctuary on Cedar Avenue to an online gathering until further notice. To learn how to connect to our worship services, please click on the Worship Tab on our website. [www.hopempls.org](http://www.hopempls.org)

**Living Spirit United Methodist Church**  
4501 Bloomington Ave., Mpls.  
Worship with us from home! In complying with Minnesota's stay-at-home order, all in-person activities, including worship and supper, are canceled until further notice. Please visit our website to learn more about how we're maintaining community in the meantime. [www.livingspiritumc.org/online](http://www.livingspiritumc.org/online)

**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
2400 Park Ave., Mpls.  
Due to COVID-19 and the recommendation of the ELCA and Governor Walz, Messiah has decided to suspend Sunday worship until further notice. We make this decision prayerfully and will instead be posting podcasts of the sermon online. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and hope to resume Sunday worship at Messiah soon. "Energized by Worship, we reflect God's Love in the community with activities of service that positively transform lives." Please visit us at <https://www.messiahlutheranmpls.org/> for online services, devotions and bulletins.

**Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church**  
4101 37th Ave. S., Mpls.  
Please visit our website for opportunities to connect each week at <https://minnehahacommunion.org/>. View Sunday worship services and download bulletins online, join us for a Zoom virtual coffee hour on Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m., or for Monday Kid Time on Zoom

from 1 to 3 p.m.  
**Mount Zion Lutheran Church**  
5645 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls.  
In consideration of the public health concerns related to COVID-19 and per the recommendation of the Minnesota Department of Health, worship services at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church have been canceled until further notice. In the meantime, please visit our outdoor lending library! Stay well. May God bless and keep you!

**New Creation Baptist Church**  
1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.  
Please visit our website at <https://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.org/> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NewCreationBaptistChurch/> to access sermons and Bible study teleconferences online.

**Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church**  
5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.  
[www.nokomisheights.org](http://www.nokomisheights.org)  
All in-person worship and activities suspended. We may be separated, but we are still a church and a community, physically distant but faithfully together. Connect with our online community on Facebook and YouTube, and join us as we navigate these challenges together. A new worship goes up on YouTube every Sunday at 10am, and all are archived, so you can view the ones you missed. <https://www.facebook.com/NokomisHeights/>

**Plymouth Congregational Church**  
1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.  
All Plymouth meetings and in-church Sunday services canceled until further notice. Please visit our website at <https://www.plymouth.org/> or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/PlymouthCongregationalChurch/> to view online worship services, bulletins and announcements.

**St. Joan of Arc Catholic Community**  
4537 3rd Ave. S., Mpls.  
For video masses, musical performances, church bulletins, and other news, please see our website <https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/> or Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StJoanMpls/>.

**St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral**  
519 Oak Grove St., Mpls.  
For the sake of the common good, Saint Mark's doors are closed until further notice—still there is so much you can practice from home. Visit our website at <https://ourcathedral.org/> for links to Daily Practices and past livestreams and video archives.

**Temple of Aaron**  
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**Calvary Lutheran Church**  
3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.  
612-827-2504, ext. 205  
The Calvary Emergency Food Shelf is available for area residents each Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. We will hand out pre-packaged bags of food with a Walk-Up table on 39th St. and Drive-Thru model at the parking lot entrance. Please stay in your car, and we'll bring the food to you! Volunteers will be available outside to help you. There are eligibility requirements. On our website, [www.clchurch.org](http://www.clchurch.org), click on the "Food Shelf" link in the "Outreach" tab, or call the food shelf office at 612-827-2504, ext. 205.

**Groveland Emergency Food Shelf**  
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Plymouth Congregational Church  
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**Minnehaha United Methodist Church**  
3701 E. 50th St., Mpls.  
612-721-6231  
Yes, the food shelf is still open! In order to fight food insecurity in our neighborhood, as of April 9, 2020, the Minnehaha Food Shelf will still be open on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. We have moved our operations outdoors, meter the flow of clients to help ensure social distancing, periodically clean our surfaces, and wear face masks. Should we have foul weather, we plan to move the distribution indoors, though still meter clients and encourage distancing. <https://www.facebook.com/Minnehaha-FoodShelf/>

**New Creation Baptist Church**  
1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.  
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We're still here to serve you on the first through fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until we run out of bags. Be safe and God bless! <https://www.facebook.com/NCBC-foodshelf/>  
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# A complaint, a dreamboat and a nightmare

BY ED FELIEN

On April 29, the Minneapolis City Council agreed to begin paying out more than a million dollars to stop the civil trial of Officer Lucas Peterson, charged with the wrongful death of Terrance Franklin. I couldn't resist writing to the Council:

"Your refusal to hold Lucas Peterson accountable for his actions in the murder of Terrance Franklin continues to legitimize the racist murders of young black men by our Minneapolis Police Department. Lucas Peterson's obvious lies were impossible to believe, and the city will pay out \$975,000 to Franklin's father and another \$250,000 to the law firm hired by the city to cover up this disgrace and you still refuse to hold him or the other officers involved in this tragedy accountable.

"Peterson was charged for the Wrongful Death of Terrance Franklin, but he probably wasn't the one who killed him. Franklin was probably killed by Durand's MP5. Franklin was pulled from under the stairway and thrown across

the room. Durand probably opened fire, killing Franklin and wounding two fellow officers. Peterson then probably offered to take responsibility for killing Franklin, and they made up the story about Franklin seizing the gun and shooting the other officers. After Franklin was dead and lying on the floor of the basement, Peterson probably picked up his head and shot him seven times in the temple.

"The court documents refute the story dreamed up by Peterson and Durand. Their fantasy version is that Franklin somehow overpowered Durand and took his MP5 and shot the two police officers, and Peterson charged Franklin, pressed up against him to block the fire of the MP5 with his bulletproof vest and shot Franklin in the temple. There are at least a couple of things wrong with that picture. First, if Durand was wearing his MP5 in regulation in a sling across his chest, it would have been almost impossible for Franklin to have taken it from him and turned around and shot the two officers and confronted Peterson. Second,

Peterson says he was face to face with Franklin and shot him in the temple. Assuming Peterson is right-handed, and since the medical examiner says the bullets entered Franklin through his right temple, then Peterson would have had an impossible contortion to shoot Franklin in the right temple. Further, in the court documents <[https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/US-COURTS-mnd-0\\_14-cv-01467/pdf/USCOURTS-mnd-0\\_14-cv-01467-0.pdf](https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/US-COURTS-mnd-0_14-cv-01467/pdf/USCOURTS-mnd-0_14-cv-01467-0.pdf)> the plaintiffs pointed out there was no blood on the MP5, which would be impossible if Franklin were wedged between Peterson and Durand, and further, there is a critical 70-second gap between the first shots from the MP5 and the rounds from Peterson's handgun—too much time for Franklin to still remain a threat, but just enough time for Peterson to come up with a story to save Durand from having to admit he shot two fellow officers.

"The people of Minneapolis have a right to know what happened to Terrance Franklin. "And they have the right to expect that officers who abuse their authority and lie in their reports will be disciplined and fired."

This, of course, got no response from the mayor or City Council. I was feeling depressed and cynical about city government, and then, I tuned in Mayor Jacob Frey's State of the City speech. He is so gorgeous, so bright, so optimistic. You get lost in his deep blue eyes as he talks about the heroism of our everyday workers and how the city will endure. The State of the City, he says, is Unbound. Then he proceeded to detail how the city is bound because it's losing \$100 to \$200 million in revenue because of COVID-19, and how there are too many homeless, and how they set aside \$3 million for rental subsidies

and they need five times that amount. But he's so cute, and they're going to have a baby in September, and you get lost in those big blue eyes, and that earnest look, that look that says he's really trying, really, really trying.

And you get lost in those big blue eyes, and you forget about the world and the present nightmare: a pandemic and an incompetent and malignant narcissist in charge of the federal government. And you remember Minnesota author Sinclair Lewis's great novel "It Can't Happen Here," about how fascism comes to America.

The FBI warned in 2006 that white nationalists were taking over police departments. City Heat is a nationwide motorcycle gang made up of cops. They fly Confederate flags and wear Nazi medals. They're very big in Minneapolis and Chicago, cities where white officers have a high incidence of killing young black men. Bob Kroll, the head of the Minneapolis Police Federation, rides with them.

I have this recurring nightmare of Trump canceling the elections to protect us from the coronavirus, and, to enforce the order of protection, Bob Kroll leads City Heat in a ride across the Lake Street Bridge just like Caesar crossed the Rubicon, and, like Rome, we'll lose our republic to an emperor. It was the police who enabled Hitler and the Final Solution. It was the police who collaborated with the military and the CIA to overthrow the democratically elected government of Bolivia last November. Racist and fascist elements in the Minneapolis Police Department are a threat to all of us, especially right now. The mayor and City Council must find the courage and the intestinal fortitude to take control of the MPD before the MPD begins to take control of us.

The virus crisis is another missed opportunity. The Minneapolis Police will not be reformed. Too bad. The ruling 1% have—I believe, but don't know for



Mayor Jacob Frey

and they need five times that amount. But he's so cute, and they're going to have a baby in September, and you get lost in those big blue eyes, and that earnest look, that look that says he's really trying, really, really trying.

Trump is a great reader of polls. He knows he's tanking. Nothing he does seems to get him over 43% approval rating. But his hard core is very hard core. They want to Make America Great Again. They want America to go back to when you didn't have to apologize for being racist and sexist and everyone wasn't so "politically correct."

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entertainers, professors, writers, college presidents, CEOs, developers, financial gurus (Wall Street), politicians and on. They make—and have—the bucks. They've attended elite institutions (I have a bias for the Ivy League), and some have gone to prison to secure these desirable credentials for their kids. The ruling 1% have—I believe, but don't know for



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*If you want to share some news of your church, school or organization, please write us at:*

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# The 2020 Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan

BY KATHRYN KELLY

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's (MPRB) latest Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan is another example of pie-in-the-sky ideas with little ability to pay for them. And it lacks answers for many of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) requests. And, since the CAC has been disbanded by the MPRB, who will now hold the MPRB accountable?

The new golf course plan has fewer water hazards, but it is still challenging, especially for beginners. And noisy activities like the new driving range, pumping station and snow-making machinery will be right across the street from homes.

Reducing pumping has been the MPRB's reason for getting rid of the 18-hole golf course. In the new plan, the pumping will be moved into the neighborhoods, but no engineering details are given. A new concern is that the golf course will be elevated above the normal water levels of Lake Hiawatha, adding a massive amount of fill to this property (up to

6-8 feet). This does not fit the MPRB's description of a wetland restoration, and will drastically change the current flood plain. This could trap water in the neighborhoods, and the most important priority for the CAC was protecting the homes from flooding.

The berm between the golf course and Lake Hiawatha was deemed to be unsafe because it could burst and drown golfers. Now the berm will serve as a walking/bike path around Lake Hiawatha, surrounded by water. Will the berm survive with water on both sides, and will it now actually become unsafe for pedestrians and bicyclists?

The MPRB proposes three new buildings on the knoll: a restaurant, a small pro shop and a canoe rental. One building for a golf course clubhouse and restaurant with adequate parking should be sufficient. The canoe rental should be on the east side of the lake, not in the middle of the golf course where canoeists can get hit by golf balls.

The reconstruction of the

inlet of Minnehaha Creek seems to promote a backup of water, sand, debris and trash at the inlet, which is the opposite of what needs to be done. Water needs to move in and out of the lake quickly, considering the high volumes of water that go through Lake Hiawatha.

This plan would abandon the 43rd Street pipe that runs under the golf course to Lake Hiawatha, and dump storm water into an open channel at 43rd Street and 19th Avenue South. The MPRB states that this new channel will include "an opportunity to reduce flooding in the watershed to the north." So, the City and MPRB will dump even more water into Lake Hiawatha? Plus, has the grading analysis been done to see if this channel will flow as intended? If it doesn't work, houses on 19th and 43rd will be the water repository.

Turning part of the 18-

hole golf course into a tiny amount of floodplain storage is unlikely to accommodate increased storm water due to expected infrastructure development in Minneapolis and the suburbs, and climate change. This plan just continues 40 years of dumping water on the Hiawatha neighborhood.

The price tag of \$43 million appears to be very low considering the massive property alterations that are proposed. The Minneapolis golf courses will pay \$11.2 million for construction of the new golf course. The MPRB's mismanagement of the golf courses over the past 10 years makes it unlikely that they will have this money, especially when Hiawatha's revenue disappears. And the projected \$550,000 in revenue is unlikely. Fort Snelling, a comparable facility, has at best made \$350,000 per year. Add in \$130,000 from the driving range's best

year, and you might make \$480,000.

The \$6.35 million cost for the restaurant will be paid for by a restaurateur. With an estimated annual net revenue of \$251,000, it will take 25 years to pay off the capital costs. And what partner will pay \$4 million for winter sports activities when these activities lose money every year? Other funding includes Wetland Banking, which lets developers and other communities pay to dump their water into Lake Hiawatha. Please, no more water!

And where is the plan for honoring Hiawatha's African-American golf history? Save Hiawatha 18 says you best honor this history by retaining a championship level 18-hole golf course. A sub-standard 9-hole golf course says that the Black community is not important enough to deserve a full 18-hole golf course!

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District 62, from page 1

could—testimony, visits and phone calls. They ended up with a list of delegates that the committee was confident with. All but two of their votes were unanimous and those two votes had two dissenting votes. The Hayden campaign (not the members of the committee) still objected at the end to 97 of the delegates that were on the final list that was sent to and approved by the district central committee. If all 97 of these delegates ended up voting for Mr. Fateh, an assumption that is difficult to make, the final result would have been unchanged.

In fact, I have had access to the spreadsheet of how everyone voted, (there are no secret ballots at conventions), and even if everyone with a Somali name had not voted, the results would have been the same.

But there is another thing here that I feel compelled to say. There is an ugly undercurrent of prejudice and racism within the DFL toward Somalis who organize

in their community to seek electoral success. There is an assumption that there is cheating, and that they cannot be trusted. I am certainly not accusing Sen. Hayden of that in this instance, but no one who has been around the last several conventions should be able to deny my contention. Two years ago, the chair of one convention refused to gavel the convention to order simply because he did not believe that a fair result was possible. This insidious unfair thinking must be challenged. It was unfair when the Irish immigrants were discriminated against, unfair when it was done to the Swedes, the Germans, the Japanese, the Jews, and we need to stop doing it to the East Africans.

As we move into the summer, we will look forward to a campaign for our votes from Mr. Fateh and whomever files to run against him.

[Editor's Note: Emma Greenman, a Paul Wellstone progressive, won the DFL endorsement for state representative for 63B to replace Jean Wagenius.]



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# Dick and Dorothy Pitheon

BY SHAWNE FITZGERALD

Longtime South Minneapolis activists Dick and Dorothy Pitheon died this past month. Dick was 87 and Dorothy, 82. Dick was a lifelong Powderhorn resident, and Dorothy, a Faribault native, came to Powderhorn when she was 16 to attend Holy Angels. Dick was a graduate of Holy Name Elementary School, Bryant Junior High and Central High School.

In the 1960s, Dorothy successfully advocated for hot lunch and sex ed at Bancroft School while Dick became involved in the Model Cities program. Dick also worked on housing with the Powderhorn Community Council, NRP and PPNA's Housing and Land Use Committee. Dorothy was involved at Church of the Holy Name, with the adult enrichment group, CCW, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and the Fall Festival, as well as serving as an election judge for decades. Both were active in the DFL.

In recent years, the Pitheons operated an informal food shelf out of their

dining room a couple days a month. For many years, their house was open to family and friends who needed a temporary home during rough times.

The couple founded Dick's Metropolitan Carpets in 1978. After Dick retired, Dorothy managed the company until this past winter. The store was at 48th and Chicago and then at 56th and Chicago. The Pitheons were members of both local business associations, where Dorothy served as treasurer until 2020.

[Editor's Note: I first met Dick when he was running for City Council in the 9th Ward in 1973. He lost that race, but he never gave up his desire for public service. While he worked with the Chicago Avenue Business Alliance, he was able to get decorative street lighting for the businesses at 48th and Chicago by tirelessly lobbying City Hall and the Public Works Department. It was a grand accomplishment.]

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# A statement by #OurMPS

In spite of significant public opposition, and amid growing concerns surrounding the short and long-term impacts of COVID-19, six members of the nine-member Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) Board voted to approve an expensive, confusing, and controversial Comprehensive District Design Plan (CDD) on Tuesday evening, May 12. Full implementation of the CDD is expected to cost MPS nearly one half of a billion dollars (\$500,000,000), including hundreds of millions in capital expenditures, despite the fact that MPS currently has a multi-million-dollar deficit and declining enrollment year after year. To date, no financial audit has been conducted of the CDD, which is a major concern for many parents across the District.

Also lacking is a full EDIA (Equity and Diversity Impact Assessment) of the CDD. MPS Board policy requires an EDIA on policies that will have a significant impact on student learning and resource allocation, and yet the board deliberately voted to violate their own policy and proceed without an EDIA on the CDD.

"School board members acknowledged that they are in violation of some of their own financial and equity-related policies by voting on this plan, supposedly in the name of equity. Thousands of students will experience significant disruption as a result of this plan and many may be forced

to abruptly change schools next year. Immigrant students and students of color will also face disproportionate impacts as a result of this plan," said Nekima Levy Armstrong, civil rights attorney and North Minneapolis resident.

MPS leaders have labeled the CDD as an "equity" plan that would close the academic gaps between white students and students of color, although ironically there has been no assessment nor comprehensive academic plan presented.

Immigrant families and those who work with them have raised strong concerns that minority students will disproportionately face impacts by losing access to dual immersion programs, high quality magnet schools, and the shifting of schools from K-8 to K-5. Concerns have also been raised about the proposed increase in size of middle schools, which are expected to undermine the possibility of achieving equitable outcomes.

Public opinion would otherwise suggest strong opposition to the plan; over 3,000 parents and community members signed a petition on change.org demanding an equity assessment and a delay of the CDD.

An ongoing shelter-in-place order instituted by Minnesota Governor Tim Walz in March has prevented adequate public input into the CDD, with feedback limited to phone calls and emails. 84% of recent public calls and written comments to the Board were against the



CDD, and a recent poll from television news station KARE11 showed 87% of respondents opposed the CDD.

In choosing to move forward with this concerning plan, the MPS Board has made it clear that the voices of parents and community members do not matter in this process. As a result of their decision, MPS stands to potentially lose thousands of students to surrounding school districts, private and charter schools in the near future.

The CDD will cause significant disruption within MPS, with no real indication that what it set out to achieve in closing academic gaps along racial and socio-economic lines is attainable.

Karen Einisman  
Luna Communications

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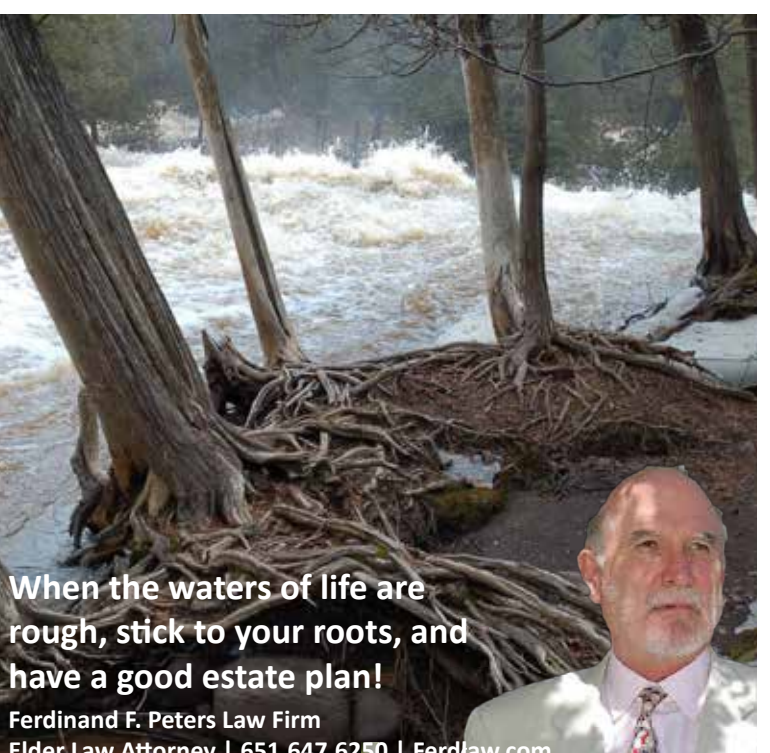
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