

Southside Pride

We build Pride on the Southside

**POWDERHORN
EDITION**

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**May
2020**

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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.

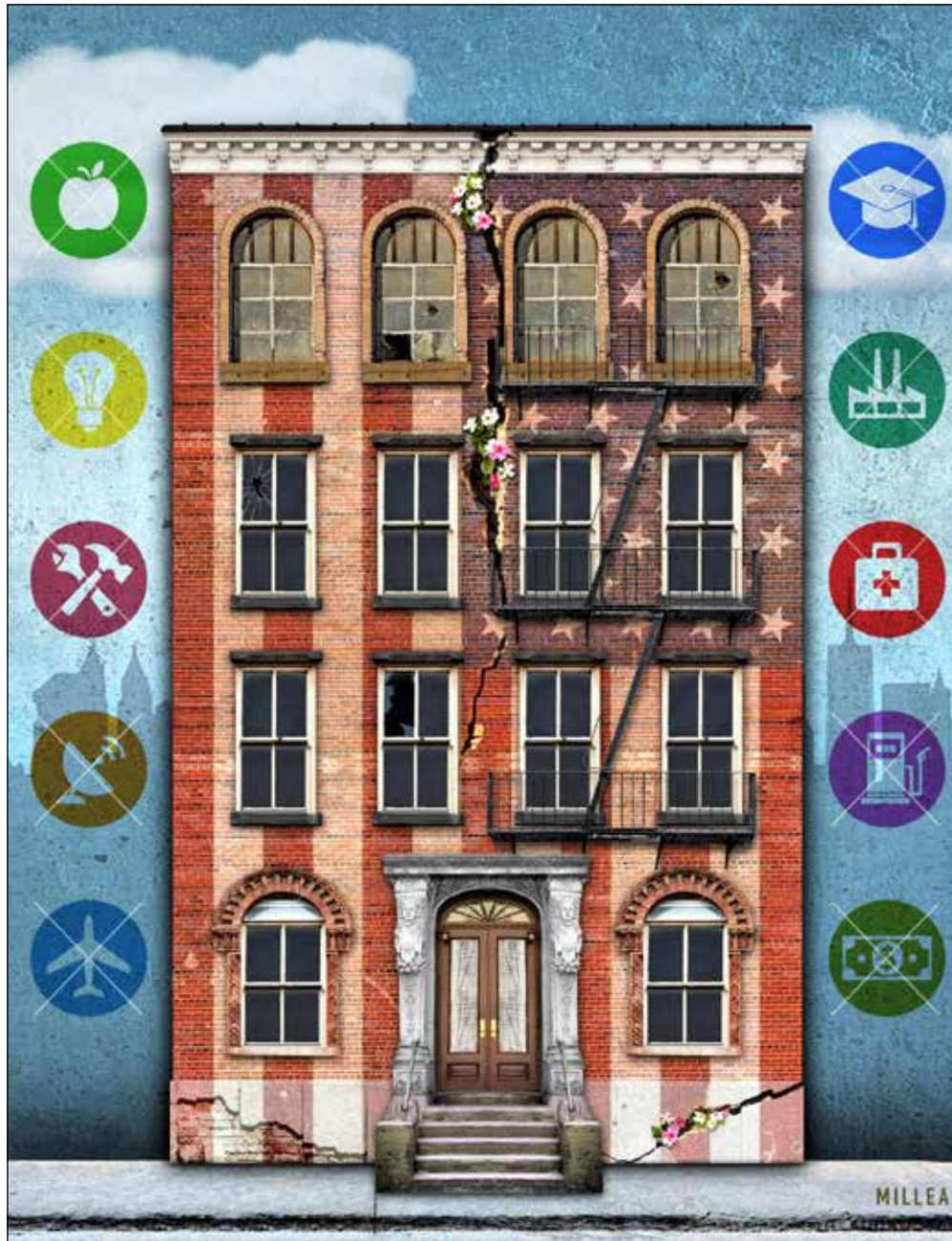
The reality amply justified the disquiet.

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 5



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 decrease 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%20Mortgage%20Cancellation%20Act%20-One%20Pager%20and%20Legisla->

See All Talk, page 2

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 proba-



Mayor Jacob Frey

bly 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

See Complaint, page 5

**Our 11th Annual
Celebrate Spring on 38th Street
Pages 6 & 7**

Celebrate Spring on 38th Street

What's open, opening, and closing on East 38th Street

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

As you may have noticed, for the duration of the pandemic, including the gradual "reopening," the rebound if any, the aftermath,

and the recovery, all neighborhood focus articles will concentrate on pandemic news. So, for East 38th Street, we'll start with the Nicollet and East 38th corner hub (and surrounding businesses a few blocks in either direction) and proceed eastward from there.

For those of you who follow us online, our website now has a handy tool to see a variety of businesses and organizations and how they're operating. Check it out at <https://southsidepride.com/11222-2/>. This table is updated more or less weekly, but we may be a day or two behind breaking news. However, if you have a correction to relay, you can email me personally at debrakramage@gmail.com if you wish. (No hate mail, please, I'm fragile.) And please wear a mask when



Mother Earth Gardens

you patronize any of these in person.

Kicking off our coronavirus tour of East 38th Street, Nighthawks Diner + Bar is open for takeout (no delivery except to your car) with online ordering at their website, Tuesday through Saturday, 4 to 8 p.m. A few blocks away, the Butter Bakery Cafe is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.,

Saturday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (one of the few open early hours) for a variety of different takeout and delivery options including DoorDash. Check the website for details. Also, nearby, the Aliveness Project is maintaining its food shelf for people living with HIV/AIDS.

Eastward a bit on East 38th, Sabathani Community Center also has a food shelf, open to anyone in need, Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The rest of the center is closed. Across the road, the Seward Friendship store is open almost normal hours with excellent hygiene and social distancing. Except for random out of stocks and limits on purchasing certain items, they are fulfilling our needs very well. No hot bar, hot coffee, or dining in. They have added an online ordering service for curbside pickup currently only available to those over 65 or with special needs. The CSA Fair in April was online and virtual.

Moving farther east, Dragon Wok, which used to be part of the Nicollet and 38th cluster, is now sitting in the space formerly known as Funky Grits (RIP). Visit dragonwokdelivery.com for ordering with pickup, their own delivery service, or catch them on Bite Squad or DoorDash. Another business in the vicinity, Flotsam+Fork, is running in virtual mode, with online ordering and postal delivery mainly. Call or check their

website or Facebook page.

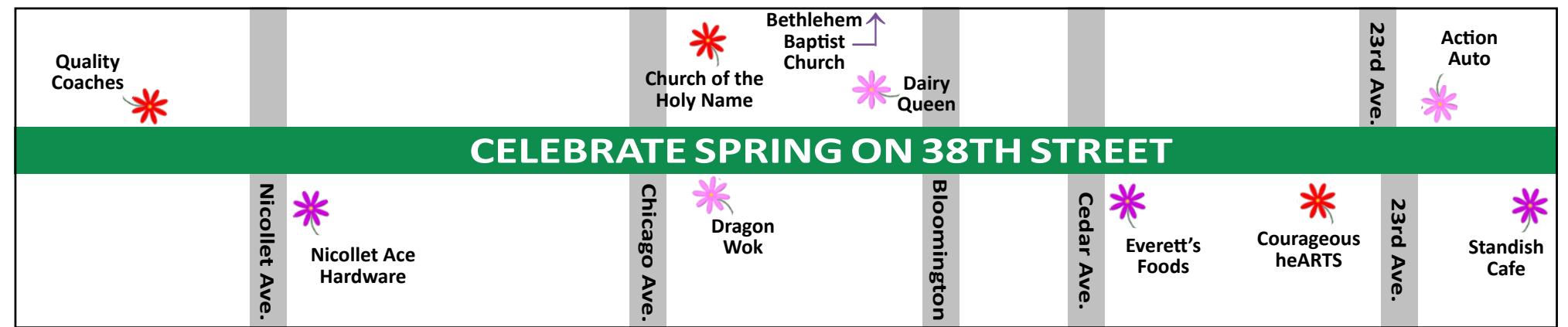
I am not really sure what's going on at Tiny Diner. Some of their menu is available for delivery from Barquette's, via Bite Squad, Uber Eats, etc. There was an announcement that they were going to open a limited time pickup there but I can't verify it. And there are straw bales in the parking lot? I guess call them if you need to know. Mama Sheila's, sadly, appears to have closed at least for now if not for good. Lucy's Ethiopian Market is open but only one day a week—Wednesdays.

Everett's Foods and Meats remains open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., less on the weekends. Duck Duck Coffee has remained shut since March 17 and is planning to open for takeaway soon but no firm date yet. (Mean-



Dragon Wok plate

while they have become a candidate as a drop point for a CSA, so if you'd like to see that happen, check out their website to sign up.) It's a similar story a bit down the road for Sisters' Sludge Coffee



and Wine Bar. The only coffee bar along "my" strip of East 38th that does offer grab-and-go takeaway—they also have bakery stuff and Cuban sandwiches—is Key West Bistro, but that's skipping ahead a bit.

Providence Place, a neighborhood care facility, has had COVID-19 cases in both residents and staff. It's on hard lockdown.

Courageous heARTS, an arts nonprofit, has been closed since early March but is delivering Creative Care packages of art supplies free to participating families They



Metro Transit Blue Line

also have video art-making sessions. Check their website for details or to donate to keep them going. Dreamhaven Books is "open" for phone or web ordering and postal delivery or pickup. Standish Cafe seems to be doing well, considering. They're selling both take-away meals and "heat at home" family meals. Check standish-cafe.com to order.

Now I'm catching up to the 28th Avenue South corner with 38th. Tare Market, the zeroish-waste, no plastic, mostly bulk products shop, is open as usual. They will make you wash your hands the minute you walk in the door. They're such Moms (that's a good thing). Unlike many other groceries and specialty shops, you can bring your own bags and containers. In fact, that's sort of the point.



Northbound Smokehouse

Northbound Smokehouse Brewpub is making good use of their patio as a socially distancing waiting room if you order in person. They have a pickup table just inside the front door for your food, drink and growlers. And something called crowlers? A Cupcake Social remains open limited hours, closed Sundays and Tuesdays, and you can order by web or phone for immediate pickup or 48 hours in advance for delivery by ChowNow.

The Cardinal Bar is open for pickup and delivery. I am not sure how their pickup works (call), but you can get delivery via Bite Squad. Their reduced hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and you can also catch them on Instagram. While we're in the vicinity, let's look in on the Metro Transit blue line. Transit service hours have been cut back and they are asking people to only use transit for urgent needs. Most bus routes are fare-free for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis. Light rail service closes down at 9 p.m. and reopens at 6 a.m.

The Riverstone Spa reopened May 4 just for retail sales and gift cards. They are working on a plan, as are most "high contact" services, that will involve limiting clients onsite, PPE for stylists and techs, and elevated hygiene. Since the extension of the shutdown of salons, barbers, and spas, they are looking at a possible date of June 1.

Mother Earth Gardens has been open since April 18. Check out motherearthgarden.com for hours. They also have a volunteer-staffed delivery service for those who need more social distancing. Details available on the website.

The East 38th Street tour will

end on a high note. The beloved Riverview Theater is pursuing a brilliant crisis time business model to stay afloat. Virtual cinema showings are available at <http://www.riverviewtheater.com/show/show/2791>, with the

theater getting a cut of the virtual ticket price you pay to stream recent independent film releases. And if you want, you can swing by the theater before you open your home cinema and buy popcorn to go!

ART CAMPS FOR AGES 8-18



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ONLINE EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Catholic Church of St. Albert the Great... At the request of the Archdiocese, we have canceled all further "live" masses in the church.

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church... Join the Zoom meeting of the Wednesday morning Bible study: https://uso4we.zoom.us/j/5862684310

First Free Church... We're not closed. We're online. Sunday services will be posted at 9 a.m. to our Facebook and YouTube pages.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS... Sunday Worship recordings online at www.holycrossmpls.org

Hope Lutheran Church... 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.

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.

Messiah Lutheran Church... 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.

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church... For video masses, musical performances, church bulletins, and other news, please see our website https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church... 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.

New Creation Baptist Church... Please visit our Facebook page for updates on the synagogue's programs, schools, and services.

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church... 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.

Plymouth Congregational Church... Please visit our website at https://www.plymouth.org/ or our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/PlymouthCongregationalChurch/

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Community... For video masses, musical performances, church bulletins, and other news, please see our website https://www.saintjoanofarc.org/

St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral... 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.

Temple of Aaron... Please visit our Facebook page for updates on the synagogue's programs, schools, and services.

Trinity Lutheran Congregation... Online worship available anytime on our YouTube channel: Trinity Lutheran Congregation

Walker Community United Methodist Church... We're still here to serve you on the first through fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SHARING FOOD - UPDATED

Bethany Lutheran Church... Soup for You! UPDATE: We are still spreading the love! The Soup for You! Café will be closed to normal dining, but we plan to distribute bag lunches at the regular entrance to the Café.

Calvary Lutheran Church... 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.

Groveland Emergency Food Shelf... Entrance on Groveland Ave. between Nicollet and Lasalle. https://grovelandfoodshelf.org/

Minnehaha United Methodist Church... 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.

New Creation Baptist Church... We're still here to serve you on the first through fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Walker Community United Methodist Church... Food shelves across our nation are seeing the demand for their services skyrocket. Meanwhile, operating conditions that follow recommendations from the CDC and help ensure everyone stays safe and healthy make

'Out of the Impossible: The Hope of The Lost Boy'

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

What happens to a child who has been on his own in the world since the age of 5—in the midst of an African civil war? What does he learn? How does he see the world? How does he heal himself from indescribable horrors?

Paul Deng Kur, one of the 3,500 South Sudanese young men named the "Lost Boys" by the Western press, has written a book about the period of time when he should have been a child. In the course of processing the trauma of that lifetime—during Sudan's second civil

war, which began in 1987—Kur offers astonishing moral depth, immense honesty, acute insight. His affirmation of the value of each human life; his understanding of the irrational nature of prejudice; his nuanced awareness of the nature of political entities and how they operate; and his cautious but open approach to religion all come to one conclusion: People need to always help each other if they can.

It was very, very hard to read of the extreme suffering of the approximately 27,000 children who walked through deserts and jungles trying to escape to Ethiopia—only 4,000 survived. Not everyone who has suffered gravely comes out where Kur has come out. His moral strength is an inspiration. His compassion for people who suffer is heartening.

Many Lost Boys from the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya were resettled in the U.S. around the beginning of the 2000s and Paul Kur was one of them. He had learned to read and write basic English in refugee camp classes. When he was sent to Pennsylvania, he was able to enroll as a junior in high school. His perseverance in pursuing education was nothing short of astounding.

Feeding a growing need

Elizabeth Blanchette, communications and marketing manager at Plymouth Congregational Church, writes the following:

There are only a few food shelves in the metro area that have been able to remain open during this time of pandemic. Our own Groveland is one of those few, steadfast and committed in its work every day to ensure the people who need help the most have access to healthy and nutritious food.

Groveland Food Shelf, located within Plymouth Congregational Church, has always provided a vital service to our community. With the emergence of COVID-19 and the ever-increasing impact it has, this essential service is even more important and the volunteers within are working harder than ever to serve the most vulnerable people in our neighborhood.

According to one Pioneer Press article (*https://www.twincities.com/2020/04/07/unemployment-in-minnesota-11-4-percent-of-labor-force-has-applied-during-covid-19-crisis/), published April 7, as much as 11.4 percent of the labor force has applied for help through unemployment offices during this coronavirus crisis, and as more businesses and jobs are affected, that number is likely to increase.

Food shelves across our nation are seeing the demand for their services skyrocket. Meanwhile, operating conditions that follow recommendations from the CDC and help ensure everyone stays safe and healthy make

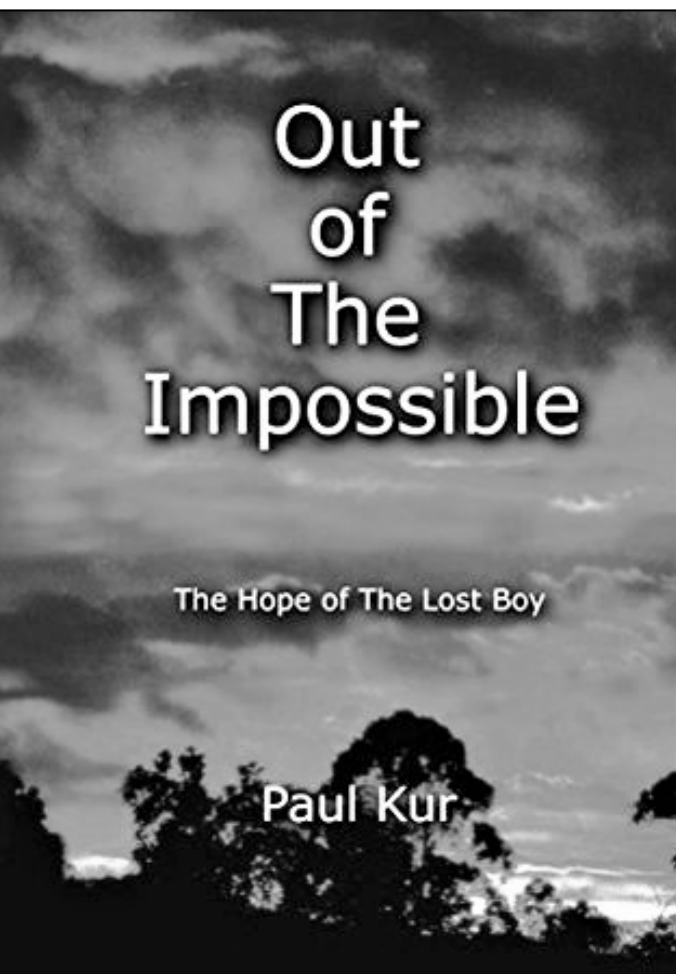
At the very beginning of the book he writes: "It is time to pour out my childhood of struggles onto the pavement and let them roll away in tiny streams, like tears down a cheek. The memories will continue to run through my veins for the rest of my life, but by sharing my story with you, I hope to wash myself of many issues so I can step out into the world once more—clean."

I read the book twice. The first time, I didn't notice that there was no clear timeline. So, it didn't tell me at what age he was first given a gun to fight for the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

More visitors and more incoming food mean that more volunteers are needed to help serve the growing needs of the community. This essential service is running with fewer volunteers than before, operating with a very small group of overloaded, stretched individuals.

Theories of human development say that if proper nurturing occurs in the first three years of life, a person's humanity will be intact. Because of who Paul Kur is now, it seems he had that good foundation. In the book, he talks about the SPLA trying to be surrogate parents, "but they were unable to prioritize their children as real parents always do."

Kur hoped for South Sudan to gain its independence from Sudan, and when that happened, he wanted to go home to help establish the



tection, emotional support, physical care and wisdom." As a child, naturally, he had a conflicted relationship with the SPLA.

In the book, it seems that intense ties to his tribe, Dinaka Bor, and a strong sense of tribal identity were at his core and provided him with the hope he needed to carry on. Although he traveled much of the time with cousins, the hope of finding the rest of his family was paramount.

I met Paul at a friend's house in January. In talking with him I've learned more about his journey. He said one of the things that helped acquaint him with English before arriving in the U.S. was trying to tell English-speaking doctors in refugee camps what was wrong, since there were few interpreters. He said when he was finishing high school in Pennsylvania, he read books over and over and over, wrote endless conversations, and also wrote pages and pages of letters to his grandmother, who he knew had been killed, and to his mother and siblings who he assumed were not living. Then, in 2005, he learned they were still alive, but he still has not seen them.

He described real parents as the ones who give you "pro-

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

Imprisonment

I'm fascinated with jails. I certainly don't want to be in jail and I must say that my reaction when I was once jailed was far from fascination. At that time, it was wishing that the other inmates would stop talking so loud, depriving me of sleep. It was quite a few years ago, when Rudy Boschwitz was in the U.S. Senate, representing Minnesota. A group of several people (including me) were in his office, protesting the war in Vietnam. He, of course, wanted us to leave, which we refused to do. He called the police and the result was we were incarcerated for several days. What I most remember was how noisy it was—clear up to midnight and beyond.

Since then, I have read that the United States has more prisoners than all the other

countries in the world combined. Does that mean there are more criminals here? I don't think so. A recent article in The New York Times gives another aspect of the situation. The prison is the Louisiana State Penitentiary, where each prisoner is given three meals a day, and some personal items such as toothpaste and soap. Food, in addition to that provided by the prison, is available in the commissary as are email access and telephone services, all of which are charged to the prisoner.

The Bureau of Justice statistics estimates that the United States spends more than \$80 billion each year to keep roughly 2.3 million people behind bars. Many experts say that the figure is a gross underestimate because it does not cover expenses that the prisoner must pay. In many facilities, basic items are sold by private vendors, often with sizable markups.

In many facilities, private vendors furnish needed items to prisoners (with a percentage add-on). The Prison Policy Initiative, an organization working to reduce mass incarceration, estimates that families spend \$2.9 billion a year on commissary discounts and phone calls. Families are also often responsible for paying court fees, restitution and fines when a member goes to prison.

This is but a brief look at this system. National data on how much families pay into the corrective system is rarely gathered. Until there is more study and attention given to human services and prevention, it appears that not much will change in the prison system. There is growing interest in what is called UBI, Universal Basic Income, based on supplementing incomes that do not meet a specific sum. Sounds good! Suppose that could ever happen?

U.S. Gun Violence

I have been interested for some time in the relationship of the National Rifle Association (NRA) to gun deaths in the United States, which has the 28th highest rate of gun violence in the world. In the U.S. there are 443 deaths per 100,000 people, according to the University of Washington's Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation, which tracks lives lost in every country, in every year, by every possible cause of death. I wanted to know how NRA members (both locally and nationally) voted on gun violence issues.

Let me repeat: THE UNITED STATES HAS THE 28th HIGHEST RATE OF DEATH FROM GUN VIOLENCE IN THE WORLD. On a state-by-state calculation, the rates can be even higher. In the District of Columbia, the rate is 16.3% (the highest in the U.S.). There are a few countries where gun violence is a substantially larger problem than in the United States. In Central America and the Caribbean area, drug traffickers and gangs fight among themselves for territory and against the police. Citizens who are not involved are caught in the crossfire. The U.S. gun violence death rate is higher than in nearly all

countries in sub-Saharan Africa, including many that are among the world's poorest.

Following are some of the anti-gun organizations in this country: Everyone for Gun Safety; Coalition to Stop Gun Violence; Moms Demand Action; Giffords Law Center, Gun Violence Archive; and Upworthy. Six months after a gunman shot 26 people, nine fatally, in Dayton, Ohio, lawmakers are still at odds over the next steps to take to ameliorate the problem. There are many astounding statistics—too many for this small article. It would be interesting to know, for example, how many people were arrested annually for gun violence offenses, at what age is gun usage most popular, etc. In the state of New York, out of 100,000 individuals, 10.3% are gun owners. In Alaska, 61.7% are gun owners, and in Minnesota, 36.7% are gun owners.

None of this information, however, is going to reduce gun ownership [or gun use].

In-depth News About the California Fires

I find that in order to understand the news behind the news, I usually have to seek sources beyond the usual sources; mainstream media too often glosses over information vital for real understanding. The recent fires in California are an example.

In November 2018, a spark from a transmission tower operated by the Pacific Gas and Electric company (PG&E) set off a conflagration that destroyed the town of Paradise in Sonoma County. At least 85 people, mostly poor and elderly, were killed; 14,000 homes were obliterated; and all plant life on 240 square miles was burned down.

When 2019 rolled around, more fires were generated and PG&E responded by repeatedly shutting off power to millions of people, resulting in the closure of schools, gas stations, food markets, etc. Meanwhile, the company's shareholders and investors have prospered greatly, reporting \$4.5 billion in dividends. The firefighting state budget had been underfunded. Twenty northern California mayors have demanded

that the state take over management of the company. California prison inmates have been used as firefighters. Climate change, rising summer temperatures and lengthening fire seasons are factors in the growing number and intensity of wildfires. These realities have to be factored in. If California does not address this issue in a meaningful way, then the problem should be assumed by Congress. A step in that direction has been made in the use of prison inmates as firefighters. Who knows—maybe a class in firefighting in vocational schools?

The Memories and Questions of History

The title of the book is provocative: "To End All Wars," and the accolades found on the book's cover from other writers convinced me I should read it. I didn't read it all in one day, but I tried.

I thought it might be more or less a philosophical examination of war. However, it was the First World War it covered. I found it to be among the best, most thought-provoking and compelling books I've read in many, many years. It chronicles in detail the operation of the war, British attacks against the Sudanese in Africa and the discovery of gold.

To list all the most important events and famous people covered in the book would require many, many pages so I am merely listing a few of them.

1. Women were granted the right to vote;
2. The author, Adam Hochschild and Rudyard Kipling advocated for military conscription;
3. James Keir Hardie, anti-war socialist, editor of union newspaper;
4. Emmeline and Sylvia Pankhurst, influential women suffragists;
5. King George and Queen Mary of Britain installed as Emperor and Empress of India;
6. French and German socialists issued statements of solidarity;
7. Sylvia Pankhurst organized women to protest for voting rights;
8. More than 50,000 Germans working in Britain.

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 flood-

ing 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!

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 Pi-

theons 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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