



We build Pride on the Southside

NOKOMIS EDITION

SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

June 2020

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America the Beautiful



BY TONY BOUZA

America's police are out of control. This is news to you?
White America hires cops to control blacks. This is called racism.
The Minneapolis cop did not murder Floyd. It was manslaughter. The prosecutor mangled it, but did he have the police union's endorsement? Why didn't he charge the driver in the Justice Damond shooting?
The city will suffer a humiliation when the four Minneapolis cops are restored. Their firings were illegal. Due process was sacrificed on the altar of expedience.
Did they murder Floyd?
No. They were teaching Floyd a lesson.
Have there been any attempts to control the thumpers in the ranks?
Our leaders have covered themselves in glory.
The cops were fired in violation of law. The union will emerge as heroes as they get the cops restored, arrange for their de-

See Bouza, page 3



Hennepin County Commissioner Angela Conley spoke to the crowd. Earlier she wrote: "Council Member Cano has not responded to my request to coordinate so I have been working with other jurisdictions." Council Member Cano sent out an email: "I did receive a message from Commissioner Conley on Sunday night and I'm looking forward to connecting with her sometime this week." People at the meeting in Powderhorn Park had hoped that resolving the homeless problem would have been a more important priority for our council member.
The City of Minneapolis has majority interest in a football stadium just a few blocks down Chicago Avenue. Real leadership on the part of Cano and Frey would be to lead the homeless down to the Vikings stadium and give them all free sweatshirts and a safe place to pitch their tent. (Photo/Nathan House)

Defending the homeless in Powderhorn Park

BY DAVE TILSEN

Friday morning, June 12. I made coffee and looked out on Powderhorn Park, but the view was not as I expected. There were about a dozen tents pitched in the park across the street from my house. I surmised what had happened.

A group of homeless people had been staying in the Sheraton Hotel by the Midtown Global Market. I had read that things were not going well there. It seems that some or all of the residents had moved to the hill by 10th Avenue in the park. I poured myself a cup of the coffee and went out

front to think about this. I am very Covid-adverse right now, being in my 70s with various health issues, so I didn't immediately run over to say hello. But after about an hour and a half, several squads of Minneapolis Park Police pulled up, some of them ON THE GRASS (one of my pet

See Homeless, page 13

Meeting our new neighbors

BY KAY SCHROVEN

We have new neighbors in Powderhorn Park. The media calls it "the tent encampment," described as over 100 (and growing) homeless people living in tents, some recently evicted from the local Sheraton Hotel where they were being temporarily housed, post protests/riots and the associated destruction.
Living a half block off the park, I've met a few of my new neighbors. Closest to my house is a family of three in two tents: Johnny, his mother, Mae, and his wife, Julia (not their real names). They are white. They have been looking for a new home, having started out in Denver. Mae has ties in Minneapolis so they thought they'd try a new start here. They did not come until



(Photo/Nathan House)

after the protests/riots. Johnny has no use for the government or police. He prides himself on self-sufficiency and has rigged up a make-shift shower under a tree. He believes in defending oneself. They had not been staying at the Sheraton. They like Minneapolis — "It's friendly and people seem to care" — thanks to the Minneapolis Sanctuary Movement and other socially-minded organizations. Johnny has done time for drug dealing but really just wants an opportunity to work and support his mom and wife and live in an apartment "like normal

See Neighbors, page 13



Our 11th Annual Summer on Nicollet Ave.
Pages 7, 8 & 9

His life mattered

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

Black Lives Matter has always been about more than the murder of unarmed black people at the hands of the police. It also tackles structural racism that can be seen in everything from our educational system to the fact that our justice system does not uphold the law when it comes to police perpetrators.

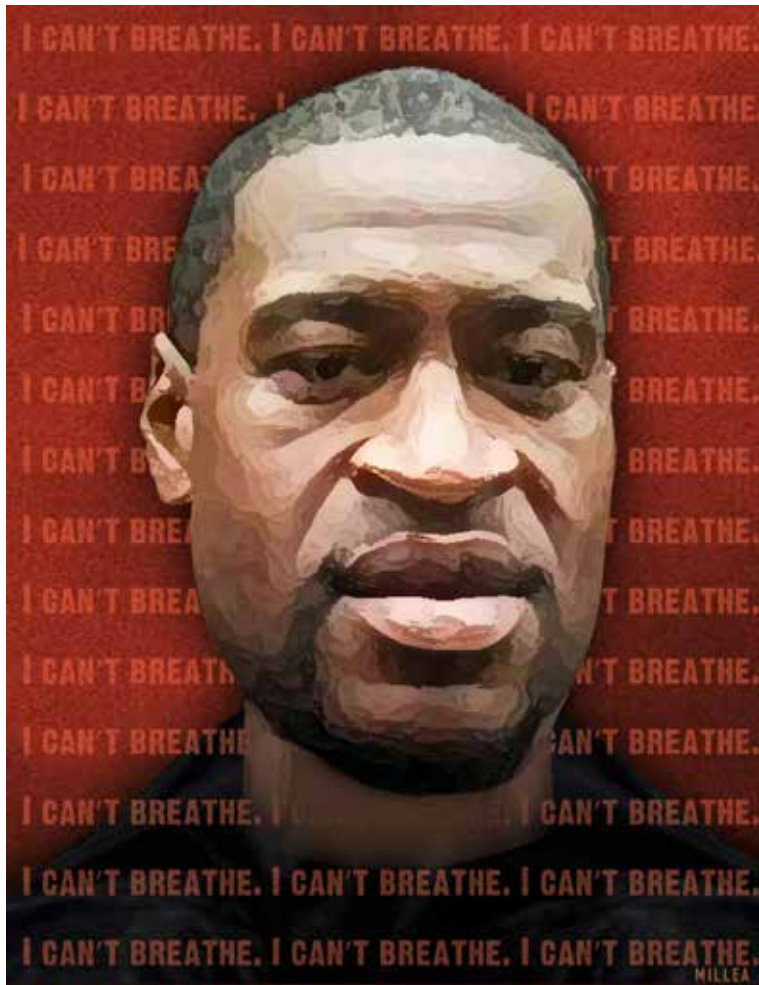
This structural racism has been in full effect in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. People of color are dying at disproportionate rates; financial and housing insecurity has increased disproportionately for people of color; people of color are also a large proportion of the work force that is told to go back to work and risk their lives for the economy, referred to in some cases as “human capital.”

On the other hand, we see images of white privilege across all forms of media on a daily basis. People who found Colin Kaepernick taking a knee to be unseemly and offensive now protest not being able to get a haircut and having to wear a facemask in public. These white protesters are seen walking around with semi-automatic weapons,

taking them into businesses, shutting down the Michigan state Capitol. As a white woman I am enraged by these images and the lack of consequences for these perpetrators. I can only imagine what these images must feel like to people of color.

The pandemic has knocked all of us off our feet to one degree or another, but the impact is most potent on people of color who were in many cases already struggling in our “booming” economy. In the wake of coronavirus, the economic uncertainty of large portions of our population has been amplified exponentially. People can’t afford food; it is a matter of when, not if, they get evicted; many don’t have access to health care; and often they or their family members are “essential” and must expose themselves to deadly threat on a daily basis.

Into this festering swell of uncertainty and terror a video emerged. In truth I haven’t watched it. I can’t watch these videos, and I don’t need evidence to believe black people. In it, George Floyd is murdered by the police in cold blood. From what I hear, it is horrific on a scale that surpasses videos that have come before.



Part of what makes the video so horrific is the nonchalance of the officers involved. They don’t care that people see them, they don’t care that they are being filmed. They clearly expect to keep their jobs, they expect no consequences.

But there were consequences. The police officers involved were fired swiftly. This IS an unprecedented move, but in light of the horror of the events it was obviously not enough. People demanded charges be filed. They organized peaceful protests. Nor-

mally in these cases the police allow people to march and blow off steam with minimal antagonism because people will express themselves, get it out of their system, and be forced to return to the daily grind eventually. This time was different. This time the police were mad. How dare these protesters demand more than the firing of these officers, which in the eyes of the police was already too much. How dare these protesters, who pay the police officers’ salaries, insist that the police

are not above the law?

The police responded to the protests with hundreds of tear gas canisters and rubber bullets (not as cuddly as they sound). They wanted the protesters to pay for the fact that police officers faced ANY consequences to their actions. Then buildings started to burn.

There are many questions surrounding the first fire in the AutoZone on Lake and Minnehaha: images of protesters attempting to stop the individual believed to be the arsonist; a striking resemblance between him and a St. Paul police officer; and his rumored retreat to the back door of the 3rd Precinct have questions swirling. But even if the first fire was not set by an agent provocateur, the police antagonism of the protesters is, in my mind, the clear cause of the protest’s transition to riot. When buildings caught on fire, it took a shockingly long time for firefighters to get to the scene. Later, on Thursday night, firefighters never appeared, instead, letting the city burn.

The Minneapolis Police motto is “To Protect with Courage, To Serve with Compassion.” Events of the last week have demonstrated that they are capable of neither. Most of the Minneapolis police force live outside of the city. For example, the officer who murdered George Floyd lives in Oakdale. The police would rather see the city burn than see consequences for fellow officers.

I have always been skeptical of calls to abolish the police, but events of the past week demonstrate to me that there is no other path forward. If the problem was truly a few bad apples, the police department would not have reacted the way it did. Their actions demonstrate that each and every one of them has a guilty conscience. They are violently opposed to consequences for fellow officers because they fear the consequences they may face some day. The whole damn system is guilty as hell.



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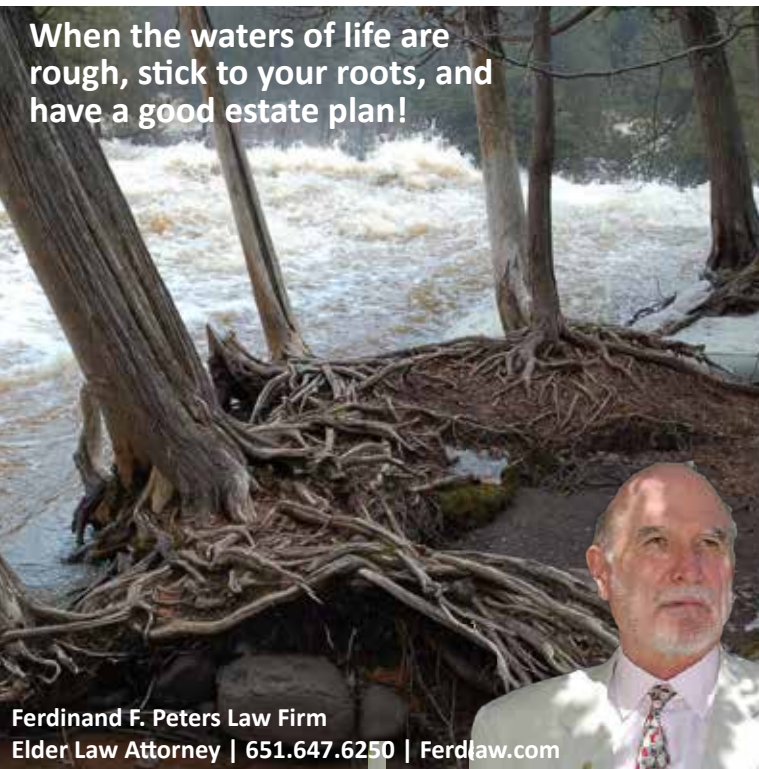
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WE BUILD
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SOUTHSIDE!

This has gotta change!

BY ED FELIEN

The cops in Minneapolis have got to be brought under control.

They must be held to the same standards of behavior as the rest of us.

Our civil rights in Minneapolis are protected by the Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission. If some person, some business, or some institution violates our civil rights we have the right to a hearing before the Civil Rights Commission. The commission can subpoena witnesses and compel them to testify under oath, and they can award damages. Except, if our complaint is against the Minneapolis Police. A complaint against the police goes to die in the Office of Police Conduct Review (OPCR). According to Janet Nye (<https://southsidepride.com/2018/04/16/letter-to-the-editor-do-not-rehire-velma-korbel-to-head-mpls-civil-rights-commission/>), "the OPCR has received over 1,800 civilian complaints. Only 10 cases, a 0.55% rate, have led to discipline. The national average for civilian oversight bodies is 7-8%." The City Council must abolish the OPCR and let all complaints against the police be handled by the Civil Rights Commission.

If you and I were involved in a homicide, the police would immediately separate us and take a statement from each of us. We would have a right to have a lawyer present, but we would remain in custody until we gave a statement. When Officers Dustin Schwarze and

Mark Ringgenberg killed Jamar Clark they were asked to wait together in the back seat of a squad car, and they didn't give a statement for 72 hours. Ditto the officers who killed Terrance Franklin, Thurman Blevins and Travis Jordan. This is something that can change with the directive from the Chief, but it wouldn't hurt to have a resolution from the City Council signed by the mayor articulating that everyone has a right to equal treatment under the law.

There must be a full public accounting of the killings of young black men by white police officers. Did the officers follow protocol and established procedures? We needed the mayor and chief of police to publicly evaluate the actions of those officers. They have refused a public accounting. Now, the governor has announced that the Minnesota Department of Human Rights will look back 10 years to evaluate the conduct of the Minneapolis Police.

And we need the state legislature to overturn the law that prohibits Minneapolis from having a residency requirement for Minneapolis police officers. One way to have community policing is to have our police living in our community.

Jim Davnie, state representative for the Corcoran, Standish-Ericsson, Seward and Longfellow neighborhoods, sent out a note to all neighbor-

hood forums on how the legislature was working on solutions for the problems with the police. I asked him:

Will you support repeal of the law that prohibits the City of Minneapolis from requiring city residency for all city employees?

He wrote back to the forums,

be polite, but a discussion of your perspective in this crisis should be public it seems to me. That's the price of leadership in a representative democracy."

City elections next year will be a referendum on how well the mayor and City Council responded to the challenge of

lem is—noisy neighbors; a couple fighting; an auto accident; shoplifting, etc.

Let's put neighborhood people on the problem.

Isn't it better to have a neighbor knock on your door and tell you you're making too much noise and you are disturbing the peace?

If a couple is fighting, deliver a pizza: "Hello, pizza delivery," and recommend counseling. Share information about the Harriet Tubman Shelter for Women and Families.

If it's an auto accident, send a notary public to take statements, photograph the scene and leave a notarized statement with the people involved and file one with the DMV.

If you have evidence of a kid shoplifting, share pictures with county welfare and the schools. Find the kid, get him an education and vocational training.

Each neighborhood person should get paid \$100 for each hour, or portion thereof, they are dealing with clients.

The 3-percenters are a right-wing militia. They say only 3 percent of the American people actually supported the American Revolution, so they figure 3 percent of the current population could do an armed insurrection and take over the government.

The population of Minneapolis in 2018 was 425,000. 3 percent of that is 12,762. On Monday, May 25, when people heard of George Floyd's murder, 20,000 people marched two and a half miles from 38th and Chicago to Lake and Minnehaha to the 3rd Precinct Station. For three days they laid nonviolent siege to the police station. The mayor decided that protecting the station was not worth a human life, so he ordered the station house abandoned. The protesters burned it to the ground. It was their building. They were not from some distant planet. They were us, the best part of us. They recognized the station house as their property, built with their tax dollars, and they recognized that it had turned against them and was being used by people outside of our community to come in here and kill us. And they burned it to the ground.

They said Basta Ya! Enough! How can that be anything but heroic?

They were also saying, let's start over.



"Of course."

Then, a bit later, probably after some city union reps started talking to him, he wrote back to the forums:

"Ed,

"Sorry, I was moving a bit too fast last night and didn't read your question correctly. I don't particularly care where the nice person who sells me my annual dog license, helps run our water treatment plant, or reviews my construction project for permitting lives. I do care what the relationship is between my community and the people who police it. I think we need to focus again on trying to repeal the pre-emption on residency requirements for police.

"Best to email me directly so that this forum remains informative but doesn't risk becoming an off-putting place for political debate.

"Best,

"Representative Jim Davnie" I responded:

"Thank you very much for responding so quickly and so favorably. As I'm sure you know, your council member, Cam Gordon, has proposed residency for police as part of his immediate and transitional program from where we are to where we need to be.

"I am very concerned that limiting the residency to just police officers would be proved to be discriminatory against a class of employees, and the law would be ruled unconstitutional by the Minnesota Supreme Court. I think the residency requirement would have to apply to all NEW hires by the city in order to be fair and effective. But perhaps I don't understand the legal ramifications. Please explain.

"And I assure you and members of this forum that I will

meaningful change demanded by the protests. Will they take it seriously, or will they give us a lot of warm words and no action? We need everyone involved in the protests to stand up and demand action and accountability from our mayor and council members. The police are accountable to them, and they are accountable to us. If they refuse to hold the police accountable, then we will have to hold them accountable next November.

We could have paid community organizers and paid block club captains who look out for people on the block. We could hire private security firms to patrol businesses at night and report any serious problems to what my Uncle John used to call "The Gun Squad." As long as there are weapons in common use, we will need access to weapons to defend ourselves from crazies. The Gun Squad should be called only in severe emergencies and they must be trained extensively in de-escalation techniques.

We need to restructure our police department (like we need to restructure our society) from the bottom up. The authority to enforce the law must always reside with the people governed by that law. What we have now is top down. That's authoritarian.

The mayor and City Council are playing into this authoritarian tendency by defunding neighborhood organizations and by threatening to eliminate neighborhoods of color by zoning that will allow unlimited gentrification of the inner city.

Imagine a Minneapolis without such a heavy presence of the police.

You would call 911 and tell the operator what the prob-

Bouza, from page 1

fense, make bail and secure a reversal. Later—much later—the cops will be convicted and legally fired.

Leaders will posture and declaim.

Lawyers, family and other members of the litigation industry will garner windfalls.

Talleyrand once said, "It is worse than a tragedy, it is a mistake."

The tergiversations now underway mask some simple truths:

*The cops have their hero in the White House.

*Racism is alive and well and the cops make sure it is.

*Black leaders ride this wave cynically.

*Mayors are clueless.

*No police chief in America could be labeled a reformer—or seek to be. One did exist in NYC, but he lasted 30 months (Murphy, 1970-73).

So, let's get real.

Yes, change will emerge.

Incremental, grudgingly and piecemeal. After all, we have abolished slavery, right.

Ask any black you know—are we a racist society?

I'll rest on the answer.

And who controls and executes the unspoken instruments of racism?

Socrates suggested questionings.

The Bible enjoins us to get wisdom and, with all thy getting, get understanding.

Cassandra had the gift of prophecy and the curse of not being believed.

[Editor's note: Tony Bouza built the 3rd Precinct station house. He consolidated the six former precinct stations to four because, "Buildings eat people. When I was talking to the architect I said, 'I want a light, airy, welcoming building.' And that's what it was." But, he admitted to me, it had become "a place with swastikas on the wall."]

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

Look for the * on the name of an organization that is a POC-owned or immigrant-owned business or POC- or immigrant-oriented and/or led. If we got anything wrong, please email deborama@gmail.com with your corrections.

Restaurant/Café/Pub

Bagu Sushi & Thai*. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, Uber Eats. Patio. Restricted hours.

Bill's Chinese Garden. Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by DoorDash, GrubHub & Seamless, or pickup. Usual hours.

Birchwood cafe. Open with restrictions. Online or phone orders delivered by Toast with curbside pickup. Patio. Usual menu and hours.

Bull's Horn. Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. No delivery. Curbside, counter pickup, patio dining. New hours.

Cafe Racer*. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by business. Restricted hours.

Dragon Wok*. Closed probably temporarily.

El Burrito Mercado*. Closed permanently.

French Meadow. Open with restrictions. Phone for reservations. Delivery by Bite Squad, DoorDash, GrubHub, Postmates. Patio. Usual hours.

Gandhi Mahal*. Closed probably temporarily.

Hamburguesas El Gordo*. Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, Uber Eats. Usual hours.

Heather's. Open with restrictions. Phone for reservations. Delivery by Bite Squad. Usual hours.

Himalayan*. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. Patio. Usual hours.

Hot Indian Foods at MGM*. Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, Chow Now, DoorDash. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

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, DoorDash, GrubHub. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

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

Maria's Café. Open with restrictions. No online ordering. No delivery. Patio. Usual hours.

Merlins Rest. Open with restrictions. Call for reservations. Delivery by Bite Squad. Patio. Restrict-

ed hours except for takeout.

Mi Casa Tacos y Tamales*. Open to public with restrictions. Phone orders. Delivery by Uber Eats. Grab and go. Usual hours. Brand new restaurant!!

Midori's Floating World Café*. Closed probably permanently.

Modern Times Cafe. Closed to public but patio dining or pickup. Very restricted hours and menu. Pay-what-you-can for June. See Facebook page for updates.

Northbound Smokehouse Brewpub. Open with restrictions. Call for reservations or pickup. Patio. Usual hours.

Parkway Pizza. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by business or thru Bite Squad. Patio. Usual hours.

Pizza Luce Seward. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by business. Usual hours. Full menu!

Prieto Taqueria Bar*. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by business, DoorDash, Uber Eats. Restricted hours. New restaurant!

Quang*. Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, DoorDash. Usual hours.

Reverie. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Patio. Restricted hours. Beer and wine available.

Smoke in the Pit*. Open to public

with restrictions. Phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. No curbside pickup. Pre-order grab and go.

Soberfish*. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad & DoorDash. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Pre-order grab and go.

Standish Café. Open to public with restrictions. No delivery. Patio. Restricted hours.

The Howe. Open with restrictions. Delivery by Bite Squad & Uber Eats. Patio. Usual hours.

Trio Plant-based*. Open with restrictions. Full menu. Usual hours.

Bakery/Coffee/Deli

A Baker's Wife. Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Patio. Restricted hours.

A Cupcake Social. Closed permanently.

Butter Bakery. Open to public with restrictions. Online order and delivery by Chow Now. No curbside pickup. Patio. Restricted hours.

C. McGee's. Open to public. Call for information. Delivery by DoorDash. Usual hours.

Café Meow. Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Cat lounge experience by reservation. Still fostering cats—visit cats by video.

Five Watt Coffee. Open to public with restrictions. Call for information. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Patio. Restricted hours.

Key West Bistro. Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, Door Dash, GrubHub & Uber Eats. Patio. Usual hours.

Mel-O-Glaze. Open to public with restrictions. Call for information about delivery or curbside pickup. Usual hours. Grab and go.

Peace Coffee (Minnehaha Ave). Closed to public. Online ordering available--bagged coffee and merch only. Delivery by USPS, etc. No curbside pickup. Also available at many stores.

Riverview Café. Open with restrictions. No online or phone orders. No delivery, no curbside. Patio. Usual hours.

Sisters' Sludge. Open with restrictions. No online or phone orders. Grab and go. Patio. Usual hours.

Sovereign Grounds*. Open to public with restrictions. No online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Grab and go.

Groceries

Aldi Hi-Lake. Closed probably temporarily.

Cub Foods (Minnehaha Mall). Closed probably temporarily.

Cub Foods (46th and Hiawatha). Open with restrictions. Delivery available thru Instacart. Restricted hours.

Kowalski's (Chicago Ave & 55th Street). Open to public. No online and phone orders. Order thru Shipt (subscription only). No curbside pickup. Usual hours.

Longfellow Market. Open to public. No online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Oxendale's Market (Minneapolis). Open to public with restrictions. No online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Usual hours. 7 to 8 a.m. shopping for at-risk customers.

Seward Co-op / Friendship. Open to public with restrictions. No phone orders. No delivery. Check website for online ordering with curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Target (Minnehaha Mall). Closed probably temporarily.

Wedge & Linden Hills Co-op. Open to public with restrictions. No phone orders. Order thru Instacart for delivery. New--curbside pickup available! Usual hours.

Specialty/Convenience

Coastal Seafoods. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Mercato. Usual hours.

Everett's Foods. Open to public. No online or phone orders. No delivery or curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

La Alborada*. Open to public. No online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Produce Exchange at MGM. Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Mercato. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Tare Market. Open to public with restrictions. No online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Usual hours. Bring your shopping bag--zero packaging.

Delivery Services for Groceries, etc.

Instacart. Aldi, Costco, Cub Foods, CVS, Lakewinds Co-op, Lunds&Byerlys, Petco, Staples, Target, Wedge Co-op

Mercato. Coastal Seafoods, Eastside Food Co-op, Produce Exchange @ MGM

See *What's Open*, page 10



Worth Watching

BY ED FELIEN

Last month we introduced a new feature on our website—exclusive interviews with Stephen McClellan and musicians from local rock bands: Yellin’ at McClellan. This month he hosts his old friends, The Lanes: - <https://youtu.be/KkNgAio-so4> Steve: “Mike and Kiki Lane form the core of a band called The Lanes. They are cemented in my memory since the first time I saw them perform. Last year was the last time Terry Katzman recorded an in-store at Hi-Fi Records. They actually did not hook up until recently, meeting for the first time at the old 400 Bar in 2013.”

One of the hundreds of businesses damaged during the fires and looting was the Schooner Tavern on 29th Street and 27th Avenue, one of the favorite places for musicians to play. Steve: “It’s a lot worse than I thought inside - it was looted several times, but there was much more damage

from both fire and then water damage on top of the looters who maliciously smashed the cash registers after not finding cash. Wendy had to find hotels for the residents from the upstairs rooms. Her tenants, for the most part, are living on small pensions or government subsidies and have no local family. The worst nights she could not get any assistance from the fire department or 911. It really sounds like a living hell that both Wendy and John experienced.” The featured artists last month were Sargasso. They’ve come out with a new video: “At Night” by Bob Nordquist. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZPfDwskIZI>

If I could think at night, I would formulate solutions/ Instead of inward spirals of fear/ It isn’t black and white, we all claim the constitution/ Ignore the things we don’t want to hear/ I need someone I respect

to tell me everything is alright/ But the scholars and the poets all cry themselves to sleep at night.

And the politicians say they’re going to do something, but when they’re asked “What?” they say, “I don’t know.” And the beat goes on.

Dave Tilsen wrote: “In the days following the police murder of George Floyd, the elected and appointed officials of St. Paul, Minneapolis and Minnesota used fearmongering, hyperbole and misinformation to terrify their citizens and get them to accept the National Guard and virtual martial law.”

Dave did this collage of local newscasts: <https://youtu.be/yKJFKf8wUC4>

If you want more, Debra Keefer Ramage took these 15 pictures of Lake and Minnehaha on May 30: <https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10158596251241204&set=a.10158596250476204&type=3&theater>

And Nathan House, our new



(Photo/Nathan House)

production assistant for New Media, took these photos of the May 28th demo downtown:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1w-pa6pFIOB-Vxy31GGTXgFmxoVJ25mNgG>

And, now for something completely different.

How would you like to make a low-fat burrito bowl? Jocelyn Graef assures us it’s fast, easy and vegan. Delicious, healthy and simple. No oil, sugar or salt. www.youtube.com/watch?v=q29V-GmQ6EQ

The Minneapolis Institute of Arts writes, “While our galleries remain dark, you can visit us virtually. Enjoy this series

of short videos highlighting artworks featured in the exhibition “When Home Won’t Let You Stay: Art and Migration,” narrated by Gabriel Ritter, Mia’s head curator of contemporary art. Click here to watch them all: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/art-migration>

Does all this make you nostalgic for the ’70s and anti-war demonstrations? Here is a 22-minute fragment from a documentary I produced for Experimental College in 1972:

www.youtube.com/results?search_query=experimental+college+1972+ed+feliel

And if you need something uplifting and hopeful, check out this video of Sam Cook’s “A Change Gonna Come Someday”:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=wEBlaMOMKV4



Michelle Obama’s school nutrition standards upheld

It’s a rather fantastic idea, but then there is much fantasy about what the government does. It seems our president has rolled back legislation having to do with school nutrition. A federal court has struck down a 2018 Department of Agriculture rule that reversed nutrition standards in school meal programs once championed by Michelle Obama. The school lunch and breakfast program is only the latest in a series of Trump administration regulations that have been struck down for violating the legal procedures that Congress set out for approving new legislation.

The court concluded that the legislation was not inconsistent with federal law. It does not reflect unexplained and arbitrary decision-making. It does not represent an unacknowledged change in position and the U.S. Department of Agriculture appropriately responded to public comments,

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

ruled U.S. District Judge George J. Hazel.

The food items in question are sodium and whole grains. Karianne Jones, one of the lead legislators for Democracy Forward, a liberal legal group that represents the Center for Science in the Public Interest and Healthy School Fund Maryland, explained, “What the Trump administration has done time and again is to roll back federal policies that are designed to ensure that American children can access food.”

However, it appears that Mr. Trump’s actions to weaken legislation ensuring school children sufficient food, including fruits and vegetables, have been to no avail and existing standards for such will remain in place. Hurrah hurrah!!

Weapons are big business

Year after year, American arms have been used against the Yemeni in their war with Saudi Arabia. Three times attempts were made to cut off the necessary funding of \$3 billion to the Raytheon corporation for arms sales.

But lobbyists with the support of President Trump finally succeeded in pushing the legislation through the Congress.

Lawmakers from both par-

ties have condemned the continued arms sales, expressing both humanitarian and security concerns. Senator Mike Lee, Republican from Utah, has publicly criticized the administration’s approach to the conflict, saying, “We don’t even know how these arms are being used ... This war was never authorized by Congress.”

Tom Malinofsky, a New Jersey Democrat and former head of the State Department’s Human Rights Bureau, commented about President Trump:

“He seems to see foreign policy in the way he viewed the real estate business. Every country is like a company and our job is to make money.”

The rich get richer

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If you’re a member of that ultra-rich group, you are probably dubious about the source of this information. It follows. INFORMATION SOURCE

—EPI analysis of unpublished Total Economic Productivity data from Bureau of Labor Sta-

tistics (BLS) Labor Productivity and Costs program;

—Wage data from the BLS Current Employment Statistics;

—BLS Employment Cost Trend;

—BLS Consumer Price Index;

—Bureau of Economic Analysis National Income and Product Accounts.

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Minneapolis City of Lakes

Friendship Academy of the Arts grade school to expand

BY STEPHANIE FOX

The original plans were for a huge ceremony and celebration to mark the literal groundbreaking at the Friendship Academy of the Arts site in March. But the lockdown caused by the COVID-19 virus made large gatherings and public celebrations impossible. Instead, the groundbreaking ceremony on April 17 was virtual.

Students, parents, faculty and administrators watched live-streamed ceremonies, sharing photos of themselves in artistic hardhats and shovels. The ceremony went live on Facebook and YouTube with

achievement gaps. Minnesota has some of the worst educational achievement gaps among low-income and minority students in the country and Friendship Academy is doing its part to change that.

Friendship Academy combines arts education with academics, and, said Russell, “we are doing it at a higher level to give the students involvement in the community and give them a chance to explore their artistic ability. Our model educates the whole child.”

Instead of separating subjects into isolated classes like math, social studies, science and English, the school’s philosophy is that while creating

learning about parts of flowers, what flowers need to grow, and how to combine flowers to create a flower arrangement, combining arts and biology.

Guest artists include not just experts in the fine arts but members of the Black Data Processing Associates to introduce students to hands-on computer technology. Students can learn safety topics from experts from the Red Cross.

“We believe every child is an artist and that art is not just drawing, it’s innovating and creating,” said Russell. “These skills will allow these students to grow into adults who can participate successfully in the economy.”



Dr. Charvez Russell gives welcome to FAA virtual groundbreaking.

more than 1,100 people taking part.

The new building, at 3320 41st Ave. S., will be home to students in the third grade through the newly added eighth grade. Kindergarten through second graders will remain in the original building during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Right now, the school has 165 students, but next year the hope is to more than double student population. “We hope to increase the number of students to 350,” said Executive Director Charvez Russell. The school is currently taking applications for the fall.

Why all the excitement over a new school building?

In 2016 Friendship Academy was named a national Blue Ribbon school, the only school in Minneapolis to ever receive that honor, said Russell. The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools based on academic excellence and success in helping close

art, students will remember what they have learned if they have created something while learning. The idea is to generate students who are grounded in who they are as artists as well as academically.

The arts at Friendship Academy include more than just visual arts. “It’s not just drawing,” said Russell. The programs include integrating arts such as dance, music and creative writing incorporated into more academic subjects. Arts as diverse as yoga, African drumming and line dancing are part of the curriculum. The school had planned to create a chess club but that was interrupted, at least until next year, by the COVID-19 school shutdown.

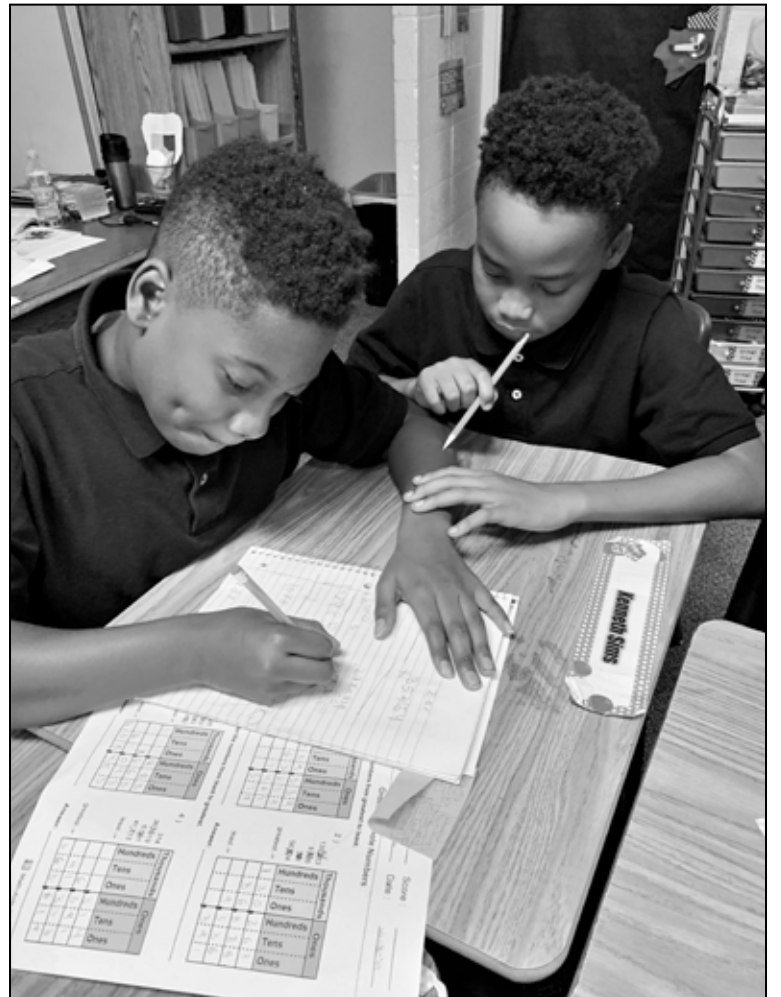
Teachers and visiting artists plan ways to use arts to teach standard academic subjects such as reading, math, science, social studies and physical education.

The Flowers for Kids program, for example, combines

The school was not always the glowing example for academics that it is today. Only a decade ago, the school was an underachiever compared to others in Minneapolis.

In 2009, the state passed legislation to increase accountability in charter schools like Friendship, so the school’s board of directors came up with a 12-point plan. Problems persisted, but soon, with more changes, including projects to get parents more involved and requiring student time in the new computer lab, the students began to rise above and shine.

The biggest change was to use an education strategy called differentiation. With this technique, teachers tailor instruction to meet the unique needs of specific students with the understanding that no two students learn in the same way. This method of understanding and identifying the needs and interests of each child and then paying attention to each student’s growth became the key



Teamwork: two fourth-grade boys work together at Friendship Academy of the Arts.

to student success and the success of the school.

The method is popular not just with students but with teachers as well. Of the 18 teachers at the school during the 2019-2020 school year, 90 percent are staying on for next year. Members of the student body and the staff see Friendship Academy as more than just a school; it’s a tight-knit community as well. “Schools and teachers need to know what each kid needs instead of a ‘you get it or you don’t’ attitude,” Russell said.

“But,” he said, “it’s not one answer, it’s a combination of a lot of things. That includes relationships and connecting with families. It means paying attention to individual child data.”

And, with minority students, there are sometimes cultural miscommunications with how students communicate with authority figures, he said. “What we offer helps close that gap. The first thing is to instill confidence in students, teaching them that you are who you are. I see this as one of the biggest things.”

In 2020, the student body was 96 percent African American but represented 20 countries, said Russell. Next year, the school is prepared to welcome a more diverse student

population. “Every child that comes in, we want to make sure they feel great about themselves,” he said. “Our mission is to educate each student to be proud of who they are as we bring on a more diverse community.”

The school is looking to the community for volunteers as reading tutors for next school year through Reading Corp. To volunteer, apply by July 27 at readingandmath.net.

The school is also currently taking student applications with a deadline at the end of August, but Russell said the school “will continue to accept applications until we don’t have room.” Last year, there were 90 to 100 names on the waiting list.

While there is no entry exam and the school accepts anyone who applies, they do an initial assessment to see where to put new scholars, Russell said. “We feel confident that next year, our 20th year, we will continue to deliver high quality education.”

Parents wanting to enroll their kindergarten through eighth grade students for the 2020-2021 school year should contact Friendship Academy for the Arts at school@friendshipacademy.org or 612-879-6703.

SUMMER 2020 ON NICOLLET AVE.

How has Nicollet Avenue fared so far?

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

On May 30, the fifth night of all-night protests and associated property damage responding to the racist murder by police of George Floyd, attention turned to the 5th Precinct police station at Nicollet Avenue South and 31st Street. The 3rd Precinct

ignited uprisings from Brooklyn Park to Brooklyn, from Toronto to London, Hong Kong, Manila, and Canberra.

There was a curfew in effect, but it was widely ignored. There were National Guard soldiers on the streets of Minneapolis, but as Governor Walz said, not enough. Police stood on the roof,

survived the night.

Some nearby buildings were not so lucky. Among those within a few blocks totally destroyed by fire that night were Quality Tobacco, a Subway, an O'Reilly Auto Parts store, a Family Dollar, and the U.S. Post Office for 55408. Others severely or noticeably damaged included a gas station, a Wells Fargo Bank, a CVS Pharmacy, a Dollar Tree, an Office Depot, and a discount department store—Kmart.

The story of Kmart is interesting. The store has been at the heart of neighborhood political strife since it was first built, bisecting Nicollet Avenue at Lake Street, with its vast and mostly empty parking lot. People wrongly assumed from the lack of cars that the store was unpopular. Actually, it was very popular with the car-lacking poor and/or urbanite, who walked, biked and took the bus in droves to shop there. (For more details about the complex Kmart situation, see Southside Pride's article of four years ago—[https://southsidepride.com/2016/06/14/nicollet-](https://southsidepride.com/2016/06/14/nicollet-avenue-better-without-the-Kmart-parking-lot/)



Protestors, defying curfew, march down Lake Street toward the 5th precinct. (Photo/CBS)

station had been abandoned by police two nights prior, and burned to the ground, the photo op that circled the globe and

and fired “non-lethal” weaponry on the crowd, but did not abandon the station as happened in the 3rd. So, the precinct station



Nicollet Ace Hardware was boarded but open for business.

let-avenue-better-without-the-Kmart-parking-lot/.)

Kmart was already effectively under contract of sale to the city, slated for demolition later this year. They were holding clearance sales; the Lake Street store was its last successful store, and its closure will probably mean the end of Kmart. COVID-19 had already complicated things, and store managers were looking forward to the easing of stay-home orders in just a few days. Looters took that thorny decision out of their hands; after a lot of the merchandise was taken, someone turned on the sprinkler system. Kmart executives decided over the weekend that all they would do was a cleanup (with help from neighborhood volunteers) and close the store early.

As we have done in previous focus articles, we'll take a look at a variety of Nicollet Avenue and nearby businesses and orga-

nizations, and see how they have managed with the disruptions of the COVID pandemic and the George Floyd uprising. We'll start with Nicollet Mall and Eat Street, and move south.

Downtown has been affect-



Kmart just before it was looted.

ed in a major way by both disruptions. COVID cleared out the skyways as most office workers began working from home or were furloughed. The Nicollet Mall Farmers Market was one of the few in town to be can-

See Nicollet Ave., page 8



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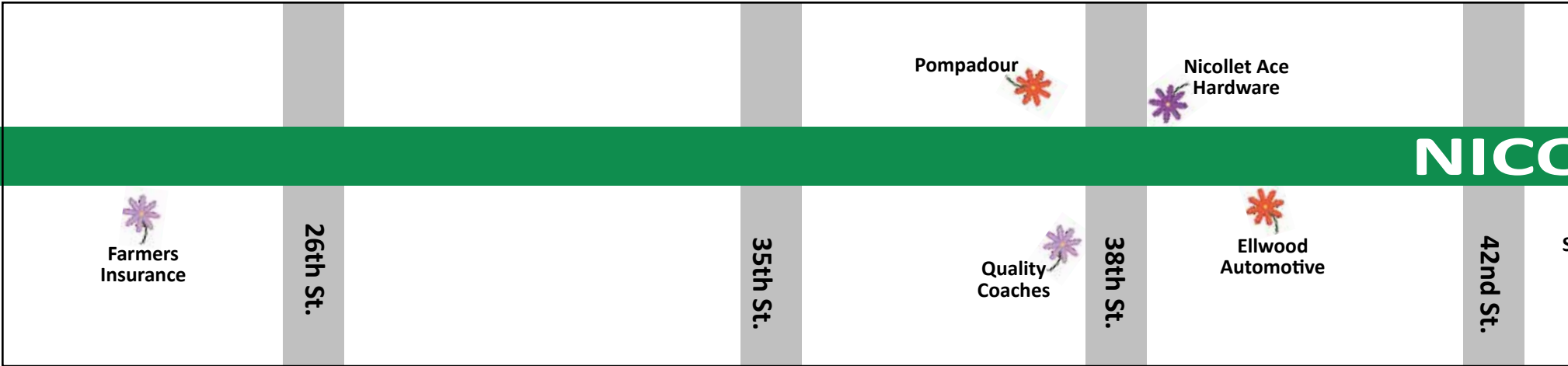


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SUMMER 2020 ON

Nicollet Ave., from page 1

celebrated for fear of crowding and contagion. As homelessness has risen with the oncoming economic depression, and homeless shelters came under concern as potential hotspots, several hotels have been temporarily converted into shelters for homeless people at risk. The Central Library, at the very north end of Nicollet Mall, used to be the homeless community's social center, napping spot, hygiene

stop and internet cafe, but it's been closed for months now. Downtown, Nicollet Mall and nearby Hennepin Avenue, have seen a lot of protest action too, mostly but not totally peaceful. Eat Street actually fared pretty well. A lot of the restaurants there did nearly half their pre-COVID business in takeout and delivery, so it wasn't a major shift. Many of the smaller ones are mostly family-owned, so had more flexibility in what they decided to do in re-



Remodeled in late 2019, Cub Foods has a futuristic facade.

sponse to the stay-at-home order. Some businesses were targeted by looters, most sustaining only minor damage, the overwhelming majority owned by POC or immigrants. These included restaurants and coffee bars—the Nicollet Diner, Icehouse, Peninsula, Rainbow Chinese, Tibet Kitchen, Ichidodo Ramen, Christos, Black Sheep Pizza, Marhaba Grill, Glam Doll Donuts, Spyhouse Coffee, and a dozen more. It includes about a

dozen small markets—Halal, Oriental, Latinx and liquor stores. Additionally, it includes non-food businesses, such as at least three cellphone stores, a record store, an audiologist, two jewelers, two child care centers, a Family Dollar, several hair salons, a transitional housing residence, a theater and various miscellaneous businesses. St. Stephen's Human Services, its HQ located a few blocks off of Nicollet Avenue, is on the front-

lines of COVID-19 by virtue of being on the frontlines of homelessness. Right at the start of the stay-at-home order, state officials recognized how problematic it would be for homeless individuals and families. As many homeless people are also disabled, elderly or otherwise at risk, it was more than problematic. An early adaptation was to rent out hotel rooms in empty hotels to house at-risk people in better isolation than they could have in a crowded shelter. But that still left a lot of younger, relatively healthy people who didn't want to get sick in a shelter. So, the encampments restarted—and grew.

In the very height of the protests against police brutality in late May, someone—county, city, it's not clear—made the decision to close the Hiawatha encampment, which had grown to around 100 people and was only blocks from the area experiencing the greatest arson—Lake and Minnehaha, 27th Avenue, and the Minnehaha Mall and Hi-Lake shopping centers. And then another

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Jay Petersen

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Haag
(see page
15)

66th St.

70th St.

NICOLLET AVE.

wrinkle was created. A few folks recently at the camp managed to secure rooms at the Sheraton Midtown on Chicago Avenue, adjacent to the Midtown Global Market. Word got out and homeless people flocked to the Sheraton, along with mutual aid providers bearing food and hand sanitizers, and St. Stephens Street Outreach, bearing Narcan, resources and expertise. The county began paying the hotel owner and people kept coming. The so-called Sanctuary Hotel was deemed a new Occupy/Commune/paradise for homeless people—until it wasn't. Following an overdose on the premises, the over 200 homeless residents were evicted on June 9, into the (not literal) arms of St. Stephen's and other street social workers. (A lot of them are now in Powderhorn Park. More on that elsewhere.)

Once you get south of 31st Street, the scene on Nicollet is less ravaged. There were a number of businesses vandalized all the way to the border with and into Richfield, but sporadic and not major damage. Now that things are cau-



Kingfield Farmers Market

tiously reopening, it's possible to go shopping, and to order food on-site, although in many instances only the patio has opened for dining. One way it has been suggested to show solidarity with POC communities is to patronize their businesses. Or many businesses that are not POC-owned are giving profits to BLM-aligned organizations or mutual aid networks.

The Butter Bakery Cafe at 3700 Nicollet Ave., located in the ground floor of a housing project for youth at risk of homelessness, is a certified B corporation that was already giving a lot. During the lockdown, they were delivery-only for a while, then set up a take-out system. Now their patio is open and they are almost back to normal. Another popular

place is Hola Arepa at 3501 Nicollet Ave. Takeout only until June 17, they are now open for patio dining, with reservations via their website. A great minority-owned business a few blocks from Nicollet on Lake, Trio Plant-based is open for business and had earlier been feeding both frontline workers and protestors for free.

For other shopping, there are three good hardware stores on Nicollet—Fratellone's at 1804, Nicollet Ace Hardware at 3805,

and Diamond Lake at 5425. Also, with the many nearby grocery stores closed, it's good to remember there's a large Cub Foods with a complete pharmacy at 5937 Nicollet Ave. Final mention is for the excellent Kingfield Farmers Market at 4310 Nicollet Ave. on Sundays, starting at 8:30 a.m. You can get more information and sign up for their weekly newsletter at www.neighborhoodrootsmn.org/about/kingfield.

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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

What's Open, from page 4

Postmates. A Baker's Wife, Lunds&Byerlys Deli, Vegan East

Shipt. Subscription only. CVS, Fresh Thyme, Kowalski's, Office Max, Petco

Farmers Markets

Kingfield Farmers Market. Sunday. Open with restrictions. Usual hours.

Midtown Farmers Market. Saturday and Tuesday. Open with restrictions. Online ordering available. No delivery. Possible curbside pickup. Usual hours.

Mill City Indoor Saturday. Open to public with restrictions. Online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Minneapolis Farmers Market Summer season. Open to public. No online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Pharmacy

CVS in Target (Minnehaha

Mall). Closed probably temporarily.

Present Moment*. Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Call for delivery. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Ritual Aromatherapy at MGM. Closed to public. Online and phone orders. No delivery. Curbside pickup. Usual hours. Call to order.

Seward Pharmacy (next to Briva Health). Closed probably temporarily.

Walgreens (Nicollet Mall). Open to public. Usual hours.

Walgreens (31st Ave & Lake Street). Closed probably temporarily.

Walgreens (Chicago Ave at 43rd Street). Closed probably temporarily.

Retail

Dead Media. Closed permanently. Online sales only.

Dreamhaven Books. Closed to public. Online and phone orders.

Delivery by USPS. Restricted hours. Not buying books.

Eastlake Craft Brewery at MGM. Open to public. Online and phone orders. Call about delivery. Curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Electric Fetus. Open with restrictions. Online orders, delivery USPS available. Restricted hours.

Elevated Beer Wine & Spirits. Open to public with restrictions. Call about ordering and delivery. Restricted hours.

Groovy's. Open to public with restrictions. Usual hours.

Ingebretsen's. Closed probably temporarily.

Irreverent Bookworm. Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by USPS. Check website for curbside pickup. Restricted hours. BUYING BOOKS now – see website.

Mother Earth Gardens. Open with restrictions. Online ordering. Curbside pickup. Usual hours.

McDonald's Liquor and Wine. Open to public with restrictions. Call about ordering, delivery and curbside pickup. Usual hours.

Moon Palace Books. Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by USPS. Call about curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Not buying books.

Once Upon A Crime. Open with restrictions. Online orders, delivery by USPS available. Restricted hours. See website for more.

Uncle Hugo's & Uncle Edgar's. Closed probably temporarily. Online sales not available (inventory destroyed by fire).

Service

Cedar Ave Repair. Open with restrictions. Usual hours. Call before visit.

Chicago-Lake Laundromat. Closed probably temporarily.

Clyde's Service Auto Repair. Open with restrictions. Usual hours. Call before visit.

Pedego. Open to public with restrictions. Phone orders. Delivery available. Call for curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Open for all services but call first.

Riverstone Salon and Wellness Center. Open with restrictions by appointment. Usual hours.

The Beauty Room. Open with restrictions by appointment. Usual hours.

The Hub Bike Co-operative (Minnehaha). Closed temporarily.

Health Care

HCMC E Lake St Clinic. Closed probably temporarily.

CUHCC & CUHCC Dental. By appointment. Usual hours.

East Lake Animal Clinic. By appointment. Usual hours.

HCMC Whittier Clinic. By appointment. Usual hours. COVID-19 testing available.

Minnehaha Animal Hospital. By appointment. Usual hours.

Nokomis Pet Clinic. By appointment. Usual hours.

People's Center. Open to public with restrictions. Wellness Hub closed. Online appointment requests available. Telehealth available.

People's Center Dental Clinic (Minnehaha). Open with restrictions. Usual hours.

Pet Doctor (Franklin Ave). By appointment. Usual hours.

Spinal Frontier. By appointment. Phone orders. Restricted hours. Chiro care and wellness products.

Nonprofit

Boys and Girls Clubs of TC. Open to public with restrictions. Restricted hours. Only open for food distribution.

Briva Health. Closed to the public. Health care navigation by phone. Usual hours.

Macedonia Baptist Church. Open to public with restrictions. Restricted hours. Call for more information. Only open for food distribution.

People and Pets Together. Open to public with restrictions. No delivery or curbside pickup. Usual hours. Pet food shelf—1 client at a time.

Sabathani Food Shelf. Open to public with restrictions. Usual hours. Only open for food distribution.

Simpson Food Pantry. Open to public. Restricted hours. Outdoor weather permitting.

Soup for You Café at Bethany Lutheran Church (Franklin). Closed to public. Distributing bag lunches at the side door Monday thru Friday, 11 a.m. until gone.

Walker Church. Open to public with restrictions. Hot meals, groceries, diapers, hygiene supplies. Email office@walkerchurch.org or message Facebook page for information. Tuesdays only. Only open for food distribution.

Walk-in Counseling. Closed to public. Call for Phone or Zoom counseling. Usual hours.

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[See <https://twin-cities-mutual-aid.org/> for complete list.]

American Indian Cultural Corridor/NACDI*. Food, diapers, hygiene supplies. 1 to 3 p.m. daily outside at 1414 Franklin Ave.

Blaisdell YMCA. Food, diapers, hygiene supplies.

Café Racer*. Breaking Bread Free meals back and increased as community needs.

Du Nord Craft Spirits*. Food, diapers, hygiene supplies.

El Colegio*. Food, diapers, hygiene supplies. 1 to 5 p.m. daily.

Rep. Ilhan Omar's Office (Franklin). Food, diapers, hygiene supplies. Noon to 6 p.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Food, diapers, hygiene supplies. 1 to 5 p.m. daily.

Modern Times Cafe. For June: Pay what you can-- brunch, coffee, tea. Patio. Free food delivered by volunteers for those in need.

Pimento Kitchen*. Temporarily a full-time food relief organization. Call for more information.

Twin Cities DSA Food Justice. Food, diapers, hygiene supplies. Sunday, Wednesday & Friday. 1-5 p.m. Moon Palace parking lot.

YWCA Midtown. Food, diapers, hygiene supplies.



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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

EcoSpirits Summer Camp

“The Birds and the Bees, the Butterflies and the Bats”
Thursday, June 25, 7 p.m.
A multi-generational virtual experience on Zoom, sponsored by St. Joan of Arc Catholic Community.
EcoSpirits summer Zoom series on Thursday, June 25 will focus on our friends the bats—the threats they face, the good they do, and how you can live more “bat friendly”! RSVP to 63jmdiekmann@q.com. All are welcome!

Sewing Masks for Hospitals

Can you sew?
One critical need that has emerged recently is the need for more personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks and gowns, in hospitals and other health care settings. In recent days, doctors and nurses have warned that they are running out of equipment to stay safe as they diagnose and treat patients. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Allina Health, along with several community partners, have launched a statewide volunteer effort, calling for people to sew and donate masks for doctors, nurses, and other medical staff. The CDC compliant DIY mask pattern, material list, and directions can be found here: <https://www.sewgoodgoods.org/face-mask-covid-19>. Can't sew, but still want to help? If you don't sew but would like to support the effort, donations are welcome to Sew Good Goods through GiveMN at <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Sewgoodgoods>. All money received will be used for supplies to support the community through this COVID-19 pandemic. If you are a Minnesota health system that would like to receive handmade masks or a local fabric store that would like to supply fabric to volunteers, contact Susan Schuster at susan.schuster@bluecrossmn.com to be added to the list. Health care systems accepting masks are asked to provide their own drop-off sites and make sure their facility has a process for accepting and sanitizing masks. Any surplus masks will be made available to other organizations in need.

When Home Won't Let You Stay: Art and Migration

Minneapolis Institute of Art
Bringing an intimate virtual experience of Mia's special exhibition, right to you. We'll always be here for you—as a place for creativity, healing, and reflection. While our galleries remain dark, you can visit us virtually. Enjoy this series of short videos highlighting artworks featured in the exhibition “When Home Won't Let You Stay: Art and Migration,” narrated by Gabriel Ritter, Mia's head curator for contemporary art. You can watch them all here: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/art-migration>

Walker at Home Walker Art Center

While our galleries are closed, we still want you to connect with art, artists, and the community you love. The Walker homepage at <https://walkerart.org/> is your source for videos, articles, and activities to help you stay engaged. Check out the Walker's downloadable art activities for kids (or adults!) and learn about upcoming live online events. Plus, you can still visit the Sculpture Garden! Although the Walker building is temporarily closed, the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden offers a place to enjoy art in a beautiful landscape. The Garden is open regular hours, from 6 a.m. to midnight every day. For your safety, please use social distancing practices and maintain a minimum of 6 feet from others while visiting the Garden.

Riverview at Home: Virtual Cinema

Help support the Riverview Theater and catch a new independent movie at home! If you are interested in supporting us during these hard times while watching great cinema, here's your chance! A few cinema distributors have created “Virtual Screenings” of some independent films we might typically show. You are able to watch these films at home, and it provides economic support for independent theaters like the Riverview. By using the links we provide, you will be supporting us. For each film you rent, a percentage of the cost will go directly to the Riverview. Some of the films we are now offering in our Virtual Cinema include: “The Hottest August,” a documentary film about climate change, disguised as a portrait of collective anxiety; “Beyond the Visible”—In her Stockholm studio, Hilma af Klint created 193 breathtaking abstract paintings long before Kandinsky (the supposed pioneer of abstract art) ever dreamed of it; “Once Were Brothers: Robbie Robertson and The Band”—This film is a confessional, cautionary, and occasionally humorous tale of Robertson's young life and the creation of one of the most enduring groups in the history of popular music, The Band; and many more. A complete list of films we are currently offering is available online at <http://www.riverviewtheater.com>, check back soon for more movies!

Stay Home and Make Art!

Let's all do our part to help flatten the curve. Collaborate with Twin Cities artist Amy Rice! Visit her Flickr album to download Amy Rice original coloring pages, fun for kids and adults of all ages. https://www.flickr.com/photos/amy_rice/sets/

What Matters Most with Milkweed Editions

Introducing “What Matters Most,” a new video series by

and for the Milkweed community. Each week, one of our authors will reflect on daily nourishments in their lives — people, objects, traditions, places, plants, and more—that bring them strength, joy, solace, or peace. “What Matters Most” was born out of our collective acknowledgment that times of uncertainty cement the importance of the things—big and small—that give our lives meaning. For us at Milkweed, it is our community of readers, authors and donors that matters most and who seed the publishing of literature that changes lives. While we are physically distant, it is our hope that through these videos, you'll feel more connected—to our authors, to Milkweed, and to each other.

In the first installment of “What Matters Most,” poet Adam Clay greets us from his front porch and shares how he centers himself through the simple act of reading a few beautiful lines from a poem. Adam is the author of “To Make Room for the Sea,” “Stranger,” and “A Hotel Lobby at the Edge of the World.” View this video and others in the series at <https://milkweed.org/blog/what-matters-most-ep-1-adam-clay>.

The Joy of Painting with Bob Ross

On Bob Ross's YouTube page, you can find all 31 seasons of his show, encompassing a total of 403 roughly 30-minute episodes. And every single episode is available to watch for FREE online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/BobRossInc/playlists>. Each episode features Bob Ross painting a different nature scene, while he goes over the techniques and materials you need to paint right along with him. Dig out your old art supplies and paint some “happy little trees” with Bob!

Quarantine Dance Specials 2020

With powwows canceled, hundreds of indigenous dancers are sharing videos of themselves dancing in isolation on the Quarantine Dance Specials 2020 Facebook page. When the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of powwows across North America, Tiny Rosales, an indigenous dancer living in California, knew she needed to do something to keep people dancing. So she started the Facebook group, where people from around the world can post videos of themselves dancing in isolation. The group hosts regular competitions with prize money attached, but some people just use the group as a platform to show others they are still dancing in spite of tough times. So far, hundreds of people have posted video clips on the Quarantine Dance Specials Facebook group. Rosales said it's “beautiful” to see so many people dancing. “I think it's important we continue dancing not only for mental health, but

for the healing prayers,” she said. “When we dance, it's a beautiful feeling. Only a dancer knows that feeling and there's another place we go to (when we dance).” Visit the site at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/203363744333591/>

Open Culture

Open Culture scours the web for the best educational media. We find the free courses and audio books you need, the language lessons and educational videos you want, and plenty of enlightenment in between. Visit www.openculture.com for ebooks, online courses, MOOCs, language lessons, movies, concerts, plays, business courses, audio recordings, great lectures, celebrity reading lists, and more—all for FREE.

Coming to the Table (CTTT) Third Saturdays

10:30 a.m. to noon

MEETING ONLINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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

3rd Annual Spring Floral Exhibition 2020

Studio Pintura
EXHIBITION NOW VIRTUAL

Selected artworks by local and nationally known artists. Juried by Steven J. Levin.

To browse all the works, including those that could not be delivered to the gallery, please visit StudioPintura.com. Videos also available!

A complete Studio Pintura Fine Art Gallery tour: <https://youtu.be/KPAhH7k4isY>

Our guest juror, Steven J. Levin, announcing the awards and giving some commentary on the pieces and his process: https://youtu.be/_65J3nWVBSY

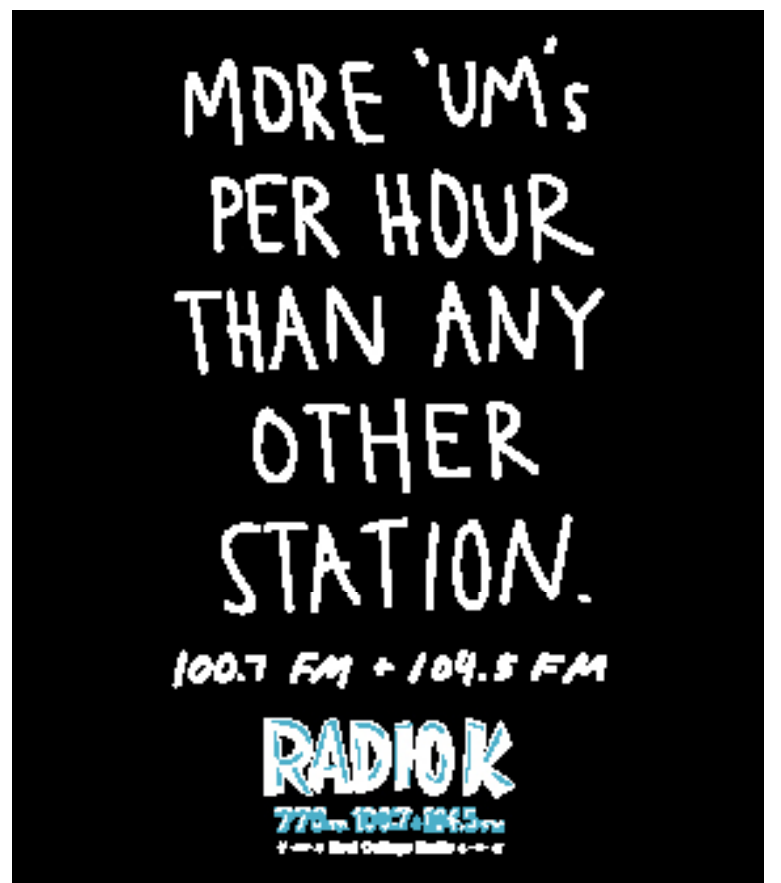
Artist Pandemic Perseverance Sale!

The Eagan Art Festival is featuring our 2020 artists in an online slideshow connected to their web platforms! This feature will go live June 24, 2020 and be available through July 2020. Whether you had a plan to buy art for your home, or are looking for a gift, you will be able to browse the slideshow and purchase from a favorite artist. www.eaganartfestival.org
This virtual shopping experience will also feature links from some of our festival entertainers.

If you are looking for new ways to stay connected to your community we invite you to get involved in virtual volunteerism through committee and board service with us. Please reach out to director@eaganartfestival.org anytime.

We plan to be part of Art Block in September 2020 and the festival will return June 26 & 27, 2021! Stay tuned to the next steps by watching the website and following us on social media. @artineagan on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

“This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.”



EVENTS AND
ONLINE RESOURCES

Community Table Open!
Daily, 2 to 7 p.m.
Calvary Lutheran Church
3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.
Calvary Lutheran provides a welcoming community to the many people who are coming to pay their respects at the George Floyd memorial on 38th and Chicago. Our Community Table is right on the corner of 39th and Chicago Ave. S. in Minneapolis. We offer free water, Gatorade, snacks and masks. People also have an opportunity to make signs and use chalk for sidewalk statements. Calvary’s volunteer hosts wear masks and practice safe distancing while being socially engaged with the community. Please visit our website at www.clchurch.org for more information.

Masks and gift cards will help refugee families
Minnesota Council of Churches
122 W. Franklin Ave. Ste. 100
Mpls. 55404
As MCC Refugee Services continues our outreach work to educate and support refugee families during the coronavirus pandemic, two requests are surfacing over and over again: cloth face masks and Cub grocery gift cards. We have distributed over 60 donated masks and would like 50 more to share with refugee community members. Grocery gift cards can be mailed to our office and will be distributed directly to our most vulnerable clients. For more information, please email rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org. Thank you for caring for your neighbors during these days!

Five short courses on Racial Reconciliation
The Episcopal Church in Minnesota’s School for Formation invites you to dive into five self-paced online short courses aimed at helping you go deeper into this year’s mission opportunity of Racial Reconciliation. These courses are led by nationally-recognized teachers, professors and priests. Each course

consists of short readings, videos and online quizzes and discussions—you can get through everything in about 45 minutes. You can learn online individually, or gather a group to watch and discuss together. The courses are free to members of Episcopal Church in Minnesota faith communities, and available at low cost to the public (\$10-15). For more information and to register, see <https://www.churchnext.tv/library/by/category/social-justice/>.

Bahá’i Center of Minneapolis
3644 Chicago Ave., Mpls.
Socially distanced devotions, Sundays, 10 to 11 a.m. Please visit the Bahá’i community of Minneapolis website at <https://www.minneapolisbahai.org/>. Here you will find information about upcoming and past Holy Day celebrations, as well as news, announcements and information.

Catholic Church of the Holy Name
3637 11th Ave. S., Mpls.
Please check our website for updates on Mass times. Visit <https://www.churchoftheholyname.org/> 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.
In-person Masses with limited seating on Saturdays at 5 p.m. and Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and noon. Please see our website at <https://www.saintalbert-thegreat.org/> for more details. Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass also streamed on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StAlbertTheGreatMpls/>

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church
3430 E. 51st St., Mpls.
www.faithlutheranmpls.org
Sunday Worship (with safety measures in place) at 9 a.m. Those who are over 65, have pre-existing conditions, or live in proximity to at-risk demographics are encouraged to remain home. We will continue to post videos online for Sunday morning for those who can’t join us yet on YouTube and Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/felcmpls/>.
Sunday morning Bible class 10 a.m.; midweek Bible class Wednesdays 10 a.m.; masks and social spacing required for worship and Bible class. NA groups Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. and Fridays 7 p.m.

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

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS
1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., Mpls.
Drive-In Services now available on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the parking lot on the 1620 AM channel. Sunday Worship recordings online at 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

Living Spirit United Methodist Church
4501 Bloomington Ave., Mpls.
Worship with us from home! Worship is currently being streamed on Facebook Live at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings at <https://www.facebook.com/LivingSpiritMN/>. The weekly bulletin, children’s faith formation packet, and more will be posted to our website; that’s also where you can find resources and worship recordings from previous weeks. 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. Please visit us at <https://www.messiah-lutheranmpls.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.

Minnehaha United Methodist Church
3701 E. 50th St., Mpls.
Our building is closed, so we moved online. Join us! Visit our website at <http://www.minnehaha.org/> for links to online Sunday worship and Taizé services, bulletins and newsletters, and weekly songs and stories for kids. Subscribe to our YouTube channel, where services are close-captioned.

Mt. 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! <https://www.mtzioninmpls.org/>

New Creation Baptist Church
1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.
Watch and interact with our livestream prerecorded services on Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NewCreationBaptistChurch/> and visit our website at <https://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.org/>

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church
5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.
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 access our virtual offerings of Sunday services, contemplative prayer, daily meditations, musical moments, and more.

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/StJoan-Mpls/>.

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. Beginning June 7, Saint Mark’s will live-stream Sunday morning worship online at

10:30 a.m. Visit our website at <https://ourcathedral.org/> for links to Daily Practices and past livestreams and video archives.

Temple of Aaron
616 Mississippi River Blvd. S., St. Paul
Please visit our Facebook page for updates on the synagogue’s programs, schools, and services. <https://www.facebook.com/Temple-of-Aaron-202015025137/>

Trinity Lutheran Congregation
Augsburg College, Hoversten Chapel
Riverside & 22nd Aves., Mpls.
www.trinitylutherancongregation.org
Online worship available anytime on our YouTube channel:
Trinity Lutheran Congregation

Walker Community United Methodist Church
3104 16th Ave. S., Mpls.
Until further notice, Walker Church will be closed for all non-essential operations. Services will continue online via Zoom and Facebook Live at 11 a.m. to noon on Sundays. Visit our website at <http://www.walkerchurch.org/> or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/walkerumc/> for more information.

SHARING FOOD

Calvary Lutheran Church
3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.
612-827-2504, ext. 205
The Calvary Emergency Food Shelf is available for area residents on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon through the month of June, then resuming on Saturdays only 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, click on the “Food Shelf” link in the “Outreach” tab, or call the food shelf office at 612-827-2504, ext. 205.

Food Hub
Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
2600 E. 38th St.
Monday - Friday, 11 a. m. to 3 p.m.
Free Food and Household Supplies.

Groveland Emergency Food Shelf
1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.
Plymouth Congregational Church
612-871-0277
Monday – Friday, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm.
Entrance on Groveland Ave. between Nicollet and Lasalle. www.groveland-foodshelf.org/

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 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. www.facebook.com/Minnehaha-FoodShelf/

New Creation Baptist Church
1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.
612-825-6933
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! www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf/
Food Shelf: Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

The Nokomis Religious Community Welcomes You

Christian

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. ALBERT THE GREAT
E. 29th St. & 32nd Ave. S.
612-724-3643
www.saintalbertthegreat.org

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY NAME
3637 - 11th Ave. S., 612-724-5465
Please check our website for updates on Mass times
www.churchoftheholyname.org
Pastor: Fr. Leo Schneider
A welcoming Roman Catholic community

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
3430 E. 51st St.
612-729-5463
www.faithlutheranmpls.org
Sunday Worship 9 am and online on YouTube and Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/felcmpls/>
Sunday Morning Bible class 10 am
Midweek Bible class
Wednesdays 10 am
Masks and social spacing required for worship and Bible class.
NA groups Wednesdays 7:30 pm and Fridays 7 pm
Pastor: Rev. Jesse Davis

FIRST FREE CHURCH
5150 Chicago Ave. S.
612-827-4705

“We’re not closed. We’re online.”
www.firstfreechurch.org
Christ-Centered, Christ-sent

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS
1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.
612-722-1083
Sunday Worship recordings online at www.holycrossmpls.org
Scroll to mid-page on the home page to see recordings and bulletins to follow along.
Bible Study via Zoom at 10:30 am (see calendar for info)
Pastor: Bruce Laabs

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
5728 Cedar Ave. S.
612-827-2655
www.hopempls.org
All are welcome, no exceptions


LIVING SPIRIT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
A Multicultural, Intergenerational Church
4501 Bloomington Ave.
612-721-5025
Worship with us from home!
www.livingspiritumc.org/online

MT. ZION LUTHERAN - LCMS
5645 Chicago Ave. S.
612-824-1882
www.mtzioninmpls.org
Visit our outdoor lending library!

NEW CREATION BAPTIST CHURCH
1414 E. 48th St.
612-825-6933
<https://newcreationbaptist-churchmn.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/New-CreationBaptistChurch/>
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daniel B. McKizzie

NOKOMIS HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA
5300 10th Ave. S.
612-825-6846
www.nokomisheights.org
Worship with us online on YouTube
New worship goes up every Sunday at 10 am
Find us on Facebook

ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
www.stjoan.com, 4537 Third Ave.
Masses suspended until further notice
Video available on our website and Facebook page
We Welcome You Wherever You Are On Your Journey



All Directory Churches are Wheelchair Accessible

Heartbreak Hotel

BY ED FELIEN

Well, since my baby left me
Well, I found a new place to dwell
Well, it's down at the end of
Lonely Street
At Heartbreak Hotel
—Elvis

There are lots of reasons for homelessness. More than half of all working adults in America are a paycheck away from borrowing money from savings or from someone else or face living on the street. We know that people who are homeless are the most vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus, and we know that taking care of them means we are taking care of everybody, because an infection unchecked in that community will spread to the rest of us.

Hennepin County is currently spending \$2.5 million a month to rent hotel rooms for homeless people—especially for those already infected with COVID-19. At their May 13 meeting, County Administrator David Hough told the board that the county could save money by buying the hotels instead of leasing. Hough

also noted the coronavirus has greatly hurt the hotel industry, making some owners eager to sell: “This isn’t ending anytime soon.”

Board Chair Marion Greene said, “I like the idea that we’ll have an asset at the end of it ... that feels more long-lasting than paying for hotel rooms night-by-night.”

Commissioner Angela Conley, whose district includes the encampments along Hiawatha Avenue, said, “As we’re seeing in congregate care settings, one instance of a positive test could just run rampant throughout the encampment. The need for alternative spaces and to get people out of those places that are unfit for habitation is a number one priority.”

At their May 20 meeting, the board authorized Hough to negotiate the purchase of “several hundred residential/hospitality units to support alternative living spaces for homeless adults and county-dependent individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.” The vote was 6 to 1. Even Jeff Johnson, two-time Republican candidate for governor, voted in favor of public

ownership of a hotel. Only Jan Callison, representing Minnetonka, voted against it.

Johnson supported the measure with the hope that the purchase would be temporary—that the county would find some shelter organization to take over ownership and operations in 2021 or 2022.

The four DFLers on the seven-person board were more open to the idea of public ownership of the hotel long-term to help provide affordable housing for Hennepin County. Angela Conley said, “I think that this would be a huge asset for us. Doing something now that can carry over



Board Chair Marion Greene (left) and Commissioner Angela Conley

into that post-Covid world really will change the landscape of how supportive housing could look.”

Mike Opat said, “If done

correctly, it will add another tool to our toolbox in terms of helping folks on the lower end of the socioeconomic scale.”

Neighbors, from page 1

people.” He has skills working with cement. He and his wife took a bus to Brooklyn Center to apply for warehouse jobs at Amazon.

While talking to them, a young Native American woman approaches with a shopping cart full of stuff, including a tent. I learn that the city is providing tents. Wanda seems confused and declares that she’s never set up or even slept in a tent. She wanted to

stay on the northwest side of the park because “over there (east side) I have some enemies and I don’t want to be around needles.” Johnny and Julia helped Wanda erect her tent in a shady spot. By now Johnny and Julia know the shady from the sunny.

I walked farther into the park. I see that there are now five port-a-potties. Yesterday there were only two. As I walked farther south, I saw that another area of the park, the east side, is growing in

tents. I’m told that that is the area for families with children because it is near the playground.

When I wander the park, I bring supplies: water, bread I baked, canteens of coffee, TP, etc. People seem very appreciative.

As I leave, Johnny invites me to come back this evening: “Mom will be up by then.” I guess he figures I am closer to his mom’s age than his and that we might have things in common.

Homeless, from page 1

peeves), so I grabbed a mask and my iPad and walked over. They were rousing the sleeping campers and giving each of them a notice that they had 72 hours (48 crossed out and 72 written in) to leave the park, signed by Park Superintendent Bangoura. I talked to a few people, walked back home and started calling.

The Powderhorn neighborhood was prepared—we had been through a lot recently. Pandemic, police murder, major protest site, arson and looting. We opened up our Google docs, started up our WhatsApp chats and phone trees.

By 11 a.m. the press had arrived, the PPNA representative said that eviction was not supported, and by noon the park superintendent had withdrawn the 72-hour deadline.

The weekend was spent supporting the campers, talking to neighbors and trying to get some kind of response from elected officials. Basically, what we got was:

1. The city said this was the county’s responsibility. Alondra Cano was too busy with police reform to come to the

park. The mayor would not return calls.

2. The county does not have the money. They are looking to the legislature. Angela Conley would come meet, but she is only one commissioner.

3. Aisha Gomez said that she could get help passed in the House but the problem was in the Senate.


4. Jeff Hayden said the Republicans didn’t want to help the city or poor people. That our hope lies possibly with Jennifer Ho, the state Commissioner of Housing.

By Monday the number of tents on the 10th Ave. side had grown to cover most of the flat, and there were tents across the park. A meeting of the west side of the park was called. At the meeting (about 50 people) there were various levels of concern for the campers and for the non-campers, but everyone wanted a solution that did not involve police eviction. People talked about drug needles being found and the concern about their children and safety of the park. We were told by a county employee that there were 400 homeless people in Hennepin County and that they currently had four beds available for single men.

On Tuesday night, a larger meeting of about 200 people was held. A demand that a solution be found by Friday, June 19, was presented. All of the elected officials were invited. Hennepin County Commissioner Angela Conley and Park Commissioner AK Hassan were the only ones who showed up. Angela Conley endorsed the Friday deadline, although I am not clear what will happen if/when the deadline is missed. Legislators Aisha Gomez, Hodan Hasan, Patricia Torres Ray and Jeff Hayden left messages that they were in session and were supportive. The mayor and Council Member Alondra Cano did not appear.

The community has expressed a large amount of care and concern for the campers but also has put a lot of pressure on the decision-makers to find secure long-term solutions for these people. My wife, Barb, remarked these are displaced peoples, refugees, like we are seeing all over the world. That puts it in perspective, we have a refugee camp forming, a border crossing. It is a human tragedy unfolding in my front yard.

I am proud of my neighbors, but ashamed of my city.



Southside Pride

NOKOMIS EDITION

Southside Pride Nokomis Edition is a monthly community newspaper delivered on the Second Monday of the month for free to over 100 locations in and around the Nokomis community. 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
email us at editor@southsidepride.com
or edfelien@southsidepride.com

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Try the new normal at Modern Times

BY DYLAN ALVERSON & THE MODERN TIMES STAFF

We have been watching and participating in the events that have unfolded in our neighborhood since the Minneapolis Police Department murdered George Floyd. In that time, we have seen a lot of people of color terrorized by the police, houses and businesses burned down or damaged beyond repair.

It does not feel right for us to try and reopen for business and continue operating as we previously had. There is a momentous wave of transformation happening that must be accelerated and supported.

After becoming nearly inoperable because of the Covid-19 pandemic, followed by police terror and civil unrest, we decided to temporarily transition to a business model whose sole purpose is to foster and support our greater community. The Modern Times' staff and I have all agreed to work as volunteers in our space for the month of June.

We are serving a limited menu as a donation-based cafe. We will be giving 100 percent of our profits to local BIPOC businesses and organizations affected by this tragedy. We are seeking out more partnerships that help us provide lunch to those working on the front lines of this movement; please contact us if you have a need.

At the end of this month we will post all financial details to ensure the transparency of this decision. Thank you for your continued support as we adapt to the changing needs of our community.

We are open Tuesday - Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Emails from Lily Lamb, June 16

****Good Morning Neighbors-**

As many of you have heard, we will be gathering as a community tonight at 6 p.m. demanding response and action from our city, county and state officials.

Below is the link to the google sheet where you can see a suggested list of contacts. Additionally, on the second tab you can find a suggested statement and a few talking points. Please let me know if there are additional items you'd like added to that page.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ATPUeAfOXQ2h2w2y7pFbv-IG-D63XDPLSvQzwl4AKg/edit?usp=sharing>

Additionally, a few neighbors have set up a Facebook group and event page to come for tonight's meeting. (If anyone wants to be added as a group or event owner let me know.)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/647058879227979/>

This is the email I sent to a few folks already this morning. Feel free to edit/change/make it your own and I'm only sending this to a few folks with emails I could grab quickly. I'll also be posting it on the discord-but please share this with your neighbors! The

only way to make our voice heard is to speak loudly together.

****GoodMorning-**

The Powderhorn Park residents demand to know our elected officials' response to the current emergency humanitarian situation in Powderhorn Park and seek a solution immediately with dignified, culturally informed permanent housing by Friday, June 19. We, the community, stand in support and solidarity with our new residents at the Powderhorn Sanctuaries and collectively call for change with and for them. Housing is a human right, and in our community, homes should be for all. We call on all our elected officials to respond to this urgent situation by attending our community gathering tonight at 6 p.m. on the south side of Powderhorn Park in the picnic area.

It has been five days since our new neighbors have joined us, and in that time, private citizens have been coordinating to the best of their ability a response to this emergency situation.

Please let me know who I can expect to see from your office this evening.

.....

Working for an end to police brutality and murder: It's a new paradigm

BY COOPER

Last Monday on June 1, my roommate George and I signed up for our shift as neighborhood watchmen— Powderhorn's response to a failed police system and several nights of fires in South Minneapolis. Our shift was 2 to 4 a.m. patrolling the blocks from 31st to 33rd on 10th and Elliot Avenues. There was a neighborhood-wide and South Minneapolis-wide panic of a white supremacist presence. Probably linked to the "outside agi-

Global Market. I am unable to speak to the validity of those; we saw neither on our patrol. George and I walked our four block radius, each in our bright yellow T-shirts, mine saying "Minnesota," his saying "East Lake Liquors." I carried a fire extinguisher to put out any fire a Neo-Nazi might attempt to start. We came across no outside agitators, no white supremacists.

We only saw other concerned neighbors wondering if we were outside agitators or white supremacists. And we were

mediately on how best to keep ourselves safe, and how not to call the police.

Now I believe comes the hard part. I fear that the neighborhood watch portion of this community involvement will be too militant. Our responsibility is not to fill the shoes of the Minneapolis Police Department. Not to photograph every suspicious vehicle and every stranger that might walk down Chicago Avenue. Our responsibility is to our neighbors. To take care of each other and foster change. We need medics, social workers, and people ready to de-escalate and help in every circumstance where any police officer would hurt.

On June 7 a meeting was held in Powderhorn Park by Southside Response in collaboration with Black Visions Collective and Reclaim the Block. Black Visions Collective and Reclaim the Block are organizations working on Black-led transformative justice and divestment of police funding into community programs. Nine of our City Council members were present and made a pledge to work toward police abolition. I spoke to Sam Gould, who lives in Powderhorn, about his involvement and organizing with Southside Response. I asked him how Southside Response started. "It was the experience we were all having, that Friday night (May 29). The whole neighborhood was on fire, gunshots, breaking glass, explosions shaking the house. I have never experienced anything like this. For

one minute I was on the phone with the mayor: 'Jacob, what the f#\$k is going on? You've got to do something.'" I can't imagine who would have handled that situation. I spoke to our council person, Alondra Cano, that night as well. I said to her if we ever thought the city or the state had our backs, it is more than obvious right now that they don't—we need to organize ourselves. So, at midnight that night we made an event. "We are the only people who can protect ourselves and we are the only people who can care for one other. Let's figure out how to do it."

The following day, June 1, was the first meeting of Southside Response. Around 1,000 from the community showed up, and we discussed how we

were going to keep ourselves and our neighbors safe.

I asked Sam what he sees for Southside Response next. He wants to make it clear it is not an organization, and it is without hierarchical positions. "I want people to realize it's theirs. It's a social tool."

Finally, I asked Sam how he felt as he left the meeting with Black Visions Collective, Reclaim the Block, and the entire community. He quoted Gramsci's "Pessimism of the intellect, optimism of the will."

I agree with Sam, the hard part is far from over. Now is when the community gets to work reimagining how to care for one another without police.



Nine City Council members attended the June 7 meeting at Powderhorn Park.

tator" rhetoric (which anyone who attended the demonstrations would understand to be false).

That night the neighborhood was very scared. There were many rumors being circulated, such as that the KKK was gathered in full uniform in Powderhorn Park, and the Boogaloo Boys were attacking Midtown

thankful. I have not felt more proud of something in my life. While I am young, it is incredible to see firsthand how a community will be compelled to act against a racist police force. There were spreadsheets, Google documents, group chats and a Facebook page created very quickly. Several neighbors took charge, organizing im-

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Welcoming our new neighbors

BY NATHAN HOUSE

On Wednesday night, June 16, several hundred Powderhorn Park residents gathered together to hear statements from local activists regarding encampment at the park, now in its sixth day of occupancy. Hundreds of people without homes have sought shelter on the east and west sides of Powderhorn park, and the number of residents continues to rise. Before the encampment, the former Sheraton Hotel in Midtown was converted into a homeless shelter until residents were evicted and then later moved to the park.

From the statements, the activists' messages were clear: a call to end homelessness in general. To do that, the community first needs to stand together and advocate for permanent housing.

Included among the speakers were representatives of the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association and Park Board Commissioners. Among other demands included an immediate response and resolution to the current housing crisis at the park by June 19.

"We have an opportunity to do something and to be something we have not been up until this point," said

Tabitha Montgomery, on the significance of communal advocacy.

"This is not just a Powderhorn problem, a today problem, a last week problem ... this is a complex, persistent, systematic problem," said Lily Lamb, a lifelong Powderhorn resident. "We can close our doors and pretend this isn't happening, or we can meet our new neighbors, and advocate for what they're asking for. Housing is a human right. Everyone deserves to be safe in our community, whether you're homed, or unhomed."

A white resident raised his concerns about the potential

dangers of being homeless. Citing an unnamed "homeless expert," he mentioned that people without homes are often "preyed on" by sex traffickers and often succumb to prostitution, drugs and violence. "I'm not the only one in our neighborhood that has these concerns," he said. I think without saying it, he was stating that the increase of homeless residents in the park raises the likelihood of danger for everyone in the neighborhood, and most people didn't hear this point because his voice was drowned out by jeers.

Someone followed up on his remark saying that not

every homeless person succumbs to drugs, sex trafficking and violence. Before the man could finish his thought, he was chastised by the crowd. "This is not your space!" someone yelled.

To put it forward, in order to solve issues like homelessness, we first need to hear from all sides in order to effectively solve this problem. Considering that being homeless does present dangerous circumstances, the man brought up an important fact. If the campers are safe, then the entire community is safe. So, the quicker we end this crisis, the safer everyone is.

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- Offer home visits, mobile healthcare vans, and interpreter services to expand access to essential vaccines and care.
- Support our staff on the frontlines responding to COVID-19 and now this new patient care crisis.

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Thank you for standing with our community.