



We build Pride on the Southside

NOKOMIS EDITION

SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

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A response to police impunity OR What about the police union?



BY TONY BOUZA

On my birthday, The New York Times' lead editorial centered on police impunity and labeled arbitrators as the villains. Quite a gift. Thank you.

The Times are idiots.

Union problems got so bad here that they (city leaders) undertook a desperate nationwide search for a chief in 1979. That's how my interest—about which I'd already written extensively—deepened and widened.

What is/was the problem?

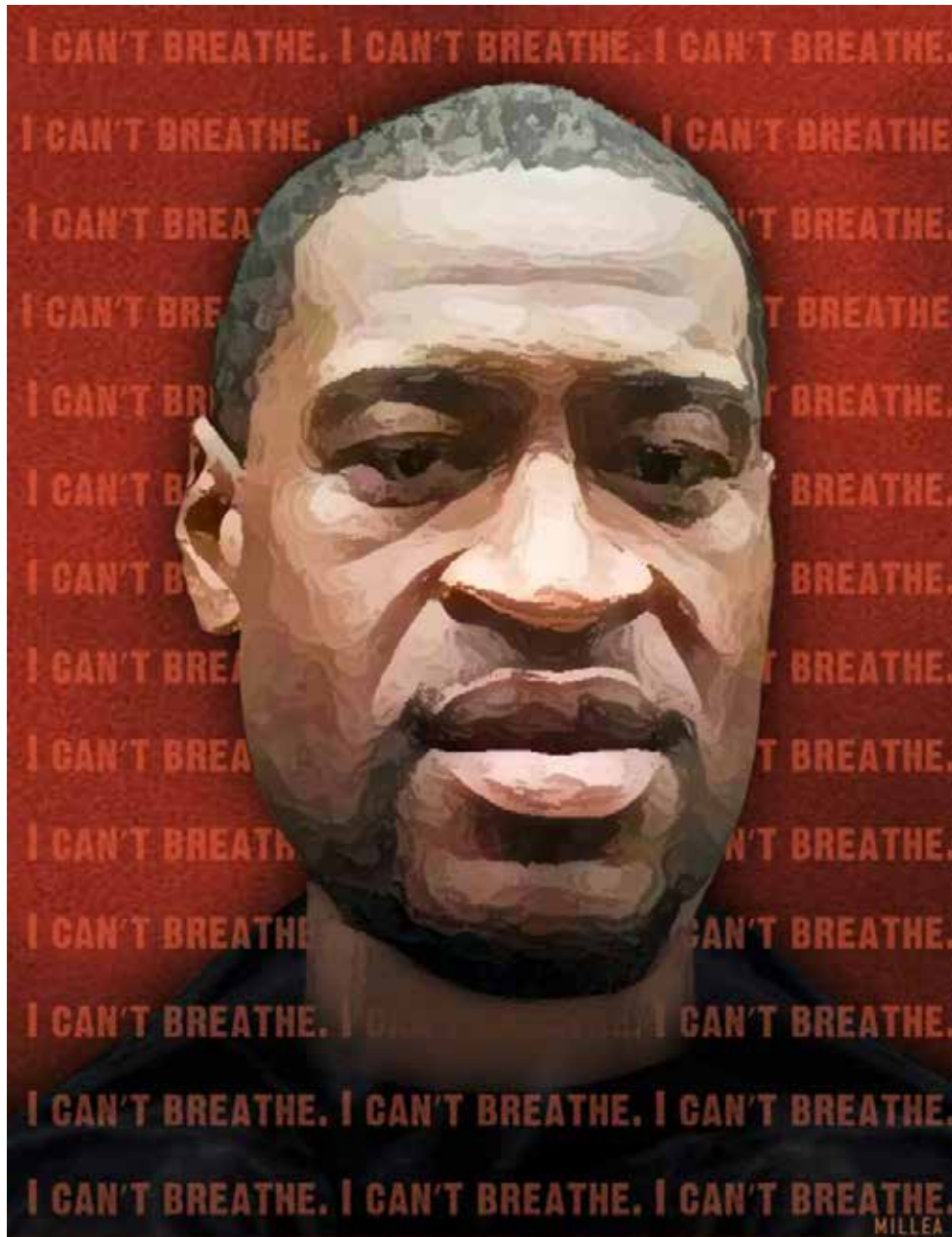
Power.

Lord Acton had it right. Look at the Church.

We agonize over the issue, but the equation is simple.

We elect mayors and they appoint police chiefs. These guys and dolls are always up-from-the-ranks functionaries (as I was) and union members.

The unions don't



Keep it closed

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

The city has tried and failed to reopen the intersection at 38th Street and Chicago Avenue off and on since it was closed down by protestors after George Floyd was killed in May. These efforts have been unsuccessful and I, for one, am grateful to those protecting this sacred site.

The protestors have made it clear that they

will maintain the closure until the verdict is delivered in the cases against the four officers depicted in the video. This is completely reasonable when one considers the travesty of justice that was the verdict against the officer involved in the shooting of Philando Castile, a rare case out of countless other instances of police misconduct in that it even went to trial. We need the city and

state to be aware that eyes remain on this case. One method of doing that is to keep the street closed.

The protestors have accomplished so much out of this tragedy. We have seen a sanctuary movement spring up to support the homeless. We have seen people come together to gather flowers and free face masks for those visiting the site. We have seen community and

Do your job!

To the City Council Public Health and Safety Committee on "the current model of community safety and opportunities for change:"

Thank you for the opportunity to present my views. There are some very simple things this council, working with the mayor, could do to improve the efficiency and restore public confidence in the Minneapolis Police Department.

First, return to the one-person patrols originally instituted 40 years ago by Chief Tony Bouza. This would double the officers on the street responding to 911 calls. If there is danger to the officer and a potential for violence, the officer should immediately call for backup and secure the perimeter.

Second, stop the featherbedding promotions. Almost the first thing Chief Arradondo did when he became chief was to promote 20 of his friends. This takes officers off the street, increases the bureaucracy, reduces accountability and costs the taxpayers millions of dollars.

Third, when an officer kills someone they must be given the same rights as any other citizen, but they must not be given special privileges. When other officers arrive on the scene to investigate, they should immediately separate the officer from their partner and ask for a statement. The officer should be allowed to speak with an attorney, but they should remain in custody and isolation until they give their statement. When Dustin Schwarze and Mark Ringgenberg killed Jamar Clark, they were put together in the back of a squad car for an hour, taken downtown and released, and then given 72 hours to make a statement. This kind of special treatment destroys public credibility in the police.

Fourth, the people of Minneapolis deserve to know what happened to Terrance Franklin. On April 29 the city paid out a million dollars in lawyer's fees and awards to Franklin's family by refusing to answer their wrongful death suit. The city couldn't answer the suit in court because the officer's statements were obvious falsehoods and fantasies. Shouldn't your committee investigate the facts in this killing, and shouldn't the officers be held responsible?

Fifth, block clubs should not be under the

See Bouza, page 6

See Closed, page 10

See Job, page 13

**Our 10th Annual
Celebrate Fall
on 42nd & 28th
Pages 2 & 3**



**2020 Education Section
Pages 7, 8 & 9**

Celebrate Fall on 42nd St. & 28th Ave.

East 42nd Street in the 2020 Weirds

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Although there have been few major disruptions to businesses and organizations along 42nd Street due to either COVID-19 or civil unrest, nowhere has been immune. Business models, hours and other things have changed, and there's often not the additional capacity to keep the public informed. Southside Pride is attempting to fill in these gaps. This year, we'll cover the area east of Bloomington

to the light rail line, although we may have to go a little farther afield for some categories. But we'll be mentioning more businesses and therefore being fairly brief in each mention.

Let's start with grocery stores, because we all need those. Although there are no major supermarkets right within this area, the 24-hour Cub Foods in the LoWa46 apartments (approximately 46th Street and Snelling Avenue) is less than a mile away. And you can't beat

24 hours. This Cub has a very good produce department, and a pretty good selection besides. It has a pharmacy in the store (not 24 hours though). It looks like the Walgreens at 46th and Hiawatha is fully open now. The mobile pharmacy is still in the parking lot, and of course, the drive-through is operating.

On 42nd Street itself, just east of 28th Avenue, there is a little convenience store grocery—Dokken's Superette—that my friend Julie has patronized several times. She recommends this friendly family-owned shop for its surprisingly wide selection and its very cheap—but not bad at all—sandwiches to go. Dokken's has more of a grocery store than convenience store selection, including fresh produce and meat.

Also, the 28th Avenue area has not one but two very popular bakeries, both with an impressive history. At the very corner of 28th Avenue and 42nd Street, A Baker's Wife sells all manner of baked goods from whole loaves of bread to individual cookies. They also sell hot coffee and have a very nice sidewalk "patio" to enjoy them in. A Baker's Wife is now under its second ownership, and the



Bill's Garden with their "Keep Calm and Carry Out" sign from West of the Rail Business Association.

have a good selection of these, they also make cupcakes, decorated cakes for special occasions, cookies and other baked goodies, and also have drinks, including coffee. Their history is found on their Facebook page: "Established by Mr. Dean Kellar

ropractors and massage, hair stylists and barbers, a highly recommended pet clinic, a great bike shop and a great auto repair shop. Let's start with that last one. Flanery Brothers Automotive, is, as the name suggests, a family-owned independent shop and it's been at the same location for decades. I have taken my trusty little Saturn there several times and have always been happy with the work and the prices. They are fully open as usual.

The bike shop is Angry Catfish, kind of a millennial-frequented, serious-bike-person sort of place. In addition, it's also a coffee shop, or was, before COVID. According to the sign out front, the coffee bar is still closed, but they are selling bagged coffee, as well as their other wares.

Print-N-Stitch is a shop that simply screen prints or embroiders custom orders on apparel, bags and other fabric items. It's hard to tell how open and when they are right now. But in any case, it's not the sort of thing where you drop in and browse, and their very thorough and presumably up-to-date website mnprintnstitch.com says waggishly that it's "Always Open!"

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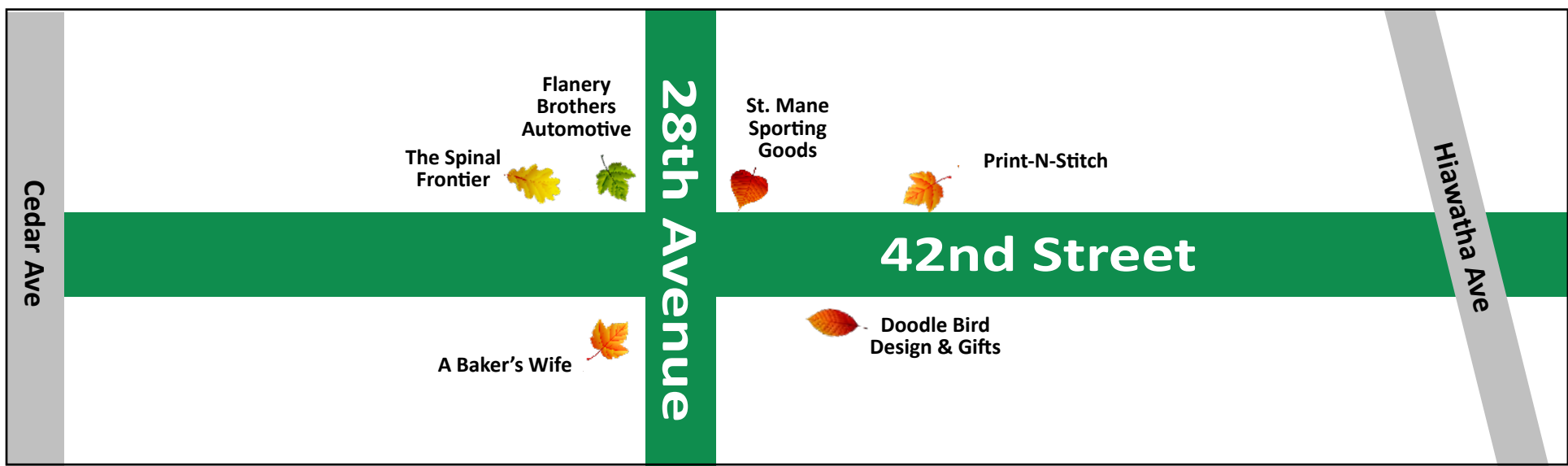
Minnesota Strong t-shirts from St. Mane Sporting Goods benefit struggling small businesses.

"new" owners didn't change that much, except—thankfully, especially now—to start accepting credit cards. Their doughnuts and American tea cakes are especially popular.

The other bakery is down south a bit, at 4800 28th Ave.—Mel-O-Glaze. Although they specialize in doughnuts, and

in 1948 and bought by Frances Wood and Edward Bosela (the parents of the current owners) April 1, 1961, Mel-O-Glaze has been a staple of the neighborhood and the city of Minneapolis for over 60 (now 70!) years."

In terms of services, there are many on 42nd Street and the surrounding area such as chi-



Check their Facebook page, too, for the phone number.

Practically next door to Print-N-Stitch is St. Mane Sporting Goods. St. Mane is yet another many decades-old (since 1962) business in this little hub that

covered in more depth in a previous issue, appears to be open. They have erected little transparent plastic booths around the barber chairs to protect against transmission, which is reassuring, as well as clever.

Retail stores are faring fairly well in this area, it seems. The local hardware, Hudson's Hardware, is open normal hours, with of course the usual hygiene protocols. This is a small hardware store, and South Minneapolis has tons of them, but Hudson's manages to command a lot of loyalty from its customers. It's another place my friend Julie recommends highly.

Then there's our old favorite, Doodle Bird Design and Gifts, which we also have covered in the past. For the charming greeting cards made by owner, freelance designer Kristin, or the cotton printed lunch bags, or for custom design work, you can shop online. But the store has local guest artisan items for sale as well, many one-of-a-kind, such as pottery, jewelry, candles and more. These are not on the website though they may be featured on the Facebook page. The shop is open with some limitations for COVID.

Another shop on 42nd Street that I like is Southside Vintage Quality Goods. They always have loads of lovely merchandise. Their opening times are every other weekend only; check their Facebook page for more details and lovely photographs.

Finally, we come to the eateries, of which there are a few. Buster's on 28th is a great local favorite for good reason. Buster's



Cute cloth lunch bag from Doodle Bird.

er's is open normal hours now, with the option of patio dining. (It looks like they may have enlarged their outdoor seating area somewhat? Or maybe I'm just more aware of these things.) Buster's is also popular for their impressive list of ales and ciders.

Just across the street from Buster's on 28th Avenue is Bill's Chinese Garden. This being a small place that already had successful takeout and delivery via PostMates, it hasn't had to

change its business model that much, even during the take-out-only period. I have to say I was surprised when I saw how extensive their menu is, and with several good vegetarian options. Very reasonable prices too.

For your nature walk in this neck of the woods, you can't do much better than Lake Hiawatha, which sits just about halfway between A Baker's Wife and Mel-O-Glaze. Take your camera, it's very photogenic.



Lake Hiawatha in high summer.

is actually owned and largely staffed by the St. Mane family. They sell sporting apparel of various kinds, mostly for youth sports teams, and also screen print or embroider team jackets, polos, hats and so forth. So, they have been very hard hit by COVID-19's shutdown of pretty much all sporting events. In solidarity with other struggling small businesses, St. Mane will give \$5 to other selected businesses for every Minnesota Strong t-shirt sold. They have also added Southside Strong, Northside Strong, and Wisconsin Strong, if you prefer those designs, all of which you can see on their website at www.stmanes.com.

There are several options open in the area for getting your hair cut, which some of us really need about now. Shear Art Hair Salon is a Paul Mitchell hairstylist also offering nail care and a few other services. I could not find any COVID-19 specific information on their website or Facebook page (a lot of salons ask you to wash your own hair, and bring your own magazines and drinks, and they waive the cancellation fee if you feel sick at your appointment time, for instance), so if you're thinking of trying them out, it might be good to call and get more details first.

If you want a simple barbering (or even a fancy barbering), House of Fades, across 42nd Street and slightly to the west of A Baker's Wife, which we

Rounding out the service category is The Spinal Frontier, providing stellar chiropractic care. Their lengthy roster of long-term satisfied clients attests not only to their skill, but also their frinedly, unique approach to wellness. Check out their fun website www.thespinalfrontier.com for more info, and call or email Dr. Tracie for clinic hours.



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Hard truths

BY TONY BOUZA

The writer has a unique series of responsibilities. The first is to truth. Relevance and humility follow. Gratitude and respect for the reader, and I'm sure there are more.

Facile, no? No. If our president has reminded us of nothing else, he has reminded us of the worth of such abstractions as truth, integrity, brotherhood, patriotism and other qualities he scorns.

Our society is racist—but not as bad as it was—slavery, Jim Crow, segregation, incarceration and so on. We have made progress and, I hope, more comes in the wake of George Floyd. How ironic is that?

My responsibility is to try and help by sharing the perspectives a great country enabled me to acquire. They easily could be grotesquely

off. Fallibility is my strong suit.

It's great to see so many Blacks on TV and waxing so eloquently to boot. I think we have the Ivy League to thank for that. They're doing such a great job that they've had to defend themselves in court in a suit brought by Asians who complained they were being deprived of places.

The Central Park bird-er, Christian Cooper—who behaved brilliantly—is probably a beneficiary. The Ivy League's secret sauce is knowing that, if you devise a system that collects the country's very brightest, they will educate each other. The professors facilitate the process.

Looking at the string of tragedies involving blue cops and mostly Black males, we can sort what I think are recurring themes.

The victims frequently

played minor, but not insignificant, roles in their plight. Poor choices (bad or dangerous relationships); lifestyles (petty crimes, drugs, etc.); mental issues unaddressed (bizarre behaviors, weapons use); escape into addictions, and such.

It is nothing short of craven to blame victims, but the sad truth is that these egregious incidents are not taking place—mostly—while the victim is engaged in responsible pursuits.

Mayors appoint chiefs, who are the only ones who have any real hope of controlling the thumpers, who are protected and enabled by police unions. But who chooses mayors?

The incidents attract rapacious hustler-lawyers and photo-op-ready "leaders." Families squabble and fracture over the windfalls. I often pine for the return of

M. L. King, in whatever form.

Police departments have no strategy to cope with rioters. A riot is a disorderly mob wreaking havoc, but, within that mob, there is a variety of disparate elements.

Mostly the protesters are genuine reformers and seekers of justice; swimming among them are the predators and arsonists. The latter are profoundly alienated guys (yes) who hate a society that has bruised them badly.

The result?

Abandoned groceries. Shuttered drug stores. Empty liquor stores. And now you have to trek extra blocks just to find life's necessities.

Convenience no more.

What is to be done?

The ancient verities apply.

Do justice. Love mercy. Tell the truth. Reject racism. Deal honestly. Enroll in the Ivy League. It ain't either nuclear science or brain surgery. The

New Englanders got it right.

Editor's Note:

I disagree that the ultimate aspiration of every parent should be to send their child to an elite Ivy League college. More importantly, my wife, Carol Hogard, who taught for 41 years at Minneapolis Community College, and began with others the first Women's Studies program in the state of Minnesota there, believes that genuine progressive leadership can only come from educating the general public. And that can be done best through a statewide community college system. It was the Finnish Communist moms on the Iron Range who insisted that a community college system be developed so that higher education would be convenient to everyone, everywhere. As Paul Wellstone said, "We all do better when we all do better."



Cargill demo at MIA

On the eve of the six-year anniversary of Cargill's pledging to stop clearing forests, 30 Mighty Earth activists gathered at the Minneapolis Institute of Art, which houses a Cargill gallery, to commemo-

rate the commitment and sign

bottom for the signature of Cargill CEO David MacLennan. In 2014, MacLennan shared the stage with U.N. Secretary General Ban-Ki Moon, declaring he would stop destroying forests by 2020. With the



deadline approaching, Cargill announced last year it was not on pace to achieve the commitment—and went as far as to encourage farmers in its supply chain to continue clearing. In the

Amazon, Cargill has adopted a nominal no-deforestation policy, but has gutted it with several loopholes. Meanwhile

in the Brazilian Cerrado forest, Cargill openly engages in forest clearing. The activists called on Cargill to not source grains from lands that have been cleared at any point during or after 2020.

The anniversary action comes on the heels of a march in July for forests and climate that culminated at MacLennan's house in Edina. Cargill followed up on that march by announcing a plan to adopt regenerative practices on 10 million acres. Though the plan was a step in the right direction, Mighty Earth responded by noting the lack of specifics and the plan's failure to protect forests.



Meeting at George Floyd Square

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

At 38th and Chicago, where George Floyd was killed on May 25, the streets are blocked off so traffic can't go through the intersection. Inside this space are many flowers, murals, a medic tent, daily community meals, a library, food giveaways and a group called Agape (unconditional love). People from the neighborhood are holding/occupying the space pretty much 24/7. These people are not a terrorist organization, lest there be any questions about that. They aren't even an organization. It's a loose group of people whose lives/souls have been deeply wounded by George Floyd's death on May 25. They call themselves a "leaderless movement." They are people who want to see life, love and flowers everywhere for people of all colors.

The people holding the space have given their demands to the city—what it will take for them to consent to opening the streets. There are 24 demands. At first, the city was willing to meet some of them, but on the evening I went to GFS for one of their two daily meetings (called "Meet on the Street"), they announced that the city had just sent a letter that didn't address the issues.

And now, the city was offering jobs to some of the people most active at George Floyd Square. If people took those jobs, it would be like establishing "sides" and it would be sad to have "sides." If the people of the square worked for the city, then they would be on the "right" side and their feelings and opinions would count. (Well, maybe.) Now, they're considered some kind of outlaws, I guess. They seem like anything but outlaws to me. They seem brave and heroic, willing to put their lives on the line to protect their neighborhood. To create peace and safety. To pursue justice and equality.

The ideal is for 38th and Chicago to be a place of safety, but the person most vocal in the group warned us at the beginning of the meeting that, we should assume that anyone in attendance could have COVID. We should assume that anyone could be armed. We should assume that what we say in the circle could be recorded. We should assume that not everyone in the square or even in the circle "has your liberation in mind."

It's a dangerous thing they are doing. They are standing up for themselves. This could have serious repercussions from the city, the county, the state, the

country.

And, they are committed, like many people in Minneapolis right now, to not calling the police if there is a situation of common criminality to deal with. So, it's dangerous in that way, too. (Even if they did want to call the police, at this point it's unlikely they would come.)

Before attending this meeting, I had not grasped the extent to which the entire neighborhood has been harmed. There is a palpable sense that these people have been assaulted, and the place where they live has been wounded, trampled, seriously damaged. They feel a deep need for recompense, restitution. Terrible harm has been done—of course to George Floyd, but also to everyone who calls 38th and Chicago home.

Seeking compensation for the harm is a huge part of creating the space at George Floyd Square. But finding a new way to live for everyone, in which racial equality is paramount,

tops the list of intentions.

The person effectively leading the meeting, who is Black and is a high school English teacher, described in gripping terms what it has been like for her throughout her life knowing that if she were ever killed, it wouldn't matter. Since childhood she has known she is expendable in this society. I had never heard it said in quite the way she said it and it made me understand the desperation in a new way. I have never had the experience of being Black in this culture so I only have my imagination and my willingness to listen to help me understand. In the '60s and since then, I have read Malcolm X, Eldridge Cleaver, Ralph Ellison, James Baldwin, Richard Wright, Toni Morrison, the story of Medgar Evers and more. Recently I read Ibram X. Kendi.

When I went out to look at the burned-out buildings in my neighborhood after the destruction following George Floyd's

death, I felt guilt. I thought, "We've known about redlining forever, we know what happened after Reconstruction, we know that Black G.I.s after WWII were not given the same benefits as returning white soldiers, we know about the racism

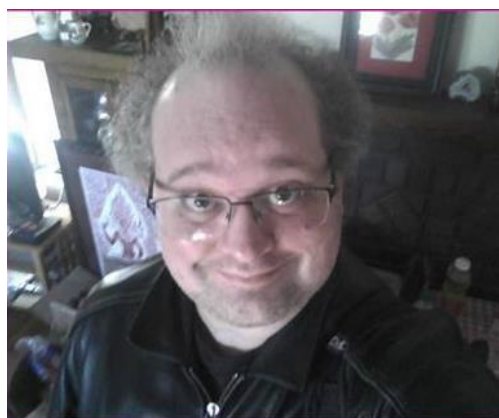
At the very end of the meeting, various people couldn't emphasize enough the importance of voting. And they stressed the extreme importance of voting at the most local level you can. Personally get to know the people running for park board,



of the police department—we know all of it, and yet we just keep thinking, well, maybe it will work itself out in a natural way, etc." How could we just let it go? Have we been throwing our hands in the air, believing there's nothing that can be done?

school board, community organizations, district judges, etc., so you know what kind of person you are voting for. The main changes we can make are at the local level—as demonstrated by George Floyd Square.

David Wiester for Minnesota House of Representatives District 63A



- Re-legalize marijuana
- Black Lives Matter
- Prosecute rogue cops
- Keep abortion legal
- Protect GLBT+ rights
- Support labor unions
- I believe Dr. Fauci
- Protect gun rights
- Re-legalize adult sex work
- Promote clean energy
- Welcome refugees
- Promote affordable housing
- Criminal justice reform

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Facebook.com/groups/WiesterForMNHouse
Paid for by David Wiester

Instead of asking why a burger flipper is worth \$15 per hour, we should be asking why a 2-bedroom apartment is worth \$1,500 per month.

Although a \$15 minimum wage is now needed due to the increased cost of living, there are additional measures that we need to take to properly implement this.

Large businesses like Amazon, Target, and Wal-Mart may be able to afford a large increase in the minimum wage. However, small mom & pop businesses (many of which have narrow profit margins) are more likely to have trouble. To keep small businesses viable, the state should provide a wage subsidy to businesses that make less than \$1 million in gross receipts per year. 3 years later, and after COVID settles down, a study would be commissioned to determine whether this subsidy could be reduced or eliminated. Robert Reich says that increasing income for the lowest earners would increase consumer spending and, thus, benefit small businesses. If he's correct, then the increased business resulting from poor people having more money to spend would make the subsidy less necessary after a few years.

One of the reasons for a \$15 minimum wage is the rising cost of housing. The construction of new affordable housing has not kept pace with demand. If this problem is not fixed, then it won't be long, after getting a \$15 minimum wage, that people will need a \$20 minimum wage. Let's try to delay that by allowing an adequate housing supply to be built. Local zoning restrictions on the construction of multi-unit buildings have been a big culprit. Virginia recently became the third state in the nation to prohibit local regulations that zone out multi-unit housing. Let's make Minnesota the fourth state so that we can have enough affordable housing and get rent costs under control.

For more information on my positions, check out:
[Facebook.com/groups/WiesterForMNHouse](https://www.facebook.com/groups/WiesterForMNHouse)

What is Medicare?

Medicare isn't just a single health plan. There are various parts, some of which you get from the government and others that you can purchase from private insurance companies. Parts A and B make up what's known as original Medicare, which comes directly from the government.

Part A. You can think of Part A as hospital insurance. It helps pay a portion of the costs for any inpatient health care services you receive while in a hospital, a skilled nursing facility, or hospice care. It also offers coverage for some home health services. Part A is funded through a payroll tax. So, if you or your spouse worked for at least 10 years,

you've probably already paid for it and won't need to pay a premium.

Part B. This part of Medicare helps pay for basic outpatient health care services, medical supplies, and preventive care you get at the doctor's office. You do pay a premium for Part B. The amount varies depending on factors such as your income.

While it may seem as if original Medicare covers a lot, there are plenty of gaps. Parts A and B don't include any coverage for prescription drugs, for example, nor do they cover vision, dental, or hearing care. Original Medicare also doesn't provide coverage for long term care. It's also important to understand that coverage isn't 100 percent for even the things parts A and B do cover, so you may still pay out of pocket when you seek care in the form of copays, coinsurance, and deductibles.

Medicare supplement plans, sometimes called Medigap plans, were developed to help cover the gaps. Medicare supplement plans are available from private insurance companies and can complement your original Medicare. These plans may help pay some out-of-pocket expenses, as well as add coverage for dental or other types of care.

Part D plans are a specific type of supplemental coverage for prescription drugs. They add coverage to help you pay for medications.

Medicare Advantage plans

Medicare Advantage plans, also known as Part C, offer an "all-in-one" alternative to purchasing original Medicare plus supplemental coverage. Medicare Advantage plans cover all of the same benefits as original Medicare, plus a lot of the benefits you might get from Medicare supplement plans, including prescription drug coverage. Only instead of having separate plans, you get it all from a single plan you purchase from a private insurance company.

Medicare Advantage plans frequently offer a lot of perks as well, such as health and wellness programs, member discounts, and more.

Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D prescription drug plans are subject to change every year. Updated plan information for 2021 should become available on Oct. 1, in advance of Medicare's Annual Election Period beginning Oct. 15. Healthline.com will provide updated 2021 plan information once it is announced by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

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Bouza, from page 1

strike. They don't even pick-et—yet, a leader of theirs was a principal speaker at Trump's nomination, and they humiliated and defeated New York's mayor.

Whence?

The unions have a lot of members—it's a growth industry—and a lot of money. They wander legislative halls—dispense cash and influence legislation. They also pick the principal villains cited in The Times' editorial—arbitrators. It is a hotly sought perk that pays well. We'll see how Minnesota deals with the recent proposal for gubernatorial selection of these beasts. The governor is certain to gain new friends among police unions.

The equation is a simple one, yet no one seems to get it: Legislators and mayors are elected—union leaders get laws passed and people elected. Mayors appoint chiefs—who are union members—the principal task of the union (now that they've garnered all the wages, benefits and working conditions available) is to protect the leaders in the ranks who set the tone and shape the culture—blue lives matter. The 2 percent thumpers in the ranks don't even get a mention in the august Times.

Jo, Jo, Jo, as they say in Spain.

Some hope.

I met with a police executive. You are management—they are labor. It's an adversarial relationship (Duh!). You've got to fight the union.

The city's fate was sealed when he demurred. He needed their cooperation. He would work with them. They'd accomplish a lot more in a collegial effort.

Requiescat in pace.



Earth Dance Farm

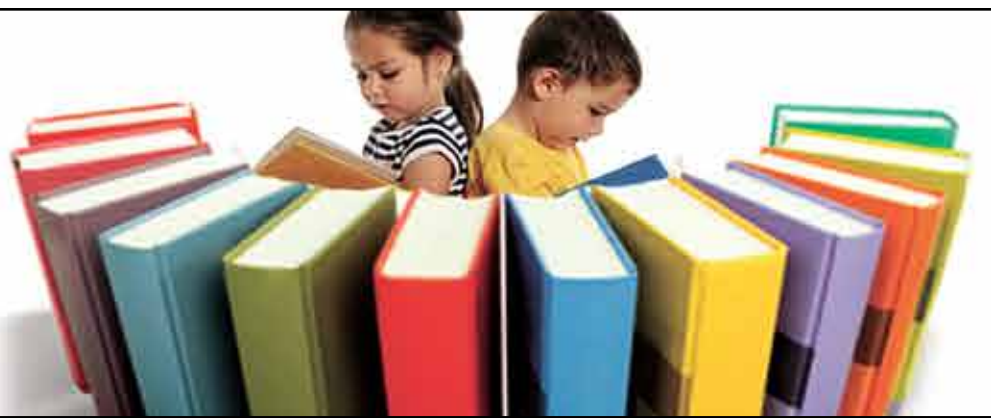
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2020 Education Section



Minneapolis Schools' other issues on the back burner, but not CDD!

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

It's a complex landscape. You have the institutions—district public schools, public-private charter schools,

alternative, private and parochial schools, as well as the districts themselves and some contractors that fill in essential services, like food preparation or bus transportation.

Then you have the stakeholders—students, families, teachers, other staff, both direct and contracted, and their various unions. “Other staff” is a huge collection of people: teaching assistants, substitute teachers, counselors, administrators, social workers, cleaning staff, bus drivers, nutritionists, coaches, librarians, language specialists, safety specialists and food service. The two “new” learning modes—hybrid and remote—can increase the needs for some staff while decreasing the needs for others. (More on that later.)

What's it like being a district superintendent or school board member, a charter school principal or private school administrator, or the parent or guardian of a student in these fraught times? It feels like the

expression “moving target” falls short. Imagine, if you will, an archery course where the targets move around, but also which target you're aiming for changes at random intervals, and the width of the rings and the size of the bull's eye constantly changes on each target. And also, you are wearing independently powered skates that move you around in a random manner, and some of your arrows are actually disguised boomerangs. That's what making learning-model decisions for students is like right now. And it's not only a potentially life or death decision, it's also a quality of life (for the rest of their lives) decision.

Gov. Walz and his Education Department declined to make that decision for the whole state. Instead they is-

sued these guidelines. School districts and charter schools (each of which is treated as its own district within the meaning of the act) are required to follow the guidelines. If they opt for only distance learning, they are fine, but if they want in-person or hybrid, they need to justify it with epidemiology data, reasons for exceptions, and their own detailed safety plan. Private and parochial schools are “encouraged” to follow the guidelines but don't have to report to the state. Get a PDF of the guidelines here: tinyurl.com/yyr4wbl8

In terms of school districts, the three largest in the state are all here in the Twin Cities. Anoka-Hennepin (ISD 11) with 50 schools and 38,802 stu-



Staff greeting in-person learning students.

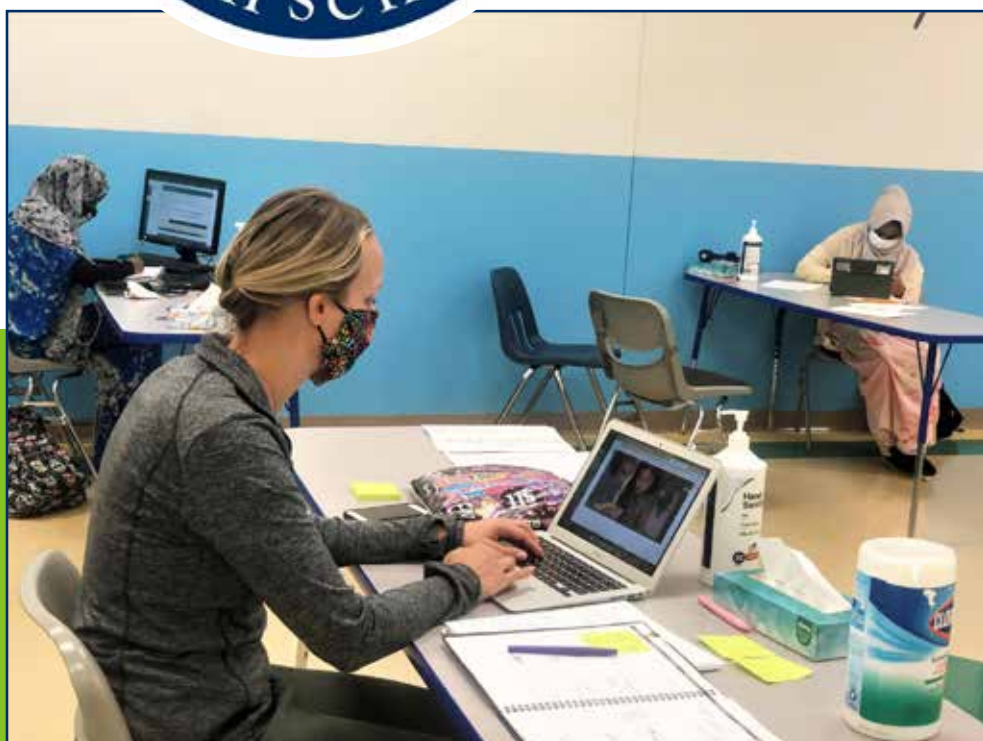
See Education, page 8



Lincoln International High School serves a diverse inner-city population in the Minneapolis-Saint Paul Metro area. The leadership team at Lincoln has developed a robust and supportive distance learning program.

The Program includes:

- Focused student/family orientation to distance learning.
- Zoom/Google meets life lessons Monday through Thursday.
- Daily Attendance and Wellness checks and follow up.
- Social Emotional Learning for parents, staff, and students through the MAWI/ACT model.
- In person support/transportation available for struggling students with strict enforcement of COVID guidelines.
- Online/Zoom one-to-one after school support available in all content areas Monday through Thursday.



If your child is struggling and you need a safe and supportive learning environment, you can visit the campus at:

Lincoln International High School
2520 Minnehaha Ave.
Minneapolis MN 55404
Tel: 612 872 8690
Email: manyit@lincolnihs.org
Website: www.lincolnihs.org

2020 Education

Education, from page 7

dents, St. Paul (SPPS) with 99 schools and 36,888 students, and Minneapolis (MPS) with 100 schools and 36,370 students. ISD 11 originally opted for the hybrid learning model, but delayed opening a week. They also kept grades 7 through 12 in full-time distance learning the first two weeks. Both MPS and SPPS went with full distance learning, although COVID rates before Labor Day (i.e., before the post-holiday uptick) would have qualified them for hybrid. In the Twin Cities, Bloomington and Roseville districts also chose full distance.

Only one metro area district—Dassel-Cokato (ISD 455) with four schools, fewer than 2,300 students, and spanning the rural counties of Wright and Meeker—is going full in-person learning. The rest, and the majority of charters, either chose hybrid



Teachers rally summer 2020

across all grades, or in-person for grades pre-K through 6 and hybrid for the rest. However, by state guidelines, even if a school is full in-person, any student who requests it must be provided

a full distance program as nearly equivalent as possible.

Teachers largely prefer full distance learning programs, and it's easy to see why. For one thing, they must provide distance learning in any case, and the thing most teachers worry and complain about—and in many cases, organize against—is the uncharted stress of having to provide two or three separate lesson plans with very different material needs and challenges. Many teachers have seen their already long days greatly expanded. They have seen their unmet lists of materials needed also expand, and often end up paying for them themselves. Teaching in person during a pandemic is putting them in a frontline position similar to some health care workers, but without PPE, training or hazard pay.

Many support staff, on the other hand, have hourly jobs that cannot be done remotely, and may not be required in the case of distance learning. Others are required but often even more than usual, and also with high health risks. These workers have even more tough choices—change jobs, go work for a more suburban or rural district that's having in-person classes, or try to subsist on unemployment and food shelves until the pandemic is over. With so little safety net, either choice is a fearful gamble. What if in-person learning leads to such a rise in school-based COVID cases that all in-person learning shuts down? What if the support staff person themselves gets sick? What if they bring the virus home to their family?

Families and students face a similar gauntlet of scary options. Many schools are missing students they had last year and expected back. Did they move to another district? Opt for a charter school because they want some in-person learning but the district is all distance? Go to a parochial school because they want full in-person learning? Decide to homeschool if they're going to have the kids at home anyway? Or is it just part of

nets and the free bus transportation that supports them. Only English language learners can now be bused across boundaries of the district's subsections. (However, with full distance learning, the only thing being bused at all right now is school meals.)

I interviewed two workers in the center of this upheaval—a teacher and a part-time school bus driver. The teacher is currently in MPS, and the bus driver works for First Student, the large contracted school transportation company which is international in scope.

Beth is now in her tenth year of teaching at middle school level. Her previous nine years have been with two consecutive charter schools. She just recently quit the second charter school to take a similar job with MPS because she could not handle the workload and risks required for hybrid teaching. She described to me the incredible



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White Bear Lake educators demo for distance

the normal American mobility schools cope with every year?

In Minneapolis, this uncertainty is further compounded by the fact that the district is forging ahead with the unpopular Comprehensive District Design or CDD. This program is doing away with or greatly reducing combined elementary-middle schools, open schools, and mag-

amount of work involved in a complex model of hybrid learning. One thing that stood out for me—teachers themselves were required to deep clean their workspaces in the small amount of downtime (ha ha) between classes. I thought of all the out-of-work cleaners in the area, and could not fathom why the school wouldn't contract that

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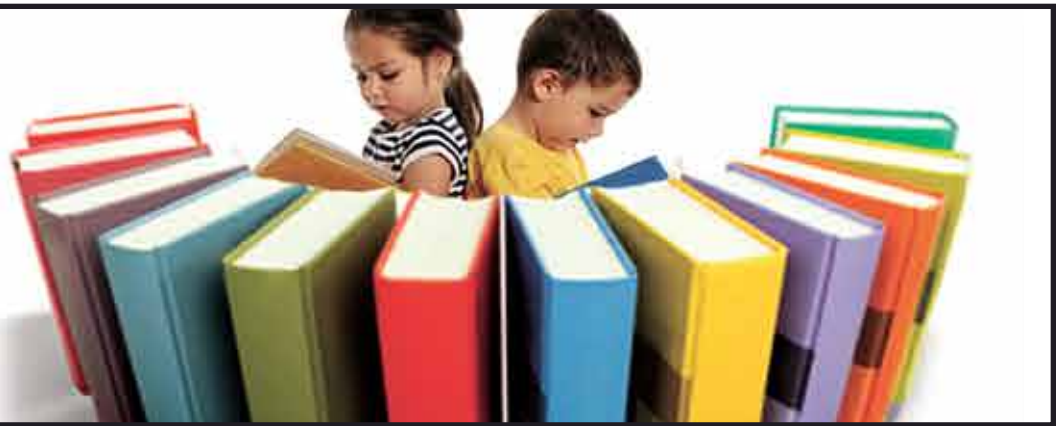
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Visit BoycottMPS.com for help

#ParentStrike #StudentStrike #BoycottMPS

Paid for by Minnesota Parent Union

Section



out, and I wondered how many teachers they lost when this was the final straw. Penny wise and pound foolish, perhaps, as the Brits say?

For Beth and other teachers in MPS and SPPS, there is still

KH has been driving school buses for First Student since he retired. Many school bus drivers are retirees or on part-time employment due to disabilities, so the work-or-don't-work dilemma is particularly pointed

320 of the same union. Since KH wanted to continue driving, despite his risk status, he opted to take a route in White Bear Lake, where the learning model is hybrid. By state guidelines, buses are operating at 50 percent capacity, riders and staff are masked, and the buses are deep-cleaned between each pickup. KH is very cognizant that his needs to keep working are at odds with his comrades in the teaching profession and teachers' unions. (First Student, by the way, is still desperate for bus drivers. Check their website for current openings.)

Parents are ambivalent, and span the full spectrum from all in-person to all distance in preference, with homeschooling also in the mix and on the rise. Well-known Minneapolis school activist and parent Sarah Lamm posted this on Facebook:

"I'd love to know more about what online/hybrid teaching is like here in MPS. I know my 6th grader's MPS specialist class has 150+ students in it. I also know a 6th grade teacher quit a few days before school started, and that another teacher who already has 153 students of her own is picking up the slack—apparently because MPS will not hire any short-term subs during distance learning. That means there is a 3-hour gap each week, thus far, for 6th graders at ****, because the teacher who is providing content already has other classes to teach...



St. Paul Federation of Teachers, Lake Street Bridge, Sept. 30

"Is this approach sustainable? And why isn't MPS dropping everything (including CDD planning/modeling/PPT presentations) to focus on providing more support to families, teachers and kids?"

As this complex story unfolds, teachers, administrators and support staff are all confronting the money-driven contradictions and paradoxes they face. Education Minnesota, the state's largest teachers union, said "schools should consider pumping the brakes on planned in-person instruction" just a

week before the first school openings. And on Sept. 30, educators from Minneapolis (MFT Local 59) and St. Paul (SPFE Local 28), along with many supporters from the community, met in the middle of the Lake Street-Marshall Avenue Bridge at rush hour to demand no hybrid learning until safety precautions can be made for all members of the school community, free and reliable internet for all families, hazard pay for frontline staff providing child care, and other key requirements for equity and safety.



Protest against CDD in May

a greatly increased workload involved in providing distance learning. They are cognizant, too, of the huge inequities in access to not only technology, but also basic school supplies and even a space at home conducive to learning. (Even before the economic catastrophe of COVID shutdowns, MPS and SPPS had alarmingly high rates of students who were unhoused, housing insecure, and food insecure.) Beth said the social workers in the system are "run ragged" delivering supplies and making home visits.

The school systems are not ignoring these inequities. Every student in MPS is entitled to a Chromebook, and either a hotspot or greatly decreased rates for "internet essentials" (which are metered, adding another layer of stress for families who need them). SPPS and suburban systems all have similar programs, and charities also step in to help. In a recent story for MPR, mprnews.org/story/2020/09/23/as-classrooms-go-online-theres-more-to-the-digital-divide-than-who-gets-a-hotspot, Riham Feshir detailed the gaps in both metro and outstate students' families, and highlighted the additional equity work of Ini Augustine, a Minneapolis network engineer and business owner who has been helping families with limited access to online learning. Her volunteer work includes parents who have experienced homelessness, and whose children need not just electronic devices, but desks, school supplies, food, and even hotel rooms. "You're not going to set a child up for internet for school in a home that has no electricity," Augustine remarked.

for them. Also, as KH pointed out, hourly-paid support staff such as cleaners, bus drivers, food service workers and teaching assistants are more likely to be POC than teachers, who are still a majority white even in districts with a majority of students of color. And who is most at risk for COVID-19? Elderly people, those with certain disabilities and some communities of color.

KH normally drives a route for SPPS, where First Student contractors are represented by Teamsters Local 120, while a fleet of direct district employed drivers is represented by Local

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VOTE

BY CONNIE SULLIVAN
MPLS ISSUES FORUM

There is absolutely no proof at all that the only “safe” way to vote is in person at a polling place on the day of Nov. 3. In Minneapolis, as in Minnesota as a whole, our voting system is intact and carefully monitored. Ballots do not get discarded. Mail in your vote early, check its status online as the state provides, and fix any problem with it way before Nov. 3!

The biggest problem nationally appears to be voters not paying attention to the proper procedure for voting by mail: First you have to fill out the ballot, then put it in the ballot envelope, then SIGN the ballot envelope—sometimes with a required witness—and put it in the mailing envelope. Then you find a post box or a ballot box downtown to place that mail envelope in.

So-called “naked” ballots (those not inside a signed ballot envelope that is inside the mailer) or those that lack a voter’s signature are the most frequent reasons a ballot doesn’t get counted as valid. You can fix a problem with your mail-in ballot, if you vote in time and then check on it. DO THAT.

No ballots get tossed out without reason, except where Republicans rule the process and are determined to suppress the vote totals, even at

the last minute after ballots have been cast. As Trump has recently said, all he has to do to win is “get rid of the ballots” and—just this week!—have the Supreme Court decide the winner, “not the ballots.”

Trump’s campaign wants us all to doubt the security of our ballots. Don’t let them do that to us. Not in Minneapolis, at least.

What are those two questions on my ballot, and why can’t I understand them?

BY DAVE TILSEN

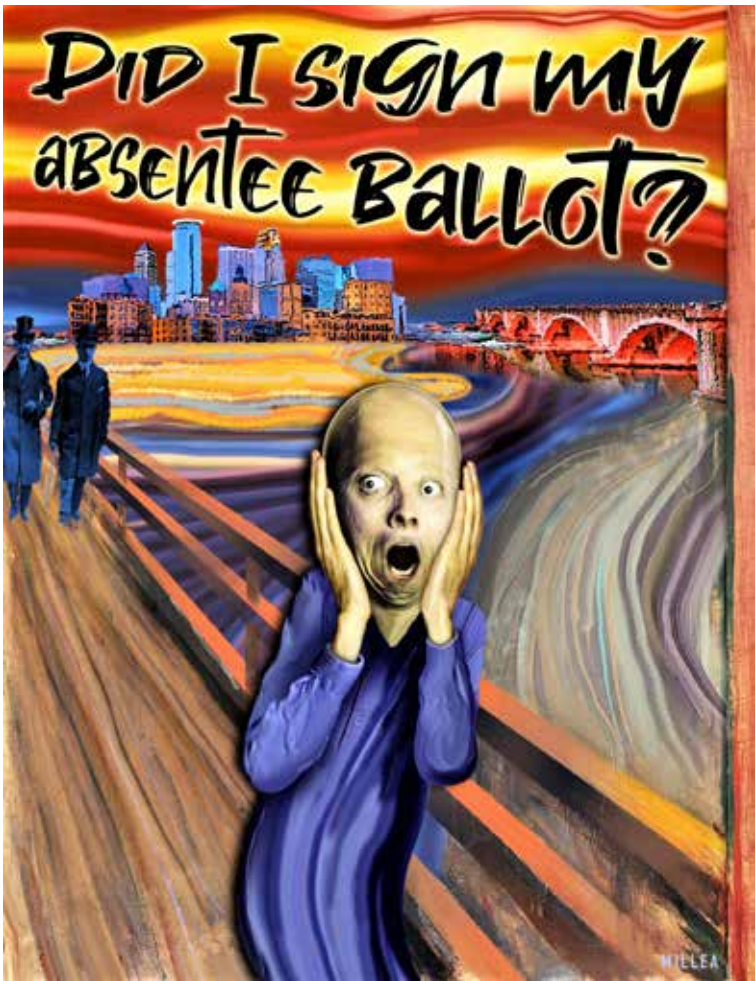
Someone said that these are the most poorly written charter amendments ever, but I don’t agree. I have read others. There has been no attempt here to allow a citizen to understand them from the text, and no public explanation from the city. It’s like they were written by the same people that gave us the Charter “cleanup” a few years ago. Oh wait, it was the same people. Our Charter Commission.

QUESTION 1 Redistricting of Wards and Park Districts

Shall the Minneapolis City

Charter be amended to allow ward and park district boundaries to be reestablished in a year ending in 1 and to allow the use of those new boundaries for elections in that same year; to allow ward and park district boundaries to be modified after the legislature has been redistricted to establish City precinct boundaries; to provide that an election for a Council Member office required by Minnesota law in a year ending in 2 or 3 after a redistricting shall be for a single 2-year term; and to clarify that a regular election means a regular general election?

What? Basically, the current state law conflicts with our charter when we have to redraw boundaries after a census. The amendment says that we can redraw the ward (and other) boundaries the next year (2021, a year ending in 1, see?) even if the legislature and congressional district battle is not done. Then we can have the City Council elected (along with the mayor) in 2021 with the new boundaries. But only for a two-year term, because the state law will require the City Council to be reelected in 2023 after the rest of the redistricting is done (which might change the ward boundaries again). Now, If we left it alone, that would make the City Council and the mayor out of sync, and require elections every year (we have state elections in even numbered years).



Elections are expensive, so we are told, and people don’t like to hold their officials accountable, says the City Council, which doesn’t want to return to two-year terms). To solve this, the 2023 election is also for only two-year terms, so everything is fixed. Yay! Well, only for seven years ’cause we have to do it all over again after the 2030 Census.

CITY QUESTION 2 (Minneapolis)

Special Municipal Elections

Shall the Minneapolis City Charter be amended to comply with Minnesota election law related to uniform dates for special municipal elections and to provide that a special election be held on a legal election day under Minnesota law that is more than 90 days from a vacancy in the office of May-

or or Council Member?

Another conflict between the charter and state law. This came up when Council Member Warsame resigned last winter to take another job with the city.

The charter says we needed a special election in 90 days, but the state law says there are only certain days that it is legal to hold an election. What to do? Change the charter, of course: eliminate the 90-day requirement.

Hope this is clear.

What happens if they don’t pass? I don’t know, but someone will certainly sue because no matter what the city does, it will violate either state law or the charter. So, unless your income is reliant on there being a lot of work for lawyers, vote yes on both.

Closed, from page 1

mutual aid efforts grow out of the protests, and keeping the street closed has been an integral part of that. Recently, the City Council voted to officially add the commemorative name of George Perry Floyd Jr. Place to this section of Chicago Avenue. I doubt this would have happened if protestors had cleared out earlier this summer.

While I commend the protestors’ occupation of the site for the duration of the trial, any discussion of the future of the intersection needs to consider leaving it closed in perpetuity. My husband and I visited the memorial a few weeks after the killing and were struck by how incredibly moving it was. The sacred nature of the space was palpable. People travel here from within the city, the greater metro area, and the

country. Hundreds, if not thousands, have already made pilgrimage here, all in the middle of a worldwide pandemic that has largely shut down travel. It already feels like the pedestrian zones found in Europe.

This may seem macabre, but as hinted at before, many tourist attractions in Europe are rooted in martyred saints or tragedy. There is also the important fact that maintaining this memorial pushes back against those who want to minimize or contradict the need for real change in how we police our communities. In the wake of World War II, a deliberate decision was made to preserve Nazi concentration camps and open them to the public. The idea behind this was that it would provide a way for people to bear witness to the horrors perpetrated in the name of white supremacy and xenophobia in the hopes

of preventing future tragedies. These are incredibly moving and compelling experiences. Millions of people visit the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum every year <http://auschwitz.org/en/visiting/attendance/>.

Keeping the street closed also offers a community resource. Again, I look to Europe, this time to their pedestrian zones. These often occupy town or city centers and commonly contain a cathedral. These spaces combine somber, sacred functions with joyful, vibrant interactions. Think of the unprecedented opportunity to foster a community space, a space that could include a farmer’s market, performance space, large outdoor seating areas for restaurants, gardens, trees, and public art, just to name a few options. The exciting thing is that there is already a community that has

a vested interest and is currently building up infrastructure within this zone. A large impact could be achieved with a fairly small investment from the city. Organizers have already formed a variety of amenities on George Floyd Square (as the protestors call it), from art, to community resources, and even a garden!

Those who have built the memorial should be recognized and organized into a council or committee to direct the future of the site. The city should then take its cue from European pedestrian zones and construct parking lots at the periphery, for example in the streets that dead-end at the intersection. When doing this, engineers and designers can build in access for emergency vehicles as necessary for safety. Once that is done, the planning and implementation of the stretch of asphalt should

be turned over to the community. The city should provide resources such as designers and engineers, any large construction help needed, but otherwise stay out of the way.

I understand that shutting down the streets and rerouting traffic are difficult for many to fathom. It could cause some inconvenience. But the space that would replace the thoroughfare would be a community asset rarely achieved in our state, let alone our country. We have the opportunity to replace cars and traffic with community, green space, and a true destination. The opportunity to recognize the tragedy and injustice of our society while fostering positive change for the future. We should seriously consider the option.

VOTE BY NOV. 3 FOR



diane

NAPPER

FOR STATE SENATE

63



PEOPLE OVER PARTY

We can't change our past, but together we can build our future.

I am a small business owner who has lived in Nokomis East for more than 22 years. I'm an ordinary citizen (like you), who simply wants to help make the lives of Minnesotans better.

I am committed to restoring balance to representation in Minneapolis; and I will do everything I can to remove the barriers to your essential rights to life, liberty and your right to determine and choose your happiness.

We can't change our past, but together we make the world a better place for all of us, no matter our differences in faith, race, color, sex, sexual orientation or economic status.

I'm asking for your vote **by Nov. 3** to bring a *fresh voice* to the state capitol to address:

- ★ **Public Safety** We all deserve to feel safe where we live, work and play. I support directing state resources to the prevention, investigation and prosecution of crime, as well as holding law enforcement accountable for egregious actions.
- ★ **Education** Every child deserves an education focused on excellence, regardless of their needs, abilities, talents, interests or ZIP code. I fully support providing more school choice so parents can determine the best option for their child.
- ★ **Economic Opportunities** Burdensome taxes and regulations impede small businesses from either starting up or expanding. Businesses provide jobs, and jobs strengthen families and communities.
- ★ **Government Waste** We Minnesotans work hard for our money and deserve to have our tax dollars spent wisely and efficiently. This means reforms to existing programs and following the money to find out where it's going.

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Prepared and paid for by Citizens for Diane Napper, P.O. Box 17252, Minneapolis, MN 55417

EVENTS AND
ONLINE RESOURCES

Braver Angels Skills Workshop
Tuesday, Oct. 13, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral
519 Oak Grove St., Mpls.

A virtual free Braver Angels skills workshop will provide participants with the knowledge of what it takes to have constructive, non-polarizing conversations between people who disagree politically, give them the chance to practice the skills to have these conversations, and motivate participants to have these conversations with people in their social network. Free, but registration is required. www.eventbrite.com/e/skills-for-bridging-the-political-divide-workshop-registration-119698123309

LeaderWise Conversations on Race
Monday, Nov. 2 and Dec. 7
4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Online

LeaderWise will host a free series of Conversations on Race this fall. Kelly Chatman will talk with us on Nov. 2 about the impact of engaging with changing community. On Dec. 7, Alicia Forde will help open our eyes to systemic obstacles that stand in the way of racial justice. Each event is free; registration is required. For more info and to register, go to <https://leaderwise.org/>.

Child Face Masks Needed for Refugee Families

Thanks to generous donors, our need for adult face masks has been consistently met. Our case managers have just let us know that families who arrived with refugee status are in need

of child-sized masks for day-to-day needs and so they can be prepared if children return to school in person. If you are able to help sew and donate child-masks, please contact us at rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org for drop off coordination. Thank you!

Bahá'i Center of Minneapolis

3644 Chicago Ave., Mpls.
Devotional gatherings, Monday-Saturday at 7:45 a.m. and Sunday at 10 a.m. Please visit the Bahá'i community of Minneapolis website at www.minneapolisbahai.org/. Here you will find information about upcoming and past Holy Day celebrations, as well as news, announcements and information.

Calvary Lutheran Church

3901 Chicago Ave. S.
Sunday Worship at 10 a.m., via Facebook Live and Zoom. See our website at www.clchurch.org for instructions.

Catholic Church of the Holy Name

3637 11th Ave. S., Mpls.
Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.
Limited seating, reserve online, and masks required. You may also watch Mass on our YouTube channel. www.churchoftheholyname.org/

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. Masks and social distancing required. Enter through church front center doors only. Please see our website at www.saintalbertthegreat.org/ for more details. Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass also streamed on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/StAlbert-TheGreatMpls/.

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 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. (Fridays temporarily suspended).

First Free Church

5150 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls.
Sunday services 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (in person and online). Children and youth programs also. Visit our website at www.first-freechurch.org for more information.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., Mpls.
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship recordings online at www.holycrossmpls.org. Scroll to mid-page on the homepage to see recordings and bulletins to follow along.

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 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 re-

cordings from previous weeks. www.livingspiritumc.org/online

Messiah Lutheran Church

2400 Park Ave., Mpls.
All services now online at www.messiahlutheranmpls.org. Each week we video services, viewable anytime, please join us! Visit our website for online devotions and bulletins.

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church

4101 37th Ave. S., Mpls.
Sunday Worship online at 9:45 a.m. All services and programs are temporarily online. Please check the church website for any changes: <https://minnehahacommunion.org/>.

Minnehaha United Methodist Church

3701 E. 50th St., Mpls.
Online Sunday worship available, either livestreamed at 9 a.m. or afterward on-demand. And our online Taizé service is back! Join us on our YouTube channel for a service of music, prayer and meditation. Next one is Friday, Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. Visit our website at www.minnehaha.org/ for more information.

Mt. Zion Lutheran Church

5645 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls.
Sunday worship at 9 a.m. Please see our website for more information. www.mtzioninmpls.org/

New Creation Baptist Church

1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.
Sunday Devotion 10:45 a.m. Masks and social distancing required. www.facebook.com/NewCreation-BaptistChurch/ <https://newcreationbaptist-churchmn.org/>

Nokomis Heights

Lutheran Church
5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.
www.nokomisheights.org
Physically distant but faithfully together. Connect with our online community on Facebook and YouTube. A new worship goes up on YouTube every Sunday at 10 a.m., and all are archived, so you can view the ones you missed. www.facebook.com/NokomisHeights/

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 www.saintjoanofarc.org/ or Facebook page www.facebook.com/StJoanMpls/.

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 www.walkerchurch.org/ or Facebook page at www.facebook.com/walkerumc/ for more information.

SHARING FOOD

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/FoodShelf
Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays)
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and Friendship Community Service
2600 E. 38th St., Mpls.

Food Hub
Free food, hygiene products, and some household goods.
Tuesday and Thursday,
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
2nd and 4th Saturdays,
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Please bring ID and wear a mask.
Social distancing guidelines are in place.

Calvary Lutheran Church
3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.

612-827-2504, ext. 205
The Calvary Emergency Food Shelf is available for area residents on Saturdays 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.

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, the Minnehaha Food Shelf is 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/

Groveland Emergency Food Shelf
1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.

Plymouth Congregational Church
612-871-0277
Monday – Friday
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Entrance on Groveland Ave. between Nicollet and LaSalle. <http://grovelandfoodshelf.org/>

Bethany Lutheran Church
2511 E. Franklin Ave., Mpls.

612-332-2397
Soup for You! UPDATE: We are still spreading the love! The Soup for You! Café will be closed to normal dining, but we plan to distribute bag lunches at the regular entrance to the Café, to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. www.bethanyinseward.org/

The Nokomis Religious Community Welcomes You

Christian

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612-724-3643
www.saintalbertthegreat.org
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Sunday 9:30 am
(also live-streamed on Facebook)
Sunday 12 noon
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CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY NAME

3637 - 11th Ave. S., 612-724-5465
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www.churchoftheholyname.org
Pastor: Fr. Leo Schneider
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FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3430 E. 51st St.
612-729-5463
www.faithlutheranmpls.org
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<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, Fridays temporarily suspended
Pastor: Rev. Jesse Davis

FIRST FREE CHURCH

5150 Chicago Ave. S.
612-827-4705
Sunday services 9 am & 10:30 am (in person and online)
Children and youth programs also
www.firstfreechurch.org
Christ-Centered, Christ-sent only

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS

1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.
612-722-1083
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship recordings online at www.holycrossmpls.org
Scroll to mid-page on the home page to see recordings and bulletins to follow along.
Pastor: Bruce Laabs

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<https://newcreationbaptist-churchmn.org/>
www.facebook.com/NewCreation-BaptistChurch/
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daniel B. McKizzie

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About smiling

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

During the 1990s, my friend Marie was the director of a shelter for homeless women and children sponsored by a small Christian denomination.

I visited her once at the shelter and I could see that she gave her whole heart to her work. She smiled at residents as they went out and came home. She smiled at them consulting with them about their plans. She smiled at strangers in need or at kids walking down the street. Her smile revealed her deep awareness of the vulnerability of another person. Her smile was completely reassuring and affirming, full of compassion and devoid of pity.

I had already seen this quality of hers when we were not even 20 years old and I went with her to visit the children who spent weeks alone in the ward at the hospital where she worked. She smiled with such unselfish kindness it seemed to me. She took seriously the isolation of these children with inconclusive diagnoses, and she knew how those scared, lonely children would feel when someone smiled at them. It was one of the gifts she gave them.

In Marie's office at the shelter, she handed me the heart-shaped pin given to supporters. "You should wear this," she smiled. It said, "A loving heart sees the need." That's when it registered with me that Marie smiled a lot. I suddenly understood Thich Nhat Hanh's statement: "Sometimes, your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy."

I knew Marie had many reasons not to be filled with joy, from an abusive childhood to a disastrous marriage to chronic health conditions, but she nevertheless embodied joy and generated happiness for herself and for others in her sphere, smiling.

On a bright, windless afternoon in March of 2008, I walked to a coffee shop in Minneapolis to meet my friend Mary. It was a day when smiles came out of me naturally. I don't know if I was smiling because I felt full of joy or felt joyful because I was smiling, as Thich Nhat Hanh suggests.

I passed a scruffy, shabby, bulky young man who looked like he wasn't doing very well. I smiled and said, "Good afternoon," an old-fashioned greeting that lets people know you

may be from another country or another generation. It makes you more dignified. The young man grunted a faint but friendly reply, as though confirming my sense that things were not going well for him.

I passed a young mother pushing her baby in a stroller. I admired the baby, smiled and said, "Good afternoon." Endearing pride shone from her face and she smiled back effusively, glad for the human contact, it seemed. (I remembered my own days at home with my baby daughter.)

I passed a young boy of maybe 8 or 10 sitting on the steps in front of his house. He was swinging a switch from his willow tree back and forth in a lazy arc. I smiled and said, "Good afternoon," and he answered with a full-throated, drawn out "Haiee" His smile said, "Look at me. I'm alive. Ain't it great?"

Fear of smiling often overcomes me and I lower my eyes to avoid human contact. Sometimes I feel like if I smile at people, they will think I'm weak. Or I doubt my smile will be returned and I don't want to take that chance.

When my children were growing up, I realized I rarely smiled. I realized that my mother had rarely smiled at home either. When I became aware of that fact I was stunned. It was something I wanted to change. It seemed imperative to change that. Once, in an experiential workshop in a prison, in a small group exercise, I said, in response to one of the exercises, that I wanted to smile at my children more often. I wanted to become a smiling mother. The inmates in my group were strangely affected by the sadness of an unsmiling mother and they strongly encouraged me. They were shocked at the idea of an unsmiling mother. I still smile when I think of their encouragement.

In the fall of 2007, my friend Barbara in Spain practically forced me (she begged me many times and arranged to pay some of my expenses) to come to New York City for a weekend Hindu healing workshop led by Dr. S. Mohanam-



bal, Barbara's physician, who practices both Western and Ayurvedic medicine. The workshop was sponsored by the One Spirit seminary (a theological seminary that studies all religions—dear to my heart) on 38th Street in Manhattan. The coordinator from the seminary told me I had a beautiful smile when I met her. I didn't take the compliment as manipulative flattery; therefore, I was able to receive it. This woman affirmed my smile as a source of power, not an obsequiousness, or vulnerability.

Then I started thinking of my smile as a gift I could give, one that people would like to receive. It helped me continue smiling at my family.

And it helped me later that year when I went to Kansas to visit my mother, who had been diagnosed with Parkinson's. She was comfortable but lonely in the care home where she sat all day long doing nothing. She couldn't communicate with words any more. If you asked her a question and she heard the intonation, the end of the sentence rising as questions do, you could feel the little ping of dread that went to her heart because she knew she wouldn't be able to answer. She would try to talk, but it was hard. Once in a while everything came together. But usually nobody had the time to wait around for that to happen.

On the first day I smiled all the time and hugged her and held her hands. I tried to talk with her but felt cruel every time. So, I kept smiling. I thought it was probably the best thing I could give her. Maybe I was passing along

some healing from the Hindu healing seminar.

When I was leaving, my mother stated, "You're doing really well, aren't you." It wasn't a question. It made her very happy, I could tell, to think that I was doing very well. I know, as a mother, that for mothers (whether or not they can talk, no matter how lonely they may be, whether or not they remember anything), the most important thing is the well-being of their children.

Considering that I've had to learn to smile, I always have to smile to myself when I see someone just smiling for no reason, not at anyone, just smiling away, maybe from natural happiness.

When I went to visit Marie at the shelter, we went out to eat one afternoon and a young server, about 15 or 16 years old, smiled the whole time she refilled our water glasses (maybe she was stoned and enjoying every minute of it). I used to have a young piano student who always smiled broadly as he played. It's amazing how much joy a smile can generate.

Thich Nhat Hanh also said, "Today, give a stranger one of your smiles. It might be the only sunshine he sees all day." Of course, now, with COVID masks, people can't always tell when you smile—although the crinkling eyes are a good clue.

Whenever I can safely remove my mask, I try to take the opportunity to spread some smiles, some human-to-human affirmation, so we can confront the great challenges ahead at this time—our dying planet, our pandemic, our racism.

.....

Job, from page 1

purview of the Police Department, but, rather, they should be organized by the Department of Public Health with an emphasis on treating the causes of crime and social alienation: poverty, lack of education and job opportunities.

Finally, 2020 has been a hor-

rible year. To misquote Shakespeare: Some are born to horror, some achieve horror, and some have horror thrust upon them. Your immediate reaction to the horror of George Floyd's murder was to attempt to defund and abolish the Police Department. Now, with your current proposal, you have gone to the other extreme. The

elaborate proposal by city staff is to create more bureaucracy, and that creates more jobs for bureaucrats and an expensive labyrinth of unaccountability. The process becomes a substitute for action.

The people of Minneapolis elected you to run the city. Please, do your job!

--Ed Felien

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:

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CALL US AT 612-822-4662
email us at editor@southsidepride.com
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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

EVENTS

UMN English Writers Series Online via Zoom

The UMN English Writers Series' October events are must-sees! Both are free and open to the public, and will be presented online via Zoom. Selected events will be recorded and available for later viewing. Please register to attend.

Ada Limón

Thursday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.

A reading and conversation with Prof. Ray Gonzalez. Limón is the author of five books of poetry, most recently

"The Carrying," which won the 2018 National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry. Her fourth book, "Bright Dead Things," was named a finalist for the National Book Award, the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, and the National Book Critics Circle Award. Register here for this free Zoom event: https://umn.zoom.us/join/wn_eu_ykhqhdCyN241khUnMg

Hanif Abdurraqib

Thursday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.

A reading and conversation with Prof. Douglas Kearney. Abdurraqib is a poet, essayist and cultural critic from Columbus, Ohio. He is the author of The New York Times bestseller "Go

Ahead in the Rain," and a collection of poems "A Fortune for Your Disaster." His forthcoming book is a history of Black performance in the United States, titled "They Don't Dance No Mo'." Register for this free Zoom event here: https://umn.zoom.us/join/wn_ragZ_BpJQd-KOW5aZnpCxog

Welcome Back to WAM!

Thursday—Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

Weisman Art Museum
333 E. River Parkway, Mpls.
The museum has reopened to the public, with recommended safeguards in place, as of Oct. 1. As always, admission is free and open to the public. There are no advance ticket reservations or timed entry required, however museum capacity will be limited to 25% or less at all times. While we are taking all precautions to ensure a safe, comfortable visit, mitigating and assessing the risk of infection from the coronavirus remains a factor anywhere people gather indoors. We will rely on our visitors to do their part, by properly wearing face-coverings at all times, keeping a safe distance apart, and staying home when they're feeling unwell. We understand that not everyone in our community feels quite ready to visit the museum in person just yet. Given that, most of WAM's student and community programming and art educational resources will be online for now. Please visit our website for more information on some new policies and protocols to help keep all of our visitors and staff safe. Welcome back to the galleries! <https://wam.umn.edu/>

**2020 Virtual Twin Cities
Jewish Film Festival**

Oct. 15—Nov. 1

Free virtual event

The Sabes JCC and the St. Paul JCC are thrilled to announce the film lineup of the 2020 Twin Cities Jewish Film

Festival (TCJFF)—a first-ever virtual festival featuring eight outstanding film events, including feature length and short films, post-film conversations and more—all from the comfort of your home!

The Festival will feature Jewish-themed narrative, documentary, and short films from around the world. Some of the films highlighted in the festival include "TransKids," "Lost in Berlin," "Stranger/Sister," "The Tattooed Torah," and many more. To enjoy the Festival, simply register for an ALL FESTIVAL PASS, which offers access to all films from Oct. 15 through Nov. 1. In addition to the films, links will be available to watch engaging post-film conversations with filmmakers and aficionados on the TCJFF website. The Festival is FREE to the community, thanks to the generosity of the Mary and Julius Pertzik Jewish Cultural Arts fund. For more info or to register, visit: www.tcjffilmfest.org.

**Help Provide Diverse Books
For Local Schools**

Magers & Quinn has organized a fundraiser to provide diverse books to local schools, in partnership with Reading Partners Twin Cities. Reading is critical to student success both in school and beyond. But right now, many students are learning from home with limited access to classroom or public libraries. To help get books into the hands of more kids and support at-home reading, we're hosting a digital book drive for Minneapolis schools! All of the funds raised will be used to purchase books, and these books will be distributed to students at the following schools: Ascension Catholic School, Bethune Community School, Lyndale Elementary, and Hiawatha

Leadership Academy. Donations are welcome at this link: www.gofundme.com/f/help-us-provide-diverse-books-for-local-schools?utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all

**Blue Thumb Lawns to Legumes
Resilient Yards Workshops for Fall**

Many of us are spending more time in our yards, grateful to have this natural place of solace in these uncertain times. More and more, though, Minnesota and its inhabitants are feeling the impacts of a changing climate on our landscapes, including unseasonable heat and torrential rainfalls. Take control of the situation. Attend a Blue Thumb Lawns to Legumes workshop, offered as a webinar, to learn strategies for mitigating the effects of climate change in your outdoors, and to help protect pollinators, clean water and the local ecosystem. The Resilient Yards workshop presents strategies for site planning, native plantings, stormwater management practices including raingardens and pollinator habitat, among other things. Participants also meet one-on-one with landscape designers and master gardeners. The Turf Alternatives workshop provides other options to conventional turf lawns, among them lawns that require less water and fewer inputs, and that better support pollinators. Metro Blooms staff with expertise in landscape design and pollinator habitat will present. Webinars cost \$15 unless otherwise noted. Scholarships are available. These workshops are offered with the support of the City of Minneapolis. More information: <https://bluethumb.org/events/>, or call 651-699-2426.

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

The choice between peace and mutually assured destruction

There it was—the article reminding us of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and who better to write it than Helen Caldicott, pediatrician, founder of the Physicians for Social Responsibility and Nobel Peace Prize winner. It's been 75 years since the bombs were dropped and the world is growing no closer to eliminating those weapons and agreeing to their abolition. One hundred twenty thousand people were killed immediately and thousands and thousands more died of radiation.

Then came the response. Between 1945 and 1998, the United States conducted more than 1,000 nuclear tests and has built more than 70,000 atomic and hydrogen bombs. The Russian Federation built at least 55,000. Since then, arms control agree-

ments have resulted in reducing these numbers to about 14,000 nuclear bombs in the possession of nine nations, with the U.S. and Russia leading the pack, each with more than 6,000 total weapons.

A nuclear "exchange" between the two would take a bit over one hour to complete.

A 20-megaton bomb would dig a hole three-quarters of a mile wide and 800 feet deep, converting all buildings and people into radioactive fallout. Within six miles in all directions every living thing would be vaporized. Twenty miles from the epicenter, huge fires would erupt as winds up to 500 miles per hour would suck people out of buildings and turn them into missiles traveling at 100 miles per hour. The fires would coalesce, incinerating much of the U.S. Possibly billions of people would die hideously from acute radiation sickness, vomiting and bleeding to death. As thick black radioactive smoke engulfed the atmosphere, the earth would eventually be plunged into another ice age.

Another incipient disaster is the warming of the planet. The International Energy Agency said recently that we have only six months left to avert the ef-

fects of global warming until it is too late. Actually the U.S. Department of Defense is a misnomer; it is the Department of War, Death and Suicide. Hundreds of billions of U.S. taxpayer dollars are spent by corporations to create and build the most hideous weapons ever known. Investments in these companies, no doubt, bring returns but at what cost!

THIS COUNTRY MUST BE ON FRIENDLY TERMS WITH ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD. THE UNITED STATES NEEDS TO RISE TO ITS FULL MORAL AND SPIRITUAL HEIGHT AND LEAD THE WORLD TO SANITY AND SURVIVAL.

Julian Assange, a journalist in danger

Remember him? He's the Australian founder of the website "WikiLeaks" who ended up in a London jail on 17 espionage charges and one charge of computer misuse. He could spend the rest of his life in the U.S. prison in Florence, Colo. He's in the news again as the Chinese dissident Al Weiwei staged a silent protest over his treatment, claiming authorities have a responsibility to protect press freedom and that Assange is a

journalist entitled to protection. Assange could, no doubt, benefit from expressions of similar concern from journalists worldwide.

Blackface isn't all negative

In my Hot Springs, Ark. birthplace, a large "ball" is held each Christmas at the most upscale hotel in town at which young white children, with blackened faces, hand out favors in the form of small cotton bales. I once was one of those children. I was reminded of this recently in reading a New York Times article about Blackface. I remembered a particular ball years ago when a white man pulled back my shirt sleeve, pointing to my white skin, laughing, and I was embarrassed. Thus, my introduction to Blackface.

There are layers of ideas and thoughts about Blackface and not all are negative. Racquel Gates, an associate professor of cinema and media studies at the College of Staten Island CUNY, says, "It's important to back up and ask, 'What do we think Blackface is and what do we think it does? Sometimes it's self-aware; sometimes it can be a scathing critique; other times, an unnecessary provocation.

Which is why it's a disservice to erase the memory of the use of Blackface from the internet, when what we really should be doing is try to understand it: why it persists, and what, if anything, it's trying to say." (Examples of Blackface as satire are present in the cinemas, in the TV show "Lethal Weapon," and in a 2008 episode of "Thirty Rock.")

One episode of a long-gone TV show, "Believe in the Stars," asks the question whether it's worse to be a white woman or a black man. The same premise occurs in a 2007 episode of the "Sarah Silverman Program," in which Sarah challenges a Black restaurant server's insistence that it's more difficult being Black than her insistence that it's harder being Jewish. Sometimes the issue is broached by a comedian just "for fun." Is there a way to promote or show a Silverman episode today?

In his book "Disintegrating the Musical—Black Performance and American Musical Film," Arthur Knight describes how Blackface appeared in Hollywood movies such as "The Jazz Singer" and "Holiday Inn." The transformation was part of an appeal for audiences. I wonder if this issue would entice viewers today, either white or Black?

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