



We build Pride on the Southside

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Dying



BY TONY BOUZA

One of my closest friends, Joe Selvaggio, (who is probably well known to you) has done more for poor people than anyone but Mary Jo Copeland. Joe is an ex-priest and has strayed. Today he wrestles with death and asked me to include this and respond:

"The wise man dies when he ought, not when he must."
—Seneca

Good advice, but not always that helpful in real life. Joe Selvaggio says he ought to die now (or soon) because he is almost at the point where he cannot take care of himself, and he cannot volunteer much for "good causes" in the community. However, his wife and one of his sons want him to "soldier on" a bit longer.

How much should the loved ones of a person have to say about when one "ought" to die? Shouldn't they have enough respect for the rights of their loved one to let him make his own decision?

My response:
"I never thought

See Bouza, page 11



Gimme shelter

KAY A. SCHROVEN

In the late 1980s Erick Everson was hanging out in the Whittier neighborhood of Minneapolis and was a frequent and friendly face at the Simpson Shelter. He battled mental illness. When Erick was doing well, he did odd jobs in the area such as helping out at a video store, delivering newspapers, etc. During the summer of 1990 the shelter closed for a while. The Simpson staff and advocates heard that no one had seen Erick lately and became concerned about him. In late August, two weeks after his 39th birthday, Erick's body was found behind the Lake Street Kmart. He had been murdered by a fellow homeless man who was in a drunken rage. It seems there was a dispute over Erick's cigarettes. The family was, and continues to be, devastated by the tragic loss of this outgo-

ing, bright, creative son, brother and friend. Some months later the Minneapolis police informed the family that the perpetrator confessed to the crime while in detention on another charge. Despite the violent nature of the crime, the Star Tribune dedicated just one paragraph to Erick's death—a newspaper Erick once delivered.

On Jan. 21, 2021, Twin City headlines reported the death of a homeless person, and another injured. This occurred in a St. Paul encampment where in an effort to stay alive the unsheltered individuals lit fires. Firewood and propane heaters were found at the site. This was St. Paul's third death of an unsheltered person in the 2020-21 winter. The first week of January 2021, Minneapolis police reported a suspicious death at the Minnehaha Park Drive encampment. The deceased man found in a

tent showed signs of trauma and was discovered by volunteers who were assisting the campers in finding shelter. The police had posted notices of eviction on Dec. 31, with a 72-hour window to vacate due to unsafe weather conditions. The death is under investigation.

John Petroskas, a long-time volunteer in the effort to end homelessness points out that the Minneapolis incident is much more common than the St. Paul one. "People often ask if exposure to the elements is a common cause of death. It is not. More often the cause is homicide (including domestic), suicide, overdoses and accidents. We have a lot of alcohol and drug addiction in the homeless community which compounds existing conditions."

People who have lost a loved one often report a concern, a fear that their loved one will be forgot-

See Shelter, page 5

It's just a concept!

BY KATHRYN KELLY

Taxpayers have now paid almost 1 million dollars for the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan. When the Park Board is questioned about the viability of any feature of their plan, their response is, "It's just a concept."

Well, I have to agree that it is truly a concept, made up in someone's fanciful mind.

I first questioned the realistic nature of their planning when I read their original document. It stated that they were proposing a parking lot on the golf course property at East 43rd Street and 23rd Avenue South. Having grown up two blocks away, the first thing that came to my mind was the steep 30-foot or so drop from the street to the golf course at that location. Were they going to put in an elevator for the cars to get them up and down? An unrealistic concept.

Then, they proposed daylighting of the 43rd Street storm sewer pipe at 43rd and 19th, thus creating an open sewer from there to the lake. Their document said that they had not done any grading analysis to determine if the water in this new channel would actually flow in the direction of the lake. If it didn't,



Existing golf course pump discharge
(Photo/Draft Hiawatha Golf Course Area Master Plan)

the houses in that neighborhood would be flooded. An unproven concept.

Another important question has been the protection of the homes to the west from flooding once pumping is stopped at the golf course. Their answer has always been that two pumps placed in the neighborhoods will protect the homes. Experts I have talked to do not endorse this plan. Plus, what really startled me was a statement in the MPRB documents that said once the pumping at the

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Valentine's Day Section
pages 8 - 9

‘Unceasing Militant’

BY CAROL HOGARD

“Unceasing Militant: The Life of Mary Church Terrell” is the newly published biography by Dr. Alison M. Parker, department chair of American history at the University of Delaware. Dr. Parker has righted the historical record by this definitive work about one of the most important, but long neglected, suffragists and civil rights fighters of the 20th century. Not only does Dr. Parker explore the details of Mary Church Terrell’s life, but she includes a contextual history of the actions, ideas and players of the civil rights struggle in each of Mary Church Terrell’s many organizing projects. Known

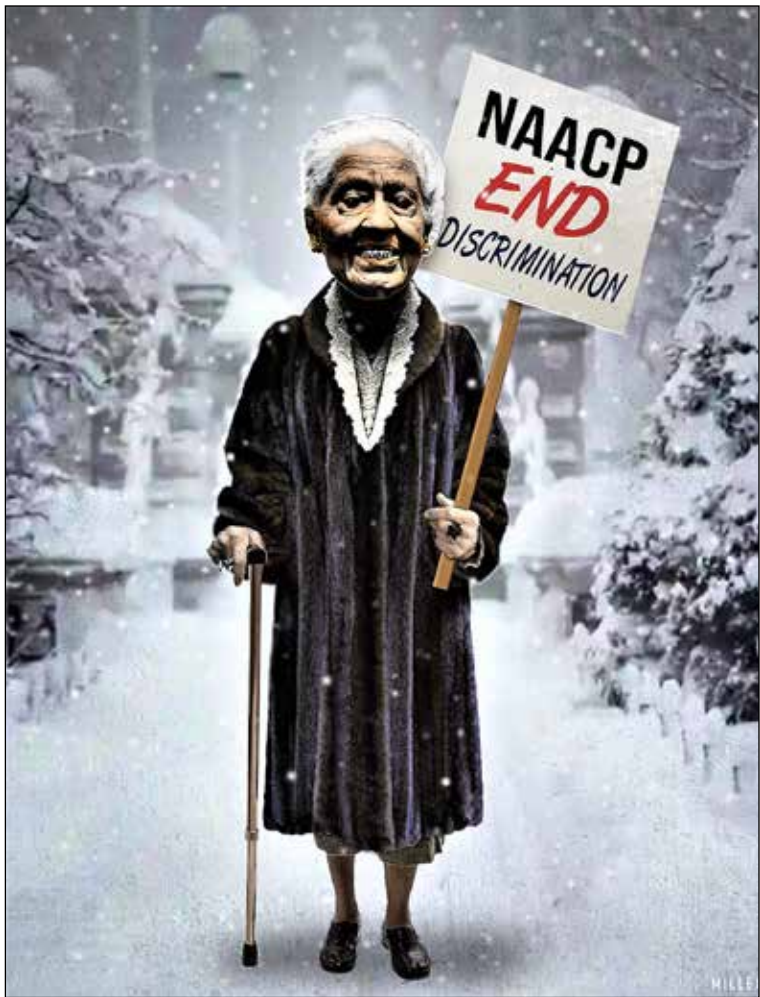
by her friends as Mollie, she was a major star of the human rights fight from 1904 through 1954.

Born in 1863, as the Union Army occupied Memphis, and before slaves were freed there, Mary Church Terrell became one of the major fighters for U.S. and international human rights. Tall and elegant, with an outstanding voice and great wit, she became a great and much in demand speaker. Besides speaking, she helped to organize for educational rights, voting rights, striking cafeteria workers’ rights, African American women’s reproductive health needs and international peace.

Born to enslaved parents,

Robert Church and Louisa Ayers, both of whom became outstanding entrepreneurs after emancipation, Mollie was given the best educational opportunities of the time. Robert Church owned bars, pool halls and housing in the section of Memphis that was the birthplace of the Memphis Blues on Beale Street. Louisa Ayers was an on-demand, artistic hairdresser in the upscale shopping section of the city. Her parents’ financial success made it possible for Mollie to have access to the best education of the time. She attended Horace Mann’s Model School affiliated with Antioch College in Yellow Spring, Ohio, and graduated from Oberlin College with a BA (the gentlemen’s curriculum—as opposed to the ladies’ curriculum, which was only two years) in 1884 and an MA in 1887. After college she studied in Europe to polish her already fluent languages: German, French, Italian, Greek, and Latin.

While she is noted for being one of the founders of the NAACP, she is rarely given credit for the Committee of Forty on Permanent Organization that created the NAACP. The same is true for the formation of the National Association of Colored Women (NACW). She was the first president of a coordinated national effort to unite the African American Women’s clubs across the U.S. and create a strong lobbying group for



their agendas: anti-lynching, enforcement of the 14th and 15th amendments, sexual stereotyping, housing and sanitation issues, workers’ rights, poorly equipped schools, securing the vote and ending the convict lease system.


By invitation from Susan B. Anthony, Mollie began her civil rights lecture career with her first public speech before a mixed Black and white audience in Rochester, N.Y., at the Political Equality Club.

She was a guest in Anthony’s home and began a friendship that lasted until Anthony’s death in 1906. Although later there was tension in their professional relationship, they often shared a stage at organizing meetings. The Rochester speech began Mollie’s lifelong reputation as an outstanding speaker with great talent to effectively articulate Black women’s political agenda to white and mixed audiences. Another early supporter of Mollie’s speaking talent was Fredrick Douglass. The two often collaborated on political presentations. They worked together organizing Ida B. Wells’ anti-lynching speaking tour in D.C. They also went to speak to President Benjamin Harrison in 1880 to request a powerful, public anti-lynching stand. MCT was such an outstanding speaker that she even earned a living being a major speaker on the Chautauqua circuit. She often shared a stage with Douglass. Imagine being in the audience when Terrell, Douglass and Anthony shared the stage—thrilling!

She moved into the international forum as a much-desired speaker when she was invited in 1904 to speak at the International Congress of Women in Berlin. She delivered her speech in German and in French.

Using her reputa-

See Terrell, page 11



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The legacy of Lisa Bender

BY ED FELIEN

Lisa Bender changed the world.

There probably has never been anyone in Minneapolis politics (with the possible exception of Hubert Humphrey) who has had such a profound impact on the city, the state and the country.

She had a vision for the City of Minneapolis that she fiercely believed in, and she saw that vision through to its conclusion.

Armed with a master's degree in city and regional planning from the University of California at Berkeley, she became the communications director for a lobbying group in Manhattan advocating mass transit, bicycles and walking as an alternative to cars. After a stint as a city planner in San Francisco, she returned to Minneapolis, ran against Meg Tuthill for a seat on the City Council in 2013 and won.

She is the grand architect of the mammoth bike lanes in Minneapolis that seem to be forcing cars off the streets. She has lowered the speed limit on city streets to 20 mph. But Park and Portland Avenues, Cedar Avenue, 42nd Street, Lyndale Avenue, Lake Street and University Avenue are all county highways as well as city streets, and the city has no jurisdiction over speed limits on those roads. But, by increasing the width of bicycle lanes she has reduced those highways from four lanes to two, or (in the case of Park and Portland) from two to one.

When I was on the City Council, almost 50 years ago, I established bike lanes on Park and Portland Avenues—modest 6-foot lanes—but the traffic engineer told me I had wiped out six handicapped parking places, so I retreated and eliminated them. I was busy with other objectives:

municipal ownership of the electric company, rent control and down-zoning neighborhoods, and I had no way to fight off the objections of city staff so I backed down. As a former city planner and chair of the Zoning and Planning Committee and then president of the council, Bender knew enough to simply hire more planners who agreed with her. When I was on the council, the city had three city planners. Today they have more than 200.

The great planning document to come out of the current City Council is the 2040 Plan. This document argues that in order to have racial equity we need to create more housing opportunities in the city, so the plan calls for up-zoning the areas from Broadway in the north to 42nd Street in the south to allow construction of apartment buildings. This means that naturally occurring affordable housing in the inner city, small single-family homes that right now are owned or rented by communities of color, will be sold to developers to build expensive apartment buildings for young urban professionals. The areas of the city south of 42nd Street that had restrictive covenants prohibiting a property owner from selling their home to a person of color would be unaffected by these block-busting apartment buildings. And the city has the audacity to claim that wiping out affordable housing for communities of color and protecting historically white neighborhoods from gentrification is being done in the name of establishing racial equity.

Finally, Southside Pride argued in March of last year, when the city settled the Terrence Franklin lawsuit, that Lisa Bender was whistling in the dark when she said, “I

think our policy changes in the police department, leadership changes, have really created a scenario where this is unlikely to happen again, so I think it's time to move forward and really continue with the changes that we're making in the police department to make sure this never happens again.” We said the police are not going to change unless they are held accountable. The city did not contest the plaintiff's claim that Officer Lucas Peterson murdered Terrance Franklin while he was surrendering with his hands up. The city paid out more than a million dollars to end the matter without dealing with that essential question, and Lucas Peterson still works for the MPD.

Without holding Lucas Peterson accountable, what lessons did Lisa Bender believe the MPD had learned? The lesson they learned was that they could get away with murdering Black men.

So, it was easy for Derek Chauvin to put his knee to George Floyd's neck and choke the life out of him three months later.

But this time the world saw what happened. And the world exploded in protest. Lake Street went up in flames. The Third Precinct burned to the ground.

On Sunday, June 7, Lisa Bender led eight other members of the City Council to Powderhorn Park and declared they would “begin the process of ending the Minneapolis Police Department.” This was the shout heard 'round the world. It became the mantra and campaign slogan for Trump and Republicans. It's probably the main reason the DFL wasn't able to win the State Senate, and it affected congressional and Senate races across the country. All a Republican candidate had to say was, “I'm not



Lisa Bender

going to abolish the police,” and voters breathed a sigh of relief.

And this time the expert city planner didn't have a plan. She had no idea how to go about dismantling the MPD. Later that year during final budget negotiations with the mayor, she could only quibble about where to spend an extra \$500,000 out of an MPD budget of almost \$200 million.

The Powderhorn Manifesto was probably the reason Democrats lost 13 seats in the House and didn't pick up easy Senate seats in North Carolina and Iowa. And the Charter Commission is preparing a Charter Amendment to be voted on this fall to weaken the power of the City Council and strengthen the power of the mayor—making city government even less democratic.

The legacy of Lisa Bender will be a scorched earth.

But it didn't have to be that way.

Yes, bicyclists need to be kept safe, but that doesn't mean we have to force cars off the road. Maybe the solution is to keep bicycles off busy arterial streets and give them exclusive right of way on some side streets. Rather than have them compete for space on Park and Portland,

maybe they should have Oakland Avenue with cars only able to drive one block without being diverted to Park or Portland.

Yes, we need more apartment buildings but not at the expense of single-family homes owned or rented by communities of color.

Yes, we need to change the manner of policing, but maybe we don't have to abolish the police department. If the police chief won't hold officers accountable, and the mayor doesn't act, then maybe the City Council should act to hold hearings to hold MPD officers accountable for their actions.

It is understandable but regrettable that, in the absence of decisive action by the City Council, the Charter Commission would decide to try to move the city toward a strong-mayor form of government. We have just seen, on the national level, what a government by a bully looks like. I don't think we want that in Minneapolis.

But I think we do want a City Council that cares about the general welfare of all forms of transportation, that cares about affordable housing in the inner city, and that cares enough about justice to hold our police department accountable.

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



COVID vaccinations

Israel leads the world in per capita COVID vaccinations, with more than a million and a half Israelis having been vaccinated. Authorities estimate officials can administer the vaccine to some two million Israelis before the end of March, if not earlier, and hope to have the bulk of the population vaccinated by the end of March, but not the Palestinians living there. Israeli officials contend that Palestinians living in the area don't

fall under their jurisdiction under the terms of the Oslo accords and that it is the job of the Palestinian Authority to procure and distribute vaccines in the occupied territories. Israeli Health Minister Yuli Edelstein explained: "I don't think there is anyone in this country, whatever his or her views might be, who can imagine that I would be taking vaccines from the Israeli citizen and with all the good will, give it to our neighbors." Evidently Mr. Edelstein considers Palestinians to be "neighbors" but not worthy of vaccines.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Question about the count?

I have known Ed Felien for over 50 years and remember his newspaper, Hundred Flowers, and stopping in at his office upstairs on Cedar Avenue for coffee once in a while when I was in college. One thing I can always count on is the truth with any publication he is associated with.

I've known his family a long time. His brother Pat at one time worked for me when I owned a cab. His mom was a real fighter.

I first met Ed when I worked for Jim Butler, Republican City Council member who happened to be a libertarian and a good man who was a two-term member of the council. When I was in college Ed ran an excellent campaign and surprisingly won and did a great job, but upset the established and powerful in Minneapolis, mainly Northern States Power (NSP), but that's another story.

What I'm getting to today is in the December 2020 [Riverside] issue of the paper. Elina Kolstad's article ["Hey hey, ho ho, Gov'nor Walz has got to go"], which is a commentary more than a news story, states that Joe Biden received more votes in Hennepin County than President Trump received in the entire state of Minnesota, which is a complete falsehood and a lie. Biden received in Hennepin County 532,623

votes and Trump got 1,484,065 votes in MN. I feel it is very important to report information backed by facts, not a narrative they wish to adopt supported only by misinformation. Also, President-elect Biden is no Mother Teresa. Let's not forget he once gave a eulogy at a Grand Cyclops of Ku Klux Klan funeral and opposed, from the Senate floor, public school integration, saying it'll create a jungle for white children, and he opposed gays in the military.

But in closing, thanks, Ed, for all the good work you're doing on the golf course and this is just one instance of one reporter who let it get a little out of hand involving the truth.

—William Marshall

Response from Elina Kolstad:

Dear Bill,

First of all, thank you for reading my article. You are correct in your assessment that it was intended as commentary, not news. The statement in question referenced an article from MPR titled "Biden won big in Minnesota. Why didn't legislative Democrats?" The direct quote is, "In fact, Biden's record-large margin of 322,000 votes from Hennepin County alone was bigger than the 310,000 votes Trump won in all of the 74 counties he won combined." I misread this. I

apologize. I would argue that my point still stands and that if Democrats can engage voters of color and progressives, they can easily win elections in Minnesota going forward.

As far as criticisms of Biden, my statement was not meant to be an argument of why Biden was a good candidate. In fact, I think he was a bad choice for the Democrats to make. My point was that the threat posed by Donald Trump to our democracy, combined with the work done by Ilhan Omar, mobilized voters of color and progressives who, like myself, have in the past supported third party candidates, demonstrates a political path forward for the Democratic party to win statewide elections in Minnesota.

I would like to add, I do find the timing of your vitriol against Biden interesting. As far as I can tell this comment was sent on January 13, 2021. That is exactly a week after Trump incited a violent coup attempt at our nation's Capitol, which included many neo-Nazi symbols including a man in a "Camp Auschwitz" hoodie, people carrying Confederate flags, and resulted in the deaths of five people including a police officer. I can't think of anything that justifies those of us who bought in to the "lesser of two evils" argument for the first time in our lives more.

—Elina Kolstad

Concept, from page 1

golf course stops, groundwater levels in neighborhoods will rise as far away as Powderhorn Park, requiring increased pumping from Powderhorn Lake. So, this one change will put at risk all low-lying homes between Lake Hiawatha and Powderhorn Lake. And, the City of Minneapolis and the MPRB will have to, somehow, put in place a pumping regime in the neighborhoods that will protect hundreds of homes. I guess, it's just a concept! Who really cares if it works?

And, the new plan will require tons of fill to raise the new 9-hole golf course above the level of Lake Hiawatha. In some places, this will require up to 7 or 8 feet of fill. This will also reduce the floodplain that is so critical to keeping homes dry. At one point, someone asked the MPRB why they couldn't just elevate the 18-hole golf course above the level of the lake. Their answer was that they couldn't do it because they would lose part of the critical floodplain. Now,

losing part of the critical floodplain is in their plan. So, which concept about floodplain storage is valid? I guess it doesn't matter to the MPRB because it is just a concept.

And, when people question the safety of the new plan, which puts golfers, pedestrians and kayakers in dangerous proximity to each other, I guess it is just a concept, so no one should worry.

And then there is the infamous berm. Originally, it was so unsafe that it could burst at any time and drown golfers. Now, the concept is to use it as a trail around the lake for pedestrians. Which concept is real?

How many more millions of dollars does the MPRB need to spend before they put out a real plan that is not just a "concept" full of crazy pipe dreams?

Let's count the lies.

The Park Board will be voting on whether to approve the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan in the near future. But how can the public be confident in this plan when so many

lies have been served up by the Park Board to justify it? Here are the lies:

- The golf course is sinking - a lie.
- The berm will break and kill golfers - a lie.
- The golf course was in violation of its pumping permits - a lie.
- The DNR will not let the Park Board continue pumping - a lie.
- The pumping is unsound and is polluting Lake Hiawatha - a lie.
- The new plan will reduce pollution in Lake Hiawatha - a lie.
- The cost of repair and revenue loss from the 2014 storm was \$4 million - a lie.
- The Black community is OK with a 9-hole course and some historical recognition - a lie.
- The neighborhood supports the plan - a lie.
- The neighborhood can accommodate increased traffic from the plan - a lie.
- The pumping volumes were a surprise - a lie. Since 2012 the Park Board and the City have intentionally dumped

millions more gallons of storm water on the golf course every year.

- It costs too much to pump - a lie. Electricity bills show that it costs a few hundred dollars per year, at most.
- The Park Board wants citizen input - a lie. The Community Advisory Committee was disbanded when the members looked like they would vote against the plan that the Park Board wanted.
- The Park Board will restore the property to what it was before Wirth built the golf course. A lie, since they will add tons of fill that will change the property more than Wirth ever did.
- Dredging the outbound creek will not lower the lake level enough. An opinion, since it WILL lower the lake level which WILL reduce pumping.
- The golf course is unsustainable. A statement with little definition or meaning.
- The new plan will protect the homes from flooding. A future lie? They have provided insufficient engineering data to back this up.

• The Park Board will pay for the new golf course with profits from the Minneapolis golf courses. Likely a lie, since the Park Board's mismanagement of the golf courses has produced a profit only twice in the past 10 years.

• A partner (the Loppet?) will pay for the cross-country ski enhancements. Likely a lie, since the Loppet is in debt.

• A partner restaurateur will pay for a new restaurant through their profits over 25 years. Very unlikely.

• This plan will reduce the trash problem in Lake Hiawatha. A future lie? No concrete information has been provided as to how this will be accomplished.

The MPRB has spent almost \$1 million of taxpayer money on a plan founded on lies. Minneapolis taxpayers should be livid that their hard-earned money is being frittered away by the Park Board.

The revised plan will be posted on Feb. 12, with presentation to the full Board in March for approval or rejection.

Who's running for mayor of Minneapolis?

BY DAVE TILSEN

Last June, in response to all that was happening, I posted on Facebook that if Jacob Frey would not step up and help the people, I was going to have to run against him. He didn't, I did.

On Jan. 21, 2021, he announced that he thought the city should reelect him. In his announcement he complained that the last year presented "unprecedented challenges." That's true, but we need to evaluate him on how he performed. We needed a leader who could rise to those challenges, show us vision, public problem-solving and action-based solutions. The police shooting, the economic collapse, the insurrection and burning of our commercial streets, and the need for city attention to rebuilding threw this city into chaos. The pandemic, the homelessness and hunger of four out of every 10 people in the city continues to be a real humanitarian crisis.

The truth is, that although

the mayor showed caring, emotional reactions that I don't doubt were honest, he was not willing to get out into his city and find solutions. We



Jacob Frey

saw examples of elected officials that were. Rep. Aisha Gomez actually took security shifts at the Powderhorn homeless encampment and protected people from police when they were evicted. Park Commissioner Londell French was all over the parks, volunteering, listening and dialoguing with both unsheltered and sheltered people. County Com-

missioner Angela Conley was everywhere constantly, from George Floyd Square to peaceful demonstrations. This is where good ideas come from,



Sheila Nezhad

involvement and communication with constituents.

The most substantive comment from our mayor on the largest encampment our state has ever seen was that the needs were "infinite." Something that is both not true and stifling to the effort to find solutions.

A weak-mayor system requires coalition building, team

building, listening and creativity. I was part of Don Fraser's mobilization of the city to focus on the problems of youth and growing up. I was one of the worker bees in Sharon Sayles Belton's creation of the Minneapolis Initiative against Racism. These required risk-taking, indomitable energy and giving away lots of credit to community members and other elected officials. These activities changed our city. Realistically I always knew this was not the historical moment for an old white male to take the lead. As most of the people I needed to support me signed on to another campaign, I was forced to face reality. I was not going to be mayor.

The other candidate is Sheila Nezhad. Sheila and I have gotten to know each other over the last few months. Her employer, and mutual friend, Ricardo Levins Morales called me to sing her praises.

I find her a thoughtful, caring, open, energetic and charismatic leader. She has been involved in working on our city

for years, and recently was instrumental in creating the People's Budget as an alternative to the mayor's budget. I find this document to be excellent.

Of course, the issue of public safety has dominated her work for the last year, as is appropriate, and she has been a leader with MPD150 and Reclaim the Block. She has a stellar group of committed activists surrounding her, contributors, and a growing impressive list of endorsements. This list will soon include me.

I hope to help her (not that she needs it) with analysis, program and campaign strategy. She brings to the city the skill set, experience and inclination that is needed in our present multiple crises. Mayor Frey sadly does not.

Websites for more information:

Sheilaforthepeople.com
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/16-3SK-F5E040Zax0nmxedP-WRRsv3FJgStKO4solCeWw/edit?usp=sharing>

Shelter, from page 1

ten—dust in the wind. Hence, propelled by the Simpson Shelter and the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless, each year in December, advocates, family and friends of those who have died while homeless or unsheltered participate in a ceremony to remember and honor the lives of those lost. It is known as the Homeless Memorial and draws statewide participation. Loved ones may have died in a tent, bus stop, under a bridge or in a homeless shelter. Advocates collect names during the year and submit them to Simpson Housing Services. Some bodies are not identified, their names missing, yet they are honored. John Petroskas keeps and manages the list.

The ceremony typically begins at the Hennepin County Government Center and the advocates, family and friends walk two miles (often carrying signs with the name of their lost loved one) to the Plymouth Congregational Church where the ceremony is hosted and continues. As the name of each deceased individual is read, a candle is lit: Benito, Laura, Max, Elton, Danetta, Bohdan, Sister Margarite, and so on. One hundred and ninety-seven names were read for 2020. Losses included Baby Boy, Unidentified Man,

Unidentified Girl and George Perry Floyd. Typically, a meal is shared afterward, as are memories and stories about the deceased. It is a community, strong and determined to recognize those often marginalized and viewed as a group, rather than as the unique individuals that they were.

2020 marked the 36th annual Homeless Memorial honoring the deceased. It was a virtual event due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan was a guest speaker as well as Jennifer Ho, Minnesota housing commissioner. Flanagan stated that she looks forward to the day this event will not be needed. A total of 197 individuals were honored; 84 died unsheltered, 89 were formerly homeless but sheltered (often in homeless shelters) at the time of death and 24 were advocates who worked with the homeless. In 2019, 103 were honored. The average age of those who died unsheltered was 42-43 years. The average age amongst those who were homeless but sheltered, 50. Mortality rates for those unsheltered is 4 to 9 times higher than those who are sheltered (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

What are the causes of death? Often it is a combination of things: disease, illness, drug and alcohol related, mental health issues, suicide, ho-

micide (often at the hands of an acquaintance), accidents and lack of proper medical care. There are incidents of drowning and being struck by a vehicle. The opioid epidemic, declared a public health emergency in 2017 (by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) along with an international pandemic, has created a new kind of vulnerability, especially for those without shelter.

This year videos were invited and submitted for the event. During the presentations, voices shook and tears fell as loved ones recalled their beloved and shelter and social workers recalled their clients. It is the little, unique things and gestures that family, friends and advocates remember and will miss. Some of the people remembered were:

- The young father who loved his kids and liked to bring them to the shelter. Those around felt the joy he had for them, and they for him.
- The Ojibwa man who was intelligent and had boundless energy to engage anyone who had time to discuss sports, politics, music, etc.
- Sam who loved the thrift stores and picked up items for others, remembering their needs, sizes and favored styles.
- The young woman who visited to pick up supplies but would not stay in a shelter be-

cause she did not want to leave her kitten "Boots" who had his own baby stroller.

- The tough guy with scars to prove it, who loved his dog and treated it like a baby.



(Photo/Aftenposten newspaper, Oslo, Norway)

- The collector who hid his finds in the nooks and crannies of the shelter and told off-color jokes—even in church!

- "Coffee Man," known for making the best strong coffee and trained newcomers to do the same. One newcomer says he will honor his lost elder by always making the strong coffee he taught him to make, and toasting him as he drinks it.

- The man who often surprised others with hidden talents such as furniture building and writing poetry in Gaelic!

- The two Native women who stuck together for years,

no matter what. A staff member said, "I learned a great deal from them about resilience and attitude. I will miss them dearly."

Homelessness impacts all of us, not just unsheltered individuals. It impacts the availability of health care resources, crime and safety, the workforce and use of tax dollars. A 2017 study presented by The National Alliance to End Homelessness reveals that by properly sheltering people it is estimated that health care costs would be reduced by 59 percent, emergency services by 61 percent and hospitalizations by 77 percent. The study estimates an overall savings of \$4,800 per (unsheltered) person per year. Beyond dollars saved, this is an ethical issue. It involves economic and racial disparities and inequities. Native Americans made up more than a quarter of those who died homeless or unsheltered in 2020 while they represent just 1.1 percent of the Minnesota population. Put simply, sheltering people is the right thing to do.

I'd like to borrow from Deb Holman, outreach worker from Duluth who shared a beautiful quote: "Please when you meet a stranger treat them well, under a ragged coat there may be wings." (Osler)

EVENTS AND ONLINE RESOURCES

Augsburg University's Centered Life Series Stepping into 2021: Hearts Rekindled, Hope Awakened Wednesdays, Feb. 10—March 17 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Online

Church and education leaders reflect on the theme “Stepping into 2021: Hearts Rekindled, Hope Awakened.” Speakers include David Tiede, Lois Malcolm, Terry McGonigal, Martha Stortz, Kelly Chatman and David Stark. Visit www.augsburg.edu/centeredlife/ to learn more and to register for this free event.

2021 Collegeville Connections Virtual events

Join us for Collegeville Connections – a one-hour, weekly virtual event that features the work of Collegeville Institute alumni. Grab a cup of coffee or a bagged lunch and Zoom into our events on Wednesdays from 12-1 p.m., CST. Consider it your mid-week warm up this winter, encouraging you to explore faith, ignite imagination, and renew community with the Collegeville Institute. For more info and to register, go to <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/>.

Anti-racism and the Catholic Church Wednesday, Feb. 10, noon Online

Dr. Tia Noelle Pratt will discuss her ethnographic research on race and identity in the African American Catholic experience, the genesis of her #BlackCatholicSyllabus, and the importance of centering and listening to Black voices in the Church.

Breaking, Blessing, Building: A Call for the Common Good March 5-7 Online

COVID-19, a pandemic of racism in the United States, economic distress. Our reality right now helps us know that things need to change for the good of us all. Laity and clergy from various backgrounds and traditions are invited to gather together in such a way that inspires action to change the Church and the world. Read more about NEXT Church at <https://nextchurch.net/gathering/2021-national-gathering/>.

The Dignity Center

The Dignity Center, a non-profit offshoot of Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, works with people to achieve and maintain stability in housing and employment. Participants engage with one volunteer advocate, working together on skills such as problem solving, decision making, organization and budgeting. The Dignity Center works with many congregations, across denominations, as part of their network of congregations. The Dignity Center remains open under COVID-19 to serve its program participants. To learn more about the work of the Dignity Center, and ways to participate, volunteer, and donate, go to their website at <http://haumc.org/dignity/>.

Ecumenical Advocacy Days April 18-21 Online

Save the date for Ecumenical Advocacy Days 2021, and join us as we gather online to “Imagine! God’s Earth and People Restored.” Together, we will passionately advocate and reimagine a world that lives out the values of justice, equity, and the beloved com-

munity. For more information, go to <https://advocacydays.org/>.

Bahá’i Center of Minneapolis

3644 Chicago Ave., Mpls. Devotions via Zoom, Sundays at 10 a.m. and Tuesdays at 6:30 p.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., Mpls. Sunday Worship at 10 a.m., via Facebook Live and Zoom. See our website at www.clchurch.org for instructions.

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/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 www.facebook.com/felcmpls/. Bible classes on Sundays at 10:15 a.m. and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Masks and social spacing required for worship and Bible classes. NA groups Wednesdays 7:30 p.m. (Fridays temporarily suspended).

First Free Church

5150 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls. Sunday service 10 a.m. (in person and online). Visit our website at www.firstfreechurch.org for more information.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS

1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., Mpls. In-person worship services suspended; online services continue via our website. Service recordings, bulletins and news are available at www.holy-crossmpls.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 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. 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. 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 online 10:45 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube www.facebook.com/NewCreation-BaptistChurch/ <https://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.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/ Food Shelf Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

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/MinnehahaFoodShelf/

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.

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://groveland-foodshelf.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/

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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/> Bible classes - Sundays at 10:15 am and Wednesdays at 10 am Masks and social spacing required NA groups Wednesdays 7:30 pm, Fridays temporarily suspended Pastor: Rev. Jesse Davis

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1414 E. 48th St. 612-825-6933 Sunday Devotion online 10:45 am on Facebook and YouTube <https://newcreationbaptist-churchmn.org/> www.facebook.com/NewCreation-BaptistChurch/ 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 and Facebook New worship goes up every Sunday at 10 am

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Minneapolis needs rent control – panel discussion hosted by Robin for Minneapolis

BY ALEXANDRA CARTER

Minneapolis needs rent control. It will solve a lot of looming problems but it won't solve all of our problems. And the more it's watered down by the city government, the less it will help. Those were the messages in a Zoom webinar attended by over 70 people on Tuesday, Jan. 26.

The rent control panel discussion event was hosted by Robin for Minneapolis. Who is Robin and what is she for in Minneapolis? Robin Wonsley Worlobah is running to be Minneapolis' first Black socialist City Council member. She is opposing current City Council member and Green Party member Cameron Gordon in the 2nd Ward. Robin was very active in the Fight for 15 and later was a community leader in the George Floyd uprising.

The basis and priorities of her campaign are stated thus on the Robin for Minneapolis Facebook page: "We can win rent control and public safety beyond policing by bringing mass movements into City Hall." Robin is a member of Twin Cities Democratic Socialists of America (TCDSA). (Note that TCDSA says they have not opened up their endorsement process yet.) Three days before the panel discussion, she was walking the picket line with other TCDSA members in St. Paul Park in support of Teamsters striking at Marathon Refinery. So she doesn't just talk the talk.

The panel discussion was lively, informative and inspir-

ing. Robin moderated, and the three panelists were Ginger Jentzen (member of Socialist Alternative and former director of 15Now, the organization that won a \$15 minimum wage in Minneapolis); Nichole Buehler (executive director of Harrison Neighborhood Association); and Vanessa del Campo Cachon (member of Renters United for Justice and Sky Without Limits Housing Co-op Community).

All three women are also leaders in the coalition called Minneapolis United for Rent Control (MURC). Although they all four (including Robin) work very closely together on rent control, the panelists made it clear they were speaking as advocates of that, and not as an endorsement of Robin's campaign.

Jentzen kicked off the discussion with an answer to the first question: What makes for successful rent control policy and what are the most important details to focus on? She referred back to how bad the response to the COVID pandemic was, and invited us to imagine how much better it would have been had it been developed by health care professionals. Similarly, now the city has a housing crisis, which was here well before COVID but is being exacerbated by it. This needs a community-informed response.



What makes a successful rent control policy is that it's based on listening to renters and what they need to be able to stay in their homes. The important detail along the way to achieving it is to recognize that developers and the pundits who love them will lie about rent control and we have to counter those lies. The important detail is to beware of "carve-outs" and developer friendly loopholes.

Nichole expanded on those themes. Examples of carve-outs in rent control include setting the allowable increases at CPI-plus (Consumer Price Index-plus). The "plus" is there to guarantee profit to landlords and developers. Another carve-out is exclusion of single-family and duplex rentals from rent control. This would exclude much of the rental property in North Minneapolis, where housing is most in crisis.

Vanessa focused on how the COVID epidemic is impacting

struggling families. People are having to choose between paying rent and eating. Hours are cut, children are at home all day and need care, and in the background, eviction is a constant threat.

In later rounds, Ginger drew a lot of lessons for future organizing in rent control from the successes as well as setbacks and obstacles in the Fight for 15. Nichole expounded on the (hopefully) upcoming charter amendment votes, clarifying that the charter amendments will only open a pathway to passing rent control, but are not a rent control policy in themselves. Vanessa stressed the need to empower those most impacted by the housing crisis to speak and lead, because they are under threats that often make them afraid to do so.

Here are some key points both from the panel and from the document (www.facebook.com/inquilineunidsx/)

posts/3622947001132613) on the MURC Facebook page:

- Rent control must be tied to the property, not the tenant.
- Rent control must be retroactive, to avoid price-gouging.
- It should not have carve-outs for smaller properties but must apply to all properties in the city.
- It should not allow "CPI-plus" rent increases that guarantee profit.
- It should not have "vacancy decontrol" where as soon as a unit is temporarily vacant, the rent can be increased.
- In campaigning for rent control, a lot of myths need to be debunked. A big one is that "Rent control doesn't work" because rents in rent-controlled areas are "skyrocketing." (If so, they are rising due to developer-friendly loopholes and carve-outs like those described above.)
- Another myth is that rent control suppresses new housing construction. Data shows quite the opposite.

Council Member Cam Gordon convenes Housing Forum

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

The Ward 2 Housing Forum presented by City Council

Member Cameron Gordon on Feb. 21 was attended by over 70 people. A lot of the attendees were landlords, mostly

small scale. The Zoom meeting was hosted by Gordon's policy aide, Robin Garwood.

Co-presenters for the forum were Gretchen Nicholls from LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation, a national community development grantor) and Cottrell Doss and Jen Arnold, board member and director respectively of Inquilinx Unidsx por Justicia/United Renters for Justice.

Council Member Gordon opened the meeting with a very good land acknowledgment, giving honor to Indigenous people as past, present and future caretakers of the (stolen) land on which



See Gordon, page 11



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Valentine's Day Section

Celebrating Valentine's Day in the 2021 Weirds

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

2020 is gone but the Weirds are definitely lingering on. As February rolls in and we congratulate ourselves on surviving the first full month of what could be another very stressful year, we acknowledge two things—one, we're just past the one-year anniversary of the first publicized COVID-19 case in the U.S., and two, we're definitely not going to be out of the pandemic by Valentine's Day.

This should be pretty old hat by now. Use this opportunity ... lemonade from the lemons ... time to re-think, reposition, recalibrate... distancing doesn't have to mean distant

... yada yada. Rinse and repeat. And as ever, we at Southside Pride can only offer encouragement and tips. Maybe a few off-the-wall ideas.

Here's the deal. We're taking all the things that you associate with a romantic date night, and giving suggestions and links and so forth for you to craft your own celebration of love and the other things that St. Valentine is patron saint of—affiliated couples, happy marriages, not fainting, beekeeping, draft-dodging, epilepsy and plague.

Plague? What a coincidence. Actually, one of those I made up. But it's part of his legend, so if there were a patron saint of draft-dodging it would be him. He could

also be the patron of anti-imperialism, Middle English poetry and the Grateful Dead, for obscure reasons you can find in an earlier Valentine's Day piece, which you can read here: debrakeeferramage.medium.com/weird-world-of-deborama-2-7c40d8a879bc.

The elements of a romantic date to be covered are: films, music, food and drink, the beautiful outdoors and gifts. Now, you can do this with a romantic partner if you have one and feel so inclined. But also, with or without a partner, you can do it with a friend, a family member, or anyone you want to show love and appreciation for. If you're a stone introvert like me, you can even do it

for yourself.

Films

Of course, you'll pretty much want to stream, but perhaps you want to see a new film. One I plan to watch on Valentine's Day is a new release called "Breaking Fast." The title refers to the iftar, the meal eaten just after sundown each day during Ramadan, to break the fast. It combines two of my favorite sub-genres of film: unlikely and unusual love stories, and films about the Middle East and Islam. (Although set in California, it features a "practicing Muslim" character.) This is available to rent and stream at Amazon Prime.

A more traditional romantic drama is "Sylvie's Love," featuring a story where a youthful summer romance ends and then over a decade later, the pair meet by chance and discover they still have feelings for each other. One half of the pair is an aspiring jazz saxophonist, so there's



Table for two

music too. This one is also on Amazon Prime, but "free."

Over on Netflix, there are also two great possibilities. First, "Carol" is a recent (2015) Todd Haynes flick set in the 1950s, starring Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara, based on a novel by Patricia Highsmith. That's an alluring combination of talents.

The other is "Straight Up," a 2020 movie exploring different solutions to complex conundrums of love and attraction. It stars James Sweeney (who also wrote and directed) as a gay man with OCD and a distaste for sex, and Katie Findlay as his new-found dilemma.

Music

Making up for suggesting too many films, we only have one live music suggestion. The Hook and Ladder is streaming a fantastic show on Valentine's Day. You can get tickets online for "A Vagabond Valentine's" with Davina and the Vagabonds, 7 p.m. livestream (<https://tinyurl.com/handl-2-14>). Turn down the lights, crank up the sound, and serve drinks and snacks for that intimate performing space feeling.

Food and drink

There are two ways (at least) to go with this, not counting indoor restaurant dining, which you can risk if you want to but I'm not recommending. First is to take a break from all that cooking for yourself (I know! It's exhausting) and order a full meal with drinks and dessert from your favorite local restaurant.

Several good eateries are offering Valentine's Day specials, but may-



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Show Some Love!

be just choose one you like and that will be special enough. Pizza Luce, if that's your thing, is now serving as a pickup location for crowlers (a 32-ounce can, which readers under 50 and beer aficionados will know about) from Fair State Brewing, a hyper-local brewery that's not only a co-op but now also union-label. Seven Pizza Luce locations offer this service, as well as a pickup option on takeout from their extensive menu, which also includes Izzy's ice creams.

Another local favorite is the Birchwood Cafe. In addition to their healthy, organic and delicious menu items, they offer a selection of "provisions" ranging from eggs and flour



to salsa, jam, or pickles. So you can get an excellent ready-to-eat meal and also stock up on things. Order from their website; ordering closes at 7 p.m. and pickup closes at 7:30 p.m.

If you want a variety of vegan options, consider Reverie Cafe and Bar on 35th Street just steps from Powderhorn Park. Since Valentine's Day is a Sunday, you can opt for either brunch or dinner (www.reveriepls.com/menus-1). Reverie also has a full coffee menu, a great selection of local brews from Fair State, Indeed, Eastlake and more, a great wine list, and further non-alcohol options such as a ginger-turmeric steamer, kombucha, switchel, Wisco Pop and Maine Root. For dessert, there is vegan ice cream from Crepe+Spoon.

If you're doing a family-style or double-date celebration, or just want leftovers, consider one of the Nacho Meal Kits that serve four. And finally, you can spread your love with a pay-it-forward donation to support customers in need who use pay-what-you-can.

The other food and drink option is, of course, to prepare something extra special at home. The possibilities for meals are too overwhelming for me right now, so I'm going to suggest a cake. Nigella Lawson's famous Clementine Cake is wildly popular, very unusual, gluten-free, and amazingly fun to make. (Warning—you need a big blender or food processor, though.) Check it out at www.nigella.com/recipes/clementine-cake.

Outdoors

Here we will recap some of the nature walk suggestions from previous pieces earlier in the pandemic. These are all romantic places in the Twin Cities that won't be ruined by light snow if that happens to feature. Dress warmly and wear good boots.

- Lake Harriet, the Rose Garden and the Thomas Sadler Roberts Bird Sanctuary .
- Wood Lake Nature Preserve in Richfield.
- Hidden Falls Regional Park in St. Paul.
- Minnehaha Falls to Lake Nokomis via Minnehaha Parkway trail .
- Cathedral Hill in St. Paul, including the Swedenborgian Church.

Gifts

Here is a suggestion list featuring some long-distance online options (move fast!) and some of our favorite local retail establishments.

- Fair trade chocolates and other food gifts—You can get Alter Eco, Divine, Endangered Species, Tony's Choc-olonly and more at your local co-

op. You can get the first three, plus Evolved, via Thrive Market (thrive-market.com) and you can also get Divine chocolates plus Lobooko or Five North chocolates, plus gourmet mixes, oils and spices, at Serrv.org of Madison, Wis. (www.serrv.org/). If you have time, consider the fabulously beautiful candies at EMVI Chocolates of NYC (emvichocolate.com/). Also check out this all-fair-trade "pantry" company from NYC, Hive (www.hivebrands.com).- Books—I always give people books. Good local bookstores to use include The Book House in Dinkytown, Bone-shaker, Moon Palace, Dreamhaven, Black Garnet, Birchbark and Irreverent Bookworm. Most of these are online ordering only, with delivery or pickup options. For e-books, I use Kobo; for gift cards, use bookshop.org and tell it which indie bookstore to credit the purchase to.
- Spa Day—this is a great traditional Valentine's Day gift. See if your favorite local spa or bodywork therapist has gift certificates so your giftee can choose their own day and time.

Lovely things for the home—if your giftee is a homebody, cook or craft enthusiast, consider gift certificates or actual stuff (if you know them well enough to choose) from local artisanal, crafting, import or upcycling shops, such as Flotsam + Fork, StevenBe, the Art Shoppe at Midtown Global Market, or carousel + folk.

- Flowers are a good gift for Valentine's Day, but what about a live flowering plant? Check out Fractal Cactus or The Greenery. Or the plants and flowers at the Seward Co-op. Carousel + folk also has potted plants.
 - Finally, maybe you can save money by making a handcrafted gift. It might be an edible (a jar of kimchi, or some fair-trade chocolate truffles), a drinkable (your own switchel, or a nut milk cultured with kefir grains) or a wearable (a painted silk scarf, or a knitted hat.)
- Don't fear the holidays and especially not this one. It's all about love and friendship, and connecting in any way you can.



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City Council wants to change the MPD

BY STEPHANIE FOX

Members of the City Council have been working since last summer to get a proposal on the city ballot that they hope will drastically reform the Minneapolis Police Department. Council members say that they envision a new Community Safety and Violence Prevention Department, which would include the MDP but remove the Police Department as a charter city department.

Council Members Jeremy Schroeder, Phillippe Cunningham and Steve Fletcher are behind the new proposal, one that would drastically change how the MPD is organized and funded.

The Minneapolis City Charter now says that the MPD must have a minimum force based on the city's population. According to the charter, the size of the police force must be at least 0.0017 employees per resident. The current charter gives the mayor control over the department's operations with the City Council responsible for determining funding.

The call for change in the MPD began last summer when George Floyd died at the hands of police. Floyd's death was followed by demonstrations and riots, and, at first, the calls for change were uncompromising.

In June, nine members of the Minneapolis City Council attended a rally in Powderhorn Park, joining with community groups Black Visions Collective

and Reclaim the Block, to advocate defunding and dismantling the Minneapolis Police Department. At the rally, some council members pledged to the crowd that they would support efforts to defund the police.

Republicans around the country, including the GOP candidate for president, began to use the accusation that all Democratic candidates would "defund the police," using the charge as a way to rally their supporters. The local backlash to "defund the police" was also harsh when the issue attracted national attention, causing some council members to backpedal and soften their language.

Council Member Steve Fletcher wrote in an op-ed for Time magazine, "reform can be daunting, even scary" but asked readers to "reimagine what public safety means."

Council Member Phillippe Cunningham told The New York Times that the language in the pledge was "up for interpretation."

"It was very clear that most of us had interpreted that language differently," he said.

Council members now say they simply want to change the city charter so the council would have more control over the MPD. Instead of the current system, a new Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention could include a reformed department of police.

In a press release, the council members said that a new department would "oversee and lead a continuum of public safety efforts that prevent, intervene in, and reduce crime and violence to create safer communities for everyone in Minneapolis."

Changing the City Charter requires a citywide vote. Cunningham said their new proposal will place oversight on the new city department equal to other city departments and would give the City Council legislative authority with the mayor having executive control.

At a community meeting in the summer of 2019, two members of the City Council, Jeremy Schroeder and Andrew Johnson, heard constituents in the 11th and 12th wards express concern about the then-rising property crime rate. They both said that more police officers, not fewer, would help solve the crime problems.

"We would like to see what we all can do as citizens to

make things better. We all want better response times," Schroeder told them. "People want a beat cop in their neighborhood. We need more of a budget for cops, but these things might not happen. Officers are doing great work, but this is about getting better results."

Then in 2020, as the crime rate in Minneapolis began to soar, the idea of defunding police continued to lose much of its popular support. This January the number of people wounded by gunshots in Minneapolis was up 250 percent, rape was up 22 percent and robbery was up 59 percent compared to January of last year.

"After the killing of George Floyd and widespread public outcry in our communities, the City Council made a commitment to transform our public safety system," Schroeder said when asked about the new proposal. "To that end, we proposed a change to our City Charter that would provide a more flexible structure. After a public hearing, this proposal may then be forwarded to the Minneapolis Charter Commission for its review, as required by law."

The new proposal is similar to one that was advanced last year by the City Council. That proposal never made it to the November ballot after being blocked, after the appointed members of the Charter Commission were granted more time to review it, pushing it past the deadline for a ballot question.

The new proposal would create a Department of Public Safety that would include the police and additional divisions that would "provide for a comprehensive approach to public safety beyond enforcement," and would leave the size of the MPD to the City Council and the mayor. The proposal has been forwarded, on an 11-2 vote, to the Public Health and Safety Committee for review, after which it would be presented for a future public hearing.

In a late January statement, Fletcher, Cunningham and Schroeder said they wanted to give Minneapolis residents a chance to re-envision public safety in the city.

"Minneapolis residents are imagining a comprehensive public safety approach that is more effective and more reflective of our values, and they are calling on the City to act," Fletcher said. "This charter

amendment creates a structure that supports that vision and allows our city to innovate."

Not all members of the council are enthusiastic. Council Member Lisa Goodman, who voted not to forward the plan, said that if the Council moves ahead without first spending considerably more time hearing from residents and determining the details, the plan would create more harm than good.

But proponents think that the time for change is now. "Throughout 2020, we heard

dramatically reduce accountability. It is "not a recipe for providing clear direction. It's not a recipe for a culture shift we want to see in the department."

In December, Frey signed a city budget that took nearly \$8 million from the MPD budget to pay for crime prevention programs through the department, including mental health crisis response and emergency response teams, but retained the current number of officers. This was a compromise after the City Council had approved a proposal to cut the city's au-



from residents from all walks of life about what they want to see from a system of public safety," said Cunningham. "The changes in this proposal reflect that we listened to that feedback."

"Minneapolis residents have a unified vision for a broader public safety that keeps everyone in our communities safe and treats us all with dignity," said Schroeder. "This change would not only expand our public safety toolbox, but would improve oversight and accountability, both of which are critical building blocks of a Minneapolis that is safe and equitable for all."

In early December, Frey and Police Chief Medaria Arradondo had called the proposed cuts to the MPD "irresponsible and untenable," saying that it would put the public in danger. Arradondo cited more than 500 shootings and 80 homicides, calling the proposal to reduce the number of police reckless.

While calling for modifications in how the city works to improve public safety, Mayor Jacob Frey said that changes the council has proposed, which include removing the mayor as the ultimate authority over the MPD and adding the 13 council members, would

thorized police force by 138 officers. Instead, the department will be keeping staffing at current levels.

The details on the new department's function, structure and methods of operation have not yet been determined. The council is hoping that members of the community will help with this effort.

The city has posted a two-question short-answer (or perhaps essay questions) survey "Transforming Community Safety in Minneapolis" to learn how residents feel about transforming community safety. The questions: "When you think about transforming community safety, what are your hopes?" and "When you think about transforming community safety, what are your concerns?" are available on the City of Minneapolis website.

Correction:

In our February Powderhorn edition we said, "Council Members Jeremy Schroeder, Phillippe Cunningham, Steve Fletcher and Linea Palmisano are behind the new proposal, which could drastically change how the MPD is organized and funded."

Linea Palmisano did not support this change in the structuring of the MPD and voted

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Gordon, from page 7

Minneapolis as we know it today is located.

The crux of his opening remarks and slides were to delineate the seriousness of the housing crisis looming in the Twin Cities, as elsewhere; to list steps the city has already taken to ameliorate its effects; and to highlight four very important “next steps” coming up in 2021-22.

The accomplishments to date include incentives and zoning changes to increase stock of rental housing, which have resulted already in thousands of new units of affordable housing; an energy disclosure policy; and a Renters First policy. The four next steps, which comprised the major points discussed in the forum, are:

- TOPA - Tenant Opportunity to Purchase.
- Rent control / rent stabilization.
- Eviction protections.
- SRO (single room occupancy) developments.

Gretchen presented the “think tank” and grantors/ lenders case for TOPA and explained what LISC and its partners have done so far to arrive at three proposed options for implementing TOPA in Minneapolis.

She started with a breakdown of current rental housing in Minneapolis. Single-family units (houses) comprise a massive 57 percent of rentals, with 2- to 4-unit buildings making up 32 percent. The remaining 11 percent is broken down to 5- to 20-unit buildings (7 percent), 21-50 units (3 percent), and 51-plus-unit buildings making up only 1 percent of current rental options.

It’s easy to see that exemptions in future policies based on the size of the building would be very counterproductive. In other words, if property owners were only subject to rent control in their larger multi-unit buildings, that would leave the majority of renters unprotected.

LISC also conducted a series of studies, including researching TOPA in other jurisdictions (Washington D.C., NYC, San

Francisco, Calif., Berkeley, Calif., Chicago, Ill., and manufactured home park TOPAs in New Hampshire and Minnesota) and holding numerous focus groups with landlords, tenants, lenders and others.

LISC proposed that Minneapolis choose one of the following options, of which their highest recommendation was for the second option:

- Right of first offer and refusal to tenant only, assignable, no affordability restrictions.
- Same rights, but for either tenants or organizations, assignable, with rent stabilization rules restricting future affordability.*
- Same rights, but for organizations only, not assignable, with the “4d” program restricting future affordability.**

Note * This option would mean that the unit after purchase could be owner-occupied or rented by an organization or the tenant’s assignee.

Note ** The 4d is a state program that reduces landlords’ taxes by 40 percent if they follow strict affordability/stabilization rules.

Jen and Cottrell presented the tenants’ view of both TOPA and rent control and how they would help tenants stay in their homes, and be a defense against homelessness and gentrification displacement. Inquilinxs has had four separate campaigns to protect tenant rights against landlords, and she said, “It always starts with a struggle over repairs.”

They have also done studies, one of which showed that in the great majority of cases where a landlord is forced by the city to make repairs, they respond immediately in one of two ways. One, they put the building up for sale, which can mean abrogation of leases and eviction of all tenants under the current lax laws. A TOPA rule would prevent that. Or two, they respond with a predatory rise in the rents, a move which would not be allowed under a rent control rule.

The presenters from Inquilinxs also addressed the eviction protection piece of the next steps solutions. Jen used their high-profile case with

the notorious (now convicted) slumlord Frenz, as an example. In the two years Inquilinxs was fighting to buy the landlord’s buildings and form a cooperative (which has now happened—Corcoran neighborhood’s Sky Without Limits Co-op), they were simultaneously forced to fight individual evictions that occurred monthly. Needless to say, this took a lot of energy and money they could have used in building the cooperative.

Rent control will require an amendment to the City Charter, so it’s at least a two-step (and probably more) process. A hearing on the proposed charter changes will be held Feb. 24. See the city website for more information.

Council Member Gordon is co-authoring with Council Members Ellison and Bender a pair of eviction protection initiatives. The Just Cause rule would mean that a landlord needs to provide from a selection of allowable causes for eviction, and is based on a recent rule passed in St. Paul. The Notice Requirement rule, based on a St. Louis Park ordinance, would give tenants time to respond and prevent eviction, and reduce the destabilizing, harmful effect of UD’s (Unlawful Detainers) on tenants.

In the 40 minutes of Q&A, most tenants and homeowners and some landlords welcomed the proposed initiatives after asking clarifying questions. Some landlords worried that their current practices would become illegal, but the presenters assured them that small rent increases and eviction for non-payment of rent would not be affected, and, in fact, the new rules could give them help in running a fair rental business.

For more information check these web pages:

LISC Twin Cities - <https://www.lisc.org/twin-cities/>

United Renters for Justice (Inquilinxs) <https://www.inquilinxsunidxs.org/en/home/>

Minneapolis United for Rent Control - <https://www.facebook.com/MinneapolisUnitedForRentControl/>

ron to be sure) and effective (and even comfortable) ways of ending our lives. Why and how can the state intrude to forbid it?

Our attitude is informing. We reflect it in our language. In the world I occupy no one ever dies—but a whole lot of folks appear to have passed (water?).

The ironies are endless.

Rightists are law-and-order nuts yet oppose the most effective tool for crime control ever devised in America—Roe v. Wade in 1973. New York

went from six murders a day to less than one a generation later. Emblematic of the across-the-board experience in the U.S. in street crime. We live in a peace bubble delivered by Harry Blackmun, a great Minnesotan.

Men might well aspire to the blissful exits of Nelson Rockefeller and John Garfield—in flagrante delicto—but that is a far-fetched hope.

We terminate a lot of folks—even fetuses—why shouldn’t we be free to terminate ourselves?

Laura

BY DAVID TILSEN



Laura Waterman Wittstock

To be interviewed by Laura Waterman Wittstock was like being listened to by a wise friend. Then, afterward, you listen and think, why did I say that? I didn’t plan to open up that much. Somehow Laura was able to do that with people. Without ever compromising her strong beliefs, she really knew how to listen and call on the openness in others. This skill, along with hard work, cutting intelligence and impeccable integrity, made her a leader, a power broker and an influencer for over 50 years.

I hope people remember her. She deserves some kind of permanent memorial. We have lost so many of the warriors of my generation, people who have made history, that I can’t help but remember my mother’s grief when this was happening to her. She would rage against my generation who thought that we had invented feminism, socialism, antiwar activism, counter culture and commitment. She wanted us to remember her generation and her parents’ generation and what they had given us. Laura’s death gives me the same rage.

Certainly, the students of Migizi will carry on. Those of us addicted to her radio show, First Person Radio, will keep the memories, and her book with Dick Bancroft about the

history of AIM will live on. The City of Minneapolis, it seems to me, owes her a debt. She served on the Minneapolis Library Board and on so many different foundations and advisory committees that I don’t believe a complete list can ever be made. There are some people who just transcend the rest of us, whose smile, grit, determination and articulation have changed the world for the better.

I can’t help but quote from the great Minnesota poet Irene Paull, who was writing about another woman who changed the world:

*If you walk with an air of easy grace
And hold your head up high.
Cherish her as you cherish the sea
And the Mountains that climb the sky.*

Terrell, from page 2

tion as an advocate for African American women’s voting rights, Mollie was one of the only Black members of the National Women’s Party (NWP). As a lifelong member, Mollie led and participated in many of the group’s lobbying activities. She and her daughter, Phyllis, were part of the difficult demonstration before Wilson’s White House. They were part of the “silent sentinels” risking arrest and violence to demand the vote for all women. Mollie was arrested but not force-fed as were the other leaders. She also marched in and was an organizer for the NWP’s giant suffrage parade. In 1948 Mollie testified before the House Judiciary Committee in support of the ERA on behalf of the NWP.

After a lifetime of work for human rights advocacy and a few months before her 90th birthday, Mary Church Terrell took on another major

project: the desegregation of Washington D.C. As one of Mollie’s last leadership acts as the chair of the Coordinating Committee for the Enforcement of the D.C. Anti-Discrimination Laws, she led a picket in 1952 to integrate a lunch counter. After death threats and other violence, the committee tried to dissuade her from leading the picket. One of the other picketers, Marvin Caplan, described Mary Church Terrell’s determination: “Turning a deaf ear to last-minute warnings of the impending race riots and violence that would result, she put on her fur coat, wrapped a scarf around her head, and with a cane in one hand and a picket sign in the other, led the first detachments of pickets in a snowstorm.”

Buy the book! Give it to friends! Mary Church Terrell, The Unceasing Militant, was a great leader. We have her life as a model to continue her work for justice.

Bouza, from page 1

this would happen to me.” --William Saroyan on his deathbed.

“Dying is easy. Humor is difficult.” --The actor John Drew (think Drew Barrymore) on his deathbed.

The issue is autonomy.

We control our lives—mostly—but not our deaths. Abortion is a battle for control. So is euthanasia.

Why should the state decide our fate? Pharmacology has provided safe (an oxymo-

ron to be sure) and effective (and even comfortable) ways of ending our lives. Why and how can the state intrude to forbid it?

Our attitude is informing. We reflect it in our language. In the world I occupy no one ever dies—but a whole lot of folks appear to have passed (water?).

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We terminate a lot of folks—even fetuses—why shouldn’t we be free to terminate ourselves?

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 for takeout/delivery only. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, Uber Eats. Restricted hours.

Birchwood Cafe. Open for takeout/delivery only, Wed. - Sun. Family meals & bulk orders available- see Facebook or website. Delivery by DoorDash. Restricted hours.

Bull's Horn. Open for contactless curbside pickup only. Online and phone orders. Check Facebook for hours.

Café Racer*. Open for takeout only, Tues. - Sun., restricted hours. See Facebook page for details.

Dragon Wok* (George Floyd Square). Open for takeout/delivery only. Delivery by Bite Squad, GrubHub. Hours may fluctuate depending on location status.

French Meadow. Open for takeout/delivery only. Delivery by Bite Squad, DoorDash, GrubHub, Uber Eats. Usual hours.

Galactic Pizza. Open for takeout/delivery only. Restaurant, DoorDash or Postmates delivery. Online ordering galacticpizza.com.

Gandhi Mahal - Curry in a Hurry* (Franklin & 31st). Open for online or phone orders, takeout/pickup. (Phone if online is not working.) Gandhi Mahal Face-

book page for updates.

Hamburguesas El Gordo*. Open for takeout/delivery only. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, Uber Eats. Usual hours.

Heather's. Open for takeout/delivery only. Delivery by Bite Squad. Usual hours.

Himalayan*. Open for takeout/delivery only. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. Usual hours.

(Note - during the "pause," food court tables not available at Midtown Global Market (MGM). Keep mask on at all times while in the building.)

Hot Indian Foods* (at MGM). Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, Chow Now, DoorDash.

Infused Life Plant-based Eatery* (at MGM). Open with restrictions.

Jakeeno's (at MGM). Permanently closed.

Los Ocampo* (Chicago & Lake; MGM; St. Paul). Open for takeout only. Delivery by DoorDash. Usual hours.

Lucy's Market & Carryout*. Open for takeout. Usual hours; closed Tuesdays.

Mama Sheila's*. Open for takeout/delivery only. Delivery by Uber Eats. Restricted hours.

Manny's Tortas* (at MGM). Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad & GrubHub.

Maria's Café. Open for takeout only. No online ordering. No

delivery. Usual hours.

Merlins Rest. Open for takeout/delivery only. Delivery by Bite Squad. Restricted hours except for takeout.

Modern Times Cafe. Open for takeout only. See their website or email moderntimes3200@gmail.com with questions.

Northbound Smokehouse Brewpub. Open for takeout only. Call for pickup. Usual hours.

Parkway Pizza. Open for takeout/delivery only. Online and phone orders. Delivery by business or thru Bite Squad. Usual hours.

Quang*. Open for takeout/delivery only. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad, DoorDash. Usual hours.

Reverie. Open for takeout only. Online and phone orders. Restricted hours. Beer and wine available.

Sandcastle. Closed for 2020, back in spring 2021.

Smoke in the Pit*. Open for takeout/delivery only. Phone orders. Delivery by Bite Squad. No curbside pickup. Pre-order grab and go.

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

The Howe. Open for takeout/delivery only. Delivery by Bite Squad & Uber Eats. Usual hours.

Trio Plant-based*. Open for takeout/delivery only. Full menu. Usual hours.

Bakery/Coffee/Deli

A Baker's Wife. Open for takeout/delivery only. Online and phone orders. No delivery. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours.

Butter Bakery. Open for takeout/delivery only. Online order and delivery by Chow Now. No curbside pickup. Restricted hours. Pay it forward for sanctuary meals.

Café Meow. Open for takeout/delivery only. Online and phone orders. Cat lounge experience by reservation. Still fostering cats- visit cats by video.

Café Wyrd. Open for takeout/delivery only. Order online for pickup at www.toasttab.com/cafewyrd/v3.

Geek Love Café (in Moon Palace). Ordering window and pickup north side of building. Restricted hours.

Key West Bistro. Open for takeout/delivery only. Online and phone orders. Delivery by

Bite Squad, Door Dash, GrubHub & Uber Eats. Usual hours.

May Day Café. Open for takeout Fri. thru Mon., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. See Facebook for details.

Mel-O-Glaze. Open for takeout/delivery only. Call for information about delivery or curbside pickup. Grab and go. Usual hours.

Riverview Café. Open for takeout/delivery only. No online or phone orders. No delivery, no curbside. Usual hours.

Sisters' Sludge. Open for takeout/delivery only. No online or phone orders. Grab and go. Usual hours.

Sovereign Grounds*. Open for takeout only. Grab and go. Restricted hours.

Groceries

Aldi (Lyndale & 26th). Open to public. Usual hours.

Cub Foods (mobile site at Minnehaha Mall). Open with restrictions. Restricted hours.

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

Kowalski's (Chicago Ave & 55th Street). Open to public. Online ordering available with store delivery or curbside pickup. Also available thru Shipt; deli orders thru GrubHub, DoorDash. Usual hours.

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

Oxendale's Market (Minneapolis). Open 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 with restrictions. Check website for online ordering with curbside pickup. New - delivery offered - see website. Slightly restricted hours.

Wedge & Linden Hills Co-op. Open with restrictions. No phone orders. Online order for curbside pickup or order thru Instacart for delivery. Usual hours.

Specialty/Convenience

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

Dokken's Superette (42nd Street). Open to public. No online or phone orders or delivery. 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). Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by Mercato.

Tom Thumb (38th Street). Open to public. Usual hours.

United Noodles. Open with restrictions. No online orders. Delivery order thru Instacart. Usual hours.

Delivery Services for Groceries and Staples

Instacart. Aldi, Bed Bath & Beyond, Costco, Cub Foods, CVS, Fresh Thyme, Lakewinds Co-op, Lunds & Byerlys, Petco, Staples, United Noodles, Wedge Co-op

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

Shipt. CVS, Kowalski's, Office Max, Petco, Target

Delivery Services for Market Boxes, Meals or Meal Kits

Every Plate. Meals and meal kits. Some no-prep, very lo-prep. Cheapest. www.everyplate.com

Hungry Root. Grocery deliveries centered around meals using prepped food. All vegan. Add-ons. www.hungryroot.com

Imperfect Foods. Market boxes, organic produce, meat and fish, pantry items. www.imperfect-foods.com

Local Crate. Twin Cities exclusive meal kits by chefs like Gavin Keyesen, Ann Kim. localcrate.com Can be picked up in stores or delivered.

Misfits Market. Market boxes, all produce organic, extras at discounts. www.misfitsmarket.com

Origin Meals. Local company. No-prep meals. Very good for keto or paleo, no/very few veg options. www.originmeals.com

Sun Basket. Meal kits and meals. Best selection of healthy options. All produce organic. www.sunbasket.com

Thrive Market. Market boxes, mostly non-perishables, no produce. Own brand very good value, mostly organic. Lots of selection. thrivemarket.com

Farmers Markets

Mill City Indoor Saturday. Open one more day for winter: 2/13.

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

See *What's Open*, page 14

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EVENTS

Black History Month at Mia February 2021 and beyond
Minneapolis Institute of Art
2400 Third Ave. S., Mpls.
Celebrate the exceptional historical and creative cultural contributions made by African American artists with exhibitions, virtual events, videos, stories, and more. Current exhibitions include “In the Presence of Our Ancestors: Southern Perspectives in African American Art”; “Freedom Rising: I Am the Story,” featuring fiber art by L’Merchie Frazier; and “The Enduring Soul,” presenting artwork by African and African American artists that honor the connection between ancestors and the living and between what is seen and the invisible. Go to <https://new.artsmia.org/black-history-month> for a complete schedule of exhibitions and virtual events happening throughout the month. Mia has reopened to visitors with COVID safety precautions in place. General admission is free. Timed tickets are required for museum entry and special exhibitions. Reserve your ticket online here <https://ticket.artsmia.org/products/general-admission> or by phone at 612-870-3000.

SENA (Standish-Ericsson) Pal-entine’s Day Concert
Sunday, Feb. 14, 7 p.m.
YouTube live stream
Featuring a performance by Twin City’s favorite Jeremy Messersmith!
Please join us for an evening of live family-friendly music and show some love for SENa. The concert is free to enjoy, but we are asking for donations. Money raised during the concert will fund our Project Team initiatives for protecting and enhancing our natural environment, addressing systemic racism and social justice, building a stronger community through inclusive events, supporting small business, and addressing transportation and community safety. The event link will be posted on Feb. 8. <https://standish-ericsson.org/live/annual-events/> for link after Feb. 8.

Midtown Global Market’s 2021 Global Chili Cook-Off
Order online NOW, and Pick up on Saturday, Feb. 27, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Midtown Global Market
920 E. Lake St., Mpls.
Take your tastebuds on a trip around the world! Eight MGM chefs will battle for the title of “2021 Global Chili Cook-Off Champion.” Guests will have

the opportunity to pre-order eight delicious chili samples in one to-go container, each crafted by a chef of Midtown Global Market. The samples can be enjoyed on-site or at home. Guests are invited to vote for their three top favorite entries to decide the 2021 Global Chili Cook-Off Champion. Only 150 chili sample sets will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Samples must be pre-ordered. Register to order your Global Chili Cook-Off Sample Set here: <https://bit.ly/3j8OI-YE>. Pick up is on Saturday, Feb. 27, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A \$20 donation is requested with all proceeds benefiting Books for Africa, a non-profit organization. Books for Africa is the world’s largest shipper of books, having shipped 50 million books and served all 55 countries. Every dollar donated sponsors two books. www.midtownglobalmarket.org

Walker Winter Fun: Snowshoeing and Outdoor Films
Thursdays in Feb., 5 to 9 p.m.
Walker Art Center
725 Vineland Pl., Mpls.
Venture out to the Walker for some socially distant snowshoe trekking. Back by popular demand, snowshoes will be available for check out at the Esker Grove patio. Explore the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden in the moonlight. Self-guided tour materials will also be provided. Then, head up to the top of the snow-covered hill next to the museum and not only will you find yourself looking out onto the best view of the city, but you will also catch a glimpse of our winter film series. Sign up for your free 45-minute time slot on the date of your choice at <https://walkerart.org/calendar/2021/walker-winter-fun-snowshoeing-and-outdoor-films>. Last checkout is 8:15 pm each night. Snowshoe rental is made possible by the University of Minnesota Center for Outdoor Adventure. Please note, free tickets for gallery admission will be available, provided the museum is open to the public. Tickets must be reserved separately. [The Walker reopened to the public on Thursday, Feb. 4. See www.walkerart.org for more info.]

Rain Taxi February Events
Peter Gizzi with Ocean Vuong
Wednesday, Feb. 10, 5:30 p.m.
Online
Rain Taxi presents poet Peter Gizzi in conversation with poet and novelist Ocean Vuong, in celebration of Gizzi’s new collection of poems, “Now It’s Dark.” These two amazing practitioners of the lyric dive into the depths

of what it means to be human at this precarious moment, exploring themes of death, beauty, sadness, grieving, and light. Free to attend, registration required on Rain Taxi’s Crowdcast Channel here: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/petergizzi>. Books can be purchased during the event, or in advance from Magers & Quinn Booksellers in Minneapolis. More information about the authors and this event can be found at the event page: <https://www.raintaxi.com/peter-gizzi-with-ocean-vuong/>.

John Jennings and David Brame
Tuesday, Feb. 16, 5:30 p.m.
Online
Rain Taxi is proud to present a virtual conversation with John Jennings and David Brame, the adaptor and illustrator, respectively, of the debut title from MEGASCOPE, a new line of graphic novels from Abrams ComicArts dedicated to showcasing speculative works by and about people of color. “After the Rain” is a graphic novel adaptation of Hugo, Nebula, and World Fantasy Award-winning novelist Nnedi Okorafor’s short story “On the Road.” The presenters will discuss the new book, new imprint, and the importance of increasing access to great speculative writing by people of color. Free to attend, registration required at <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/jennings-brame/register>. Books can be purchased during the event, or in advance here, from Magers & Quinn Booksellers in Minneapolis. More information about the authors and this event can be found here: <https://www.raintaxi.com/john-jennings-and-david-brame/>.

‘Papier’ by Swedish artists
Bea Szenfeld and Stina Wirsén
Opening Saturday, Feb. 6
American Swedish Institute
2600 Park Ave., Mpls.
“Papier,” in a juncture between art and

fashion, is an international touring exhibition showcasing artist-designer Bea Szenfeld’s striking paper couture — dresses and other sculptural fashion items made entirely from paper and worn by such pop icons as Lady Gaga and Björk — united with artist-author Stina Wirsén’s evocative and colorful illustrations. “Papier” makes its Midwest debut, at one of only two sites in the U.S., Feb. 6 – July 11, 2021, at the American Swedish Institute (ASI) in the Turnblad Mansion and Osher Gallery. In this remarkable, creative partnership, two prestigious Swedish talents meet in a mutual affection for the handmade and paper. “Papier” features a dozen of Szenfeld’s wearable pieces plus an object-based piece titled, “Grief.” Her bold designs belie their delicateness. Wirsén’s expressive drawings and illustrations set the scene and act as a colorful backdrop. Both artists have had a major impact in pop culture from fashion to theatre. The ASI Museum, Museum Store and FIKA Café will all reopen on Feb. 6 with reduced capacity, pending any further COVID-related precautions. Revised hours are Thursday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advance, timed reservations are required to visit the museum and can be made at www.ASI.mn.org or by calling 612-871-4907 during public hours. Visitors must use face coverings and maintain safe distances. The Store and FIKA will also offer expanded Marketplace take-out orders. ASI has free on-site parking and is located at 2600 Park Ave., Mpls.

Just Food and Water: A Conversation with Marita Bujold
Wednesday, Feb. 10, 7 to 8:30 p.m.
The world is at a food crisis crossroads — tethered to an industrial food economy that is unsustainable. St. Frances Cabrini’s next Tegeder Talk: A

conversation about our food economy with Marita Bujold. “Just Food and Water” leader, Bujold explains how through the public-funded Federal Farm Bill we reached this crisis and what we can do to create an inclusive food economy designed to care for all people and for our earth. Learn what you can do to address the food crisis. Support Minnesota Legislature HF2738. Register at <https://cabrinimn.org/tegeder-talk-signup> (Questions: tegedertalks@cabrinimn.org). Future talks in this series are March 16 with Sr. Mary McGann and March 23 with Fr. Mike Joncas.

An Evening with Mira Jacob
Thursday, Feb. 11, 7 p.m.
Free online event
Mira Jacob is a novelist, memoirist, illustrator and cultural critic. Born in New Mexico to parents who emigrated from India, she uses her dual-culture background to navigate the ebb and flow of politics and modern culture. In 2015, Mira illustrated a graphic article for BuzzFeed entitled “37 Difficult Questions From My Mixed-Race Son,” which quickly went viral. Her stunning graphic memoir, “Good Talk: A Memoir in Conversations,” expands upon the delicate and nuanced conversations about race and politics she has with her son. “Good Talk” was shortlisted for the National Book Critics Circle Award, longlisted for the PEN Open Book Award, and named a New York Times Notable Book, as well as a best book of the year by Time, Esquire, Publisher’s Weekly, and Library Journal. It is currently in development as a television series with Film 44. This free and open to the public event is presented by University of North Dakota Writers Conference and University of North Dakota. For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/833806270685264/>

Lake Nokomis Shoreline Enhancement project is complete

Project is complete, but please stay out of the newly seeded areas to allow native plants to establish. The shoreline improvements project at Lake Nokomis is complete. Project goals included:
- Repairing damaged and eroded shoreline areas
- Removing overstory growth
- Replacing large areas of mowed turf with a wide array of native seed to control erosion and promote water quality.
This work was part of a long-term effort to increase the amount of natural landscape within the park. Work originally began in the fall of 2019 and was largely complete by the end of 2019, with development of new native seed species during the 2020 growing season. Due to the pre-existing turf and invasive weed bed that previously existed, additional over-seeding with the native seed mix was required in 2020. Proper establishment of native seed generally takes several years before a strong presence of the native plants can establish and thrive, with little to no competition from invasive plants. In 2021, additional maintenance and establishment efforts will be done to help promote the establishment of these new native areas. The temporary fencing will stay up through at least 2021 to help protect these areas. Please stay out of the native seed areas and only use intended lake access locations to access the lake.



Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

What’s Open, from page 12

Pharmacy

CVS (Target - Minneapolis). Open to public. Usual hours.

Present Moment*. Open to public. Usual hours.

Walgreens (E Lake and 31st Ave). Mobile pharmacy open in parking lot.

Walgreens (Hiawatha & 46th). Open to public. Usual hours, plus drive-thru.

Walgreens (Hub - Richfield). Open to public. Usual hours.

Retail

Art Shoppe (at MGM). Open 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Saturdays. Open 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. other days except closed Tuesday.

Boneshaker Books*. Closed to public. Online ordering and delivery via Bookshop.com.

Dreamhaven Books. Open with restrictions. Online and phone orders. Delivery by USPS. Restricted hours.

Eastlake Craft Brewery (at MGM). Open for takeout only. Usual hours.

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

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

Groovy’s. Open with restrictions. Usual hours.

Habitat for Humanity-ReStore. Open with restrictions. Both donating and shopping. Usual hours. Read safety rules on website.

Irreverent Bookworm. Closed to public. Online and phone orders. Delivery by USPS. Check website for curbside pickup. Now accepting books for donation or trade credit. See website for details. Restricted hours.

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

Moon Palace Books. Closed to public. Online orders only. Delivery by USPS or to-go window pickup Mon. - Sat., 11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. (They call or text when ready.)

Nokomis Shoe Shop. Open to public. Online orders. Delivery by USPS -free for orders over \$100. Slightly restricted hours.

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

Quilt Shop Co-op. Open for online shopping: quiltshopcoop.com/shop. In person 1-hour

shopping by appointment Mondays 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. & Saturdays 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Email info@quiltshopcoop.com for appointments.

Repair Lair. Open with restrictions. Slightly restricted hours. Also does repairs.

Tare Market. Zero-waste bulk foods, personal items, more. Open with restrictions, usual hours.

Target (Lake Street & Hiawatha). Open with restrictions. Usual hours.

Service

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

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

Hennepin County Libraries (various locations). See <https://www.hclib.org/about/> locations for branch statuses and hours. Computer use by appt – Franklin. Limited computer use & grab-and-go books and media – Central (downtown), Arvonne Fraser (Dinkytown), East Lake, Hosmer (Central), Nokomis (51st Street). Grab-and-go only – Southdale. All of the above listed libraries except Franklin (and many more in other areas) now accepting returns.

Hub Bicycle Cooperative (Minnehaha Ave). Open for repairs. Online shop with curbside pickup or delivery. See website or call for more.

K9 & Kitty Kutters (Bloomington Ave). Open by appointment. Waiting list. Slightly restricted hours.

Laundromat (37th & Chicago). Open to public. Usual hours.

Nailish. Open with restrictions, by appointment. Usual hours.

Pedego. Open 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 Grease Pit Bike Shop. Open winter hours – Sat & Sun only.

Health Care

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 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.

Gyms, Wellness Centers, Training Facilities

Big River Yoga. All classes now virtual. Massage therapy & health coaching with restrictions. Yoga on demand (new). See website for details.

Blaisdell YMCA. Online fitness classes available.

Five Elements Martial Arts. Zoom classes only. See website for details.

Midtown YWCA. Online fitness classes available.

The Fix Studio and Café. Virtual fitness classes. Café open for grab and go or online ordering.

Nonprofit

Ani-meals - Meals on Wheels for Pets. Contact Community Emergency Service if you need pet food delivered to your home. Weekly.

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

Briva Health. Open with restrictions. Health care navigation by phone or appointment. Usual hours.

House of Charity (Elliot Park). Open with restrictions. Restricted hours.

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

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

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

Simpson Food Pantry. Open to public. Restricted hours. Outdoors, weather permitting.

Sisters Camelot*. Random food distributions. Check Facebook page weekly. Sites include Walker Church, Bethany Lutheran, Park Ave UMC.

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 with restrictions. Hot meals, bagged groceries. Email office@walker-church.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.

Pop-up Mutual Aid Sites / Pay-as-u-can / Pay-it-forward

See <https://twin-cities-mutual-aid.org/> for complete list, or for updates on needs of most of the sites listed below.

612 MASH (Medics at Chicago & 38th). See mutual aid link for list of needs.

Augustana Senior Homes (Elliot Park). See mutual aid link for list of needs.

Brian Coyle Center. Food distribution. See mutual aid link for days and times.

Food Shelf in a Box at Folwell School. Mobile boxed food distribution. 3rd Tues. each month, 3 - 6 p.m.

Food Shelf in a Box at Hiawatha YMCA. Mobile boxed food distribution. 1st Wed. each month, 3 - 6 p.m.

Food Shelf in a Box at Macedonia Baptist Church (Kingfield). Mobile boxed food distribution. 4th Wed. each month 1 - 3:30 p.m.

Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. See mutual aid link for list of needs. Uses Signup Genius App for volunteers. Distribution Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2nd & 4th Saturdays.

Keefer Court Meals on Wednesdays. Meals provided by Keefer Court, Wally’s Falafel, Afro Deli, Mim’s Café, free to all, 2 - 5 p.m. every Wednesday at Keefer Court.

Midtown YWCA. See mutual aid link for list of needs. Distribution by reservation, link in link above.

Phillips Free Store at Walker Church. See mutual aid link for list of needs. Open 2 – 7 p.m. Fridays.

Provision Community Restaurant. Free meals to go, M-F, noon to 1 p.m. Accepts donations of food or financial contributions.

Sanctuaries for houseless people. The last encampment, at Minnehaha Falls, was cleared out by the MPRB on Jan. 6, 2021. The Sanctuary Supply Depot continues to support houseless people, but they are not legally in Minneapolis parks now.

Sanctuary Movement Supply Depot (PPNA Office 35th Street). See mutual aid link for list of needs. Or inquire at the depot for more up-to-date info.

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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3200 CHICAGO AVENUE SOUTH
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Corporate welfare to Health Partners

BY PAPA JOHN KOLSTAD

Twin Cities health care activists are seeking changes to a state law that gives nearly free state collection services to a corporate giant. Health Partners/Regions Hospital enjoys the privilege of having the Minnesota Department of Revenue provide collection services for debt people owe for health care. This law allows Health Partners to have the state capture any income or property tax refund from those who owe them money. Health Partners has an annual revenue between \$6 and \$7 billion per year. They should do their own collections.

State law prohibits naming a company in statutes. However, Health Partners gained this state collection privilege by getting someone to insert specific language into a bill that only describes Health Partners/Regions Hospital. The offending words that need to be removed from this state law are: "... a private non-profit hospital that leases its building from a county or city in which it is located," This language only describes Health Partners.

In addition to getting these collection services at taxpayer expense, something that would cost other small and large businesses 20 to 40 percent of the debt, this money is most likely being diverted from people who are already in a desperate situation. We are in the middle of a pandem-

ic and an economic disaster. Not only has our government failed to provide basic health care, as every other industrialized nation has, but they allow wealthy corporations to take poor and low-income people's meager tax refunds, money needed for food and essentials.

A group I work with, Health Care Advocates, recently learned of this travesty. Through some research we learned that we could end Health Partners' state free ride by simply removing the words describing Health Partners from the state law. We next contacted some leaders in the Minnesota House and Senate, providing them with our proposed suggested deletion of the errant language from the state statute. We found eager bipartisan support in House and Senate and are working to get chief authors and key co-authors in both houses of the legislature. It is thought it will pass.

This will not prevent Health Partners from seeking the collection of any debts. They would just have to hire a collection agency like every other business in Minnesota or pursue the legal process through the courts where the situation of the debtor could be considered.

The Minnesota Revenue Recapture Act was enacted to assist the state and publicly-owned facilities in the process of debt collection, such as state, county, municipalities and public libraries. Now

we find it has been cleverly subverted to provide taxpayer-funded collection services for private interests allowing them to bypass legal due process and collection costs. Health Partners is already publicly subsidized because they pay no property taxes for Regions Hospital.

Why should this matter to South Minneapolis? Health Partners is a massive health care corporation covering the entire region. Their CEO receives millions in salary. Yet our quality and availability of health care is declining. Other industrialized nations provide comprehensive health care to all, with choice of doctor, hospital and clinic, with half the



costs per person of what we pay—with 30 million not covered under our system—with better health outcomes and

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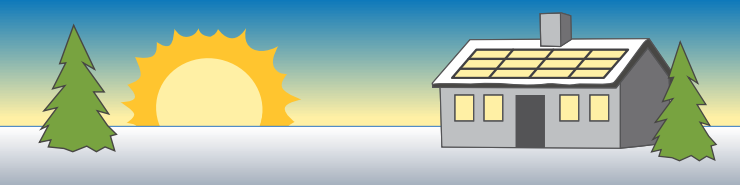


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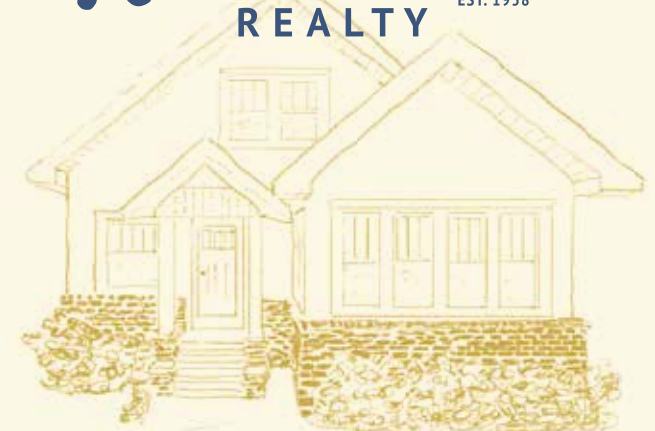
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