

# **NOKOMIS EDITION**

**SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH** 

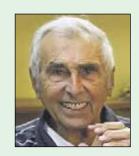
# March 2021

**VOL. XXXI, ISSUE 8** 

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

## We build Pride on the Southside

## **Monuments**



BY TONY BOUZA

Our-or any-society is driven by values. We repeatedly extol the virtues of truth tellers and honest dealers. Our airways are clogged with boasts of integrity. Our morality defines us and we emphasize these beliefs in the artifacts of culture. There are not too many statues left of Adolf Hitler in Germany or anywhere. Civilizations collapse because of moral decay.

Secession was a profoundly traitorous act—and done for the cause of preserving the power to own another human's life and service. Locally, Lake Calhoun reminds us of this folly. Luckily it is correctible and it has been. Anyone who thinks Charles Lindbergh was a great hero hasn't read Phil Roth's "The Plot Against America." Dig

Though he has his adherents-and so does Adolf, for that matter (attesting to the infinite gullibility of the human animal)—J. Edgar Hoover was the worst thing ever to happen to American policing. His papers—which would have revealed the sick

See Bouza, page 11



Founder of Families Supporting Families Against Police Violence, Toshira Garraway, displayed her arm to make a point about the color of her skin at a press conference held by a coalition of activist organizations outside the Hennepin County Government Center Feb. 25 ahead of the March 8 start to Derrick Chauvin's trial. At the conference, speakers from Black Lives Matter MN, the NAACP and other organizations publicized their plans to protest on March 8. Jury selection for the trial of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin starts the day this paper comes out. All day on Monday, the community at George Floyd Square is hosting a Day of Prayers for Justice for George Floyd and Black Liberation. Photo by Casey Ek

# Between hope and despair

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

On the morning of Jan. 6, I woke up to the news of winning the runoff election for the Senate seats too slim a majority to accomplish much and I knew that the Democrats were unlikely to actually accomjust focus on a good thing out the Republicans for tinue to suffer and that the

olent mob attacked our nation's Capitol.

the Democratic candidates struggled to find hope for the future. I was relieved when Biden was inauguratin Georgia. I knew that ed with no further loss of this gave the Democrats life and I have been pleasantly surprised by some of the Biden administration's early moves: canceling the I chose to feel happy and were breaking unity with gling Americans. Demo-

happening. And then a vi- their obstruction during the Obama administration.

But Senate Republicans Since that day I have have cemented their opposition to our very structure of government by standing by Trump and his attempted coup. Biden and the Democrats have been in "control" for over a month now, that's one more rent payment due, and we still Keystone XL Pipeline, Vice haven't seen the passage of plish all that they could, President Harris pressur- a relief bill or direct checks because ... Democrats. But ing Senate Democrats who to the millions of strughopeful for one day. Af- the party's policy stanc- crats like Manchin and ter the year we'd had, my es such as direct relief Sinema stand firmly with mental health needed the checks, and pursuing rec- the Republicans in making ability to take a day and onciliation while calling sure Americans will con-

See Between, page 5

# The queen on the hill

BY KATHRYN KELLY

Park Board Commissioner Musich sits on her elevated hill over Lake Nokomis and surveys her dominion of Lake Nokomis. On her campaign website she says that her family loves "looking out over the park from our living room and seeing so many people enjoying OUR FRONT YARD." Of course, she is talking about the park land surrounding Lake Nokomis which does not BELONG to her.

In the meantime, her "subjects" below her are suffering from water inundation and broken pipes that are costing them thousands of dollars to repair. And, the "constructed wetlands" around Lake Nokomis are growing in size, outside of their originally designed footprint. Just recently, another underground water pipe burst in Nokomis park. And water from Solomon Park has been inundating people's yards.

But does this faze Ms. Musich? Not at all. She is bent on wreaking more havoc on the community around Lake Hiawatha. She appears to love water more than her constitu-



Park Board Commissioner Steffanie Musich (Photo/minneapolisparks.org)

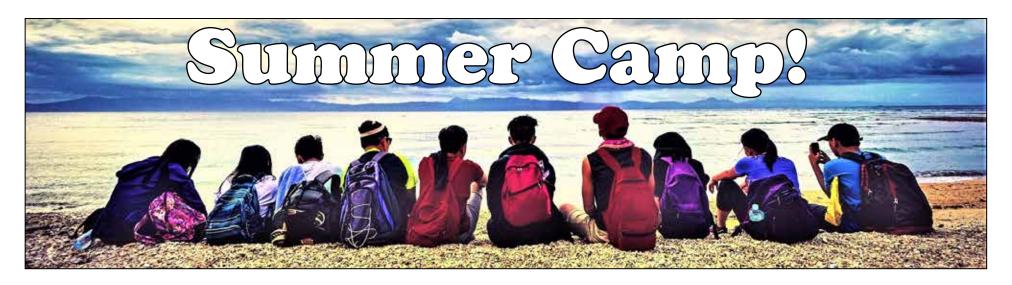
Her latest plan is to turn the Hiawatha Golf Course into a much larger lake. The plan slanders Theodore Wirth, who pushed the Park Board to buy the land around Lake Hiawatha. This land was slowly being developed with over a dozen buildings and a dairy farm on the property in the early 1920s. Wirth demolished the build-

ings and created a mixture of park land and golf course, but the current Park Board gives Wirth no credit for saving this land from development. The current plan says it favors "preservation, conservation, and restoration rather than expanding acts of past disturbance or creating new development." Really? If you actually READ the plan, "further disturbance and new development" is exactly what it

See Queen, page 10







# Summer camps 2021: some in-person, a lot of virtual options

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

The state of the COVID-19 pandemic is still pretty uncertain for summer 2021. Therefore, not surprisingly, there are more virtual options than ever before available. cated just to summer camps. But there are still some in-person traditional camps. There is actually a huge variety of choices, and so them, we'll also provide you some tips for searching for exactly what you want in a summer camp.

#### Guides

Google for it, but as you may have noticed, paid advertisers now hog

no matter what you're searching for, you straight there. and sometimes you might not have the time to get down to what you really need. So here are some tailored searchable "directories" online dedi-

The biggest database is probably day camps and even residential at www.summercamps.com, with its straightforward, easy to remember name. Once on this site, which covthough we'll cover (briefly) a lot of ers the whole U.S., you can enter a search term like "swimming," "college prep," or "arts," or you can enter a location, or you can enter both, and get targeted results. Here again, the paid ads have a link to click right through, but if your preferred result Of course, you can always just is unpaid, just Google its name for the link. If your kid wants to explore the Pacific Northwest and also learn

The next three are close to home.

all the top pages of search results, coding, for instance, this can take Camps, and click. (It actually con- And then there is SummerCamp. tains two lists, in-person and vir-

tual.) Then there's Family Fun Twin



and About for Kids (msp.kidsoutandabout.com/). To find the summer camp section, use the menu bar to navigate to LOCAL LISTS>CLASS-

There's Minneapolis-St. Paul Out Cities, which offers year-round guides for all kinds of free, cheap, unique or fun things for kids. The dedicated summer camp guide is www.familyfuntwincities.com/ ES & CAMPS>In-person Summer guide-twin-cities-summer-camps.

org, which, as its name suggests, is nothing but Summer Camps. They have two separate websites, one for each city area: minneapolissummercamps.org/ and saintpaulsummer-

Finally, here's a guide that's only free and virtual summer camps. The search site at summercamphub.com/ free-online-summer-camps has an amazing variety of ideas like Camp YouTube, Target-sponsored Maker's Camp (a combination of tech and crafts), Wonderopolis (indescribable—you'll just have to check it out) and Virtual 4-H Camp.

For the rest of the options, we're only giving the name of the camp or program and the city, to save space. But we have spot-tested that Googling the name as given should take you straight to the web page to get more information, including a phone number if you prefer to talk to them first. We recommend calling the organizations if there are any doubts about the information offered here, especially for scheduled in-person camps, just in case there are changes.

#### Sports

Both cities offer summer tennis day camp and/or tennis coaching for kids through their parks departments (or a partnership, in the case of Minneapolis). For Minneapolis, look for Inner City Tennis, and for St. Paul, it's called Urban Tennis.

Classic TaeKwonDo on Chicago Avenue is now enrolling kids for Summer Day Camp, which includes not only daily classes in the Korean martial art of TaeKwonDo, but also daily field trips, crafts and other activities. Attendance options include all-day sessions Monday through Friday, or only pay for the days you need.

Twins Baseball Camps are happening again in summer 2021, as they had a safe and successful run in 2020. In fact, a lot of the more popular sites are sold out. They're offered in many cities around the state as well as the metro area.

This one could have gone under performing arts, but I decided to put it in sports. Circus Juventas in St. Paul offers a world-renowned summer day program in all manner of circus arts. There are two choices of camps for ages 6 to 15 and the high-flying adventure camp for ages

#### Arts including Performing & Music

Articulture is an arts nonprofit linking art with healing and growth for all ages and abilities. They are offering summer day camps in weeklong modules over three age cohorts. Their fees are very reasonable, and they have a great variety of themes.

Northern Clay Center in Min-

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**northern clay** center

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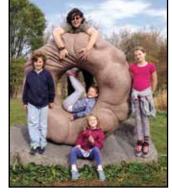
Camp Hours: 8:45-5:00 June through August (must be enrolled as a student)

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neapolis offers a virtual class this summer called Clay-Along. After registration, you'll be given a date looks like there will be adult, youth and kid versions.

Adventures in Cardboard is the local organization that combines two things the Twin Cities are known



#### **Cooks of Crocus Hill**

for-fantasy and cheap art. Kids of camps. Their website says registraall ages imagine their own fantasy worlds and then build them, mostly from cardboard. It's wildly popular, and it's outdoors for the most part.

School of Rock in St. Paul operates year-round. They do virtual classes for kids and youth, teaching Rock 101, songwriting, performing and specialist classes. For 2021 they will have short half-day in-person day camps. Register on their website.

Cooks Camp for Kids is offered by Cooks of Crocus Hill in St. Paul. Their Teens and Kids Summer program offers modules like Global Top Chef, Restaurant Copycat, and Baking and Decorating.

#### **Technology & Academic**

Snapology is a private company with franchises in various cities including Minneapolis. They offer online classes year-round, private parties with kids, and week-long day camps in the summer. Since it's mostly playing with Legos, albeit mixed in with learning about technology and science, it's more for the younger ages.

Saint Paul College offers career exploration day camps on campus for high school students, in areas such as "scrub camp" for kids interested in health care. There are camps for video game design, cosmetology, and more.

Groves Academy is a specialist school that supports bright students who struggle with learning disabilities and attention disorders, as well as promoting evidence-based literacy instruction for all. They will have a summer camp program in 2021.

iDTech usually has a campus-based program at Macalester College in a wide range of tech and STEAM areas. Their website says: "With the ongoing uncertainty surrounding COVID, most of our university partners are delaying their decisions about on-campus programs until later this spring. We'll keep you informed as plans unfold. In the meantime, we invite you to join us for 1-on-1 or small-group online learning."

If you have an "indoor kid" who tion information will be available in actually misses school in the summer, look into the virtual enrichwindow to pick up a kit, and then the ment classes offered by the Minneinstruction will be live and online. It sota Institute for Talented Youth. At the time of writing, the class list for the Summer Session for grades 5 through 7 was not up yet, but the older cohort, grades 8 through 12, is only summer, and is open for registration now. Some of the classes at this level include creative writing, forensic science, and genocide and human rights.

This one isn't local, but it's virtual. Idea Camp 2021 by an organization called Female Strong is just for girls, and Idea Camp is for budding young entrepreneurs.

#### **Outdoors & Nature**

Camp Fire Minnesota operates Camp Tanadoona in Excelsior. They will have summer day camps with a few modifications there. They are also accepting applications for Junior Counselors. Camp Fire Minnesota spent the COVID year renovating their Tanadoona facility.

Dodge Nature Center in West St. Paul is planning to have summer day

**MUSIC LAB** 

March (so not in time for this arti-

Minneapolis Parks Department does not appear to have 2021 summer camp information up yet, except for a single event in early June. If you're interested in that, I would suggest just checking back now and then, or maybe call your nearest

YMCA North is offering an array of day camps in several locations in the outer metro. The further out ones include bus transportation from selected stops.

#### **Cultural & Traditional**

Minnesota ICC at the Sabes Center in Minneapolis offers Camp Olami for campers entering grades K through 6. Registration is open now. They also have "partner camps" for older kids, which include ArtRageous Rock of Ages, Snapology, Timberwolves & Lynx Basketball Academy, and more.

Camp Woodbrooke is a traditional countryside camp near Richland Center, Wis., colloquially called "Quaker Camp" as it is owned and operated by a Quaker-oriented non-



#### Circus Juventas toddler balance

outdoor living in a non-competitive, ecology-oriented camp."

Korean Culture Camp is a local institution that was started in order to serve Korean adoptees cut off from the birth family culture, but now is a part of the Korean-American family tradition. They posted the following COVID-19 notice: "We've held the dates of July 19 - 23 at Minnehaha Academy North Campus (3100 W. River Pkwy., Minneapolis) for Kore-

profit. They describe it as "Simple an Culture Camp." The website will be updated when they open registra-

> Tamahay Camp for Girls is our last item. As the name suggests, this is an all-girls camping experience. Located in Akeley, Minn., it was founded by four women in 1969. The camping is all-residential, and immersive, with no cell phones or other electronic devices. There are two-week or four-week sessions and registration is now open.



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COVID safety protocols will be followed, including limited enrollment, socially distancing, and masks worn when indoors. Group activities will be outdoors. Location to be determined based on COVID safety requirements.



Southside Pride NOKOMIS EDITION

# Virtual caucusing and virtual conventions this year

BY DAVID TILSEN

This year the entire Minneapolis city government is on munity partners. the ballot-the mayor, all 13 council members, the Board of Estimate and Taxation and the Park Board. All of these elected officials have been through a lot as the city has been trau-George Floyd murder and subsequent reaction, the closing down of much of our hospitality industry, the rise of unshelparks, and a level of poverty, hunger, unemployment and desperation unseen since the Depression of the 1930s. There is already a lot of political activity, and most elected offices will be vigorously contested.

In November, the state DFL asked cities to design a process for caucuses and endorsements that did not include of the complaining campaigns in-person meetings.

I am on the Minneapolis DFL Central Committee and we had a lot of meetings to argue, discuss and iron out a plan. This that the signers of the letter proposed plan went to the DFL had requested. If they changed Feb. 15.

In the meantime, Mayor Frey's reelection campaign that there is a lot of dissatis- a unanimous vote, others say six to eight hours for the city

with the City Council and com-

or and a few of the most conservative council members and Park Board commissioners sent a letter to the DFL state party chair asking that they matized by the pandemic, the not allow Minneapolis to do any endorsements this year. They contended that the new process was not inclusive, would degrade the party, and tered people camping in our its endorsements would be in-

> For a mayor who ran without the endorsement four years ago, and may have difficulty getting endorsed this year, the rationale seemed disingenuous. Also, those of us toiling to agree to the best decisions were nonplussed by the endaround to the state. Several had been involved in the process, and they had been supportive in the meetings. The final plan reflected changes emailed the rest of us to talk about their issues.

The DFL SEC approved the was not going well. It seems plan with what some say was

ship and his inability to work vote so we don't have a record simply required a person to log noon. These will feature typiof any Nays.

Then on Tuesday night, Feb. Over the weekend, the may- 16, the Minneapolis DFL met to approve the final plan. Well lines in the plan for this year: over 70 people logged on to our Zoom meeting. Some DFL regulars who wanted to know what was going on, some first-timers who had not been to any of our meetings who had no idea of what the plan was, and critics. There were unnecessary and unfair personal attacks on who live in Minneapolis have City Chair Devin Hogan, when he was just trying to do his (unpaid and volunteer) job.

> Some felt the all-online process would be confusing and poor people who do not have phones or computers could be excluded. The city party has set up a phone number for people to correspond with in any language to help facilitate non-computer participation.

The majority felt that this online process would be more inclusive. They felt the old system was a hardship on people with jobs, families and other responsibilities. The caucus-State Executive Committee their mind, they could have es required people to trek to (SEC) for approval on Monday, picked up the phone to text or a three- or four-hour meeting will be emailed to all caucus in the winter. If elected a delegate, they were then committed to a six- to eight-hour ward convention, and then another

on and cast a ballot—a fraction of the time commitment.

Here are the dates and dead-

\*March 17 - The deadline for a candidate to get on the list of campaigns seeking endorsement for the caucuses. You don't need to be on the list to run, but, well, it'll probably

\*April 1 to April 30 - DFLers an entire month to log in and join their caucus, declare their candidacy for delegate for the ward convention or the city convention. Delegate candidates will have the opportunity to declare their support for a candidate, issue, or be uncommitted.

\*April 27, 7 p.m. - A virtual "caucus night" event for each ward, where DFLers can meet with campaigns and candidates, discuss proposed rules, and break bread together as Democrats. This is not required to participate in the

\*May 12 to May 18 - a ballot registrants. They will vote for delegates.

\*May 19 - The last date to declare for endorsement for the City Council, mayor and other races.

\*June 2 to June 8 - Online balloting by delegates for ward conventions (City Council).

the weekend of June 5-6, 2021. One ward starting per hour, every hour. Saturday is Ward 1 through Ward 7, beginning at 11 a.m. Sunday is Ward 8 still require a lot of time.

faction with his lack of leader- not unanimous. It was a voice convention. The virtual plan through Ward 13, beginning at cal events including a candidate forum and opportunity for longer candidate speeches.

\*June 9 to June 15 - Online balloting by delegates for city convention for mayor, Board of Estimate and Taxation and Park Board.

\*"City convention" is on Saturday, June 12. Speeches and forums for Park Board, Board of Estimate, and mayoral rac-

There will be open tabulation of ballots, in virtual teller rooms, which campaigns can observe. No secret ballots for delegates.

Elections will use ranked choice voting. Delegates will have the opportunity to select first, second, and third choice, for example.

There will be virtual events for caucuses (April 27): for wards (June 5-6); and the city (June 12), in which delegates and candidates can politick, socialize and see each other on

There will be ways for people without computers to participate by phone or text or request help.

The DFL will educate people about the process and encourage people to assist others to log in.

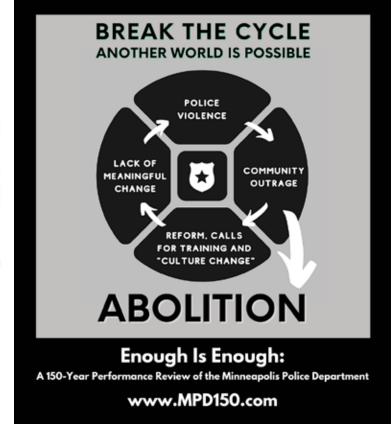
This process is new, and will require patience and all of us to work together. The assembling of online ballots for every pre-\*"Ward conventions" are cinct will be a large task, and volunteers will be needed. This is not as labor intensive as 14 conventions and 132 caucuses, but it will be unfamiliar and



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## Southside Pride NOKOMIS EDITION

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### The legacy of Lisa Bender

Thank you for your excellent piece on Lisa Bender, published a few issues back [all February editions of Southside Pride].

I've lived in my own home here in the Wedge neighborhood since 1995 and I'm a semi-retired architect.

I've also been on various neighborhood committees, beginning at the time when Bender got elected to City Council, starting with active membership (ultimately taking me to chairman) in the Zoning and Planning Committee, to being elected as vice chair (and eventually serving as acting chair) of the Wedge Board of Directors.

So, I've had a good chance to watch Bender from her beginning in a city leadership role.

In one of her first appearances, as our Ward 10 rep on the City Council, she came to a neighborhood Z&P meeting to introduce herself.

Soon, as a member of Z&P I noticed a real flip in rhetoric at many of our meetings. Many "new" participants made a lot of "aggressive" statements at those meetings (in Bender's presence), referring to homeowners as holding up the process of development, thereby having a "stranglehold" on any hope of providing people with "affordable housing." At times the rhetoric at the meetings got so heated I wondered if us homeowners might be dragged out into the street like in the Cultural Revolution days in China.

Next, the pro-developer group began to dismantle the NRP program. Fed funded, low interest, and forgivable loans and a grant program to help homeowners keep their neighborhoods in good repair. The program name, NRP, is no longer used, but remnants of it remain, however quite limited in comparison to previous times.

As I participated in the Z&P committee, I took note of some blatant violation of the bylaws re: "conflict of interest." Some on the committee were not disclosing that parties (with development plans) appearing for approvals by the committee were presently or previously "clients" of some committee members. I soon had the bylaws revised to require recusal by any member with association to parties before the committee.

When I was elected, by the neighborhood, to become a board member I found further inadequacies in city

The city planning division, by that time, had lost some of its best planners, leaving behind a "stamp and go" group, who mostly showed up at City Council considerations and final vote meetings, to state the Planning Division's support for development proposals.

With the rollout of 2040, the neighborhood was invited to the local VFW,

We were given a brief glimpse of what 2040 would entail (and do to our

We were broken into "discussion groups" and asked to list, in writing, those things that we found "good" about 2040 ...

All were introduced to Heather Worthington (new director of longrange planning) and she asked us where most of us planned to be in 20 years (think dead, or off to Florida, Texas, or Arizona?), and recommended that we should cash out now and leave.

Bender remained in the back of the room, surrounded by plainclothes-types pretending to be bartenders.

To me, 2040 amounts to nothing more than the opening of the (regulatory zoning) floodgates that have regulated land acquisition (by developers). It encompasses all land within an approximate two-mile radius of downtown. It allows for the combining of individual lots and the construction of apartment buildings, without which developers stay away.

Most importantly, it allows, even incentivizes, the transfer of all this land from being privately owned and occupied, to being corporate and investment group owned-never to come back to private ownership. Affordable housing becomes even further off as a hope for many.

Bender has "sold" the heart of our city-to the development and investment community.

There will be no need for a "public" police force in this future inner city. All policing will be contracted out to security firms, hired by corporate property

Bender is the ultimate, and best paid, modern day Pied Piper Minneapolis has seen. And she's taught her tune to many on the City Council, especially those from the most vulnerable communities.

-Tim Dray

# The Biden health care plan doesn't go far enough

BY JOHN KOLSTAD

proposal health care the im-How does it compare to (Improved Medicare for All)?

Biden's plan reads with no coverage.

Health care policy is ...", again achieved with of

have your choice of doctor, hospital or clinic. existing law explicitly Is President Biden's It costs half as much barring Medicare from regarding as the U.S. model using negotiating lower pricinsurance, and the cost es with drug companies, provement we need? to you is determined by but Medicare for All your ability to pay. It would negotiate drug Universal Single Payer has better health out- prices for all Americomes and there is no cans, giving them the annual enrollment.

leverage of the biggest Biden's proposal is market in the world to like a campaign pro- filled with good-sound- reduce the price. Biden mo piece. He speaks in ing phrases, some mis- also plans to limit price glowing terms about leading at best. For ex- increases on generics how great the Obama ample, the piece on the and other drugs, al-Affordable Care Act public option uses "... low U.S. citizens to buy (ACA) is and how he'll Medicare like ...". It is drugs from other counmake it better. The ACA not Medicare, it is pub-tries, end tax breaks for did some good things, licly subsidized private drug advertisement and but it has not solved our insurance. It states, "... improve the supplies of health care disaster, and reduce the cost of health generics. Maternal and it has left many millions  $\,$  insurance  $\,$  ..."  $\,$  and "... infant mortality rates in more affordable option the U.S. are at the levels

Biden will repeal the

non-industrialized countries. wants to work on this issue. A Single Payer System would alleviate this problem.

Biden's makes many promises. It is complicated and expensive. It will not stabilize

very complex and can subsidies. Biden plans this nation or reduce the to change." His proposal improvement.

A universal Single The rest of the in- income cap, allowing Payer system would be dustrialized world has those with much higher simpler, less expensive solved this problem with incomes to benefit from and everyone would universal health care the subsidies and tax be covered. This would through a Single Pay- credits compared to the help all people and would help the small and medium businesses nomically competitive et costs. He claims this crushed by COVID-19, and provide a healthy, will end surprise billing increase jobs, wages and happy, productive work for out of network care the economy. The entire force. Single Payer is and end market concen- industrialized world is already doing it.



ten get between us and it savings. our doctors.

all in, no one out. You tration.

be intimidating. The to use our public money anxiety across the councost and complication is to reduce costs. Money try. Biden said it himprimarily caused by the from one pocket to the self: "Nothing is going insurance industry. In- next to subsidize insursurance companies of- ance companies and call will only be a marginal

Biden is lifting the er. They do it to make ACA. He still has deducttheir nation more eco- ibles and out of pock-

#### Between, from page 1

complish as little as possible. Short of Trump destroying the Republican party with his own political party, this combined with numerous voter suppression laws being put forward across the country, seems like a surefire recipe for Republican wins in 2022 and 2024. the party of fascism in Amer-

At the local level, as prepaof the men accused of murdering George Floyd, state law

enforcement is stepping up City leaders are no better. and international stage. This some. I find hope in the orgathreats against nonviolent pro- They have announced plans to is the leadership of Minneap- nizers and activists for social Biden administration will ac- testors on the issue. The state reopen George Floyd Square olis and Minnesota present- and racial justice. I find hope leadership and law enforcement looked at the brutality caught on that video, saw that brutality broadcast around the world, the brutality that woke up the nation and the world to the deadly consequences of systemic racism, and they have dug in their heels with busi-The Republican party that just ness as usual. They looked at de facto declared themselves the way the Minneapolis Police Department violently attacked peaceful protestors before the officers in question even faced rations are made for the trial charges and decided those demanding justice were the problem.

to traffic after Chauvin's trial. Nothing has been done to address police brutality. Nothing has been done to change our public safety infrastructure or how we fund it. The city and state plan to have an increased law enforcement presence in the city for the trial. It is likely Chauvin will be acquitted and the city is counting on aggressively suppressing the natural reaction to the continued injustice of our system.

This is an embarrassment to all of us. This is an embarrassment playing out on a national ing themselves to the world as supporting war crimes like the use of tear gas against protestors, standing by white supremacy and structural racism by making no efforts to change policing, and proudly boasting its callous disregard for citizens who happen to be the "wrong" color. It is imperative that we stand up and let the world know that these actions do not represent us, or we are all complicit.

So far, I have discussed my have hope. Not much, but to a small corner of the world.

in the dropping COVID cases and rising availability of vaccines. At a local level I find hope in the campaign of Sheila Nezhad for mayor, especially given her work with MPD150. I am hopeful she will be a strong contender against Frey. I am trying to lean into these hopes. but I am also well aware of the potential roadblocks and often powerful opposition to the positive. So today I will order some garden seeds and think of spring and hope that, perdespair at length, but I also haps, I can bring some beauty

## Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

#### **EVENTS**

#### Global Day of Prayer for Justice for **George Floyd and Black Liberation** Monday, March 8

8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

George Floyd Square 38th St. and Chicago Ave., Mpls. Participate in-person or virtually. For more info, go to the Facebook event page at https://fb.me/e/zozjurNL.

#### 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/

#### Benedictine Monasticism as a Way of Life: Its Origins and Future Wednesday, March 10, noon

For centuries, the Rule of Benedict has been the foundation for sustainable Christian communities. This presentation will explore the key elements of the Rule with an emphasis on their perennial relevance.

#### JRLC Virtual Day on the Hill 'Make Justice Your Aim' Thursday, March 11 6:30 to 8:45 p.m.

Isaiah 1:17 calls us: "Make Justice Your Aim." Join us to examine Justice for Minnesotans of color and those who are unsheltered in the context of the COVID-19 vaccine. Then prepare to meet with your legislators to work for justice. To learn more and to register, go to jrlc.org. Event is free. Contributions welcomed.

Keynote Speaker: Reverend Paul Slack—" Trust, Access and Equity." Rev. Slack brings 30 years' experience as a pastoral and social justice leader and currently serves as the Social Justice Advocate for Lutheran Social Service. Panel: COVID-19—Homeless Outreach, Housing and Health, with Blair Harrison, Senior Advisor on Health, Homelessness and Housing, Minnesota Department of Health, and Dr. Antony Stately, CEO and Physician, Native American Community Clinics, Minneapolis, and others. Learn about the JRLC Agenda and How to Advocate for Justice. Prepare for virtual legislative visits to be held March 15, 16 and 17. Sponsored by Joint Religious Legislative Coalition, Interfaith Advocacy for Social Justice.

#### **Antisemitism and White Supremacy** Thursday, March 11, and Thursday, April 8, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Antisemitism is an essential piece of the machinery that perpetuates white supremacy, class hierarchies and other forms of oppression. That's why Jewish Community Action is holding weekly trainings on now to combat antisemitism and white nationalism. These sessions are free, and open to members and allies. Register at https:// jca-mn.medium.com/jca-antisemitism-and-white-supremacy-trainings-a7c0dbe2221.

#### **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 community. For more information, go to https://advocacydays.org/.

#### Minneapolis Friends Meeting (Quaker) 4401 York Ave. S., Mpls.

Minneapolis Friends Meeting is looking forward to spring, and joining in silent worship together, in person, as the weather warms and pandemic subsides. We continue to monitor health concerns to determine when this can be done safely. Meanwhile, we gather online. Worship Sundays, 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. (with planned speaker). Other online activities include: Mid-morning program Sundays at 10:15 a.m., with a discussion of various social and spiritual concerns. First Day School for youth, and get-togethers that include Lectio Divina, a writing group, and other activities to help keep our community connected. Office email: office@minneapolisfriends. org. www.minneapolisfriends.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

#### **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.holycrossmpls.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

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/NewCreationBaphttps://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.

#### **Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church** 5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.

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/ Midweek Lenten Worship on Zoom, Wednesdays at 7 p.m.. See our website for the link: nokomis heights.org Maundy Thursday online worship, 7 p.m., April 1 Good Friday online worship, 7 p.m., April 2 Good Friday in-person reflection at church, 5-7 p.m., April 2 Easter Sunday online worship, 10 a.m., April 4

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

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

Free food, hygiene products,

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

#### Minnehaha United Methodist Church 3701 E. 50<sup>th</sup> 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/MinnehahaFood-

#### **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://grovelandfoodshelf.org/

#### **Bethany Lutheran Church** 2511 E. Franklin Ave., Mpls. 612-332-2397

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

## The Nokomis Religious Community **Welcomes You**

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#### FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3430 E. 51st St. 612-729-5463 www.faithlutheranmpls.org Sunday Worship 9 am and online on YouTube and Facebook https://www.facebook.com/felcm-

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

#### FIRST FREE CHURCH

5150 Chicago Ave S 612-827-4705 Sunday services 10 am (in-person and online) www.firstfreechurch.org Christ-Centered, Christ-sent

#### HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS

1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy. 612-722-1083 Sunday Worship recordings online at www.holycrossmpls.org Scroll to mid-page on the home page to see recordings and bulletins to follow along.

#### LIVING SPIRIT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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#### MT. ZION LUTHERAN - LCMS

5645 Chicago Ave. S. 612-824-1882 www.mtzioninmpls.org Sundays - 9 am worship Visit our outdoor lending library!

#### NEW CREATION BAPTIST CHURCH

1414 E. 48th St. 612-825-6933 Sunday Devotion online 10:45 am on Facebook and YouTube https://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.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

Midweek Lenten Worship on Zoom, Wednesdays at 7 pm. See our website for the link: nokomis heights.org Maundy Thursday online worship, 7 pm, April 1

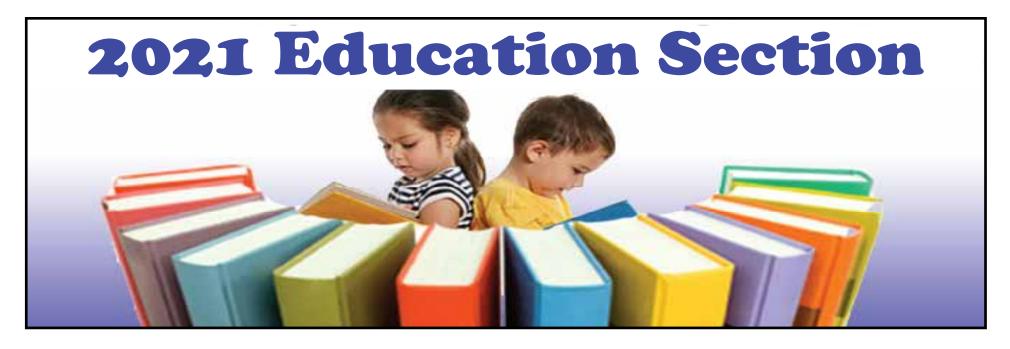
Good Friday online worship, 7 pm, April 2

Good Friday in-person reflection at church, 5-7 pm, April 2 Easter Sunday online worship, 10 am,

#### ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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





# The Page Amendment; educators' solidarity; COVID-19 and safe reopening of schools

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

A big subject in local educational news has been the struggle between teachers' unions and school districts over when and how it is safe to return to in-person classes. As we explained in the October 2020 Education Section, it's a complex issue. For some teachers, in-person learning is what they want most, and for some families too. But other teachers, paraprofessionals and families rightly fear it, for the many unknowns and great potential to cause proliferation of the COVID illness.

You might want to refer back to the October 2020 article (south-sidepride.com/2020/10/05/min-neapolis-schools-other-issues-on-the-back-burner-but-not-cdd/) because it explains a lot that is still ongoing six months later.

In general, the majority of school boards and administrators want to get back to in-person school then in hybrid mode (a learning as soon as possible, and combination of remote and in-per-

the majority of union members in the system want better guarantees of safety, or hazard pay. Families of students run the gamut. There are some who demand continued in-person learning and move their kids to parochial or other private schools to get it. There are some who demand that virtual (or remote as it's often called in the education setting) is available for all who want it. There are some who want to keep their kids home, but are dissatisfied with the quality of remote learning and withdraw for homeschooling. School districts struggle and don't fully succeed in balancing all these needs.

Previously, I spoke with KH, a school bus driver and member of the Teamsters Union, who continued working when St. Paul went all remote by picking up routes in White Bear Lake, which was then hybrid. I also spoke to Beth, who left her teaching job at a charter school then in hybrid mode (a combination of remote and in-per-



son) to take a post in the Minneapolis Public School system which was then all remote.

For this Education Section, I interviewed another education worker whom I know through

Democratic Socialists of America (DSA). They are a technology assistant paraprofessional for Shakopee Public Schools (ISD 702) and their spouse is a special ed teacher.

Teachers in Shakopee, as in most suburban districts, are represented by the union Education Minnesota, but the paraprofes-

See Schools, page 8

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# 2020 Education



Brooklyn Park, Jan. 19: K-2 students return

#### Schools, from page 7

sionals or Education Support Professionals (ESPs) are represented by Minnesota School Employees Association (MSEA)—a union that broke off from Education Minnesota about 50 years ago, due to the feeling that Education Minnesota did not represent ESPs adequately. Custodial staff in the Shakopee system are represented by Service Employees International Union (SEIU).

Shakopee schools were in hybrid mode from the COVID emergency declaration in March through Thanksgiving week, after which they switched to remote-only due to the surge in COVID. (At the start, they also created an option called K-12 Online Academy for families who wanted to be remote only.) They have been gradually transitioning back to hybrid mode since January, starting with kindergarten through second grade, and finishing when high school students come back in March, conditions permitting.

My interviewee described the

scrambles, complexities and sometimes chaos involved in this ongoing process. Part of their job is distributing devices, hotspots and other electronic gear to students when they "go remote" and then checking it back in when they "return" for in-person classes. It's a big thing for school kids to be responsible for, but they said the kindergarteners were actually better at it! (Probably got more help from their parents, to be fair.)

They described situations where the district made last-minute structure changes that meant kids weren't isolated properly. Teachers and other staff often have to go into quarantine for exposures, even if they don't get sick, exacerbating the already high shortage of staff. They described situations where ESPs ended up in sole supervision of large classes because there were so few teachers. "Teachers. more than almost anyone, understand the need for kids to get back to classes, but they and we worry about safety. I'm a parent myself, so I understand the conflict," they

More than ever before, solidarity both within and between unions is supporting education workers in these difficult times. Within the Twin Cities DSA Labor Branch, a tight-knit, very active Education Workers' Working Group has formed. They share information and work together across districts, between public, private, charter and alternative schools, and across unions, to try to improve the situation and stand firm in demanding safety for staff and students.

When, after being all-remote for



Former Minnesota Supreme C Neel Kashkari

the 2020-21 year until that point, Minneapolis Public Schools announced they would be transitioning to hybrid learning in early February (and St. Paul Public Schools announced the same thing), both teachers' unions, MFT59 in Minneapolis and SPFE28 in St. Paul, reacted swiftly, with MFT59 filing a civil injunction. The court did not grant all the demands in the injunction, but did affirm that any staff with a valid accommodation in place or in process could work from home



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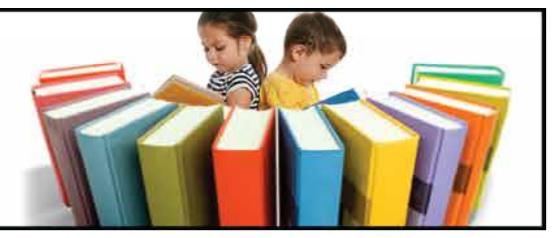


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# Section



without suffering loss.

There is another big issue facing Minnesotans interested in preserving public education and improving its quality—the proposed Minnesota Constitutional amendment called "the Page Amendment." It's sometimes referred to as the Federal Reserve amendment, because the other co-author, besides former Minnesota Supreme Court Justice



#### Nevada Littlewolf

Alan Page, is Neel Kashkari, a former Republican candidate for governor of California, now the head of the Minneapolis Federal Reserve

According to the Minneapolis Star Tribune, which remains neutral on the amendment:

"To critics, Kashkari's participation is cause for concern: As the Republican candidate for governor of California in 2014, he campaigned on vouchers and other free-market reforms as a means of improving public schools.



ourt Justice Alan Page and

"'The Page Amendment's language does not appear to explicitly mandate the creation of a public school system at all, only that any public schools that do exist meet "achievement standards," University of Minnesota researchers Myron Orfield and Will Stancil wrote in a 2020 memo."

The decidedly pro-, almost boosterish, language of the home page of Our Children Minnesota, a group formed around the amendment with support from the Minneapolis

Fed and several local think tanks can be seen here: ourchildrenmn. com/about/. The communications chief of this group is prominent Republican Kirsten Kukowski, but there are also DFL heavy-hitters in the coalition, including Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison and Paul Wellstone protege Nevada Littlewolf, former campaign director in Minnesota for Biden. The bill to place the amendment on the 2022 ballot is authored by DFL Rep. Hodan Hassan of Minneapolis, along with several DFL and Republican co-authors, according to KSTP.

But there are equally trustworthy and well-reasoned voices against it, and a consensus against it is forming, if not yet reached, among the left wing of the DFL, progressive academics, and educators' unions, including Education Minnesota.

In the same Star Tribune piece, Denise Specht, president of Education Minnesota, said, "I don't see the plan here. I see magic words on paper, but nobody has been able to clearly articulate to me how this would actually work, how does this make a difference?" A union educator writing for Twin Cities DSA sums up emerging leftwing critiques and fears in this article:twincitiesdsa.org/2021/01/a-page-out-of-the-neoliberal-play-book-defunding-public-schools.

David Schultz, a well-known progressive commentator and legal expert as well as a professor of political science at Hamline University, made a more pointed criticism of the amendment's gaps and pitfalls in MinnPost, the online news journal. Schultz starts by quoting the entirety of the proposed amendment: "All children have a fundamental right to a quality public education that fully prepares them



#### **Karen Lewis of CTU**

with the skills necessary for participation in the economy, our democracy, and society, as measured against uniform achievement standards set forth by the state. It is the paramount duty of the state to ensure quality public schools that fulfill this fundamental right."

He then puts on his legal scholar hat (he's that, as well) and takes this apart pretty much word by word. After parsing all the shortcomings, he sums up with: "Current constitutional language does not prevent the development of any of this; the problem has not been law but political will. New constitutional language as suggested by Page and Kashkari too will not guarantee it, but instead would potentially push critical decisions about education into the courts, where judges will have to make these decisions. It is not clear that this approach is desirable, and it leaves policy formulation up to the distortions of plaintiff legal strategy-and not one necessarily based on promoting overall sound educational policy."

Another good critical analysis,

more from the standpoint of political power and stakes in the game, is found in Sarah Lahm's recent article in the Progressive: progressive.org/public-school-shakedown/privatize-education-in-minnesota. And finally, see this PDF document to get a full legal analysis by a team of experts: tinyurl.com/sspedsect.

\*\*\*\*\*

We will close with an "in memoriam" to a brilliant educator and

organizer who passed away at age 67 on Feb. 8, 2021. Karen Lewis was president emerita of the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU.) She was immortalized in the popular book on organizing by Jane MacAlevey, "No Shortcuts." She led the successful strike against Rahm Emanuel's school board in 2012. In honoring her, the CTU said, "Karen did not just lead our movement. Karen was our movement."



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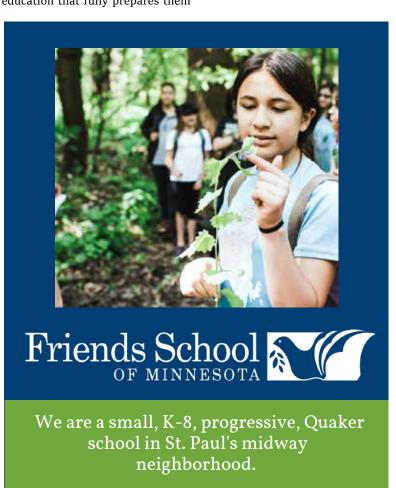
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# Gimme shelter (cont.)

BY KAY SCHROVEN

Oh a storm is threatening My very life today *If I don't get some shelter* Oh yeah, I'm gonna fade away – "Gimme Shelter," The Rolling Stones

In the 1980s when many mental health facilities were closing, 14 local churches became involved in addressing homelessness and providing services. Three of these still exist today: Our Saviour's Luand Simpson United Methodist. These, in addition to the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities, form the largest continuum of services for the unsheltered and homeless communities in Minneapolis.

of \$10 million. The CARES Act lis Planning Commission and of homelessness by supporting on the Simpson website, www. which allows the shelter to remain open 24/7 during the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization navigates approximately 100 individuals per year into housing. Having sold their Bell House on Pillsbury Avenue in the Whittier neighborhood, the organization purchased its own building at 160 Glenwood Ave. and plans to move its administrative offices this summer (2021).

In addition, Simpson is very theran, St. Stephen's Catholic excited about a new project! They continue to raise funds to build a 70-bed short-term shelter and 42 units of permanent supportive housing at the Simpson United Methodist Church site (1st Avenue South and 28th Street). Given the Simpson United Methodist age of the building (139 yrs.) has been a leader for nearly and a dwindling number of 40 years, providing shelter to urban parishioners, the conthose in need in the basement gregation donated the buildof their church. The not-for- ing to Simpson House. The profit employs 115 individuals new shelter project has been and has an operating budget accepted by the Minneapo-

has recently provided funding, supported by the Whittier Alliance and Council President Lisa Bender (Ward 10). It is expected to open within the next few years. LHB Architects and Project for Pride in Living are engaged in the design and development of the project. The plan is to create a five-story modern and dignified facility with a commercial kitchen, a medical clinic, sleeping areas, showers, laundry rooms and common spaces with plenty of natural light, as well as very affordable apartment units.

While the church's basement shelter is not modern or dignified, it is dear to many for a variety of reasons. One resident put it simply: "hot meals, clean sheets and people who care." For nearly four decades, the 66-bed shelter has been a stable temporary home "where you stay for a night or for weeks, as needed, and are treated like a human being."

Simpson offers three key programs: Shelter, Family Housing and Single Adults Housing.

In addition to providing beds, the shelter provides three meals a day but uses caterers now during the pandemic rather than volunteers. They serve 100 per night and alums are welcome. While the church is closed due to COVID, they continue operating a food

Family Housing is coordinated with Hennepin County, and provides housing to approximately 300 families and 600 children, working with landlords and developers to secure appropriate housing. In addition, Simpson offers educational programs designed for breaking the cycle

early childhood development through programs addressing education, financial stability, wellness, child care, language and literacy, and employment. In 2018 this program was awarded \$2.5 million toward expansion by Amazon's Jeff Bezos. They are one of 24 nonprofit agencies selected in the U.S. for this award. This award will allow them to expand their services by 20 percent.

The Single Adults program is designed for adults who have experienced long-term (four or more years) homelessness. It is built around support and advocacy and provides services to over 200 adults annually. This program supports The Women's Housing Partnership, Opportunity Housing Partnership and Rapid Re-Housing Program. The Women's Program focuses on forging ongoing relationships with women to help them develop independence and stability. The Opportunity Partnership is a collaboration amongst Simpson, AEON and Avivo to support two housing communities in downtown Minneapolis. They offer efficiency apartments and opportunities for community engagement. The Rapid Re-Housing Program is a short-term intervention program designed to provide financial assistance and services to individuals experiencing homelessness in order to quickly re-house and stabilize them.

Those in need of services can report to the basement of St. Olaf's Church in Minneapolis (215 S. 8th St.) where intake is conducted. Those looking to contribute to ending homelessness can learn more

simpsonhousing.org, "Ways to Help." Under "Volunteer" you will find current opportunities and an application. Donations can be made in the form of funds or commonly needed supplies such as toilet paper, school supplies and electronics. Mark your calendar for May 12 for the 11th annual Art4Shelter event. This year's event will be virtual and will feature many local artists. Original art will be available for purchase (\$35) and all proceeds will go to the Simpson Shelter and Housing programs. You can access the event on the Simpson website.

#### Four Men from St. Paul

Hey God, it is not working out too well

This business of being alive You never said it would be easy

But I never thought I'd see children on my street going hungry.

Or four men freezing to death after being turned away from a shelter for homeless people

So what happened God? Didn't those four men rate that night?

Did being drunk make them disposable?

Oh, I still believe in you But it's getting hard to find you in the city

And those four men who froze to death

didn't see your Light of compassion shining that night So God be straight with me-Is there no more room at the inn?

--Pam Wynn, Home Words, St. Stephens Shelter, 1991



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#### Queen, from page 1

does, with massive dredging in the Twin Cities. What does to create a bigger lake, adding massive amounts of fill to the property for the proposed golf course, and building exten- No. She's fine with honorary Park Board are the sinners.

And then there is the long history of the Black community and Hiawatha Golf Course. This community has patronized this golf course since it opened in 1934, mainly because it was one of the only places they could golf. In 1951, they fought for equal access to the golf course, resulting in the Park Board eliminating the discrimination. Since then, this golf course has provided a home for the Black community, including hosting of the Bronze Golf Tournament for over 30

years, the biggest golf tour- anism makes this almost imney for the Black community the Black community want? The 18-hole golf course. Does this matter to Ms. Musich? on the property via watershed credits.

Also, this plan still makes promises to protect the low-lying homes with no engineering details. All of this massive redevelopment will totally change the delicate balance of the topography, water drainage and pumping that now protects the homes as far away as Powderhorn Lake.

And will the promised 9-hole golf course, the fantastic ski area and the restaurant really

possible since the funds for the first two will come from the golf courses and the Winter Activities department which need to come up with \$11 million and \$3.7 million, respecsively on the clubhouse knoll. plaques for the Black golfers. tively. The Park Board's histo-It appears that Wirth was re- Instead, she wants to let de- ry of mismanagement of these ally the savior and the current velopers pay the Park Board a enterprises makes this nearly few bucks to dump their water impossible. And what restaurant owner will pay \$6.3 million to build this fancy facility and have its profits drained for 25 years? Is this the ultimate BAIT AND SWITCH? Close the golf course and flood it, only to never have the money to build the rest of these promised amenities? It seems very

> So, what does Ms. Musich say to her subjects? It's not, "Let them eat cake." Ms. Musich appears to be saying, let them buy sump pumps and be built? The funding mech- read honorary plaques.

# A new Good Grocer does good on **Eat Street**

BY STEPHANIE FOX

sure that everyone has enough food to eat has been a lifelong mission. Once the head pastor of The Upper Room, an activ-



ist church. Vickman ran a food shelf in the church basement. He discovered that many people would ask to pay small ness model is the same-it ofamounts of money in exchange fers high quality foods for not for their food. It was a way, Vickman said, for people facing hard times to keep their dignity.

would not allow it. His church is natural and there are large had been required to sign a contract promising that they



Products list two prices, one for regular customers and a 20 percent cery store might carry. discount for volunteers.

work for food. Vickman decidbetter way.

The Good Grocer opened neighborhood on Lake Street, shop serving deli-style foods. Vickman's innovative solution to the problem. It was a grocery store that gave customers a chance to trade a few hours panies that are doing good, not ning to shop at the Asian gro-

discount. But when the 35W For Kurt Vickman, making project forced the demolition of the building, Vickman focused on creating a new Good Grocer that would serve even more people, giving them a way to contribute to the cause while allowing them to purchase quality, affordable food.

The store's new home on Eat Street, at the corner of 26th and Nicollet and just five blocks from his old location, opened in late January. It's bright and sunny and at about 9,000 square feet, twice the size of the Lake Street store. And, while the store may be new and improved, the busitoo much money with a volunteer discount option for those who want it.

Right now, 50 percent of But the rules for food banks the food sold at Good Grocers produce, dairy, meat, seafood, imported cheese and ethnic

food sections in addition to the standard frozen pizzas and grocery items.

Customers choose from dozens of cooking and hot sauces, Indian and Asian specialties, artisan pastas, coffees and teas-everything that a higher-end gro-

There's more in the works, as well. would not charge or exchange In March, the plan is to open a Good-To-Go section with ed then that there had to be a ready-to-eat choices such as sandwiches and sushi. And soon after, the store will launch six years ago in the Whittier Good Eatery, an in-store coffee

> Vickman is also planning to begin to label some products as "Good Certified," vetting com-

of work at the store for a large just tasting good. "The Good cery store across the street. He Grocer is defined by the word 'Good,'" said Vickman.

The store manages to keep prices low because of their mostly-volunteer staff. There are two prices listed for everything, the regular price and the 20 percent discount price for those who volunteer at least two-and-a-half hours a month. Volunteers do not need to be facing food insecurity to get the discount.

The grocery currently has 600 volunteers, but they could use more, Vickman said. "Prices are low because in grocery stores, the biggest expense is labor. Volunteers lower our costs and let us lower our pric-

"Volunteers are the heartbeat of Good Grocer," he said. 'Volunteers do inventory, stock the shelves, cashier and bag groceries, answer phones, data entry and much more."

And at least during the pandemic, curbside pickup and delivery will be available for those who want it, also provided by volunteers.

Part of the money saved by having volunteers staff the store will be funneled to the Food Outlet, a mini-version of the larger store, designed to serve those who have limited or uncertain access to sufficient or high-quality foods. Those with the need can apply for a six-month membership. Members will receive a 75 percent discount at the Outlet, which will be launching soon and will be open each Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

People living in Whittier and those from outside the neighborhood are starting to discover Good Grocer. Davin Branwall, a chef and culinary instructor living in Uptown, took a bus to Eat Street, plan-

dropped in to check it out.

"It's my first time here," he said. "The produce is super, super fresh. It looks gorgeous. I would put this up against high-end grocers. And look

"We are glad they found saw the Good Grocer sign and a space still in the Whittier neighborhood," said Kaley Brown, executive director of the Whittier Alliance neighborhood association.

> Brown watched construction of the building and talked



Kurt Vickman in the large fresh produce department at Good Grocer's second incarnation

ple, food is the number one mission. expense. But that cheese," he said, pointing out a package of BelGioioso mozzarella, "it's \$2.99. At Whole Foods, it's \$3.95. At Cub, it's—I'm not tion," she said. sure, but I think it's \$5.99."

people like Branwall will also shop at Good Grocer for the prices, the choices and the quality. The more people who buy at full price, the more those who need discounted foods can get them, he said.

at the prices. For most peo- with Vickman about the store's

"A number of residents here don't have a car. They could walk to the old location and can still walk to the new loca-

"A lot of residents here ex-Vickman hopes that more perience food insecurity, so the Good Grocer helps them, too. And the Good Grocer gives people an opportunity to volunteer, so it's a good community builder. We're glad they were able to stay in the neighborhood."

Bouza, from page 1

purpose of his instincts—will never see the light of day. His targets will surface in 2027 as the FBI files on Hoover's #1 bugbear-the Reverend and revered Martin Luther King, Jr.are released. They will probably reflect an active libido, and so what?

Every sensible historian has known and evaluated Hoover's true worth-or lack thereof. Curt Gentry's biography is the best. The FBI's current building in D.C. bears Hoover's name. That is even more shameful than our Lindbergh Terminal.

Now there is a new FBI

building in the works, and we are likely to perpetuate the atrocity. His are not the value that should perpetuate our

When the King files are released, some will claim justification for their antipathywhich is really just another expression of racism.

What will not be asked is why—in a sea of Mafia violence and addiction pandemics-did Hoover train his obsessive powers on a Black clergyman fighting for human rights?

It is in wrestling with such questions that a civilization is

What will history's judgment

be of ours?

It all—on the surface—looks pretty harmless. Robert E. Lee was a great general and very likely a really nice guy. "Gone with the Wind" gave us a great view of the idyllic life of plantation darkies. D.W. Griffith was a brilliant director who created the most blatantly racist tract Hollywood ever made, "The Birth of a Nation."

Every monument-in whatever form: flag, song, book, film or even, yes, buildings—is an expression of our values. They are ways of conveying to our children the things we hold most dear.

Swastika, anyone?





# COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride NOKOMIS EDITION

#### **EVENTS**

## **Talking Volumes: Talking Race 2021**

Minnesota Public Radio and the Star Tribune are proud to announce a special Talking Volumes series of virtual events centered around the topic of race in America. From the killing of Black people at the hands of police to COVID-19 to economic downturn, the most difficult issues we currently face are disproportionately affecting Black people, Indigenous people, and other people of color. We are bringing together a diverse group of authors to talk about their books, which all provide unique insights on America's growing racial divide.

Talking Volumes: Talking Race will be hosted by award-winning MPR News journalists Kerri Miller and Brandt Williams. All events will be held via webinar and will include an hourlong interview with the authors and a live interactive panel discussion moderated by the Star Tribune. Tickets are Pay-what-you-can, from \$0-\$20, and are available until 10 a.m. the morning of the event. To reserve your spot, go to https://www. mprnews.org/story/2021/02/12/ talking-volumes-talking-race-2021season-guide.

**Reginald Dwayne Betts** 'Felon Poems'

Tuesday, March 9, 7 p.m.

Online via Zoom with host Kerri

N. Scott Momaday 'Earth Keeper: Reflections on the American Land'

Tuesday, March 16, 7 p.m.

Online via Zoom with host Kerri Miller.

Chang-rae Lee 'My Year Abroad'

Tuesday, March 23, 7 p.m.

Online via Zoom with host Brandt William.

Naima Coster 'What's Mine and Yours' Tuesday, March 30, 7 p.m. Online via Zoom with host Kerri

**Rain Taxi March Events** 'Beloved Beasts' Author Michelle Nijhuis in conversation with Jenny Price Wednesday, March 10 5:30 p.m.

#### Online via Crowdcast

Join us for a special event featuring one of LitHub's Most Anticipated Books of 2021! "Beloved Beasts: Fighting for Life in an Age of Extinction" (W.W. Norton) is a vibrant history of the modern conservation movement by acclaimed science writer Michelle Nijhuis. As the effects of climate change escalate the dangers to our planet, "Beloved Beasts" charts the ways conservation can protect all species—including our own. At this special event, Nijhuis will appear in conversation with acclaimed writer, artist, and historian Jenny Price. Free to attend, registration required. We hope to "see" you

Books can be purchased during the event, or in advance from Magers & Quinn Booksellers in Minneapolis at www.raintaxi.com/michelle-niihuis/. The first 15 people to buy a copy of "Beloved Beasts" will receive a signed bookplate and a specially designed Field Notebook with cover art from the book!

#### Claudia Zoe Bedrick and Ping Zhu Tuesday, March 16, 5:30 p.m. **Online via Crowdcast**

Join us as we present a conversation with the publisher of Enchanted Lion Books, Claudia Zoe Bendrick, and the illustrator of their new release "The Snail with the Right Heart." Ping Zhu. These two creative visionaries will discuss the joys and challenges of indie publishing for the children's market, as well as their individual paths to creating their art. The conversation will be moderated by author, essayist, and editor Bruce Handy. Free to attend, registration required at www.raintaxi.com/claudia-zoe-bedrick-and-ping-zhu/.

#### **Timothy Brennan** Tuesday, March 23, 5:30 p.m. **Online via Crowdcast**

Join us for a special event about the many sides of Edward Said, the famed Palestinian literary critic,

public intellectual, postcolonial studies trailblazer, political activist, and gifted pianist. Acclaimed American composer Nico Muhly, who was taught by Said at Columbia, will interview University of Minnesota professor and friend of Said's, Timothy Brennan, about his new comprehensive biography, "Places of Mind: A Life of Edward Said." For more info and to register for this FREE event, go to www.raintaxi.com/ timothy-brennan/.

#### Celebrate Art by Women March events at Mia

Celebrate the exceptional historical and creative cultural contributions made by women artists with exhibitions, virtual events, stories, videos and podcast episodes. To see the entire schedule, go to https://new. artsmia.org/art-artists/explore/making-connections/art-by-women.

#### Virtual Talk: Nell Irvin Painter Thursday, March 11

#### 11 a.m. to noon

Online via Zoom

In this powerful and deeply insightful program, Painter will explore issues of racial and gender identity and how they have figured into the history of America and her own artwork, which urges audiences to look at history beyond the lines of difference and stereotype. Nell Irvin Painter is an award-winning scholar and writer. A graduate of Harvard University, Painter went on to become the Edwards Professor Emeritus of American History at Princeton University, A prolific author on the history of the American South, Painter's latest book, "The History of White People," addresses more than 2000 years of Western civilization. Also an acclaimed artist, Painter's work appears in museums across the country, including Mia. Free, but advance registration is required at (612) 870-6323 or https://new. artsmia.org/event/virtual-talk-nell-irvin-painter.

#### **Virtual Family Day: Women Weaving** Love and Strength

Sunday, March 14, 11 a.m.

Celebrate Women's History Month reflecting on all the amazing women in your life who have shared love and strength! At 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 14, tune into our first livestream event with songs and stories celebrating women shared by the all-women's improvisational chorus Give Get Sistet, and local storvteller Beverly Cottman. In addition, explore textiles and baskets woven by women in Mia's collection and try kid-friendly weaving activities with simple materials like yarn, cardboard, and paper cups on our virtual

During the Family Day weekend (March 13-14) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., you can pick up a free Family Day Artist Tote at Mia's Third Avenue entrance. You'll find materials to try weaving on a cardboard loom, create fuzzy mini sweaters, and weave a mini basket. And also a worksheet to help tell a story about a woman who has inspired you!

The materials in the kit complement the Virtual Family Day program's activities but are not essential to enjoying the activities. For more information on this free event, go to https://new.artsmia.org/event/ virtual-family-day-women-weavinglove-and-strength.

Introduction to Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience (STAR) for Cultural Competence, Racial **Healing and Equity** Friday, March 12, 9 to 11 a.m. Friday, March 19, 3 to 5 p.m.

Online

When terrible things happen, like racism and COVID-19, our peace is stolen from us. Most people want to build peace into their lives and community. Our 2-hour online Intro to STAR training integrates and promotes trauma healing, resilience, and restorative justice to build peace into our lives and communities. Everyone is welcome to join us. Pay-What-You-Can; continuing education credits are available for MN social workers, teachers, and nurses for a modest fee. Register at http://www. mnpeace.org/events.html.

#### U of M School of Music March events University of Minnesota 2021 Jazz **Festival Virtual Performance** March 12, 7:30 p.m. Online

The University of Minnesota Jazz Ensembles will present the 2021 Jazz Festival Virtual Performance on March 12 at 7:30 p.m. This year's festival features guest artist Tom Luer, saxophone. The performance recording can be viewed live on the School of Music Facebook and You-Tube channels. Due to copyright, we are unable to keep the performance on our channels. Sign up for updates: http://bit.ly/3sqt6tT.

#### **University of Minnesota Combined Bands Performance** March 14, 2 p.m.

#### Online

The University of Minnesota Combined Campus Bands will present their virtual performance on Sunday, March 14 at 2 p.m. The performance recording can be viewed live on UMN Bands' Facebook and the School of Music's YouTube channels. Due to copyright, we are unable to keep the performance on our channels.

#### Coming to the Table: Racial Healing **Talking Circles and Learning Sessions** Wednesday, March 17,

7 to 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 20, 10:30 a.m. to noon Monday, March 22, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Online via Zoom

Coming to the Table gatherings are racial healing talking circles to address interpersonal, community, and structural racial violence and trauma. At CTTT, descendants of those who were enslaved, descendants of slave owners, Indigenous community members, and all those interested in engaging in safe constructive dialogue are invited to come together to envision Minneapolis as a just and truthful community - one that acknowledges and seeks to heal the racial wounds from the historical trauma of slavery, genocide of Native Americans, and the racism these collective traumas continue to spawn. CTTT provides ongoing relationship engagement, leadership, resources, and a supportive environment to dismantle racism. Join Peacebuilding's Assistant Executive Director Crixell Shell for one or more of our CTTT racial healing talking circles. Until risks associated with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) have abated, all of our trainings and events will be virtual. Please register at http://

www.mnpeace.org/events.html and a Zoom video conference link will be emailed to you before the training or event begins. If you have any questions, please direct them to info@ mnpeace.org.

#### Walker Dialogue: Chloé Zhao Saturday, March 20, 7 p.m. Online

"For me, filmmaking will always be driven by my desire to learn about the world I'm not familiar with. Sometimes on that journey, I also get to rediscover who I am." - Chloé

For a very special 2021 Walker Dialogue, award-winning, Beijing-born, U.S.-based filmmaker Chloé Zhao (Nomadland) will speak with Sheryl Mousley, former senior curator of Moving Image at Walker Art Center, and Walker audiences virtually about her remarkable career, inspirations, and influences. The writer, director, and producer will also discuss her experiential approach to emotionally intimate, humanist filmmaking. Zhao redefines and reinvents American cinema genres, creating immersive worlds with her actors and environments. In lieu of a film retrospective in the Walker Cinema, you can view 7hao's features from home. For more information and to purchase tickets, see https://walkerart.org/calendar/2021/walker-dialogue-chloe-zhao.

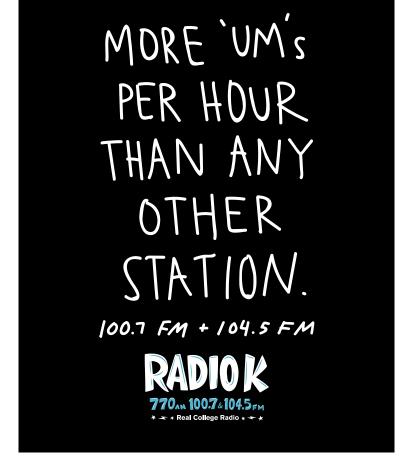
#### 'The Committed' **Author Viet Thanh Nguyen** in conversation with Bao Phi Thursday, March 25, 7 p.m.

**Virtual Event - Registration Required** 

The sequel to "The Sympathizer," which won the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in Fiction and went on to sell over a million copies worldwide, "The Committed" tells the story of "the man of two minds" as he comes as a refugee to France and turns his hand to capitalism. The long-awaited new novel from one of America's most highly regarded contemporary writers, "The Committed" follows the unnamed Sympathizer as he arrives in Paris in the early 1980s with his blood brother Bon. The pair try to overcome their pasts and ensure their futures by engaging in capitalism in one of its purest forms: drug dealing. Traumatized by his reeducation at the hands of his former best friend. Man, and struggling to assimilate into French culture, the Sympathizer finds Paris both seductive and disturbing. As he falls in with a group of left-wing intellectuals whom he meets at dinner parties given by his French Vietnamese "aunt," he finds stimulation for his mind but also customers for his narcotic merchandise. But the new life he is making has perils he has not foreseen, whether the self-torture of addiction, the authoritarianism of a state locked in a colonial mindset, or the seeming paradox of how to reunite his two closest friends whose worldviews put them in absolute opposition. The Sympathizer will need all his wits, resourcefulness, and moral flexibility if he is to prevail. Both literary thriller and novel of

ideas, "The Committed" is a blistering portrayal of commitment and betrayal that will cement Viet Thanh Nguyen's position in the firmament of American letters.

Two ways to join: 1) \$5: Event Access + a \$5 magersandquinn.com discount



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

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code, valid for any purchase from our web store! OR 2) Book purchase through Magers & Quinn. Customers who purchase the book from our website will receive an event access email at the address associated with your order. All customers will receive the access instructions on the day of the event. For more info and to register, go to www.magersandquinn. com/event.

# History Revealed: "Hope in the Struggle"

#### With Josie Johnson and Tish Jones Eastside Freedom Library Podcast

How did a Black woman from Texas

become one of the most well-known civil rights activists in Minnesota? After seven decades of speaking up and standing up, of fighting for fairness in voting, housing, education, and employment, Dr. Josie Johnson has finally written her memoir. "Hope in the Struggle" gives us an opportunity to not only learn about her, but to learn from her. Dr. Johnson's story began in segregated Texas, where her father organized against the Poll Tax, launching her on a lifetime of activism which brought her to the 2008 Democratic National Convention, where she cast her vote for Barack Obama for president. Her memoir offers a closeup picture of what that struggle has entailed, whether working as a community organizer for the Minneapolis Urban League or lobbying for fair housing and employment laws, investigating civil rights abuses or co-chairing the Minnesota delegation to the March on Washington, becoming the first African American to serve on the University of Minnesota's Board of Regents or creating the university's Office of the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs with a focus on minority affairs and diversity. An intimate view of civil rights history in the making, "Hope in the Struggle" is a uniquely inspiring life story for these current dark and divisive times, a testament to how one determined soul can make the world a better place.

ESFL and RCHS are pleased to present Dr. Johnson in conversation with an activist from a younger generation, Tish Jones. A poet, organizer, and educator from St. Paul, Ms. Jones is Founder and Executive Director of TruArtSpeaks, and she has had an impact on artist-activists from coast to coast.

To view the video: https://youtu.be/Rlqfdd\_0aBI.

#### 27th Annual Eagan Art Festival June 26-27, 2021 Call for Artists Now through April 2

The Eagan Art Festival is accepting applications from artists now through April 2, 2021 at www.eaganartfestival.org. Join us for the 27th Annual Eagan Art Festival June 26 and 27, 2021, on the grounds of the Eagan Community Center (centrally located off Pilot Knob Road, close to I-494 and I-35E,) AND in a Virtual Online Event! We are working hard to provide a safe, in-person festival with appropriate spacing and masks required, similar to the 2020 Farmers Markets, along with a new online event platform. This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to

a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

**Riverview At Home - Virtual Cinema** If you are interested in supporting us during these hard times while watching great cinema, here's your chance! A few cinema distributors have created "Virtual Screenings" of some independent films we might typically show. You are able to watch these films at home, and it provides economic support for independent theaters like the Riverview. By using the links we provide at http:// www.riverviewtheater.com/show/ show/2791, you will be supporting us. For each film you rent, a percentage of the cost will go directly to the Riverview. A list of films we are currently offering is below, check back soon for more movies! We are now offering the following

Zappa—"Zappa" explores the private life behind the mammoth musical career that never shied away from the political turbulence of its time.

Some Kind of Heaven—Behind the gates of a palm tree-lined fantasy land, four residents of America's largest retirement community, The Villages, Fla., strive to find solace and meaning.

films in our Virtual Cinema:

Collective—"Collective" is a gripping, real-time docu-thriller that follows a heroic team of journalists as they expose shocking corruption in the Romanian national health care

Crock of Gold—"Crock of Gold" is the definitive feature documentary on Irish musical icon, Shane MacGowan, exploring the wild and roving life of Ireland's most beloved punk poet.

Women's Adventure Film Tour—The Women's Adventure Film Tour is a celebration of the inspiring women around us, doing extraordinary things in the name of adventure. A Glitch in the Matrix—What if we are living in a simulation, and the world as we know it is not real? Two of Us—Two retired women have been secretly in love for decades when an unforeseen event turns their relationship upside down. Atlantis—"Atlantis" is a gorgeous and visionary sci-fi drama set in the year 2025 in Eastern Ukraine. Sweded—Zero-budget, amateur, homemade, zany, creative, weird and often downright hilarious: The Sweded Film Festival offers fan-made, five-minute versions of some your favorite movies.

Nationtime (1972)—"Nationtime— Gary" is a report on the National Black Political Convention held in Gary, Indiana, in 1972, a historic event that gathered black voices from across the political spectrum.

#### History Is Now: Anti-Racism Uprising Minnesota Historical Society

Speak your truth on the uprising. How are you grappling with our society's longstanding history of racial inequality? What do you think tomorrow's Minnesotans need to understand about the anti-racism uprising and this moment? We are living in a historic moment. Together, Minnesotans and MNHS are capturing and sharing history in real time. Join us in creating conversations that lead to real connection, deeper reflection, new questions, and purposeful action.

Minnesotans, their communities, and our nation are grappling with the aftermath of George Floyd's murder and the systemic racism entrenched in our shared reality. The Minnesota Historical Society is hopeful that the outpouring of anger, pain, truth, and community witnessed over the last several months will lead to more meaningful conversation with community, increased self-reflection and awareness, purposeful action, and a more empathetic society.

History can and should help frame this discussion. George Floyd's murder was not an isolated incident but part of a centuries-long persecution of African Americans. Understanding the past and present are crucial to shaping the future, and that includes sharing and recording stories of these times.

Submissions will be shared among the three partner organizations so that the collecting effort can be housed within the community from where the voices come. Some of the submissions may be added to the MNHS collections. To submit your comments online, visit https:// www.mnhs.org/historyisnow. Tell us what you think Minnesotans, current and future, need to understand. This collecting initiative is in partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS), the Minnesota African American Heritage Museum and Gallery (MAAHMG) and Hallie Q Brown Community Center (HQB).

#### 'Papier' by Swedish artists Bea Szenfeld and Stina Wirsén Through July 11, 2021

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 all reopened 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.ASImn.org or by calling 612-871-4907 during public hours. Visitors must use face coverings and maintain safe distances. The Store and FIKA will accept walk-in customers. FIKA will also offer expanded Marketplace take-out orders. ASI has free on-site parking and is located at 2600 Park Ave.,

#### Free Reading and Math Tutoring for Minnesota Families from Scholar Squad

Scholar Squad offers free in-home tutoring powered by the proven programs of Reading Corps and Math Corps.

COVID-19 has made everything challenging this year, especially learning. Reading Corps and Math Corps have launched a new initiative to help. Scholar Squad offers free one-onone, online tutoring for Minnesota students in PreK-8th grade. To request help, families are encouraged to visit www.scholarsquad.org and sign up for a consultation. Together we'll set up a time to do a quick screening with your child to get a sense of what they may need. If the screening shows your child needs our help to boost their skills, we'll match them with a tutor who will provide one-on-one practice and support. About Minnesota Reading Corps and Minnesota Math Corps: In Minnesota, nearly half of our students need extra help with reading or math. Reading Corps and Math Corps are AmeriCorps programs that provide a proven solution. By partnering with schools, Reading Corps and Math Corps have already helped more than 300,000 children improve their skills and confidence. Scholar Squad utilizes the successful model to bring tutoring directly to families at home. For more information, visit www. scholarsquad.org or email scholarsquad@servetogrow.org.

#### Safe Place: Homework Help

Free online tutoring available for grades 1 through 12. Contact Destiny at tutoring@trinitylutherancongregation.org.



Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

# Reject the plan: testimony before the Park Board

BY PETER MCLAUGHLIN

- system for all of Minneapolis. years? So many that I fear peo-Your plan will destroy a vital, viable historic resource that has served the community for almost a hundred years. You able political capital to get the may not like golf, but there are people who do, people who get great pleasure from this course just as you might by biking, hiking, swimming or skating. It is essential for the park system to maintain a rich mix of opportunities for the residents this golf course because of the of Minneapolis. This will diminish that richness, particu- a plan, seek a new permit for larly in South Minneapolis.
- Financially, this plan is a disaster. You are cutting revenue at a time when the system needs revenue. Does golf pay for itself? Last year it sure did, though it admittedly hadn't always. But trees don't pay don't pay for themselves; and on and on. Golf pays for a lot of its costs. On top of that, the proposed plan will require tens of millions of dollars in additional capital funds that golf course. you don't have. Why is this a priority? It will consume re- plaques and old black-andsources needed in other parts white pictures of Black golfers of the system. They won't be you put up, it will NOT properly available in North Minneapo- recognize the historic role this lis or Northeast. And for South course played in the tortured Minneapolis, I ask, where are racial history of this city and

the resources for Ed Solo- this state. It's tokenism of the mon Park? It's got a sign and • Your job is to create a park that's about it, after how many ple will forget who Ed was and walk away. On top of all that you will have to use valufunding you need. It's beyond me why this should be such a high priority.

- The water. The pumping limit is a phony artifact! I've talked to the DNR. They are not going to shut down pumping limit. Come up with the level of pumping required, benefit all of Minneapolis and and it will be approved. There are farmers all over Minnesota who pump more water than this golf course. Why should the problem of water storage for a huge chunk of Hennepin County be borne by the people for themselves; walking paths of South Minneapolis, the golfers and others who love this course. You're doing other people's bidding at the expense of golfers and the historic legacy of Black residents' use of this
  - No matter how many

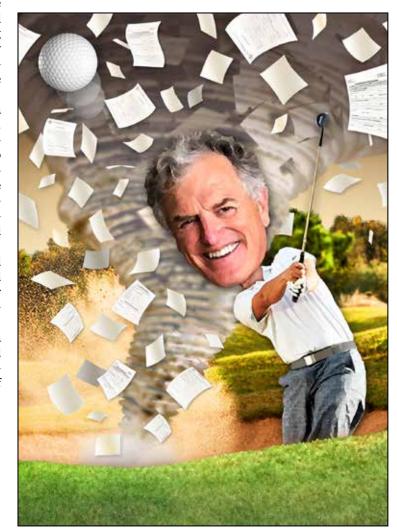
worst sort. I can understand some members not knowing the history, but once you knew it, to relegate it to some memorabilia and a flawed nine-hole design is inexcusable.

What do I suggest? Get a plan that preserves the course, while increasing access, improving amenities, cleaning up the water, cleaning up the pollution, preserving a revenue stream and saving tens of millions of dollars for other critical capital needs including Ed Solomon Park.

That's a path that would properly recognize the history of this course and its importance to the Black community.

I urge you to set out on a new path. Reject this plan. And don't make the only lost priority the historic 18-hole golf

Peter McLaughlin is the executive director of LISC Twin Cities (Local Initiatives Support Corporation) and the former state representative and county commissioner representing South Minneapolis.







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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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Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

Season Two of the "Jack for freedom, so, of course, she

Ryan" series is about an evil needs CIA protection, which Venezuelan dictator who is the dictator also uses against

making some kind of secret her by saying she is a puppet

a friend of his, a U.S. senator, cratically-elected and popular

when he is investigating this 1999 to his death in 2013. He

mercenaries are sent into the ist. He earned the hatred of

Venezuelan jungle to find out the U.S. and Exxon Mobil and

deal to sell mining rights for of the U.S.

computers. Jack Ryan, a CIA this melodrama?

tantalum, a rare metal used in

analyst, gets involved because

is assassinated in Venezuela

mining deal. A group of CIA

what secret stuff the govern-

ment is shipping into an isolat-

ed area. Jack Ryan finds out it's

# Jack Ryan: Spoiler alert!

BY ED FELIEN

Nicolas Maduro

I feel like Oscar in Sesame Street: "I like trash."

What's there to do during the pandemic and forced incarceration but watch trashy action flicks on Netflix? And, "Ocean's Eleven," you're left with the dregs at the bottom of the barrel.

also discover a prisoner camp. In the process, they kill a lot of Venezuelan soldiers. One of the U.S. mercenaries gets killed, and the dictator makes a big deal about it on television, saying the CIA is invadafter you've watched all ing his country. There's a nathe James Bond movies and tional election happening, and the woman running against the dictator is billed as a progressive social activist fighting

Center for Economic and Policy Research said that U.S. sanctions have killed 40,000 people in Venezuela.

Mike Pompeo, Trump's Secretary of State and former head of the CIA, told the Aspen Security Forum in 2017 that he was "hopeful that there can be a transition in Venezuela, and the CIA is doing its best to understand the dynamic there. I was just down in Mexico City and in Bogota a week before last talking about this very issue, trying to help them." Venezuela's Foreign Minister Samuel Moncada stated the obvious: "There is a secret operation by the Central Intelligence Agency to split up a democratically elected government."

Nicolas Maduro, a former bus driver and leader of the Transit Workers Union, was vice president under Chavez. When Chavez died of cancer, Maduro was chosen by the Socialist Party to succeed him. He won the presidential election a month later, but Henrique Capriles, the conservative candidate favored by the U.S., challenged the results. Even after a recount of the paper ballots, Capriles refused to accept the results. He appealed to the Venezuela Supreme Court and they turned him down.

Maduro was re-elected president in May 2018 by 67.8 percent of the vote. The U.S. and the conservative opposition continued their efforts to delegitimize the election and Maduro. They claimed the election was unfair because Maduro supporters were telling votnational security" in March ers if the Socialist Party lost

mining equipment, and they of 2015. The Washington D.C. the election, then people could presidential palace. And, in a lose their socialized medicine. On Jan. 23, 2019, Juan Guaido, just 18 days after being chosen to lead the Assembly, announced that he was formally assuming the role of interim president. The U.S. immediately recognized him as legitimate.

> Then, on May 3, 2020, Venezuelan security forces stopped a coup attempt by U.S. Army Special Forces operator Jordan Goudreau. He led 60 armed men, including two former U.S. Special Forces personnel, in an invasion of Venezuela from Colombia. Juan Guaido denied any involvement in for justice. We identify with the coup, but Jordan Goudreau his desire to help his friends.

tearful finale, the new woman president is reunited with her husband-whom the CIA had rescued from the jungle prison camp—as our CIA heroes look down on their reunion from three stories up on the aft deck of a U.S. battleship, like gods smiling down on mere mortals from Olympus.

This farce would be hilarious if it weren't so tragic.

Aristotle in "The Poetics" says tragedy is the imitation of an action that through fear and pity purges us of those emotions.

We watch Jack Ryan search



Jack Ryan

said Guaido had signed a contract with him for \$219 million to stage the coup.

In the fevered ending of the second season of "Jack Ryan," Jack and his CIA buddies storm the presidential palace, killing a dozen people, to rescue a CIA operative. The Electoral Commission declares that the candidate running against the president (Maduro) has won with 70 percent of the vote, while an angry mob storms the

We are afraid when Jack faces danger, and we feel he is justified in killing anyone who threatens him.

The "Jack Ryan" series are training films for mercenaries and mass murderers. They turn history on its head. They create a false narrative that convinces us that killing anyone who gets in our way is heroic, that the good guys always win, and that the good guys are always the Americans.

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was a revolutionary social-

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izing the oil industry. Obama

declared Venezuela "an unusu-

al and extraordinary threat to



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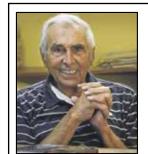
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