



We build Pride on the Southside

RIVERSIDE EDITION

THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH

April 2021

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

Cindy Gerdes



BY TONY BOUZA

The awful, awful thing about bureaucracy is its cold indifference. Many of my colleagues sought comfort, salaries and pensions while wallowing in self-pity and whining like gold medalists. Humanity was the great missing thing.

Shortly before I left policing—for the first time voluntarily—we had an awful murder—Cindy Gerdes.

A beautiful young woman most foully and cruelly slain by what was very likely a sex fiend (not a construction in wide use these days).

Just as I'd done with the first Son of Sam killings in the Bronx, in the early '70s, I had the detectives come in to see me, every week, to discuss progress. These importunities were a great pain in the ass to the sleuths, but it pressured them to really delve.

Naturally, nothing came of the efforts, but those victims were not going to vanish into bureaucracy's mists.

Ultimately, the Son of Sam was caught—but not before his depredations caused

See Bouza, page 5



Daunte Wright

Rest in peace and love, Daunte Wright

BY ED FELIEN

Daunte Wright was pulled over in Brooklyn Center while driving his parent's car for driving with expired license tabs.

The officer in charge, Kim Potter, was a 26-year veteran of the Brooklyn Park Police Department and former head of the police officer's union. She was training new recruits on correct procedure. Normally, someone with expired tabs would get a warning and told to renew the plates and put on the stickers. But Potter

ran a check on Wright's driver's license and discovered there was an outstanding arrest warrant out for him for violation of his probation. He had been arrested in 2019 for attempted armed robbery.

District Court documents filed in Hennepin County on 12/4/2019 say: "Statement of Probable Cause:

"On 12/1/2019, Osseo Police responded to an apartment on the 600 block of North Oaks Drive in Osseo, Hennepin County for a report of an assault and robbery. Police

spoke with the identified adult female victim. Victim reported that she was at the above-listed residence with her female roommate the night before and two males came over to party. One male was identified as Emajay Maurice Driver (DOB: 1/11/2001) who was an acquaintance from high school. The other male was unknown to victim prior to that night, and he was later identified as Daunte Demetrius Wright (DOB: 10/27/2000). At approximately 2:30 am, victim and witness

See Daunte Wright, page 11

Lake Street stories, cont.

BY KAY SCHROVEN

When the going gets tough, the tough get going, right?

Last spring, in the wake of the murder of George Floyd, when chaos and violence erupted on East Lake Street, Father Joseph Gillespie, O.P. (aka: The Patron Saint of Cautious Optimism) of St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, was offered an opportunity to leave the area for a safer location, as others were concerned about his safety. Father Joe's reply was, "Would a captain leave his sinking ship?"

His history with Minneapolis is long, and his dedication to the city runs deep, having been born and raised here and having built a



Father Joe

parish, services and social life on the Southside, in the East Lake Street community.

Father Joe remembers the Lake Street that was thriving with anchor stores such as Freeman's Department Store, Sears, J.O. Peterson Drug Store, Roberts Shoe Store and manufacturing sites such as Minneapolis Moline farm machinery that employed upwards of 4,000. He remembers the many car dealers, A&W, Bridgeman's Ice Cream and the days when there was contentious rivalry between the Millers and the Saints (pre-Twins). Lake Street has always been about connections, beginning with its physical framework connecting rivers, lakes and communities, which

See Lake Stories, page 11





Celebrate our Planet

Saving the Earth like we mean it - Part II

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

You probably did not guess when you read my “Saving the Earth like we mean it” piece a year ago (<https://southsidepride.com/2020/04/13/saving-the-earth-like-we-mean-it/>) that it was only Part I of an ongoing exhortation. Even worse, this is the agitprop equivalent of a good-cop-bad-cop routine, and last year was the good cop.

A consensus is developing among scientists and theoreticians addressing the climate catastrophe. I have been called a “catastrophizer” several times over the past year, and have decided to go with it. After toying with the term “climate chaos” for a while, I am going full hysteric and officially renaming the phenomenon the “climate catastrophe.” But I’m not the only one.

The consensus-in-the-making is roughly this:

- Despite all the focus on



Pipeline-free wild rice from Winona LaDuke’s Honor the Earth

climate chaos, publication of studies and formation of pressure groups, we—the global population—have consistently and vastly underestimated both the scope and the speed of global warming and all its chaotic manifestations.

- Ditto soil depletion, waste



management failures, ocean death and species extinction.

- None of the well-meaning efforts to address the problem have had more than a tiny, as in barely measurable, effect.

There should be several more bullet points in that. The next bullet would be an insight, or at least a progress re-

port on gaining an insight, as to why. Then hopefully further bullet points would be plans A through Z of how to proceed. But there is no consensus there. Why is this?

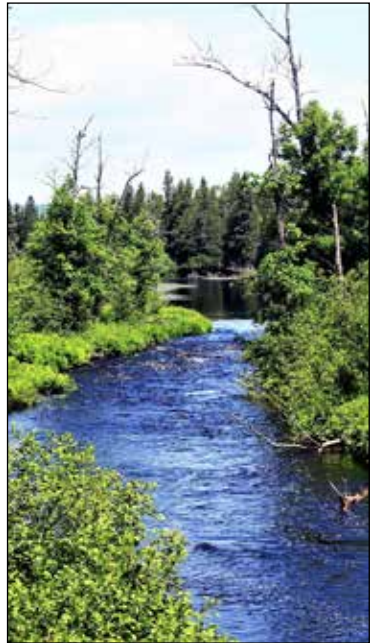
A choice quote I lifted from the March issue of The New Republic’s piece by Ben Ehrenreich, “Hurtling Toward Suicide” (link at the end), sums up what’s stopping them (us?) from proceeding past the point of describing the oncoming scenario:

“Even as they acknowledged levels of atmospheric carbon unseen in the last three million years, they were unable to conceive of an economy that does not perpetually expand. Fredric Jameson’s oft-cited dictum that it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism was baked into the actual modeling.”

It actually takes years of practice to conceive of an economy that does not perpetually expand. Although, if you

follow this thought further, it takes you to the inevitability of the title of the above piece—human species suicide. Will it be human species extinction? It’s pretty likely, but it could also just be a massive die-back. It could be a scenario where a better adapted hominid emerges, and although homo sapiens goes extinct, our genes are preserved in the new version, as the extinct Neanderthal genes are preserved in us.

Whichever ending comes to capitalism-as-we-know-it,



Superior National Forest, Minnesota

it will be the hardest of hard landings. If the population is reduced from say, ten billion, to less than one billion, or to zero, in the span of a lifetime or more or less, I assure you that the economy will stop growing, and pretty early on in that process.

The few and barely known organizations that are attempting to hold out hope for a soft landing, while acknowledging that “green energy” and “green capitalism” are not going to deliver that, are trying to get we who loll in the comforting but fickle bosom of capitalism to imagine life without it. Without “growth” as the vital life sign. Without



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capitalism, because without growth, it's not capitalism. (Yes, these are "just" labels, but one cannot argue cogently about abstract things without rigorously defining labels. And

Another organization separate from GrowthBusters but in step with it is CASSE (Center for the Advancement of a Steady State Economy). See <https://steadystate.org/>. Their

of GDP growth is a good thing, or listen to the GrowthBusters podcast ..."

The COVID-caused recession has created a lot of pain, especially for those already suffering capitalism's growing wealth inequality. It has even caused uncountable, because hard to identify, deaths. But it has also had some amazing side effects that are good. It has slowed the rate of species extinctions and CO2 growth, and even in its negative effects, has opened some eyes as to the hard link between positive growth in the economy and climate catastrophe and other environmental negatives. And as a foretaste of what could happen on a much larger and more terrifying scale, it has brought a lot of people around to getting serious about the climate catastrophe.

Following my own good-cop advice, I have done some more research. One question I am investigating constantly is the role of food production and consumption in climate catastrophe. We could cut energy consumption to almost nothing and most of us would survive. We could stop driving and stop taking airplanes, but could we stop trucks and planes shuttling foodstuffs around the globe and still get



Plastic reducing products from Etee.com

enough to eat? There is only so far we can cut back on our consumption of food and not die. But how effective would it be to change our diet to those items that nourish our bodies without destroying our planet (so much)?

So I was excited to see the article "How much of global greenhouse gas emissions come from food?" by Hannah Ritchie of the Our World in Data project (links below).

Within the article, there are several breakout articles, but the one I loved, because it provides striking visual confirma-

tion of my long-held suspected belief, and the core of what I preach in sustainable diet teach-ins, is the one titled "You want to reduce the carbon footprint of your food? Focus on what you eat, not whether your food is local" by the same author.

This doesn't mean local food is not a net-good choice to make. But it shows pretty conclusively that almond milk from California has a dramatically smaller greenhouse-gas footprint than dairy

See *Earth Day*, page 4



Wild salmon

since capitalism is both the core problem to be solved, and also the very air we breathe and ground we walk on, it's hard to see it clearly and call it by its name.)

One such organization that I have been a member and supporter of for several years is GrowthBusters. (Warning—speaking of labels, you have to spell it just like that, because there are several pro-growth groups and corporate entities with similar names.) GrowthBusters' main engine of propaganda is a movie produced by their founder, Dave Gardner. I saw this film with a large group of friends at Walker Church in 2018 (and if the website is to be believed, that was the last public screening of it).

GrowthBusters and Dave are still around, though. You can buy the film on the growthbusters.org page, or subscribe to the GrowthBusters YouTube channel (link below) and there is now a podcast. The website is not maintained very much, but you can also subscribe to a newsletter to keep up to date (link below.)

GrowthBusters has spawned another organization called GrowthBiasBusted.org that focuses on media bias toward contextualizing climate catastrophe discussions in the context of reforming capitalism and consequently taking growth as a given and a good. See above about it being easier to imagine the end of the world, etc.

home page is topped by an arresting visual—a global GDP meter, incrementing slightly faster than the human eye can track, in real time. Initially it was going up all the time, at changing rates of speed. Then this happened:

"CASSE's GDP Meter was reset on March 1, 2020, to reflect the COVID-caused recession. Until further notice, it will run in reverse at a rate of 20% per annum. Read why this reversal

**We are celebrating Earth Day—
What would Mother Earth say?**
Have we been able to play
In a healthy & sustainable way?

It is time to take a pass
On using all the gas—
We need to create a mass
Of people using alternatives at last!

The complications of combustion
Is a result of our compulsion
To NOT find a reasonable reduction
Of our continued consumption!

Think of ways to make a difference—
I put a solar array on my roof, for
instance,
If we could overcome all the resistance
It might help Mother Earth's resilience!

Be a part of the solution—
Maybe just a small contribution—
THINK GREEN
And tune up your machine!

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Celebrate our Planet on Earth Day

Earth Day, from page 3

milk from 30 miles away. And also, that dairy milk has a lower footprint than almost any meat product except fish. And also, that it's definitely worth it to pay the extra price for wild-caught over farmed fish. But really, we need systemic change in the food industry, as elsewhere. Not eating beef, pork and dairy may make the

individual feel good, but it's not going to save the planet until enough individuals make that choice to radically diminish the industry itself, ideally to nothingness, which is a win for the eaten species of animals as well. (Same thing goes for reducing your own driving AND eliminating pipelines. We must STOP LINE 3!) As a follow-up to my rant last year against Grove products

and their pathetic one million trees, I offer in the links below some online companies with a better product and no greenwashing that I have discovered during the pandemic. And a final plug for Tare Market, our own local zero-waste shop.

Links for further information:

Environmentalists are either vegan or hypocrites - <https://sentientmedia.org/meat-eating-environmentalists/>

Celebrity vegans - <https://www.onegreenplanet.org/vegan-food/sarah-silverman-talks-food-equity-and-going-vegan/>

Etee - a shop for eliminating plastic - <https://www.shopettee.com/>

Dropps - a sustainable laundry solution - <https://www.shopettee.com/>

Honor the Earth - Winona LaDuke's nonprofit's wild rice and more - <https://www.honortheearthmerchandise.com/harvest>

From The New Republic's Earth Day issue -



Dave Gardner directing GrowthBusters, the movie

<https://newrepublic.com/article/161575/climate-change-effects-hurling-toward-global-suicide>
<https://newrepublic.com/article/161579/moonshot-mariana-mazzucato-climate-capitalism-crisis>

From 2010 Monthly Review about growth and the need to bust it - <https://monthlyreview.org/2010/03/01/what-every-environmentalist-needs-to-know-about-capitalism>

From the Guardian March 2021, focus on oil - <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/mar/19/planet-pursuit-prof->

[it-oil-companies-damage](#)

Some great book recs from Climate & Capitalism - <https://climateandcapitalism.com/2021/03/25/ecosocialist-bookshelf-march-2021-part-two/>

Our World in Data project on climate and food - <https://ourworldindata.org/greenhouse-gas-emissions-food#licence>
<https://ourworldindata.org/food-choice-vs-eating-local?country=>

Growthbusters newsletter sign-up - <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/umt-f6w/signup>

Growthbusters' YouTube - youtube.com/Growthbusters



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Unity starts with education

BY ADRIANA CERRILLO
DIRECTOR, BOARD OF
EDUCATION, MINNEAPOLIS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

From the insurrection at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., to the barbed wire lining the streets of downtown Minneapolis, 2021 has been a grim reminder of the divisions in our communities. Unless we make a strong effort to bridge our differences, there will be more unrest for years to come. A path forward is in the education of our children.

Ethnic studies, a range of courses offered in Minneapolis public high schools for the last six years, is an example of one such effort—for which we have Kim Ellison, chair of the Board of Education, to thank. It is part of an initiative called for by voters to update the curriculum and give students the opportunity to learn about the contributions of the many peoples within the United States. Students right now are studying the history of racism along with the richness of Black, Latino, First Nations, Somali, Vietnamese and Hmong cultures that are present here in Minnesota.



Adriana Cerrillo being sworn in as a Director of the Minneapolis Public Schools Board of Education

But it is not enough. I ran for the School Board because this city has become an increasingly diverse place, and schools need help in adjusting. As a mother, activist, and now a public servant, my priority is always the children.

Broadly speaking, I want to

do for District Four what I did for the Parent Teacher Association at Emerson School in Loring Park—include families of color in the education of their children.

Language and cultural barriers between schools and families must be overcome if we

are ever to close the achievement gap between white and brown students. We have many talented, hard-working teachers in this city—but even in the best of times they only see students for less than seven hours a day. Parents are the best resource a child has, and I will work to make sure schools are doing everything they can to support us.

Any teacher will tell you that, in order to learn a language, one-on-one instruction is critical. However, in Minneapolis Public Schools, this type of instruction for students who speak English as their second language is almost non-existent. The reason is, of course, a lack of funding. By its own estimate, our school district and children are not receiving a necessary \$17 million to address the inequities with English Language Learners.

A child struggling to learn English needs extra support. Teachers have a much harder time with classes where one or more students do not understand the language, let alone, the lesson. That language barrier, in turn, creates divisions between the students who speak fluently and those who do not.

We must call upon our state legislature leaders to increase funding above what the governor recommends.

Every day that English Language Learners do not receive adequate instruction is another day they fall behind. We must act now and do what is just and fair! Funding ELL education is ensuring success for all students.

Editor's Note:

Readers who are concerned about fairness and equity in opportunities for all our children should contact their state representative and ask them to increase funding for English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction.

But the School Board should also look in its own backyard.

The General Fund Budget for 2019-20 was \$632,192,699. At one point they say administration costs were only \$15,596,646. But, in a different place they say, "District and School Administration includes all costs for general, instructional, and school site administration for the district: BOE, Superintendent, instructional department directors, and principals' salaries." And Instructional Support is \$43,713,285 and Pupil Support is \$66,554,156. That's a total of \$125,864,087, or 19.9% of the total budget. And that number probably doesn't include legal services, outside consultants, accounting services, etc. There is no line-item budget that fully defines each position and how much it costs in order to evaluate where there is bureaucratic waste. Generally, 15% is all that is allowed for administrative costs in federal budgets. Given just the facts we have, we should be demanding MPS cut administrative staff by 4.9% and turn that money over to direct instruction for our kids.

And the MPS should provide a line-item budget to show the public where their tax dollars are being spent.

Bouza, from page 1

such a stir as to force the cops to work—and they did a great job of it. Mostly due to the power of the fourth estate.

Ms Gerdes was killed just as DNA evidence was coming into vogue and I pushed for its collection. The process was totally analogous to fingerprint evidence.

Unfortunately, Cindy Gerdes had no champions—press or family—clamoring for results. These interventions can matter.

My guess is that her killer has been collaterally arrested many times in the intervening decades—yet there is no evidence of any police interest.

This is a tragedy and an outrage.

I know I am a common scold—but why become a cop if you're indifferent to justice? Doesn't simple humanity require you to care? Is survival the only objective?

I wonder if we've lost our sense of outrage. This is where the bureaucracy fails. If it can remain indifferent to the tragedy Cindy Gerdes represents, why does it exist?

Policing's mission is noble—to serve humanity. What human effort can aspire to such lofty ideals? The Gerdes case illustrates how far they've wandered. We consistently forget that racism—like Nazi-ism—twists, corrupts and

infects its practitioners.

Am I crazy?

I'm sure I'll be dismissed as a crank, but the spirit of Cindy Gerdes hovers over the Minneapolis Police Department demanding justice. Indifference confirms the critics and dismays the supporters.

Left unaddressed, the searing murder of Cindy Gerdes stands as a damning indictment

of our indifference to our neighbor's plight.

Think of the great empires—their demise was usually triggered by an inner collapse—the hedonism, religiosity, corruption. Good, healthy civilizations discuss, debate, vote.

From one crime know a nation.

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EVENTS

Blessed Ramadan Begins

Share your message of welcome and solidarity with a #Blessed Ramadan lawn sign. With Ramadan having begun on April 12, we have again made “To Our Muslim Neighbors: Blessed Ramadan” signs available through Minnesota Council of Churches. The signs make a statement that you or your congregation welcome the presence of Muslim neighbors rather than fear them. They have served as catalysts for stronger relationships and communities. Request a sign here: <https://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/blessed-ramadan>.

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, encouraging you to explore faith, ignite imagination, and renew community with the Collegeville Institute. For more info and to register, go to <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/>.

Three Collegeville Institute Poets Wednesday, April 21, noon

Celebrate National Poetry Month with a reading by three poets affiliated with the Collegeville Institute. Award-winning poets Angela Alaimo O’Donnell, Shann Ray, and Betsy Johnson will read from their recent collections. <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/event/three-collegeville-institute-poets/>
The Jubilee Promise: Biblical Solutions to the Global COVID-19 Crisis
Wednesday, April 28, noon
Join Eric LeCompte, Executive Director of Jubilee USA Network, for a conversation about how the biblical theme of Jubilee can apply to pandemic response worldwide. <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/event/the-jubilee-promise/>

Ecumenical Advocacy Days April 18-21 Online

Join us 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/>.

Electric Vehicle Showcase Sunday, April 25 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Outside Minnehaha United Methodist Church
3701 E. 50th St., Mpls.
The Sustainability and Climate Action committee of Minnehaha UMC invites you to come see the future! Come see some great options for fuel replacement vehicles and talk to the people that own them! There will be an assortment of vehicles from fully electric to plug-in

hybrids. We will be practicing proper COVID-19 precautions and this event will be held outside. Come see a variety of vehicles including the Chevy Volt and Bolt, Tesla Model Y and X, Volvo XC90, and Chrysler Pacifica. The event will also include a representative from ZEF energy sharing information on the DC fast charging network that is being put together in the state of Minnesota for electric vehicles.

Earth Sunday Service Sunday, April 25, 10:30 a.m. Online

Plymouth Congregational Church
This year, our special Earth Sunday theme will be “Voices of Young People,” with music, readings, photos and short videos. What do they love about Mother Nature? What are their hopes and dreams for a healthier Earth? Where do they want change? Excerpts will be read from letters written 50 years ago by children for the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970, as well as thoughts from today’s youth and families. And stay tuned for a special Earth Sunday Fellowship Joy. Rev. Dr. DeWayne L. Davis to preach. Weekly Sunday Service available every Sunday by 10:30 a.m. via Facebook Live or at www.plymouth.org/worship.

Braver Angels Workshops April—May Online via Zoom

Braver Angels brings reds (conservatives), blues (liberals) and others together to talk, listen, and understand. The mission of Braver Angels is to bring Americans together to bridge the partisan divide and strengthen our democratic republic for the sake of the common good. Braver Angels is a bipartisan organization. To learn more about Braver Angels, go here: <https://braverangels.org/welcome/>. In an effort to serve a larger audience, the Braver Angels National Workshop team will start offering the four most popular workshops on a standing schedule as follows:
Depolarizing Conversations About Race: April 17 and the third Saturday of each month
Depolarizing Within : April 24 and the fourth Saturday of each month
Skills for Bridging the Divide: May 1 and the first Saturday of each month
Families and Politics: May 8 and the second Saturday of each month
For more upcoming events, including workshops and skills trainings, you can check out the Braver Angels events and registration page here: <https://braverangels.org/events/>.

‘Visual Prayer’ Virtual Exhibit Through June 1, 2021 Online

Prayer has been around since the beginning of time. It is the human connection to a God personally and communally—acknowledging, blessing, asking, thanking, arguing and trying to find spiritual understanding of our existence from our birth to our death. Prayer has been expressed through music, poetry, dance and art. Visual prayer is the creative exploration and expression of prayer

through images. Although this is a contemporary concept, there were illustrated and illuminated religious books from the 400s to 600s CE through the medieval and Renaissance periods. Exploring prayer through different modalities allows us to express our thoughts and feelings creatively. By exhibiting together in our Interfaith Artist Circle, our goal is to find commonality and connectivity between religions and to appreciate and respect our similarities and differences in belief and self-expression. Access this online exhibition here: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/1fe7cba432dc4f9d890cfb13a05c4604>. Presented by the University of Minnesota Libraries, Jay Phillips Center for Interreligious Studies, University of St. Thomas, Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning, St. John’s University, and the Interfaith Artist Circle.

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 at the Bahá’i Center and via Zoom, Sundays at 10 a.m. Please visit the Bahá’i community of Minneapolis website at www.minneapolisbahai.org/. Here you will find information about upcoming and past Holy Day celebrations, as well as news, announcements and information.

Calvary Lutheran Church

3901 Chicago Ave. S., 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 services at 9 a.m. and 10:30 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.
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship recordings available online 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.messiah-lutheranmpls.org. Each week we video services, viewable anytime, please join us! Visit our website for online devotions and bulletins.

Minnehaha Communion

Lutheran Church
4101 37th Ave. S., Mpls.
<https://minnehahacommunion.org/>. All services and programs are temporarily online. Sunday Worship online at 9:45 a.m.

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/NewCreationBaptistChurch/ <https://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.org/>

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/

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

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.bethany-inseward.org/

Minnehaha United Methodist Church 3701 E. 50th St., Mpls.

612-721-6231
Yes, the food shelf is still open! In order to fight food insecurity in our neighborhood, 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-Shelf/

New Creation Baptist Church 1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.

612-825-6933
We’re still here to serve you on the first through fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until we run out of bags. Be safe and God bless! www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf/
Food Shelf
Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

Calvary Lutheran Church 3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.

612-827-2504, ext. 205
The Calvary Emergency Food Shelf is available for area residents on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. We will hand out pre-packaged bags of food with a Walk-Up table on 39th St. and Drive-Thru model at the parking lot entrance. Please stay in your car, and we’ll bring the food to you! Volunteers will be available outside to help you. There are eligibility requirements. On our website, www.clchurch.org, click on the “Food Shelf” link in the “Outreach” tab, or call the food shelf office at 612-827-2504, ext. 205.

Groveland Emergency Food Shelf 1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.

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

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Riverside & 22nd Aves.
612-333-2561
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Pastors: Jane Buckley-Farlee & Alem Asmelash
Office: 2001 Riverside Ave.
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Second COVID Spring on Lake Street

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

I'm not sure but I think spring on Lake Street might be the first neighborhood spotlight piece to get a second COVID treatment. According to the sparse feedback I get, this formula works—for COVID, and it should work for the gradual emergence and

recovery from it—so I'll just continue. We're going to consider comings and goings in some basic categories, plus at anchor hubs Midtown Exchange, which houses Midtown Global Market, and Mercado Central. Lake Street being what it is, there is a lot to cover, so it must be brief and you can use your own search

prowess for contact details, hours, etc.

Groceries and pharmacies

We'll start with larger grocery stores and go east to west. Long-fellow Market has survived well, despite having no online ordering or delivery contracts that I know of. At the corner of Lake and Minnehaha, there are two little shopping sites on the two northern corners and both have a grocery store. Both of them—a very small Aldi and a reasonable-sized but not 24-hour Cub—are open after taking significant damage in the uprising.

There are numerous convenience stores along Lake from I-35 to the river, too many to cover. I will only mention three. La Alborada is, like many of them in this area, a mainly Mexican and Latina-style grocery. The other ethnic specialty along this stretch of Lake is East African, both in the restaurants and retail and grocery.



The home of Walker UMC and New City Church on 31st Street

The other two small stores are in each of the anchor hubs. In Mercado Central you will find Isabella's Grocery Store. Also in this hub are Valerie's Carniceria (a butcher shop / deli) and Panaderia el Mexicano, a bakery. In the Midtown Global Market (MGM) there is the Produce Exchange, which has a lot more besides produce. It's a petite and complete all-purpose food purveyor and you can even order online for delivery through mercato.com.

In terms of pharmacies, two very good ones both suffered

arson or major damage in the uprising and were closed for repair. One is Seward Pharmacy, which caters especially to Somali and other African clientele. It is now fully open. The other is a Walgreen's at 31st Avenue and Lake. They are operating out of a mobile unit in the parking lot with a complete pharmacy and select inventory.

Other retail

In the world of retail store-

See East Lake, page 8



Manny Gonzalez, Midtown Global Market



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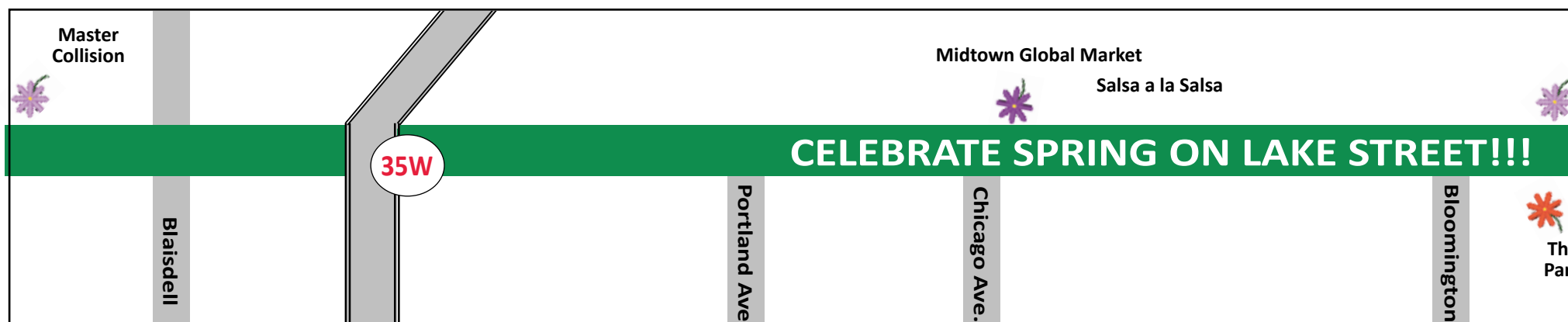


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East Lake, from page 7

fronts, we're all very glad that Ingebretsen's got back to being open after significant damage. Ingebretsen's, if you don't know it, is a very old and venerable family-owned shop for gifts, kitchen linens, wool goods, arts and crafts, books and foodstuffs imported from or employing traditions of Scandinavia. Another

retail establishment we want to highlight is Frattalone's Ace Hardware at 39th and Lake. It's part of a franchise of hardware and garden stores and one of the very good ones.

Services

Services is our broad catch-all category for private businesses providing everything from alter-

native health care to car repair, plus government services. In the building on Lake and Bloomington, Bucca Dental has been doing some good business. A lot of people (including yours truly) have somewhat neglected their dental health during the pandemic, so now might be a time (or soon) to check them out.

The East Lake Library was also at that epicenter of destruction in May and June and was one of the last Hennepin County Libraries to re-open, apart from a few that are still closed. It is now open in "grab and go" mode, to check out holds, to accept returns, and for limited computer use. And have you heard? Hennepin County libraries have followed the lead of many other literacy-loving metros and gone fine-free. So don't be afraid to take back books you've had for more than a year.

Mutual aid

There are two mutual aid proj-



Milkweed Coffee on Lake Street

ects we're shining the light of spring upon. The first is technically a nonprofit, but its work is more in the mutual aid category, and that is Lift Garage. The Lift Garage's mission is to "offer people a vehicle out of poverty by providing low-cost quality car repair, connecting with community partners to strengthen the support network, and linking customers to needed resources."

Their services are available to car owners or prospective car owners at 150% of federal poverty guidelines or below. For the duration of COVID, only their lobby is closed, and the garage maintains safety protocols.

The other is a true mutual aid provider and participant in the gift or sharing economy. This is the Phillips Free Store. During the summer of 2020, they were locat-

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Celebrate Spring on East Lake Street

East Lake, from page 9

pendent of denominational baggage; it's the "church with the really big door," Spirit Garage. As its website explains, "Before the pandemic and other events in the neighborhood, we were gathering at the Hook & Ladder Theater and other locations in South Minneapolis... These days, we gather mostly online for worship, book clubs, anti-racism work, coffee breaks, and other times to connect."

As you may know, the Migizi office used to be next to Gandhi Mahal and was completely destroyed in the uprising. They provide a youth mentorship service in communications and media for Native American youth. They are currently at 1845 East Lake. Longfellow-Seward



Artifacts at the Somali Museum on Lake Street

Healthy Seniors also lost their building—a U.S. Bank building on Lake Street—the same night. Still very much in business, they are currently in the U.S. Bank building on Minnehaha. One

nonprofit that has had relatively little disruption during the past year is the Somali Museum. If you're not familiar with them, check the About page on their website to learn of their purpose

and history.

Mercado Central

This market had some damage during the uprising but

was probably harder hit by the pandemic. Still, it's standing strong. The current list of eateries includes La Loma, La Perla, La Reyna de los Jugos, Maria's Restaurante, Rincon Salvador-eño and The Best Tacos del Sol. There are also numerous retail outlets and services in the mercado.

Midtown Global Market

Midtown Global Market is once again permitting indoor dining in a few areas of the market, and requiring masks when not in those socially-distanced eating and drinking zones. The Eastlake Craft Brewing site is not an indoor eating zone, but in front of it, close to Manny's Tortas, is the largest one, called the Dugout.

Andy's Garage has moved and no longer has a dedicated dining area. The newcomers include Arepa Bar, in the old Mama D's space, and Oasis Market & Deli, featuring Middle Eastern foods, in the old Holy Land space.

There have been a few more departures, and a few more new businesses, at MGM since we last covered them. Infused Life has moved on to a bigger space; Jakeeno's closed their MGM Trattoria; and the Backyard Health Initiative no longer uses their market spot. Leila's Brow Art has expanded and moved to the front of the market.

Eating out outside of MGM

Outside of the market, the Hi-Lo Diner, the Longfellow Grill, Himalayan and Merlins Rest, as well as three coffee shops with some food items—Milkweed, Dogwood and Dunn Bros.—are all open for business, including various mixes of patio dining, indoor dining with reservations, takeout and delivery.

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Charles Rodgers is running for Park Board

BY ED FELIEN

Charles Rodgers is running for Park Board. That's good news for people in South Minneapolis who want a park system that works for all of us.

He says, "Growing up in Memphis, the only child of a single mom employed long hours as a domestic to a wealthy family, the parks were a refuge from the crime and poverty in my neighborhood. It was there that I first learned to golf, a passion of mine still today. I learned how to play basketball and run track through the sports the park offered. I also benefited from the mentoring of the older kids and adults who frequented the park. It was there I learned the importance of community, a commitment that has guided me since."

Our park system is in a state of crisis, Rodgers says. "The vision of the park system that meets the needs of individuals, families and communities is becoming dimmer by the moment," he says. "There needs to be more accountability for where and



Charles Rodgers

how the park's revenue is allocated. I believe there needs to be more accountability for equitable outcomes."

The incumbent Fifth District park commissioner, Steffanie Musich, has been pushing a plan to turn Hiawatha Golf Course into a swamp. She says it's more natural. But there's nothing natural about the city dumping sand on the streets in the winter that washes down the storm sewer system from Lake Street to 43rd Street, from Chicago Av-

enue to 27th Avenue and ends up in Lake Hiawatha. The sand has reduced the depth of Lake Hiawatha from 33 feet in 1929 to 3 feet in many places. There's nothing natural about that. The dam at the outlet at 45th Street and 27th Avenue traps heavy chemicals used on lawns that travel the length of Minnehaha Creek from Lake Harriet to Lake Hiawatha, creating a toxic stew that makes the lake unsafe for swimming. There's nothing natural about that.

Of all the golf courses in the Minneapolis system, Hiawatha gets the least amount of money for maintenance, and it's the only course actually inside the city. Columbia is inside the city limits but on the border of Columbia Heights; they got \$665,645 for maintenance last year. Meadowbrook Golf Course in St. Louis Park got \$653,671. Wirth in Golden Valley got \$671,124 and Gross in St. Anthony Park got \$700,854. Hiawatha only got \$585,265—13% less than the average of the other courses. That systematic discrimination has

persisted for years.

The Citizen Advisory Committee, which discussed the plan, didn't include people from north of 42nd Street—including the Midtown neighborhoods of Bryant, Bancroft, Central, Powderhorn, and Corcoran plus the entire Phillips Community. About 52,000 people live in these inner-city neighborhoods.

The Park Board asked residents in an area-wide survey what they thought of the plan, and the respondents resolutely rejected it.

The park commissioners, after spending four years and almost a million dollars on developing the plan, couldn't find the votes on the Park Board to

approve it, and it looks like the plan is dead, but there's a possibility that the Swamp Monsters will try to revive it.

The Hiawatha Golf Course in South Minneapolis was the home of the first national golf tournament open to African Americans. It was called The Bronze. Since then, Hiawatha has been a comfortable home to African American golfers. Park Board planning staff have said they would like to put up a plaque somewhere commemorating Hiawatha's cultural history after they turn the course into a swamp. But isn't that a bit like starving someone, shooting them, and then pinning a medal on them?

Lake Stories, from page 1

originally attracted the Dakota and Ojibwa. It also has a rich history of welcoming immigrants: carpenters, tavern keepers, butchers, cigar makers.

Battles need warriors, and appearance to the contrary, Father Joe is a warrior who wasted no time during the riots. While neighbors took to their roofs with water supplies and watched the fires, he was contacted by the Volunteers of America about a group of men recovering from criminal histories. Their shelter was threatened by fire. Father Joe opened his doors. He says he can still picture the men "walking down Lake St. with pillows" toward the church they would call home, temporarily. And he asks, "What good is a church with locked doors?"

Over the years Father Joe and his parish of about 800 have built partnerships in the community with the merchants and businesses: Peppers & Fries, El Norteño, Midori's, Merlins Rest, East Lake Liquor, Soderberg's Floral & Gift, Gandhi Mahal Restaurant, Longfellow Grocery, the Town Talk Diner and Elite Cleaners, to name a few. Father Joe enjoys

CARE, an outreach program supporting those in need via gift certificates for groceries, household items, metro transit, etc. St. Albert's parishioners also volunteer at a local food shelf in the Longfellow community where canned goods, household items, produce, meat and dairy products are collected for distribution (via the Du Nord Foundation Community Market) on Mondays, Wednesdays and soon to be Thursdays.

Father Joe likes to plant flowers in the spring. Recently, as he potted some beauties around the church yard, he was approached by a stranger who reminded him of the risks of planting too early. Father's reply, "I have faith they will grow." For Father Joe this has become a metaphor with regard to the recovery of East Lake Street and its people. He quotes



Food shelf

Irish poet Seamus Heaney, "Faith is like walking on water against our better judgment." Faith is a response, allowing us to navigate rough waters with courage, even when uncertainty abounds. Faith allows us to bend but not break. It allows us to redeem ourselves by caring for one another. Father points out that our faith may be in both science and/or God. Father Joe not only has faith, he clearly accompanies it with action.

Daunte Wright, from page 1

told the two defendants to get a ride home, but the defendants were unable to find a ride. Victim and witness allowed the defendants to stay over and sleep on the floor. In the morning, witness left for a short time to get \$820 cash in order to pay victim for rent. Witness returned and gave the \$820 to victim, then witness left again for work. The defendants found someone to pick them up. While they were waiting for their ride to show up, victim said that Wright made a comment that he didn't have to work today and told Driver they should 'Hit some stains.' Victim understood 'stain' as slang for robbing somebody. Victim thought Wright was just joking around. Wright told Driver and victim he thought their ride was there and said he would be right back and was going to check. Wright left the apartment and came back about 5 minutes later and said their ride was here. Victim said she was going to leave at the same time as the defendants. The three of them were walking to the door to exit the apartment and Wright turned around and blocked the door preventing victim from leaving. Wright then pulled a black handgun with silver trim out from either his right waistband or his right coat pocket and pointed it at the victim and demanded the rent money. Victim said, 'Are you serious?' Wright replied, 'Give me the fucking money. I know you have it.' Victim then asked him if he was serious and he said, 'I'm not playing around.'

The \$820 cash was tucked into victim's bra and Wright placed his hand around victim's neck and choked her while trying to pull the cash out from under her bra. Victim was able to get loose from Wright and started to kneel down and scream. Victim heard Driver tell her to give the money to Wright. Wright started yelling at victim and told her to stop screaming. Victim was yelling at them to get out of her apartment because she said the cops are close. Wright then told her that he would shoot her and said, 'Give me the money and we will leave. Give me the money and we will go.' Wright then tried to choke victim a second time and tried to take her money. Driver was telling her to give Wright the money. Driver then said, 'Let's go,' and the two defendants left and got into a white Cadillac and left the scene. Afterwards, victim found that the cash was still in her bra. Victim later identified both Wright and Driver via photo line-ups."

Wright had been released on \$100,000 bail on the condition that he not have contact with the victim and not possess a handgun. But he was not meeting with his probation officer, and they believed he was in possession of a handgun, so his probation was revoked. A warrant was issued that he be arrested and returned to custody to await trial.

Officer Potter must have thought she had struck gold. Here was the perfect moment to teach the new recruits how to arrest a suspect. She yelled from her squad car, "He's got a warrant." The new recruit fum-

bled with the handcuffs. Wright broke away, got back in his car. Potter came up and shouted to him, "I'll tase you. Taser!" But she was holding her service revolver. Wright started to drive away. Potter shot him once in the chest. After she shot him, she said, "Holy shit. I shot him." Only then did she apparently realize she was holding her revolver and not her taser. It is not a common mistake, but it has happened to officers before.

The next day, the mayor of Brooklyn Center said she should be fired. She resigned.

She faces charges of second-degree manslaughter, Minnesota Statute 609.205: "A person who causes the death of another by the person's culpable negligence may be sentenced to imprisonment for not more than ten years or to payment of a fine of not more than \$20,000, or both."

Just as a surgeon must be held accountable for malpractice, so a 26-year veteran law enforcement professional must be held accountable for a death that results from their bad judgment.

Daunte Wright was poor and hungry and desperate and Black. And in a society that measures success in terms of money and power, he was an outcast. Television violence had taught him a gun was an easy ticket out. He could have shot the woman and taken the money. But he didn't. He couldn't. And that spark of humanity helps us forgive Daunte Wright, just as we must now try to find the love and understanding to forgive Officer Kim Potter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Attention, President Biden

For all of us, President Biden, stop the Enbridge tar sands oil pipeline from traversing Minnesota. I spoke at my court hearing in Aitkin, Minn., last week. After eight years of fighting pipelines within the law, I needed to civilly, disobediently, say STOP, no more. This pipeline is wrong. It makes no sense to build fossil fuel infrastructure at this point in human history, in planetary history. We are facing a science-based deadline of less than 10 years to stop the release of climate changing gases into our atmosphere. I want a future for the children of the world that includes a beautiful livable planet with lots of diverse species. I want an end to wealthy nations like ours treating less wealthy peoples like what happens to them is unimportant; an end to the arrogance that says our corporate profits are more important than their lives. People watch as their island nations disappear as oceans rise; as extreme weather events and fires destroy everything in their path.

Indigenous communities have legitimate reasons for opposing the pipeline. Oil pipelines have a horrific record of spills and leaks. There have been spills from brand new pipelines and thousands of spills from pipelines of every age. Our treaties give Indigenous tribes rights to hunt and fish and gather on treaty protected lands. Tar sands oil going through these pipelines must be diluted with diluents to make that sludge liquid enough to flow. Those diluents are known to be toxic carcinogens. The wild rice that grows in lakes adjacent to the pipeline route is highly sensitive to disruptions in its growth environment. Threats to the environment on treaty protected lands make those rights a bad joke.

May we protect our families and communities by protecting the water we all need to live.

—Bonnie Beckel

The legacy of Lisa Bender

I read your latest commentary on Lisa Bender. I agree with you on the 2040 Plan; many of my friends in Our Revolution were ardent supporters. I've made the same arguments as you have.

And it's ironic they cut off revising zoning laws at 42nd Street. Those farther south neighborhoods in the early 20th century prohibited Blacks and Jews from moving into those neighborhoods.

You're wrong about the bicycling lanes. I've ridden the length of Park and Portland. They formerly had three traffic lanes, now they have two, not one as you said. Riding on Columbus or other side residential streets is impractical because those streets don't cross over the Greenway.

You'd have to put extra traffic lights on Lake Street. I believe side streets would be more dangerous for everyone as they are

much narrower.

Bikes and cars can and will co-exist. We need to encourage cycling. There have to be practical routes for commuting.

There are some other places where bike lanes cause congestion—on 26th and 28th Streets between Hennepin and Lyndale where two traffic lanes were reduced to one.

I wouldn't blame the Defund the Police crowd any more than AOC being the first socialist elected besides Bernie.

The Republicans ran against Defund the Police and Socialists. Did Colin Peterson and rural Democrats running for the legislature really lose because of them?

The reality is the Democrats are losing outstate but gaining in the suburbs.

—Phil Willkie

The queen on the hill

I am writing about the article Ms. Kathryn Kelly wrote for Southside Pride about Minneapolis Park Board Commissioner Steffanie Musich that appeared on the front page of the March 2021 Nokomis edition.

I want to express two concerns I have about the piece:

It was written by a member of the SaveHiawatha18.com organization (Ms. Kelly). I learned this after doing a Google search when it became clear to me that Ms. Kelly had an axe to grind, and I was curious about who she was. Her identity as a member of this group was not disclosed as part of the article and should have been.

This article was a very personal and vicious attack on an elected official of the Park Board (Steffanie Musich). While Ms. Kelly has every right to publicly disagree with decisions made by elected officials, including Steffanie Musich, the tone of her writing struck me as nasty. This is not journalism; it is a targeted smear campaign.

I expect more from Southside Pride than to print such a malicious piece and I do not think it deserves a place on the front page of your paper.

—Sheila McGinley
Northrop Neighborhood

Response from Kathryn Kelly:

To Ms. McGinley,

I might say that I don't know what to say to your letter, but I do. I have a lot of axes to grind with Commissioner Musich—four years' worth.

I have seen Musich ignore a woman standing before her crying because her home was being destroyed by water problems caused by Park Board property, namely Solomon Park, and Musich wouldn't even respond to her, much less help her.

I have seen no concrete plans that are vetted by engineering data to protect my family's home

from Musich's plan that will, most likely, flood our home.

I have seen Musich ignore the Black community, taking away Hiawatha Golf Course, an important resource they cherish, while talking about how she supports diversity and equity.

I have seen the documentation for this plan continue to denigrate Theodore Wirth with lies about what was happening with this property before he had the Park Board buy it. I grew up across the street from Hiawatha Golf Course, and have since researched this property, probably more than Musich and her staff ever have. I have found them to be very ignorant with respect to this property.

I have seen lie after outright lie being presented by Musich and her Park Board staff about reasons why she needs to destroy this 18-hole golf course.

I have spent hundreds of hours researching the misinformation that Musich and her staff have spewed out so that I could have enough knowledge to vet it, and fight it where necessary. An example was her claim that this project would mitigate phosphorus pollution. I researched pollution mitigation from various sources like the Environmental Protection Agency, and found out that an area performing phosphorus mitigation is called a constructed wetland, and this plan does NOT create a constructed wetland. Therefore, it does NOTHING to mitigate phosphorus. When I wrote an article about it, Assistant Park Board Superintendent Schroeder changed his language at a CAC meeting, saying that they were not doing a constructed wetland; they were doing wetland restoration. So, no phosphorus mitigation.

I have read their lie that it cost \$4 million in repair costs and lost revenue to bring back the Hiawatha Golf Course after the 2014 flood. I sat down and did the calculations using their data, and found out that, at most, it may have been about \$600,000. And, it should have cost much less because they kept half of the golf course closed a year longer than necessary. We believe that they did this so they could get \$1.1 million in FEMA money for repairs. This money was taken from the federal government but never spent to bring the golf course back. So, the Park Board basically requested and took money from the federal government that they didn't need.

And, the biggest lie of all is that the golf course pumping exceeded their pumping permits. After a group of us researched this, we found out, and the DNR confirmed, that Hiawatha Golf Course has NEVER violated their pumping permits, never ever. Yet, the Park Board staff still includes language in their documents that insinuates this lie.

And, yes, I am a proud member of SaveHiawatha18, a very dedicated group of people, some golfers and some homeowners, around Lake Nokomis and Lake Hiawatha who have been working very hard to make sure THE RIGHT THINGS are being done in the City of Minneapolis. During

this process, we have all become more expert than we ever wanted to be about this area of South Minneapolis and the problems that exist which are not being addressed by Park Board and City of Minneapolis officials. And, we found that these problems are certainly not being fixed by Musich's plan for the Hiawatha Golf Course property.

After four years, and little to no coverage by the Star Tribune and other mainstream media of the other voices on this subject, I am frustrated. Musich is running for re-election, and it is time that people understand what she HAS NOT done as a public servant. After all, my family's home is at risk of being destroyed, so I take her attitude and lack of public service personally as do other homeowners that are at risk from her plan in the neighborhood. A really terrible part of the plan would start dumping storm sewer water into an open trench right across the street from homes at the corner of 19th Avenue South and East 43rd Street. The EPA specifically states that this should not be done. Again, another example of totally bad public policy coming from Musich.

I am guessing that you have never talked to Musich. I have, and I have talked to other people who have had encounters with her. Musich can be very dismissive to people that disagree with her. She was dismissive to me when I first met with her about the golf course in 2017.

And, you may call it a smear campaign, but it is not a smear campaign when it states the facts of the situation. The tone may be rather severe, but the facts are accurate. People in her neighborhood have spent thousands of dollars fixing infrastructure due to water problems, and they have received no help from her. There is another South Minneapolis neighborhood on Minnehaha Creek by Morgan Avenue that is also suffering from too much water, and the Park Board wants this neighborhood to retain more water. I've met and corresponded with people from this neighborhood, and they are also looking for valid solutions to their problems, while I see no viable solutions coming from the Park Board, the City of Minneapolis and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

SaveHiawatha18 was started to try and save the golf course, but our efforts have uncovered MAJOR problems in this area of South Minneapolis that many people don't even realize exist. And, we have spent countless hours trying to promote the right ideas and solutions to public officials rather than the useless and dangerous plans that Musich is pushing.

If you live in a low-lying area of the Northrop neighborhood, you are affected by her plans, maybe more than you know. If you have any questions for me, I will try to answer them.

—Kathryn Kelly



RIVERSIDE EDITION

The Southside Pride Riverside Edition is a monthly newspaper containing neighborhood news, religious events and a community calendar delivered on the third Monday of the month to over 100 locations in and around the Riverside 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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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / RIVERSIDE EDITION

EVENTS

The Color of Law: A Virtual Conversation with Richard Rothstein
Wednesday, April 21
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Online
In this virtual event for Twin Cities residents, Richard Rothstein will discuss his critically acclaimed book "The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America," a groundbreaking account of how federal, state and local policy explicitly segregated metropolitan areas nationwide. Pay as you can. Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/142289478661>

2021 Do-It-Yourself Earth Day Cleanup Supply pickup on Saturday, April 24, 9:30 a.m. to noon
Participate anytime in April

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) along with the City of Minneapolis announce the annual Minneapolis Earth Day Clean-Up event has moved to DIY mode with supply pick up available at participating Earth Day sites on April 24 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The Minneapolis Earth Day Clean-Up has been the city's largest community service project for many years. Since 2008, more than 20,000 residents have removed more than 160,000 pounds of garbage from Minneapolis parks, neighborhoods, and watersheds. You can participate anytime in April, while staying safe and preventing the spread of COVID-19. By sharing photos of your cleanup, everyone will see what we can accomplish for the 2021 Earth Day. It's free to participate and residents are encouraged to participate by volunteering to help pick up trash in parks, neighborhoods, and watersheds. No registration needed, just follow these easy steps:

1. Use a trash bag from home or pick up bags and gloves at participating Earth Day sites on April 24 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. For a list of supply pickup sites, see: https://www.minneapolisprb.org/activities_events/events/earth_day_cleanup/
2. Head to a nearby park or trail to pick up trash (while getting fresh air and exercise).
3. Practice social distancing and other current COVID-19 guidelines. Learn more at www.minneapolisprb.org/coronavirus-covid-19-information/
4. Share photos of your trash haul on MPRB's @MPLSEarthDay Facebook

page and using the hashtag #MplsDIYEarthDay.

FREE Family Day: Flamenco con Abuelita with Susana di Palma
Saturday, April 24, 10 to 11 a.m.
Online via Zoom
Presented by The Cowles Center. Explore Spanish culture and flamenco tradition with Teaching Artist Susana di Palma during Flamenco con Abuelita (we hear our puppet friends Toro and Carmencita will be there too)! This is a one-hour, Zoom-based dance class on April 24. Want more? The Cowles Center has expanded upon the traditional Family Day offering to provide an easy-to-follow toolkit exploring flamenco through fun activities such as coloring pages, DIY ideas, and fun videos with Susana herself! Participants are welcome to engage with the toolkit as much as they like (or not at all) ahead of Saturday's class. Registration closes at 8 a.m. on April 24. Registrants will be emailed the toolkit ahead of Susana's class. This activity is designed for youth up to 5th grade. For more information and to register, go to <https://www.thecowlescenter.org/tickets/family-day-with-susana>.

'Lettuce' Celebrate Earth Day at Midtown Global Market
Saturday, April 24
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Midtown Global Market
Central Court
920 E. Lake St., Mpls.
Gertens and Midtown Global Market are celebrating Earth Day with a fun and educational planting party. Kids (12 and under) are invited to bring their favorite grown-up to Midtown Global Market's central court on Saturday, April 24. Supplies are limited. There, they can pick up a lettuce planting kit including a pot, dirt, and seeds, all free thanks to the good folks at Gertens. The young gardeners can pot and plant their lettuce on-site on socially-distanced tables with the help of a Gertens expert or take it home. Recipes will be available for the kids to be able to grow their own lettuce and plan to prepare a meal with their harvest. www.midtownglobalmarket.org

STAR-Lite Training: Learning Strategies for Trauma Awareness and Resilience in a Single Day
Tuesday, April 20
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Online via Zoom
STAR-Lite is a single-day, evidence-based training integrating neuropsychol-

ogy, trauma healing and resilience, restorative justice, nonviolent conflict transformation, and broadly defined spirituality. It is designed for those who wish to learn the basics of becoming trauma-informed, resilience-oriented, and restorative justice-focused within a shorter-time frame than the full STAR Training. All are welcome to join us. Continuing education is available for mental health professionals, teachers, nurses, and attorneys for a modest fee. To learn more and to register, go to <http://www.mnpeace.org/star-lite-training.html>.

Coming to the Table: Racial Healing Talking Circles and Learning Sessions
Wednesday, April 21,
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Monday, April 26, 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.

Twin Cities Cohousing Network Quarterly Event
Wednesday, April 28
7 to 8:15 p.m.

Free virtual event
Are you curious about cohousing? Join us for viewing and discussion of "Cohousing and the Future of Community and Human Connection," a TEDx Talk by Trish Becker-Hafnor. The speaker is an educator, activist, entrepreneur, parent and community co-founder. In her short, engaging talk, Becker-Hafnor shares what is groundbreaking about cohous-

ing and how it has affected her family and neighbors. Local cohousing groups will give brief updates. Cohousing is community designed to foster connection. Physical spaces allow neighbors to easily interact with others just outside private homes. Common areas, including kitchen, dining space and gardens, bring people together. Collaborative decision-making builds relationships. Free and open to the public. To register and receive access info, please go to www.tccoho.org. Twin Cities Cohousing Network (TCCN) is an all-volunteer 501c3 nonprofit devoted to educating about and supporting cohousing in the Twin Cities Area.

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors receive hunger relief grant

Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors is one of six recipients nationwide to receive an Invest in Others Charitable Foundation grant for hunger relief efforts in communities that its financial advisors are actively involved with. Patricia Lovelette, Financial Advisor at Riverlink Financial Advisors in Minneapolis, applied for the grant on Healthy Seniors' behalf. The \$12,000 award will be used to purchase and distribute food to lower income seniors in the greater Longfellow and Seward neighborhoods. A portion of the funding will be used to purchase culturally specific food for Somali elders. Healthy Seniors' mission is to enable community seniors to live healthy, independent and socially connected lives. Contact Longfellow/Seward Healthy Seniors to learn more about its services for area seniors: www.LShealthyseniors.org or 612-729-5799.



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Bryan Ring

BY ED FELIEN

There was a lovely piece in the Pioneer Press in February about Bryan Ring bringing help and hope to the homeless camped out near Sheridan Park in North Minneapolis: “Stillwater man is godsend to people living in Minneapolis homeless camps.”

“He brings sleeping bags, food, hand warmers, propane tanks and winter clothes, neatly labeled in bins. One huge black garbage bag was filled with men’s winter coats; another had sweatshirts.”

He uses Facebook and Nextdoor in his hometown of Stillwater to get people to donate essentials, and then he drives down once a week in his Ford pickup truck and brings comfort to people left out in the cold Minnesota winter.

“Ring said he has been moved to tears by the people he has met in the camps, especially a 3-year-old boy named Ian and a woman in her 70s. ‘I’m tearing up just now thinking about her,’ he said of the woman. ‘When I left her at camp, I honestly felt like I left my mother there. I cried the whole way home.’”

I knew Bryan’s grandmother. She operated Ring’s Hobby Center on 42nd Street and 29th Avenue South, just across the street from where I grew up. I used to go over and talk to Mrs. Ring when I was 10 years old. She taught me about making plaster of Paris statues. She showed me how I could make money by mixing the powder into paste, pouring it into a mold, painting it and selling them. She gave me my first lesson in classical econom-

ics. I could buy raw materials from her and make them into a product I could sell. I would be a manufacturer. In Marxist terms, I would own the means of production. My labor would be the significant factor in adding value to the product. I could make a fortune. There was no limit to the amount of statues I could produce from just one mold.

But, of course, there was a limit to the number of little Santa Claus statues I could sell. My dear maiden aunts bought one for a dollar, and that was the extent of my sales and the end of my career as a figurine manufacturer. I lost money on the experience, but I learned a valuable lesson, and I will always be grateful to Mrs. Ring for teaching me how the world works.

And now, her grandson Bryan is showing how, for some of us, the world doesn’t work.

She taught me about capitalism, and he demonstrates social responsibility.

“Every once in a while, I’d get the strange eye from somebody, and I’d have to let them know, ‘I’m Powderhorn. I’m Southside,’ you know what I mean? From there, realistically, relationships were built. For me, it’s where I grew up. I genuinely care about these people.”

I grew up with Mrs. Ring’s two oldest sons, Harvey and Ken. Harvey ran Dick and Harvey’s Appliance store just across the alley from our home. He was a gruff guy with a heart of gold. He’d fix the belt on your washing machine and not charge you for it. Ken was a big help when I was running for office. He is Bryan’s father.

The Pioneer Press article ends: “Ring said he would like Gov. Tim Walz and Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey to tour the camps with him and other volunteers and see firsthand how people are living. ‘They should get to know the people in these camps,’ he said. ‘We shouldn’t have to be out here. It is mind-boggling that there is so much devastation, depression, drug usage and mental illness and no real solution to help these people. Housing is the first step, of course. Real hands-on treatment and job placement are next.’”

“You look someone in the eyes, and you see that they are at their absolute lowest, but they see you, and then, all of a sudden, they’re like, ‘Oh my God, there is hope in my life.’ I’ve just done the work, made the connections, never judged. I honestly believe that God puts you where you are needed.”

I don’t expect to see Gov. Walz or Mayor Frey talk to the homeless in the northside camps. And I don’t know much about God’s plans for where Bryan is needed, but the homeless and the helpless could sure use someone like Bryan Ring in Congress rather than the Trump-supporting anti-relief-bill Tom Emmer.



Bryan Ring



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We share the torment of the damned

BY ED FELIEN

Two tormented 21-year-olds unleashed a storm of death and sorrow last month in Atlanta and Boulder.

Why?

There are no easy answers.

They were both victims of bullying.

Robert Aaron Long was bullied by his evangelical church to hate and fear his natural need for sexual expression. He was convinced he was a sex addict. He was in and out of treatment for the last two years. He checked into a halfway house for five months beginning in August of 2019. His former roommate said Long would confess to relapsing once a month and go to a massage parlor to have sex, and then rant about God and his parents and the Bible. He told police he wanted to “eliminate temptation” by murdering sex workers.

Ahmad Al Aliwi Alissa was bullied in high school. His classmates made fun of his name and

his religion, Islam. He had become withdrawn and paranoid. Friends said he often thought people were following him.

Both men deserved to be comforted, not shamed and made to feel like outcasts.

They grew into manhood in the Trump years. It was a dog-eat-dog world. Social Darwinism. Covid-19 was a gift, a way to cull the herd, get rid of the sick and the elderly, the dregs of society—a way to build the Master Race. Survival of the fittest.

Trump was the strong man. He crushed anything in his way. He never backed down, never gave up, never admitted defeat. He encouraged thousands of his supporters to storm the Capitol and stop the government from certifying Biden as president. The rule of law was for sissies. His will was all that mattered. And when Kevin McCarthy, the Republican Minority Leader in the House, called Trump and asked him to call off his thugs, Trump said, “Well, Kevin, I guess

these people are more upset about the election than you are.”

Was Long upset about the election? As a fiercely fanatical white evangelical, one can assume he was anti-choice and a Trump supporter. As a Georgian, he must have felt that his state was turning its back on Jesus—electing Biden over Trump and then electing two Democratic senators. Was this part of the trauma pushing him over the edge?

Did politics play any role in Alissa’s act of horror? Did he drive from Arvada to Boulder just because Boulder is a bastion of liberalism, and he was going to teach those elitists a lesson? There’s a copycat quality to Alissa’s act. On the same day Long committed his mass murders, Alissa purchased a Ruger AR-556 machine gun pistol.

Clearly, we have to change our



gun laws. Weapons of war and mass murder must be immediately banned. They have no place in a civilized society. America, with 4% of the world’s population, owns half of the civilian-owned guns. We have eight times the number of deaths as a result of gun violence as Canada and a hundred times more deaths than Britain. Forty thousand American lives are lost every year from gun violence.

But we also have to change the

way we think of ourselves as a community. It can’t be dog-eat-dog any more. Capitalism has to become more humane and less aggressive and predatory. It can’t be a zero-sum game—where there’s only enough pie for one of us and the other one starves. There’s enough for everyone.

When I was a child attending Mass at St. Helena’s Church, Father Don told the story of a young man led down the corridors of eternity. The angel pushed open the first door, marked Hell, and there was a great table piled high with wonderful food and people sitting on high stools with knives and forks too long for them to

feed themselves. And the people were starving and the door closed. And the angel opened another door marked Heaven, and there was a room with a great table piled high with wonderful food, and the people were seated on high stools with long knives and forks too long to feed themselves, but they had all learned to feed the person sitting across from them.

I think that’s the way out of our torment.

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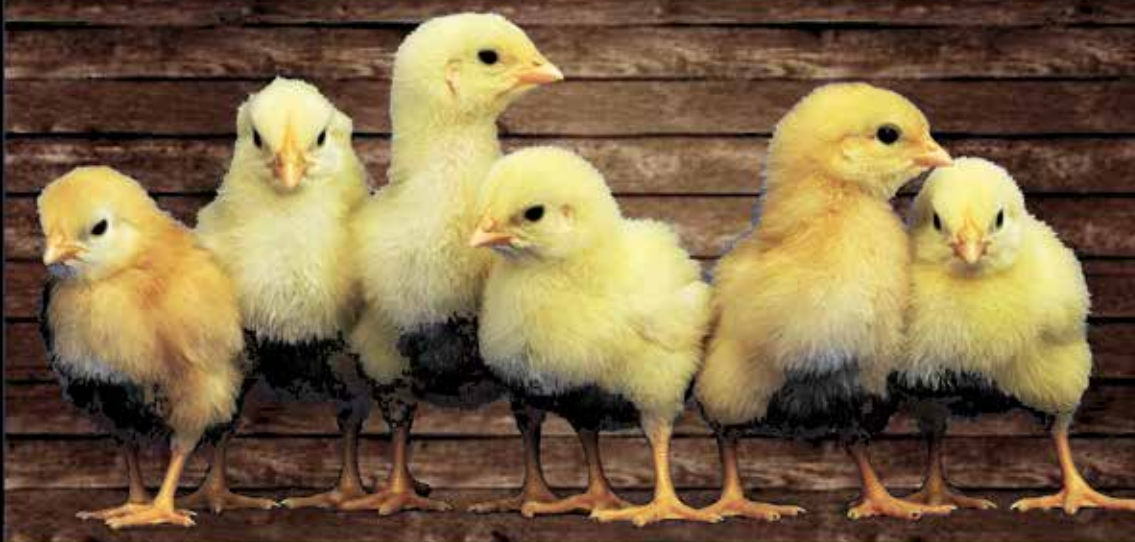
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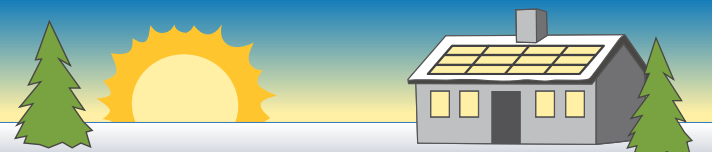
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