



**We build Pride on the Southside**

**POWDERHORN EDITION**  
**FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH**  
**April 2021**  
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## 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—

See Bouza, page 10



## 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 be-

ginning 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.

See Torment, page 11

## 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



Bryan Ring

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

See Bryan Ring, page 14



**Earth Day**  
**Pages 2, 3 & 4**



**Our 12th Annual**  
**Celebrate Spring on**  
**Lake Street**  
**Pages 7, 8 & 9**



# 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 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 report 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



Wild salmon

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, 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,



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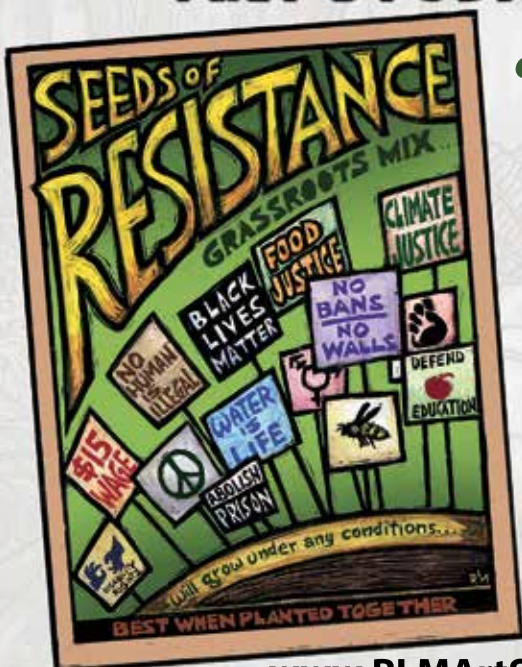
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are trying to get we who loll in the comforting but fickle bosom of capitalism to imagine life without it. Without “growth” as the vital life sign. Without capitalism, because without growth, it’s not capitalism. (Yes, these are “just” labels, but one cannot argue cogently about abstract things without rigorously defining labels. And since capitalism is both the core prob-

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. Another organization sep-

See <https://steadystate.org/>. Their 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 re-set 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 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 nega-



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

tives. 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 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

See *Earth Day*, page 4



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lem 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](http://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.)

arate from GrowthBusters but in step with it is CASSE (Center for the Advancement of a Steady State Economy).

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# Celebrate our Planet on Earth Day

## Earth Day, from page 3

are several breakout articles, but the one I loved, because it provides striking visual confirmation 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 lo-

cal" 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 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/>



Dave Gardner directing GrowthBusters, the movie

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/>

Dropp's - a sustainable laundry solution - <https://www.shopettee.com/>

Honor the Earth - Winona LaDuke's nonprofit's wild rice and more - [https://](https://www.honorthetheearthmerchandise.com/harvest)

[www.honorthetheearthmerchandise.com/harvest](https://www.honorthetheearthmerchandise.com/harvest)

From The New Republic's Earth Day issue - <https://newrepublic.com/article/161575/climate-change-effects-hurting-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/whatever-environmentalist-needs-to-know-about-capitalism>

From the Guardian March 2021, focus on oil - <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/mar/19/planet-pursuit-profit-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/umptf6w/signup>

Growthbusters' YouTube - [youtube.com/Growthbusters](https://youtube.com/Growthbusters)



Sarah Silverman, passionate new voice for veganism

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# Agape: What does love look like?

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

If you go to 38th and Chicago, the corner where George Perry Floyd Jr. was killed by a Minneapolis police officer kneeling on his neck, you will see that the people have claimed the intersection as a free state, an autonomous zone of nonviolence and anti-racism. They have closed it to traffic, and a sculpted fist now stands there, a symbol of unity and solidarity. It means “We’re here, we stand together,” said one young activist. It is popularly known as George Floyd Square.

From what I understand, and the reason I support GFS, is that the closed intersection is an ongoing reminder of what happened there; it’s a continuing statement that George Floyd MUST NOT BE just one more in a long line of victims of police brutality; it begs for Floyd’s death to be the historical turning point when racism and police brutality come to an end; and it presents a model of non-hierarchical community.

Community members meet in a circle twice a day. During the winter, logs burn in metal containers. Artwork and poetry are everywhere. Someone tends living plants in a greenhouse. A free clinic, 612 MASH, is available, and Black-owned businesses hang on by a thread. At the corner of 37th and Chicago, Harrison, the owner of Dollar & Up, says he wants to be there for the community and help with job training for youth. Delicious food can be found at three restaurants: Dragon Wok, Just Turkey and Smoke in the Pit. There are many free food distributions and free meals served as well. Conflict resolution and non-violence are the order of the day. On Feb. 21, they commemorated Malcolm X’s work for Black empowerment and his assassination on Feb. 21, 1965.

A strong component of George Floyd Square is a nonprofit called Agape—unconditional love—made up of young Black men and women, some Christian, some Muslim, some non-religious, who all believe in love. They help local youth with jobs, education, mental health and trauma, and basically simply love everybody. Their presence provides security at the square. When strangers wandering in start stuff or when kids come in there up to no good, Agape is there to de-escalate conflicts and difficult situations. It happens daily, they said. An Agape co-founder, Reggie, calls this work “verbal judo.”

Agape’s small building, with a couple of offices and various meeting rooms a few doors down from Cup Foods, also has a meditation room, since the kind of work they do requires a lot of prayer and meditation. Another co-founder, Marquise, spends all his time at George Floyd Square/Agape, except when he’s working at his job, sleeping or volunteering elsewhere—nurturing younger guys in sports or reading or life skills. He says it’s so important to care for children and young people because “the mind is like jello—you put everything in be-



**Agape members preparing to go out on the street to provide security. Standing from left to right: Abdirizak Abdi, Yusuf, Marquise Bowie, Rico Smith, George Coles, DeAndre Dent, Derek Armstrong, Reggie Ferguson, Casanova Richardson. At the table from left to right: Steve Floyd, Larry Dent.**

fore it settles.”

As people go in and out of the Agape house, it feels like a family. In fact, many of them have known each other since childhood and are also related. When I introduced myself as “Elaine,” I would hear, “My favorite aunt is named Elaine,” and “My mom is Elaine,” or “Elaine, that’s my mother-in-law.” Of course, they were all talking about the same person. Nothing could have painted a better picture of how intertwined they are.

In the first days after George Floyd’s death, as people from the neighborhood poured out into the streets, everyone was traumatized and they were all looking for healing from the state’s assault on their lives. The city was on fire.

From the beginning there was a natural consensus to start daily meetings to figure out what to do. Already crazed from the pandemic, neighbors, no longer strangers if they had been before, automatically moved out to the corner of 38th and Chicago and set up tables with canopies. People started bringing stuff to donate and people started coming to collect things they needed. From the first days of spontaneous action, Marquise and his childhood friends Reggie and Alfonzo knew even more action was required. They all knew about Steve Floyd (no relation to George) and his Agape work with youth, gang prevention and nonviolence, and together they came to the conclusion that “we needed Steve.” Agape was what was needed.

Marquise had heard Floyd speak about agape, unconditional love, at his junior high school, in 1989, and that moment had become pivotal in his life, even though between then and now, as he struggled along in survival mode, he did things “opposite of love,” he said.

He had some scrapes with the law and spent some time in a federal prison camp, but he said that’s where he learned the patience he now applies to de-escalation work. During his ups and downs since that junior high assembly, he had kept in touch, off and on, with Steve Floyd.

Within a couple of days, Floyd, who is also a professional pho-

tographer (and who had recently recovered from a kidney transplant), was at George Floyd Square taking pictures. The three friends asked him about becoming Agape. He said if they were doing great work during the day and then “doing garbage at night” it wasn’t OK. But if they were serious, he was all for it. Now he’s like their guide/mentor/consultant/partner/advisor, etc., and is very involved. (See more about the original Agape here: [www.theagapemovement.com](http://www.theagapemovement.com))

One of the first things the new Agape did was frightening but successful. They were coming from their first session of non-violence trainings when they got a phone call that there was trouble downtown—not even the area they were watching over. But they went anyway.

A Black man had shot himself as he was interacting with police. Because of general anger toward the police, protesters believed the police had killed the man.

It was a rainy day. The Agape people parked a ways away and walked to Block E. There were other peace-oriented groups there as well, such as Mad Dads.

Marquise said there was a police standoff with the young people who, “due to what they thought, were throwing stuff, yelling. They were fed up with injustice.” Agape formed a buffer—they put their bodies between the rows of young people and the line of police facing them—and gradually were able to help inch the young people from the scene and keep them separated from the police.

Generally, the police don’t go into George Floyd Square unless they are called. Agape is not opposed to a police force. But they prefer not to call the police “unless human life is in jeopardy,” as Bridgette from Agape put it. Any kind of nonviolent incident such as a drug overdose or passing a fake 20-dollar-bill hopefully could be resolved without police involvement and certainly doesn’t call for police aggression, they believe.

Community safety mainly has to do with looking out for each other. Bridgette is proud to point out that there is less violent crime in GFS than in North Min-

neapolis or St. Paul. The shooting on Saturday, March 6, was an exception. Once in a while, tragically, there are things you can’t control. Marquise remembers last summer sitting out in the square playing chess, with little kids running around. He grew up in this neighborhood, living in various places along Portland, Chicago, Columbus, and he “never saw this before.” Since Saturday, he continues to feel that GFS is a safe place.

GFS has been a haven, a respite, for many people of color,

as well as a chance for many, many young people to pursue an ideal—a new way for people to be community.

The City of Minneapolis plans to leave GFS as it is until after the trial. Marquise said he believes the city wants to open up the intersection in cooperation with GFS rather than by force.

Whatever happens, Agape plans to carry on with its nurture of young people and its nonviolence and de-escalation work. As they say, “Love is the most powerful force.”

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### EVENTS AND ONLINE RESOURCES

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

**Online**  
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 how 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>.

#### Race and African Religious Practices in Christianity Tuesday, April 13 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

**Online**  
Dr. Katharine Gerbner Ph.D., author of "Christian Slavery: Conversion and Race in the Protestant Atlantic World," will give a brief presentation on the origins of modern racial categories, the role of missionaries in creating American slave societies, and the integration of African religious practices into Christianity. Join a great conversation. Free and open to the public. For more info and to register, go to [https://stthomas.force.com/applicantportal/USTEventRegister?instanceID=a340a0000035bemAAA#\\_ga=2.92444637.1979110778.1611697129-169969825.1565373670](https://stthomas.force.com/applicantportal/USTEventRegister?instanceID=a340a0000035bemAAA#_ga=2.92444637.1979110778.1611697129-169969825.1565373670). Event sponsored and organized by Jay Phillips Center for Interreligious Studies at the University of St. Thomas and Jay Phillips Center for Interfaith Learning at Saint John's University with generous support from Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Minnesota.

#### 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/>.

#### Jazz for the Soul: The Life and Music of Mary Lou Williams Wednesday, April 14 Noon to 1 p.m. Online

Mary Lou Williams believed that jazz music has the power to heal individuals and communities. At age forty-seven, she converted to Catholicism, and chose voluntary poverty in order to rehabilitate the sick in her community. Her gospel message that "jazz is love" lives on through her extraordinary—if little heard—catalog of recordings and compositions. In this event, jazz pianist-composer Deanna Witkowski will share excerpts from her forthcoming biography, "Mary Lou Williams: Music for the Soul" (Liturgical Press, August 2021) and perform live selections from her recently recorded Williams tribute album, "Force of Nature" (MCG Jazz, release date TBA). More info and link to register at <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/event/jazz-soul-mary-lou-williams/>.

#### Who Are We? Christian Nationalism, White Supremacy and Pathways of Liberation Thursday, April 15 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Online

The insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, opened the eyes of many people in our nation—and the world—to the religious views, politics and aims of Christian Nationalism and its intersections with bigotry, violence and white supremacy. To unpack and understand what happened against the larger movements of history, religious traditions and injustice, the following special guests have been invited to share in a panel of conversation as Hamline University's 2021 Mahle Panel in Progressive Christian Thought: The Very Rev. Kelly Brown Douglas, Rev. Adam Lawrence Dyer, Robert P. Jones and Katherine Stewart. For more information and to access the link to the livestream, go to <https://www.hamline.edu/HUNewsDetail.aspx?id=4295050365>.

#### 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/>.

#### Ready for Welcome

Under President Biden's leadership, we are looking forward to renewed refugee arrivals. His February executive order signaled his intention of rebuilding the

program to once again welcome a robust number of refugees, but after four years of dramatic cuts, it will take time to regain momentum. As we prepare for the individuals and families we expect to greet in the coming months, we are in need of small/medium men's winter coats, new bed pillows, and liquid hand soap pump bottles. If you are able to donate any of these items, please contact us at [rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org](mailto:rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org) to coordinate a drop-off. Thank you!

#### '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 and 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](mailto:office@minneapolisfriends.org). [www.minneapolisfriends.org](http://www.minneapolisfriends.org)

#### Bahá'í Center of Minneapolis

3644 Chicago Ave., Mpls.  
Devotions at the Bahá'í Center and via Zoom, Sundays at 10 a.m. Please visit the Bahá'í community of Minneapolis website at [www.minneapolisbahai.org/](http://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](http://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/](http://www.saintalbertthegreat.org/) for more details. Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass also streamed on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/StAlbertTheGreatMpls/](http://www.facebook.com/StAlbertTheGreatMpls/).

#### Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

3430 E. 51st St., Mpls.  
[www.faithlutheranmpls.org](http://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/](http://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 for more information. [www.firstfreechurch.org](http://www.firstfreechurch.org)

#### 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](http://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/](http://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](http://www.livingspiritumc.org/online)

#### Messiah Lutheran Church

2400 Park Ave., Mpls.  
All services now online at [www.messiah-lutheranmpls.org](http://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/](http://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/](http://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/](http://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/](http://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/](http://www.saintjoanofarc.org/) or Facebook page [www.facebook.com/StJoanMpls/](http://www.facebook.com/StJoanMpls/).

#### Trinity Lutheran Congregation

Augsburg College, Hoversten Chapel  
Riverside & 22nd Aves., Mpls.

[www.trinitylutherancongregation.org](http://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/](http://www.walkerchurch.org/) or Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/walkerumc/](http://www.facebook.com/walkerumc/) for more information.

### SHARING FOOD

#### Calvary Lutheran Church

**3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls. 612-827-2504, ext. 205**  
The Calvary Emergency Food Shelf is available for area residents on 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](http://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/>

#### 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.

#### 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/](http://www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf/)  
Food Shelf  
Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
(Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

#### Minnehaha United Methodist Church

**3701 E. 50th St., Mpls. 612-721-6231**  
Yes, the food shelf is still open! In order to fight food insecurity in our neighborhood, the Minnehaha Food Shelf is open on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We have moved our operations outdoors, meter the flow of clients to help ensure social distancing, periodically clean our surfaces, and wear face masks. Should we have foul weather, we plan to move the distribution indoors, though still meter clients and encourage distancing. [www.facebook.com/MinnehahaFood-Shelf/](http://www.facebook.com/MinnehahaFood-Shelf/)

#### 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/](http://www.bethany-inseward.org/)

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### Bahá'í

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3644 Chicago Ave. S., 612-823-3494  
[Minneapolis.Bahai@gmail.com](mailto:Minneapolis.Bahai@gmail.com)  
Devotions at the Bahá'í Center and via Zoom, Sundays 10 am  
See [www.minneapolisbahai.org](http://www.minneapolisbahai.org)  
*So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth.*  
-Baha'u'llah

### Christian

#### CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

3901 Chicago Ave. S.  
612-827-2504 or [www.clchurch.org](http://www.clchurch.org)  
Sunday Worship at 10 am, via Facebook Live and Zoom, See website for instructions  
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#### ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

[www.stjoan.com](http://www.stjoan.com), 4537 Third Ave.  
Masses suspended until further notice  
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# Celebrate Spring on Lake Street

## 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. Longfellow 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 Mexicana 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 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



Manny Gonzalez, Midtown Global Market

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 were operating out of a mobile unit in the parking lot for many months but are now open and back to normal.

### Other retail

In the world of retail storefronts, 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 alternative 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 projects we're shining the light of spring upon. The first is technically a non-profit, but its work is more in the mutual aid category, and that is Lift

See Lake Street, page 8



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Celebrate Spring

Lake Street, from page 7

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 located in the Phillips neighborhood, at an outdoor site, but in the late fall they moved into the Walker Church building on 31st Street. To find out more about the Phillips Free Store and other mutual aid projects across the metro, go to [twin-cities-mutual-aid.org/](https://twin-cities-mutual-aid.org/).



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Faith communities and other non-profits

Mutual aid segues nicely into faith communities and other nonprofits. The first one is Walker Community UMC (United Methodist Church). The UMC is the very antithesis of united right now, to be honest. Walker Church is playing a waiting game on that, and also working on its eventual relationship between its beloved community, the ever-changing panoply of

awesome tenants, and its official congregation.

One of the other communities is both one of those partner-tenants in the Walker building, and also another UMC: New City, which has been in the building for a few years now. Both congregations are only meeting virtually, or outside. The food mission in that building remains primary. Walker never missed a beat on the Tuesday meals (takeout since last March) and grocery distro. And, now, a "politically-inclined" mutual-aid kitchen that emerged from the uprising is also using the space. New City has a larger, younger, even queerer and even more environmentally-committed member-

ship and provides huge good energy.

The third church is somewhat more traditional but far from stodgy, and very working-class and immigrant-friendly. This is the St. Paul's ELCA Church at 15th Avenue and 28th Street. Besides having a sizable, young, mostly Spanish-speaking congregation, St. Paul's has hosted a community program and an arts program for years, and has often collaborated with its neighbor In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre.

The last one is another young, non-traditional church but independent 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 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

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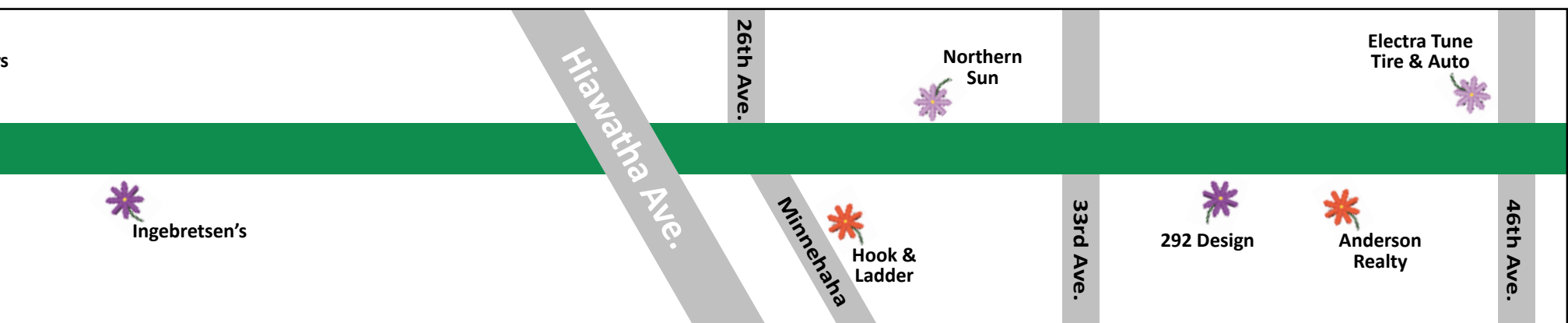
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8

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April 2021





# g on Lake Street

tion 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 Salvadoreño 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 one already open—Arepa Bar, in the old Mama D's space, and one "Coming soon" to the old Holy Land space, Oasis Middle Eastern Foods.

There have been a few more departures, and a few more new busi-

nesses, 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, take-out and delivery.



Artifacts at the Somali Museum on Lake Street

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# 9th Ward candidates

BY DAVE TILSEN

Ninth Ward City Council Member Alondra Cano has decided not to seek reelection. As we have done in the past, Southside Pride was thinking about hosting a candidate forum. But there are other groups planning forums, <https://fb.me/e/3urzdqKEN>, for example. There are five candidates seeking the DFL endorsement and I have thought that restricting candidates to two-minute answers to complicated policy questions, and three-minute introductions and biographies was unsatisfactory. The real world is complicated, nuanced, and council members don't make decisions on two-minute answers. Instead, I decided to interview all five candidates on Zoom with the opportunity to answer questions more in depth.

I will give some impressions in this article, but the meat of the messages will be in a video that I have edited from the five one-hour interviews. I encourage you to watch them, they

are fun, intelligent, enlightening and hopeful.

We are blessed. The 9th Ward (Phillips, Powderhorn and a small strip of Longfellow) has five people that have put themselves forward who will teach you, will make you care and will challenge us all to try to make the world better. I found the experience of talking to them fulfilling, and I believe I have made some new friends.

## The candidates are:

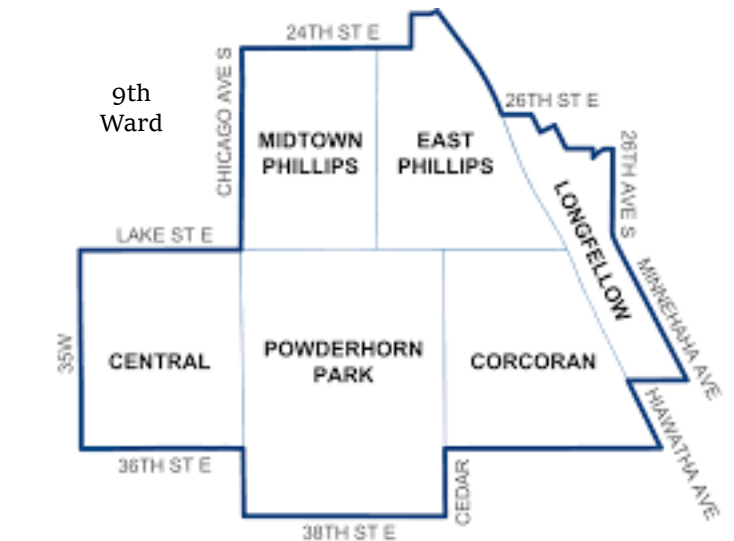
**\*Carmen Means** ([carmen-forward9.com](http://carmen-forward9.com)), an articulate student of history. A proud Black woman who is angry about the killing of George Floyd and is committed to making things better. She talks with knowledge and passion about economic exploitation and the need for the community to take power, and through its power, govern and protect itself.

**\*Haji Yussuf**, an East African father of four. He is worried about the safety of his

children. He believes the police represent a danger to his children, and all the children in the city. He was inspired to political activism by Paul Wellstone and says he aspires to be the Black Wellstone, or the immigrant Wellstone. He briefly ran for Congress last year before endorsing Ilhan Omar. He ran to have a platform for his message, a message of inclusion and change.

**\*Jason Chavez** ([jason-chavez.org](http://jason-chavez.org)), at 25 years old the youngest of the five candidates. Born and raised in Phillips in the 9th Ward, he tells of growing up with toxic soil, ineffective government, abusive police and a loving family. Since graduating from St. Scholastica in Duluth, he has been working at the state legislature for progressive officials and committees. He currently works for Mohamud Noor, whose district includes part of the 9th Ward. He has been chair of the Young DFL, and was a strong supporter of Omar Fateh's successful Senate race last year.

**\*Rita Ortega** ([ritaforward9.com](http://ritaforward9.com)), a lifelong resident of Phillips and Little Earth Housing Project, is the only candidate that has City Hall experience. As a former policy aide to current 9th Ward Council Member Alondra Cano, she highlights her experience in how things work, her knowledge of the system, and familiarity with the people. She has had a life full of activism and commitment. She is part of the Little Earth Patrols that protect her community and tells a dramatic story of turning away



the National Guard from traveling down Cedar Avenue last spring. She talked about her vision for a better city government, and said that citizens need to channel their hurt and anger into constructive directions.

**\*AJ Flowers** ([ajforward9.com](http://ajforward9.com)), grew up around activists, fighters for justice here in Minneapolis. Mr. Flowers does not support abolition or defunding of the police. He is a supporter of Chief Arradondo and believes we can achieve accountability through reform. He believes that unsheltered people need to be able to camp in the park, he also believes that the needs for a safe place for children to go for recreation must be addressed. He

wants peace, and believes that divisive triggering actions are not helpful.

I was impressed with all of the candidates, but the real question is who would make the best City Council member. All of them bring commitment, passion and intelligence to the job. I am persuaded the best of this excellent group is Rita Ortega. Her organizational experience, her cultural sensitivity, her City Hall experience and her grit and belief in the community has tipped the scales in her direction for me.

Your mileage may vary.

See a candidate forum at <https://youtu.be/5T56nLvP-9mw>

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## Bouza, from page 1

but not before his depredations caused 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.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## 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 resi-

dental 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 Lynedale 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.

## Ward 10 Candidate Steven J. Frich

I wanted to thank you for covering the Ward 10 City Council race and mentioning my positions in the column in the March 2021 edition that just came out. I did just want to ask that in future articles my name is spelled correctly and my platform is stated accurately. My name is Steven J. Frich and Mr. Tilsen wrote that I advocate for a \$15 minimum wage, but I've been advocating for a \$25 minimum wage. I really appreciate you taking the time to cover me in this race.

Thanks,  
Steven J. Frich  
www.StevenForWard10.com

## Torment, from page 1

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 im-

mediately 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 stool 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.

—Phil Willkie



## Passages of Rebellion

"Fran Shor has created a debut novel that not only tells the story of the birth of a radical antiwar activist through the life of Frank Goodman, but he has constructed a literary time machine back to a decade of rebellion, lost innocence, and the struggle for change and hope." - Marly Rusoff, a founder of the Loft Literary Center

"Passage of Rebellion." Available from Smart Set Printing, 1209 Tyler St. N.E. Suite 100, Mpls 55413 for \$10 cash.



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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride / POWDERHORN EDITION

### EVENTS

#### Safe Place: Homework Help

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#### Pankake Poetry featuring Deborah Keenan

Wednesday, April 7, 4 to 5 p.m. Online

Join the University of Minnesota Libraries for the 12th annual Pankake Poetry reading featuring poet Deborah Keenan, the

author of 10 collections of poetry. Her book, "Willow Room, Green Door: New and Selected Poems," received the Minnesota Book Award for Poetry. Following the reading, there will be a discussion with Keenan led by James Lenfestey. Free online event. Please make a reservation to receive the Zoom event link. <https://www.continuum.umn.edu/event/pankake-poetry-featuring-deborah-keenan/>.

#### Freddie—Break Free: A Ballet in the Making

Thursday, April 8, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Online

Join the artists of "Freddie—Break Free"

for a behind-the-scenes documentary surrounding the creative process of this new rock ballet. Get a glimpse at rehearsal footage, filmed at the Ballet Co.Laboratory studios prior to COVID-19, along with interviews with artists and more. Registration for this virtual showing ends two hours before the show begins. A ticket from this event will give you access to a virtual stream for this show. Your generosity supports the artists! Consider supporting other free dance programming opportunities at The Cowles Center by donating. You can register for FREE at <https://www.thecowlescenter.org/tickets/freddie-break-free-a-ballet-in-the-making>.

all four hours. Even if you can't join us on April 11 you can still participate in this effort by visiting the Mississippi River at a time that fits your schedule. Just make sure to input your data into the debris tracker app by Sunday, April 25, 2021. Please register at <https://unamn.org/2021/03/29/mississippi-river-clean-up-and-data-collection-sun-april-11-1200-400-pm/>.

#### Hear Their Voices – Discover the Leadership of Native American Women

Monday, April 12, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Via Zoom

From the Creation Story to contemporary life, Native American women have greatly influenced the lives of their people. Anishinaabe writer, enrolled member of the Bois Forte Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, and UMD professor of American Indian Studies, Linda LeGarde Grover will illustrate the key roles women have had in the history of Native American people and are having now – for all – in our contemporary world. This St. Frances Cabrini Tegeder Talk event will take place via Zoom on April 12, from 7 to 8:30 p.m., and will present a history not included in most textbooks. Please register here: [www.cabrinimn.org/tegeder-talk-signup](http://www.cabrinimn.org/tegeder-talk-signup). This Zoom event will be recorded and eventually will be available on the Cabrini Tegeder Talks YouTube page.

#### Celebration of Douglas Kearney's 'Sho'

Monday, April 12, 4:30 p.m. Online

Join us for a celebration of University of Minnesota Assistant Professor Douglas Kearney's new poetry collection, "Sho" (Wave Books). Kearney will be in conversation with poet and scholar Evie Shockley. "SHO is raucous theater, a party whose rhythms contain a meditation on what it means to have a body in public space," says NPR. Presented by the Department of English and the English EDI Graduate Workshops, at the University of Minnesota. More info

and a link to register can be found here: [https://umn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_R1FeIJJS82EGv\\_odwHHBA](https://umn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_R1FeIJJS82EGv_odwHHBA).

#### Sara Kamali presents 'Homegrown Hate' in conversation with Alexander Reid Ross

Wednesday, April 14, 5 p.m. Online

"Homegrown Hate" is a groundbreaking and deeply researched work that directly compares White nationalists and militant Islamists in the United States. In this timely book, scholar and holistic justice activist Sara Kamali examines these Americans' self-described beliefs, grievances, and rationales for violence, and details their organizational structures within a transnational context. To watch, tune in to the Magers & Quinn Facebook page or YouTube channel on April 14. <https://www.facebook.com/magersand-quinnbooksellers>

#### Kashimana: A One-On-One Concert with Music in Minnesota on The Cedar Public Access Channel

Thursday, April 15, 7:30 p.m. Online

Next up on The Cedar Public Access Channel, singer-songwriter and composer Kashimana performs a short set of songs at The Cedar as part of Music in Minnesota's series of one-on-one performances. As a way to highlight audience members' love of live music and the empty state of many venues, Music in Minnesota created a concert and interview series where one lucky audience member won the opportunity to see local musicians perform live. In this time of waiting for venues to reopen, we're excited to share Kashimana's soulful performance for audience member Andrea Buekelman recorded earlier in March - we hope these songs help spread some of the magic of hearing music from The Cedar stage. All Cedar Public Access Channel programs will be available for free with a suggested donation of \$10 to cover the costs of the program. You can

## BREAK THE CYCLE ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE



### Enough Is Enough:

A 150-Year Performance Review of the Minneapolis Police Department

[www.MPD150.com](http://www.MPD150.com)

#### Mississippi River Clean Up and Data Collection

Sunday, April 11, noon to 4 p.m. Hidden Falls Regional Park

Join our Citizen Science initiative to track and collect plastics and other debris on our beautiful Mississippi River! In conjunction with the City of St. Paul, Mississippi River Plastic Pollution Initiative and the United Nations Environment Programme we are excited to host an afternoon of citizen data collection and clean-up of plastic litter and other debris from the banks of the Mississippi River. The data collected will be used to generate a "plastic pollution map" that will help policy makers, business and citizens create a cleaner, sustainable tomorrow and help keep our rivers and seas clean. If possible download the Debris Tracker App to prepare for the day. More information can be found at <https://debristracker.org>. Please note: MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED when interacting with UNA-MN members and volunteers. Trash bags will be provided. What to expect: When you arrive, training will be provided so data collection is clear and easy. At the end of the collection, simply leave the trash bag at the training site and the City will pick it up. We welcome you to stay for any amount of time, whether it be for a half-hour or



## POWDERHORN EDITION

Southside Pride Powderhorn Edition is a monthly community newspaper delivered on the First Monday of the month for free to convenient locations in and around the Powderhorn community. We are proud of the racial and cultural diversity of the Southside, and we oppose racism and other efforts to keep us apart as a community.

If you want to share some news of your church, school or organization, please write us at:

### Southside Pride

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email us at [editor@southsidepride.com](mailto:editor@southsidepride.com)  
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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride / POWDERHORN EDITION

tune in through The Cedar's Facebook or YouTube.  
Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/thecedar/>  
YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/MadeofCedar>

**Coming to the Table: Racial Healing Talking Circles and Learning Sessions**  
**Saturday, April 17, 10:30 a.m. to noon**  
**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](mailto:info@mnpeace.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 neuropsychology, 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>.

**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 cohousing 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](http://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.

#### Mary Ann Key Book Club

A collaboration with the Star Tribune, Hennepin County Library, and colum-

nist Myron Medcalf. The Mary Ann Key Book Club invites you to participate in a shared, focused reading experience on themes of race, racism, and antiracism. Hennepin County Library will host facilitated discussions and programs to engage residents in conversations about the truths of the past, our challenges in the present and the possibilities of the future. The book club is a catalyst for conversation as we attempt to better understand past and current injustices - including systemic racism, other forms of discrimination, and bias that affects marginalized communities. The club's first selection is "Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents" by Isabel Wilkerson. The book describes racism in the United States as an aspect of a caste system - a society-wide system of social stratification characterized by notions such as hierarchy, inclusion and exclusion, and purity. Wilkerson compares aspects of the experience of American people of color to the caste systems of India and Nazi Germany, and she explores the impact of caste on societies shaped by them, and their people. For more information on how to join, and to request a copy of the book from the library, go to <https://www.hclib.org/programs/books-reading/mary-ann-key-book-club>.

#### 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 close-up 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/RIqfdd\\_0aBI](https://youtu.be/RIqfdd_0aBI).

#### 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 films in our Virtual Cinema:

**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 fantasyland, four residents of America's largest retirement community, The Villages, Fla., strive to find solace and meaning.

**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 system.

**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, home-made, zany, creative, weird and often downright hilarious: The Sweded Film Festival offers fan-made, five-minute versions of some of 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).



## Resilient Yards, Flowering Bee Lawns and Planting for Pollinators: 2021 Blue Thumb Workshops teach greener yard practices

Today more and more lawns include low-growing flowers like Dutch white clover, self-heal and violets. Often called "bee lawns," they provide food for pollinators and generally don't need the same care to stay healthy as more traditional lawns. Bee Lawns, Resilient Yards and Planting for Pollinators are the topics in this year's Blue Thumb DIY workshops, where people can get ideas for strengthening their yard while protecting the environment.

The workshops are geared towards helping people create resilience in their yard so they can better "weather" severe heat and heavy downpours. Choosing plants wisely and knowing where to put them can provide shade and help cool a yard. Raingardens and other plantings soak in rainwater that would otherwise flow into storm sewers that empty polluted water into our lakes and streams. A resilient yard is also full of life; planted with well-chosen native plants, it provides important habitat for pollinators and other wildlife.

"Even the smallest of plantings can play a pivotal role in conservation. We want to encourage people to think critically about how they use their landscape. Where do they play? How does water move through their yard? A strategically sited planting, no matter how small, can help improve local water quality, provide food for countless critters like bees and butterflies, and beautify our communities," says bee lawn expert James Wolfin, an entomologist and the sustainable landcare manager for Metro Blooms, Blue Thumb's non-profit parent.

In all, Blue Thumb offers three different workshops for 2021. Resilient Yards covers raingardens, alternatives to turf lawns, trees, native plantings and more. Bee Lawns is a "how-to" on converting a traditional lawn into a flowering bee lawn. Planting for Pollinators offers planting practices that benefit pollinators and the environment, with insights on pollinators in Minnesota.

Staff from Metro Blooms, Blue Thumb's parent organization, lead the workshops, which start in March. Each workshop costs \$15 unless otherwise noted. Scholarships are available on request. More information and registration details can be found at <https://bluethumb.org/events/> or by leaving a message at 651-699-2426. Presentations will be recorded for registrants who are not able to attend.

El taller de JardinesResistentes (Resilient Yards) también estará disponible en español. Visita [bluethumb.org/events](https://bluethumb.org/events) para registrarte.

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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.

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



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

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 lan-

**Bryan Ring, from page 1**

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 economics. 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 son 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

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.

olis 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.



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

The incumbent Fifth District park commissioner, Stephanie 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 Avenue 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—



Charles Rodgers

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 Phil-

lips 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 the plan stalled on a 4 to 4 vote with one abstention. But there's little doubt that the Swamp Monsters will keep trying.

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?

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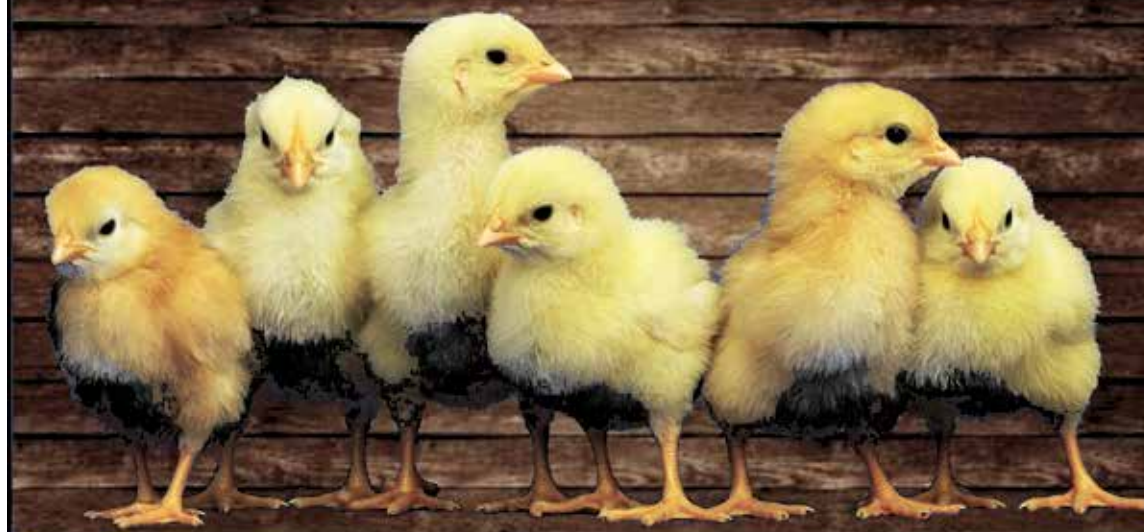
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