



We build Pride on the Southside

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The Stenvig Years



BY TONY BOUZA

Nostalgia is morbid homesickness. We are all susceptible.

Take, for example, the Stenvig Years.

The Seventies. Charles Stenvig, the president of the police union, got elected mayor three times for two-year terms, almost explicitly on the premise he'd control Black riots.

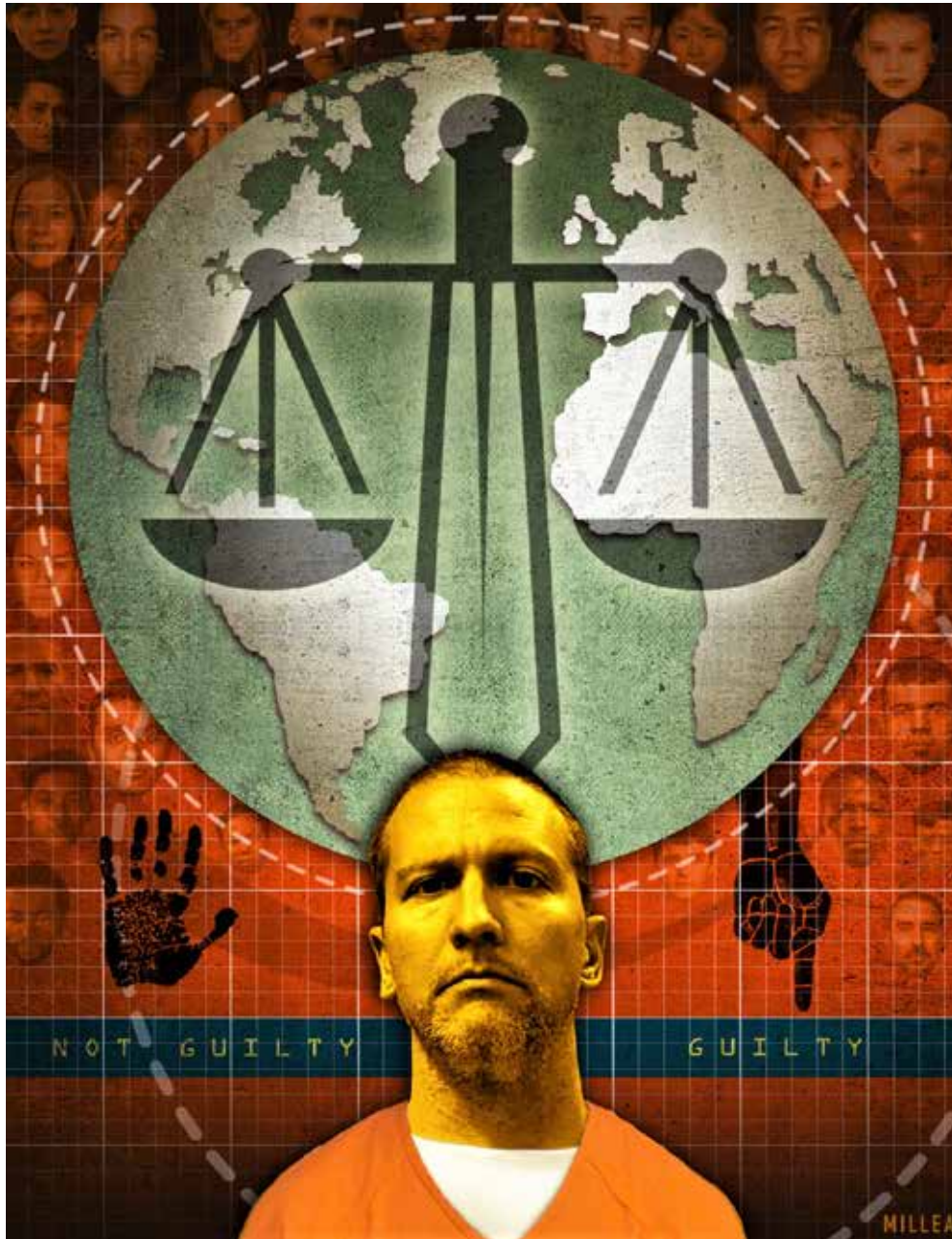
The echoes I hear are of a reasonably harmless, lovable buffoon.

That is not the view I developed.

Gordy Johnson, one of the three Stenvig police chiefs, died in March. He was described as having "initiated 911." This is not true. 911 came to Minnesota in 1983 after I, with help, finally managed it. A heavy lift with surprising opposition, including St. Paul's then police chief. I had to visit him to stifle his opposition.

Success has many fathers. Failure is an orphan. In 1980, 911 was not a popular idea in Minnesota, except for a very few believers.

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The Verdict

BY ED FELIEN

Guilty!

Guilty, as judged by the whole world.

Everyone saw what happened. Millions watched 17-year-old Darnella Frazier's iPhone video of Derek Chauvin squeezing the life out of George Floyd.

The world was outraged.

And local politicians acted surprised.

Mayor Frey said, "That there will be Black Minneapolis residents and Minnesotans left stunned, suspended in disbelief that the jury actually delivered this moment for George Floyd—that reality speaks volumes to the trauma our society has inflicted both quietly and overtly. Ours is a deeply imperfect city—one with its work cut out for it—but as a people we have never

been so completely committed to doing that work." Really, Jacob Frey?

Last year, in the May editions of Southside Pride, I wrote to the mayor and City Council:

"On April 29, the Minneapolis City Council agreed to begin paying out more than a million dollars rather than challenge the civil lawsuit against Officer Lucas Peterson for the wrong-

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Walk a mile in our shoes

BY SOREN STEVENSON & DON WILLIAMS

This time the police killing was in Brooklyn Center. Last time it was Minneapolis, and before that Robbinsdale. Long before any of these, a man was beaten to death by police in Hibbing. The train of killings is widespread and storied, yet people who haven't lived the experience of having a family member killed by police just don't seem to understand.

Understanding other people's experience is hard. It is something that children aren't born with the ability to do and is a lifelong learning process for most. But just because you haven't lived something or just because it didn't happen to you doesn't mean it's not true. Those of us who have direct experience with police brutality have run into this denial of lived experience in its most virulent fashion. Our neighbors have persistently wounded us, the families of those who were killed, with their words in the process of justifying our loved ones' murders. We attribute the shameful behavior of our neighbors to police narratives that neglect to accurately represent the situ-



ation that precipitated the deaths, and to the media that almost without fail has accepted and parroted these false stories.

Sadly, our community has taken the polite, yet inaccurate, police narrative and released the most disgusting bile toward the families of the slain. These comments from the community range from horribly racist to objectively inhumane. Family members are subjected to

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Tragedy upon tragedy

BY SAFIYO MOHAMED

One of the tragedies of 2020 was the killing of George Floyd. George Floyd's murder, caught on video, was one of the worst police killings that America has ever witnessed. I couldn't imagine this happening in America where I believe the vast majority of people respect human life and dignity. The police officer put his knee on George Floyd's neck for a full 9 minutes and 29 seconds. While Floyd fought for his life, the officer continued to kneel on his neck, and eventually murdered him.

The next day after he was killed, I was one of the many people gathered in the street where he died even though I knew any of us could be the next victim. And because he was killed in a way that no human being would ever wish, even for their worst enemy, our outrage was magnified. I was mourning as if he was one of my loved ones and I still get emotional whenever I hear his name or see the video of his murder. His death touched me so deeply, and I believe his death touched people's hearts around the world; in fact, it will change how policing is done.

The next day I intended to go grocery shopping on Lake Street, but when I arrived, Wendy's, the police precinct and Autozone were on fire. It was like a war zone. I was surprised and scared to see angry

people burning, destroying and looting the nearby stores. I could see people running away from Target and Cub Foods on Minnehaha Avenue with food, milk, clothes and many more items.

Even though most protesters were peaceful, there were others who were taking advantage of the situation and disrupted the gathering, which twisted what the general public thought of those who only wanted justice for George Floyd. Police were violent toward the protesters and were pepper-spraying them. Maybe the police were scared, maybe they were attempting to protect themselves, but ultimately the police triggered more angry violence and chaos.

All the grocery stores and pharmacies near my area were burnt down or destroyed, so I had to go to other cities in order to buy what I needed despite being told to stay home because we were under curfew. Police for one reason or another abandoned South Minneapolis, so some merciless people took advantage of the situation and broke into neighborhood homes to rob and harm residents. Many residents close to the Lake Street area had to flee for their safety, which reminded me of the civil war in Somalia. Civil unrest and societal breakdown can happen anywhere and to anyone. Even though you have peace today, tomorrow might be different. We need to cherish peace and

stability, not take it for granted. If you have difficulty relating to this, it might be hard for you to understand, but you are one of the few fortunate ones in this world.

The city of Minneapolis became a ghost town and unrecognizable within a few days, ashes and burnt buildings could be seen on every street. Small business owners, mostly immigrants, lost everything they had struggled to build for such a long time. The situation was so out of control. Yet, we could see people, no matter their race and color, coming together to mourn and help each other. There was love between the communities of Minnesota. Grocery bags and food were left on the streets for the people who

were impacted. This shows me how similar we are when tragedy happens.

While these small businesses are still trying to recover from the 2020 unrest, Daunte Wright became yet another victim of a police killing. Small businesses around Seward Market and Lake Street areas in Minneapolis are once again the victims of looting and vandalism. One close friend of mine, a Somali business owner, had opened his business less than a year ago near Seward Market. He closed his store at 9 p.m., April 12, and went to his house nearby. A few minutes later, a friend called to inform him his store was being looted. He said he ran there, but it was too late. Shattered glass was strewn

all over the floor; his business computers and everything else were broken. He had put all his efforts into building this business, which is his only income, and now it's gone, leaving him in a precarious situation with a complicated insurance policy. This is one of many stories of Somali businesses that have been looted or vandalized in Minneapolis as a byproduct of unreasonable police brutality. With the conviction of Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd, we have reason to hope for change. We can anticipate being safe and able to shop in our own neighborhood; we can foresee better days ahead for our community.

Shoes, from page 1

comments like this on social media:

"That guy is a f***ing criminal. They should have taken out his whole family!"

This inevitably leaks into the schools, where children of murdered fathers hear:

"My dad thinks your dad deserved to die and wishes the cops killed your mom with him. I think that too!"

And if the families of the murdered go to the streets to protest for change, we later read:

"I'm ready for some Tiananmen Square s***, otherwise f*** these people."

And when, without cause, I was shot by a rubber bullet and lost my eye, a woman said to my face:

"If you didn't misbehave you wouldn't have gotten hurt."

It came out just last week that police flying helicopters in Los Angeles were openly talking about wanting to douse protestors in aviation fuel and light them on fire. Unfortunately, this is a sentiment shared by many in our own community.

People saying horrible things about one another is an unfortunate phenomenon in life,

but our community has been primed to say these things by the way that the police have hidden the truth around deadly force incidents. The way that the police and uncritical media have controlled the narrative about police killings has created an environment where people could reasonably believe that police misconduct does not exist. George Floyd's family is getting a trial of his killers because bystanders videoed what happened and people protested en masse. Had his killing gone unrecorded and had the police been allowed to tailor the story as they saw fit, we would not be seeing this trial nor would President Biden and every major company in America have validated the worth of George Floyd's life. That national outcry would instead be replaced with comments demeaning that very same worth. We can assert this confidently because our loved ones have been maligned for years, languishing in the public discourse without widely accessible video. There have been over 400 police killings in Minnesota in the past 20 years, but the official and public response has only once before cast the victim in such a favorable light. Of those 400

killings, there have only been four trials for the officers involved.

Given the untrustworthiness of the police narrative and the inhumanity of certain community members, the families of the slain are calling for a vital change in state law to give them even footing in the contest for truth. We need all the body and car cam footage from critical incidents released to the families within 48 hours of the incident. Kobe's Bill, named after an autistic man that was shot at his home in Brooklyn Center, proposes just this. Evidence and visibility are vital if families are to effectively advocate for a trial like Minnesotans were able to do for George Floyd. For too long the police have had a stranglehold over the narrative of the killings they commit. Minnesota families who know better are calling on the legislature to give them the information they need to set the record straight.

Soren Stevenson was shot with a rubber bullet and lost his left eye last summer. Don Williams is the grandfather of Brian Quinones who was killed by police in Richfield in 2019.

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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 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 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 a laugh, is outgoing and

friendly and prefers "engagement over convenience." He likes being on a first name basis with merchants in the community and points out, "You can't get that at Wendy's." In the face of multiple tragedies, as some of these neighbors lost everything, alliances became stronger. The partnerships came together to raise funds. For example, Peppers & Fries donated 15 percent of sales over six Fridays to St. Albert's, which helps fund WE 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 Irish poet Seamus He-



Father Joe

aney, "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.

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Verdict, from page 1

ful death of Terrance Franklin. "Your refusal to hold Lucas Peterson accountable for his actions in the murder of Terrance Franklin continues to legitimize the racist murders of young black men by our Minneapolis Police Department. Lucas Peterson's obvious lies were impossible to believe, and the city will pay out \$975,000 to Franklin's father and another \$250,000 to the law firm hired by the city to cover up this disgrace and you still refuse to hold him or the other officers involved in this tragedy accountable."

In March of 2020 Council President Lisa Bender said, "I think our policy changes in the police department, leadership changes, have really created a scenario where this is unlikely to happen again, so I think it's time to move forward and really continue with the changes that we're making in the police department to make sure this never happens again."

Really, Lisa Bender? But those who refuse to learn from history are doomed to repeat it, and in May Derek Chauvin killed George Floyd because he believed, like Lucas Peterson, that he could get

away with it. Council Member Phillipe Cunningham, the chair of the Public Safety Committee that has responsibility for holding the police accountable, joined in the chorus: "As a city we have to work together to build systems of public safety and justice that work for all of us and keep all of us safe. Everyone in our community deserves to be safe."

Really, Phillipe Cunningham? I have written to Cunningham, "the public support for and credibility of the MPD will not be restored until the Department seriously investigates the behavior of Officer Lucas Peterson in the murder of Terrance Franklin," and requested an interview, and he has refused to answer me.

I contacted Attorney General Keith Ellison's office and they told me they only investigate actions of Minnesota law enforcement officers at the request of the governor. So, I wrote to the governor and to his press secretary, Teddy Tschann:

"Seven years ago, Terrance Franklin was killed in a basement in South Minneapolis. This year the City of Minneapolis did not contest a wrongful

death suit brought by Franklin's heirs in which they claim Franklin was killed by Officers Lucas Peterson and Michael Meath while he had his arms up and was trying to surrender. I am attaching the attorney's brief and my history of the event as it happened seven years ago.

"The Hennepin County attorney declined to prosecute the officers seven years ago. It is critical, if justice is to be served in this matter, that the governor ask the attorney general to investigate this case."

Of course, I received no answer. After the Chauvin verdict Walz said:

"Our communities of color cannot go on like this. Our police officers cannot go on like this. Our state simply cannot go on like this. And the only way it will change is through systemic reform.

"We must rebuild, restore, and reimagine the relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve. We must tackle racial inequalities in every corner of society— from health to home ownership to education. We must come together around our common humanity."

Really, Tim Walz?

Isn't this just some political trick to propose a few outlandish ideas to win back some of the progressives you lost with your overreaction to the demonstrations when you called out the National Guard? You know the Republicans in the Senate are going to block any proposals you make that would represent real systemic change. Are you just doing this to have an issue you can use against them next year when the governor, the House and the Senate are up for re-election?

Jordan Kushner has written on the Minneapolis Issues Forum: "The Chauvin trial and the upcoming trials are not about changing or reforming the police—THEY ARE ABOUT PROTECTING THE STATUS QUO."

I would add to that, all the theatrical posturing about reforming the police and changing the structure would only make lines of accountability even more remote and end up making the police even less accountable. It's not just about protecting the status quo. It's about making the status quo impenetrable.

There's nothing wrong with the structures that exist right now. If only our elected offi-

cials would have the courage and the will to use them.

The City Council could hold hearings and discover the facts about what happened in the police killing of Terrance Franklin, and in the even more recent police killings of Jamar Clark and Thurman Blevins and Travis Jordan. The mayor could demand that Chief Aradondo explain whether his officers observed protocol in killing these young Black men. And the governor could request that Attorney General Keith Ellison investigate these killings to see if criminal charges should be brought against the officers involved. These actions wouldn't require any new ordinances or legislation, they would simply require the willingness of our elected officials to discharge their proper responsibilities.

The U.S. Justice Department is launching an investigation of the Minneapolis Police Department to see if there is a culture of systemic racism. I'm sure they'll find something, and I'm sure the mayor and City Council will act shocked and vow to change things, and I'm not confident that much will actually change.

Leadership

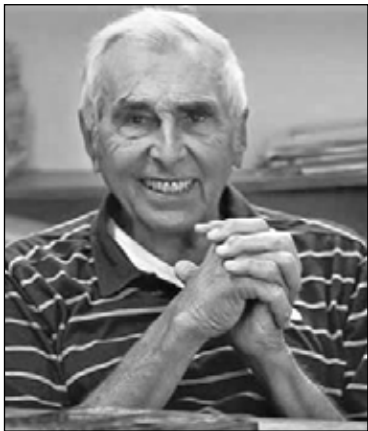
BY TONY BOUZA

In the English history of man the wise (Homo sapiens) there has never been even one who didn't consider him(her)self a national leader. It might tempt you to ask—then where are all those cockups coming from?

People—leadership is in short supply.

Just looking at our last few years together renders the vista of hundreds of thousands of deaths—mostly preventable and unnecessary. And all in the service of an inherited economy and its momentum. And a mask-less life.

Leadership is morally neutral—as likely to produce Hit-



ler as Gandhi. It connotes power and requires skill. Crises should not be wasted. We've just been through four years of what appalling leadership can produce.

A scientific, disciplined and logical approach would have spared countless lives and illnesses. Our wartime leaders usually had the excuse that they were doing their best and hadn't—usually—provoked the bloodshed in the first place.

Look around.

How do you get effective leadership?

Amazingly that's what capitalism is really all about. Produce or perish. The bottom line. Nobody cares that the chief has all the virtues of an Eagle Scout.

Our companies are well led. Our governments are champion featherbedders. How come? The former are capitalisms and the latter are socialisms.

Nuclear science and brain surgery combined, right?

I'll risk gross immodesty and admit I actively and energetically sought leadership skills. Why?

Out of desperation. I had failed at everything. Perhaps management's the answer? The only thing I hadn't tried. What do managers do?

Leaders move organizations toward the realization of objectives through making decisions, outlining objectives, budgeting, writing, even public speaking and the generic virtues associated with leading the pack.

We have, nationally, just witnessed the results and costs of inept and dishonest leadership. The man has made us experts at such evaluations. Pardon me for withholding thanks. Staggering, really, to

think that, maybe, of the more than half a million deaths, three-fourths might have been spared had effective leadership been applied.

I live in an amazingly managed geezer-land.

We had a rigorous, enforced and widespread lock-down from the pandemic's earliest stages. Vaccinations were done early. The entire staff was engaged and pleasant. No recorded infections.

The leader of all this is a lady not embarrassed to wield a broom, lift heavy furniture, swab toilets or elevators or prepare informative memos.

Jennifer Volkenant will never have a statue as a memorial, but there are people alive and walking about because of her.

Brava!

Register to vote—again?

THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES ABOUT THE 2021 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNEAPOLIS.

Believe it or not, 2021 is an election year in Minneapolis—a very important election year. The mayor and every City Council seat will be on the ballot in addition to members of the Park Board and the Board of Estimate and Taxation. There may also be proposed amendments to the City Charter that could affect policing and the structure of city government.

Do you need to register to vote? Maybe.

You are eligible to vote in Minneapolis if you are a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age on election day, a resident of Minneapolis for at least 20 days and have finished all parts of any felony sentence.

You need to register if you have 1) moved or changed your name since the last election, or 2) not voted in the past four years. You can register to vote when you renew your Minnesota Driver's License or State ID and you do NOT have to declare party affiliation.

You can CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION STATUS here:

<https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/VoterStatus.aspx>

If you are not currently registered to vote, but you qualify, you can register online or download a paper form which is available in 12 languages. If you or someone you know has a question or needs assistance, call the City of Minneapolis Help Line: 311.

Remember: Your VOTE is your VOICE and every eligible voter has the right to be heard. Democracy depends on it. Learn more at www.lwvmppls.org.

Rita has dropped out of the race

BY DAVID TILSEN

Margarita (Rita) Ortega announced that she is leaving the race for City Council in the 9th Ward. This is a vacant seat left by Alondra Cano's decision to not seek re-election.

Ms. Ortega has been a lifetime resident of the 9th Ward, mostly in the Little Earth housing project. She has been a community organizer working to better the lives of low-in-

come people, an organizer of patrols in Little Earth, and a policy aide to Alondra Cano. She was a strong candidate, considered by many to be the front runner.

She said in an email to supporters that a medical procedure went dangerously awry and has required two surgeries in the past week with more in her future. She said that she needs to prioritize her health at this time. Southside

Pride wishes her healing and strength and urges all to send her healthy energy.

Remaining in the race for the DFL endorsement are Al (AJ) Flowers, Haji Yussuf, Carmen Means and Jason Chavez. You can view interviews with all the candidates in the Virtual Campaign forum produced by Southside Pride. <https://youtu.be/5T56nLvP9mw>.

Bouza, from page 1

Why should it matter? Because of the risk of repetition.

Homophobia—in the form of gay bathhouse raids—was rampant. The last such was on 2/10/80. I was sworn in the next day and bounced the Vice Squad commander—a consummate bully—and his boss—a tittering idiot.

History demands truth.

Stenvig launched the most corrosive spoils system ever seen in American policing. Cronies and political hacks were richly rewarded. Johnson was one of three prime examples. I got to know them all since they returned to the ranks—as captains—when Stenvig gave way to Hofstede. I had occasion to deal harshly with all three.

All pretty harmless ancient history, right?

Wrong.

Gays were harassed and abused. Blacks were routinely brutalized and any thoughts of effective policing buried under the weight of political expediency.

Stenvig gave way to Donald Fraser (not directly, but certainly cause and effect).

Consider it.

Does it matter?

Do you care if Blacks are harassed; gays paraded obscenely; or legitimate issues ignored? This is what bad governing looks like. To be fair, the department was not corrupt—only racist, brutal and homophobic.

Could George Floyd have happened under Fraser? It didn't and it wouldn't.

The Gordy Johnsons and their ilk are wonderful reminders that governing does matter; truth is relevant; spoils systems and cronyism in government are real and truly harmful.

Bad governments are costing you (every person in the city) about \$70 apiece for the Floyd case, and then there's the Damond case, and on and on. Thank God you've got deep pockets.

Stenvig and Johnson are gone but not forgotten. They are not ancient history but surprisingly contemporary and relevant. Floyd, Damond, et alia, are stark illustrations of how rarely we escape history.

How comforting they're gone—but metempsychosis teaches us that their spirits live on in Minneapolis—to its citizens' eternal shame and regret.

Today we face a genuine crossroads—chaos or order. The future is not bright. Minneapolis looks like a community that has lost its way. The costs are high and the consequences daunting.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Getting it right

Thank you, Southside Pride, for showing a picture of Chief Arradondo on the front page of your April edition. Thank you for quoting Chief Arradondo regarding his words at the Derek Chauvin trial: "It's not part of our training, and it is certainly not part of our ethics and our values." For many years, I have served in a volunteer capacity on neighborhood committees and also committees that meet with our police chiefs and precinct commanders. It is my belief that Chief Dolan, Chief Harteau and, most importantly, our current Chief Arradondo believes that "It's not part of our training, and it is certainly not part of our ethics and our values."

Thank you, Southside Pride, for being an important and frank voice in our community.

Kindly,
Doris Overby

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 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



EVENTS

Blessed Ramadan Signs

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/>.

Publishing for Christian Writers Wednesday, May 5, noon

Are you looking to publish your faith writing? Agent, editor, and writer Je- von Bolden joins author Ellie Roscher in a discussion about the business of Christian publishing. They will address your discernment about working with an agent, the query process and how explicit you should be about your faith in writing. Register online at <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/event/publishing-for-christian-writers/>.

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: Third Saturday of each month Depolarizing Within : Fourth Saturday of each month Skills for Bridging the Divide: 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/1fe7cba432dc4f9d890cf-b13a05c4604>.

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.

New Homes, New Hopes We at the Minnesota Council of

Churches are once again heading to the airport, welcoming individuals and families with refugee status to new beginnings in Minnesota. With the promised increase of refugee arrival numbers by May 15, we are rebuilding for welcome. We are in need of the following items to prepare their homes: liquid hand soap pumps, deodorant – both men’s and women’s, bar soap, men’s shaving cream, men’s disposable razors, toothpaste, standard size bed pillows – must be new, electric alarm clocks, large cooking pots with lids, stockpots. For more information, or to arrange a COVID-safe drop-off, please contact rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org.

Minneapolis Friends Meeting (Quaker)

4401 York Ave. S., Mpls. Minneapolis Friends Meeting is looking forward to spring, and joining in silent worship together, in person, as the weather warms and pandemic subsides. We continue to monitor health concerns to determine when this can be done safely. Meanwhile, we gather online. Worship Sundays, 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. (with planned speaker). Other online activities include: Mid-morning program Sundays at 10:15 a.m., with a discussion of various social and spiritual concerns. First Day School for youth, and get-togethers that include Lectio Divina, a writing group, and other activities to help keep our community connected. Office email: office@minneapolis-friends.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.saintalbert-thegreat.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.first-freechurch.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.messiahlutheranmpls.org. Each week we video services, viewable anytime, please join us! Visit our website for online devotions and bulletins.

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church

4101 37th Ave. S., Mpls. <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.

New Creation Baptist Church

1414 E. 48th St., Mpls. Sunday Devotion online 10:45 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube www.facebook.com/NewCreation-BaptistChurch/ <https://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.org/>

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls. 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.bethanyinseward.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/MinnehahaFoodShelf/

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/>

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.

The Powderhorn Religious Community Welcomes You

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3644 Chicago Ave. S. 612-823-3494 Minneapolis.Bahai@gmail.com Devotions at the Bahá’i Center and via Zoom, Sundays 10 am See 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 Sunday Worship at 10 am, via Facebook Live and Zoom, See website for instructions Pastor: Hans Lee A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Center for Changing Lives 2400 Park Ave. S., 612-871-8831 All services now online at www.messiahlutheranmpls.org Each week we video services, viewable anytime, please join us!

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Welcome to George Floyd Square
A Sacred Space for Community, Public Grief, and Protest



This is where George Floyd took his last breath under the knee of a Minneapolis police officer, under the watch of three other officers.

Enter with reverence, humility, and openness, as an invited guest.

Care for each other by wearing a mask and asking others to wear a mask.

Honor the space as a place to connect and grieve as caring humans.

For White people in particular:

- Decenter yourself and come to listen, learn, mourn, and witness. Remember you are here to support, not to be supported.
- Be mindful of whether your volume, pace, and movements are supporting or undermining your efforts to decenter yourself.
- Seek to contribute to the energy of the space, rather than drain it. Bring your own processing to other white folks so that you will not harm BIPOC.
- Consider if you want or need to take photos and post them. Do not take photos of other people without their consent.
- If you witness white folks doing problematic things, speak up with compassion to take the burden off Black folks and our siblings of color whenever appropriate. Seek to engage rather than escalate, so that it can be a learning moment rather than a disruption.

So much happening on East 38th Street!

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

George Floyd Square

George Floyd Square is still there! That's the headline, but it's not the whole story. Over the past eleven-plus months, several attempts have been made to close down the "occupation" and reopen the streets. GFS has continued to evolve, but it's still there.

Some of the calls have come from inside, from people who live within the closed-off blocks, or nearby. There have been three violent deaths in the square, and other victims who died later from harm inflicted there, including one premature baby born after her mother's murder but only sur-



Outside DreamHaven Books

viving a few weeks. Even one death is too many, but you cannot say the existence of GFS alone is why they happened. Or even that there would have been fewer deaths there if GFS

had not been the response to Floyd's terrible murder, or had been shut down quickly.

A more persuasive appeal

See 38th Street, page 8

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Celebrate Spring

38th Street, from page 7

comes from Black business owners in the square. “Guardians” at the barricades determine who can come in, and theoretically, coming in to patronize Black-owned businesses is a pass. But owners say the protestors alone don’t buy enough to make up for halted traffic and bus

transit, and that the guardians don’t even let every potential customer in anyway. And also, they have complained that the city has not made their plight a priority at all, which is probably true, and wrong.

According to the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder: “A group of Black-owned businesses at the intersection formed [a col-

lective] in early April 2021 to advocate for financial assistance from the city and to reopen the intersection. The group said it had joined the community in calling for justice for Floyd, but they believed that the autonomous zone had ‘unintended economic downfall’ for local business by using them as ‘sacrificial lambs’.”

Among the Black-owned businesses in the square making up the 38th Street Black Business Collective are Smoke in the Pit, Just Turkey and Dragon Wok, all small restaurants, and Finish Touch Boutique, a retail store.

You can keep up with the happenings at GFS, including mutual aid projects, and special times like the spontaneous celebrations that took place there when the guilty verdict came in the Chauvin trial (we still have three more to go), by following it on Facebook. If you want facts and history, Wikipedia has a very thorough entry. If you’re white and want to visit in person, see the guidelines for conducting oneself while there. Be sure and visit the Black-owned



Petite Leon Restaurant

businesses for sustenance or purchases too.

Places we know of that closed in the past year

Or that closed a while before that and nothing seems to be happening there? We’re talking about the Southside Farm Store at this point. That seems like a prime location and I’m sur-

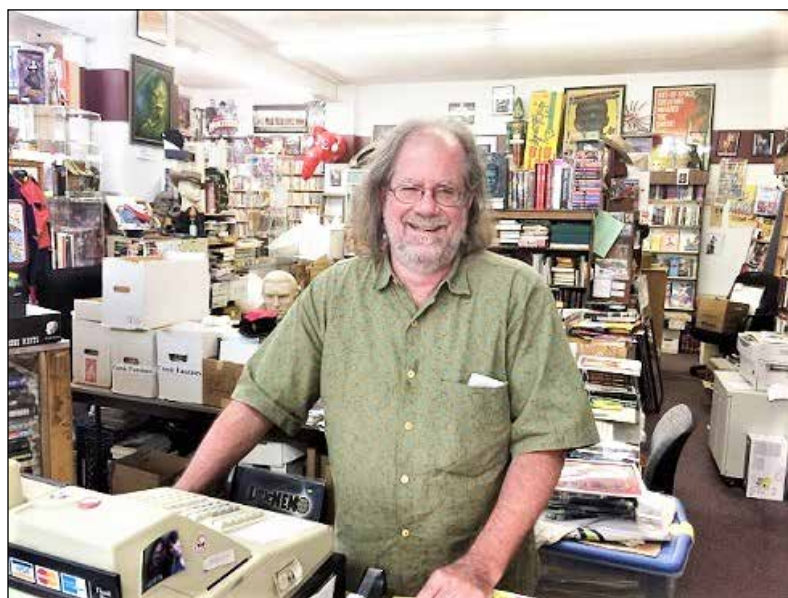
prised it’s not for sale, at least. (And as you’ll see further on, there are new businesses happening still, not only closings.)

One casualty of COVID was Svasti Yoga at Bloomington and 38th Avenue. Another was Courageous HeARTS, an arts nonprofit that had earlier moved to 23rd Avenue and 38 Street from Cedar and 42nd Street. Its space has been utilized in launching a new nonprofit—more on that below.

Two other closed businesses with new businesses in their spaces are A Tree Service, a small company at 38th and Longfellow, and A Cupcake Social at 28th Avenue and 38th Street. Although A Cupcake Social is gone for good, not even going back to its former incarnation as a food truck, it appears A Tree Service is just closing its location but is still in business via their website and established networks.

Daily Provisions, a coffee shop with snacks and convenience items, closed and was quickly replaced, before last year’s 38th Street celebration, by Key West Bistro, which is still there. Tiny Diner was closed at the time of last year’s article, was open on the patio and for takeout for the summer, and then closed again, possibly permanently. I have heard unconfirmed rumors that the Farmer’s Market there may be back this summer.

But the biggest, most shocking closing was the Hiawatha Clinic, part of the Fairview/University of Minnesota Health



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network, along with its pharmacy and sports health clinic. This means that, among other things, 38th Street no longer has a pharmacy anywhere along its length or nearby. No word on the future fate or utilization of the building.

New businesses on East 38th Street

In the former site of the tree service company on East 38th Street at Longfellow you will now find a mostly outdoor gym. Called Frost Iron Training, it's (I believe) the first onsite option of an existing training system called Hardshell Fitness LLC, which specializes in kettlebell training. I have seen them doing small group training in the yard/parking lot of the site in freezing temperatures. Hard-shell indeed.

Nearby, in the former site of Courageous HeARTS at 2235 E. 38th St., is a very different gym. It's a nonprofit, set up so that donations could cover the costs of offering training and health to usually underserved

populations. It's called Ludy's Gym Champions Only Boxing and Fitness. They train youth and adults, and as the name suggests, specialize in old-style boxing for fitness, and also train

side Barber Lounge on Bloomington Avenue at 38th Street. As near as I can tell, it opened in June of 2019. (This is the original location of the barber I recently mentioned at Chicago



Finish Touch and Just Turkey at George Floyd Square

for amateur or professional competition. Both of these new gyms have good websites where you can find more and get involved.

I missed the opening of South-

and 48th Street.) They have a very smooth website.

Also, in a piece last month we mentioned that Infused Life, a plant-based cafe selling juices, smoothies and bowls, had



Pastor Farrar of Worldwide Outreach for Christ preaching about George Floyd and social justice at GFS, April 2021

departed the Midtown Global Market for a larger venue. Well, they are now open (or soon will be)—the signage has been up for a while but I have not been able to visit in person yet) in the former location of A Cupcake Social, right on the southwest corner of East 38th Street and 28th Avenue. Infused Life changed its name from “A Plant-based Eatery” to “A Plant-based Empori-

um.” It is owned and operated by a Black woman.

Another Black woman-owned, plant-based and health-informed location is either open or soon to open quite nearby, as it happens. This one is called Dripping Root, and seems to have fresh juices only. This is at 4002 Minnehaha Ave. and Goo-

See 38th Street, page 10

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Southside Spring

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Celebrate Spring on 38th Street

38th Street, from page 9

gle says it will open May 29. I will try to visit both sites and give an update in the Minneha Avenue article.



Senior Pastor Russell of Greater Friendship, 2014

What we have and don't have on East 38th Street

We have lots of grocery shopping options on 38th Street. Everett's Foods is small

and traditional, with an excellent butcher and house-smoked items and a decent produce section. The Tom Thumb at 24th Avenue and 38th Street is a convenience store with a

Friendship Store. It's been a few years now, but the advent of this store changed my life, and improved the quality and health of the whole neighborhood in many ways.

We don't have a pharmacy now. We no longer have a traditional medical clinic. We do have a lot of alternative practitioners, though, including Southpoint Community Acupuncture. We don't have a library, but the Roosevelt Library is pretty close and guess what—it's finally open again.

As far as I know, East 38th Street has only one bookstore, but it's a great one. DreamHaven sells science fiction books, graphic novels, comics and comic fan paraphernalia. It's open for in-person shopping, but also does a bang-up job of online shopping for such a small store.

Penultimately, here is a roll call of the fine, the fast and the quirky eating and drinking options along 38th Street (west to east approximately):

- Rincón 38
- Victor's 1959 (Cubano)



Cardinal Restaurant & Bar

- Good Times Pizza
- Petite Leon
- Taco El Kevin (a taquería in a convenience store—I just love the name)
- Dragon Wok (GFS)
- Just Turkey (GFS)
- Smoke in the Pit (GFS)
- Mama Sheila's Soul Food
- Duck Duck Coffee
- Sisters' Sludge Coffee Shop and Wine Bar
- The Standish Cafe
- Northbound Smokehouse Brewpub
- Key West Bistro
- Ted Cook's 19th Hole BBQ
- Cardinal Restaurant & Bar
- The Howe (37th and Minneha)
- Fireroast Coffee and Wine
- Riverview Cafe

Lastly, we have a few faith communities along the street. Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church is a spiritual anchor, holding down the cor-

ner of 26th Avenue and 38th Street. Senior Pastor Billy G. Russell, along with his wife, First Lady Theresa Russell, celebrated his retirement at the end of April.

Two related community churches share the church building at 22nd Avenue and 38th Street: Bet'el Afaan Oromo Evangelical Church, and Iglesia Cristiano Alfa y Omega. Both are part of the Converge North Central federation and movement, which also includes the large and well-known Hope Community.

And ending up back at George Floyd Square, Worldwide Outreach for Christ Ministries has been a big part of the community work to sanctify and heal the Chicago and 38th neighborhood. The church now sponsors the George Floyd Worldwide Healing Project.



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Meats and deli at Everett's Foods

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 ap-

proximately 2:30 am, victim and witness 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 fumbled with the handcuffs.



Daunte Wright

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.

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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

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EVENTS

MPWW + The Million Book Project Reading and Panel Discussion

Tuesday, May 4, noon

Free online event

Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop (MPWW) is proud to partner with The Million Book Project, which aims to “slide thousands of books to readers in prisons across the country.” MBP has curated an incredible list of enduring literature written by exquisite writers and poets. Three of those poets: Reginald Dwayne Betts, Natalie Diaz, and Randall Horton, and their books [Postcolonial Love Poem, Felon: Poems, and {#289-128}: Poems] are the focus of an MPWW class, “Apollo & Dionysus: The Poem as a Dialectic of Force,” taught by Sun Yung Shin.

Sun Yung Shin will facilitate a panel with these three remarkable poets over Zoom and extend MPWW students’ questions and observations on their behalf. The event will be recorded and sent to our students on the inside. The public is encouraged to attend, but registration is required. We hope to see you for an hour of amazing poetry, conversation, and community! Thank you for your continued support of our students on the inside. For more info and to register, go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/522763275767170>.

The Arc Toward Justice

Tuesdays, May 4, 11, 18, 25

Online

The Westminster Town Hall Forum focuses on four speakers this May: May 4 “Policing, Protest, and Power” with Jelani Cobb (writer for The New

Yorker)

May 11 “Life, Liberation, and Community” with Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III (Senior Pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago)

May 18 “Race, Civil Rights, and the Law” with Deborah Archer (former President of the American Civil Liberties Union; current Professor of Clinical Law at the New York University School of Law)

May 25 “Changing the World, One Year Later” with Angela Harrelson & Paris Stevens (aunt & cousin of George Floyd) and Ben Crump (lawyer for Floyd family)

Visit our website to sign up to watch at <https://westminsterforum.org/>. Each forum will also be permanently archived on the Westminster Town Hall Forum’s website for on-demand viewing. Audio will be broadcast by MPR (Minnesota Public Radio) (check their schedule for exact times). Questions for speakers can be submitted in advance. Email info@westminsterforum.org or leave a voicemail at 612-584-9843.

‘Everybody: A Book About Freedom’ With author Olivia Laing

Wednesday May 5, 1 p.m.

Join Rain Taxi for a special daytime event as we present renowned British writer Olivia Laing and celebrate the publication of her new book, “Everybody: A Book About Freedom” (Norton). In this ambitious, brilliant book, Laing charts an electrifying course through the long struggle for bodily freedom, exploring gay rights and sexual liberation, feminism, and the civil rights movement along the way. Drawing on her own experiences in protest and alternative medicine, and traveling from Weimar Berlin to

the prisons of McCarthy-era America, Laing grapples with some of the most significant and complicated figures of the past century—among them Nina Simone, Christopher Isherwood, Andrea Dworkin, Sigmund Freud, Susan Sontag, and Malcolm X.

Tickets to this virtual event include a signed copy of “Everybody: A Book About Freedom.” Each registered attendee will also receive a special “Everybody” button with their book, and be entered into a raffle to win an 18K gold-plated sterling silver necklace which celebrates Laing’s brilliant new book. Winner announced during the event!

This Rain Taxi presentation, unique in Laing’s U.S. tour, will be a special audience participation event—attendees are welcome to submit questions for the author in advance, and she will be incorporating them into her talk. Questions can be submitted right on the ticket form; we will also be taking questions during the presentation. Whether you ask your query early or on the fly, we look forward to seeing you there! For more information and to purchase tickets, go to <https://www.raintaxi.com/olivia-laing/>.

Plant Your Garden and Eat It Too! Free gardening and cooking series

Online

The Spring Garden

Saturday, May 8, 10-11:30 a.m.

The Summer Garden

Saturday, July 10, 10-11:30 a.m.

The Fall Garden

Saturday, September 11

10-11:30 a.m.

Sponsored by Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board
Planting season is almost upon us!

If you’re starting a backyard garden from scratch or want to up your game with the one you already have, this three-part series will help you make the most of your garden this growing season. In each class you’ll learn what to plant and when to plant it, how to care for your vegetables, and how and when to harvest them.

Courtney Tchida with the Minnesota Horticulture Society will share gardening tips and plans for the early, middle, and late parts of the season. Beth Jones, Co-Owner of Cooking With the Jones Sisters, and Campus Club Executive Chef, will offer recipes and kitchen techniques to show off your produce at its peak. You are welcome to cook along in real time or watch and recreate the recipes later. Each class is free, but please go to https://apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolisparcs/Activity_Search/117831 to preregister. A Zoom link will be emailed out prior to each class.

Patrick’s Mothers’ Day Cabaret:

A Matinee

Sunday, May 9, 1 p.m.

Online

The Mothers’ Day lineup includes Wang Ping, Kara Johnstad, Paula E. Paul & Sirko Knüpfer, and Patrick Scully as Master of Ceremonies. For more info and a preview, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kYPOEh_WU1M. Tickets are pay-what-you-can (\$15 suggested), available at <https://patrickscully.org/payment.htm>.

Art 4 Shelter Virtual Art Sale

Wednesday, May 12, noon

The 11th annual Art 4 Shelter will be a virtual event on May 12, 2021! Art 4 Shelter is an annual art sale with 100% of the proceeds benefiting Simpson Housing Services and its critical mission to house, support, and advocate for people experiencing homelessness. <https://www.simpsonhousing.org/art-4-shelter-2/>
Take a First View at the Art 4 Shelter store on May 11! For each \$100 donated, you will receive a virtual ticket to view the art sale 24 hours early — and your gift will be MATCHED dollar for dollar by our generous corporate partner Two Harbors Investment Corp. To reserve your spot and receive your virtual ticket, go to <https://www.simpsonhousing.org/art-4-shelter-donation/>.

Highpoint Presents: Prints from Crow’s Shadow

Through July 17

Monday—Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturdays, noon to 4 p.m.

Thursday, May 20, 1 p.m.—Public conversation with Jim Denomie via Zoom

Highpoint Center for Printmaking
912 W. Lake St., Mpls.

Highpoint Center for Printmaking announces the opening of Prints from Crow’s Shadow, an exhibition featuring prints from Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts’ (CSIA) highlighting 30 years of collaborative commitment to Indigenous artists and fine art printmaking. Located on the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation outside of Pendleton, Ore., CSIA is a non-profit organization committed to providing a creative conduit for educational, social, and economic opportunities for Native Americans through artistic development. Crow’s Shadow, their residency program and their commitment to supporting Indigenous and marginalized voices

has done much to usurp and guide the conversation surrounding work made by Indigenous artists.

This stunning exhibition at Highpoint will feature a wide variety of prints published by Crow’s Shadow Press in collaboration with artists of a diversity of background and media. Thursday, May 20 from 1 to 2 p.m., we will be hosting a virtual conversation with Minnesota-based artist and Crow’s Shadow collaborator Jim Denomie. Visit our website for more information, as well as the link to attend. <https://www.highpointprintmaking.org/calendar/2021/3/9/prints-from-crows-shadow>.

PLEASE NOTE: Gallery viewing hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m. A maximum of 10 people will be allowed in the gallery at a time and visitors are required to wear a mask while inside Highpoint. Please call or visit [highpointprintmaking.org](https://www.highpointprintmaking.org) for more information on visitor protocol.

U of M School of Music Event

In Concert: University Organist Dean Billmeyer

Tuesday, May 25, 7:30 p.m. CDT

In-Person and Live-Stream

On-Demand Streaming available through Monday, May 31, 11:59 pm CDT

Northrop Auditorium

Carlson Family Stage

University of Minnesota Organist Dean Billmeyer continues to

showcase Northrop’s restored pipe organ in a variety of works that illustrate the instrument’s palette. The program will include music of Bach performed in Karl Straube’s uniquely Romantic idiom. More information and tickets available here: <https://www.northrop.umn.edu/events/concert-university-organist-dean-billmeyer-2021>

‘Farmers Markets of MPLS’ Collaborative to Open Spring Markets beginning May 1

Many of the approximately 20 farmers’ markets in the Farmers Markets of MPLS collaborative will open their spring markets May 1, with others opening later in the month and in June. The Spring Markets opening will bring many favorite growers and other vendors back, as well as introduce shoppers to new vendors and their products.

Some of the new vendors include Wild Sorrel (body products made with Horner’s Corner maple syrup); Perennial Pantry (Kernza flour); BIPOC-owned farmers’ brands Ever Wild Herbal Company (apothecary products), Pure Ginger for You (raw, cold-press juices made with local, organic produce), and Live Organically (certified organic vegetables). The nonprofit Urban Roots youth farm and conservation program will also introduce its new collection of native perennial plants.

Some of the Spring Market locations on the Southside include:

—Four Sisters Farmers Market, Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., June 3 through Oct. 28, 1414 E. Franklin Ave., <https://www.facebook.com/foursistersmarket>.

—Kingfield Farmers Market, Sundays, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 16 through Oct. 24, 4055 Nicollet Ave., <http://neighborhoodrootsmn.org/about/kingfield/>.

—Midtown Farmers Market, Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., May 1 through



• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / POWDERHORN EDITION

Oct. 30, Moon Palace Books, 3032 Minnehaha Ave., <http://midtown-farmersmarket.org/>.

-Nokomis Farmers Market, Wednesdays, 4:30 to 7 p.m., June 16 through Sept. 29, 5167 Chicago Ave., <http://neighborhoodrootsmn.org/about/nokomis/>.

-Tiny Diner Farmers' Market, Thursdays, (time and schedule are TBD), 1024 E. 38th St.

Many of the markets accept EBT and Market Bucks. To view an interactive map, visit <https://farmersmarket-sofmpls.org/find-a-market/interactive-map/>. All markets practice stringent COVID-19 protocols to ensure a safe experience for shoppers, growers and staff, and some offer online pre-ordering and pre-payment for a contact-free shopping experience.

Talk of the Stacks:

Daniel James Brown

Wednesday, June 9, 7 p.m.

Free virtual event

Best-selling historian, Daniel James Brown, in conversation with historian and author, Erika Lee. In 2013, Daniel James Brown released "The Boys in the Boat," the improbable, intimate account of how nine working-class boys from the American West beat the odds as an Olympic crew team in 1936 Berlin. Drawing on the boys' own journals and vivid memories, the book spent over a hundred weeks on The New York Times bestseller list. For his highly anticipated follow up, Brown returns with "Facing the Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in World War II," releasing in May 2021. Based on extensive interviews with the families of the protagonists as well as deep archival research, the book portrays the kaleidoscopic journey of four Japanese American families and their sons. While the new generation heads to the battlefield, the older generation fights against the looming threat of internment camp incarceration at home. Here, as in "The Boys in the Boat," Brown explores the questions of what home means to us, what makes a team work well, who gets to be a "real American," and what citizens owe their country—and vice versa. This virtual event is FREE and open to the public, but registration is required. For more info and to register, see <https://www.support-hclib.org/daniel-james-brown>.

Roots, Rock, and Deep Blues Festival July 15-17

The Hook & Ladder Theater 3010 Minnehaha Ave., Mpls. It's the return of the 10th annual award-winning Roots, Rock, and Deep Blues Festival Fundraiser, July 15-17! Due to safe distancing guidelines and limited capacity at The Hook & Ladder, we have elected to present three consecutive nights of #RRDB-Fest performances this July. We are pleased to continue presenting an eclectic and diverse line-up of local, regional and national/international touring acts, including performers such as Molly Maher, Gully Boys, Mae Simpson, RL Boyce, Kent Burnside, and many more. It was our aim to provide a bit of Roots, Rock and Deep-blues to audiences each night this year. We hope you will continue to support this unique Minneapolis summer event and our largest fundraiser of the year, and we look forward to seeing you Under the Canopy! For more info, including pre-sale promo codes and ticket sales, see <https://thehookmpls.com/>.

Vaccines for Veterans, their Spouses and Caregivers

Minneapolis VA Health Care System invites all Non-enrolled Veterans, Veteran Spouses, Veteran Caregivers, and ChampVA beneficiaries to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, complete the Sign up to get a COVID-19 vaccine at VA tool here: <https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/stay-informed>. After completing this tool, you can schedule your vaccination appointments by calling 612-467-1301 (Call Center is open weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.) or walk-in Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enrolled Veterans are always welcomed, simply call 612-467-1301 to schedule or walk-in Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Coming to the Table: Racial Healing Talking Circles and Learning Sessions

Saturday, May 15,

10:30 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, May 19,

7 to 8:30 p.m.

Monday, May 24, 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.mn-peace.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 (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 columnist 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.

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:

See Calendar, page 14



Rough Magic Performance Company (RMPC), a professional theater company dedicated to supporting women artists and telling women's stories, is delighted to announce "The Parker Project," the much anticipated second season of the RMPC Podcast: where women's stories take center stage.

Bringing hope and humor to the spring of 2021, "The Parker Project" is a theatrical exploration of parallels between now and the 1920s through the early words of acclaimed writer Dorothy Parker. We could all use some of her wit and humor to help get us through these long pandemic days. The podcast is available now on all major podcast hosts, or through our website: <https://www.roughmagicperformance.org/current-season>.

"The Parker Project" was directed by George Keller with sound design by Taj Ruler. Featuring some of the Twin Cities' most talented comedic actors,

the voice talents of Ashawnti Sakina Ford, Alayne Hopkins, Catherine Justice, Taj Ruler, and Eric Sharpe all shine in this three-episode season.

Episode 1 is an adaptation of the Dorothy Parker short story "Too Bad" and was adapted by RMPC co-artistic director Catherine Justice. Episode 2, entitled "Too Good," is a modern take on the "Too Bad" story and was written by Ashawnti Sakina Ford and Catherine Justice. The third "Bonus" episode contains interviews with the artists as well as readings of select early Dorothy Parker poems.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

To learn more about Rough Magic Performance Company, visit www.roughmagicperformance.org

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

Conscientious objection

Conscientious objectors of every generation have heard some version of this: “Your freedom to be a conscientious

objector was won for you by the military you refuse to join and the wars you refuse to fight.” Yet, those same generations have seen the military used to suppress the very rights it claims to protect. This year the Center on Conscience & War counseled dozens of military members whose conscientious objector (CO) beliefs solidified after seeing the protests or seeing other soldiers being mobilized in that way.

For these recent COs, their moral, ethical or religious beliefs guided them to not only oppose being called to take up arms against civilian protesters, but also to realize that they could no longer support the mission of the military in general, which is, of course, to fight wars. Under military regulations, which also apply to the National Guard, these COs have the right to be honorably discharged or to be reassigned

as noncombatants who do not bear arms.

In his application for discharge, a Navy officer wrote how his conscience was awakened even after an immersion in militarism. “I’d occasionally think, ‘Am I complicit in suffering?’ No, I’m not personally killing anyone. And I never stood on George Floyd’s neck for over eight minutes, suffocating him to death, while another officer watched, with

his hands in his pockets. This certainly wasn’t the first time that police brutality happened to an unarmed Black man in America. It unfortunately won’t be the last time it happens. So, what has that to do with me? I’m the officer with his hands in his pockets.”

How many of us are not standing around with our hands in our pockets?

Calendar, from page 13

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, homemade, 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).

‘Papier’ by Swedish artists Bea Szenfeld and Stina Wirsén Through July 11, 2021

American Swedish Institute 2600 Park Ave., Mpls.

“Papier,” in a juncture between art and fashion, is an international touring exhibition showcasing artist-designer Bea Szenfeld’s striking paper couture — dresses and

other sculptural fashion items made entirely from paper and worn by such pop icons as Lady Gaga and Björk — united with artist-author Stina Wirsén’s evocative and colorful illustrations. “Papier” makes its Midwest debut, at one of only two sites in the U.S., Feb. 6 – July 11, 2021, at the American Swedish Institute (ASI) in the Turnblad Mansion and Osher Gallery. In this remarkable, creative partnership, two prestigious Swedish talents meet in a mutual affection for the handmade and paper. “Papier” features a dozen of Szenfeld’s wearable pieces plus an object-based piece titled, “Grief.” Her bold designs belie their delicateness. Wirsén’s expressive drawings and illustrations set the scene and act as a colorful backdrop. Both artists have had a major impact in pop culture from fashion to theatre.

The ASI Museum, Museum Store and FIKA Café all reopened on Feb. 6 with reduced capacity, pending any further COVID-related precautions. Revised hours are Thursday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advance, timed reservations are required to visit the museum and can be made at www.ASI.mn.org or by calling 612-871-4907 during public hours. Visitors must use face coverings and maintain safe distances. The Store and FIKA will accept walk-in customers. FIKA will also offer expanded Marketplace take-out orders. ASI has free on-site parking and is located at 2600 Park Ave., Mpls.

Free Reading and Math Tutoring for Minnesota Families from Scholar Squad

Scholar Squad offers free in-home tutoring powered by the proven programs of Reading Corps and Math Corps. COVID-19 has made everything challenging this year, especially learning. Reading Corps and Math Corps have launched a new initiative to help. Scholar Squad offers free one-on-one, online tutoring for Minnesota students in PreK-8th grade. To request help, families are encouraged to visit www.scholarsquad.org and sign up for a consultation. Together we’ll set up a time to do a quick screen-

ing with your child to get a sense of what they may need. If the screening shows your child needs our help to boost their skills, we’ll match them with a tutor who will provide one-on-one practice and support.

About Minnesota Reading Corps and Minnesota Math Corps: In Minnesota, nearly half of our students need extra help with reading or math. Reading Corps and Math Corps are

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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:

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Equity and the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan

BY KATHRYN KELLY

The Metropolitan Council has prepared a comprehensive development guide for the Twin Cities metropolitan area called Thrive MSP 2040. It “provides a framework for shared vision for the region over the next 30 years.” Part of this planning is defined in the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan, which outlines the Metropolitan Council’s goals and strategies for the development and operation of our world-class regional parks in support of Thrive MSP 2040 goals. The Parks Policy Plan puts forward policy direction to ensure the fulfillment of outdoor recreation benefits for all residents of the metropolitan region now and into the future. How does the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan stack up with respect to the equity goals in the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan?

This plan lays out several goals with respect to equity.

From the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan:

“Equity means connecting

all residents to opportunity and creates viable housing, transportation and recreation options for people of all races, ethnicities, incomes and abilities so that all communities share the opportunities and challenges of growth and change.”

The Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan violates this goal on several fronts:

1) Race and Ethnicities – This plan takes away an 18-hole golf course with over 80 years of history with the South Minneapolis Black community. It reduces the current level of service to a sub-standard level of service by reducing the capacity from 18 holes to nine holes. This affects all patrons including the Black and Hispanic communities, teens and kids, South Minneapolis school athletes and senior patrons. Community input from the Black community at Park Board-sponsored feedback sessions and public surveys was very clear that the 18-hole golf course was the community’s desired outcome.

2) Incomes – This 18-hole golf

course serves a community that has a widely diverse economic base, from low-income to wealthy families. This is an extremely unique and valuable recreational resource for the City of Minneapolis and its South Minneapolis residents. It is unconscionable to take away this full-service facility from an inner-city neighborhood.

3) Abilities – The current 18-hole facility provides opportunities for everyone, from the best golfers to beginners, and from the youngest starting to play golf to the oldest golfers in the community. Testimonials from patrons of the golf course relate stories of enjoyment from golfers who would still congregate there with friends once they could no longer golf, and from a neighbor who didn’t golf but got immense pleasure from watching those who did golf; he donated two benches so others could share the same enjoyment.

The 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan indicates that promoting equity includes:

“Engaging a full cross-section of the community in decision-making.”

With the current plan, the Minneapolis Park Board did provide a variety of opportunities for the public to weigh in, but it became clear over time that public input was not welcomed or considered important if it did not follow the direction

that the Park Board Planning Group wanted. This was particularly true of the retention of the 18-hole golf course. Public response toward the end of the Master Planning process was overwhelmingly for the retention of the 18-hole golf course, yet it was ignored.

The 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan says:

“While the rich and growing racial and ethnic diversity is an asset to continued economic vitality, the region has some of the largest disparities by race and ethnicity of any large metropolitan area in the nation. Importantly, these disparities and shifting demographics have implications for nature-based outdoor recreation providers.”

The Hiawatha 18-hole Golf Course is likely the most racially and ethnically diverse golf course in the state of Minnesota. The last thing that should be done in this day and age is to destroy it, or turn it into a second-rate facility. We need to cherish and maintain the successful equity assets that we already have rather than destroy them.

The 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan says:

“The 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan strives to build upon the good work that the regional park implementing agencies have been doing to advance equity. The Council seeks to strengthen equitable usage of the Regional Parks System, which is a key theme of this plan.”

Again, the Hiawatha Golf

Course Master Plan does just the opposite; it destroys one of the area’s best success stories in the area of equity.

The 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan says:

“The Regional Parks System has been designed and developed to provide outdoor recreation opportunities for all the residents of the region, with facilities and services geared to meet the demands and abilities of the general population.”

Part of any plan that will provide recreation opportunities for all residents of the region is ubiquity. Losing Hiawatha Golf Course would produce a golf desert in a large portion of the city of Minneapolis and nearby communities, affecting thousands of golfers in South Minneapolis, and especially seniors and kids who lack the ability to travel elsewhere for this opportunity.

The Regional Parks Equity Toolkit asks the following question: Which of the underserved populations identified will this project better serve?

The Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan will take away opportunities for equitable access to golf as a recreational activity from people of color, seniors, kids and low-income residents, so it will provide less service to the underserved populations.

The Metropolitan Council should not approve the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan since it violates the equity goals and direction of its own 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan.

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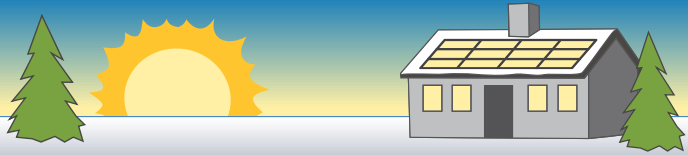
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