



We build Pride on the Southside

**POWDERHORN
EDITION**
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**June
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The Feds are coming, The Feds are coming



BY TONY BOUZA

A group of Federales is scheduled to assess the Minneapolis Police Department. It is tantamount to an archeological dig among the ruins.

With characteristic hubris I will offer an agenda. Welcome to Fredonia.

They will find an agency bloated with supervisors—but none making appearances at such atrocities as the Floyd case.

An indifference to public plight through such strategies as two-person patrols; four-day workweeks; absence of aggressive and constitutional police tactics like decoys; creation of useless appendages like horse patrols; creation of spin doctors called Public Information Officers (which are neither public nor informative); total indifference to the quality of 911 service, including how Blacks

See Bouza, page 4



Jawan Carroll

How do we stop the violence?

BY ED FELIEN

Jawan Carroll has been charged with two counts of second-degree murder resulting from the shootout in front of the Monarch nightclub at 2 a.m. on May 22. He allegedly was with two other people. He had been identified by police authorities as a member of the Tre Tre Crips Gang. The Tre Tres seem to like to travel in groups of three. According to video taken at the scene, one member punched Christopher Jones and Carroll pulled out a gun and started shooting at Jones. Jones pulled a gun and began firing at Carroll. In the exchange, eight innocent civilians were wounded and one innocent civilian, Charlie Johnson—who was set to graduate from St. Thomas the next day—and Christo-

pher Jones were killed.

Violent crime is up in Minneapolis. There have been 32 homicides already this year. More than 190 people have been killed or wounded in shootings this year compared to 75 at this point last year. In 2020 violent crime increased by 21%. In ranking cities for violent crime and crimes against property, Minneapolis ranked worse than Chicago and was almost twice as violent as New York and Los Angeles.

What's happening?

Why?

Let's get some historical perspective.

After Prohibition took effect in 1920 the national homicide rate rose 78%. There was a 24% increase in the crime rate between 1920 and 1921. The Spanish Flu from 1918 to 1920 infected 500 million peo-

ple and killed 50 million worldwide. Alcohol was known to aggravate symptoms of the flu, so a well-meaning Minnesota congressman, Andrew Volstead, earnestly trying to make America healthier, authored the Volstead Act prohibiting the sale and manufacturing of alcohol.

A hundred years later, nine well-meaning Minneapolis City Council members proclaimed the Powderhorn Manifesto and their intention to defund the police. This seemed a natural and reasonable act in the wake of the murder of George Floyd by Officer Derek Chauvin to curb the racist murder of young Black men by the police. Of course, national street gangs that distributed heroin considered this an engraved invitation to battle for turf in this new liberat-

See Violence, page 4

Rebel garden — gone!

BY KAY SCHROVEN

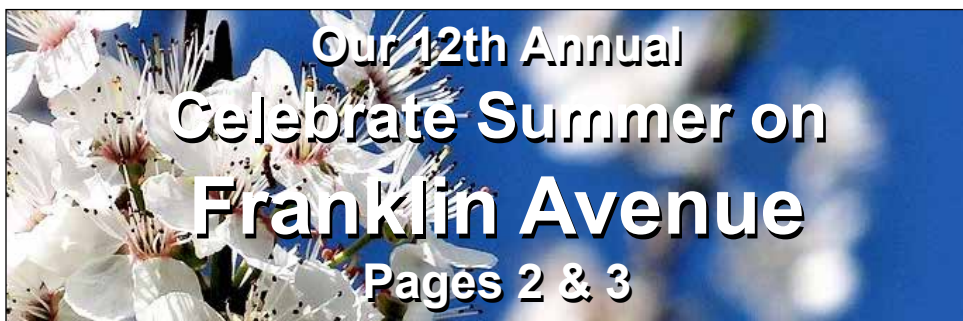
On a beautiful spring morning in mid-May I took a walk in Powderhorn Park and came upon a group of people erecting lovely raised beds and planting gardens in the northwest corner of the park. I learned that they were a group of local residents who got together to form this project. They had erected a sign that read "The People's Garden." They pointed out that I too could participate and benefit from the garden. I received a card in my mailbox, as did my neighbors, announcing the garden and welcoming participation. On Tuesday evening, June 1, when I returned to the park – the garden was gone. A plot of dirt remained. A small group of people were sitting in a circle talking. I asked what happened to the garden. The reply, "They took it, the city, the Park Board took



it. They weren't doing enough to serve the people, so we did what we did."

The flyers circulating in the area about The People's Garden (TPG) state that they are "South Minneapolis neighbors working to redistribute power and take back the land through community gardening with the goal of achieving food sovereignty." The informational flyer goes on to point out that the project is de-

See Garden, page 6



CELEBRATE SUMMER ON FRANKLIN AVE.

Resilience and beauty – the American Indian Cultural Corridor and Ventura Village

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Like many other inner-city neighborhoods, the four Phillips neighborhoods and the American Indian Cultural Corridor (AICC – the stretch from Cedar westward to 11th Avenue) have been through a lot this year. And yet when you walk down Franklin Avenue and look around, it looks, for the most part, busy, bright and hopeful. Businesses have reopened, new things are opening, families walk the streets and take the buses, a clinic in the strip mall offers vaccines to pre-teens and teens. Almost everywhere there are hiring notices. There are little sparks of art and beauty everywhere.

The Minneapolis American Indian Center (MAIC) has been closed, for the most part, for 14 months. The excellent and affordable eating spot, Gatherings Cafe, has spent the pandemic preparing free meals to be delivered to elders in the community. A number of major programs have been presented virtually and a large one is coming up this month.

On Thursday, June 24, in partnership with the Hook and Ladder Theater and First Nations Kitchen (a food ministry of All Saints Episcopal Indian Mission at 31st Street



Wolf sculpture and prairie grasses in front of Ancient Traders

and Longfellow), MAIC is presenting a livestreamed two-hour event. The Summer Solstice is a free event from 6 to 8 p.m. and you can register for it here: www.facebook.com/events/491552888756197. MAIC's youth, fitness and health activities are ongoing, even though the front doors are closed to walk-ins. MAIC also includes an art gallery, a gym and some retail outlets.

Slightly to the north and east of

AICC is a Native American-developed housing project of a unique kind – Anishinabe Wakiagun. Although I still think of this institution as “new,” it’s actually turning 25 years old this year! From their website is this brief explanation of what it is: “Anishinabe Wakiagun is a culturally specific permanent supportive housing program for chronic inebriates. It is a Housing First/Harm Reduction facility that does

not require residents to be sober in order to maintain their housing ... The philosophy of Anishinabe Wakiagun is to reduce the public cost of providing services while at the same time providing a more stable living environment for its residents.”

If you have any doubt that providing permanent housing to this population is money-saving, the following stats are offered:

- It costs \$4970 to deliver public services to one family experiencing homelessness, while it costs only \$472 to \$750 to prevent the family from becoming homeless.

- The cost per night of accommodation at Anishinabe Wakiagun: \$20; the same night for a homeless shelter: \$32; for the detox unit: \$192; for jail: \$363. (Note these stats are more than ten years old and all costs are much higher, but the ratios are roughly the same.)

- Anishinabe Wakiagun saves the taxpayers over \$500,000 per year (again, old stats) by reducing detox admissions by 85%, ER visits by 20%, and jail bookings by 23%.

An art gallery well known and loved in the AICC is All My Relations, just two blocks west, right next to Pow Wow Grounds, the community's central coffee shop. Speaking of Pow Wow Grounds, its parking lot is also the home of the Four Sisters Farmers Market, which just opened for the season on June 3. The market runs from June through October every Thursday. Chief among the vendors

at Four Sisters is the Native American youth farming program called Dream of Wild Health. This organization has thrived and even expanded during the pandemic year.

In the next block to the west is the Franklin Library. Like most Hennepin County libraries, it was closed for several months, and was one of the first to partially reopen as a much-needed computer access point for underserved communities. Computer use was, and still is, by appointment only, to limit the occupancy of the building.

Franklin Avenue has long been known as a magnet for newly arrived immigrant populations. This gives it a lively diversity that's not found anywhere else in the Cities to such an extent. At the turn of the 20th century over 100 years ago, it was largely Scandinavian immigrants. Two more recent groups that make up a large segment of the small business owners and patrons of businesses on the Avenue are Latino people from Mexico, Central and South America, and East Africans, principally Somalis.

You'll see all of these kinds of people and more in Aldi, the bargain grocery store in one of three anchor buildings that make up the Franklin Circles Shopping Center, across the Avenue from the Franklin Library. This is my favorite Aldi, I think. Franklin Circles is anchored on the west side by the Ancient Traders Market building. Though originally



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In addition to the Anishinabe Wakiagun housing project men-

Finally, to circle back to those early 1900s immigrants, we have the pretty blue building that is Norway House. Founded in 2015, when the present building was a refurbishment of a previous retail establishment, Norway House is a 501(c)3 to promote cultural ties between Americans, especially Minnesotans with Norwegian ancestry, and modern-day Norway. The building contains a satellite shop from Lake Street's popular Nordic gift store, Ingebretsen's, and also a cafe, but the building is currently only open by appointment. (Hopefully that will change soon, maybe even by the

games, music, films, and recipes at Bli hjemme! (Stay home!) Norway House's site was deliberately chosen to be adjacent to the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church (also called Mindekirken) at 10th Avenue and East 21st Street. They are currently offering livestreamed worship in both English and Norwegian.



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Mitigating Lake Hiawatha's trash

BY KATHRYN KELLY

Lake Hiawatha is a valuable resource to the South Minneapolis community, but it has suffered over the last couple of decades with a trash problem. Neighborhood groups have valiantly worked to keep this lake clean, but the health of this lake requires a trash mitigation strategy that involves government entities with long-term solutions.

A successful trash mitigation effort must be untied from other projects, with a focus on researching and implementing solutions as smaller, stand-alone projects that can

be done right now. This approach would, more quickly, make progress towards less and less trash entering Lake Hiawatha, rather than the current approach which ties this cleanup to massive projects. Also, this cleanup needs to be led and funded by the entities that are responsible for the trash, starting with the city of Minneapolis.

An initial important step would be to install a grit chamber at the intersection of East 43rd Street and 19th Avenue South to capture trash before it travels through a pipe under Hiawatha Golf Course to Lake Hiawatha. This would allow

the city of Minneapolis to capture and remove its trash as it does with other grit chambers in the city.

Charles Rodgers, candidate for Minneapolis Park Board Commissioner in District 5, sees this as an important agenda item that he wants to pursue if elected Commissioner this fall.

Note: The main sources of trash in Lake Hiawatha are:

- City of Minneapolis storm sewer outfalls (pipes) releasing directly into Lake Hiawatha.
- Minnehaha Creek and the storm sewer outfalls that release into Minnehaha Creek.



Violence, from page 1

ed landscape in much the same way Sicilian gangs (the Mafia) considered Prohibition an invitation and battled other marginalized ethnic groups for turf in the distribution of illegal liquor during Prohibition.

Both good-intentioned Minnesota initiatives paved the road to hell for the rest of the country. Prohibition gave the Mafia a permanent place of prominence in liquor, prostitution, the longshoremen's union and the construction trades. The Powderhorn Manifesto in South Minneapolis gave Republicans a hot button issue they used in the 2020 election to take back 13 seats in the House, win close races in the Senate and almost win the presidency.

The business plan for dealing heroin in North Minneapolis has been very successful for the Tre Tre Crips. A kilo of heroin costs about \$30,000. That's a thousand grams. A gram of heroin sells for \$5 to \$20. How can you make any profit if your cost is \$30 a gram and you're selling it for \$5? Generally, a dealer will cut heroin 10-to-1, so one kilo becomes ten kilos. So, even if they sell it for \$5 a gram, that's a 40% markup. But, if it's been cut only

once, it should be worth \$20 a gram. Quite often heroin on the street has been cut twice: one kilo into ten and ten kilos into a hundred. The danger of an overdose from heroin generally occurs when someone who is used to a 100-to-1 dose gets one that is 10-to-1 or pure heroin straight from the original brick.

In theory, dealing heroin can be extremely profitable. A \$30,000 investment can return \$100,000 if you are cutting the heroin 10-to-1 and selling it for \$10 a gram. If you cut the original brick 100-to-1 then you're looking at a potential return of a million dollars. Of course, that almost never happens. A lot of the heroin gets used up as samples and dealer tastings. But the allure of quick profits seems irresistible to young men who see few other options for economic advancement.

Of course, there are hazards on the path to easy riches. The legal penalties for the sale or distribution of heroin are two to 20 years in prison depending on prior convictions. But the greatest hazard is the com-

petition. In competition with the Tre Tre Crips in North Minneapolis are the Bloods, the Stick Up Boys, the 1-9 Block Dipset Gang and others. The deadly shootout in front of the Monarch at closing time on Saturday night was probably a battle for turf and the chance to reach customers for heroin leaving the nightclub still looking for fun.

How do we stop the violence?

We could eliminate the problem immediately if we made heroin legal and easily available. The dosage would be standard, so there would be no chance of an accidental overdose. Eliminating the illegal street market for heroin would eliminate the gang-war competition for turf.

This would eliminate the most attractive avenue for violence at this time, but it wouldn't eliminate the violent competition among young men. Boys are taught at a very early age, informally through examples and through the glamour of movies, that life is a competitive struggle. Some-

one else is trying to take something away from you. There's only enough to go around, and you're going to have to fight for your piece of the pie. That's the American way. But that's not how the rest of the world operates. In almost every other industrialized nation there is a generous social welfare safety net that protects you from cries of anguish and desperation: free medical care; free college or trade school education; guarantees of a living wage; subsidized housing; etc. These are national issues and, thankfully, Bernie, AOC and Ilhan Omar are working on them. But what can we do locally to stop the violence?

The first step, it seems, is to recognize we have a problem. We need our schools to counteract the violent and aggressively competitive propaganda our children are being taught on TV and on the street. Children need to be educated on how the economic system works. They need to see how they could fit in, how they could be productive and enjoy a happy and peaceful life.

The city and county public health departments need to organize block clubs in troubled areas of the city. They need to pay block club organizers to be nosy aunts and uncles, talking to their neighbors: finding out if they have enough food; putting them in touch with food shelves, food stamps and commodities; telling them about day care and educational opportunities for their kids; finding them jobs; helping them fix their homes; etc.

We cannot hide our heads in the sand and pretend the problem will go away. It will go away only if we confront it with our eyes open.

It was a tragedy that eight innocent victims were wounded and perhaps permanently scarred. It was a tragedy that Christopher Jones was killed, and it was a tragedy that Charlie Johnson never got to graduate from St. Thomas. But it is also a tragedy that Jawan Carroll saw no other options. His life is also over. Done. Wasted. And we are all the poorer for that.

Bouza, from page 1

are treated; complete disregard of the need to control the meat-eaters—labeled “Thumpers”—and total neglect of such tools as internal affairs units. Rich, new meaning to featherbedding.

This august body of visitors will find an agency run by a police union whose main concern is the comfort and convenience of its members; a mayor who seems wholly uninterested in police issues; a chief who wants to get along with a union without calculating the consequences of ignoring that it is an adversarial relationship. They will find an agency that is neither transparent nor accountable nor responsive (literally and figura-

tively, given their dilatoriness in 911 responses).

In an episode embodying a crime response by four cops and involving a death, how is it possible there wasn't a supervisor present?

Why wasn't the heroic young woman who filmed the whole thing given a medal?

Why were brave onlookers calling for cessation of the cop's murderous assault treated like enemies?

The leadership's utter and pathetic failures bear a heavy, and continuing, cost.

The four cops were fired—two probably illegally since they had tenure. The humiliation of their restoration awaits. Some hapless arbitrator now shakes over the prospect of their restoration.

Looters, arsonists and other bums got away with it by floating among the mass of peaceful protesters. Contrast this with the vigorous follow-through and arrests in the Jan. 6 Capitol riot.

There's more—lots more—but the limitations of space impose limits. Duh!

And there's morale—it's never been lower. Self-pitying bullshit. Nobody quits. Competition for jobs is keen. Pay and benefits are very high. And cops love what they do.

The Feds will find plenty to study and fallow ground for a harvest of reform, but forgive me for skepticism.

The Floyd case contained everything—crime, race, thumping, police cruelty, and on and on. The Justine Damond case

did too, and there the police driver, clearly complicit, was never charged. No doubt, a debt to the union repaid.

The city could have secured a better outcome by understanding the cases, really caring and fighting. Trial, anyone?

Defunding is a chimera yet not a police department in America would suffer from a measured, analyzed reduction of 10 to 20% of its budget.

“Myself, when young, did eagerly visit doctor and saint, and heard great argument about it and yet evermore came out the same door wherein I went”— a Muslim poet made famous by a British eccentric.

So, welcome to Fredonia, or is it Ruritania?

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What's the American Dream?

BY SAFIYO MOHAMED

When I was in Africa, my dream since I was young was that one day I would get to live in America because I knew my soul was here, although my body wasn't. This was the place which I always considered home even though I had never been. America was like a paradise, and in my mind, it was my ultimate destination. Everyone I knew said the same thing: to have a better life, you need to go to America.

We left Somalia because there was no peace, but life moving around Africa was difficult because there was no work. Most of the people were jobless. Even if we managed to finish university, there was

a shortage of work opportunities, especially in Somalia because the only people hired were those that had a family connection. When there is no work, there is no money. When there's no money, there is little food, crowded living situations, and no school. People dreamed of an easier life. People wanted to get out and go somewhere with equal opportunities, where you don't need family connections in order to get a job. We believed that place to be the United States, although many went to Europe. We knew if we arrived in America, we would have to work hard, but we wanted to work. In Europe people don't always work; they get assistance or welfare, but it's not

freedom like here in the U.S. To survive in the U.S. would be a challenge, but we knew this is a country of opportunities.

After long years of waiting, I finally arrived in Minnesota, my dream. The first two things that came to my mind, like for most people new to the country, were school and work. We had the opportunity of enrolling in free education for English and earning a GED. That feels like a privilege because free education is not available everywhere. But we have a lot of responsibilities on our shoulders. We need to support our families and pay our own bills, so we need to work hard and go to school at the same time. Many people have more than one job,

and still, it is not enough. Often these jobs are minimum wage and are inadequate for supporting households. Most of the people quit school and just work since there's not enough hours in a day to earn enough money. They work and work. You can see people who have been in the U.S. for a long time still needing interpreters for doctor appointments and everyday events because they couldn't find the time to go to school to study English since they are working all the time to support their families.

Because of this financial stress, families break up. Typically, in Somali culture it is the mother who is taking care of the kids, but here everyone needs and is expected to work.

Mothers can't do it all, but they are required to. So mothers always lose themselves in between the endless tasks demanded of them. Most don't have time for school themselves, leaving the children born here as the interpreters for the family. So these kids can take advantage of their mothers' language barriers and exhausting work load, sometimes telling their mothers a different story when any trouble arises. These kids can get into a lot of trouble with gangs and drugs and may drop out of school. This is heartbreaking, but it is the reality. Maybe every immigrant family has this risk.

Stress on the immigrant family structure is common in the U.S. But in Somalia, it was the strength of the family and clan connections that offered employment opportunities. In the U.S., we expected to have an equal opportunity for jobs. But it turned out that color, gender, and age can limit your chances. Living the American Dream has actually turned out to be running a "rat race." There's always a little less for us than what we had expected.



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

How will the U.S. Armed Forces command space?

In December 2019 the U.S. Space Force was established as the sixth branch of the military. Its initial staff consisted of two, but since then it has added more than 80 Air Force Academy lieutenants and plans to have a permanent staff of 16,000 within a few years and an annual budget of \$15.4 million. American strategists saw themselves as fighting a constant battle against complacency, which was challenged by the advent of the Russian Sputnik. President Lyndon

Johnson's response was the U.S. should have space superiority, and he appeared regularly on television advocating it. The U.S. still possessed the most advanced technology, which resulted in Sputnik, which led to the Apollo program. As Johnson saw it, it was in space that decisive power over humanity's fate would be won.

The militarization of space proceeded at a leisurely pace. The first push to build orbital weaponry was the Star Wars Strategic Defense Initiative of the Reagan years. The end of the Soviet Union meant that

the U.S. had command of space without the need of weapons. The U.S. still possessed the most advanced communications and spy satellites. As a result, U.S. policy would now be able to meet any interference with critical components of our space program.

The present age of astrostrategy remains for the most part concerned with satellites. A small coterie of military and aerospace analysts have considered the possibilities of space strategy far beyond the earth's immediate periphery. In space, linear distance is less important than the energy

required to travel. Because of gravity wells, far more energy is required to travel from the Earth to the moon than from the moon to Mars—a distance 150 times greater. No terrestrial conflict has yet ascended into space. U.S. space strategy has, so far, limited itself to enhancing the abilities of extra-terrestrial forces. Destroying a satellite in orbit will damage or destroy other satellites. The weaponization of space is banned under the Outer Space Treaty. There is a plausible but unlikely argument that calls for space settlement expansion.

Garden, from page 1

centralized; that is, there is no point person. They believe that while the current Park Board approach serves some people, it harms others, implying prejudice with regard to race, age and socioeconomic status.

An unidentified representative of TPG (communicating via email) stated that the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) was informed of

the garden the day after it was established. There was interaction between the Park Board and the gardeners which led TPG to believe that something would be worked out. While there has been much neighborhood support for the garden it seems there was a complaint by an upset neighbor which stirred action on the part of the Park Board. There was talk about working together (MPRB and TPG) to find a better loca-

tion, but in the end a message was posted from the Board on May 23 instructing TPG to remove the garden. On May 25, TPG received another message from the Park Board informing them that they must remove the garden by the end of the day on May 26. The timeline was short and did not allow the gardeners to prepare and orchestrate a proper removal or move of the garden.

So, what happened to The

People's Garden?

I contacted the MPRB to inquire about TPG. They welcomed the inquiry and the opportunity to respond. MPRB relayed that they became aware of the unauthorized garden but could find no contact person with whom to discuss the matter. Because the garden did not follow MPRB's community garden policy it was removed on June 1. The Board pointed out that community gardens are welcome and thriving and that there are 12 families/individuals working the approved Powderhorn gardens of vegetables, fruits and flowers.

MPRB "applauds TPG for

their commitment to growing healthy food for the community and encourages them to apply for a future garden plot and to participate in the public engagement on a potential amendment to the Powderhorn Park master plan that would add another urban agricultural zone on the east side of the park."

Park systems in Minnesota, as well as most states, are governed by ordinances and policies in order to manage the use of the park land, discouraging use without approval, no matter how good the intent.

MPRB adopted a community garden policy in 2018 when it became clear that the community was in favor of developing gardens. The emphasis has been on higher-density, lower-wealth neighborhoods. Thus far, six gardens have been established. Requirements for establishing a garden include:

- Applicants must apply annually so that new gardeners have a chance at a garden.
- Gardens must have a community area from which the general public can harvest.
- Gardens must provide accessible, unlocked, free access for everyone.

Note: The application process prioritizes access for those who would not otherwise have access to land for growing food.

It would seem that TPG and MPRB have similar goals: to establish community gardens for the production of healthy foods to serve the neighborhood. How they get there — that is, the process — is where the conflict lies. Can these groups with common goals and interests come together for the benefit of the community?



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No place like – Earth? Home and garden improvement for sustainability

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

This issue of No Place Like Home is going to discuss sustainability, building on the themes raised for Earth Day last month. Most of the suggestions here apply mostly to homeowners, but if you're a renter, you can try to get your property owner or manager onboard to do them, possibly by organizing fellow tenants if you're in a multi-unit building. If you're in a single-family unit that's your landlord's only (or one of few) properties, they ought to be amenable, since many of the ideas around sustainability also save money in the long run.

The word "sustainable" has become a buzzword to the corporate world. It's often used as a simple substitute for "meanness" in the ancient form of that word, i.e., being overly reluctant to spend money or energy. To "sustain" is to nourish and promote healthy growth. The essence of sustainability is where something is

nurtured and grows just enough to keep the organism or system healthy, but not out of control.

It's an ideal thing to aspire to, in your individual home, or your planetary home. So the building, replacing, spending and growing should be careful and balanced, not just restrained and denied.

In the interest of balance, we have divided your home into its outdoors and its indoors, and then we'll consider sustainable practices, choices and improvements for the various elements comprising each.

Outdoors

Probably the most sustainable thing you can do outside your home is have less lawn. Lawns don't contribute to carbon-storage, and they often require harmful chemical inputs to "maintain." If you ruthlessly destroy all the natural flowering weeds, you are taking something useful out of the system, often at great and

wasteful expense. If you really especially like lawns, you might consider having a small one, as a treat.

The obvious and best alternative to a lawn is to devote as much land as practical to growing things that you can eat, or use, or that store carbon well and provide shade and beauty at the same time. So, gardening. Vegetable gardening, which includes a few ground-dwelling fruits, flower gardening, and herb gardening.

In my opinion, herb gardening is not only the highest use you can put your land to, but also a great investment of time and knowledge. Herbs are as beautiful as flowers, many of them are as edible as vegetables and fruits, and they often have side benefits, like enriching the soil, repelling pests, or attracting pollinators.

When you start studying about

See Home, page 8



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Home, from page 7

herbs for the purpose of growing them, you learn how arbitrary these labels are. Take sorrel. Is that an herb or a vegetable? Dandelion—weed or herb? To one trying to make a perfect lawn, it's a noxious weed, but then the co-op is selling dandelion extract at \$15 per ounce. It makes you think. Good gardening centers like Mother Earth Gardens have book sections where you can gain a wealth of knowledge: mother-earth-gardens-webstore.myshopify.com/collections/books.

Flower gardening may seem like an unsustainable practice at first glance, but it's still superior on several levels to growing lawn. No matter how beautiful your lawn, though, the flowers bordering it and maybe taking it over are more beautiful still, with fewer inputs. If you like cut flowers in your in-

door decor, growing them yourself saves a ton of excess carbon, a few bucks per bouquet, and gives you a glow of accomplishment and satisfaction. Also, some flowers, such as marigolds and morning glories, make good companion plants in your kitchen garden.

There are lots of "niche" garden styles for various specific purposes. A rain garden consists of water-loving, and attractive, plantings in a low spot in your garden, and helps to control floods and pools that might breed mosquitos or kill other plants, including grass and even trees. A rock garden is good for a sunny spot with poor soil. A pollinator garden is specifically designed to attract and nourish bees, butterflies and other pollinating little critters.

Vegetable gardening's benefits are so obvious, what do we need to say? What if you're just not a good gardener, though? You may



Castle Remodeling, bringing the indoors outdoors

have issues of age, mobility, or even time that make you hesitate to start a garden that might end up badly. Here's an idea—hire someone else to do the work you can't

do. Or, how about a swap, a cooperative agreement, or even urban sharecropping, where you provide the land and money, they provide the labor, and you agree ahead of time on a fair division of the output?

Some investment of technology may help overcome personal limitations, or environmental ones. For instance, older people may build raised beds or use straw-bale gardening techniques. Cold frames or small greenhouses can extend the growing season and the range of things you can grow. An irrigation system can make watering easier and more regular. There are so many home irrigation providers in the Twin Cities! They are mostly designed for huge lawns, but I'm sure some of them can provide for a gardener as well.

Which brings us to the subject of water. Here, in most of the U.S., water scarcity is not a big problem yet. But we still pay for water, and it's not inexhaustible. The use of rain barrels is a very sustainable practice which is catching on here. (In England, where I used to live, it was absolutely de rigeur.) Another piece of water conservation is preventing stormwater runoff pollution. We have an excellent watershed management organization in our local government where you can get thorough information on doing your part. If you're in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, like much of South Minneapolis, check out their website at www.minnehahacreek.org, or search the internet for other organizations.

Also, within the purview of outdoors are recreation equipment, trees and outbuildings, including garages, decks and patios. I am a big fan of the shed. In most European countries, almost every home has a shed. Allotments, similar to community gardens, allow plot holders to install a shed on their allotment, and gardeners (mostly men) hang out there all day.

Unless your garage is huge and your yard is tiny, consider adding a shed, a greenhouse, or some other useful outbuilding to your life.

Decks and patios can be considered like outbuildings, but open to the sky. I think decks are slightly more sustainable than patios, which are, after all, not that different from pavement. But either way, you can put large containers of plants on them for a slightly beneficial carbon effect. For a new deck, be sure to choose sustainable and fairly-traded materials to build and furnish it.

If you like to cook outdoors, consider a solar oven instead of a barbecue or gas cooker. Consider something more sustainable than a wood fire as a focus for evenings outdoors and forgo the fire pit or bonfire. Use strings of lights in the trees and a few solar lamps, for instance.

And finally, trees. Have as many trees on your land as it can sensibly support. Consult a tree expert

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Indoors

The sustainable principle here is to always have a reason for a building project, a renovation, an enhancement or a new purchase. Most of us just have too much stuff, and we need to find a way to slow our consumption, and thus our production, without creating want. Part of that is not consuming for its own sake.

Start by visualizing your home as an ideal of efficiency, sustainability, comfort and beauty. Make a plan before you buy or contract for services, and make sure that every choice is moving you toward your vision.

What most people spend the most money and energy on improving is either their kitchen or their bathroom, probably more so the kitchen. Kitchens are the big energy hogs of the home, besides heating and cooling systems, so this makes sense. You can get this same information from a good contractor, if you're using one for your renovation, and we do have contractors in our city that specialize in "green" building practices and sustainability. But in case you're a DIY person, here are some thoughts to get you started:

- Light - the more natural light, the less energy use. Also good for kitchen window herbs and microgreens.
- Herbs and microgreens - grow indoors to extend your output (and also as utilitarian decor).
- Energy-efficient appliances - pretty obvious.
- Sustainable materials for floors, countertops, backsplash, storage.
- Low VOC, less toxic paints.
- Water filtration system to replace buying bottled water for drinking, etc.
- Dishwashers save water and energy if you are a two-plus person household, but maybe not for a single person household.
- Multi-use appliances such as a microwave, pressure cooker or food processor save on production and transportation costs to the environment.
- Use "Buy Nothing" pages on Facebook (most South Minneapolis neighborhoods have one) or other sharing economy networks to give away and acquire, before you discard or purchase new.
- Garbage - have a recycling plan and station, and also a home composting system if possible. Consult the many resources on reducing waste. Use bfy.tw/Qr13.
- Water - water your houseplants with leftover non-polluted water. And don't waste it. Don't leave the tap running if the water's not being used. If you wash dishes by

hand, wash as many as possible before discarding water.

A lot of the same ideas apply to the rest of your home. Here's a list of some more ideas:

- Use window coverings to control temperature, such as cellular shades, quilted drapes, room-darkening blinds.
- Your heating and cooling system is the other high energy consumer in your home. Consider smart thermostats, solar items, small personal coolers, humidifying and/or dehumidifying. Upgrading to central air will save over time.
- Or just bite the bullet and go solar. A lot of people have decided it's now time. (Hooray for you if you do it! But don't think that gives you a pass on everything else.)
- Use water-saving technology in your bathroom and laundry too.
- Although it's nice to have a wood fire in a fireplace indoors or a fire pit outside, it's still contributing

to global warming and carbon release. Consider reducing wood and gas fires as much as possible by eating more raw foods, using a solar cooker, and not having a fire indoors in your fireplace.

- Use non-toxic or less toxic products everywhere! Things don't just disappear from the ecosystem when you put them down the drain or in the trash.
- Make sure furniture purchases are sustainable materials and fair-trade. (Fair-trade is especially important for imported rugs, which may be produced by child labor.)

I hope this has given you some good ideas on how to improve your home environment and the surrounding planetary environment at the same time. South Minneapolis is teeming with better experts than me, so find one and get the information you need.



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HOT SAUCE



Return of The Dish — Surveying the scene and a couple of takeout-delivery reviews

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

What I did during the pandemic

I didn't fare badly at all. I never ran very low on food, and didn't even run out of toilet paper, no thanks to my goofy fellow Americans. Delivery services were a lifeline to me, as amped-up food shelves and pop-up mutual aid sites were a lifeline to less fortunate neighbors. My church, Walker UMC in the Powderhorn neighborhood, barely missed a beat, pivoting smooth-ishly to takeout meals in late March, opening their doors to protestors, medics, food justice activists for the houseless, and more during the tense days of the uprising, and settling down to house a bunch of new radical organizations for the long haul. Meanwhile, I barely went out, did a lot of Zooming, and coordinated the Southside Pride "What's Open?" lists of recent memory.

I wish I could say I discovered a bunch of new foods or food vendors via the delivery services, but the truth is, I am very partial to Pizza Luce, and decidedly a creature of habit. Still, I discovered a few new

loves, listed below. I also got frequent supermarket/co-op sushi and a few other prepared meals. I leaned on Imperfect Foods, upping my subscription from every other week to weekly. I discovered Thrive Market, a market box delivery service. I did a "project" of buying meal kits from a number of companies, then wrote a blog comparing them. I did something similar with market boxes.

New foods I learned to love and where I got them

Beyond Burger on pizzas in place of any meat — PizzaLuce uses Beyond as a topping, and I am insanely happy about that.

Barramundi — I had heard of this but never had it until a meal kit I was trying featured it.

Basque-style fish stew — chunks of a single light white fish such as sole, cooked just three minutes at the end, in a rich tomato broth with smoked paprika, leek, and white wine, also from a meal kit.

Kimchi Beyond Brat — I invented this, inspired by the Kimchi Hotdog at Tiny Diner (which just suddenly reopened without warning a couple of

weeks ago). Organic whole-wheat bun, pan-fried Beyond Brat (Tofurkey Brat works too, not quite as yum, but cheaper), vegan mayo, lots of YouBetcha medium kimchi.

SkinnyDipped lemon-coated roasted almonds— bought from a meal kit, also available in some local stores.

Crio Bru roasted and brewed cacao— I got an ad for this repeatedly in games on my phone and gave it a shot.

Imperfect Foods upcycled oat milk cookies— a pound of tiny, delicate cookies, getting their taste and texture from the use of the fiber left over from making oat milk.

Restaurant, cafe, brewery, and distillery closings and disasters

Twin Cities Eater (an excellent resource for dining, you can subscribe to their emails for free) had a piece in December 2020 summarizing all the Twin Cities restaurants and such that closed over the whole year. See twincities.eater.com/closings for this and more recent closings news.

Last week, Sisters Sludge, my local coffee shop, had to close down temporarily and very suddenly when a huge chunk of the corner roof and side of their building fell off! It also collapsed the tent-shelters on their sidewalk seating. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Recent restaurant, cafe, brewery and distillery openings and reopenings

Memorial Day weekend I tried to visit two openings but

was discouraged by seeing long queues of people waiting to be served. (I can't bear waiting in line; must be why I don't like potlucks either, although I like the concept. But long lines are a good sign for the opening!) One had actually opened the week before, on May 21, and it had the longest lines — over two blocks long. This was Herbie Butcher's Fried Chicken in the old Elbow Room space on 48th Street just west of Chicago Avenue. They are takeout only, very of-the-moment. In case the name Herbie Butcher doesn't ring a bell, this is vegan fried chicken and vegan everything else that goes with fried chicken. It's the newest enterprise by the brother-sister team behind the wildly popular Herbivorous Butcher vegan deli in northeast Minneapolis. The other is a juice bar on Minnehaha at 40th street. Called Dripping Root, it was conceived and is owned by a woman of color and features all-raw vegan juices and smoothies.

A very recent reopening is Hector Ruiz's flagship restaurant Ena at 46th Street and Grand Avenue. I have not been there yet, although I've had a couple of meals at his other places. Tattersall Distillery has reopened their patio for service. Also, some time ago Surly Brewing announced they were reopening their massive patio.

But I don't think you should patronize Surly. They had a unionizing drive in 2020, and the management was despicable. The election was lost by only one vote. And shortly before the vote, they closed their

taproom and patio and laid off all the staff, which probably contributed to the difficulties in voting, which defeated the union. (This is why we need the PRO Act!) Read more about the Surly conflicts here — jacobinmag.com/2020/09/union-busting-minneapolis-surly-brewing-company and here — minnesota.cbslocal.com/2020/10/07/effort-to-unionize-surly-brewing-company-workers-fails/.

If you want an excellent union and co-op brew instead of Surly (which I was never that impressed by anyway) may I suggest Fair State Brewing Cooperative? You can also get it to go with orders at several Pizza Luce locations.

For new openings, there is also a brewery taproom — Arbeiter Brewing, a survivor of the civil unrest last May and June on Minnehaha Avenue as the sideshow to the burning of the 3rd Precinct police station. Arbeiter is right next to Moon Palace Books.

In the Midtown Global Market, the newest opening is Soul to Soul Smokehouse, a barbecue and soul food takeout (although food hall-style dining options in the market are available). And at the Mall of America (not my usual beat, but hey) an outlet of a famous East Coast chain —Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls — has opened.

Mini-Review — Reverie Cafe + Bar

I was one of the Kickstarter patrons of Reverie before they opened, and I still have credit



Reverie biscuits and gravy on the sidewalk patio

left from my "perq." I need to get there again soon. I loved Reverie in its old space on

See *The Dish*, page 11

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Locos Only

BY COOPER FELIEN-GATZMER
AND SAMUEL STROUP

Locos Only is a casual and stark conversation between Minneapolis music fanatics Cooper Felien-Gatzmer and Samuel Stroup about the most exciting, underground and loud greater-612 new releases. This month they review a Minneapolis metal release and a techno release.

Tvær -Uvær (Bindrune Recordings, May 2021)

Tvær is a black metal band from Minneapolis. Their debut album “Uvær” is out now on Bindrune Recordings and finds a strong black metal sensibility mixed with a melodic folk metal sound with notable guitar-forward arrangements.

Cooper: I love some of these eastern tonalities (If I may be so bold) in the intro, into what becomes a nail-biter of a first song.

Sam: For sure, these guys are so melodic while so dissonant at the same time. Each chord change is a total surprise.

Cooper: The first track (“I”)

comes in with the crunchiest lead guitar and the purest-growl. It locks in and out and back in again like a riff buffet.

Sam: And the vocalist (A.C.) has such a beautiful shriek. Equal parts death rattle and battle cry. These guys have such an awesome singer and such competent guitarists that they don’t need to shy away from instrumental breakdowns or vocal-centric moments, you feel?

Cooper: The guitarists (A.C. and M.H.) march through such anthemic melodies, especially on “II.” They give me heavy sea shanty vibes, to be honest. They also have the guitarists going in and out of heaviness, and have some great clean-tone dueling spells.

Sam: Yes bro, this band does such a great job of showcasing their guitarists; they play so well together but never step on each other’s strings, as it were. The guitar tones at work here are something of an embarrassment of riches. There are all these little moments on “Uvær” of prettiness that are made so much more

poignant by all the harshness that surrounds them.

Cooper: Definitely loving these sprawling outros and intros, serving a little stoner metal. I really like the clean mix. It’s anthemic. Sort of circumventing the sludge to arrive at this death growl—forgive me for being flippant with this metal terminology. The whole album gets dirtier as you get cleaner, like a towel.

Sam: Honestly, it’s a 10/10 for dropping a fresh, unique and noteworthy black metal album in a 2021 where Burzum is ostensibly a household name.

Cooper: And it’s a 10/10 for wondering which neighborhood in Minneapolis these guys are from.

Pillfinder - Shameless Opulence (Eyemyth Records, released April 2021)

Pillfinder is a Minneapolis underground techno project from Benjamin Mills, aka Unpure Impulse.

Cooper: This tape is like sucking down a Newport as you exit the club wiping the sweat off your temples. Praying the Uber driver has a

cassette player, PLEASE can I pop “Shameless Opulence” in? Or at least pass the aux.

Sam: Exactly, this is music for staying up until the sun comes up, and the music mirrors that. Pillfinder has all these drunkenly confident synth lines that echo and pulse but always push forward.

Cooper: This IS Midwestern underground techno. My favorite track has got to be “In a Hostile Way.”

Sam: Yeah, the crunch of the kick drum and the sheer grittiness of the bass bring this joint to life. For me, “No Spin Zone” took the cake. All the little metallic percussion hits were so cool I felt like I was a piston headed down the assembly line at a factory.

Cooper: A hit-making factory, no doubt. The award for crispiest and most unrelenting high hats go to Pillfinder.

Sam: Along with the award for most insistent synths, Pillfinder drills home these ghostly little ostinatos with a purpose.

Cooper: Literally, all in all I’m getting very pure and refined techno. It’s experi-

mental without distractions; the man is totally steadfast in the vision.

Sam: Not to mention exceedingly hard-hitting. And honestly, it’s the drum sequencing for me. All the little blips and metallic hits in his beats make the tracks so rich and cultivate such a vibe. One moment the drums will be the focus of the song and in a moment they become part of the backdrop.

Cooper: Which track do you think had the most crispy, crunchy, gnarliest vibe?

Sam: Gotta be track five, “Your Obsession.”

Cooper: Oh yeah, I’m definitely frantically shredding incriminating documents to track five.

Sam: “You wouldn’t download a car”-type music for sure.

Cooper: Respectfully, “Shameless Opulence” is a 10/10 for not having any skips and keeping me engaged and enthralled. Pillfinder’s obsessive and apparent love and knowledge of underground techno music. Keep it coming.

The Dish, from page 10

Franklin Avenue, I loved it as a food truck, and I love it in its new location at 35th and Bloomington Avenue. I hope they will open indoor dining soon, because I prefer that greatly to either taking stuff home or sidewalk dining (although theirs is pretty decent, comfortable and sheltered from traffic and sun.)

Reverie is all vegan, or plant-based as we say now. They make their own secret veggie burger mix, and also make cashew milk and other ingredients from scratch for their cremas, dips, and other dairy alternatives. They have a full wine list, a full beer and cider list, and a full coffee drink service, with options including soy, oat, and almond, as well as their own “house milk.” They have a house-made cookie, and/or vegan ice cream from Crepe and Spoon for those with a sweet tooth.

Currently they are open for takeout only, but they did at some point add weekend brunch service. I had brunch once in their old space and it was great. I have had and strongly recommend the Rev Burger, with rooibos tomato jam and kimchi, the potato wedges, the cauliflower taco, the nacho meal kit, and the mac and cheese with shiitake bacon.

Mini-Review — Cajun Boiling

I feel like such a traitor doing this. Not only is Cajun Boiling not a vegan restaurant, but it’s in the old space at Franklin and Nicollet that Reverie was kicked out of several years back by their landlord! Oh, why can’t we all just get along? Oh, yeah, I know why ...

But anyway, I recently tried Cajun Boiling, delivered via Bite Squad. I had a craving for oysters. Oysters are not some-



Cajun Boiling

thing you boil, although they do sell them steamed, but I had the “fried basket” option. I got sweet potato fries for my side order. It was all well-prepared, very fresh, and delivered efficiently by the delivery service. I think the boiled Cajun combo would be a better test of their skills, and the seafood gumbo would be a better test of their Cajun authenticity. I may order again. A pound of boiled crawfish with corn on the cob and boiled potatoes for only \$14.99 sounds enticing. (They also have beignets for dessert!)





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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / POWDERHORN EDITION

EVENTS

Pearl Park Playground Outdoor "Open House"

Sunday, June 8, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Outdoors at Pearl Park
414 E. Diamond Lake Rd., Mpls.
Join MPRB project staff and your Pearl Park community to review and comment on the current design concepts for Pearl Park's new playground. Everyone is invited! Drop by any time between 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. — there is no scheduled presentation. MPRB staff will follow all CDC guidelines in effect at the time; masks and hand sanitizer will be available. In case of rain, join us in a Zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/92656784119?pwd=ZlZmZGloT0tmMU0xS2duZEt0ZFA5UT09>.

Poet Nathaniel Mackey, in conversation with Joseph Donahue

Wednesday, June 9, 5:30 p.m.

Free via Crowdcast

Sponsored by Rain Taxi

Join us for a conversation and reading with Nathaniel Mackey, to celebrate his two new publications: "Double Trio" (New Directions), a box set of three interrelated books that push Mackey's long poem vision into new territory, and "Fugitive Equation" (Fonograf Editions), an album of sound and word exploration performed across two nights in London by the poet and the Creaking Breeze Ensemble. Together these works cement what so many have long known: that Mackey's improvisational blend of free jazz and poetic seeking is without peer.

At this special event, Mackey will appear in conversation with a fellow poet-explorer of the long poem, Joseph Donahue. Free to attend, registration required at <https://www.raintaxi.com/nathaniel-mackey/>. We hope to "see"

you there! Books can be purchased either during the event or in advance from Magers & Quinn Booksellers in Minneapolis at www.magersandquinn.com. Fun Fact: Any and all books you purchase via this link help support Rain Taxi's virtual event series—thank you!

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.supportclub.org/daniel-james-brown>.

Trellis and Senior LinkAge Line

Events in June

Senior LinkAge Line

Thursday, June 10, 10 a.m.

The Senior LinkAge Line provides information and assistance to seniors, Medicare beneficiaries and caregivers. We'll cover your questions about Medicare benefits and options, talk through how to age and live well in the community and connect you to resources.

Register at: <https://trellisconnects.org/sign-up-presentation/entry/617/>.

Medicare 101

Tuesday, June 15, 2 p.m.

This presentation introduces what is covered by Parts A, B, C and D of Medicare, as well as what additional insurance options are available. The enrollment process and options for enrollment in Medicare will be discussed along with the personal costs of the program. We will address the donut hole and eligibility for extra help with prescription drug costs. We will introduce the services of the Senior LinkAge Line® that include assistance making personal comparisons using the Medicare.gov website and the Health Care Choices booklet, published by the Minnesota Board on Aging. Register at: <https://trellisconnects.org/sign-up-presentation/entry/618/>.

Health Care Fraud: Preventing Fraud and Avoiding Scams

Thursday, June 24, 10 a.m.

This Senior LinkAge Line presentation will teach you how to detect Medicare fraud and what to do if Medicare fraud is suspected. We discuss the top scams currently being directed towards seniors and highlight why seniors are specifically targeted. We'll offer tips on how to avoid falling for scams and where to get help.

Register at: <https://trellisconnects.org/sign-up-presentation/entry/619/>.

Health Care Directives

Tuesday, June 29, 10 a.m.

Leaving instructions about your health care choices helps ensure decisions are made that are based on your values and preferences, even if you are unable to make your wishes known. We will equip you with the knowledge and resources you need to create your directive.

Register at: <https://trellisconnects.org/sign-up-presentation/entry/620/>.

U of M School of Music Events

Symphonic Band Virtual Performance

Thursday, June 10, 7:30 p.m.

Online

Symphonic Band presents their final performance of the academic year. Featuring arrangements of works by Brahms, Beethoven, Handel, Krommer, and Winkler; original works by Strauss, Mouret, Daughtrey, Toch, and Zdechlik. Also featuring a new composition by student and Symphonic Band percussionist, Aarush Bothra. Jerry Luckhardt, Lance Sample, and David Roush, conductors. Caleb Danielson, Mary Grace Shearon, and Jacques Tounignant, undergraduate conductors. To view the program, see https://issuu.com/uofmsom/docs/061021_symphonic_issuu. This performance is free and open to the public, and will be airing on the School of Music's YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/umnmusic>.

University of Minnesota Jazz

Ensembles

Wednesday, June 16, 7:30 p.m.

Online

The University of Minnesota Jazz Ensembles will present their next virtual performance on Wednesday, June 16 at 7:30 p.m. The performance will feature Jazz 1 and 2, as well as the 10:10 and 11:15 Jazz Combos. The program features works by Brown, Mobley, Shorter, Santamaria, Badu, Garrett, Hancock

(arr. Morales), Hines, Sorenson, Strayhorn (arr. Clayton), Washut, Corea, and Gershwin. Phil Hey and Dean Sorenson, directors. View the program at https://issuu.com/uofmsom/docs/61621_jazzensembles_issuu. This performance is free and open to the public, and will be airing on the School of Music's YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/umnmusic>.

Cedar Cultural Center Call for Artists

Virtual Q&A session for applicants on

Saturday, June 12, 2 to 3 p.m.

Applications due Wednesday,

June 30

Cedar Cultural Center Call for Artists has begun for the 2021-2022 Cedar Commissions. Go to the main Cedar Commissions page on the Cedar Theater website for more information. For those who have begun their application process and have specific questions, there will be a virtual Q&A session held on Saturday, June 12, 2-3 p.m. CT. A previous Cedar Commissions artist will be present as well for this virtual gathering. https://www.thecedar.org/cedar-commissions?mc_cid=c-4c01c0caa&mc_eid=0f86f96e85

Selby Fest 2021

Saturday, June 12, 1 to 5 p.m.

Snelling and Selby Avenues, St. Paul
Shops and businesses of the Snelling-Selby Area Business Association are open to welcome families, residents, and students for fun and live music and special shopping discounts from dozens of boutiques and restaurants. Free to all (social distancing/masks as needed) on Saturday, June 12, from 1 to 5 p.m. Begin at Selby and Snelling intersection, and head east and west on Selby to Fairview, and north and south on Snelling. Kids will love Silly Miss Tilly




RADIO WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

KFAI .org

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POWDERHORN EDITION

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

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

Southside Pride
3200 CHICAGO AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55407
CALL US AT 612-822-4662
email us at editor@southsidepride.com or edfelien@southsidepride.com

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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / POWDERHORN EDITION

(Facebook.com/SillyMissTilly/) at 2 to 3:30 p.m. with her animal balloons. And everyone will enjoy live music from Frederick the First (Facebook.com/FrederickTheFirstSounds/) at Cahoots Coffee patio 1:30 to 4 p.m., and banjo and guitar from Twin Town Strings (Facebook.com/twintown-strings/) at Wheeler and Selby 2 to 3:30 p.m., and a special performance from country-western songman Trevor McSpadden (<http://trevormcspadden.com>) at the Snelling-Selby corner from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Explore what Selby at Snelling has to offer!

Community Input Meetings on E. Lake Street Building Mural

Saturday, June 12, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Monday, June 14, 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Via Zoom, with limited in-person attendance

The Family Partnership 1527 E. Lake St., Mpls. The Family Partnership has engaged City Mischief to create a large-scale mural for the east-facing exterior wall of its new Building for Better Futures resource center at 1527 E. Lake Street. Community members are invited to meet with the artists and The Family Partnership to learn more about the vision for the mural and provide input towards the design. The vision for the mural is to reflect and celebrate the diversity and strengths of Minneapolis families. The meetings will be virtual through Zoom with very limited in-person attendance on Saturday, June 12 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., or Monday, June 14 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Somali and Spanish language interpreters will be at the meetings. When you register let The Family Partnership know if you require the very limited in-person meeting option or an additional interpreter. Register here: www.LakeStMural.eventbrite.com. Questions? info@thefamilypartnership.org.

Shine a Light Concert: Music for Aniya

Sunday, June 13, 4 to 10 p.m.
Minnesota Music Café

499 Payne Ave., St. Paul The Minnesota Music Cafe is pleased to host on Sunday, June 13, a special afternoon event, Shine A Light Concert, Music for Aniya. The family and friends of Aniya Allen want you to join them at the Minnesota Music Cafe as they mourn Aniya Allen's tragic death and honor her grandfather, Mr. K.G. Wilson. K.G. Wilson is a peace activist, community ambassador and a longtime friend and patron of the Minnesota Music Cafe. A select group of Minnesota bands and musicians will be performing including: The Good, Bad & The Funky; JayBee & The Routine; Jellybean Johnson; Finesse; Funktion Junction; The High & Mighty; and De' Monica Flye & friends. The family of Aniya Allen and these Minnesota musicians want the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro community to come together for a concert focused on PEACE, HOPE and HEALING. The event starts at 4 p.m. and goes until 10 p.m. More info at (651)776-4699 or www.minnesotamusicafe.com.

Call for Proposals: The Off-Kilter Cabaret, by Off-Leash Area
Apply by Monday, June 14
Performances on Aug. 19, 20 and 22
Off-Kilter is a new community program of Off-Leash Area to highlight and support performance work by artists with disabilities. Artists are being sought now to present work at the Off-Kilter Cabaret Aug. 19, 20 and 22 in the outdoor rail court at the Mill City Museum. This site (of the Mill City Farmers' Market, next to the Guthrie Theater) will feature an accessible stage with full lighting, sound and projection capability, and retain the steampunk vibe of the reclaimed industrial site. The event

includes accessibility accommodations such as sign language interpreting, captioning and audio description, as well as current protocols following CDC and state COVID guidelines such as physically distanced seating, masks, etc. Artists with disabilities are asked to submit proposals by June 14 of a 5-to-10-minute piece they would perform on the theme "Organ Recital." Off-Leash Area co-artistic director Jennifer Ilse says, "We hope to provoke artists to propose risky, unapologetic, and entertaining performances, using their body organs and systems as inspiration." Seven artists or artist groups will be selected. The call for proposals is available now on the Off-Leash Area website, www.offleasharea.org/off-kilter. Off-Leash Area, under Ilse and co-artistic director Paul Herwig, has a history of more than 20 years of presenting original interdisciplinary performance work. The Off-Kilter Advisory Group and Selection Panel from the disability community also include: writer and storyteller Amy Salloway, arts accessibility consultant Jon Skaalen, dance artist Mike Cohn, and Sam Jasmine, host of the Disability and Progress program on KFAI.

Spring into Summer: Photographs by Cate Vermeland
Through Summer 2021
Tuesday through Sunday, 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Isles Bun & Coffee 1424 W. 28th St., Mpls. Cate Vermeland, photographer and faculty member at Concordia College, presents a new exhibition of her work at Isles Bun & Coffee, on view through Summer 2021. The artist can be contacted at www.catevermeland.photos.

What's Going on at the M?
Outer Experiences: Black Life in Rural and Suburban Minnesota
Through June 20, 2021
The M, Window Galleries Robert St. N. and 4th Street, and Skyway Ecolab Entrance "Outer Experiences," presented in partnership with the African American Interpretive Center of Minnesota (AAICM), explores the experience of being Black outside of the Twin Cities. "Outer Experiences" coloring books are available for pick-up at the M's Robert Street Window Gallery. This companion coloring book is beautifully illustrated by Leeya Rosa Jackson and drew its inspiration from Chris McDuffie's photographs as well as the lives of notable

Black historical figures from Greater Minnesota.

Wise, Gifted, and Black: Art by the Magnificent Golden Agers
June 27-July 17
Window gallery Robert Street N., St. Paul As part of a seven-session residency led by teaching artists Nicole M. Smith and Lawrence El Grecco Waddell at Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, members of their group of women elders—known as the Magnificent Golden Agers—have created powerful collages, written reflections, poetry, and photographs that reflect discussions around the themes of Black identity and the intersection of art and activism.
St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS) 2021 Honors Visual Art Exhibition
June 27-July 17
Window gallery, 4th Street The 2021 Honors Visual Art Exhibition celebrates the creativity and achievements of student artists from seven St. Paul Public Schools (SPPS) high schools. The works on view, all made by SPPS Honors art students, demonstrate a variety of paths to artistic self-discovery—from technically disciplined to playful, from highly personal to globally-minded—and showcase artworks created using a range of mediums, styles, and techniques.

Birdhouse Upscale Challenge
Entries due Tuesday, June 22
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity's ReStore home improvement outlets are sponsoring the "Birdhouse Upscale Challenge": a chance to unleash your creativity to build a birdhouse using existing materials or those purchased at ReStore. The houses will provide homes to area birds and the top three builders can win significant discounts for a year at ReStore. The first-place winner will receive a 35% discount for a year while second-place winner gets 20% and third place gets 10% off. The public can vote on the best houses on ReStores' Facebook and Instagram pages where a "like" or "heart" indicates a vote. The top three picks will then be shared on WCCO-TV Morning News where anchors Jason DeRusha and Heather Brown will pick first, second, and third place on the air on July 2. Birdhouse entries are due June 22 and online voting begins June 24. To sign up and learn more about the Upcycle Challenge: <https://restore.tchabitat.org/blog/join-the-birdhouse-upcycle-challenge>.

LOG JAM! A Paul Bunyan Musical Spectacular

May 27 - June 20
The Bakken Museum 3537 Zenith Ave., Mpls. Presented by Open Eye Theatre Grab your lawn chair and your favorite plaid shirt and meet us outdoors for a REAL LIVE SHOW! This comic music-theatre contraption will have it all — including a trio of musical lumberjacks, a bouncing ice ball, and 8 indie theatre superstars! When the logging town of Oakpine Falls falls victim to a polar vortex that quarantines the populace and freezes her mother in a ball of ice, young Betty Kensack sets out on a quest to bring the legendary Paul Bunyan out of retirement. Heartwarming hilarity ensues as Betty, Babe the Blue Ox, and a crew of rowdy lumberjacks join Minnesota's famous folk hero on a quest to melt the ice and bring back the sun. LOG JAM! is a witty and subversive riff on a local legend, and perfect for a night out with friends and family. More info and tickets available at: <http://www.openeyetheatre.org/log-jam>.

Coming to the Table: 2021 Virtual National Gathering

BOLD: Building Our Legacy Daily
June 24-27
Online

Dr. Joy DeGruy, author of "Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome," will be our keynote speaker on opening night. Yeye Luisah Teish, teacher, dancer, storyteller, high priestess and author, will be our featured speaker on Friday. Alex Trapps-Chabala, historian, genealogist, and founder of KinConnector, will be our featured speaker on Sunday. This will be a different type of National Gathering since we'll gather "virtually" rather than in person. The schedule will take into account our multiple time zones so West Coast participants won't need to get up too early, and East Coast participants won't need to stay up too late. One big advantage will be the cost. Without expenses for travel, accommodations or meals, the only expense will be the cost of registration. To register, go to <https://comingtothetable.wedid.it/events/679>. There will be multiple presentations, breakout sessions, and opportunities to connect with fellow CTTT members in both structured and unstructured settings. There will be a strong focus on

launching and sustaining local groups, as well as on Linked Descendants, Reparations, Genealogy and many additional tools for Taking America Beyond the Legacy of Enslavement (TABLE). Privacy Statement: Most sessions (other than those where deep/personal or unstructured sharing takes place) will be recorded. CTTT does its best to protect the privacy of our members and all NG participants, balanced with the commitment to be as accessible as possible. This is another advantage to being "virtual" this year. All registrants will be offered access to view all sessions, including breakouts, after the NG. Scholarship Support: CTTT has a limited amount of scholarship funding available to support those with limited income. Please go to <https://comingtothetable.org/contact-us/> and complete the Contact Us form to request more information and/or an application form. Please note in your message that your request for scholarship information is for the National Gathering.

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

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 Garden season is here! If you're starting a backyard garden from scratch or want to up your game with the one you already have, the two remaining classes of 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/minneapolis/parks/Activity_Search/117831 to preregister. A Zoom link will be emailed out prior to each class.

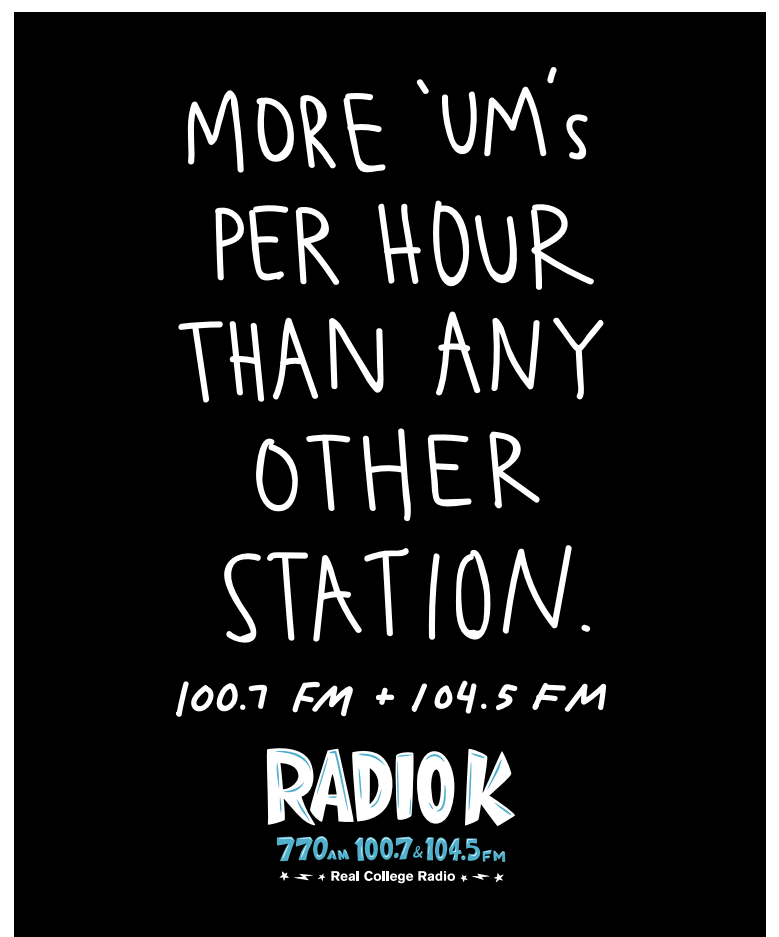


We will no longer be individually distributing the Consumer Confidence Report (water quality report).

Contact 612-673-3000 to receive a copy or view online at

www.minneapolis.gov/publicworks/water/CCR

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City of Lakes



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*** Real College Radio ***

EVENTS

Lake Harriet Bandshell Service Sunday, June 6, 10 a.m.

Lake Harriet Bandshell
4135 W. Lake Harriet Pkwy., Mpls.
Join our community and St. Joan of Arc members for this great prayer service (not a Mass). More info at www.saint-joanofarc.org/.

Crossriver Block Party 3.0 The Remix Thursday, June 10, 4 to 7 p.m.

Temple of Aaron parking lot
616 Mississippi River Blvd. S., St. Paul
Crossriver Block Party is hosted in the Temple of Aaron parking lot with food trucks, fun trucks and more! This event spans all ages and includes unique experiences for children, live music, games, and opportunities for adults of all ages. It has become a community event not just for Temple of Aaron but for all of the Highland neighborhood and Twin Cities. For more info, see our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/templeofaaron. RSVP appreciated to Danaethorpe@templeofaaron.org.

Community Devotional Day Sunday, June 13, 10 to 11 a.m.

Bahá'i Center of Minneapolis
3644 Chicago Ave. S.
Please join us for a special devotional on Sunday, June 13, to honor the efforts to build community in the neighborhood. www.minneapolisbahai.org

Discerning our Moral Commitments Together Thursday, June 17, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Online
Faith leaders, interfaith organization leadership and volunteers, people of all faith backgrounds, those of no faith commitments, and everyone committed to the flourishing of all communities in Minnesota are invited to participate in a deep conversation about our shared moral commitments as we grapple with all the ways the pandemic and oppression is causing harm. This event sponsored by Minnesota Multifaith Network. To register and get tickets, go to <https://bit.ly/3w8fW6S>.

Personal Pilgrimage Time Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, 5 to 7 p.m.

St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral
519 Oak Grove St., Mpls.
A time for quiet, a time for prayer. The

cathedral nave is open for Personal Pilgrimage.
Registration is not necessary for pilgrimages, and we will limit the number in the nave to 10 people, appropriately distanced. Face masks are required, along with health and temperature check at the doorway. The door to use for personal pilgrimages is the Narthex door, facing Loring Park. <https://ourcathedral.org/lenten-pilgrimages-2021/>

Braver Angels Workshops Saturdays in June

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:
Skills for Bridging the Divide:
First Saturday of each month
Families and Politics: Second Saturday of each month
Depolarizing Conversations About Race: Third Saturday of each month
Depolarizing Within:
Fourth 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/>.

Anticipate new refugees

The Minnesota Council of Churches is looking ahead with hope and anticipation as we prepare to begin welcoming more people and families to Minnesota in the months to come in light of President Biden's revised refugee admissions numbers. Would you consider how you might help us rebuild our programs and support? We will be in need of increased amounts of donated household items and connections to affordable housing. Our greatest need right now is for new standard size bed pillows. We are also in need of liquid hand soap pumps; deodorant – both men's and women's; bar soap; men's shaving cream; men's disposable razors; toothpaste; and electric alarm clocks. To arrange a drop-off, please

email.rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org.

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 noon to 1 p.m., CST. Consider it your mid-week opportunity to explore faith, ignite imagination, and renew community with the Collegeville Institute. For more info and to register, go to <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/>.
'Merton on My Mind' with Sophronia Scott
Wednesday, July 7, noon

What is the connection between contemplation and action? Is there ever such a thing as a wrong answer to a spiritual question? How do we care about the brutality in the world while not becoming overwhelmed by it? In this Collegeville Connections event, Sophronia Scott shares her deep dive into the private journals of the famous Trappist monk Thomas Merton, and the connection she found in his pages that led to her new book "The Seeker and the Monk: Everyday Conversations with Thomas Merton." As a Black woman who is not Catholic, Scott both learns from and pushes back against Merton, holding spirited and intimate conversations on race, ambition, faith, activism, nature, prayer, friendship, and love. To register, go to <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/event/merton-on-my-mind/>.

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

Minneapolis Friends Meeting is looking forward to summer, and continuing to join in silent worship together, via Zoom. **Worship services are Sundays, 10 a.m.** Other Meeting activities will resume in the Fall. Office email: office@minneapolisfriends.org. www.minneapolisfriends.org

Bahá'i Center of Minneapolis

3644 Chicago Ave., Mpls.
Devotions at the Bahá'i Center and via Zoom, Sundays at 10 a.m., and Tuesdays via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. Please visit the Bahá'i community of Minneapolis website at www.minneapolisbahai.org/. Here you will find information about upcoming and past Holy Day celebrations, as well as news, announcements and information.

Calvary Lutheran Church

3901 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls.
Sunday Worship at 10 a.m. See our website at www.clchurch.org for more information.

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 10 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/>.
Sunday Worship at 9:45 a.m.
Go to church website for live and online info.

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

Outdoor worship Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Minnehaha Side Lawn. (One service, unless two services are warranted due to attendance.) Service is livestreamed and then available to watch online. If raining, people stay home; worship leaders livestream the service from the sanctuary without a congregation. If attending outdoor worship, please wear a face covering/mask; stay home if sick or exposed; and practice physical distancing. Visit our website at www.minnehaha.org/ for more information.

New Creation Baptist Church

1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.
Reopening for in-person worship on Sunday, June 6. We welcome you to come fellowship with us at 10:45 a.m. Sunday Devotion online 10:45 a.m. on Facebook and YouTube www.facebook.com/NewCreationBaptistChurch/ <https://newcreationbaptistchurchmn.org/>

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.
Beginning Sunday, June 6, in-person worship outside on the lawn. Bring a lawn chair and join us! Sundays at 10 a.m., weather permitting. First, third, and fourth Sundays of the month at Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church; second Sunday of the month at Pearl Park. For more info, please visit www.nokomisheights.org or 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/walker-umc/ for more information.

SHARING FOOD

Calvary Lutheran Church 3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.

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

Groveland Emergency Food Shelf 1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.

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

Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and Friendship Community Service

2600 E. 38th St., Mpls.
Food Hub
Free food, hygiene products, and some household goods.
Tuesday and Thursday,
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
2nd and 4th Saturdays,
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Please bring ID and wear a mask.
Social distancing guidelines are in place.

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

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

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

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

The Powderhorn Religious Community Welcomes You

Bahá'i

BAHÁ'I CENTER OF MINNEAPOLIS

3644 Chicago Ave. S., 612-823-3494
MinneapolisBahai@gmail.com
Devotions at the Bahá'i Center and via Zoom, Sundays 10 am, and Tuesdays via Zoom 6:30 pm
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
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!

ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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



*All Directory
Churches are
Wheelchair
Accessible*

Agape receives contribution for peacemaking work in the community

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

Kelly Neumann, principal/owner of Neumann Law Group based in Michigan, came to Minneapolis on April 15 to meet with Agape because she felt that giving a donation remotely didn't mean as much.

In her remarks to the group, she said the time has come when "we can't be idle anymore, when we have to stand up." She hopes her law firm can inspire other large, financially successful entities to appreciate community organizations such as Agape and help to keep them up and running. In addition, she expressed a desire to educate herself about racism in this culture.

Following her statements, a discussion at the Agape office building offered her, and the other white allies present, a small beginning.

We were there for maybe several hours. I learned that in

order to build healthy communities, where young men don't need to engage in violence, Agape provides education and support.

In African and Native cultures there is no such thing as a teenager. Boys go from boys to men. Boys are mentored by older men, who are called healers. A program called Rite of Passage is currently being developed.

Steve Floyd, a co-founder of the Agape Movement back in the '80s, talked about how important it is for boys, and young men, to leave the four- to eight-block area where they grew up. He's taken many of them on life-changing trips. For example, in Senegal they can see "real poverty where there's community." In other words, they can see that poverty doesn't automatically cause the breakdown of community—not that he advocates poverty.

Also, the trauma of day-to-day life is something Agape can help with. Reggie Ferguson, one of the founders of Agape at 38th Street, said, "People see us, hear about us. When they come, we set 'em down and talk to 'em." Young men and boys are encouraged to share feelings as a way to deal with trauma. One young

man vividly described the day George Floyd was killed, his fear that the victim was literally his brother, his relief that it wasn't literally his brother and then the overwhelming sorrow and anger and knowledge that George Floyd was indeed, a brother.

During the discussion a young Black man explained that he and his wife are highly educated, make good money, live in a suburb and are doing well. Yet, because he tries to be open to the experiences of others, he is engaged in an ongoing, often painful, conversation with a white neighbor who is overtly racist in his views. The young man talked for quite a long time about this difficult relationship and then apologized for monopolizing the conversation.

Bridgette Stewart, who is one of a handful of young Black women engaged with Agape, responded that this is precisely what Agape does: It provides a safe place to talk about feelings. She said that every experience of racism is a new trauma. It "rips off another band-aid," and that's why it's important to process feelings by talking about them.

At the end, Steve Floyd recommended a 30-minute Netflix film called "Two Distant Strangers,"

which portrays the fear young Black men in this country live with. Despite the centuries of fear, Agape nevertheless (along with other similar groups like Freedom Fighters, Touch Outreach, Push for Peace) patrols the streets, unarmed, deescalating potentially violent situations that arise.

The money from Neumann Law Group will be used for equipment needed on patrols, such as walkie talkies, rain jackets and T-shirts, as well as miscellaneous needs, from printer paper to repairs in the office building.

Early on Thursday morning, June 3, city workers came to George Floyd Square and began removing the concrete barriers that closed off the square to through traffic. Agape, who had originally put up the first barriers last May, was the group that had approached the mayor and the police chief about opening up the square. Agape had surveyed the neighborhood and found that about 90 percent of the neighbors wanted it open. They were also sensitive to the struggling businesses, and they were opposed to people up to no good who took advantage of the

lack of police presence. Agape helped choose the design of the memorial that would remain in place, and then, on Thursday, were there to make sure the transition occurred without violence. Agape continues to be committed to the healing space created at George Floyd Square.



Kelly Neumann, principal/owner of Neumann Law Group based in Michigan, hands a check to Reggie Ferguson of Agape, a nonprofit based at George Floyd Square. The donation was going to be \$5000 but then escalated to \$7500. (This is one time that escalation is a good thing.)

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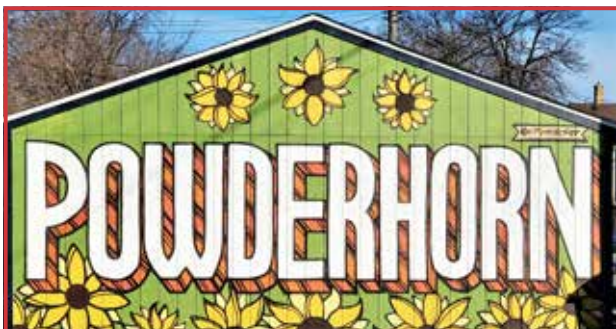
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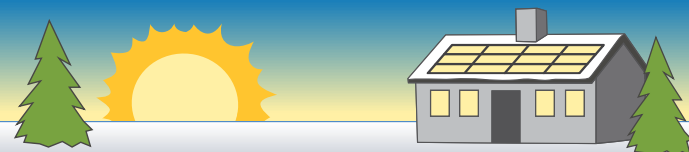
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