



We build Pride on the Southside

RIVERSIDE EDITION

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Why I love cops



BY TONY BOUZA

One of the many flaws I've nurtured over what seems to have evolved into an interminable stay on the planet is a serious predilection for criticism. I'm always going on about this idiot or that fool. Surely I can't be infallible on the issues. And I am frequently, if at all, thought to be an acerbic critic of cops rather than a loving one.

So today I thought I'd assess a few genuine positives - (I once traveled to Manhattan to hear the Rev. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale hold forth on "The Power of Positive Thinking," the Harvey Mackay of his time. I was singularly unmoved and carried on with my merry carping about supernumerated superannuateds. That seemed a lot more fun.)

Then I looked back on my career.

Wherever I went I was a change agent - really only because changes were clearly and desperately needed.

So what was the reaction?

The cops made ev-

See Bouza, page 2



Bethany Lutheran Church closed Sept. 12

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

"The Times They Are A-changin'" is ever true.

Sunday, Sept. 12, was a "bittersweet" morning, said Bethany's Pastor Jeffrey Schulz at the final worship service of Seward neighborhood's Bethany Lutheran Church. An ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church of America) congregation at 25th and Franklin Avenues, it was the oldest church in

Seward.

Founded in 1902, Bethany throughout its lifetime never shied away from controversy. When the very popular, creative and civic-minded pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, M. Falk Gjertsen, who had been accused of sexual impropriety, left Trinity to become Bethany's first pastor, Bethany started out by believing in Pastor Gjertsen's innocence.

Many changes took place over the years - a

fire destroyed the first church and a second was built, the Norwegian language and the lufefisk gradually faded away, the iconic F. Melius Christiansen was not the organist forever, the freeway came through the neighborhood, the Romantic (as opposed to Baroque) pipe organ installed in 1974 was "fried" in an electrical storm (as Bethany's pianist Harrison Wade described it) - yet, Bethany faithfully went on build-

See Bethany, page 4

Who is running in the 6th Ward?

BY ED FELIEN

Southside Pride sent the following to the two candidates running to represent the 6th Ward on the Minneapolis City Council, Abdirizak Bihi and the incumbent, Jamal Osman:

"Southside Pride will be publishing a Guide for Voters in the 6th Ward in our upcoming Riverside edition coming out Sept. 20. We would like you to answer the following three questions. Please write no more than 50 words as your answer for each question. Please return your answers to me no later than noon on Wednesday, Sept. 15.

1. Do you support the part of the 2040 Plan that calls for unrestricted zoning in the Phillips West, Ventura Village and Seward neighborhoods?
2. Would you support residency for City employees?
3. What steps would you take to hold Minneapolis police officers accountable?"

Neither candidate contacted us by deadline.



Abdirizak Bihi, left, and incumbent Jamal Osman

Southside Pride has strongly objected to that part of the 2040 Plan that calls for changing the zoning of the inner city from Broadway in the north to 42nd Street in the south to allow construction of three- and four-story apartment buildings. The Phillips West, Ventura Village and Seward neighborhoods are a wonderful mix of ethnic communities. They are NOAH's Ark - NOAH stands for Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing. This zoning change will evict those communities and replace them with Young Urban Professionals. That process is called gentrification - eliminate the minorities and poor people and replace them with Yuppies.

See Ward 6, page 3

**Our 9th Annual
Celebrate Fall on Selby Avenue
Pages 8 & 9**

Cleaning up phosphorus in Lake Hiawatha

BY KATHRYN KELLY

Lake Hiawatha is impaired with phosphorus. Much discussion has happened over the past few years about how to resolve this issue. What is the solution? There are several possible solutions: (1) implement natural wetlands (called constructed wetlands), (2) control the sources of excess phosphorus, and/or (3) phosphorus mitigation through chemical process.

1. Recent plans have proposed natural (constructed) wetlands to reduce phosphorus in Lake Hiawatha. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) site selection guidelines reveal that use of constructed wetlands at Lake Hiawatha would not meet criteria needed for a successful implementation, thus making

it an inappropriate solution for Lake Hiawatha. These criteria include:

- Do not implement in a flood plain (Lake Hiawatha and Hiawatha golf course are in a flood plain).
- Do not implement near other properties (the park is surrounded by a residential area).
- Do not implement in an area with a high throughput of water (Lake Hiawatha has one of the highest throughputs of water in the state of Minnesota).
- Do not build on peat (soil surrounding Lake Hiawatha is heavy in peat).

2. Other solutions include controlling and mitigating the sources of the phosphorus. Best practices say this should be the first solution to be considered. Some measures are

already in place. Minnesota state law prohibits the use of phosphorus on turf grass in the metro area, including golf courses and parks, which reduces phosphorus release into the lake over time. Also, policies are in place to encourage people to keep plant material out of the storm sewers. Future plans may include further enhancement of the natural buffers around Lake Hiawatha to mitigate phosphorus runoff. Plus, all communities in the watershed can implement Best Management Practices by mitigating phosphorus introduction at all outfalls to Minnehaha Creek. These measures would help to reduce the amount of phosphorus coming into Lake Hiawatha.

3. A third solution would treat the water in Lake Hiawatha by a chemical process called flocculation. One method introduces a chemical into the lake that binds the phosphorus to create floc, which sinks to the lake bottom. This



Jordan Vennes, Richfield Water Resources Engineer, explains how this machine removes phosphorus from the water in Taft Lake to Charles Rodgers and Kathryn Kelly.

is a one-time treatment solution. This process has been done at Bald Eagle Lake in Hugo, Minn. Another possibility is to construct a flocculation facility at Lake Hiawatha. Under the leadership of Hennepin County Commissioner Debbie Goettel, former mayor of Richfield, such a facility was built at Taft Lake in Richfield. This facility continually takes in water from Taft Lake, removes phosphorus from the water by cleaning it as it passes through the facility, and returns the cleaned water to Taft Lake.

The cleaned water then travels on to Lake Nokomis and Lake Hiawatha. In 2020 the facility removed 12.87 pounds of phosphorus from Taft Lake, or 73% of the phosphorus in the processed water. Richfield staff indicates that it costs about

\$50,000-\$60,000 in annual maintenance costs for the facility, and the floc containing the phosphorus empties into the sanitary sewer and receives treatment at the MCES wastewater treatment plant.

The Richfield flocculation facility is a great example of just one of the existing solutions that need to be considered by government leaders (city, county, regional and state) as part of a comprehensive plan to fix the phosphorus problem in Lake Hiawatha.

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Bouza, from page 1

everything work.

They bitch and moan incessantly, but the reality is they love what they do. They never quit. A resignation was such a rare event that I can't think of any. So, how come you think a lot quit?

That is the myth of the exodus.

Yes, they retire at varying rates – but into lucrative pensions and labeling their exits quitting. This is their traditional approach to urinating all over the public and telling them it's raining.

Stop staring at the clouds.

So, whence the obvious

problems?

First – the thumpers.

Rarely more than 2 to 3%

of the force, they lead the pack. It is a very complicated and counter-intuitive idea that the Derek Chauvins (of George Floyd infamy) are the leaders in the ranks who set the tone and call the tune. In fact, if you wanted to identify the thumpers, all you'd have to do is line all the cops up in uniform. The thumpers would be the cops with chests full of medals.

In the Floyd video you're not just watching Chauvin choke his victim, but three of his colleagues and putative equals standing obsequiously by, taking their cue from his leadership. Classic cowed indifference.

Wherever I went (three agencies) there were tough measures to adopt. Can you

believe name tags sparked visceral resistance? One-person patrols meant painful divorces. Precinct consolidation undermined clubbiness. Frozen promotions don't need explaining. Minority and female recruitment impinged on nurtured prejudices. Sharp reductions in overtime pay were, understandably, resented. Decoy units and similarly aggressive tactics bred opposition. So, everywhere, there was sturm and drang. The union fed the disaffection.

And the result?

Without exception, the vast majority of cops gritted their teeth and made the changes work.

And that's why I love cops.



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Paid & prepared for by Alicia for Parks, P O BOX 7661, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407
& Meg Forney for Parks, 3201 Zenith Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55416

New beginnings for In the Heart of the Beast

BY DAVID TILSEN

Over 45 years ago, several of us from the Alive and Trucking Theater gathered in a small apartment in Phillips. We were called by Sandy Spieler and Ray St. Louis to discuss a vision. They believed that regular festivals helped make communities strong, and that South Minneapolis needed one. They suggested May Day, as it was celebrated around the world. They envisioned theater, puppets, stilt walkers, music, a parade, and a day of celebration. We agreed to help. We juggled in the parade, set up a portable stage, performed, enjoyed our neighbors. The war in Vietnam had finally ended, and we were awestruck by the beauty of the Powderhorn Puppet and Mask theater (later changing its name to In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, because some people confused the name with the implement used to load old muskets).

We continued to participate for several years as the festival grew and fulfilled the vision of its founders. It became a celebration of spring, of our community, of seeing people whom we had not seen all winter, dancing, and supporting our local artists as they made puppet sculptures, wrote and performed visions, and helped us appreciate the time, the place, the land and our city. For decades the Heart of the Beast theater inspired, taught

and grounded me. The annual MayDay parade and festival became one of the rituals that linked me with the culture of my home.

Then, the power and the beauty of the event began to draw crowds from out of the Southside. The event started to attract tens of thousands of people – I have heard counts as high as 70,000 people in Powderhorn Park at the 2018 festival. This became a management effort that could not be sustained by the hard-working community members of the theater. The problems of racism, tokenism, and exploitation of workers were unsolved, in spite of honest efforts. Workers complained about being overworked, underpaid and overwhelmed. The theater decided it was beyond its capability to continue to produce MayDay. Then the pandemic hit, and our community's isolation and poverty became oppressive as the park became a huge homeless encampment, plagued with violence and crime.

A council was formed that was charged with defining the future of the theater and MayDay. After two years of deliberations, we have been informed of the decision. They are going to sell the building, stop the rental of the storage space, do smaller decentralized festivals and, we are told, might consider changing the name. Isolation begets isolation.

I spoke to Sandy Spieler, laid

off from the theater and not a party to this decision about her life's work, about her reaction. Right now she is concerned about the dispersal and home for the 45 years of puppets that have been stored in the warehouse. These are marvelous pieces of art, sculptures made by community artists to give us ritual, grounding and inspiration. They deserve to be displayed in a museum, but the time is short to find them a home. Some of them are still being used, others are simply precious. Sandy is helping to find homes for as many as pos-

sible.

We talked about the building. She remembers what a struggle, what an investment, what a leap of faith in the community it was to purchase the building. The years of paying the mortgage and managing the building. It has meant a lot, but in the end it's just a building; if it cannot be supported we must endure yet another loss.

Change is sometimes hard.

Our generation must support the visions and energy of new generations as they try to meet the needs of the commu-

nity as they see them, within the resources they believe they can muster.

I think the challenge to the council is to recognize and define the spirit, the strength and the need that was centered at the heart of MayDay and identify the spirit, vision and purpose to what this becomes. What builds purpose, intention and community connection. What is the legacy of these 45 years and how will that give direction to what is built next.

Ward 6, from page 1

We also support residency for city employees, particularly for police and fire personnel. People who work for the city should love it enough to live there. We don't want cops coming to work thinking they're part of an invading army.

The City Council hasn't had direct authority over the police department, but they do have the power of the purse. They appropriate the funds and sign the checks. They can hold public hearings and demand accountability from city staff. The budget for the MPD

should be public. If you ask for a line-item budget from City Council members, you get a 20-page promotional press statement that is long on platitudes and very short on specifics. The City Council has no idea how the money is actually being spent. How can the City Council hold the MPD accountable if they don't know what they're doing?

Those are some of the answers we had hoped to get from candidates seeking to represent us on the City Council. Instead, the candidates chose to remain inscrutable.

Have you ever tried to contact your City Council member?

They're never in their office. They don't answer the phone. Their policy aide doesn't answer the phone. Their other aide doesn't answer the phone or respond to voice mail. The only contact you can get after being on hold for 15 minutes is some very overworked 311 operator. This is a city that is no longer working.

As for the race in the 6th Ward, the incumbent doesn't seem to care enough to show up for work or answer the phone, so let's try something different. We would vote for Abdirizak Bihi.

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The problem with the airport

BY JIM SPENSLEY

The “MSP airport noise problem” isn’t a real problem as much as it is a sign the airport is at the center of life-threatening health and safety problems.

An apt health analogy is that hearing airport noise is like seeing the light from a forest fire on the other side of a mountain, or smelling the smoke from a forest fire, or choking or damaging your lungs. The safety analogy: Will the fire be controlled and extinguished?

The cause of the real, actual, and unnecessary health and safety problems is hidden by “blowing smoke.” That is, the pervasive industry insistence

that the fire is safely distant and under control even though you can see and hear signs it isn’t. More here than anywhere, because the airport is not behind a mountain – out of hearing, unseen – but next door in a too small, too urban place.

The air pollution problem is hidden by a mountain of propaganda. The expensive “noise-mitigation” program is a sham display paid for by federal reappropriation of the revenue collected per trip from air travelers. It is analogous to false reports that the fire (safety) is nearly contained, and the pollution (smoke) will dissipate.

In 2010, the World Health Organization warned that

MSP airport was, apparently, increasing health and mortality risks in neighborhoods within 10 miles of its borders. The aviation industry was addressing 9/11 and the financial crisis with the FAA and airports, including air traffic control (ATC) development (Next Gen). The MAC chair, confident that noise had been contained here, told us that the warning was not applicable to MSP overflights.

Later in 2010, two aircraft nearly collided in midair over Richfield after takeoff, an air traffic control tower error. The tower manager immediately applied changes to procedures in the tower, increased ATC tower staffing minimums, and revised the Runway Use Plan.



(photo/Metropolitan Airports Commission)

Now, the important thing is who and what unnecessarily make air travel an unfair burden, here, especially, and nationally. The safety fire remains burning and has delayed agreement on safe peak hour

operations and routes at MSP for 11 years. Talking with MAC Chair Rick King, we recently requested a discussion of the public health and safety risks with the full commission.

Bethany, from page 1

ing bridges between unlikely parties.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), which provided legal representation to under-served Muslim immigrants at the height of Islamophobia in our country, had its offices in the church building. Pastor Schulz said the church was targeted with threats because of CAIR, but none were acted upon. And, he added, CAIR showed “nothing but openness to our work.”

Interfaith work was very present at Bethany. In 2019, at the Passover Seder at Mount Zion Temple in St. Paul, the church co-hosted a table with CAIR.

Bethany hosted the first community Iftar, the breaking of the fast at Ramadan. They prepared for 50 people, ended up with 250, and supplemented the meal with Pizza Luce.

Longtime member Dennis Johnson remembers Rev. Steve Benson’s words from the pulpit on 9/11, reminding people “not to be negative about Muslims.” Rev. Benson, who started at Bethany in 1996, had a graduate degree in Islam and Muslim-Christian Relations and had lived with his wife, Barbara, in Madagascar, Egypt and India. In 1999, joining other Twin Cities congregations, they established at Bethany a welcoming Christian ministry to Muslim immigrants.

And, Bethany installed Jay Wiesner, a gay pastor, in 2001, before it was OK with the larger church, the ELCA. Bethany was the first church in the Minneapolis synod to ordain a gay pastor in a committed relationship. Dennis Johnson said Bethany wasn’t allowed to vote in the larger church body for a year.

Joe Shelton, who was on the church council for the past six



or seven years and the president for about a year, joined Bethany in 2013. He had an infant and wanted his child baptized, so he visited about five nearby Lutheran churches (Lutheranism was his tradition) and settled on Bethany. He was attracted by its diversity of personalities and its openness. The diversity wasn’t just about ethnicities but also the variety of people, from “taxidermists to flamboyant gay people to old Norwegian Lutherans.” He says it’s been an exciting eight years. “The church always jumped in at the deep end of difficult issues.”

Pastor Jeffrey Schulz called it a “quirky” little congregation, who were totally OK with him as a gay pastor in a committed relationship.

(The ELCA doesn’t assign pastors to congregations. The process is more like mutual selection. Schulz says they have a thing like match.com for pastors and congregations, so that’s how they found each other. He’s been happy here for the past three and a half years, but next week is answering a new match in Pennsylvania.)

He loved the way Bethany was always responsive to the community, always the first to try something and always taking on impossible tasks.

The beginning of the end

In the fall of 2020, Bethany held a service to mark its last worship in its own church building. The church had gifted the building to Augsburg

University, its greatest partner and supporter, and the plan was for the Bethany congregation to worship at Augsburg University instead of at the historic church in Seward. At that time, Augsburg and Bethany made a lot of plans for the future, among them redesigning the building into a community center. But the pandemic changed everything. The congregation went back to using its building in early 2021, things continued to wind down, and now, since Sept. 12, the congregation as an entity is no more.

On Friday the 10th, there was a wedding, and on Sunday, a baby boy, a fourth-generation child from the congregation, was baptized.

Church culture was already marginal in 1996 when I started writing about it for Southside Pride. Now it is an even smaller drop in the bucket. There is a new wave of church closings and mergings. According to the Star Tribune, “The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in Minnesota has lost almost 200,000 members since 2000 and about 150 churches. A third of the remaining 1,050 churches have fewer than 50 members.” There are other similar statistics for the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church and others.

The fact that it’s part of a trend doesn’t make it any easier for those who’ve been members for 64 years, like Betty Stennes. The people in the life of the church have been central to her. She lives in a faraway suburb, like most members at Bethany, and this change is very jolting. She has dedicated herself to making a memory book of photos with multiple copies for everyone.

Already in 1961 when Dennis Johnson and his wife became members (because of per-

sistent visits from the pastor, Rev. Kronstad, something that wouldn’t happen nowadays), the congregation had dwindled to about 60 people on Sunday mornings. When the freeway came through, 37 families left the church.

When Pastor Jonathan Preus led the church, from 1979 to 1990, about four students were confirmed each year in contrast to the typical 50 - 60 per year in pre-freeway years.

A new growth took place, though, during that time. Since the Preuses had been in Tanzania previously, teaching in a Lutheran seminary, their African connections brought a large Ethiopian Oromo community to Bethany, where the Africans held their worship services for many years. They have since divided into other groups and moved away.

What Bethany leaves behind

The basic legacy of Bethany, besides its willingness to take on difficult issues, is its total engagement with the community. And that impetus is what Augsburg University will carry on as it administers the use of the building.

For many years Bethany put on a community health fair, prepared and served a free Thanksgiving meal to the neighborhood and operated a food shelf. It also participated in the Franklin Avenue Art Crawl and had a booth at the King’s Fair.

In 2010 when three people were killed in the Somali grocery store, Bethany opened its doors on the bitterly cold night of the vigil and rally that followed, providing refreshments for the crowd.

All of the occupants of Bethany’s very large building were either “missions,” that is, enterprises supported by the church, or renters with aligned values and goals. There was a

day care for a long time. Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en la Lucha (CTUL) was there but is no longer in the building. Bethany worked with CTUL to secure workplace rights for Latin American immigrants. CAIR is still there. For a period of time the East African Association was housed in the building, as were Freedom Fighters, a support group for veterans; Spenders, Overeaters and Alcoholics Anonymous; a gay and lesbian elders group; an herbalist guild; and a Quaker worship meeting.

Last but not least is Soup for You Cafe, Judah Nataf’s “radical soup kitchen,” which provides daily meals and clothing, and will continue to operate after Bethany’s closing.

There is so much to remember and honor. A very important force in the neighborhood has died and will be greatly missed.

Community member Diann Anders wrote to the Minneapolis Seward Neighbors Forum: “When Bethany Lutheran closes, Seward will be losing a dear partner in creating community ... I know that SNG and the Seward Civic and Commerce Association have always valued Bethany’s leaders and members. We will remember you all with love.”

For the church itself there is a sense of ongoing mission, whether or not Bethany exists as an entity, expressed by this prayer in the worship service:

“Today we gather for the last time in this place as the people and friends of Bethany Lutheran Church in the Seward Neighborhood of Minneapolis. We give thanks for the ministry that has happened here ... Even as we mark the end of an era in one place, we acknowledge how we all are participants in God’s mission, that continues beyond this day and these walls.”

The fight isn't over

BY JOE HESLA AND
ALICIA SMITH
MURC (Minneapolis United
for Rent Control)

You may have noticed, there is a big conversation and fight for rent control going on in the Twin Cities. In St. Paul, renters and organizers collected nearly 10,000 signatures to put a tenant-centered rent control policy on the ballot for voters to decide. If successful, renters in St. Paul will be protected against price-gouging and multiple monthly rent increases. Their policy will cap rent increases at 3% annually, applied universally. This was the pathway Minneapolis United for Rent Control (MURC) has been fighting for over a year to win. Since last summer, we at MURC have gone to neighborhoods throughout the city to build agreement about capping rent increases to 3% annually, with no exceptions.

Despite our strong grassroots organizing, the Minneapolis City Council did not overcome the mayor's veto of that path, and blocked the

renter-led pathway. Instead, the City Council approved the council-led pathway to rent control.

We at MURC started our work 12 months ago. We've built a diverse and powerful coalition that includes faith groups, neighborhood organizations, many unions, and housing organizations. Despite the City Council vote, we are proud of the success of our movement and coalition. Members of MURC have spent hundreds of hours door-knocking and tabling and phoning, having hundreds of conversations, posterizing the city, hosting public education events, and contacting City Council members to ask them to commit to our policy platform. MURC created a public (and political) conversation about rent control where there was no conversation before this.

Thanks to all of our coalition partners who actively and vocally pushed for the public path to rent control. You are MURC – and together we are leading the charge in Minneapolis for strong rent control.

So what is the fight now? The first battle is to make the sure the council passes any kind of rent control. The second battle is to get a strong ordinance. It was obvious this summer that this council will need to be pushed hard to pass a strong ordinance.

There is no doubt that our current mayor and a number of members of our current city council will not support a 3% cap. If the council aims for 7%, we could end up with 10%. That would be a win for those who are against rent control, like corporate landlords. They celebrated this ceiling in Oregon when it was passed in 2019.

Bishop Richard Howell, of Shiloh Temple International Ministries: "Our members at Shiloh Temple and our north Minneapolis community need a 3% yearly cap on rent increases. We call on all communities of faith to stand with us. It is morally wrong to do nothing, as our communities are unjustly targeted, and suffer deeply with the current rent increases."



Alicia Smith, Director of Corcoran Neighborhood Organization: "The neighbors in Corcoran understand that we are in a serious state of emergency as it relates to the state of housing costs in Minneapolis. Rent control with a 3% yearly increase cap is simply one of the many right things all neighbors and neighborhoods can get behind."

Kong Xiong, Political Director of Minneapolis Federation of Teachers Local 59: "MFT59 represents 5,000 members who are committed to fighting

for economic opportunity for all. That's why we are fighting alongside MURC. We want a policy that is universal and caps rent increases to cost of living. We see this as a way to stabilize the homes of the students we work with as well as provide financial security to our members who live in the communities they serve."

Lynn Butcher, Statewide Secretary, Minnesota Association of Professional Employees: "Loyalty and being a good tenant does not guarantee housing security. My friend paid his rent on time for 19 years. Despite being the perfect tenant, he received a 30-day notice increasing his rent 60%. We must fight to ensure rent caps are no more than 3%, as we know any wage increases we win at the bargaining table are eaten up in these outrageous housing costs."

This summer, according to Rent Café, the average Minneapolis one-bedroom apartment went for \$1587 a month. Who can afford that? Please vote yes for rent control in November.

Eyes on Afghanistan

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

Rep. Barbara Lee is having a well-deserved moment as the sole congressperson to have voted in 2001 against the Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF), which granted war powers generally held by Congress to the president of the United States. Twenty years of war has long since vindicated her position, but the rapid takeover by the Taliban in the wake of the U.S. withdrawal has amplified Lee's prescience and courage to stand up against the overwhelming push for vengeance in the wake of 9/11.

We were warned that there would be no easy victory, probably no victory at all, and that the idea of bringing Afghanistan democracy through military intervention was unrealistic at best. As early as the Sept. 13, 2001, episode of Democracy Now!, Howard Zinn was referencing the drawn-out war in Vietnam as an historical point of comparison to the likely outcome of the contemporary passage of the AUMF. Twenty years later the comparison seems obvious. Even ahead

of the dramatic fall of Kabul there was a sense that the Taliban would eventually regain control, but the expectation was that it would take months, not days.

Now, we watch helplessly as horrors unfold. Corrupt officials fleeing with bags of money, people hanging onto the outside of airplanes as they



take off from airports, Afghan women targeted by the Taliban. We should have seen this coming, we should have done better. But we didn't do better because to do better is not politically expedient. To do better is not profitable or flashy. We are a country whose leadership looks for easy evasions over tough solutions.

There are other warnings we have ignored for decades

that are now bearing out. We have been warned for years about the instability and extreme weather events that would be caused by climate change and are now seeing them clearly manifest on the ground throughout the U.S. and around the world, in some cases even worse than expected. Reports released this summer by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) confirm that the catastrophic impacts of human-induced climate change are already here and that at this point we must work to drastically curb carbon emissions, with the U.N. Secretary-General saying the report was "a code-red for humanity."

And yet, despite these dire warnings, we see the same business-as-usual attitude in Washington, D.C. The Democrats are likely to lose control of the House in 2022, making any progress on the existential issues facing our world virtually impossible. But even with the Democrats holding a majority, if a slim one, in both chambers with a Democratic president there are still obstacles within the Democratic

party. Most notably Sens. Joe Manchin and Kyrsten Sinema seem hell-bent on preventing legislative wins that will not only help the party win future elections, but also on gambling the future of civilization, as we know it, away.

In the meantime, we are witnessing predictions play out in Afghanistan. To their credit, once faced with those horrors in reality, politicians seem to be able to find their conscience and act. A group of 46 senators recently signed a letter urging the Biden administration to allow an expanded group of Afghan refugees into the U.S. through a specific humanitarian parole category. This would allow women in leadership roles, journalists, and others who are at grave risk under Taliban control but who do not qualify for the Special Immigrant Visas (SIVs) available to those who worked directly with the U.S. government or associated entity for at least two years. While there is some hope to be found in the three Republican senators who signed the letter, I can't help but note the seven Democratic senators who did not sign it.

Meanwhile the right wing has been pushing anti-immi-

grant sentiment and xenophobia more than usual. Tucker Carlson has warned that Afghan refugees would constitute an "invasion" and Marjorie Greene has bemoaned the possibility of an Afghan refugee making their way into elected office à la Ilhan Omar. Remember when we invaded Afghanistan to bring them democracy? What a lie.

We are lucky that we do have Ilhan Omar, who has, along with The Squad, mirrored the thoughtfulness and courage demonstrated by Barbara Lee decades ago. Just as we face the aftermath of our occupation of Afghanistan, we also face the challenges of the climate crisis, long overdue action on racial justice, and growing economic inequality. Business-as-usual politics has kicked the can down the road for too many years. True political courage is needed now – the courage to stand up against the worst aspects of American xenophobia, the courage to stand up to financial institutions and political donors who benefit from the destruction of our planet, and to make policies that strengthen the middle class and racially equitable access to wealth.

EVENTS

Minnesota's Racial Legacy: Finally Telling the Truth September 24-25

In-person or online

Plymouth Congregational Church
1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.
Christine Diindiisi McCleave, CEO
of the National Native American
Boarding School Healing Coalition
and Dr. Yohuru Williams, founder of
the University of St. Thomas Racial
Justice Initiative are keynote speak-
ers on Friday and Saturday, respec-
tively, of Minnesota's Racial Legacy,
a public truth-telling event organized
as part of the Minnesota Council of
Churches' "Vision for Truth and Repa-
rations." Learn more and register at:
<http://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/minnesotas-racial-legacy>.

Church of the Holy Name Virtual Fall Festival Sunday, Oct. 10, 1 to 3 p.m. Online

Participate live on Zoom or Facebook
Live, or catch us later on our YouTube
channel! Door prize opportunities for
those who tune in live or give a dona-
tion to this event! Our Fall Festival
will also include opportunities to text
and give; a silent auction (bidding
begins Oct. 1); children's coloring
contest (win a prize!); and music by
Mark Mraz and special guest per-
formers. Visit our website for more
information: www.churchoftheholyname.org.

4th Annual Challenging Islamophobia Conference Tuesday, Oct. 12, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Online

Save the date! The Council on
American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)
Minnesota has announced that the
4th Annual Challenging Islamophobia
Conference will take place virtually
on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021, from 8.30
a.m. to 4 p.m.. If you purchased
tickets for the 2020 event, they can
be used to participate in this year's
rescheduled conference. To share
your thoughts about the upcoming
conference, including topic ideas,
please complete their survey form
at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6-8D_K25oDE2_Og-

s9WtiBKsSA-We_01061JGelJ7gEDg-
l7w/viewform.

Help Needed for Afghan Evacuees

From the Minnesota Council of
Churches: While we continue to
resettle individuals with refugee
status, in September we also ex-
pect to receive numerous families
evacuated from Afghanistan. Most
will be coming to Minnesota having
been granted "humanitarian parole,"
which means that they won't be
eligible for all the same financial and
program supports as refugees.
Will you help? We need your support
to meet families' direct needs and
help MCC connect Afghan and
refugee families to housing, schools,
health care, and the community re-
sources they need to start their lives
in Minnesota. You can help by:

- Donating money. This will help us
fill in the gap for families' housing
and food needs.
- Donating household items.
- Contacting us about volunteering
or co-sponsoring a family, wheth-
er from Afghanistan or another
refugee family. Email Kathryn at
rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org to
let us know if you are interested
in co-sponsorship, helping set up
apartments, or helping transport
individuals to key appointments.

We know Minnesotans are incredible
and we are so thankful to be partner-
ing with you in this rescue operation.

Minneapolis Friends Meeting (Quaker)

4401 York Ave. S., Mpls.
Our fall schedule resumes Sunday,
Sept. 26: Unprogrammed (silent)
worship service – 9 to 10 a.m.;
Mid-Morning program: 10:15 to 11
a.m.; Semi-programmed worship
service: 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Meetings will continue on Zoom
while we monitor safety and put a
hybrid system into place. Zoom link
available by emailing the office. All
are welcome. Please visit our web-
site to learn more about us: www.minneapolisfriends.org. Office email:
office@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.
Front door entry preferred. Weekday
Masses M, T, TH, F at 8:15 a.m. in
the Chapel, east door and elevator
entry. Please see our website at
www.saintalbertthegreat.org/ for
more details. Sunday 9:30 a.m. Mass
also streamed on our Facebook page
at [www.facebook.com/StAlbert-
TheGreatMpls/](http://www.facebook.com/StAlbert-TheGreatMpls/).

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church

3430 E. 51st St., Mpls.
www.faithlutheranmpls.org
Sunday Worship (with safety mea-
sures in place) at 9 a.m. 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. NA groups
Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.

First Free Church

5150 Chicago Ave. S., Mpls.
Sunday services at 9 a.m. and 10:30
a.m. (in-person and online). Child
care provided during both services.
Student ministries during 9 a.m.
service. Visit our website at www.firstfreechurch.org for more infor-
mation.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., Mpls.
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m., Bible
Study at 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
recordings available online at www.holycrossmpls.org.

Living Spirit United Methodist Church

4501 Bloomington Ave., Mpls.
Worship In-Person or Online at
10:30 a.m. Sundays
Online: livingspiritumc.org/live.

Messiah Lutheran Church

2400 Park Ave., Mpls.
9 a.m. in-person service 1st and 3rd
Sundays
11 a.m. in-person service every
Sunday
www.messiahlutheranmpls.org

Mindekirken (The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church)

924 E. 21st St., Mpls.
Velkommen til Mindekirken! In-per-
son services are now offered at 9
a.m. (in English) and at 11 a.m. (in
Norwegian) on Sundays (except last

Sunday of each month when we join
in one, bilingual family worship at
11 a.m.) Everyone is welcome! We
all wear masks while in the building.
Coffee hour (Utekafe) is offered
outside following the worship. Find
updates on www.mindekirken.org.

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church

4101 37th Ave. S., Mpls.
Sunday Worship at 9:45 a.m. in per-
son and livestream
Go to church website for info
<https://minnehahacommunion.org/>
12-step groups Tuesday through
Friday evenings

New Creation Baptist Church

1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.
Sunday Worship in person at
10:45 a.m. and also on Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/NewCreation-
BaptistChurch/](http://www.facebook.com/NewCreation-BaptistChurch/)
[https://newcreationbaptist-
churchmn.org/](https://newcreationbaptist-churchmn.org/)

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.
Sunday worship 10 a.m., outdoor,
in-person on the church lawn (also
online).
Adult Forum at 9 a.m. begins Sunday,
9/19/21, outdoor, on the church
lawn (weather permitting).
Sidewalk Sunday School begins
9/19/21. Held every Sunday outside,
9 to 9:55 a.m. Masks required.
Online worship continues every
Sunday. Find us on Facebook and
YouTube! www.nokomisheights.org
or [www.facebook.com/Nokom-
isHeights/](http://www.facebook.com/NokomisHeights/).

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Community

4537 3rd Ave. S., Mpls.
We're Open –
Saturday, 5 p.m. in the Church
Sunday, 7:45 a.m. in the Church,
9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the gym
Video available on our website
at www.saintjoanofarc.org/ or
Facebook page [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/StJoanMpls/)
[StJoanMpls/](http://www.facebook.com/StJoanMpls/).

Trinity Lutheran Congregation

Augsburg College, Hoversten Chapel
Riverside & 22nd Aves., Mpls.
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
www.trinitylutherancongregation.org

SHARING FOOD

New Creation Baptist Church 1414 E. 48th St., Mpls. 612-825-6933

We're still here to serve you on the
first through the fourth Saturdays
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We're back
to our client choice shopping and
require clients to have their tem-
perature checked, wear a mask, and
follow social distancing. Be safe and
God bless! [www.facebook.com/NCB-
Cfoodshelf/FoodShelf](http://www.facebook.com/NCB-Cfoodshelf/FoodShelf).
Food Shelf
Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays)
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(Brown door on the corner of 48th St.
and 15th Ave.)

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

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

Minnehaha United Methodist Church 3701 E. 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 dis-
tancing, periodically clean our surfac-
es, and wear face masks. Should we
have foul weather, we plan to move
the distribution indoors, though still
meter clients and encourage distanc-
ing. [www.facebook.com/Minnehaha-
FoodShelf/](http://www.facebook.com/Minnehaha-FoodShelf/)

Du Nord Foundation Community Market 3104 Snelling Ave., Mpls. 612-460-8123

We are a community-supported
food shelf that is a welcoming place
for neighbors to find free, healthy
food for their tables and supplies for
their homes. We invite neighbors to
order online and choose the day and
time that works for you for curbside
pickup.
Mondays and Wednesdays
3 to 6 p.m.
Thursdays noon to 2 p.m.
All are welcome, no restrictions or
proof required.
To place an order, visit [www.dunord-
foundation.org/get-food](http://www.dunord-foundation.org/get-food)

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

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

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 to 11:30 a.m. 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 eligi-
bility 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://grove-
landfoodshelf.org/](http://grove-landfoodshelf.org/)

The Riverside Religious Community Welcomes You

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

E. 29th St. & 32nd Ave. S.
612-724-3643
www.saintalbertthegreat.org
Weekend Masses with limited
seating
Saturday 5 pm
Sunday 9:30 am (also lives-
treamed on Facebook)
Sunday 12 noon
Front door entry preferred
Weekday Masses M, T, TH, F at
8:15 am in the Chapel, east door
and elevator entry

MINNEHAHA COMMUNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

4101 37th Ave. S., 612-722-9527
Interim Pastor Lee Hallstrom
9:45 am Sunday Worship,

in-person and livestream
Go to church website for info
12-step groups Tuesday through
Friday evenings

TRINITY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION

Augsburg College, Hoversten
Chapel
Riverside & 22nd Aves.
612-333-2561
[www.trinitylutherancongrega-
tion.org](http://www.trinitylutherancongregation.org)
Sunday Worship 11 am
Pastors: Jane Buckley-Farlee &
Alem Asmelash
Office: 2001 Riverside Ave.
Reconciling in Christ



*All Directory
Churches are
Wheelchair
Accessible*

Please send News of your Faith-Based Community to
katherine.southsidepride@gmail.com





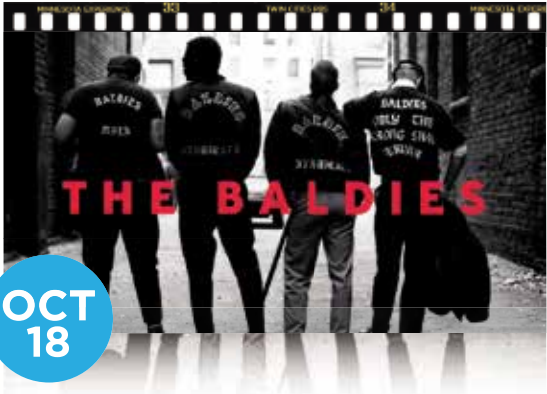
THIS SEASON ON MINNESOTA EXPERIENCE



In the 1970s, a shadowy revolutionary group tried to seize the movement of Twin Cities food cooperatives.

Watch live or stream on the PBS Video app beginning October 4

Watch the trailer now at tpt.org/co-opwars



THE BALDIES were a Minneapolis skinhead crew but not quite what you would picture. Through organization and activism, they fought neo-nazis in the 1980s and became an example of countercultural groups against racism.

Watch live or stream on the PBS Video app beginning October 18

Watch the trailer now at tpt.org/baldies



An idealistic media arts education project became the foundation for filmmaking in Minnesota. **FILM IN THE CITIES** looks back at the origins, growth, and impact of filmmaking that made community.

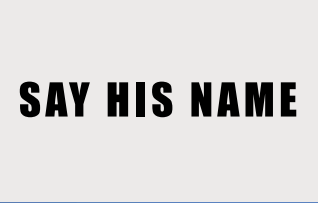


FRIENDS OF MINNESOTA EXPERIENCE
Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation, The Katherine B. Andersen Fund of the St. Paul and Minnesota Foundation, Julie and David Cohen, Robert and Teri Crosby Restricted Family Fund of The Longview Foundation, Dougherty Family Foundation, Joan R. Duddingston Fund, Judith Froehling, The Head Family Foundation, The Halloran Family Foundation, Joe Hognander, Mary Kowalski, McIntosh Family Fund, Darby and Geri Nelson, Rinek Family Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation, Dr. Paola Sandroni and David J. Bates, Penelope Scialla, Richard and Linda Seime, Bonnie Sommerville, Jan and Linda Willette, KaiMay Yuen Terry and Joseph Terry, M.D

MORE TO WATCH

2020 PROJECT

The 2020 Project aims to support independent filmmakers in the creation of nonfiction films that push Minnesotans to question, understand and be inspired by the events of 2020.



The police killing of George Floyd sparked a global uprising. The epicenter was in director Cy Dodson's Minneapolis neighborhood, where he captured an immersive observation of unrest, anger, and hope.

Stream anytime at tpt.org/say-his-name or on the PBS App



A diverse ensemble of health care professionals works to overcome COVID-vaccine hesitancy in at-risk communities across Minnesota. By filmmaker Chris Newberry.

Stream anytime at tpt.org/trusted-messenger or on the PBS App



Colombian immigrants in Minnesota reflect on how the struggles and joys of 2020 transformed the way we celebrate culture, aid, and community. By filmmaker Tahiel Jimenez Medina.

Watch live or stream on the PBS Video App beginning October 19

Watch the trailer now at tpt.org/dia-a-dia



RACISM UNVEILED is a digital storytelling project that aims to call out racism and to highlight how we can pull up this weed once and for all.

Learn more at tptoriginals.org/projects/racism-unveiled



COMING 2022
BRING HER HOME follows three Indigenous women – an artist, an activist, and a politician – as they fight to vindicate and honor their missing and murdered relatives who have fallen victims to a growing epidemic across Indian country.

Watch the trailer at tpt.org/bringherhome



WATCH LIVE OR STREAM FOR FREE USING THE PBS APP



Celebrate Fall on Selby Avenue

The ups and downs of Selby Avenue

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Selby Avenue's hilly, bumpy history

When Selby Avenue was first named on a map, in 1854, the site of the present Cathedral of Saint Paul (the fourth and final one to bear that name) was occupied by a 40-acre farm belonging to Jeremiah Selby. This land, and the new avenue to access it from the west, were considered inaccessible from the east, from downtown St. Paul. This was due to the steep grade leading up the river bluff. In 1887 a steam-powered cable car was built that ran from downtown St. Paul, up that crazy hill, and along Selby Avenue to St. Albans. This is when

the avenue's fortunes began to rise.

In the 1890s, cable cars and horse-powered transit began to be replaced with electrified streetcars. The 16% grade of the hill was a problem for a while. Using a complex system of counterweights, they were able to crawl up the hill, making the journey a very slow one. Then, according to Wikipedia: The Twin City Rapid Transit Company built a 1500-foot tunnel that changed the grade to 7%. The tunnel is 15 feet high and 23 feet across. The tunnel entrance at the base of the hill is still visible and has been sealed closed. Construction of the tunnel significantly decreased travel time and caused a sudden increase

in development of the neighborhood along the line.

Selby Avenue's fortunes improved even more, and by the 1910s, Selby was grander than Grand Avenue. Then the Cathedral was built, opening in 1915, and the impossibly posh Cathedral Hill section grew up around Selby Avenue.

The Summit-University neighborhood which includes Selby continued to thrive until at least the 1960s and 1970s, when I-94 construction disrupted the area, notably by wiping out several square miles of middle-class and working-class African American areas in the Rondo neighborhood next door. Many Black businesses and residents moved to Selby



Selby-Dale in 1953

Avenue, and this in turn triggered "white flight," along with the flight of capital and prosperity.

The decline reached its nadir in the 1980s, and then turned around once again. Successive groups of immigrant communities, more civic investment, and natural growth leading to spots of actual gentrification lifted Selby Avenue, along with its continually evolving mix of diverse residents and business owners.

Selby Avenue today bears the marks of its up and down history. Now, venerable and distinguished institutions like the Walker West Music Academy and the Mississippi Market Co-op sit alongside beautiful, well-kept 100-year-old homes and chic cafes and restaurants, as well as gaping holes of empty lots, bleak industrial stretches, and interesting small businesses that come (and sometimes, sadly, go) with the economic cycles.

Selby Avenue's music scene

Fifty years on from its displacement, the African American community is now well-rooted on Selby Avenue. Two musical symbols of that journey are the Walker West Music Academy (which we have covered previously) and the Selby Avenue Jazz Festival. The Sel-

by JazzFest was founded in 2002 by Mychael Wright, the owner of Golden Thyme Coffee & Cafe. It was online in 2020, but was back on the Avenue this year for one day only - Sept. 11 - with live music. You can read about its history and sign up



Cahoots Coffee Bar

for a newsletter so you don't miss next year here: selbyavejazzfest.com/history.

Selby Avenue's two big, beautiful grocery stores

Selby Avenue has a Whole Foods and a Mississippi Market Co-op. Each is one of several in the Twin Cities, each is at a major intersection (Snelling for Whole Foods, Dale Street for Mississippi Market) and each was newly built for the area. Whole Foods is the ground floor anchor of a modern multi-level apartment building, while Mississippi Market has an upper story with offices.

I visited Selby Avenue's Whole Foods for the first time last week. It's great - free covered parking, not too crowded, well laid out. Whole Foods has actually improved a bit since Amazon bought it, in my opinion. Definitely try their affordable basics brand, 365 by Whole Foods. They also have curbside pickup and delivery options.

I have shopped at Mississippi Market before, but I didn't get a chance to visit this year, or any

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Enjoy the Selby Stroll Saturday, Sept. 25!

time since the pandemic. But like most co-ops and larger groceries, you can shop online. Mississippi Market does not have a delivery option, but you can shop online for curbside pickup for a \$5 fee. Visit [msmarket.coop](#) to see how and learn more.

Selby Avenue's two bike shops

Express Bikes at 1158 Selby Ave. is another of those youth apprenticeship bike shops. They provide two services to the wider community – repair and maintenance service on bikes, and the sale of refurbished bikes. To youth, they provide an apprenticeship program where young workers can pick up life-changing skills, both technical and “soft.”

Cargo Bike Shop at 1592 Selby Ave. is a branch of a shop by the same name in Madison, Wis. This shop has the air of bicycle enthusiasts and activists about it (not a bad thing at all). The bikes they sell are built for comfort not speed, for hauling things, for baby-trailers and for family bike camping. You can preview some of their products online at their Facebook or Instagram account.

Selby Avenue's many and varied cafes, coffee shops and pubs

There are way too many of these on Selby Avenue to cover all of them. We'll cover a quick selection, moving from west to east. (By dining options, below, I mean indoor dining, curbside or counter pickup, and delivery, either by the business or a third party. If patio dining is also an option, that will be mentioned.)

The Naughty Greek (181 Snelling Ave.) has an extensive menu of Greek favorites, and lots of vegetarian options including salads and apps. It has all dining options, including delivery from a choice of platforms. There is also a branch on University Avenue. Rose Street Patisserie (171 Snelling Ave.) is one of two “fine dining” bakeries in St. Paul, and a partner business to Patisserie 46 in Minneapolis. They are takeout-only, according to Google. You can also buy their products in many groceries, co-ops and coffee shops. Cahoots Coffee Bar (1562 Selby Ave.) is an old-style stand-alone coffee shop with quirky decor. It has all dining options except delivery, including a patio. Its online menu lists only drinks, but judging from reviews on Yelp they do have food, and good food too.

Yellowbird Coffee Bar (1168 Selby Ave.) is also not a chain, but is more modern in appearance. Like Cahoots, it does not have delivery, but does have takeout or inside dining. They serve True Stone Roaster coffee and La Boulangerie Marguerite bakery items in a cozy, neighborhood-centered cafe. Golden Thyme Coffee Shop (934 Selby Ave., mentioned above in conjunction with the JazzFest) is a Selby



Selby Avenue Brass Band at the Selby Jazz Festival

Avenue institution for going on 20 years now. They have all dining options. (Don't be fooled by the “No delivery” on their Google listing – they are delivered by GrubHub.) They claim that their coffee is “decadent.” 2 Scoops Ice Cream (921 Selby Ave.) is another African American-owned place nearby. They have all dining options with multiple delivery platforms to choose from. In addition to 18-plus ice cream flavors and homemade waffle cones, they have a full menu of such delights as pizza, hot dogs and pulled pork.

J. Selby's (169 Victoria Ave.) is that increasingly less rare thing, an all plant-based restaurant. A place where vegans can order anything (barring the occasional allergy) on the menu – what a concept! They have all dining options except de-

livery. They have a hypermodern no-contact method of ordering from your seat if you're dining inside, and they have an order-pickup window if you're getting takeout or eating at their outdoor tables. Also noteworthy is that J. Selby's did a mighty stint of free-food mutual aid during the uprising last summer. They have a no-tip policy and a community pay-it-forward option. I visited J. Selby's again recently, but more about that will appear in The Dish for October.

The Gnome Craft Pub (498 Selby Ave.) is a relatively new pub which took over from an older one with a similar name (covered in a previous Selby Avenue spotlight). They currently offer inside or patio dining, or takeout with a curbside option. Their website is worth taking a look at. They have a scrumptious

menu and serve desserts from an interesting WOC-owned business, Lutunji's Palate, which I will also be covering in October's Dish. Yumi Japanese Restaurant + Bar (400 Selby Ave.) is actually part of a chain of sushi-centered restaurants, including one in Excelsior and one at Southdale. They have an amazing menu too, with lots of delicious food options plus sake, Japanese whiskey and cocktails. They have all dining options available.

The Handsome Hog (173 Western Ave. N.) is a very high profile place these days, due not only to its excellent food, but also due to its charismatic, relatable, African American chef-owner (also a TV celebrity chef) Justin Sutherland. They have all the dining options. Reservations would probably be a good idea. The website is like a small novel – so much to read! I laughed, I cried. Even though their

primary points of contact are bourbon whiskey and pork, two things I do not consume, there are things on the menu that take my fancy, so there may be a Dish review at some point.

Nina's Coffee Cafe (165 Western Ave. N.) is on the ground floor of the Blair House Condominiums, one of those gorgeous turn-of-the-century buildings that make the eastern end of Selby Avenue remind you of its glory days. Nina's has a branch in Stillwater, Minn., also. They have all dining options, and like Golden Thyme, Google says “No delivery” but GrubHub says “No! We deliver.” Their menu is not on their website – neither coffee nor food, but their food menu is available on GrubHub, where we find that they get a lot of their food from good neighbors, including St. Paul Cheese Shop, The Naughty Greek, Great Harvest Bread and the Colossal Cafe.

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- Dawn, day 32 of quitting smoking

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The desperate need for prison reform

Linda Franks of Baton Rouge, La., turned a room in her beauty salon into a meeting place

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

for the East Baton Rouge Parish Prison Reform Coalition, exemplifying what is happening to prison reform all over the country. One example is Vanessa Fano's brother who experienced a psychotic break after 92 days in solitary confinement. The Rev. Alexis Anderson, a member of the coalition, said in her view people whose loved ones have died in confinement should be seen in the same light as those whose loved ones have been murdered by gangs or the police.

Andrea C. Armstrong, who co-authored the 2017 report about conditions at East Baton Rouge Parish Prison, also wrote a 2020 article entitled, "The Missing Link: Jail and Prison Conditions in Criminal Justice Reform," for the Louisiana Law Review, in which she examined 23 states that had participated in the Justice Reinvestment Initiative, many of which had made significant reforms in their laws.

Steve Martin, a lawyer and a corrections consultant in Okla-

homa, says that one consistent thread in the cases he has examined is obfuscation and denial: "Sometimes officials justify the application of force by claiming that a prisoner was experiencing a bout of 'excited delirium.'"

Another disturbing incident took place in a state prison at Macon, Ga., which housed 128 prisoners overseen by one guard. According to the Southern Center for Human Rights, 29 homicides occurred in Georgia in 2020.

Some criminal justice reform groups fear that focusing on the conditions of incarceration may backfire. Some feel it would be better to concentrate on facilities and programs for prevention.

There is no question from any of the groups that improvement in standards needs to be well thought out and action should be immediate.

What will be your place in history?

BY DEVIN HOGAN

In 2005 the junior senator from Illinois – then in office for just six months – gave the commencement address at Knox College, a small liberal arts school in western Illinois. It was a speech whose themes would define his career.

Knox and the city of Galesburg were co-founded in 1837 by religious abolitionists from upstate New York. These settler-colonists broke the prairie under the radical demand of college for all regardless of income or race, and that every form of slavery was evil. Commencement is always held on the South Lawn of Old Main, the only extant building from the Lincoln-Douglas debates.

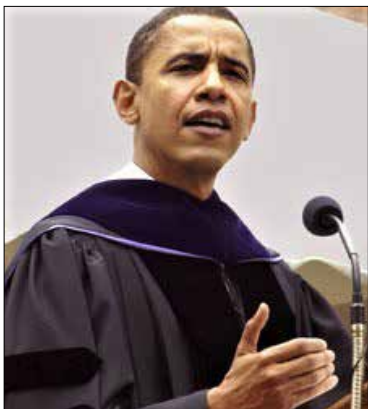
On the South Lawn that morning was me, Devin Hogan, age 20, a sociology and journalism double major steeped in the muckraker traditions of my classmates a century prior. Coined by Teddy Roosevelt as an epithet, these "muckrakers" used the power of story to inspire Americans to push their government for good. To protect people instead of exploiting them.

On that sunny Saturday in 2005 Barack Obama asked: "What will be your place in history?"

These were the headiest days of the George W. Bush era, some 11 weeks before Hurricane Katrina. It was refreshing to hear the senator push back on the individualistic Ownership Society and plainly state how the government created and sustains the middle class: "Because individual salvation has always depended on collective salvation."

He closed with a history lesson.

"Here in Galesburg, the main depot for the Underground Railroad in Illinois, escaped slaves could roam freely on the streets and take shelter in people's homes. And when their masters or the police would come for them, the people of this town would help them escape north, some literally carrying them in



Senator Barack Obama, Knox College Commencement 2005 (photo/knox.edu)

their arms to freedom."

Breaking the law – on purpose – because it was moral and just. Because it was the right thing to do! "Because they knew that we were all Americans; that we were all brothers and sisters."

This American spirit still lives on in all the civil rights movements to this day, Obama said, through what John Lewis and now the rest of us would call Good Trouble.

"Generations who have come before you faced these same fears and uncertainties in their own time," Barack Obama said. "And that through our collective labor, and through God's providence, and our willingness to shoulder each other's burdens, America will continue on its precious journey towards that distant horizon, and a better day."

Three years later the senator took heat over the rhetoric of his longtime pastor, Jeremiah Wright, who had characterized 9/11 as America's imperialist "chickens coming home to roost," and exclaimed "God Damn America" in a viral clip repeated ad nauseum.

In a groundbreaking speech called "A More Perfect Union," Obama contextualized and condemned the language of his pastor while standing behind him. Still under pressure some 11 weeks later, the senator denounced the "divisive" man who had married him and Michelle and left the church.

Reverend Wright's 2003 Palm Sunday sermon is still relevant.

It begins with the arrival of Jesus in occupied Palestine, who wept because his followers could not see the path to peace under the stress of their conditions. "Colonization does not make for peace. Occupation does not make for peace, and subjugation only makes for temporary silence. It does not make for peace."

Wright spoke of confusing God and Government. That "we believe in this country, and we teach our children that God sent us to this 'Promised Land'" to pillage and steal from the Indigenous nations. "We believe God approved segregation. We believe God approved Apartheid, and a document says 'all men are created more equal than oth-

er men.'"

Wright said we cannot confuse Government and God because governments lie, governments change, and governments fail.

"America failed. She put them in chains. The government put them in slave quarters, put them on auction blocks, put them in cotton fields, put them in inferior schools, put them in substandard housing, put them in scientific experiments, put them in the lowest paying jobs, put them outside the equal protection of the law, kept them out of their racist bastions of higher education and locked them into a position of hopelessness and helplessness. The government gives them the drugs, builds bigger prisons, passes a three-

strike law, and then wants us to sing 'God Bless America.' No, no, no. Not 'God Bless America'; God Damn America! That's in the Bible, for killing innocent people. God Damn America for treating her citizens as less than human. God Damn America as long as she keeps trying to act like she is God and she is supreme!"

On the night the Third Precinct burned I watched the Unicorn Riot livestream, where Nico was asking members of the crowd why they were there. Young people appeared consistently on camera, many likely South High students or Roosevelt classmates of now-Pulitzer winner Darnella Frazier. Families. Black, brown, white and In-

See History, page 13

HERE'S THE CITY COUNCIL'S PLAN FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND POLICING, IF QUESTION 2 PASSES:

Voters are expected to decide whether to blow up the existing police department in favor of ... what? No one knows exactly. There is no plan for what would come next, what the transition would look like, what the new structure would be, or what would happen to existing operations, even though the amendment would go into effect just 30 days after the vote is in.

Editorial, Aug. 30, 2021

VOTE NO ON QUESTION 2. LEARN MORE AT ALLOFMPLS.ORG.

This is an independent expenditure prepared and paid for by AlloffMpls, 310 S. 4th Ave. #9100, Minneapolis, MN 55415. It is not coordinated with or approved by any candidate nor is any candidate responsible for it.

Block clubs make a difference

BY DORIS OVERBY

Our neighborhood block club has been celebrating National Night Out (NNO) and other events together for nearly 30 years.

What hasn't changed

Since our block club was established in the early 1990s, some important things haven't changed. We know our neighbors by their first names. We know the names of all the kids, dogs and cats. We pay attention, we know who's home and who's not. We know where the kids go to school. We know when a new baby is born. We say farewell when a neighbor moves on and we welcome new neighbors. We help each other.

We feel good about our neighborhood! We recognize being an "island" doesn't help any of us feel safe or enhance our well-being. Our block club's key to success is communication and helping each other.

Block clubs

South Minneapolis communities began to hold meetings years ago, many at Sibley Park, to discuss our concerns about crime. We were fortunate to be assigned the most remarkable, hard-working Crime Prevention Specialist (CPS), Karen Notsch.

Karen helped many South Minneapolis neighborhoods form

block clubs and recruit leaders. She encouraged us and helped us understand that knowing our neighbors and having organized block clubs reduces crime. I'm very proud to say Standish was recognized as having one of the most organized block clubs in the city of Minneapolis.

For many years since, our block club has worked together – and we never stopped caring about each other.

What has changed

We no longer have a Crime Prevention Specialist.

Karen retired in December 2019. The city of Minneapolis (council members and mayor) made absolutely no effort to replace Karen. All they did was create yet another organization with a huge budget for salaries and operating costs – the Minneapolis Neighborhood and Community Relations Department (NCR).

Since CPS Karen Notsch retired and her role has not been filled, we no longer have a trusted ally to bring neighbors together to address safety concerns – so we are experiencing a significant gap in much-needed services. For example:

- NO direct contact to report concerns such as illegal garage repairs, party/drug houses, juvenile curfew violations, animal control, rental property and other housing violations, traffic

control and illegal parking, garage burglaries, stolen cars, assaults at LRT stations, ripped off catalytic converters, stolen bicycles, sex workers, etc.

- NO one responsible for important email communications such as Crime Alerts ("Attention Residents") or Weekly Crime Updates.

- NO point person who is aware of neighborhood issues to follow up on 311 calls from concerned residents.

- NO consistent staff person with a history of neighborhood issues who can brainstorm and help solve problems without delay. Lack of continuity has resulted in many inefficiencies.

Why is a CPS important? Why can't we simply depend on free apps like Nextdoor, Citizen, Neighbors or the police department's "Dashboard"?

- Crowdsourced apps are not reliable. Loud voices push misinformation and comments can quickly devolve. Moderators don't do their jobs effectively. The police Dashboard is not user-friendly. Besides it being a highly unlikely resource for residents to check frequently, visitors are given data – NOT information. Accurate, timely and informative community alerts and updates is a job for a CPS. Other precinct sectors have a CPS; we need our vacant position filled ASAP.

- Funds are not a problem as

Community Development Block Grants (CDBGs) are in place. It should be noted, however, in the process of establishing the NCR, sufficient funds were not earmarked for all 12 CPS positions. Our CPS's salary was allocated to NCR Crime Prevention Team Manager Jose Velez, but since our sector's CPS has not materialized, it appears NCR is using CPS staff dollars to pay for a manager in NCR.

I have contacted Karen Moe, Deputy Director of NCR, about hiring a Crime Prevention Specialist for Standish. She referred me to Jose Velez. I emailed him about our need for a CPS, but as of this date he has not responded.

The city and county used to work together, but not now. We used to see police in the neighborhood, but not anymore. Council members don't hear all the voices, only the ones making the most noise.

What needs to happen now

- We must work together – neighbors, crime prevention specialists, the police department, as well as businesses and nonprofit organizations – to continue to improve quality of life in our communities.

- City leaders must stop unhelpful rhetoric and step up to help us in a meaningful way.

- Reinvigorate partnerships that once existed between city



Crime Prevention Specialist Karen Notsch (center) at a block club meeting before her retirement

and county officials, neighbors and neighborhood associations.

I encourage each of you to get involved where you live. Contact other block club leaders you know. Everything we do together makes a difference.

Minneapolis

To start a block club, visit: minneapolismn.gov/resident-services/public-safety/prevent-prepare/crime-prevention/block-clubs/.

To view the Minneapolis Police Department Crime Dashboard, visit:

minneapolismn.gov/resident-services/public-safety/police-public-safety/crime-maps-dashboards/crime-dashboard/.

National

To learn more about National Night Out, visit: natw.org.

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RADIO WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

Southside Pride
RIVERSIDE EDITION

The Southside Pride Riverside Edition is a monthly newspaper containing neighborhood news, religious events and a community calendar delivered on the third Monday of the month to over 100 locations in and around the Riverside community. We are proud of the racial and cultural diversity of the Southside, and we oppose racism and other efforts to keep us apart as a community.

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

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 / RIVERSIDE EDITION

EVENTS

Safe Place Homework Help
Beginning Sept. 27
School Days 3:30 to 6 p.m.
2001 Riverside Ave., Mpls.
Free in-person tutoring for grades K-12. Masks required.

‘ANIMATE’
Sept. 16 – 26, 6:30 p.m.
Como Park Zoo and Conservatory
1225 Eastbrook Dr., St. Paul
Mixed Blood Theatre presents the world premiere of “ANIMATE” by Ken LaZebnik, performed at Como Park Zoo and Conservatory. Featuring Sally Wingert, Kevin Kling, Jevetta Steele, Regina Marie Williams, Stephen Yoakam, Taj Ruler, Bruce A. Young, Randy Reyes, and a cast of many others (including a cameo by Don Cheadle). The extravaganza starts with a helicopter landing as the audience moves from primate house to polar bear odyssey to giraffe grotto to tropical encounters to the 1200-seat sea lion amphitheater. It’s a play about race and philanthropy seen through the lens of species preservation. “ANIMATE” champions zoos as invaluable resources to their regions and the world as bastions of species preservation, conservation, and education. This production marks Jack Reuler’s final directing project in his 46-year tenure at Mixed Blood.
True to Como Park Zoo and Conservatory’s commitment to free access, admission to all shows of “ANIMATE,” like the zoo itself, is free to all, but reservations are required. Beyond city, state, and CDC safety protocols, audiences are asked to be masked for the entire 100-minute journey, and comprehensive cleaning and distancing practices will be in place. For reservations and more info, see www.mixedblood.com.

‘Doctors Who Torture: Ending Impunity from the Holocaust to Today’
Wednesday, Sept. 22, 7 to 9 p.m. CDT
Online via Zoom
World Without Genocide will host a webinar on Wednesday, Sept. 22 about the use of torture in genocides and other mass atrocities. The program highlights efforts to punish medical professionals’ participation in torture through international and national trials and removing licensure from those suspected of abetting torture anywhere in the world. The featured speakers are Steven Miles, M.D., bio-ethicist and author of “Torture Doctors: Human Rights Crimes and the Road to Justice,” and Sen. Sandy Pappas, Legislative Director, World Without Genocide and author of anti-torture legislation. The program is open to the public. Registration is required by Tuesday, Sept. 21 at <http://worldwithoutgenocide.org/torture> \$10 general public, \$5 students and

seniors. “Clock hours” for teachers, nurses and social workers. Free to Mitchell Hamline students (diversity credits available). \$25 for 2 Elimination of Bias CLE credits for Minnesota lawyers. Space is limited; early registration is recommended.

Minnesota Orchestra Season Opening:
Osmo Vänskä and Joshua Bell
Thursday, Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 24, 8 p.m.
Orchestra Hall
1111 Nicollet Mall, Mpls.
Music Director Osmo Vänskä begins his final season with the Minnesota Orchestra with performances at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis on Sept. 23 and 24. Vänskä and the Orchestra open the season with music written for Minneapolis in Kalevi Aho’s “Mineä” and then welcome virtuoso violinist Joshua Bell to the stage for Max Bruch’s heroic “Scottish Fantasy.” Bell was the featured guest soloist at the first Minnesota Orchestra concert Vänskä ever conducted, in October 2000, three years before he became music director. Jessie Montgomery’s “Banner” considers the sound of an anthem for our time, and the concerts conclude with the triumphant tones of Ludwig van Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony, a work Vänskä conducted on the first concert of his first season with the Minnesota Orchestra in 2003. Tickets \$55 to \$135, available at minnesotaorchestra.org.

Youth-led Climate Justice Sit-In at Minnesota Capitol
Friday, Sept. 24, 1 to 4 p.m.
YEA! Network youth will gather outside for a sit-in and teach-in centered around climate solutions that put Most Affected People and Areas (MAPA) at the center. Climate justice is not only a solution to the climate crisis but a framework for viewing climate change and who it most affects and why. All are invited to support the rising need for climate justice around the world.
Minnesota has experienced much climate injustice, and we are demanding action from our state leaders. This event is in connection with a Fridays For Future’s global strike which recognizes that most affected voices must shape climate solutions. We are asking our elected officials to pressure President Biden to stop Line 3, along with demanding that our state and local governments vote against the continued use of HERC, and the climate injustice surrounding the Hiawatha expansion project. We expect that in the legislative session following this sit-in, our leaders will take action and vote for just climate solutions that put people strongly affected by climate change first. This includes those whose jobs and lives may be changed due to climate solutions.
This event is led by the YEA! Network

youth in tandem with Fridays for Future’s global strike. YEA! Network is a youth-led program under Climate Generation, an organization empowering individuals and their communities to engage in solutions to climate change. The YEA! Network is also working to ensure that climate justice curriculum is implemented across Minnesota schools at all grade levels. Another youth-led organization called Fridays for Future, inspired by Greta Thunberg, has been striking every Friday all over the world for climate action. On Sept. 24, Fridays for Future is organizing a global strike that will be centered around Most Affected People and Areas (MAPA) and demanding that leaders start creating just climate solutions. For more info, go to <https://www.climategen.org/our-core-programs/youth-environmental-activists/>.

2021 NAMIWalks Minnesota ‘Walk Your Way’ Event
Saturday, Sept. 25, 11 a.m.
Online
Because of the rising number of COVID-19 cases, the 15th annual NAMIWalks Minnesota, a popular 5K walk to raise awareness about mental illnesses and celebrate hope set for Saturday, Sept. 25 at Minnehaha Park has been changed to a “Walk Your Way” event. Included will be an online gathering at 11 a.m., with guest speakers sharing their personal stories on why NAMIWalks is important to them and to every community. NAMIWalks supports the efforts of NAMI Minnesota to provide education, support and advocacy for children and adults with mental illnesses and their families. This year walkers will join in by walking their own way to raise awareness in their home communities, with some choosing to hike a nearby trail with friends or stroll through their neighborhood with their families. Others will opt to bike, run, swim, skate or start conversations on mental health. Still others will post signs on recovery, or share why they walk on social media using the hashtag #NAMIMN. Mental illnesses affect persons of any age, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion or socioeconomic status. One in five people are affected by a mental illness in any given year. For more details and registration, go to namimn.org or call 651-645-2948.

Birding on the Mississippi River Flyway
Sunday, Sept. 26, 8:30 to 10 a.m.
Meet at W. River Rd. and E. 36th St. parking lot
Join an Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden Naturalist to watch the fall bird migration along the Flyway at Mississippi Gorge Regional Park. Bring binoculars if you have them. Shared binoculars will be available for use. This is a drop-in program. No registration is necessary; just show up!

More info here: https://www.minneapolisaparks.org/parks__destinations/parks__lakes/gardens__bird_sanctuaries/eloise_butler_wildflower_garden_and_bird_sanctuary/

Mizna’s Twin Cities Arab Film Fest
Sept. 29 – Oct. 3
In-person and online
Trylon Cinema
2820 E. 33rd St., Mpls.
The 15th edition of Mizna’s Twin Cities Arab Film Fest returns to Minneapolis–St. Paul Sept. 29 through Oct. 3, 2021. This year’s fest will be held in a hybrid format, combining in-person and online film screenings and events. The in-person components of the festival will take place at Trylon Cinema in Minneapolis and virtual screenings will be accessible across the U.S. In addition to classic and contemporary films, the festival will include panel discussions with filmmakers, scholars and film industry professionals. TCAFF audiences can expect to attend a virtual conversation on the eclectic cultural scene of 1970s Morocco. Additionally, Lebanese documentarian Sarah Francis and Palestinian artist Mona Benyamin will discuss how themes of lunar colonization appear in each of their films, exploring questions about exile and displacement. Early Bird prices on Festival passes for virtual and hybrid Arab Film Fest screenings are now available! Through Sept. 17, passes will be available at 25% off their regular prices. There are a limited number of each so act fast to get yours! For more information, go to <https://mizna.org/event/2021arab-filmfest/>.

Minnesota Dance Theatre ‘Hope Lives Here’
Saturday, Oct. 16, 4 p.m.
Orchestra Hall
1111 Nicollet Mall, Mpls.
MDT joins forces with VocalEssence Chorus & Ensemble Singers for “Hope Lives Here,” a concert at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 16 at Orchestra Hall in Minneapolis. Celebrating an enthusiastic return to in-person performances, the program will offer reflections of the pandemic journey and optimism for the future. Choreographic highlights include a fresh interpretation of Leonard Bernstein’s “Chichester Psalms” with choreography by Minnesota-born, Munich-based Alexander

Hille. The evening will also feature a clever juxtaposition of Astor Piazzolla’s tango-infused tribute to Vivaldi’s “Four Seasons” with choreography by McKnight Dance Fellow Elayna Waxse. Single tickets (\$10-\$40) will be on sale September 16 at minnesotaorchestra.org.

Children’s Theatre Company 2021-2022 Season
Children’s Theatre Company
2400 Third Ave. S., Mpls.
Join us for a remarkable return to live theatre at CTC! We can’t wait to welcome you and your family back for a season that features jaw-dropping spectacles, blockbuster musicals, world premieres and more. Experience the magic of live theatre that will inspire you, open your heart, and fill you with joy. Tickets start at just \$15 for kids!
“Annie,” Nov. 7, 2021 – Jan. 9, 2022, all ages
“Bina’s Six Apples,” Jan. 9 – Feb. 13, 2022, ages 9 and up
“Circus Abyssinia Tulu,” Jan. 18 – Feb. 13, 2022, all ages
“Something Happened in Our Town,” Feb. 27 – March 27, 2022, ages 7 and up
“Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical,” April 22 – June 18, 2022, all ages
Single tickets to all performances now on sale at <https://childrenstheatre.org/>.

Mary Ann Key Book Club ‘Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning’ by Cathy Park Hong
The Mary Ann Key Book Club, a collaboration with columnist Myron Medcalf that uses reading to better understand past and current injustices, has announced the next read for Fall 2021! The discussion will center around “Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning” by Cathy Park Hong. In her book, poet and essayist Cathy Park Hong blends memoir, cultural criticism and history to confront the Asian American condition and examine the complex relationships between race, family, heritage and society in America. “Minor feelings arise,” she writes, “upon hearing a slight, knowing it’s racial, and being told, Oh, that’s all in your head.” For details, see www.hclib.org/programs/books-reading/mary-ann-key-book-club.

History, from page 11

digenous people. The multiracial working class. People who look like America.
They were beaming – every last one – as if a message might have finally broken through. For real this time. These kids from the neighborhood didn’t bring the matches but that doesn’t matter. They saw the clarity of purpose and intrinsically understood the moment.
All night long, one after another, each stated some version of the same thing. This is where

I live. I belong here. I am meant to be here tonight. This is part of my destiny. I am here to take my place in history.
I vowed never to betray the meaning of this moment for them. To not waste the international solidarity and global goodwill the way 9/11 was frittered away in fear and sold my generation down the river. Whose chickens had come home to roost as our hardened, hyper-militarized police.
“The true test of the American ideal is whether we’re able to recognize our failings and

then rise together to meet the challenges of our time,” Barack Obama said on that sunny Saturday in 2005. “Whether we allow ourselves to be shaped by events and history, or whether we act to shape them.”
The eyes of all people are upon us. Minneapolis can never be a City upon a Hill because only God is divine.
Minneapolis can be a depot. Minneapolis can live up to the promise of its motto: En Avant. Forward.

MORE 'UM's
PER HOUR
THAN ANY
OTHER
STATION.
100.7 FM + 104.5 FM
RADIO K
770AM 100.7 & 104.5 FM
★ ➡ ★ Real College Radio ★ ➡ ★

More restaurant news! More than two mini-reviews!

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

New eating places and concepts and “new to me”

Amazingly, new restaurants and cafes and food service “concepts” keep on opening. Three fairly recent openings, in descending order of grandness (which pretty much relates to price and that pampered, entitled feeling, but not necessarily to actual goodness as food) are The Butcher’s Tale in the old Butcher & the Boar location, StormKing Brewpub and Barbecue in the North Loop, and Side Chick in the Lyn-Lake area.

The Butcher’s Tale is not only in the Butcher & the Boar space, it’s being presented as a rethinking of the previous restaurant. Their shiny new website says:

“ONE DOOR CLOSSES AND ANOTHER ONE OPENS

“The Butcher’s Tale presents a fresh approach to the culinary world of artisanal meats ... an array of the region’s best bourbons and brown spirits; and comfortable, welcoming spaces.”

It has mostly the same people too, both management and staff, with a major indoor redesign and a different menu.

StormKing Brewpub and Barbecue is a new taproom for Rapids Brewing craft brews from Grand Rapids, Minn., paired with Texas barbecue and Tex-Mex food to go and a large North Loop patio. It looks pretty good if that’s your scene. It’s not my scene, but I don’t judge.

Side Chick is a fairly upscale fast-food place specializing in,

obviously, chicken. The owner is real estate agent and nightclub owner Jado Hark, but it’s fronted by superstar chef Justin Sutherland, known for his St. Paul restaurant Handsome Hog as well as for his TV appearances on Top Chef and Iron Chef. Sutherland designed the menu and is believed to be a minority partner. Unfortu-



Justin Sutherland of Handsome Hog and Side Chick

nately, not long after opening, Side Chick was in the news when a shootout happened on the street outside the restaurant which wounded seven people, including an 18-year-old employee of Side Chick who was on the sidewalk outside after her shift. The owner claims there is no connection between the shooters and his restaurant.

Cider taprooms are a growing trend in the Twin Cities and around the state. We only focus on the Twin Cities ones, so you have a choice between the Minneapolis Cider Co. taproom or the Number 12 Cider taproom. The Minneapolis Cider Co. (791 SE 9th St.) has cider on tap in the taproom, along with cocktails made with cider, and also cider in cans to go. For food, there is a creperie onsite called Breizh, which sells both sweet and savory

crepes for brunch on week-ends or a light supper during the week. Canned Minneapolis Cider Co. cider is also available from Lunds & Byerlys and Kowalski’s Wine Shops, Elevated Beer Wine & Spirits, and Ken & Norm’s Liquor, as well as at the Northbound Smokehouse Brewpub and Carbone’s in south Minneapolis. Also, just the coolest thing: this taproom has two pickleball courts!

The Number 12 Cider taproom also brews its cider onsite, and also sells it to-go in cans. They have a patio for on-site consumption. The Little Tomato Pizza food truck provides food. You can pre-order to-go items online via LittleTomatoMN.com. Also, both Number 12 and Minneapolis Cider Co. make and sell cider slushies. I never knew that was a thing, but I guess it is now. Number 12 Cider is also available in many liquor stores throughout the state, including Zipps, Hums, Falls, and Elevated in south Minneapolis.

The restaurant business

I have been trying to figure out what’s going on with Door Dash, one of the lesser (in my view) restaurant delivery services. I knew that some of the Dashers, as their “independent contractor” drivers are called, were holding a one-day strike on July 31 to try to pressure the company into being more transparent about their tips. Or lack of them, to be precise. This turned out to be too complex a topic for a lowly restaurant review column! So I’ll just say, if you choose to use Door Dash (I had two bad experiences with them and sort of wrote them off) please tip your Dasher, and indeed, all service workers. And support the PRO Act. (More information here on that – fortune.com/2021/03/31/pro-act-freelance-gig-workers. And more information on the dilemma of the Dashers here: <https://bit.ly/3gK2eSj>). After the revolution, tips will be a cringe-worthy memory, not missed by tippers or the tipped.

Kim Bartmann keeps on making the news. She entered a settlement agreement that

concluded a wage theft investigation conducted by Minnesota Attorney General Keith



Cider-based slushie at the Number 12 Cider taproom

Ellison. The agreement means the Bartmann Group will be paying, in installments over the next few months, a total of around \$230,000 in unpaid wages and damages to employees laid off without current pay from Tiny Diner in March 2020, and those who worked multiple shifts exceeding 40 hours at multiple locations but were denied overtime pay.

Two places I ate at that I’m not reviewing here

My friend and I stopped into Dave the Pie Guy for a long overdue lunch on a busy errand day, because we were shopping at Present Moment, which is next door. I thought you should know the place is there. It’s not bad, but the service is slow and weird, it being one guy who does all the cooking, baking, and serving and is very chatty as well. The pies are better than the main dishes for sure.

I finally got to Herbie Butcher’s Fried Chicken. If you’re a vegan, either committed or striving, and you miss fast-food fried chicken, you will find this fills the void perfectly. I said a little more in a recent blog in Deborahama’s Kitchen, my food blog on Medium – [debrakeefferramage.medium.com/deboramas-kitchen-some-things-i-made-and-ate-this-summer-fd7b26501238](https://medium.com/deboramas-kitchen-some-things-i-made-and-ate-this-summer-fd7b26501238).

Mini-review #1 – Gyu-Kaku Japanese Barbecue

I mentioned eating at this place in the August article on

Lyndale Avenue. Here is the actual review. I was almost the only white person in there, which is in my opinion a good sign. But when I sat at the booth and looked at the menu, my heart quailed. Anxiously, I asked the waiter, “If I order the salmon, am I going to have to cook it myself?” Yes, I would have to, he said, but he would help me and it would be fun. He was Japanese, and very busy, even though it was the late middle of the afternoon. But nice. And it was fun, as it turned out, but the only help was that he turned the brazier on for me and gave me a single sentence lesson in what to do. But I managed.

I had a very large salad to start, so large I couldn’t finish it. For the main, I ordered the salmon, which was wrapped in a foil packet with a miso marinade on it and one huge, perfect shishito pepper. Actually, there was a great advantage to cooking it myself. Everyone



Grilling my salmon at Gyu Kaku

in Minnesota way overcooks salmon for my taste. So I took two minutes off the directed time per side and it was absolutely perfect. Almost 90% of the grilling menu of Gyu-Kaku is beef – very fancy beef. There is also at least one all-plant-based packet for grilling, and there are rice bowls and salads, too, so you don’t have to grill.

The prices are quite reasonable. They also sell bundles that you can take home and cook on your own grill if you prefer. This would be a super fun place for a small party of six to ten, and they have beer, wine and spirits. Highly recommend.


Mini-review #2 – Sushi Train

I love everything about Sushi Train. I love the concept of the conveyor belt so much that I would be fine if they didn’t even have waiters and just put everything on the belt. (To be fair, that wouldn’t be very practical. And the waiters are lovely.) But even when I order from the menu, I am transfixed by the conveyor belt going around with the little dishes. And I love sushi anyway, and feel good about eating at a

See *The Dish*, page 15

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The Dish, from page 14

place with so much fresh and raw stuff. And just because you order from the menu doesn't mean you can't grab something off the belt also if it takes your fancy.

I stopped in to Sushi Train at 2:45 p.m. on a weekday, after an exhausting trip back from St. Paul on the Green Line. Sushi Train is at 1200 Nicollet Mall and is open for dining inside (no patio). They also have delivery via GrubHub. I ordered a Tuna Poke Bowl and Vegetable Tempura. (That's a very non-traditional pairing,

but I didn't care, I was famished.)



Sushi Train

I've had Tuna Poke at other places and this was quite different. Poke sits in a pretty weird place, culturally speaking. Originally it was a tradi-

tional food of the Hawaiians, but it's been colonized by the Japanese and then westernized by non-Asian Americans of the U.S. in the process of becoming a trend and a hot commercial product. So, as a silly old white lady who has stanned Japanese food since long before it became so widely popular, I refuse to even use the word "authentic." (Oops. That didn't count.) How the hell do I know what "real" poke even is?

This bowl had a base of white rice, a goodly amount of avocado (not a native plant in Hawaii, Japan, or Minnesota), a large spoonful of seaweed

salad, several pickled daikon slices, some grated carrot, and a large scoop, at least a cup, of what I can only describe as raw ground tuna. Like tuna meatloaf before it's cooked. Well, I loved it. The tempura was good too. I grabbed a little bowl of edamame off the belt, even though I didn't need it. With a bottled iced tea and a generous tip, my bill was just a little over \$20.

Mini-review #3 - Eating at the co-op

The Co-op Creamery Cafe is still not open. There is no word when, or even if. Howev-

er, both Seward locations have reopened their little dining areas and brought back the hot bar and salad bar. With the heat wave, I have visited the Franklin store several times



in the late afternoon to have my lunch, read some magazines, do some journaling, and get cooled down, before doing a small shop and going reluctantly back to the heat.

A great meal to have at the co-op is sushi, a side of Garlic Lovers Pasta Salad and a bottled drink of your choice. Your dining companions will mostly be houseless persons also using this space to cool off, and occasionally doze off. I love that my co-op doesn't roust them out into the street at all, as far as I have observed. Some days, I think a better world really is possible.

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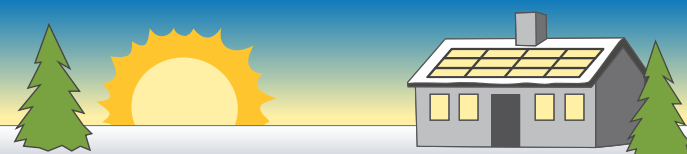


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