



We build Pride on the Southside

NOKOMIS EDITION

SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

April 2022

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America's foremost institution



BY TONY BOUZA

I'm given to hyperbole. Can't seem to help it. "Best this," "greatest that," whatever.

The U. S. has earned my devoted study. It has, to put it modestly, really lifted me out of certain defeat. No small feat. I owe this great country.

So, what would a foremost institution look like? National. Influential. Truthful. Trusted. Informed. Relevant. Useful. Valuable. All those things. It must reach, and be relied upon by, America's rulers. Who are they? Politicians, financiers, influencers, rich, powerful types—and they must interact with the institution intimately and consistently.

It must have the resources to delve into the most complex matters and inform its followers fully, truthfully and relevantly.

Politics offers tempting candidates. So do religion, finance and culture. But only one institution reaches the few million who shape and guide our destinies every day.

And its name?

The New York Times.

As I write, it is at the very apex of its power and influence. You gotta read it or you're

See Bouza, page 11



In the late 1940s, Anna and Wasyl Kramarczuk traveled from their beloved Ukraine to the U.S. in hopes of achieving the American dream and, after years of hard work, founded Kramarczuk's.

Ukrainian heartbeat in Northeast Minneapolis

BY LYDIA HOWELL

The Ukrainian language demeaned as a dialect, "Little Russian," or censored; a beloved folk musical instrument suppressed; prison or death for poets, artists and dissidents since the 1860s – all these things have been

done to maintain Russian domination of Ukraine. Whether under czars or Soviets, from Catherine the Great to Vladimir Putin, Russia claims Ukraine for itself, always suspicious of any assertion of an independent Ukrainian identity.

Since the 1880s, Ukraini-

ans have come to Northeast Minneapolis, often in the aftermath of war.

"For us, the Ukrainian church is not only a religious center, it's also a cultural and community center," says Jackie Pawluk, Cultural Chair of St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church board. Out-

See Ukraine, page 11

What's new near 48th Street & Chicago Ave.

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

I made a quick visit to the south Minneapolis end of Chicago Avenue just as we were emerging from a long and, for me, very isolating winter. I had let my car battery die, and had sort of lost the will to drive, which meant I was not motivated to "sort it." So I didn't go anywhere at all from the second week of January to when my friend J, with her hybrid car and an underground parking spot, came back from Mexico in late March.

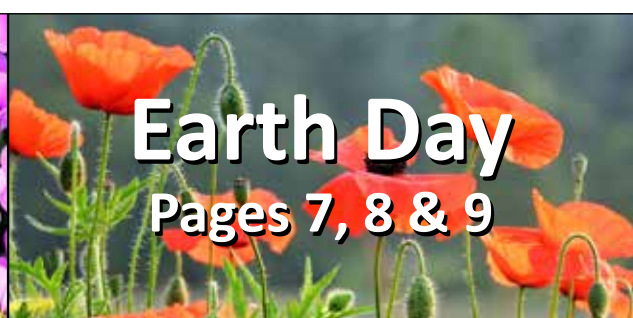
I went with J to Pumphouse Creamery just to see if they were still open, if they had totally stopped using delivery services (for now,



The Parkway Office Building, a good place to find a massage therapist or get a pedicure

they have) and if they still had that delicious lemon-infused olive oil ice cream I'd been dreaming about all through the snow and the cold and the omicron wave. They do still have it, and just as I was straightening up, clutching my pint and about to pull my head out

See 48th & Chicago, page 2



Celebrate Spring on 48th & Chicago

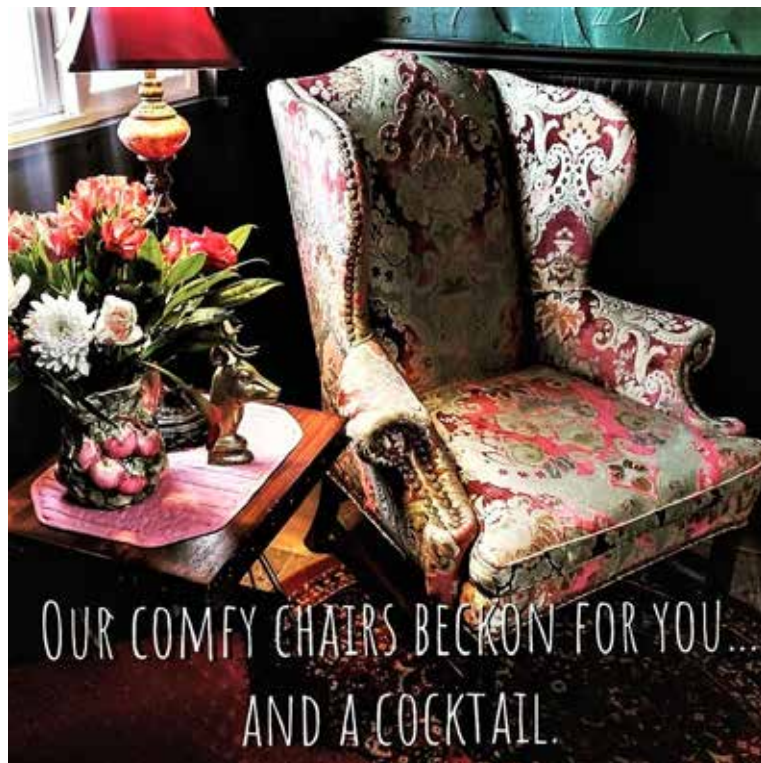
48th & Chicago, from page 1

of the freezer display, my eye caught the words “Brother Justus Single Malt Whiskey” printed on one of the cartons.

“Wow!” I said. “You have this in an ice cream? I’ve been looking for this for months.” Backstory – I am a big fan of single malt whisky (or whiskey, depending on whether it’s from Scotland or somewhere else). And I’m a big fan of craft distilleries and of local small businesses. And I am a big fan of unions. Brother Justus happens to be a tiny, local craft distillery, with a union, specializing in single malt whiskey. Very few liquor stores carry it, mainly because with only 10 employees and all the supply

chain problems at the moment, they don’t produce enough for many stores to carry. But you can totally get it in an artisanal local ice cream that also is very niche and small-batch. And since one of my favorite accompaniments to booze is ice cream, I was delighted by this turn of events. I bought a pint of each.

Other food delights abound in the area. If you stretch it as far south as the 50s, there is Heather’s, and also an excellent grocery, Kowalski’s. I have sung their praises before. Another seasonal food source about halfway between is the Nokomis Farmers Market. Sadly, this one market, of the three operated by food nonprofit Neighborhood Roots, will be on



Old school vibe at the Creekside Supper Club & Lounge

hiatus for the entire 2022 season. The Kingfield Market on Nicollet Avenue South and the Linden Hills Market on Chowen Avenue South will be open as before. See the website at neighborhoodroots.org for exact days and hours.

Several old favorites in the food and drink arena are still

going strong at the Chicago and 48th Street hub. These include Bagu Sushi and Thai, which is only open for dinner, Turtle Bread right on the corner for lunch and baked goods, and Sovereign Grounds Coffee Shop diagonally across the street for coffee and other drinks, snacks and Middle Eastern treats. For

locally brewed ales and delicious pub food, the Town Hall Tap is a fun, easygoing place. And check out Town Hall’s latest addition, The Sidecar, a craft cocktail lounge in the adjoining space (formerly Adrian’s Tavern). The Sidecar opened last fall, and now with summer approaching, their much anticipated 50-seat alley patio will be an ideal spot to enjoy the warmer weather.

That brings us right next door to another new place! I can’t say much about them yet, but I am going to be visiting in mid-April to celebrate the 60th birthday of a friend. In the space occupied by Pepito’s for many years, and most recently by a Minneapolis outpost of a popular St. Paul burrito restaurant, we now have a supper club. No air quotes, no irony, pretty much the real deal, apart from not being in Wisconsin. The Creekside Supper Club has attracted positive attention from many Twin Cities restaurant reviewers since its opening, so now The Dish will have a crack at it. Watch for our May edition for that.

The one place in this area that The Dish has reviewed is also going strong as far as I can tell – Herbie Butcher’s Fried Chicken, an all-plant-based, take-out-only fried chicken bucket spot on 48th Street just a few steps west of Chicago. This is a venture going into its second year from the twosome who founded and run The Herbivorous Butcher vegan deli in Northeast, hence the unusual name. Although their product doesn’t taste exactly as I remember Colonel Sanders’ did (it’s been about 40 years), it will hit all the sweet spots of bucket fried chicken without the omnivore’s dilemma.

Besides spots for eating and drinking, this area has two wonderful pet services – Bubbly Paws, where you can wash and groom your own pet or have it done, and the Minnehaha Animal Hospital. There is also a dog-friendly, locally-owned liquor store, Ken and Norm’s, which I have not visited since before the pandemic. They have delivery service through Drizly. And there’s a great gift shop we covered last year, 14 Hill – it’s still there, too. As their website says, they sell “a hodgepodge of cool sh*t,” including unique cards and gifts for all occasions,



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56th St.

fun stuff for kids and babies, jewelry, socks, scarves, candles, bath and body products – the list goes on. Check them out in person or follow them on social media to see their latest offerings.

This business node abounds with beauty, health and wellness businesses. On the east side of Chicago is Rue 48 Salon and Spa Sweet, and around the corner on 48th Street, east of Chicago, is an old Southside cottage converted to a wellness

press time). They are “all ages” shows unless otherwise specified. Contact the theater for times, ticket prices, all the stuff we left out, and any additional information.

- “Aliens” (film, 1986) with prelude set by Robot Slide (music – guitarless rock + orchestral + electronic) Thursday, April 14.
- SimpleGifts featuring Billy McLaughlin presents The Young and the Rest. Women recast old

April 21.

- Moth StorySLAM on the theme of Books (five-minute stories, open mic) Wednesday, April 27.
- “High Fidelity” (film, 2000) with prelude set by Saint Small (music, rock, St. Paul) Thursday, April 28.
- Poems from the Prairie – Benefit & Tribute concert in aid of families of Peter Ostroushko and Alan Jesperson (fantastic lineup of Minnesota bluegrass legends) Saturday, April 30.



Town Hall Tap

center with various practitioners. A little farther south on Chicago is the Southside Barber Lounge. For traditional medical care, there is a HealthPartners Urgent Care Clinic near 47th and Chicago.

Another such resource is the Parkway Office Building, which houses a financial service and a few other non-health-related businesses, and a large variety of small clinics, massage therapists, mental health counselors, chiropractors, acupuncturists, facial spas (estheticians) and a nail salon. These are all by appointment only, but check the lobby directory or, if looking online, search by the street address 4748 Chicago Ave., Minneapolis.

The big comeback change for Chicago and 48th is the return of fantastic music, film and other entertainment events at the Parkway Theater. Their COVID policy is the same as many other venues: (1) show a vaccine card or a certified test result within three days; (2) masks are required at all times for the audience. Some of the events listed below (for your convenience, as it's not a complete list) have lower prices for advance tickets. We have not listed sold-out events (as of

rock favorites originally made by men (Neil Young, the Eagles, etc.) Tuesday, April 19.

- “Purple Rain” (film, 1984, 35mm presentation) Thursday,

- “Rocky Horror Picture Show” (film, 1975, 18+ midnight show) Saturday, April 30

See 48th & Chicago, page 4

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Celebrate Spring on 48th & Chicago

48th & Chicago, from page 3

to Sunday, May 1.

- Shawn Colvin 32nd Anniversary of Steady On Tour (tour celebrating 32 years since her Steady On album which will be performed in its entirety) Sunday, May 15.
- Elvis: Hollywood to Vegas (with tribute artist Anthony Shore) Friday, May 20.
- Trailer Trash and Janie Miller – A Patsy Cline Valentine Performance (rescheduled from Valentine’s Day) Saturday, May 21.
- 6th Annual Bow Wow Film Festival (short films for the

love of dog – matinee) Sunday, May 22 (also available for limited streaming at home, single or family).

- Where the Beat Goes On – CD release of a 1979 CD by Fingerprints, followed by a screening of “Jay’s Longhorn” (documentary film, 2019) Saturday, June 4, sponsored by The Current. Advance ticket includes complimentary CD. To learn more about the 1970s Minneapolis band Fingerprints, Twin Tone Records and Jay’s Longhorn, see the article at tinyurl.com/veepfwhf.

Another thing that hits the



Parkway cosplaying ushers for the midnight showing of ‘Rocky Horror’



continuing success of our local small businesses, besides pandemics, gentrification and displacement, crime and the weather, is major road construction. If you’re a fan or user of public transit, you may already know that much of Chicago Avenue, including the part that goes through the Chicago – 48th intersection, will be served by a new bus rapid transit route called the D Line.

This line will connect Brooklyn Center to the south suburbs, including the Mall of America, and gains speed over normal bus routes due to limited stops, a very direct route, and faster boarding, with riders pre-pay-

stations at 42nd, 46th, 48th, 52nd, 56th and 60th Streets. Construction around 48th and Chicago will mean closing the intersection for up to a month. The work begins on Chicago Avenue in April, but the exact



ing in a manner similar to light rail. The D Line necessitates the need to construct more platform-style stations along the route, and this will be combined with other safety and accessibility improvements.

The D Line will have new

dates it will begin at each stop are not known yet. Please remember to support your local businesses while construction is ongoing. They will all be accessible in some way from nearby parking or bus stops.

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BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Closings in food and drink

From Racket.com and other sources we learned that Tin Whiskers, one of the original artisanal Minnesota breweries, is closing this year. Buy up their inventory while you still can, if you're a fan.

From Mpls.St.Paul Magazine, we learn that 35-year Dinkytown veteran Camdi is closing. Thai and other southeast Asian restaurants still proliferate, but sadly (to me) Vietnamese ones become ever harder to find.

Openings in food and drink

But maybe I'm just looking in the wrong place. Que Viet is a family-run restaurant in Northeast Minneapolis that's renowned for its State Fair egg roll stand. A daughter and daughter-in-law of the family will open a small extra location in a former used bookstore space in St. Paul. It will be called Em Que Viet (Em is Vietnamese for little sister). No date was given.

Centro, a taqueria in Northeast Minneapolis, will open an expansion in the former Wedge Table space on Eat Street (24th and Nicollet).

Provision Community Restau-

rounded by boards and appears to be a hive of construction-related activity as it is being transformed into an actual lab and training center. Look for a grand re-opening later in the spring.

A similar project is underway that is projected to be completed near the end of this year. A project of the Cultural Wellness Center, one of the nonprofit "owners" of Midtown Global Market, Culinary Heritage will be a culinary center focusing on ancient grains of Africa. They will have demonstrations and cooking classes featuring these healthful grains, and also do regular food delivery to elderly people, especially those of African heritage.

And an \$800,000 project is just starting to install a "beauty hub" in the Market, where in addition to threading, now available at Leila's Brow Art, patrons will be able to get haircuts, pedicures and other health and beauty treatments. How is this food-related? It's hoped that the extra foot traffic and income for the market will help save the sometimes-precarious current food vendors from going under, or the market as a whole from becoming unsustainable.

Square donuts! How did I miss this?



Bradley Taylor and his Donut Trap vending machine outside Can Can Wonderland in St. Paul



The Donut Trap's iconic square donut

A young entrepreneur named Bradley Taylor has been making waves for several years with his square donuts and his food truck to vend them. The existing business was called Sssdude-Nutz, and during the pandemic, mostly focused on selling at farmers' markets.

Now Taylor has a new gig, called the Donut Trap. He's still selling square donuts, with "sexy" and innovative flavors and names, but now they are available from a high-tech vending machine. Just the first of many to come, the vending machine now sits in



A delicious Po' Boy from Sea Salt Eatery

a hallway just outside of Can Can Wonderland, 755 Prior Ave., St. Paul.

Farmers' market (for real) season starts next month

Farmers' markets do continue through the winter, some indoors, some outdoors. But the "real" farmers' market season is late spring through late fall, and is a vital part of spring and summer in my book. Midtown Farmers Market, my own "home" market, debuts Saturday, May 7, at a new parklet located at 2225 E. Lake St. Ready-to-eat food and coffee vendors will include Kabomelette,

See *The Dish*, page 13

County Attorney questionnaire:

We sent the following question to Hennepin County Attorney candidates:

"Congratulations on becoming a candidate for Hennepin County Attorney. We appreciate your dedication to public service.

"Southside Pride is three community newspapers serving the Powderhorn, Nokomis and Riverside communities. Our 17,500 copies are delivered to 450 locations each month.

"To introduce you to our readers, we would like to publish your response (in less than 100 words) to the question:

"With the presentation of new evidence in the wrongful death suit brought against the City of Minneapolis in the killing of Terrance Franklin, would you consider re-opening a criminal investigation into the actions of the MPD SWAT team that killed Terrance Franklin?

"We would appreciate your response by March 20. It will be published in all April editions of Southside Pride."

Ryan Winkler was the only candidate who responded:

"There is no statute of limitations on murder. If evidence emerges in the death of Terrance Franklin that indicates a criminal charge is warranted, then I would prosecute based on that evidence."



The scene at Asa's Bakery when they opened in their new location

rant, a communal seating, pay what-you-can cafe that's a sort of mash-up of a soup kitchen and a fancy restaurant, is re-opening "sometime in the spring of 2022" according to a late March article in the Eater Twin Cities.

J. Selby's, the excellent plant-based casual food diner on Selby Avenue in St. Paul, will have already re-opened its indoor dining room by the time you read this.

Asa's Bakery in their new location of 5011 34th Ave. S. is also already - finally - open. They were razed by some bright spark on Twitter for only being open "nine hours per week" or something like that, but give them a break, they are ramping up hours gradually. In fact, as of the end of March, open hours are 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (although they close early if sold out, which does happen).

Sea Salt Eatery has announced April 15 as their 2022 season open date.

Food-related happenings at Midtown Global Market

The Indigenous Food Lab is sur-

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Swamp Creatures rise from the dead

BY ED FELIEN

Just when you thought you were safe on dry land, the Swamp Creatures rise from the dead and take you back into the muck.

Last year was a painful and exhausting struggle. After months of arguing, the Minneapolis Park Board voted 5-4 to not flood the Hiawatha Golf Course. Now, a new Park Board wants to re-visit that decision:

“RESOLVED, That the Board of Commissioners authorizes the reconsideration of Resolution 2021-249 related to the Hiawatha Golf Course Area Master Plan and directs staff to organize a Public Hearing before the Planning Committee of the Board of Commissioners on April 20, 2022.”

I wrote to the Board:

“I grew up a block from Lake Hiawatha. The lake was five feet lower then, than it is now. On dry days in August, you could walk through the storm tunnel off the Second Fairway all the way to 31st Street. On the Fourth of July we threw cherry bombs into the mouth of the tunnel, and it sounded like cannon fire.

“That changed in 1964 when (according to the story believed in South Minneapolis) Vice President Humphrey wanted to please his boss, LBJ, with the sight of a full-flowing Minnehaha Falls—even though the creek was low at that time of year and there wasn’t much water. So, he got the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to back it up with the dam/weir at 27th Avenue to guarantee a good supply of water for the president’s visit. LBJ never came to see the Falls, and we’re stuck with the unintended consequences.

“It wouldn’t need to cost \$43 million to restore Lake Hiawatha to its natural state. All that’s really needed is for the Board to ask President Meg Forney to make three phone calls. She should call Senator Tina’s office (I think they’re neighbors) and ask her to tell the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to take back their dam/weir. They built

it. It’s flooding the area. They should remove it.

“Second, she should call Gov. Walz and ask him to direct Charlie Zelle, the chair of the Metropolitan Council, to prop up the interceptor sewer pipe that is holding back nearly five feet of water because we want to restore Minnehaha Creek to its original channel and stop the flooding, so we’re going to run the creek under the pipe. We want the Metropolitan Council to build a bridge to support the interceptor sanitary pipe, and build a footbridge on top of it to make it useful and decorative.

“Third, after the flooding has stopped and the water level of the lake has gone down 4.5 to 5 feet, the lake is going to be very shallow with piles of sand. That sand is the sand the City of Minneapolis has spread on the streets every winter for the past 80 years. It has found its way through storm gutters from 31st Street to 43rd Street, from Chicago Avenue over to 26th Avenue. So, for her third call, President Meg should call Mayor Frey and ask him to come and get his sand out of our lake. The city should pay to dredge the sand from the lake. They put it there. They’re responsible for it.

“If President Meg does all that she will have restored Lake Hiawatha and Minnehaha Creek, and all it would cost the Park Board is three phone calls. (Don’t worry that the Falls would lose its glamor. There’s another dam/weir at 34th Avenue that holds back enough water to guarantee a full flow even in the dry months of July and August.)

“Before undertaking a major expense and a huge project, wouldn’t it be prudent and smart to first make three phone calls?”

In 2020 the Park Board staff estimated The Plan would cost \$43 million—possibly minus 25% or plus 50%—so, the total could be \$32 million to \$64 million. Realistically, the high end could go as high as \$80 million.

If they got rid of the dam/weir at 27th Avenue and the metropolitan sanitary interceptor,

they could lower the water level of Lake Hiawatha by 4.5 to 5 feet.

The area of Lake Hiawatha is 53.5 acres. If we lowered the lake by 4.5 feet, that would mean eliminating 10,487,070 cubic feet of water, or 78,448,731 gallons—almost 80 million gallons of water would be sent over the Falls to the Mississippi River. Actually, it would be much higher than 80 million gallons of water. It would drain the surface water table that has been flooding neighborhood basements. It could probably eliminate pumping altogether.

But why do that, when for \$43 million you can turn it into a swamp?

Michael Schroeder, the chief architect of The Plan, said in a memo to board members, “While they stress the need for retaining 18 holes on a historic basis, they have offered no alternatives to the ground water pumping issues that underline the need for a new direction on the property.”

In 2015, Barr Engineering was hired by the Park Board to study flooding and Minnehaha Creek. They concluded that removing the dam/weir at 27th Avenue could lower the water level of Lake Hiawatha by one to two feet, which would in turn lower the groundwater elevation beneath the course considerably. [They didn’t consider the creek running under the interceptor pipe that could lower the water level another 3.5 to 4 feet.] Section 10.4 (page 46) of the Feb. 28, 2017, Barr Report concludes: “The pumping of surface groundwater from the golf course to Lake Hiawatha was not impacting the deep groundwater aquifers in the region, but rather, just recirculating the surface groundwater in flows from the golf course ponds to Lake Hiawatha and back. Although energy intensive, the existing pumping is likely having minimal ecological impact.” A former hydrogeologist at Barr says Schroeder has distorted the meaning of the Barr Report—“He makes shit up.”

In 2011 when the city and Park Board installed a storm sewer that drains into the northwest portion of the course at an elevation two feet lower than Lake Hiawatha, they understood that stormwater would need to be pumped. It was part of the city and Park Board’s engineered



plan and apply for a permit that reflects whatever plan they decide on. The DNR doesn’t really care as long as there are no “ecological impacts.”

So, why does Schroeder want to stop pumping and flood the course?

Hiawatha shares the golf course with a program of cross-country skiing in winter, run by R.T. Rybak’s Loppet. Over the last 10 years, the Loppet has lost over \$3 million.

The Loppet is looking forward to the flooding of the

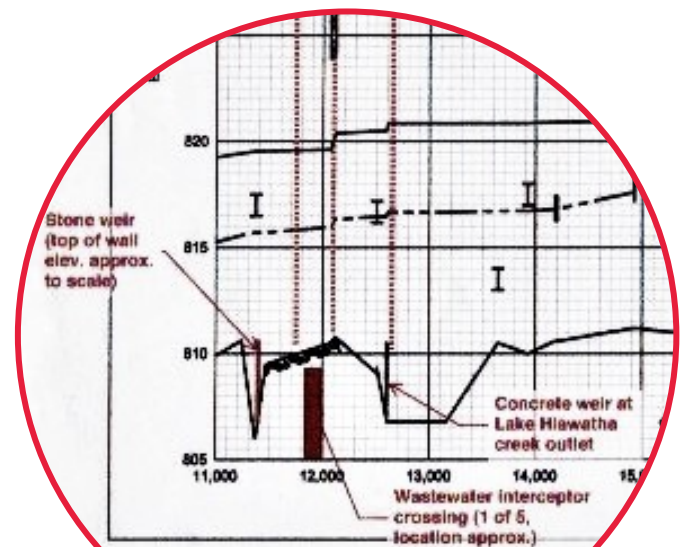
golf course because the artificial snow-making machine they’re planning for 47th Street and Longfellow will require pumping of at least 14 million gallons of water. Flooding will also make the ground freeze faster and smooth out the rough spots. The exalted sense of white privilege and lack of concern for other people’s money in this plan has R.T. Rybak written all over it, and Board President Meg Forney and Steffanie Musich (the commissioner for the district) are happy to carry water for him.

Schroeder wants to stop the pumping. He says we’re over our limit. He says the state will close it down. The reality is that Hiawatha has a dewatering permit that allows the golf course to pump up to 400 million gallons of water from the golf course per year. The DNR just wants the Park Board to figure out a

design. The current pumping was never constructed to dewater the course, and the Park Board’s consultant concluded that dewatering has no ecological impact; however, Michael Schroeder continues to spin the information Barr produced, after he created a narrative that pits neighbors against each other by attempting to make this into some sort of environmental issue.

Schroeder wants to stop the pumping. He says we’re over our limit. He says the state will close it down. The reality is that Hiawatha has a dewatering permit that allows the golf course to pump up to 400 million gallons of water from the golf course per year. The DNR just wants the Park Board to figure out a

If you are concerned about the future of Lake Hiawatha and Minnehaha Creek, please attend the Park Board public hearing on April 20.



In this profile of Minnehaha Creek by FEMA, Minnehaha Creek runs from right to left. The dam/weir at 27th Avenue rises 4.5 feet above the floor of Lake Hiawatha. The Interceptor is next. The rock weir at 30th Avenue has been removed.



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Celebrate our Planet on Earth Day

The mental and emotional stages of environmentalism

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Chances are, if you know 10 people who consider themselves environmentalists or some

version thereof (ecosocialist, ecofeminist, environmental anarchist, left-wing prepper) you will notice that they all have different approaches to their activ-

ism, and often different “takes” on what informs their beliefs, what matters the most, or how to reach others about environmental concerns. I don’t think these differences are just a matter of different personalities, backgrounds or strengths.

I think they’re different stages along essentially the same path. At first, I noticed that among people I’ve known for some time, their environmental position would move closer to that of someone else I knew, but that they didn’t know. Meanwhile that other person had also moved on to new perspectives.

And then I noticed it wasn’t just people I knew who were doing that. I was doing it, too.

Based primarily on my own journey of environmental consciousness, but checking it against that of others, I began to sort out the logic behind these

stages. Some people may skip a stage, or spend so long in one stage that you wonder if they’ll ever get out of it. Not everyone takes the stages in the same order either, so the numbering below can be considered random, rather than sequential.

I’m not claiming this is scientific or universal, but it seems widespread. So take these stage identifiers with a grain of salt. Take on what seems right, ignore the rest. Or as the Grateful Dead say, “Believe it if you need it.”

- Stage 1 - Gathering Knowledge
- Stage 2 - Thinking about Personal Solutions (Embracing)
- Stage 3 - Thinking about Systemic Solutions (Critiquing/Resistance)
- Stage 4 - Activism for a Global Program (e.g., The Green New Deal)
- Stage 5 - Panic (sometimes Depression or Nihilism)
- Stage 6a - Prepping and/or Fantasies with Optimism
- Stage 6b - Prepping and/or Fantasies with Pessimism
- Stage 7 - Learning and Prac-



ticing the Four “R”s
If you have an eye for patterns, you’ll notice two things. The first is that stages 1 and 7 seem neutral, while the other six comprise three positive-negative pairs: embracing/resisting, acting/paralyzing with fear, optimism/pessimism. The second thing is that the list may remind you vaguely of some other list. What is it?

See *Earth Day*, page 8



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7



Celebrate our Planet

Earth Day, from page 7

Spoilers, darling. It's the Kübler-Ross (modified) stages of grief.

Another caveat. Remember how I said I based this list on my own journey? Well, I have no way of knowing if my Stage 7 is really

the end of the journey, or just the stage I've reached so far. Because it's difficult to recognize a stage you haven't arrived at yet.

Here's a brief explanation of each stage, along with some resources (mostly books) if you feel like you're in that stage and want to understand it better.

Stage 1 - Gathering Knowledge

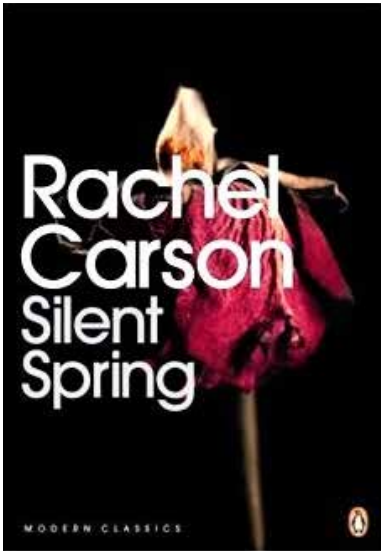
For those who are Boomers and older, we probably started gathering knowledge in the late 1960s. I was in high school then and started college in 1970. Sometime between 1970 and 1976 is when I first woke up to the impending doom of pollution, species extinction, the evils of modern agriculture, and early theories of climate change.

If you're a Gen X-er (or a younger Boomer than I), you probably became aware at a time when the available literature was more advanced, and the problem more readily apparent. If you're quite young, climate catastrophe and the impending great extinction were the murky aquarium water into which you were hatched.

In either case you might want to go back and read some of the early texts. "Diet for a Small Planet" (1971) by Frances Moore Lappe was the one that really grabbed me, while many friends cut their environmentalist teeth on Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" (1962). Similarly, I was entranced by Euell Gibbons' "Stalking the Wild Asparagus" (1962), while others fondly remember "A Sand County Almanac" (1949) by Aldo Leopold. Then there was "The Whole Earth Catalog" (1970), which is more of a Stage 6a kind of text. And Bill McKibben's book "The End of Nature" (1989) has stood the test of time.

These early texts give a philo-

sophical grounding for environmentalist ideas, or explore the early warning signs, things that are history now. More recent books in the Stage 1 category reflect how environmental science and policy have matured in the 60



years since Gibbons stalked his asparagus. One such is Vandana Shiva's "Water Wars: Privatization, Pollution and Profit," a text that will work for either Stage 1 or Stage 3.

If you're on the negative side, and flip between Stages 1 and 3, or even better, Stages 1 and 5, Eric Klinenberg's "Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in Chicago" (2015) will get your blood boiling. Or try Spike Lee's 2006 documentary, "When the Levees Broke," for a similar effect.

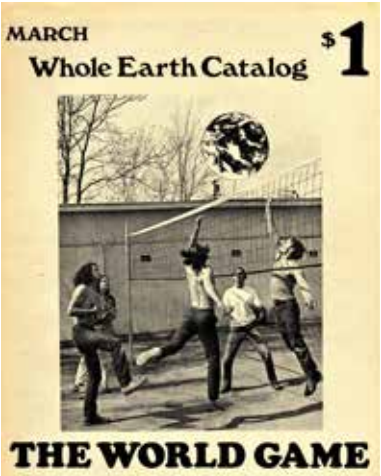
Stage 2 - Thinking about Personal Solutions (Embracing)

Many people stay in this phase of environmentalism. It's a good gig if you can do it; at the least, it will save you from a lot of stress and possibly even mental illness. No judgment from me, as long as they don't judge people in other stages.

This stage also has the best books, although Stage 3 has the best movies. (Actually, Stage 3 has all the movies.) Some good Stage 2 books include "How to Give Up Plastic" (2019) by Will McCallum, or one of the huge proliferation of books on "zero waste living" (search that term on bookshop.org).

Stage 3 - Thinking about Systemic Solutions (Critiquing/Resisting)

People enter this stage through a variety of doors, often by way of an introduction to socialism, of one kind or another. You real-



ize that individual efforts alone cannot make a dent in a system (capitalism) that is based on using up resources, with no Plan B for when they're gone.

Sadly, many people stop taking individual actions, as if this realization has taken them off the hook personally. Although it may involve some flipping between Stage 2 and Stage 3 at first, the full reality check is when you realize it will take both personal changes and systemic change, at the very least.

The most influential Stage 3 book is Naomi Klein's "This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate" (2015).

Stage 4 - Activism for a Global Program

This stage reflects a positive effort to integrate systemic change into personal change. Two good books on global program ideas struggling to find traction in various legislatures are Jeremy



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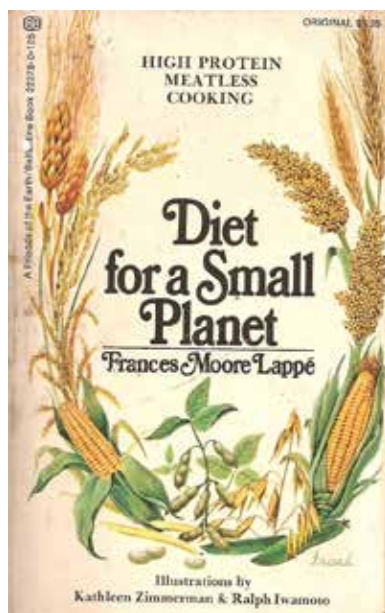


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Rifkin's "The Green New Deal: Why the Fossil Fuel Civilization Will Collapse by 2028, and the Bold Economic Plan to Save Life on Earth" (2019), and "Red Deal: Indigenous Action to Save Our Earth" (2021) by Red Nation.



Stage 5 - Panic

I have been in this stage, but only briefly. I can't hang out there, and I would worry about anyone who could. Most people pass through this stage and one of the Stage 6s, even if quickly, to get to Stage 7.

There are plenty of books related to this stage. If you just want to get it over with, any nonfiction book about societal collapse should do it, and also most works

of dystopian science fiction. For societal collapse, a good one is "The Great Leveler: Violence and the History of Inequality from the Stone Age to the Twenty-First Century" (2016) by Walter Scheidel. It shows scientifically what you suspect in Stages 3 and 4 about the inevitable unsustainability of capitalism and other systems based on growth in consumption. A good science fiction book for this stage, not totally dystopian (some would even say a bit naively optimistic) but with a properly terrifying opening, is Kim Stanley Robinson's "The Ministry for the Future" (2020).

Stage 6 - Prepping and/or Fantasies

Like Stage 5, this is a good stage to skip if you can. That said, I confess I hung out here for nearly a decade. I didn't really do any effective prepping, but merely fantasized about prepping. (If you're unfamiliar with the term, "prepping" refers to what used to be called emergency preparedness, with an emphasis on impending catastrophic system collapse with a distinct military flavor. Right-wingers seem more amenable to this outlook, but there are also left-wing preppers.)

I don't have specific books to recommend, but a search will turn up plenty. This stage comes in two modes - optimistic and pessimistic, influenced by your own personality and circumstanc-

es. Some people have both versions at different times.

Stage 7 - Learning and Practicing the Four "R"s

I entered this stage when I read "Deep Adaptation," a widely circulated quasi-academic paper by Prof. Jem Bendell. In 2021, Bendell expanded his paper into a book, "Deep Adaptation: Navigating the Realities of Climate Chaos."

A worldwide movement has grown up around Bendell's idea of the Four "R"s, as defined in his book. Recently, I participated in a week-long virtual global convention of people interested in the Deep Adaptation Movement.

The Four "R"s -

- Resilience: what do we most value that we want to keep, and how?

- Relinquishment: what do we need to let go of so as not to make matters worse?

- Restoration: what could we bring back to help us with these difficult times?

- Reconciliation: with what and whom shall we make peace as we awaken to our mutual mortality?

The Four "R"s show how the stages of environmental activism are closely aligned with the stages of grief, because grief is the inevitable and reasonable reaction to current reality - how bad it's getting, how slow the progress toward remedy, how uncertain our chances of averting disaster.



Rachel Carson

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bookshop.org/lists/april-is-earth-month. Link Bookshop.org

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Taking Heart Iftars

Join us for conversation during Ramadan

Taking Heart is a long-running program coordinated by the Minnesota Council of Churches and the Muslim American Society of Minnesota (MAS-MN) to bring Christians and members of other faith communities together with Muslims for food and conversation during Ramadan. Ramadan is a blessed month of the Islamic lunar calendar during which Muslims abstain from food and drink from sunrise to sunset. Fasting during Ramadan, which falls during the summer season, is one of the “five pillars” of Islam and is performed to learn piety, self-restraint, compassion, and generosity. Muslim partners around the state are offering Taking Heart Iftars. Find one near you and register to attend at <http://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/taking-heart>.

Personal Dignity Items for Minnehaha Food Shelf

Minnehaha United Methodist Church 3701 E. 50th St., Mpls. The Minnehaha Food Shelf does a special drive every year during Lent. This year, like many of our past years, we are collecting personal dignity items for the Food Shelf. These items, like toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo, etc., are not provided to the Food Shelf from Second Harvest Heartland, and so they are in short supply. Items that are the most popular at the Food Shelf are feminine hygiene supplies and diapers. You can bring these supplies to Minnehaha United Methodist Church during Lent and put them in the blue barrels. And, you can donate personal dignity items to the Food Shelf any time of the year! <https://www.facebook.com/MinnehahaFoodShelf/>

Lenten Sock Drive

Through Sunday, April 17

Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral 519 Oak Grove St., Mpls. During Lent, Saint Mark's will be collecting socks to support the Minneapolis College Student Resource and Referral Center and Community Aid Network of MN. Needed: Brand New Athletic Cotton Socks (high tube or midsize or half calf – no short socks, please) in the package or with tags, any size for men, women, and children of all ages! Please, no used socks! When and Where: Drop off new socks when you come to Saint Mark's to worship on Sunday (place them in the blue bin located just outside the inner door as you enter our worship space) OR drop them at the Saint Mark's Welcome Desk during regular

business hours.

Socks will be collected from March 2 (Ash Wednesday) through April 17 (Easter Sunday)! <https://ourcathedral.org/community-aid-network-of-mn/>

Blessed Ramadan

Join the Minnesota Council of Churches in wishing our Muslim neighbors a Blessed Ramadan, by sharing your message of welcome and solidarity with a #Blessed Ramadan lawn sign. Hundreds of anti-Muslim incidents from bullying to criminal occurrences were documented last year. Research demonstrates that establishing a “social norm” impacts people's outward behaviors whatever their internal beliefs. You can help establish norms of welcome with public displays. Make welcome and inclusion normal with a #BlessedRamadan sign. Show your Muslim neighbors that you believe they do belong here and that they are welcome. Order a sign or download one to print your own at <http://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/blessed-ramadan>.

'What's On the Other Side?' Death, Immortality and Hope in Theological Reflection

Thursday, April 21, 7:30 p.m. CT Online via Zoom

Lecture by Dr. Kyle Roberts, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean and Schilling Chair as Professor of Public Theology and the Church and Economic Life, United Theological Seminary Death is inevitable; that basic truth can instill fear and anxiety. This is especially true in a time of pandemic. Theologians have often wrestled with the problem of death and have articulated visions of afterlife, immortality and resurrection. This lecture explores a variety of perspectives on immortality and afterlife (from literal to the symbolic) in Christian theological traditions and considers the contributions of Ernest Becker to the relation between the inevitability of death, the anxiety it produces,

and perspectives on immortality in religious thought. The lecture will also consider the question, “What is our hope in the face of death?” Register for this free online event at <https://content.unitedseminary.edu/kyle-roberts-spring-lecture-series?hsLang=en-us>.

Walking Meditation

May 22, June 26 and July 2 6:25 to 7:30 p.m.

Wood Lake Nature Center 6710 Lake Shore Dr. S. Richfield, MN Way Opening Workshops is offering a guided walk with reflections, queries and ritual. Walking has a positive effect on mental health, as well as being beneficial for our bodies, minds, and spirits. Walking meditation is a prime way to engage in a spiritual practice, in the presence of nature and community. Come alone or with another. All faiths and no faith welcome. Cost is \$10 per session. To register contact: wayopeningworkshops@gmail.com. Visit wayopeningworkshops.com for more information.

Racial Justice Vigils

Tuesdays, noon to 12:30 p.m.

Plymouth Congregational Church Jones Commons 1919 LaSalle Ave., Mpls. Racial Justice Initiative justice vigils are now being held from noon to 12:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Plans are to continue the vigils through the winter, weather permitting. Please join us when you are able. We always meet by Door 1 near Jones Commons, 1919 LaSalle Ave. <https://www.plymouth.org/event/racial-justice-vigil/2022-03-08/>

www.plymouth.org/event/racial-justice-vigil/2022-03-08/

SHARING FOOD

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church 5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.

612-825-6846

Serving Loaves and Fishes free community meals on Wednesdays from 5 to 6 p.m. The meals are all “to-go” meals, served from the northwest door on 53rd Street. These meals are free to anyone, no questions asked. You might have had a hard day and simply cannot cook dinner. Or maybe you've paid your last bill for the month and cannot buy groceries. Whatever your circumstance, you are welcome. You can simply drive or walk up to the church and receive a meal any Wednesday evening between 5 and 6 p.m.

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. or until we run out of bags. We have re-opened the food shelf to choice shopping. Be safe and God bless! <https://www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf>. Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

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

612-721-6231

Yes, the food shelf is still open! In order to fight food insecurity in our neighborhood, the Minnehaha Food Shelf is open on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Note: In response to the COVID-19 virus we have changed many things to protect both our guests and our volunteers – more rigorous cleaning routines, streamlined procedures, moved outside and encouraged the 6-foot (social distancing) guideline. Please be patient as we continue to improve what we do. We will be pre-packing most of the food so there will be fewer choices. Also, we continue to look for ways to decrease contact between people and that means each week might look a little different from the previous week. <https://www.facebook.com/MinnehahaFoodShelf/>

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. Due to COVID-19, we are currently operating a drive-thru and walk-up model. No appointments are needed – just come to the parking lot. Eligibility is based on self-reported income and need. We ask that households come only ONE TIME A MONTH to allow everyone access. The Calvary Food Shelf has no geographic boundaries – all are welcome! If you have any questions, please email foodshelf@clchurch.org or call 612-827-2504, ext. 205. For more information and to see eligibility guidelines, go to <https://www.clchurch.org/food-shelf>.

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LIVING SPIRIT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 4501 Bloomington Ave.

612-721-5025 Multicultural/Intergenerational Justice – Generosity – Faith Worship In-Person or Online 10:30 am Sundays Online: livingspiritumc.org

NEW CREATION BAPTIST CHURCH 1414 E. 48th St.

612-825-6933 In-person Sunday Worship 10:45 am Also on Facebook at: www.Facebook.com/NewCreationBaptistChurch <https://newcreationbaptist-churchmn.org/> Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daniel B. McKizzie

NOKOMIS HEIGHTS LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA 5300 10th Ave. S.

612-825-6846 www.nokomisheights.org **Maundy Thursday, April 14, 6 pm** **Good Friday, April 15, 7 pm** **Easter Sunday Worship, April 17, 8 & 10 am** Sunday worship 10 am, in Sanctuary Adult Forum 9 am, in Fellowship Hall Sunday School 9 am, in Nokomis Room Confirmation 9 am, in Youth Room Online worship premiers Sundays at 10 am on Facebook and YouTube

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East Phillips Farm dream – still alive



BY CAM GORDON

On March 10, supporters of the East Phillips Urban Farm project were celebrating.

An 8-5 majority of the Minneapolis City Council had just approved a motion by 9th Ward Council Member Jason Chavez which rescinded the 2021 compromise that allowed the city to demolish the Roof Depot building at 1860 E. 28th St.

The motion halted any demolition and construction on the site until the East Phillips neighborhood, and potentially others, could make formal proposals for the reuse of the building.

The East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) called it “historic action to review formal proposals for the Roof Depot Building,” adding

that “this victory signals that Minneapolis is prepared to begin to undo decades of harm it has caused to neighborhoods like East Phillips.”

But the celebration didn’t last long.

On March 11, Mayor Frey vetoed the Chavez resolution. On March 24, the council failed to get the nine votes required to override it, on a 7-6 vote.

“I’m disappointed in this veto and feel for my community that it continues to have to prove its worth,” wrote Chavez. “We had an opportunity to build the East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm.”

In his veto letter, Frey listed many issues that, if addressed, he said could lead him to sign something in the future. These included using the term “suspend” rather than “rescind,” as well as needing more details on how to recover the \$14 million already spent on community engagement, design, regulatory approvals, costs, organizational models, sources of funding, environmental remediation, alternative locations for the proposed public facility and more.

And this is only the latest setback in the long struggle between community advocates and the city, and within city government, to re-

solve how this site should be used in the future.

It is little wonder that the decision is difficult – both sides have admirable goals and strong cases to make.

Supporters of the Hiawatha facility expansion, including city staff, are quick to point out the need to replace a 100-year-old inadequate water distribution facility, the benefits of consolidating staff, and improved and more efficient service for water distribution maintenance, street maintenance and sewer maintenance. It could also remediate pollution, improve stormwater management, be solar-ready and add electric vehicle infrastructure.

One outspoken Southside resident advocating for the expansion is Bob Friddle, former City of Minneapolis director of facilities design and construction in the property services division. Before leaving his job with the city, he was responsible for hiring the design team and construction manager and leading the master planning and design effort between them and public works, overseeing cost estimating, demolition and environmental cleanup planning.

“The mayor and Council members are responsible for the whole

city and its care and employees,” he wrote following the March council action. “This plan, which actually originated over twenty years ago in a study in 1990, would allow better care of equipment, employees and better service maintenance.”

Supporters of the EPNI plan envision a model for sustainable and resilient development that includes job training, living-wage jobs, aquaponic year-round food production, affordable family housing, a coffee shop run by neighborhood youth, community kitchen, cultural markets, bicycle shops and more.

“The East Phillips Urban Farm can be a healing center reconnecting Indigenous people to the land, and to help reverse the trauma of ongoing genocide through racist urban planning,” EPNI said in its press release.

The recent actions by the council and mayor still leave issues unresolved. Litigation brought by EPNI is expected to go to mediation in April. The city plans to continue with design work this spring and with demolition of the Roof Depot building late this summer, and the council will need to approve bids for demolition and for the construction planned for 2023.

Chavez is not giving up. “My office is in close conversations with community members in East Phillips, Council Member Johnson, Council Member Koski, Mayor Frey, city staff, and my colleagues on next steps, with a hope of bringing something back at the next full council meeting that will give my community a shot,” he said.

Perhaps now, with a new council and eight council members calling for a fresh look at the project, with the mediation coming in April and with a new director of public works, there is an opening for both sides to compromise and accomplish some, if not all, of their worthy goals.

Two things to start with might be the council’s March 10 resolution and EPNI’s proposal they made in November of 2017 (<https://www.eastphillipsneighborhoodinstitute.org/our-current-proposal>). That proposal saves and reuses part of the building, buffers the residential neighborhood on the west with new mixed-use development and provides meaningful jobs, a source for fresh organic food, and includes room for a new public works facility.

Ukraine, from page 1

side, the church is plain brown brick, crowned with a dome. Inside, the ornate architecture houses golden saints. Pawluk’s grandparents were among the founding generation of the church in 1925. “It’s our home where we socialize with many activities. After World War II, our cultural heritage was under threat due to Soviet occupation. Immigrants here really try to preserve the heritage and culture.”

That preservation entailed Ukrainian-American children and youth going to “Saturday School” to learn the Ukrainian language, as well as its poetry, crafts, folk dances and music.

The Kramarczys immigrated to Minneapolis in 1947 – Wasyl, who had learned sausage-making from his brother, and Anna, with a German degree in business, began their landmark Ukrainian restaurant and deli, Kramarczuk’s, bordering Northeast and downtown. Since 1954, they’ve cooked Eastern European comfort food: dumplings (pierogi), cabbage rolls, giant meatballs, savory gou-

lash, myriad sausages, and beet soup with breads and pastries like kolache.

Their son, Orest, who continues to run Kramarczuk’s, patiently explains Ukraine’s centuries-long fight to exist: “It’s not just not allowing the Ukrainian language – it’s obliterating the culture. It’s not about economics. It’s cultural genocide. It’s trying to erase the Ukrainian people.” His voice has a quiet power. “My parents and their generation tried to keep the culture alive because they feared something like what is happening now.”

As a youth, Orest went to Ukrainian Saturday School, as most Ukrainian-American youth still do. “The Easter egg tradition was brought over 100 years ago. Cultural gems have been preserved by the diaspora.”

Under Soviet repression, the tradition of hand-painting Easter eggs with distinctive Ukrainian designs, called pysanka, was lost. Immigrants running the Ukrainian Gift Shop, begun in 1947 in Minneapolis, continue the craft, sending designs back to Ukraine, renewing the tradition there.

Jackie Pawluk remembers those many Saturdays learning Ukrainian songs and dances, accompanied by instruments like the bandura. “The first wave of immigrants and first generation [born here] are very in tune to the culture,” she says. “Many people here have family ties to Ukraine – cousins, siblings, parents.” The Kramarczys have brought cousins and nieces over for college here. Carrying on a tradition familiar to every immigrant group, they have helped “the newest Americans from Ukraine” by employing them at the restaurant.

The bandura, a big-bellied stringed instrument, fuses the lute and the zither. Bandura songs express ideals of faith, truth, human dignity and freedom. Beginning in 1928, bandura musicians faced persecution from Stalin, who banned traditional songs and performances, culminating in the mass execution of 300 musicians in 1934 during Stalin’s man-made famine (“Holodomor”) imposed from 1932-34, which killed millions of Ukrainians. Arrests continued under Nazi occupation. After World War II, most remaining

musicians left for North America, with revival of ensembles since the 1950s. (www.bandura.org)

Observing that other Eastern European countries are next on Putin’s list, Orest Kramarczuk says, “Look at what has happened with this invasion: our country has come into focus. It’s forced people to watch horrors and to see how rights and freedoms are fragile and could be lost.” His voice rises. “Putin has tried to divide and conquer all over Europe. ...The true strength of America is people come here from around the world.”

Ukraine’s incredibly fertile soil yields massive grain production, giving the country its nickname, “the breadbasket of Europe.” Ukraine is also a leading producer of oil derived from its national flower, the sunflower, which recently has come to symbolize its resistance to the Russian invasion. This upholds the story of an old woman giving a handful of sunflower seeds to a Russian soldier, saying, “Put these in your pocket. After you’re dead, sunflowers will grow.”

Sturdy-stemmed sunflowers, with their yellow faces upturned to blue skies, are the perfect symbol of the Ukrainian people.

Learn more about Ukraine

at www.historytoday.com.

The local Ukrainian community’s organizing of humanitarian aid has inspired established organizations and Minnesotans’ response. A Light (formerly American Refugee Committee, Minneapolis-based, since 1979) takes medical supplies, warm clothes and 1,000 blankets a day to the Ukrainian-Polish border. Chef Jose Andreas’ World Central Kitchen, known for responding to Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico, feeds tens of thousands daily. Just as they went to Afghanistan to render medical help, Doctors Without Border now work under fire in Ukraine.

Find many local opportunities to help at:

www.StandWithUkraineMN.org
Alight, 615 First Ave. NE, Ste. #500, Mpls., MN 55413, <https://wearealight.org>

World Central Kitchen, 200 Massachusetts Ave. NW, 7th Floor, Washington, D.C., 20001, www.wck.org

Doctors Without Borders USA, Attention: Emergency Relief Fund, P.O. Box 5030, Hagerstown, MD, (217)141-5030, <https://www.doctorswithoutborders.org>

Lydia Howell is a Minneapolis independent journalist.

Bouza, from page 1

gonna perish.

In late January 2022 they destroyed the just-elected New York City mayor with an exhaustively researched expose of how his cronyistic instincts produced the corruption of his criminal justice system. The thoroughly researched, archived and sourced front-page story made clear the tragic flaw of a key appointment and the terrible cost to the mayor. If he failed to act—that is, acknowledge the mistake and demand a resignation. The option is to lose his just-attained mayoralty. And it means death by a thousand cuts.

Schadenfreude.

Alacrity is required but the temptation is to ride out the storm. Good luck with that.

The controversy offers red meat to racists and anti-Semites. The corrupters are devout Jews, and the corrupted are Black officials. As Sebastian Junger would put it, a perfect storm of malicious glee.

And so, the clock ticks, the sand particles fall, and the targets rejoice in every passive moment of inaction. It is the inertia of the ticking bomb.

I’ve seen this movie before.

Nothing bad happened today. Maybe it’ll blow over. Everybody does it. Formal charges were

averted here or there. Human capacity for evasion can be pretty inventive.

Although midway through the process, I’m going to bet that The New York Times will once again prove its might. Those in its path are frequently the last to recognize its power.

In America you’re only entitled to one preeminent oracle all the powerful hearken to—that would be The New York Times.

Its targets always think they’ll survive—and maybe even prosper. Andrew Cuomo and Donald J. Trump come to mind. But if I were Mayor Eric Adams I’d either act or worry.

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Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

EVENTS

Seward Montessori Plant Sale Through April 24

Online store now open for pre-orders through April 24
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Plant pick-up Friday, May 6, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Pickup location: 2309 28th Ave. S., Mpls. Plants will be in the gym, enter through the southeast corner of the school. Day of sales on plant pick-up

days, check or credit cards preferred. Help make the world a greener place and supporting Seward students and staff. Thank you!

Swing into Spring with JazzMN Orchestra Gretchen Parlato, special guest artist Monday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.

Chanhassen Dinner Theatres 501 W. 78th St., Chanhassen JazzMN, Minnesota's premier professional jazz orchestra, will perform on Chanhassen Dinner Theatres' Main Stage for one night only, in a memorable return to distinctive jazz under the artistic direction of JC Sanford. Joined by renowned guest jazz vocalist and Grammy-nominee, Gretchen Parlato, the program will consist of a mix of familiar jazz standards and classic Brazilian songs. Tickets are \$40 for the concert only. Guests may add dinner for an additional \$18 per person. Tickets can be purchased online at ChanhassenDT.com or through Chanhassen Dinner Theatres' box

office at 952-934-1525. Dinner seating 5:30 p.m.; concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

'Collecting Memories: A Love Story' Thursday, April 28 – opening reception 5-8 p.m. On view through May 8

Squirrel Haus Arts 3450 Snelling Ave., Mpls. 'Collecting Memories: A Love Story' is a lyrical exploration into the mind of a collector. It explores nostalgia, memory and identity as they reveal the hidden memories embedded in pop culture objects. This longing for a mythical past is especially pertinent in our post-COVID world. This immersive and fun exhibit is designed by Stephen Yogi Rueff. It features vintage toys and family photos from David Barnhill's collection, an original sound collage designed by Emmy Carter, and an augmented reality experience from Amir Berenjian of REM5vr.

'imagine a u.s. without racism' April 13 – May 1

Mixed Blood Theatre 1501 S. 4th St., Mpls. In "imagine a u.s. without racism," seven individuals find themselves in a strange remedial class with an inexorable teacher intent on provoking their imaginations. Comic and somber, foolish and hopeful, the class clashes their way into something unexpected. Drawn from interviews with real-life people across the United States, this play-with-an-ulterior-motive transforms the impossible into the plausible. "imagine a u.s. without racism" opens on Wednesday, April 13, at 7:30 p.m. This will be the last show Jack Reuler produces as Mixed Blood's Artistic Director. It is written and directed by Seema Sueko. After a nationwide Zoom journey, she interviewed 100 people with the prompt "Imagine a U.S. without racism." The show runs until May 1 and the previews are on April 8, 9 and 10. Admission is free and can be reserved on a first-come-first-served basis. Save your seat at <https://mixedblood.com/imagine-a-u-s-without-racism/>.

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It's A MayDay Celebration! Not a Parade, a Political-Cultural Festival

Heart of the Beast is excited to invite the community to a newly redesigned MayDay Celebration on May 1. The event will look different from the familiar parade and activities of MayDays past. In the spirit of shared leadership, local organizations MIGIZI, Kalpulli KetzalCoatlucue, and Roosevelt High School have been selected by HOBT's MayDay Council as community partners to lead and plan this year's MayDay celebrations. Instead of a parade there will be an art-filled political and cultural festival. This celebration will take place on May 1 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM in the Four Directions Family Parking Lot at 1527 East Lake Street in Minneapolis. All are welcome to attend this free event.
More information is available at <https://hobt.org/mayday-2/>

NOKOMIS EDITION

Southside Pride Nokomis Edition is a monthly community newspaper delivered on the **Second Monday of the month for free to over 150 locations in and around the Nokomis community. We are proud of the racial and cultural diversity of the Southside, and we oppose racism and other efforts to keep us apart as a community.**

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

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or edfelien@southsidepride.com

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Salsa Sundays – Free Lessons with René Thompson
Every other Sunday, beginning April 10
11 a.m. to noon
Midtown Global Market
920 E. Lake St., Mpls.
Get out your dancing shoes – Salsa Sundays are returning to Midtown Global Market! Havana-born professional dance instructor, René Thompson, will once again offer free salsa lessons every other Sunday, starting in April, in the Market's center court. Born in Havana, Cuba, Thompson began his career there in 1973 on tour with Los Moniquitos de Matanzas. He's toured around the world, performing on stage and in music videos with such stars as Gloria Estefan, Miami Sound Machine and Will Smith. When Thompson retired from touring, he settled in Minneapolis where he has been a choreographer and dance instructor for nearly 20 years. More info: www.midtownglobalmarket.org

'The Art of the Flower: Why Nature is Better Than Tinder'
Dyan Padgett studio visit
Wednesday, April 20, 6 p.m.
1500 Jackson NE, Studio 200, Mpls.
Dyan Padgett, a classical realist painter specializing in floral works, will open her studio for a discussion of technique and philosophy. Padgett seeks the remarkable in ordinary objects and everyday life – finding beauty in the quotidian. Nature is often at the forefront of her subject matter as it is all around us and deep within us. This is the first in a series of six events by Art to Change the World – Noble Truths Artist Studio Visits scheduled from April 2022 to February 2023. Six ACW artist members have agreed to open their doors to the public for a look into their studios and their art practice. Each artist will approach the studio visit in their own unique way. Some may demonstrate techniques or finished works, others might ask for a critique of a piece in progress, all will invite thought and conversation. Each of these individuals will be open to answering your questions about what it is like to be a working artist today, and why they choose the path they did – medium, style, and a creative life. Free but registration required at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-art-of-the-flower-why-nature-is-better-than-tinder-art-studio-visit-tickets-274211573197>. More info: <https://www.arttochangetheworld.org/studio-visits-noble-truths/>

• HOME IMPROVEMENT •

Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

The Dish, from page 5

Krishna's Delight, Curioso Coffee, RISE and Stepwise Coffee.

St. Paul's season will get a slight jump on us, with a kickoff date of April 23, 2022.

Other south Minneapolis markets include the threesome run by the nonprofit Neighborhood Roots - Kingfield (Nicollet Avenue), Fulton (Chowen Avenue) and Nokomis (Chicago Avenue). Nokomis Farmers Market will be on hiatus for all of 2022. The other two are expected to announce opening dates soon.

Another great market is the Four Sisters Farmers Market on Franklin Avenue, a project of Native American Community Development Inc. (NACDI). This small market is a major outlet for the produce of another Native Ameri-

can project, Dream of Wild Health, a youth program that operates a farm outside the Twin Cities for Native American kids. They sell truly awesome products that you can't get at other markets. (Dream of Wild Health is also a sometimes-vendor at the Midtown Farmers Market.) NACDI has not announced an opening day for this year's market yet.

The main market for the city of Minneapolis is the municipal market in the "Lyndale sheds" in near North. They shift to summer hours in May. They operate a market on Nicollet Mall downtown also, but no opening date for that has been announced yet.

Seward Co-op at 50

Sometime in the past couple of months (no one can remem-

ber the exact date) the Seward Co-op turned 50 years old. They are therefore just celebrating their birthday all year. So the CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Fair, which is always a joyful event, has extra celebratory power this year. It will also be the 21st CSA Fair for Seward, which adds to the symbolic significance of the event.

"This year is the return of our in-person fair, held on Saturday, April 23 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Seward Co-op Creamery parking lot at 2601 E. Franklin Ave. If you can't make it, browse our CSA Farm Guide (seward.coop/csa_fair) for a virtual fair experience!"

The search for affordable sushi

I love sushi. My daughter loves sushi. My granddaughter loves sushi the most. We are all always on the lookout for excellent, affordable sushi. The last time I had sushi at a grocery store (I'm not going to say which one because they should have known better) I

was incredibly disappointed that I spent almost as much as one would in a sushi bar, but the tuna in this bog-standard Spicy Tuna Roll was so miniscule that it was almost not there.

Someday, I may splash out and get a sampling of the same sushi from my several top sushi suppliers, including some fancy restaurants, some fast-food places, and a few grocery or convenience stores, and do a head-to-head tasting. But I haven't done that yet, so I only have a vague and unscientific idea of my own "best sushi" and "best for the money sushi."

I have had decent sushi at Masu, Bagu, Sushi Train and Soberfish, so they would be in the running. I have been to Kyatchi, but I had something else there. I know there are several strong contenders in Minneapolis that I just haven't gone to yet.

Mini-review - a brief day out at the Midtown Global Market

I had a brief trip to the Midtown Global Market (MGM) in early March and I was craving sushi. The previous week I had tried, in a state of near desperation, to

order sushi delivered from Intown Sushi in the MGM and my order had been in for over half an hour when Bite Squad called me to tell me that Intown Sushi was closed and they couldn't do the delivery.

They didn't specify whether they were just closed for the day, maybe due to a staff shortage, or a failure to update their hours on the website, or closed for good, so part of my mission in going there was to find out. Thankfully, it was not closed. I had a very nice Tuna-cado Roll (eight pieces) for a very reasonable price. I have also had their Tuna Poke and their Seaweed Salad side dish in the past, all highly recommended.

Then my friend and I cruised the market to see what else was up. I also wanted to stop by The Kitchen by Baked Brand, to check out their drinks and juices. (I can't eat two meals back-to-back, so I'll have to revisit them to check out their main dishes.) I got a Banana Cream Pie Bowl to go. This was a little less successful for me. But it would definitely appeal to anyone who loved the original on which it is based, the southern U.S. standard banana cream pie. It had that nostalgic whiff of ripe bananas and Nilla Wafers. There is something vaguely unworldly about the sweet creations of Baked Brand. More investigation is warranted here as well.

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Celebrate Spring on Hennepin Avenue

After two years of disease and destruction, Hennepin Avenue is beginning to recover (mostly)

BY STEPHANIE FOX

Hennepin Avenue has changed a lot over the years. In the beginning, the neighborhood was focused on the local lake, with weekend homes for those who could afford it. In the 1970s it was a neighborhood of artists and small businesses catering to a younger crowd. Uptown changed again when national chains began replacing the trendy locally-owned shops.

Then came COVID-19, and a

significant drop in business. More troubles followed. On June 21, 2020, after the unrest surrounding George Floyd's murder but apparently unrelated to it, 11 people were wounded in a shooting in front of a restaurant on the 2900 block of Hennepin. In 2021, the neighborhood again experienced civil unrest after law enforcement officers shot and killed a young Black man named Winston Smith in an Uptown parking garage. Demonstrators took over the street, blocking intersections.

Peaceful protests were followed by threatening graffiti, looting and arson. A woman named Deona Knajdek was killed when a man rammed his car into a group of demonstrators.

The combination of pandemic and increasing violence changed Hennepin Avenue. Several businesses closed or moved to safer locations. Juut Salonspa, in the area for 36 years, boarded up and closed, due to "continued escalation of crime and violence in our neighborhood," according to owner David Wagner. So did other longtime businesses, including John Fluevog Shoes, known for high fashion footwear.

The Uptown Theatre at 2906 Hennepin Ave., which first opened in 1916, and in recent years was known for showing art and cult films such as "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," also closed. But there are plans to renovate the theater into a performance venue with a 2,500-seat capacity, without altering its historic architec-



Inside the New Uptown Cafe

ture. Other businesses still call Hennepin Avenue their home.

Familia Skateshop, at 2833 Hennepin, is staying. They sell skateboards and related equip-

ment and accessories. Kirian Stone, an employee since 2016, said that when COVID hit, the store went to online sales only, with curbside delivery.

Then came the riots. "Our store was broken into and looted. It was a big setback and hurt our morale," Stone said. "But we're fortunate to have a strong skateboarding community. Between the pandemic and the angst during the riots, we were on edge. There were the civil protests and then the opposite when people started coming into the city and taking advantage of the situation. We were all feeling vulnerable."

As a person of color, Stone said civil protests gave him some insight about social justice issues. But, he said, "I'm part of this small business and I became aware of the other ramifications of this."

"It took a little while to open up, but it seems that more life is coming back to the area," he said. "It's starting to feel more normal. And the store invested in a security camera as a preventative measure." The store is again open for indoor shopping.

Osman Cleaners, at 2500 Hennepin, is family-owned and operated so they faced no worker restrictions during the pandemic. And, since dry cleaners were deemed essential, they remained open during the lockdown. "We didn't have a lot of business," said Mumtaz Osman. While there wasn't much cleaning demand for business attire, "some of our customers work at the hospital, also essential. We had to keep



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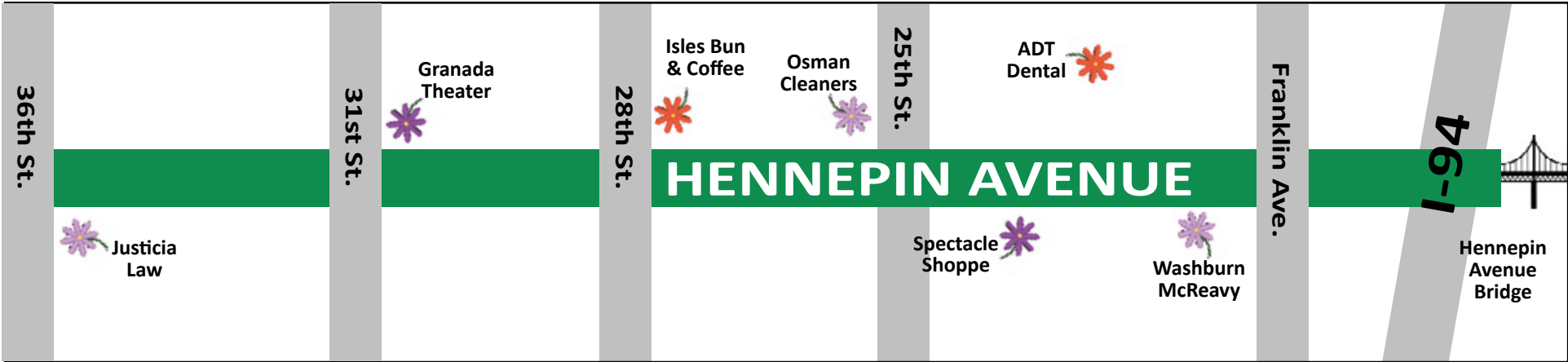
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the doors open, but it was a hard time.”

Then the civil unrest happened. “This was nothing like the COVID lockdown,” Osman said. “The first few days, it was the worst. The whole first night we were inside, guarding. We had people’s clothing that could have been stolen. We did have one broken window the day after the looting, but we consider ourselves lucky. Nothing was stolen.”



Osman Cleaners

Even Osman’s kids – one as young as 10th grade – helped guard the store. “Two days later, more of our windows were broken but compared to some, we were lucky. We saw what was happening – the looting and the cars without license plates. That first night, it was not only us. We are near apartment buildings and an elderly couple who lived there came down, so scared. This was around 4:30 in the morning. We called 911 and no one responded. I smelled the chemicals, probably kerosene, from a fire on the roof of the apartment building. Finally, 911 picked up. The responder said that there were fires all around. ‘We cannot come,’ they said. ‘Stay away from the fire.’”

One of Osman’s neighbors went to the roof and put out the fire. “It was a good thing that the fire got contained,” she said, “or people might have died.”

“I am from India. I have seen these things before, but I never thought we’d see this here. I have seen the Babri Mosque demolition,” Osman said, referencing the 1992 destruction of a historic mosque by extremists. “What I saw on Hennepin gave me a flashback. Here, thank God, we had only property damage and not people being killed.”

The day after the unrest, people were out assisting with the cleanup. “You always have to look on the bright side,” Osman said. “The neighborhood came together to help each other. We were there if anyone wanted to come out and talk and we opened the next day. I thank the neighbors and our customers.”

The New Uptown Cafe

The Original Uptown Diner was a Hennepin Avenue icon and

chances are good that the brand-new New Uptown Cafe, located in the same location at 3008 Hennepin, will become a go-to place for diner food. The original Uptown Diner opened in 1992 and moved to 28th and Hennepin in 2003. The New Uptown opened in March and is welcoming eager patrons.

Tony Skubal worked at the original Uptown for 18 years before pursuing his vision to create

a place for people to enjoy good food and art. The ceiling in the old space was opened up to let in the sunlight. Works by local artists decorate the walls. “There’s been a lot of trauma but we can move forward. It’s time to shed the negativity,” Skubal said. “We want to be a happy presence in the neighborhood.”

Before COVID, Skubal said, rents went up and small businesses were driven out. “Then everything hit the fan and the big chains ran away. People need to support small businesses.”

Skubal’s menu takes diner food upscale. Breakfast and lunch choices include standards like omelets, burgers and clubhouse sandwiches, but also items like a

gyro omelet with spinach, Swiss cheese and tzatziki sauce. There’s the Southern classic, country fried steak and eggs, a catfish breakfast and a crab cake Benedict.

Dani Rauton is the assistant manager and Skubal’s business partner. Rauton came to Minneapolis in 2003 and began working at the original Uptown Diner. Some places weren’t interested in hiring her, Rauton said – she has several tattoos and her hair is a vibrant color not usually found in nature. But in Uptown she found a family.

After the 2021 shootings, Rauton feared that people would abandon Uptown but that didn’t happen. Instead, people wanted to return to the restaurant. Rauton tried to let people know they could still come to the neighborhood and stroll the streets. “I still waitress and cook,” she said. “But I definitely talk to people and work with the community.”

The Corner Balloon Shoppe

at Hennepin and 25th Street has been owned by Kristin Traynor since 2009. “It’s a neighborhood party store and balloon decorating business,” Traynor said. They will sell a single balloon, a balloon bouquet, or create custom designs for events large and small.

With the COVID lockdown in 2020, business actually increased. “I went back to doing deliveries only. I was overwhelmed with business,” Traynor said. “Grandmas were sending balloons to their grandkids. Kids couldn’t have birthday parties, so the parents would have us put up balloon arches in the front yards.”

“But the civil unrest was a whole other story,” Traynor said. “We boarded up that weekend. It was Edina High School’s graduation and I had to cancel 34 parties. The gas station across the street was set on fire and I was not going to bring my employees into the neighborhood to work. It cost me 10 or 15 thousand dollars.”

“We stayed boarded up for a



The Corner Balloon Shoppe

couple of weeks,” she continued, “but opened as soon as things calmed down. People would want to come in, but they were afraid of coming into Uptown.”

Now, Traynor says, things are getting back to normal. But she has a new worry – a city plan to reduce parking spaces to make room for public transit and bike

lanes. She talked with her city council member but said, “all I got was blank stares and shrugs. We have a lot of customers coming in from the suburbs. Where are they going to park when they come here? If they do decide to go through with eliminating parking spaces, sadly, we’ll have to relocate.”

Todxs Son Bienvenidxs



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