



**We build Pride on the Southside**

# RIVERSIDE EDITION

THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH

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## Cam's Corner



### Minneapolis Green New Deal

BY CAM GORDON

A growing number of Southside residents are working to fund a People's Climate and Equity Plan in next year's Minneapolis city budget which is expected to come to the City Council in August for review.

They hope to make their version of Minneapolis Green New Deal a reality.

One of those Southsiders is Michelle Hensley. "I love the huge vision and energy of the Green New Deal that progressives have proposed," said the Longfellow resident and founding Artistic Director of Ten Thousand Things Theater. "My grandfather, an Iowa farmer who lost his land during the Depression, was hugely helped by FDR's New Deal. The Green New Deal, unlike FDR's, has racial justice and equity front and center. But I am greatly frustrated at the inability to get anything going on the federal level. So, MN350's idea to get it going on the local level seemed like a perfect way to get involved."

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## They pulled the bikesters' exclusionary proposal

BY ED FELIEN

The Park Board was scheduled to vote on whether to close Minnehaha Parkway to cars at their June 15 meeting, but at the last minute they decided, due to the large volume of emails in opposition, to pull that item from the agenda. It is scheduled to come back before the board on July 6.

Typical of the kind of opposition that the plan had was this letter from the DFL Senior Caucus:

"There is, once again, a proposal in front of the

Park Board to close some Minneapolis parkways to vehicular traffic on certain days every month. The changes would alter the nature and use of parkways across Minneapolis from vehicle-centric use to so-called active human use.

"Human use?" Who do they think are driving the cars? The intent of the parkway system is to act as a connection between natural elements that are public parks. The proposed change to close off sections of parkways is a step toward the desire to transition

parkways solely to bicycles, or other non-motorized, wheeled conveyances. This is discriminatory towards both seniors and the disabled.

"The Minneapolis Area DFL Senior Caucus strongly opposes the very idea that Minneapolis parks deny access to any person on any given day."

Patricia Kelly  
Board Chair,  
Minneapolis Area Chapter  
DFL Senior Caucus

## Is Lake Hiawatha the city dump?

BY ED FELIEN

The Minneapolis City Council Public Works and Infrastructure Committee invited public comments at their June 9 public hearing on their Stormwater Management Program and Annual Report.

I asked them to:

"Please, stop dumping on us.

"You are poisoning us. Chemicals that you put on your lawns in Linden Hills come down Minnehaha Creek and end up in Lake Hiawatha. Come and see your blue-green foam that washes to the shore, but don't let your dog drink it. It could be lethal.

"And it is not safe for children to swim in the lake.

"My mother taught me to swim at Lake Hiawatha.

"Theodore Wirth designed Lake Hiawatha Park in 1924. He dredged the lake in 1929 to a depth of 33 feet so kids from the proletarian part of town would have someplace to go swimming in the sum-



Ed Felien attends a watershed meeting

mer. But the city started sanding the streets in winter and washing that sand down storm sewers from Lake Street to 43rd Street, from Chicago Avenue to 27th Avenue into Lake Hiawatha, and now it's hard to find anywhere on the lake that's 12 feet deep. It's so shallow, aquatic life cannot survive the winter. Kids can't swim in it. The city needs to dredge Lake Hiawatha on a regular basis as simple maintenance and restore it to its original depth of

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# CELEBRATE THE STREETS



on Franklin Avenue pages 7, 8 & 9



# The Town Hall meeting on flooding

BY ED FELIEN

Emily Koski, council member from Ward 11, hosted a Town Hall meeting Tuesday, May 31, to discuss water issues for the homes around Lake Nokomis. The beautifully printed, 12-page program brochure said 21 property owners around Lake Nokomis “complained” of wet basements, sinkholes and saturated soil during the wettest seven years on record, from 2011 to 2019.

“Complained?”

To whom did they complain?

We don’t know. The brochure didn’t say.

But Emily Koski heard them. And she got the city to listen. And the county and the Park Board. And lots of other government agencies. And she got some people from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District to write a 111-page very scientific analysis of the soil in the area around Lake Nokomis. And she arranged this dramatic Town Hall meeting at the Lake Nokomis Community Center.

Over a hundred people came



Council Member Emily Koski beginning the Town Hall meeting on flooding

to the meeting. And 17 experts were sitting behind tables spanning the width of the auditorium. And they all had the same sad story. It’s climate change. There’s nothing we can do about the dramatic increase in rainfall. So much rain, and it just sits there and won’t go away. We’re all doomed because of cli-

mate change and our addiction to oil. And it all began to feel like a scene from “Don’t Look Up.” And Emily Koski began to look like Meryl Streep as President Orlean.

What did these experts say we should do about it?

They recommended home-

owners get flood insurance, waterproof their basements and get a sump pump to get rid of the water.

Someone asked if the Park Board is genuinely concerned about the excess water coming down the creek to Lake Nokomis and Lake Hiawatha, then why did Michael Schroeder, the Assistant Superintendent for Planning and an Edina resident, just recently recommend that the Park Board let the excess water from Edina ponds flow into Minnehaha Creek and into the flood plain of Lake Nokomis and Lake Hiawatha?

I asked whether removal of the dam/weir at 27th Avenue (and other obstructions) would lower the level of Lake Hiawatha and the surrounding groundwater by five feet and, consequently, improve drainage of the peat soil surrounding Lake Nokomis and help alleviate flooding problems that happen during periods of heavy rains.

Someone representing the Park Board answered that the study was not looking at that

question.

I responded by saying the dam/weir at 27th Avenue holds back five feet of water. That water has saturated the peat soil around Lake Hiawatha, and since that peat soil is connected to the peat soil around Lake Nokomis, and since water likes to run downhill, and if there’s no place for the water to go since the water table keeps rising, then doesn’t it make sense to pull the plug on this overflowing bathtub?

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources says, “Federally-owned dams and dams determined by the DNR to be non-hazardous are exempt from the dam safety rules. Dams not subject to the dam safety rules will still require state and federal permits if they involve filling of public waters or wetlands.” The dam/weir at 27th Avenue is definitely filling in the public water of Lake Hiawatha and the surrounding wetland, but when we asked, the DNR could not find any evidence that the Park Board has a permit to do so.

They did find evidence of the rejection of a permit to build a pumping station near the dam/weir in 1969. The permit was denied by the Department of Conservation (the predecessor of the DNR) because sanitary sewer lines were obstructing water flowing out of Lake Hiawatha. They could find no permit for the sewer lines: “As you undoubtedly know, all construction projects and utility crossings which encroach upon and otherwise affect public waters of the state require a permit from the Commissioner of Conservation. Projects which affect

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## 1969 denial of permit

the outlet control of lakes are especially critical.”

So the dam/weir and the sanitary sewer lines are illegal. They require a permit to obstruct the outlet from Lake Hiawatha, and there is no evidence that they even applied for a permit.

What are the options for people concerned about the flooding of homes around Lake Nokomis and Lake Hiawatha?

The Park Board should take down the dam/weir. If they won’t take it down, then citizens should file a Writ of Mandamus lawsuit against the Park Board

See Town Hall, page 3



# Let's dump more water on South Minneapolis

BY KATHRYN KELLY

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is considering a cooperative agreement with Edina to study the effects of a proposed storm water mitigation project in Edina's Morningside neighborhood (Resolution 2022-196). The Morningside community in Edina is a bedroom community to Minneapolis. Early on, their storm sewer infrastructure was tied in to the Minneapolis system, and still is. So, their storm

water flows into the Minneapolis storm sewer system.

The proposed project would pump water from Weber Lake in Edina through the storm sewer system to a pollution mitigation pond at Bde Maka Ska in Minneapolis, then into Bde Maka Ska. The intent of this pumping is to lower the level of Weber Lake to increase flood water storage for Edina. But the water would be dumped into the city



Bde Maka Ska (Photo/minneapolisparcs.org)

of Minneapolis and eventually, Minnehaha Creek, which is already suffering from excess wa-

ter from the upper Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD). It would also increase the pollutant load to Bde Maka Ska. One concerning statement in the resolution says, "The parties to a proposed Cooperative Agreement believe that the additional pollutant load can be eliminated either within the City of Edina's project or

olis and MPRB to go. Communities in the upper watershed need to deal with their own water problems within their community, and not continue to transfer their problems to the next community down the line in the watershed. Maybe the city of Edina should take out some houses in Edina to create their own water mitigation and storage ponds as the city of Minneapolis has done.

Michael Schroeder, Assistant Superintendent of Planning at the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and Edina resident, made a curious statement at a public meeting about Lake Nokomis on Tuesday, May 31. He said, "We can't give up our parkland to storm water." Now that this plan has been made public, are Minneapolis city officials finally feeling even more backlash to their plans to turn South Minneapolis into a water dumping ground?

Where do Minneapolis city officials stand on this, that is, Mayor Frey, City Council Members Johnson, Jenkins, Chughtai, Palmisano and Koski, and Park Board commissioners? When are these public officials going to start standing up for their own constituents and stop allowing the suburbs to just continue dumping more and more water and pollution into South Minneapolis?

Town Hall, from page 2

ordering them to either comply with the law and get a permit to flood the wetlands surrounding Lake Hiawatha and Lake Nokomis or take down their dam/weir.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has legal responsibility for sewer lines in Minne-

stepped off the airplane to attend the Republican Convention in St. Paul for the killing of Minnesotans in his illegal war in Iraq. The judge ruled against me, but George Bush decided not to come to the Minnesota convention.

A couple of years ago I sued the Park Board to get them to remove a rock weir that was ob-

level on either side of the weir, and the weir is fully submerged."

I think the Park Board doesn't really understand how a dam works. A dam (or weir) holds back water until the water level is higher than the dam and the water flows over the dam. If the water level is the same on both sides of the dam, then there is a further obstruction downstream that is just as high holding back an equal amount of water.

The Park Board also quotes the first paragraph of Section 8 of the 2017 Barr Engineering study, "Hiawatha Golf Course - Stormwater, Surface Water, and Groundwater Analysis Summary":

"There are several high points in the Minnehaha Creek channel downstream of the lake that control the water levels. Upstream of the creek crossing at 28th Avenue South is a high point in the channel resulting from a utility crossing under the creek bed. There are also several other high points in the channel downstream of Lake Hiawatha based on the FEMA Flood Insurance Study creek profile and the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) XPSWMM model."

The highest point obstructing the flow of water out of Lake Hiawatha was a rock weir at 30th Avenue. No one could explain why it was there. I asked the Park Board to remove it. They refused and ignored me. I sued the Park Board ordering a Writ of Mandamus to force the Park Board to remove this dam and thereby lower the level of the lake. The judge ruled against me, but somehow the rock dam/weir got taken down. The next highest points are the dam/weir at 27th Avenue and the five-foot sanitary sewer line. If the dam/weir were to come down, and the MPCA were to dig a channel under their pipe to stop blocking the natural flow of the creek, and corrections made for other obstructions, then the creek could return to its natural flow. The level of Lake Hiawatha would drop by as much as five feet. The peat soil wetlands surrounding Lake Hiawatha and Lake Nokomis would begin to drain and dry out.

The Park Board responded to my question:

This is the statement in the "Hiawatha Golf Course Property Master Plan Frequently Asked Questions" answered three years ago:

"Can we remove the weir at the outlet of Lake Hiawatha to lower the lake? No. Once the water overtops the weir structure and equalizes with the level of the creek beyond, the weir is essentially useless and not holding back water. As of spring 2019, there is no difference in water



Lake Hiawatha, 1940. Steve Skaar commented on the Nokomis History Facebook page: "This photo shows you how Lake Hiawatha looked for years until they installed the weir in the late '60s at 27th Avenue South and Minnehaha Creek. That weir artificially raised the level of both Hiawatha and Lake Nokomis some four feet and led to many other problems in the area that nearby neighbors are experiencing today."

sota. They should be contacted and informed that their sewer lines are obstructing the flow of water out of Lake Hiawatha. They need to either get a permit to flood the area or support the sewer lines and dredge under the pipes to allow Minnehaha Creek to flow naturally. If they refuse, then citizens should file a Writ of Mandamus to order them to act.

I have a consistently failing batting record with Writ of Mandamus lawsuits. I've lost every one of them.

More than 30 years ago I sued the City of Minneapolis to force it to have a referendum (as the City Charter requires) on whether to give millions of dollars to LSGI to build a department store downtown. The lawsuit was declared moot when the city suddenly stopped planning the giveaway.

In 2008 I sued the Hennepin County Attorney to force him to arrest George Bush when he

Dump, from page 1

33 feet.

"The goal of increasing stormwater capacity and the problem of collapsing peat soil infrastructure around Lakes Nokomis and Hiawatha can both be resolved by removing the five-foot dam/weir at 27th Avenue and other obstructions that stop the natural flow of water out of Lake Hiawatha. Lowering the lake level by four and a half to five feet would increase stormwater storage in Lake Hiawatha by 80 million gallons, and it would drain the water table by five feet. Draining five feet of saturated peat soil around Lake Hiawatha will help drain saturated peat soil around Lake Nokomis and Solomon Park because the peat soil connecting those areas is so porous and spongy that (like a wick) it can carry water uphill. Then, when it rains, the water has nowhere to go. The rain from above meets the water from below.

"Please, stop poisoning us with chemicals. Start cleaning out your sand. Get the Park Board to take down the dam/weir. Then bag the garbage with a net coming out of the storm tunnel and have the creek run through a flocculation chamber like Richfield does at Taft Lake

to remove the poisonous phosphorus before it gets into the lake.

"Thank you."

I wrote to Andrew Johnson, chair of the committee:

"I would greatly appreciate an opportunity to sit down with you and the City Engineer to discuss:

1. The feasibility of building a flocculation chamber to remove phosphorus from Minnehaha Creek before it enters Lake Hiawatha.
  2. The dredging of sand from Lake Hiawatha that has accumulated as a result of the city sanding the streets in winter.
  3. The removal of artificial obstructions to the outflow of Minnehaha Creek from Lake Hiawatha that would reduce the water level of Lake Hiawatha and reduce the water table of the peat soil around Lake Hiawatha, Lake Nokomis and Solomon Park.
  4. The city's responsibility to bag the trash coming out of the storm sewer emptying into Lake Hiawatha.
- "I look forward to discussing these problems with you."

I haven't heard back. I'll keep in touch.

# Are women's wombs state property?

BY LYDIA HOWELL

Picture a woman or a girl under 18 that you know – a partner, sister, daughter, niece, friend. Then, imagine grainy video of an egg being pierced by a sperm – the moment of fertilization. That fertilized egg is being elevated above already-born female and gender non-conforming people – who are disappeared by politicians and judges practicing medicine, ignorant of basic facts about reproduction.

Self-described pro-life Republicans are indifferent to the fact that the U.S. has the highest maternal and infant mortality rates among Western nations. Their professed family values are a sham revealed by their consistent votes against what families and children need. Recently a majority of Republicans voted against addressing the baby formula shortage created by corporate monopolies.

The leaked draft of Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito's Dobbs decision overturning Roe v. Wade makes reproductive decisions a matter of "states' rights." Half of states are poised to ban abortion as soon as Roe falls. Republicans threaten a national ban if they regain control of Congress and the Senate.

Decades of the anti-choice campaign of fear tactics and outright lies distorted this debate. No state ever allowed abortion

on demand up until moments before birth, but Alito repeats that false claim.

Anti-choice billboards show cute infants. Protesters scream "save the babies!" Yet, 92% of abortions occur in the first three months of pregnancy when a fetus is 2½ inches long and weighs half an ounce, according to the Mayo Clinic.

The Guttmacher Institute, which researches sexual and reproductive health, reports that by age 45, 30% of women have had an abortion and 60% of women were already mothers when they ended a pregnancy. In Minnesota, 283,400 women live in "birth control deserts," disproportionately impacting Black, Latino, Native, undocumented immigrant and low-income women by making the most reliable contraceptives unavailable. Birth control can also fail.

Life-threatening emergencies for the woman or fetal abnormalities incompatible with survival account for the 8% of abortions performed after 12 weeks.

Self-induced abortion and miscarriage can look identical. Louisiana and Oklahoma's bans make abortion homicide. Investigating miscarriages as crimes will lead to massive civil rights abuses.

Alito's opinion exposes the right-wing Federalist Society

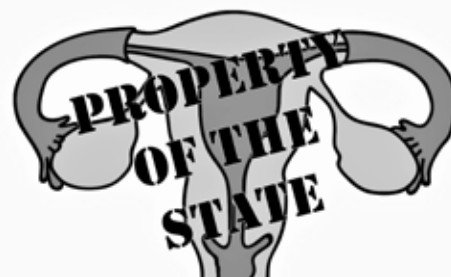
"originalist" interpretations of the Constitution now dominating the Supreme Court. It freezes law in the 1789 birth-year of our Constitution, when only 8% of white men could vote, women were defined as property of their husbands, and people of color were viewed as subhuman. Over and over, Alito cites "history and tradition" as reason enough to ban abortion. He goes back in time to long before our nation's founding, citing a 17th-century British jurist, Sir Matthew Hale, an extreme misogynist even for his time, as well as the colonial period in 1602 and even as far back as the 13th century, which would have been during the time of Catholic church law.

Alito argues that abortion is not mentioned in the Constitution, so it can't be a protected right, contradicting the Ninth Amendment of the Bill of Rights, which states: "The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people."

Every American should be chilled by Alito's adamant, repeated assertions that our Constitution protects no right to privacy.

It's an Orwellian irony that many people yelling the loudest about "state tyranny" and

"government overreach" when it comes to COVID-19 public health protections, support using law violating bodily autonomy to control women's reproductive decisions. Privacy was fundamental to reproductive rights, as well as legalizing contraceptives for married couples in 1965 and



single people in 1973. Privacy rights ended the criminalization of LGBT people's sexual lives and legalized same sex marriage.

Those court decisions recognized freedom and human dignity, meaning government can't intrude into intimate areas of our lives.

Like Donald Trump's right-wing Supreme Court nominees' mantras "I respect precedent" and "Roe is settled law," Alito saying "Only abortion will be affected by this decision" is a promise not worth the paper it's written on.

When contraceptives were a crime, sterilization abuse was legal, targeting women of color and the poor. With the spreading

of white supremacist Replacement Theory that sparked the Buffalo massacre, will forced sterilization return? The 1873 Comstock law declared birth control information and devices criminal "obscenities" for 90 years. Anti-abortion activists and politicians falsely claim the most effective contraceptives are "abortion-related," vowing to outlaw them next.

How much of the last 70 years of expanding human rights will the originalist Supreme Court reverse?

Since 1995, Minnesota's state constitution has protected reproductive rights.

But people should remember Trump lost Minnesota by only 1.5 points. Democracy is on the ballot and so are our rights.

Resources: Minneapolis journalist Robin Marty's "Handbook for a Post-Roe America" is crucial for activism and self-determination, including emergency contraceptives (Plan B or morning after pills) and medication abortion, safe and available online. See also: UnRestrictMinnesota.org; ProChoiceResource.org; and Minnesota Religious Council of Reproductive Choice at www.mnrcrc.org.

Lydia Howell is a Minneapolis journalist.

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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 150 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:

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# Abortion – still and again



BY TONY BOUZA

Hubris is my foe. I strive to persuade Erica that she married a moron and worm, albeit one with a great memory.

I fancy that our core problems are racism and income inequality. They impact everything.

Even Roe v. Wade? That created a pause; then I

remembered my Japanese buddy Yuji. When his hot daughter got pregnant, he flew her to Japan, where abortion was doable.

So, who did the abortion ban impact?

Poor Black and Hispanic women principally.

Roe v. Wade in 1973 assured that street crime would plummet in 1990 when the aborted cohort would not be around. I wrote about it, but I was gone from policing, and avid chiefs willing to acknowledge their contributions to crime's decline made it to Time's covers. Economics, yes, but racist? How?

In my experience, abortion, legal or not, was not a question for white women—it was the conundrum of Black and Hispanic teenagers.

The issue was intellectually toxic—if you supported abortion because it reduced crime, you had to be a racist. A dilemma

for the intelligentsia.

How to handle it?

Ignore or avoid any reference to the connection.

The result?

A tortured little dance in which the issue of abortion as crime prevention is ignored.

Because of Roe v. Wade America experienced over 30 years of crashed crime levels. The gentrification of Brooklyn was made possible by the sudden safety of tough neighborhoods. Blacks and Hispanics could no longer afford El Barrio. Tough luck and delicious irony. Everybody was happy to pocket the safety but loath to explore its origins.

Today's elite agonizes over the obvious Supreme Court threat to Roe v. Wade, but another delicious irony is about to surface—it won't matter.

In the interim, science has invented chemical abortion.

Voila.

The Know-Nothings will fulminate about sacred religious values. They'll be largely white, rural. My secret, and hitherto unexpressed suspicion is that this cohort would vote for Adolf Hitler, given the chance.

This segment has not been sufficiently studied. Who are they? What do they do?

In a service that I think is both unique and uniquely wonderful, the U.S. Congress, in studying the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, will provide us with a template of who constitutes this merry band of idiots and sunshine patriots.

But this is still only about 20% Trumpers—Wallaceites—Father Coughlinites. We have

them and they'll be with us.

Roe v. Wade conjures a really arresting (pardon the word) complexity as we regard the tergiversations of American political thought. Some expressed. Some unmentionable.

The police are irrelevant to crime levels and, therefore, public safety. Crime is caused by social, economic and educational conditions. Why don't we acknowledge this simple, obvious fact? Because we are happy to perpetuate racism and economic disparities of grotesque levels.

I haven't the slightest fear of refutation—or even of a response.

Hire more cops.

## Post-Floyd life

BY TONY BOUZA

Two years, plus, it's time to review the results of George Floyd's killing.

It certainly sparked a debate. Also riots, trials, a movement and a lot of hand-wringing and national anguish. Looking back we can see a vast emptiness. Mostly wasted time.

I'd credit the Ivy League for exemplary progress in minority inclusion. Bravo. A lonely light in a dark sea.

Policing remains a disaster. The unions are in charge and the thumpers call the tune. The acting chief's major moves signal bedtime with the union. The mayor seems disinterested and unengaged. Reports surface signaling business as usual. The two most recent chiefs abandoned disastrous legacies.

Contrast the aftermath of riots here and the Jan. 6 D.C. insurrection. The latter led to a deep and continuing investigation and almost 1,000 prosecutions. Amazing, and bravo.

Minneapolis did nothing and looters, arsonists and smashers go scot-free despite ample photographic evidence of their depredations. Just another in a long string of failures.

Racism lives.

Reform dies.

And politicians engage their dance of death with merry indifference.

Leftist activists bid fair to destroy the Democratic party with their strident cries.

A great example of the genre occupies the seat once held by Don Fraser.

Is there a single guide pointing the way?

The gods delivered an historic respite from street crime in 1973. Roe v. Wade resulted in the gentrification of American ghettos—so what new slums would our underclass occupy?

What national initiatives undertaken to ameliorate poverty—child care? Good luck.

Is it a mystery that crime and dissolution are caused by social and economic forces and that cops are irrelevant to crime's levels? Racism doesn't consign Blacks to exclusion and poverty—it forces them to the only escapes available: addictions (to figuratively escape the awfulness) and crime, to pay the freight.

Street crime is a problem for sociologists and economists—not cops.

Cops can respond to and ameliorate the trauma of violence—but not prevent it. They can respond to accidents and illnesses, and regulate traffic. They can also investigate—but by then the crime has occurred. Cops are useful.

I did one brilliant thing in my 60 years of involvement in police work—I proved that the most aggressive, legal policing simply doesn't work to control street crime.

Ta-da!

Other fields inspire study, critical literature, experiments, reform and informed discussion. Policing inspired hucksterism.

I love watching the police pundits (usually retired chiefs) wax eloquently on the issues. I used to think they were fools. But I was wrong.

I was the fool. They were selling very marketable snake oil. Gulp. Gulp. Gulp.

### Cam, from page 1

The city also kicked off its own effort to update its Climate Action Plan at the Green Zones Summit on May 21 where they reported on the effort and invited feedback from the community. Advocates of the People's Climate and Equity Plan hope that it will strengthen the city's efforts and build on actions the city has already taken by establishing Green Zones, creating the Green Cost Share program, identifying a social cost of carbon, and declaring a climate emergency.

The People's Plan was drafted by the Just Transition Fund Coalition, whose members include Black Visions, Community Power, Cooperative Energy Futures (CEF), Environmental Justice Advocates of Minnesota (EJAM), MN Renewable Now, MN350 Action, Sierra Club North Star, and Unidos MN, with leadership and coordination from MN350. According to MN350's website, the document is "the beginning of a conversation with the city and the people of Minneapolis, which must center the voices of Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) and other marginalized communities."

It aspires for a city with "affordable, 100% clean energy buildings by 2030, accessible pathways to dignified work to eliminate racial and economic disparities, and safe, healthy and climate-resilient neighborhoods connected by accessible, carbon-free transportation."

The plan calls for investments to improve health, lower energy bills and ensure that everyone, starting with low-income communities of color, has access to "family-sustaining jobs in the growing green economy."

Specific goals laid out in the People's Plan set out to make every building in Minneapolis

comfortable, affordable and carbon-free by 2030, build community wealth and eliminate the racial wealth gap, ensure every person has a safe, healthy and climate-resilient neighborhood connected by accessible, carbon-free transportation, and create a robust dedicated funding stream to make bold climate justice policy a reality.

The plan was informed by Portland's Clean Energy Fund, which uses a 1% supplemental business license surcharge on large retail corporations. That generates roughly \$50 million a year that is distributed by a commission for solar projects, energy efficiency and job training.

The two main funding sources being discussed for Minneapolis are the electric and natural gas company franchise fees, and a pollution control annual registration (PCAR) fee which the city is authorized by the state to collect from companies who use equipment that creates pollution. A portion of the franchise fee and most of the PCAR funding already go to reduce pollution and support clean energy and efficiency.

An expansion of PCAR funding may require state legislative approval but the franchise fee can be increased by a vote of the City Council. The franchise fee could be applied in a way that would put a higher fee on fossil fuel use. Eventually, the hope would be to collect funds equal to the social or true cost of burning carbon from those generating and using the fossil fuels.

"If we apply the social cost of carbon the council agreed on," said MN350's Ulla Nilsen, "it would be roughly \$110 million a year in revenue."

Since drafting the plan late last year, Nilsen and others have organized teams of advocates in each ward. So far

teams have met with 10 council members and identified Council Members Elliot Payne, Robin Wonsley Worlobah, Aisha Chughtai and Andrea Jenkins as the champions. Nilsen said, "It was so amazing to hear and celebrate the support we are beginning to see from the council president and a majority of members on the council."

Council Members Palmisano, Johnson, Chavez and Vetaw were identified as supporters. One volunteer quoted Vetaw from Ward 4 as saying, "I absolutely support it," while noting that she, like other council members, expressed concerns about the potential costs to poorer residents.

That concern is identified in the plan, which says that it must "proactively structure the funding mechanism to avoid negative cost impacts on low-income/otherwise burdened communities" and "focus investments in communities of color and low-income communities to advance justice in the transition to climate solutions, recognizing historic injustice in economic opportunities and environmental burdens."

"So far, we have been doing amazing work," Nilsen said.

"We have teams in every ward. We have met with, or are about to meet with, all council members. Over the summer we are launching a series of house parties and yard gatherings." She encourages people to visit <https://mn350.org/peoples-climate-and-equity-plan/> to get more involved.

"I got involved with this because, of all the troubles facing our world, the climate crisis seems the most pressing," Hensley said. "If we don't figure out how to reduce our carbon emissions in the next 10 years, nothing else really matters."



# Thank you for your service

BY ED FELIEN

On Saturday, June 4, Minnesota state Sen. Patricia Torres Ray and Reps. Jim Davnie and Emma Greenman held a Senate District 63 Town Hall meeting at Corcoran Park to explain their work at the legislature this year.

For Torres Ray and Davnie this Town Hall was probably especially memorable because it may be their last public meeting as elected officials. They're both retiring this year. Patricia Torres Ray will have served the district for 16 years, and Jim Davnie will have served 22 years. They have been serious, progressive and hard working.

Torres Ray talked about how difficult it was to work with Republicans this year. They wouldn't hold committee hearings to discuss pending legislation. They obviously didn't want to hear from the DFL senators. And when DFLers would propose amendments to their legislation, the Republicans would rule the

amendment was not germane—no matter how hard they had worked to make it germane.

Davnie added that they went to a conference committee to find agreement on the budget bill for education. The DFL House wanted a \$3 billion increase in the budget for education. The Republican Senate wanted an increase of \$30 million. That's a big difference. They settled on an increase of something like \$1 billion.

I asked Davnie during the question-and-answer session why the University and the Minneapolis Public School system have such bloated bureaucracies. The MPS budgets show 20% administrative costs when federal guidelines allow only 15%, and the University wants a huge raise in tuition in spite of declining enrollment.

Davnie answered that budgets he'd seen show only 6% administrative costs, but, he admitted, that depends on what you're counting. As for interference



Rep. Jim Davnie and Sen. Patricia Torres Ray

with the University, there are strict rules and even state constitutional protections for the University from government in-

terference.

Those seemed like pretty good answers.

The guy sitting next to me

started his question by saying, "I know this is going to sound trite, but thank you for your service."

And we all applauded.

## The last stand – the Democratic Socialist Caucus at the DFL State Convention

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Some of us were delegates, some of us were alternates, and some of us were "volunteers." Some of the alternates got upgraded to delegate. Some of us were officers in the newly formed political committee – the Democratic Socialist Caucus. (No official connection to the DFL, because we're not "recognized" by them, but nevertheless, we organize only within the DFL.) Some of us were wearing multiple hats.

I was wearing multiple hats. I am the Communications Officer for the DSC, and I was also a DFL alternate from Senate District 63, but I didn't expect to get upgraded, and wasn't. I was mainly there to work for and boost the DSC, to cover the convention as a citizen journalist and, of course, to party.

DSC hosted a wonderful party Friday night at the Rochester Art Center, a small event space that is adjacent to the Mayo Convention Center, where the DFL convention was held. (The Republicans held their convention in the same space the previous weekend. Needless to say, it was a very different scene.) Our party was called Socializing with Socialists.

The party was in an open house format, with a cash bar, buffet-style foods, and soft background music that included some dance music. (There were occasional outbreaks of dancing.) Mostly it was a way for democratic socialists and socialism-curious people from

all over the state to meet up and talk. Over the several hours of the party, about 100 people in all came by for varying periods of time. Lots of new connections were made and quite a few new members signed up. I'm not that sociable, but I met a dozen new people, and met another six or seven that I knew from Zoom or social media but had not yet met in person.

The main gathering spot for the DSC over the three days was our table, which we shared with the DFL Disability Caucus. The table was beautifully decorated with buckets of red carnations which we gave away to anyone who would take one, and lots of literature produced by the volunteers in the week before the convention. I spent a few hours Friday and a few hours Saturday staffing the table.

On Saturday, we had a general membership meeting of the DSC in hybrid mode, with about 25 people in a convention center meeting room, and five or six joining in on Zoom. The DSC chair, Sam Doten, gave a thorough update of what we had been up to since our founding over a year ago. Some of this was covered in the January Southside Pride piece, "Democratic Socialists in the DFL" ([southsidepride.com/2022/01/03/democratic-socialists-in-the-dfl-the-story-so-far](https://southsidepride.com/2022/01/03/democratic-socialists-in-the-dfl-the-story-so-far)).

Most of the rest of the meeting comprised a brainstorming session of what we would do with our new structure and our growing base. Since we still want to eventually become a



DSC members show up for Unite HERE Local 21.

community caucus recognized by the DFL, and since the whole reason we exist is because there are loads of democratic socialists already in the DFL (some of them don't realize that's what they are!) and we want to give ourselves and them a way to organize toward socialism inside the DFL, most of our ideas and plans are ways to demystify, detoxify and illustrate the values of "socialism." So members are committed to working hard and well at all levels of the party, as local officers, as rank-and-file campaigners and leaders of campaigns, as members of planning committees, attendees at caucuses, delegates to conventions and volunteers at the polls.

We also plan to support DFL candidates who align with our values, to collaborate with DFL caucuses that share our values, and to do some education. Some

of our members and potential members are seasoned DFLers new to democratic socialism. So we'll have educational materials and teach-ins on democratic socialism. Some, on the other hand, are democratic socialists who are new to the DFL. So we'll also have teach-ins on the structure and culture of the DFL. Personally, I'm all about political education, so I can't wait to get involved in this.

Another interesting thing happened at the Saturday meeting. Unite HERE, the union representing hotel workers and restaurant workers, was holding a solidarity rally and press conference on the plaza outside the convention center for striking workers from the Kahler Group of hotels in Rochester. The event fell right in the middle of our meeting time. So at 3 p.m. we recessed the meeting for a while, and those attending in person all went out to the plaza, grabbed a poster or the corner of a banner, and participated in a wonderful labor action along with many state notables in organized labor as well as Keith Ellison, the Minnesota attorney general. When it was over, we went back in and finished the meeting.

Some of our members attended the Community Caucuses breakfast at 8 a.m. Sunday morning. I was not able to do that as I had to check out and leave with the folks I was riding with (my colleague Dave T., his wife Barb, and another fellow DSC member and DSA comrade Andrea P.). No, really, it's because I am not an 8 a.m. breakfast kind of per-

son anymore. I used to be when I worked at real jobs.

Oh, and meanwhile, there was this actual DFL convention going on. This was a somewhat low-key year in terms of drama and controversy. Inside the hall, it was all – well, mostly – very congenial and nice. All of our state leaders are incumbents eligible to run again, and they were all endorsed, mostly by acclamation. A radical difference from the Senate District and Congressional District conventions I had the – ahem – pleasure to attend, not to mention the Zoom convention to endorse for Minneapolis school board. I'll have some more of this nitty gritty in a final piece wrapping up the DFL convention season and letting you know what's coming up in the August primaries.

From the DSC's viewpoint, the convention season was a big success. We have grown a lot in membership since the rejection of our request to be recognized in December, and we picked up another 90 sign-ups and 45 new members just at the state convention. Since our launch as a PAC in April 2022, we have raised \$3,000 from individual donors and about \$1,500 in PAC/organizational contributions. And I forget how many red carnations we gave away, but it seemed like hundreds. Check out our Facebook page to see our beautiful banner, TV coverage of the Unite HERE rally, and more scenes from the convention.





# Open Streets Franklin Avenue is back and better than ever

BY STEPHANIE FOX

This year, the Minneapolis celebration called Open Streets

is back after COVID shut down events around the city. But on Sunday, July 10, from 11 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., East Franklin Avenue

from Portland to 26th Avenue will again be closed to motor vehicle traffic and open to bike riders, skaters, skateboarders and pedestrians.

There will be lots to do, hear, see and even eat. And the event is free. A number of local groups and organizations will be there to inform and entertain, featuring the best of the Phillips neighborhood. “Open Streets Franklin stretches through a culturally rich corridor in the heart of Minneapolis,” said Ember Rasmussen, who organizes Open Streets events. “Notably, Franklin is home to many urban American Indian community hubs, art galleries and restaurants, as well as Norway House, a Norwegian cultural center.” Those, and many more groups,



(Photo/Fibonacci Blue)

will be part of the reborn 2022 Open Streets celebration.

**Hennepin County Library, Franklin Avenue branch**  
1314 E. Franklin Ave.

“We have been attending Open Streets for several years but not since COVID, so we’re super excited,” said librarian Kimberly

Trinh-Sy. “This year is special, not just because we’re back, but because our library was renovated in 2019. We were closed to the public and reopened in March 2020, but we’re using Franklin Open Streets as our official belated reopening celebration.”

The library will invite people to

See *Open Streets*, page 8

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**Open Streets, from page 7**

see the new and renovated space, but there will be more than just a library tour.

“We’ll have entertainment,” Trinh-Sy said. “The Indigenous Peoples Task Force’s Ikidowin Youth Theater Ensemble will be doing three 15-minute stage performances.”

The library will also have children’s activities including a children’s book giveaway. “The kids will fill out a form and then can choose a book to take home with them,” Trinh-Sy said. Members of the Law Library will also be there, not giving legal advice, she said, but connecting people with legal services if they need them. Visitors can also view a special collection of

historical photographs.

The library is also collaborating with artist and creative healer, Ellen Sweetman, who has worked with them at previous Open Streets. Sweetman will invite and guide people to create community art. “I work with creativity, discovering new ways to make art,” Sweetman said. “This is perfect for those whose narrative has been, ‘I can’t draw or paint’ or ‘I am not an artist.’”

“There will be a lot of different fun activities for people of all ages,” Trinh-Sy said. “Franklin Avenue library branch is a small branch, but we’re hoping for a big crowd. It’s going to be a busy day. We want people to know we are open and to get connected to our library once again.”

**Norway House**  
913 E. Franklin Ave.

“We are Norway House. Our mission is to connect the USA with contemporary Norway through business and culture,” said Joseph

Grødahl, Norway House’s director. Norway House shares the block with the Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church, both part of the block’s 100-year-plus Norwegian presence. Norway House has attended Open Streets each year since 2014, according to Grødahl. Then came the shutdown during COVID. They’re back again, but this time with a difference.

This year, for the first time, Norway House is collaborating with the American Iraqi Reconciliation Project, a group of Iraqi refugees and immigrants to the United States. “The group’s mission is to build friendships with Americans, to bring about healing after the wars in Iraq,” Grødahl said. “Norway has a presence on the world stage as a peacemaker. We’ve been working with Iraqis just for this event.”

“At Open Streets, we’ll have Iraqi dancers and music, and our café will serve Iraqi and Norwegian desserts such as baklava and Norwegian pepper cookies,” he said.

Artists and craft sellers will give demonstrations of Arabic calligraphy and Sumerian cuneiform, writing kids’ names in these languages. And, of course, there will be demonstrations of Viking runes.

**Seward Co-op Block Party**  
2601 Franklin (between 25th and 26th Avenues)

Seward Co-op is using Franklin Open Streets to throw a block party celebrating their 50th anniversary with a number of events, including a community meal. For only \$5, choose meat or vegetarian options and browse the block. Local producers will be there, offering samples of their sustainably produced foods at the community foods fair.

“For kids, there will be a bounce house,” said Natalia Mendez. “And we’ll have family-friendly activities with some of our community partners.” Music will be provided by Phillips-based radio station KRSM and local DJs. And visitors can bring their own tote bag to be screen-printed. Or, if you are one of the first 75 people to request a tote, Seward will provide one for you.

**BF50 Indigenous Health**

Britt Howell is a health and wellness educator who will be bringing her knowledge to Open Streets again this year. Her group, BF50 Indigenous Health, organizes health and culture events for Black and Indigenous communities in Minnesota. At Open Streets, she will be



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(Photo/Fibonacci Blue)



(Photo/Alex Tsatsoulis)



(Photo/Fibonacci Blue)

partnering with other groups to offer even more services.

“We will have resources to assist low income and underserved people, with blood pressure and blood sugar tests. Licensed social workers will be there to answer people’s questions,” Howell said.

Howell will also be partnering with Nice Ride Minnesota, a bike sharing program concentrating on sustainable food and transportation. “Nice Ride for All memberships usually cost \$109 a year,” she said. “Here at Open Streets, it will cost only \$5 for the entire year. We will also be signing people up for a food education program and classes about plant-based foods, given through Minneapolis Park and Recreation, all summer.”

Palabristas, a Minnesota-based collective of poets, spoken word artists, and writers of ChicanX/LatinX heritage, will be there to show how to get the most out of spoken word performances. And members

of the Lower Sioux Indian Community and other organizations will be part of the outreach effort.

#### Big Blue Sun Museum of Solar Cooking

Solar cookers may be the next big thing, says Luther Krueger, who will be at Open Streets demonstrating how various sun-powered cookers can not only make cooking easier but can help save the world.

Krueger hopes that people seeing his demonstrations will become motivated to get their own solar cookers. He promoted solar cooking at Broadway Open Streets last year. “A lot of people came up and wanted to invest,” he said, “but I am not selling these cookers.”

“This will be a cooking demo,” Krueger continued. “Mainly, I promote them for environmental concerns. There are whole areas of the world where people don’t have electricity and they are deforesting

where they live to get cooking fuel. They are getting respiratory illnesses from the smoke. In many of these places where this is happening, they are sun-rich. They are not using the energy that they have in abundance.”

Krueger said he started collecting solar cookers about 16 years ago and now has more than 80 of them. “I started to make some and buy them. I will have a parabolic cooker to fry or bake and a vacuum tube cooker that works like a microwave and some that work like a slow cooker. With solar, there are no pollutants.”

“We live in what I call the ‘variety weather belt,’ but even here you can cook any time of year,” Krueger said. “When the sun is lower it reduces the power, but it can still work. It just might take a little longer in December than in June. But it’s the greenest thing you can do when you cook food.” Look for his tent and follow the tasty food aromas.

#### Seward Neighborhood Group, SCCA & Redesign

Three organizations based in the Seward neighborhood will be at the east end of Franklin Open Streets. With over 100 years of combined service, Seward Neighborhood Group, Seward Civic & Commerce Association and Redesign work to support and advocate for both the residential and business communities. There will be face painting and

mehndi for both kids and adults, as well as free popcorn and cotton candy. You’ll be able to put your name in a raffle to win gift baskets with goodies from local Seward

businesses – a good reminder to #ShopSeward. These organizations represent you, so please come out and share your priorities and ideas for the neighborhood!

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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / RIVERSIDE EDITION

## EVENTS

### Summer Solstice Foraging Tuesday, June 21, 6 to 8 p.m.

Gather together on the longest day of the year with Maria Wesserle and Four Season Foraging to learn about summer foraging of medicinal plants. Several species are traditionally thought to reach their peak in midsummer, including yarrow, wild bergamot and mugwort. We will discuss identification, edibility and medicinal uses of these species, and talk about other wild edibles we encounter in the field. Sliding scale \$17.50 - \$37.50. Pre-registration required. For registration, location and other details, please email [info@fourseasonforaging.com](mailto:info@fourseasonforaging.com), call 612-440-5958, or visit <https://www.fourseasonforaging.com/events>.



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**Minneapolis Movies in the Parks**  
All movies start at 9:20 p.m. this week, and all are FREE. Please go to [mplsmusicandmovies.com](http://mplsmusicandmovies.com) for complete details and full schedules.

**Tuesday, June 21**

**"Jungle Cruise" PG-13**

Fuller Park  
4802 Grand Ave. S., Mpls.

**Wednesday, June 22**

**"Twilight" PG-13**

The Commons  
425 Portland Ave., Mpls.

**Thursday, June 23**

**"42" PG-13**

Powderhorn Park  
3400 15th Ave. S., Mpls.

**Friday, June 24**

**"Luca" PG**

Franklin Steele Park  
1600 Portland Ave., Mpls.

**Monday, June 27**

**"Encanto" PG**

Lynnhurst  
1345 W. Minnehaha Pkwy.

**Call for Artists: The 2022-2023 Cedar Commissions**

**Applications due by Friday, July 15**

The Cedar Cultural Center, a nonprofit performing arts organization and all-ages music venue located in Minneapolis is looking for the next round of artists to take part in the 2022-23 Cedar Commissions!

The Cedar Commissions is a program that commissions six early career/emerging Minnesotan composers and musicians each year to create and perform new music. To date, The Cedar has commissioned over 60

artists of diverse styles and backgrounds.

**Application workshop on Thursday, June 23, 6 to 7:30 p.m. CDT**

**In person at The Cedar and via Zoom**  
Cedar Cultural Center  
416 Cedar Ave. S., Mpls.

This hybrid session will walk you through the Cedar Commissions application and give you an opportunity to ask questions about the application process. Webinar will be available both in person and via Zoom and archived online at [thecedar.org/cedar-commissions](http://thecedar.org/cedar-commissions) (as a note: participants will be recorded). Free. **Sign up by June 22** at <https://www.thecedar.org/cedar-commissions-application-webinar-reg>. If this application process presents barriers to you based on language, location or disability, The Cedar will accommodate special application requests to the best of our ability. Please contact Robert Lehmann at [rlehmann@thecedar.org](mailto:rlehmann@thecedar.org) or 612-440-8406

**'In the Fold: A Critical Dialogue on Blackness + Printmaking'**

**Thursday, June 23, 6:30 p.m.**

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

"In the Fold" promises to be a powerful conversation with three printmakers — Delita Martin, Tanekeya Word and Chloe Alexander. Tanekeya Word is the founder of Black Women of Print, an organization that aims to promote the visibility of mid-career and established Black women printmakers, through accessible educational outreach, to create an equitable future within the discipline of printmaking. Delita Martin is currently working as a full-time artist in her studio, Black Box Press. And Chloe Alexander is a printmaker and educator who works in various techniques to create one-of-a-kind prints, drawings, and varied editions. You must register in advance as

limited spots are available. For tickets and more info, go to <https://www.highpointprintmaking.org/calendar/2022/inthefold-b55se>.

**Twin Cities Jazz Festival**

**June 24-25**

Mears Park

221 5th St. E., St. Paul

The 24th annual Twin Cities Jazz Festival presented by AARP Minnesota is returning to St. Paul's Lowertown Arts District bigger and better this summer. On Friday, June 24, and Saturday, June 25, a diverse array of talented musicians from around the country and around the corner will take to the two outdoor stages in Mears Park (Jazz88 Main Stage and Xcel Energy's Jazz on 5th Street Stage).

All performances will be free and family friendly. Bring a lawn chair, grab a bite and beverage on-site or from a nearby dining establishment, then sit back and enjoy the syncopated rhythms of this year's featured entertainers. Of course, dancing is most welcome! Find the schedule here: <https://www.twincitiesjazzfestival.com/schedule/>.

**Friday Night Summer Movie Series**

**Fridays, doors open at 5 p.m.**

**Movie starts at 6 p.m.**

Sabathani Community Center  
310 E. 38th St., Mpls.

Hosted by Agape Movement, [theagapemovement.com](http://theagapemovement.com). For more info contact Bridgette Stewart at (612) 824-4017 or [agapebstewart@gmail.com](mailto:agapebstewart@gmail.com).

**Women in Graffiti & Street Art**

**Saturday, June 25, 7 to 8:30 p.m.**

Urban Growler Brewing  
2325 Endicott St., St. Paul  
Discover "Few and Far" — an all-women street art collective who beautify the streets with a shared commitment to creativity, education and social justice — during this panel

discussion with five of their local and national members at Urban Growler Brewing at 7 p.m. Learn their stories and perspectives on why there are still so few women in street art. You can watch the five talented graffiti and street artists—Deity, Meme, Keena Azania Roman, Martzia Thometz, and Thomasina TopBear—paint murals at their Summer Mural Meet from June 22 - 26. This event is hosted by Urban Growler, the first women-owned microbrewery in Minnesota. Candida Gonzalez of Forecast Public Art will moderate the talk. Social hour starts at 6:30 p.m. with panel discussion from 7 to 8:30 p.m. <https://www.chromazone.net/festival-events>

**Iraqi – Swedish Cultural Exchange**  
**Sunday, June 26, 4 to 7 p.m.**

American Swedish Institute  
2600 Park Ave., Mpls.

A summer evening of fun on the American Swedish Institute lawn, co-hosted by the Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project and the American Swedish Institute. Visitors will experience:

- A handcraft market featuring local artists and artisans selling their handicrafts and artwork.
- Iraqi music from Layth Sidiq.
- Traditional Scandinavian nyckelharpa music and folk dancing.
- Lawn games, including tawleh and Swedish kubb.
- Craft projects guided by IARP volunteers, including cuneiform clay tablets and Arabic calligraphy.
- Coffee, cardamom-scented Iraqi tea, and classic Swedish and Iraqi desserts.

The ASI Turnblad Mansion will also be open to explore! Tickets are \$5. [asimn.org](http://asimn.org)

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# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

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Local nonprofit Memorial Blood Centers (MBC) is calling all eligible blood and platelet donors to step up and help save lives.

The need for blood is constant, but the supply isn't. Founded by the community, for the community, donors with Memorial Blood Centers help supply nearly 40 local hospitals and more than a dozen air ambulance bases. Help hospital patients in need by scheduling an appointment online at [mbc.org/donate](http://mbc.org/donate) or by calling 1-888-GIVE.BLD or (888) 448-3253).

Blood donation is safe and essential, and MBC has a COVID-19 self-screening policy in addition to general eligibility guidelines. In general, you may be eligible to donate if you are:

- In good health.
- 17 years or older— or 16 with written parental consent (PDF available on [mbc.org](http://mbc.org)).
- At least 110 pounds.
- Free of antibiotics for 24 hours, unless taken for preventative reasons.
- Symptom-free for at least 72 hours following a cold or flu.

Visit [mbc.org/donate](http://mbc.org/donate) to find your nearest drive or donor center, or to make an appointment at one of the public blood drives below:

**Monday, June 20, 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**, Indeed Brewing, 711 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE, Mpls.

**Monday, June 27, noon to 5 p.m.**, Annunciation Catholic Church, 509 W. 54<sup>th</sup> St., Mpls.

**Wednesday, June 29, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.**, Wooden Ship Brewing Company, 3300 W. 44<sup>th</sup> St., Mpls. All donors will be entered for daily drawings to win tickets to a Twins game. More information can be found at [mbc.org/twins](http://mbc.org/twins).

**Koerner, Murphy & Beach: The Farewell Tour**

**Thursday, June 30, 7 p.m.**

Trylon Cinema  
2820 E. 33rd St., Mpls.  
St. Paul filmmaker Digger Kohler presents three short films: "Why Marmarth" (featuring Willie Murphy and Cockroach Park) in Marmarth, N.D., population 140. The

town's 1914 constructed vaudeville theatre, aptly named "The Mystic," provides a curious and alluring setting for this exciting performance. "Spider John Koerner at the Logging Camp Ranch" is as exceptional as Koerner's inventive originals and innovative interpretations of classic folk/blues.

A loosey-goosey mini-documentary focuses well-deserved attention on a longtime Twin Cities musical treasure who is largely taken for granted. John Beach is the closest thing our area has to a Professor Longhair – a rollicking barrelhouse piano ace whose blues are doggedly idiosyncratic, deeply felt, organic and timeless. Digger Kohler's 30-minute short film offers hearty humor, life and death philosophy, plenty of trailer-park and tavern atmosphere, and some odd driving antics. Tickets are \$10, available at <https://www.trylon.org/film/koerner-murphy-beach-the-farewell-tour/>.

**Fulton Farmers Market**  
**Saturdays through Oct. 29**  
**8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

49th St. & Chowen Ave. S., Mpls.  
<https://www.neighborhoodrootsmn.org/>

**Kingfield Farmers Market**  
**Sundays through Oct. 30**  
**8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

40th St. & Nicollet Ave.  
(north end of MLK, Jr. Park)  
<https://www.neighborhoodrootsmn.org/>

**13<sup>th</sup> Minnesota Cuban Film Festival**  
**Thursdays through June 30**

MSP Film  
Main Theatre  
15 SE Main St., Mpls.  
The Minnesota Cuban Film Festival (MCFF) brings some of the best Cuban films to the Land of 10,000 Lakes. This year's festival will take place at MSP Film on six consecutive Thursdays, May 26 to June 30. The MCFF features films that address the achievements and challenges of the Cuban people through the eyes of its filmmakers. The festival highlights diverse and challenging films

of social change, human struggle and the boldness of the human spirit. The Minnesota Cuba Committee, presenter of the film festival, offers Minnesotans a chance to learn about and appreciate Cuban films and culture, and to remind our supporters of the onerous burden that the blockade inflicts on the Cuban people.

For more information visit <https://www.facebook.com/MNCubanFilmFestival/> or call 612-367-6134.

**Sound Unseen Film Series: 'Nothing Compares'**  
**Wednesday, July 13, 7 p.m.**

Trylon Cinema  
2820 E. 33<sup>rd</sup> St., Mpls.  
A feature documentary that tells the story of Sinéad O'Connor's phenomenal rise to worldwide fame, and how her iconoclastic personality resulted in her exile from the pop mainstream. Focusing on prophetic words and deeds across a five-year period (1987-1992), the film reflects on the legacy of this fearless trailblazer, through a contemporary feminist lens. More info and tickets at <http://www.soundunseen.com/upcoming-events/2022/7/13/nothing-compares>.

**Watercolor Monotypes in the Rain Garden**

**Saturday, July 16, noon to 4 p.m.**

Highpoint Center for Printmaking  
912 W. Lake St., Mpls.  
Come to Free Ink Day at the Highpoint Rain Garden to learn about and create Watercolor Monotypes. Learn why rain gardens and pollinators are important for our local environment and create your own vibrant monotype using an etching press. This Free Ink Day we have a special guest: Erin Rupp of Pollinate MN. Learn about pollinators from an expert and observe a honeybee hive. (Bees will be fully contained.) Three times a year Highpoint invites the community to an afternoon of

hands-on printmaking and creative fun. All materials for the planned activity are non-toxic and supplied by Highpoint (while supplies last), and no registration is necessary –

just drop in, bring your creativity, and be ready to get inky! Staff and volunteers will be able to answer any questions along the way. This event is free and open to all!

## CAMBODIAN ROCK BAND

by LAUREN YEE | ft. songs by DENGUE FEVER  
Now playing in Minneapolis through Jul 31!



photo by Rich Ruan

### Part historical play, part rock concert

Lauren Yee's award-winning play with music makes its Twin Cities debut through July 31 in a co-production by the Jungle Theater and Theater Mu.

Travel to Cambodia with Chum—played by Broadway's Greg Watnabe—who is returning to his homeland for the first time since fleeing the Khmer Rouge more than 30 years ago. The reason? His daughter is prosecuting one of the political party's most notorious war criminals, portrayed by Twin Cities favorite Eric Sharp.

As Chum is forced to confront the past he left behind, the actors bring his memories to life by playing hits from Cambodia's Golden Age of Music as well as songs from rock band Dengue Fever.

See CAMBODIAN ROCK BAND today at the Jungle!

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THEATER  
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People & Pets Together  
Chuck & Don's Pet Wellness Center  
2501 Minnehaha Avenue  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404  
(612) 722-9998

<https://www.peopleandpetstogether.org/>

Donations of dog & cat food,  
cat litter and gently used pet  
supplies are appreciated.  
Volunteers needed.



### EVENTS

#### Jonatha Brooke & The Cello Songs Project

**Friday, June 24, 7:30 p.m.**

The Art Gallery at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church 511 Groveland Ave., Mpls. Jonatha Brooke presents her original songs in a new sonic landscape of strings, percussion and voices, with arrangements by composer Adi Yeshaya and featuring the world premiere of his string quartet “Children’s Themes,” dedicated to the children of Ukraine. For more info and tickets, go to <http://haumc.org/csp/>.

#### Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

##### COVID Vaccination Clinic

**Saturday, June 25, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Friendship Academy of the Arts Intermediate School 3320 E. 41<sup>st</sup> St., Mpls. Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church will hold a COVID vaccination clinic in conjunction with our Church Anniversary Family Day. Please pre-register for the clinic by texting Shirley Gardner at 612-327-8753 by June 15. Your name and phone number are needed to register everyone getting a vaccination.

#### Celebrate Pride 2022

**Sunday, June 26**

**9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

Saint Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral 519 Oak Grove St., Mpls. Saint Mark’s Episcopal Church and The Episcopal Church of Minnesota are excited to be participating in the 50th Anniversary of the Twin Cities Pride Parade on June 26. Twin Cities Pride Festival is a celebration of the LGBTQ+ community and all LGBTQ+ people and allies are welcome **Parade on June 26 at 11 a.m.** Begins at 11 a.m. on 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Hennepin Avenue and ends in Loring Park. We send off the marchers with a Eucharist at our assigned start location in the parade route. You can share God’s love along the route. **Worship on June 26 at 4 p.m.** Join us for worship at Saint Mark’s Cathedral where our doors will be wide open to Loring Park and to the world. More information at <https://ourcathedral.org/>.

#### Walking Meditation

**Sundays, June 26 and July 24**

**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 movement. 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](mailto:wayopeningworkshops@gmail.com). Visit [wayopeningworkshops.com](http://wayopeningworkshops.com) for more information.

#### Diamond Lake Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School

**June 27 – 30**

**9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Diamond Lake Lutheran Church 5760 Portland Ave. S., Mpls. Calling all elementary schoolers, it’s time for Vacation Bible School! This year we will be traveling the world trying to find Heaven on Earth and learning about new cultures along the way. Throughout the week we will learn all about how to make the world a better place by being kinder to people and the planet. Any child aged 4-12 is eligible to participate and it costs only \$30 for one child or a maximum of \$50 per family. We hope you will join us June 27 – 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a fun-filled week of friends, music and games! Register at [DLLC.org/DLLCKids](http://DLLC.org/DLLCKids).

#### A Listening Ear: Mental Health for Everyone

**Wednesdays, July 20 and Aug. 17**

**6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

Living Spirit United Methodist Church 4501 Bloomington Ave., Mpls. This summer, Living Spirit is providing a listening ear to the community. At each event, trained listeners (mental health professionals, marriage and family therapy students, and certified coaches) will be available from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. You can talk about a specific problem you’d like an outside perspective on or check in about your mental health in general. This event is open to people of all (or no) faith traditions. More information at <https://www.living-spiritumc.org/news/listeningear>.

#### Community BBQ

**Saturday, July 30**

**11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Living Spirit United Methodist Church 4501 Bloomington Ave., Mpls. Living Spirit invites you to our 40th annual community BBQ on Saturday, July 30, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Plates will include ribs or fried chicken, coleslaw, beans and toast. There will be plenty of shade to enjoy your meal outside, or you can take it to go. Tickets will be available to purchase when you arrive; prices have not been finalized, but a plate will be around \$14. Our United Women in Faith will also be selling all kinds of baked goods to raise money for their mission work.

#### Minneapolis Friends Meeting Summer Schedule

**Through Sept. 11, 10 to 11 a.m.**

4401 York Ave. S., Mpls. The summer schedule for Minneapolis Friends Meeting is in effect from now until Sept. 11. Worship hours are from 10 to 11 a.m. Services will continue to be hybrid – join us on Zoom or at the Meetinghouse. Please go to our website at [minneapolisfriends.org](http://minneapolisfriends.org) for more information. All are welcome!

#### Commuter bicycle for a refugee

From the Minnesota Council of Churches: Have a bike you’ve been thinking of donating? One of our clients would put it to good use! We’re looking for a bicycle in good working order to help a newly arrived Afghan man with his commute to his new job. Please visit our website at <http://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/refugee-services/donate> for an up-to-date registry and Amazon Wishlist of our current needs. We are currently seeking:

- Kitchen items (especially stove-top pressure cookers, mugs and glasses).
- Personal hygiene items (including toothpaste, razors and diapers of all sizes).

### SHARING FOOD

#### Soup for You! Café at Bethany

**2511 E. Franklin Ave., Mpls.**

**612-332-2397**

Soup for You! operates out of the basement of century-old and deeply-rooted Bethany Lutheran Church that we honor in our name. After two years of COVID lockdown and serving our community through a set of three glass doors, Soup for You! Café is back to an open dining room. Monday through Friday, noon to 1 p.m. Wednesdays, groceries, noon to 1 p.m. Large space, high ceilings, only four chairs per table, all volunteers vaccinated/boosted. <https://soupforyou.info/>

#### New Creation Baptist Church

**1414 E. 48<sup>th</sup> 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 have re-opened the food shelf to choice shopping. We do require mask, sanitizer and temp check. Be safe and God bless! <https://www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf>. Saturdays (except 5<sup>th</sup> Saturdays) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

(Brown door on the corner of 48<sup>th</sup> St. and 15<sup>th</sup> Ave.)

#### Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

**5300 10<sup>th</sup> 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 53<sup>rd</sup> 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.

#### Minnehaha United Methodist Church

**3701 E. 50<sup>th</sup> St., Mpls.**

**612-721-6231**

The Minnehaha Food Shelf serves food for the hungry on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. We help distribute up to 30,000 pounds of food each month. In response to the COVID-19 virus, we have changed many things to protect both our guests and our volunteers – rigorous cleaning routines, streamlined procedures, moving outside, wearing face masks and following the 6-foot social distancing guideline. Please be patient as we continue to improve what we do. <https://www.facebook.com/MinnehahaFoodShelf/>

#### Calvary Lutheran Church

**3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.**

**612-827-2504, ext. 205**

The Food Shelf is open for food distributions on Saturdays, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Due to COVID-19, we are currently operating on a limited-choice outside ordering process, or indoor client-selected shopping. Masks are required. 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 PER 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](mailto: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>.

#### 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.

#### Du Nord Foundation

##### Community Market

**3140 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 <https://www.dunordfoundation.org/get-food>.

#### Groveland Emergency Food Shelf

**1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.**

**612-871-0277**

Monday – Friday

9:30 a.m. to noon

On Groveland Avenue between Nicollet and Lasalle (Temporary entrance on Nicollet Avenue) Hosted in the basement of Plymouth Congregational Church Delivery is available for individuals who are housebound due to disability. <https://www.grovelandfoodshelf.org/>

#### Community Meals at Walker Church

**3104 16<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Mpls.**

**612-722-6612**

Free to-go meals and groceries are available for pick-up every Tuesday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. All are welcome. Sisters Camelot holds a separate food distribution out of Walker Church every third and fifth Tuesday of the month starting at 2:30 p.m. This is in addition to our weekly programmed food distributions starting at 4:30 p.m. Follow Sisters Camelot on Facebook or at <http://sisterscamelot.org/> for more.

## 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](http://www.saintalbertthegreat.org)

Weekend Masses with limited seating

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 9:30 am (also live-streamed 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

*Pastor Shawna Day*

9:45 am Sunday Worship in

person & livestream

Go to church website for info

12-step groups Tuesday

through Friday evenings

#### TRINITY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION

Augsburg College,

Hoversten Chapel

Riverside & 22<sup>nd</sup> Aves.

612-333-2561

[www.trinitylutherancongregation.org](http://www.trinitylutherancongregation.org)

Sunday Worship 10 am

Pastors: Jane Buckley-Farlee

& Alem Asmelash

Office: 2001 Riverside Ave.

*Reconciling in Christ*



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# Marquise

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

I met Marquise Bowie at George Floyd Square in February of 2021 on a day commemorating the assassination of Malcolm X.

I introduced myself because he was wearing an Agape hoodie, which identified him as be-



**Marquise in conversation. Continuing dialogue as a peacemaking tool is one of Agape's basic beliefs.**

longing to the group I had wanted to write about for a while already.

I ended up writing about Agape various times and got to know Bowie in the process.

The most dramatic part of his story is that he was imprisoned for 11 years and nine months, from 2007 to 2019, mostly in a federal prison camp in South Dakota, for "conspiracy to sell drugs," a non-specific charge including everything he and his friends had been doing for the past 17 years. He and 11 friends were charged and offered plea deals, which all but one of the 12 accepted. Marquise, and everybody else I've talked to about this case, always remind me that you do way more time for a small amount of crack than for a large amount of cocaine—and that crack cocaine is just cocaine with baking soda in it.

Per the plea deal, Marquise was sentenced to 14 and a half years, but earned some time off for good behavior. Just recently he was released from his last two years of parole.

Bowie was getting his life together, had a job and was in treatment for alcohol issues when he was incarcerated. The only drugs he ever did were alcohol a lot, weed a little, and mushrooms twice. His love for sports kept him away from the hard stuff. But he did peddle here and there. When he was 12, his mother got into a relationship with a drug dealer, so after that he lived in a drug house where selling was pretty normal.

Like most people in this culture, Marquise loved money, and he said the money was nice, and made it possible to take care

of some of his cousins. Now he makes just enough to take care of himself only, but he says he prefers a low income to the quick money that leads you to prison where you can only earn \$50 a month.

From everything I know about him, if ever there was a person who has made lemonade from lemons, Marquise is that guy.

He likes to look at his inordinately long sentence as a lifesaver. He was drinking, his crowd was trigger-happy, and he had seen too many friends in caskets. He might have been killed; he might have killed someone. Maybe being in prison was a safer place for him to be, to protect him from himself, from the streets, from law enforcement.

Two members of the Rolling Thirties Bloods involved in the same case lied

about Marquise's role, assuring themselves shorter sentences and a longer sentence for Marquise, but Bowie doesn't have hard feelings and understands why they did it. "Indirectly, they helped me become a better man," he says.

The best thing about prison for him was the opportunity for education. During Marquise's formal education in public school, he had been a good student, often in advanced classes, but he didn't graduate. Already inside the criminal justice system in high school, he got his GED at the Hennepin County workhouse.

Throughout his long period of imprisonment, he took every available class he could fit into his schedule, the only limitation being the classes where the books were too expensive. He took the writing class conducted by Jay Reese year after year. Examples of his writing were selected every year for the books printed from those classes, "4 P.M. Count." His writing is extremely good—creative, direct and clear. One essay is a psychological analysis of the twin personalities—Mad-dog and Marquise—that lived within him.

While in Yankton, and continuing now, Marquise is an inveterate, thoughtful learner—between extensive serious reading and online classes.

Bowie is also open to many different types of people. He doesn't pre-judge and is willing to learn. His informal prison education included meeting people he wouldn't have connected with elsewhere. In particular, he developed an unexpected friendship with a former Detroit

police officer, also incarcerated, who was in his Bible study group, in his writing classes and in other groups. Marquise knew he had been there 15 years, but he didn't know what for. "At the end of the day," Marquise said, "[the man] was 'a prisoner.'"

Luckily, Marquise's entire prison experience was in low security. The prison camp building in Yankton, which has no fences, is in a residential neighborhood across from a high school—they could watch football games through the window.

It wasn't all good, though. The facility was built to house 300 people and there were 900 living there. But Marquise makes that into a positive as well: "I learned a lot of patience, waiting in line," he says, "and tolerating close proximity."

The worst thing about being incarcerated was that, as happens to many incarcerated people, he was not allowed to attend his mother's funeral. Marquise's mother, his "greatest supporter" as he has said many times, the person who struggled with her own life yet gave him everything she could, died while he was in Yankton, and he couldn't be at her grave. I was sure there would be no positive way to look at that. But Bowie said it's good he didn't go. Mostly, he couldn't have handled it, he said. "I can barely handle it now, three years later." He hangs onto his memories. His mother was the one who brought his little daughters to see him when he was in Yankton. One of his writings is about his grief at being convicted immediately after his second daughter was born and his reunion with her at age 4 when she didn't know him. All through his incarceration and especially now, he is committed to being a father even though his own father never stepped up and wasn't there.

When George Floyd was murdered, Bowie was living close to 38th and Chicago. He and several trusted friends built barricades to protect the area that had just been so drastically and cruelly assaulted. They distributed food and clothing to whoever needed it. They sought out Steve Floyd (no relation to George), one of the co-founders of the Agape Movement, to form a version of Agape at 38th and Chicago, to help young Black men deal with mental health issues, to find employment, to get support.

At present, Bowie is a solid, focused Agape member. He has his own side organization, as do many Agape members, called BAM—Becoming A Man—through which he gives hours and hours of his time to young people.

Agape's main job as a group is to patrol the streets at night and maintain a presence in schools in order to provide security. They are not armed and use communication and creativity to keep a lid on violence.

Bowie says, "I don't believe

in violence of any kind. Having a gun doesn't help. It's very risky. We have a relationship with people in the street. They might listen to us."

Every night after their patrols Bowie takes notes on the debriefing session which he then types up the next morning. He's the scribe.

It seems like he's pretty much doing Agape work around the clock. Whatever the situation, he's on it. He answers his phone and talks to whoever needs encouragement. He answers texts right away to stay in touch with his network.

With his talent for friendly conversation, he goes out into George Floyd Square during the day to welcome tourists and engage them in conversation. This dispels any notion people might have about GFS being a scary place.

One morning when I went to meet Marquise I found him in front of the ForReal coffeehouse talking to some friends about religion. He's a natural preacher. "You don't have to look for God. God is not lost. God is always looking for you and will find you," implying that God will then love and care for you in your darkest hour.

Agape is a Greek word which means unconditional love. Marquise practices this kind of disinterested care for others, both through Agape the organization and through his personal Christian faith and association with Macedonia Baptist Church. For example, the weekend of May



**Marquise with Steve and a Somali group**

14, Agape organized a Circle of Love luncheon to embrace those parents who have lost children to gun violence. In high school Bowie himself lost his best friend in a fatal shooting at a party.

Bowie has dealt with many harsh realities as have the other Agape members. A common commitment among them is trying to provide the care and attention to young people they themselves didn't get while growing up.

It seems Bowie sets himself Herculean challenges. He moves forward, though, confident in support from Agape and from his church. Besides that, he grounds himself in daily prayer, meditation, Bible and devotional reading. "It's my spiritual oxygen," he says.

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

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

**[www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/water/CCR](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/water/CCR)**

**Minneapolis**  
City of Lakes



# Local food news, rhubarb season, and a mini-review from ... Rochester?

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

## Closings and one new location

Hi, local food lovers. We're being hyper-local this month right up to the restaurant review, which is ... well, it's still in Minnesota anyway. We'll start with places closing, because that's sad and we want to get it out of the way. Hot Indian, inventor of the "indiritto" (dropped from its menu in early 2020), which merged the burrito format with flavors and ingredients from India, is closing its location at Mid-

Owamni throughout the summer. Lutunji's Palate, a catering business I have mentioned before, has finally opened a brick-and-mortar cafe on the ground floor of an apartment building on Park Avenue in Elliot Park. Sadly, it was broken into by thieves less than 24 hours after its grand opening, but not hurt enough to close the business. Lutunji is known for her peach cobbler and other southern-style bakery items. Burritos El Patron has just opened (their grand opening was on June 1) in the former Flag Foods space

Paul and one on Cedar Avenue in South Minneapolis. On May 27, SB Workers United, the national Starbucks union organization, announced the win at number 100 – Eastlake Avenue in Seattle. The 101st union win occurred later the same day.

The next three Twin Cities Starbucks to hold NLRB elections will be in Eden Prairie, at the Mall of America, and on Lyndale Avenue South in Minneapolis. On Saturday, June 4, Twin Cities DSA's Labor Branch, in connection with the national solidarity group DSA for a Starbucks Union, held an event called Comrades in Cars Getting Coffee. Members and friends packed into carpool cars and drove to each of the Starbucks in turn in caravan fashion. At each shop, we ordered coffee and expressed solidarity and best wishes for their election.

## What the heck do I do with all this rhubarb?

Although it came a bit late this year, it's finally rhubarb season and the floodgates have opened. If you're looking for inspiration about what to do with all that pink, tart, girly-looking vegetable, the Eater online magazine will come to your rescue with a bunch of unusual recipes to add to your rhubarb classics,



June 2021 sign at Sovereign Grounds

like an ice cream, a picnic bar, or using it as an ingredient in a sausage casserole. [www.eater.com/23139986/rhubarb-how-to-cook-recipes](http://www.eater.com/23139986/rhubarb-how-to-cook-recipes). Also, here's a tip from me: rhubarb is easy to freeze for later use. Or maybe your neighborhood coffee shop/bakery will take some of your excess to keep it out of the waste stream.

## An almost perfect meal at Crave in Rochester

I was in Rochester recently for the DFL State Convention. I stayed at the Hotel Indigo in the heart of downtown Rochester. The hotel has a branch of Crave restaurant in it, which also provides room service and guest breakfasts. I had a pretty terri-



Lutunji's Palate with owner Lutunji shortly before the opening on May 15

ble breakfast there, so the less said about that the better.

But you should never judge a mainly-dinner restaurant by its breakfast. Rare indeed is the high-end restaurant that can excel at both these modalities. Consequently, after a long, grueling, mostly fasting (involuntarily) day, I escaped in the late afternoon back to my solitary hotel room and dithered around about what to do for a meal. I ended up giving Rochester Crave a second chance and had one of the best fish meals I have ever had so far from any ocean.

It wasn't ocean fish, for one thing. It was walleye, our state fish. I had a Walleye Shore Dinner accompanied by an artisanal beer, Finnegan's Irish Amber Ale. This was one memorable plate of fish. You know how restaurant plates are sort of massive? Well, this Shore Dinner filled the plate

and in fact the gorgeous, perfectly fresh walleye filet hung over both edges of the plate.

The walleye was lightly breaded in panko and drizzled with a creamy lemon-butter sauce dotted with minced parsley. There were but two accompaniments. In the middle of the plate was a wide mound of silky pureed mashed potatoes with butter-milk and butter. The final third of the plate held several massive spears of grilled asparagus, shining in warm olive oil. I polished off this entire huge plate of food, something that almost never happens with restaurant portions, no matter how hungry I am.

I even indulged in a single scoop of vanilla ice cream from Sebastian Joe's. And a post-prandial tot of cognac to liven it up. I believe I chose ... wisely.



Crave's conservatory at Hotel Indigo in Rochester



Local Roots closed in April.

town Global Market. Other locations are still open at the Mall of America and Target Field. Local Roots of Richfield, a diner but more local and healthier, is closing its dining room permanently. They will still do catering and third-party delivery. Midori's Floating World, a small but excellent Japanese restaurant, was burned out of their site on Lake Street between Minnehaha and 27th Avenue in the George Floyd uprising. After two years of popping up at Seward Cafe's location, they have their own space now at 3425 E. Lake St. They are open Thursday through Sunday from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. It's take-out only for now, but they hope to open their new dining room soon.

## Openings

The Sioux Chef is bringing back his food truck, the Tatanka Truck. It will be parked outside



Burritos El Patron

on 42nd Street at 29th Avenue South. Find out more on their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/BurritosElPatron/](http://www.facebook.com/BurritosElPatron/).

## Four Sisters Farmers Market is back for 2022

Native American Community Development Institute, NACDI, announced that its sponsored farmers' market, Four Sisters, will run from June through October 2022 at the same site, the parking lot to the east of Pow Wow Grounds coffee shop, 1414 E. Franklin Ave. It runs on Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Walmart is dragged for exploiting Juneteenth; meanwhile, Starbucks United celebrates its 100th and 101st unionizations

Well, honestly, what did they expect? The whiter-than-white billionaire owners of Walmart probably didn't come up with this concept, but the folks that did ought to have anticipated how cringey it would be. Walmart introduced a line of products for celebrating Juneteenth – a beer koozie, disposable plates, and a Juneteenth ice cream. If you can bear it, you can read about this PR disaster at <https://www.eater.com/23139650/walmart-apologizes-for-juneteenth-ice-cream-beer-koozies>.

Starbucks workers have been unionizing at a rapid pace. Both of the two original Minnesota sites to announce their intention have now won their unions – one on Snelling Avenue in St.



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