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Cam's Corner



2040 lawsuit

BY CAM GORDON

On June 15, Judge Joseph R. Klein ordered the city of Minneapolis to immediately stop any ongoing implementation of the 2040 Plan until the city satisfies the requirements of the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act (MERA), which could include completing an environmental assessment.

On June 20, the city filed an appeal.

The case has been brought forward by Smart Growth Minneapolis, formed, it seems, to oppose the plan as a "non-profit organization 100% funded by individual donations." Their president is John C. Goetz, and their legal team includes Jack Perry, Maren Grier and Thomas Basting all from Briggs & Morgan, as well as Timothy J. Keane and former mayoral candidate Nekima Levy Armstrong. Smart Growth has been joined in the lawsuit by the Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis and the Minnesota Citizens for the Protection of Migratory Birds. No other environmental groups

See Cam, page 5



A critical view of the Minneapolis Police Academy

I am a former recruit to the Minneapolis Police Academy. My family and friends did not want me to work for Minneapolis and I was skeptical. The MPD is internationally known for being a terrible department. After meeting with Chief Arradondo, I was convinced that the community needed me. I thought the

old department was going to be revamped into a Minneapolis 2.0.

I grew up in the suburbs and lived my young adult life near the U of M. My friends and family say that I am too nice to be a police officer, but after spending countless hours volunteering with the St. Paul Police Department, I knew a good

officer is one who keeps their cool and is a nice person. I have met some of the most decorated officers in their communities, and I knew how I wanted to police the community.

Among my fellow recruits, I was one of the oldest, and few were old enough to have children. Many who graduate from

See Police, page 10

A happy ending

BY STEPHANIE FOX

Linda Taylor, known to her friends and neighbors as Miss Linda, had lived in her rented home for more than 18 years, raising her five kids in the two-bedroom, one-bath home in the Powderhorn Park neighborhood of Minneapolis.

Then, last January, her life was upended. Her landlord informed her that he was selling the property and she would have to leave the place she's called home for nearly two decades.

"I was paying \$1,410 a month rent. My landlord had raised the rent twice in the last two years," she said. "Living there, I paid more than \$200,000 in rent payments." She'd also paid for upgrades and repairs to the home out of her own pocket.

But now it seemed that at age 70, Miss Linda would have to leave, another story with an unhappy ending. Then her community came together to work for a different outcome.

When the word got out, neighbors started a Go-



Miss Linda and her home

FundMe page and 600 friends of Miss Linda signed a petition, delivered to her landlord, to stop the sale.

Then, members of Longfellow's Holy Trinity Lutheran Church's Stepping Out In Faith committee heard about what was happening.

"We found out about Miss Linda's situation. We had a large sum of money from a sale of property, and we wanted to give to the community on a large scale," said Pastor Angela Khabeb. "We thought, here's a place where we could participate as a modern-day miracle. Our church can do things with our money that most other churches don't do. The whole community came together to help."

"Miss Linda has been a feature on the block for

See Miss Linda, page 3

**Our 13th Annual
Cross Over the Bridge to
Highland Park**
pages 2 - 3

CELEBRATE THE STREETS!
on East Lake pages 8 & 9

CELEBRATE SUMMER: CROSS OVER THE BRIDGE

Summer in Highland Park

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Highland Bridge updates

The development of Highland Bridge, the official name for the former Ford plant site on the banks of the Mississippi, is making massive strides toward completion this year. You can follow the progress through the dedicated website at highland-bridge.com, print out periodic progress reports and see videos and notices of opening events. It won't be 100% complete for another year or two, but a few things are ready to see or open now.

In May, the very first opening occurred, for one of the four parks within the site. A friend of mine, Tom B., who works in St. Paul politics and government, is a big fan of the project, being one of its earliest activists. He wrote a touching Facebook post about the opening:

"Today I went to the ribbon cutting at the first park to open at Highland Bridge, the first parcel actually. It was put on my calendar as a Work Thing, and up until the moment I hit the elevators leaving City Hall I didn't realize that it was a Me Thing. The ribbon cutting itself was exactly what you expect. [Council member]

Chris Tolbert and [Mayor] Melvin Carter did a rah rah and shouted out all the big players, but both of them did an interesting thing where they lingered on thanking the community that stepped up and fought for that hunk of land in our neighborhood. It felt like a real acknowledgement of all the screaming and hollering we did when it was still The Ford Site. It felt validating."

Highland Bridge – its parks and open spaces

The four parks under the auspices of the city parks department are Gateway Park (the one mentioned above), Assembly Union Park, Uŋčī Makhà Park and Míča Park.

- Gateway Park is so named because it's right off the parkway coming from Minneapolis, serving as a gateway both to St. Paul and Highland Bridge. It contains walking paths, a skate trail, bench seating and game tables.

- Assembly Union Park is named in honor of the union workers at the Ford plant and is sited where the actual assembly plant was. This park will include pickleball courts, a dog park, an open lawn and restrooms.

- Uŋčī Makhà Park means Grandmother Earth in the Dakota language. This is the largest park and



Newly opened Gateway Park at Highland Bridge

is adjacent to Hidden Falls Regional Park at the southern end of the site. It will have an off-leash dog park, walking paths and nature play area, volleyball courts, a hammock area and a picnic shelter. A milestone late last year was the selection of a pair of Indigenous artists, Marlena Myles and Rory Wakemup, selected unanimously from 170 applicants to create an art installation for this park. The work is in progress now.

- Míča Park means Coyote in the Dakota language. This park will have a large open lawn, but also steep slopes, wetlands, and access to the Highland Bridge Community Gardens. This is the only park that has not begun construction yet.

- In addition to the four parks, there is a massive "commons" in the

middle of the site which is 100% vehicular traffic-free and enriched by a large water feature. This parcel is mostly done so it can be viewed, although possibly not entered.

There has been a recent controversy over a late-breaking proposal from the University of St. Thomas to carve out a sizable piece for them to purchase for indoor and outdoor baseball/softball and an ice arena for their hockey team. There was huge pushback from neighborhood activists against this. Then, on July 6, the college announced it was dropping the hockey part and trying to prevail with the baseball/softball part. The proposed changes will be presented by city planner Mike Richardson at the Highland District Council's community development

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committee meeting on July 19, and a public hearing on the required zoning and master plan amendments is scheduled for Aug. 5 before the city Planning Commission. Stay tuned.

Highland Bridge – its housing options

One thing I can’t help but notice in reading the progress reports from 2020 to the present is that almost all

Food and drink purveyors in Highland Park

Let’s talk about some of the existing factors that contribute to making Highland Bridge such a desirable near-future residence. We don’t know for sure what restaurants and amenities there will be in the development yet, beyond the fact that Lunds & Byerlys will be the retail anchor tenant for one of the mixed-use

website promises they will return, hopefully by mid-2022. Better call first if you’re wanting lunch.) They have a modern, chilled-out ambience and a small semi-private meeting room.

If you’re looking for full breakfast or lunch, a great option is Cecil’s Deli at 651 Cleveland Ave. They’re an old-school deli (founded by Cecil and Faye Glickman in 1949!), with items such as corned beef hash scrambled eggs with a toasted bagel, thick juicy Reuben sandwiches, and generously filled meaty cold sandwiches with bread choices like pumpernickel or kaiser rolls. For drinks, you can get all the usual things (excellent iced tea!) or Dr. Brown’s sodas, Henry Weinhard’s sodas, or house-made egg creams. Cecil’s also offers catering services – either box lunches or huge deli trays so guests can choose their own.

More in the mood for sushi, but wanting something fancier than Lunds? There is a sushi bar on Cleveland Avenue, too – Sakana – which is also a pan-Asian bistro with Japanese, Thai, Chinese and other favorites. They have everything from tom yum soup to fried rice to Kobe-style beef. Check out their Facebook page or order some contactless delivery.

If you prefer to cook at home, Highland Park has you covered there too. In addition to the aforementioned Lunds & Byerlys, you can get specialty foods from Von Hanson’s Meats, such as many different kinds of sausage (including wild game), and any individual cut you can name of any meat they carry, and even side dishes like garlic mashed potatoes or green bean casserole. They also offer a wild game processing service to Minnesota licensed hunters. They are a local chain with 23 stores in Minnesota and one in Arizona, and they offer online ordering and delivery.



Cecil’s Deli has retail in front and sit-down in back.

Other businesses and services to check out in Highland Park

Some other great amenities exist in Highland Park. Outside of the new development, the neighborhood was already rich in parklands, has desirable public schools, a great library, and a unionized Half Price Books. It has a good mix of retail stores, some of which will be either moving to or replicating within Highland Bridge.

There is also a highly rated parochial school, Highland Catholic School (HCS), a K-8 school associated with the parish church of Lumen

Christi. Outside of the school year, HCS has some wonderful summer camps and summer school special offerings. Check out their Facebook page for a glimpse.

Another extracurricular school for both kids and adults is the combined Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and Japanese Judo school Grappler Station. Although founded by a small band of Jiu Jitsu/Judo enthusiasts in 2018, they just moved into their permanent home at 2015 Ford Pkwy. this spring, and expanded their classes offerings accordingly.



The Highland Park Cow

of the expected costs of owner-occupied housing have increased greatly over that period. And the main market-rate rental property, although started early on, is “on hold, due to rent control.” If still true (as recently as March 2022, it was reported that the market-rate rental development plans were still paused) that’s very disappointing. I need to talk to my St. Paul activist squad and see what the deal is.

One of the other things now completed are the market-rate, owner-occupied row housing. At least, the model sales units are complete, and people are touring them to buy their own units, some of which are still being built. If you think row houses sound like a working-class option, well, no, not exactly. In 2020, Ryan Companies, the developer that purchased the whole site initially and is selling off the parcels to various other stakeholders in line with the city-approved plan, predicted the row houses, which are four floors in height with three to four bedrooms, would carry initial prices of around \$500,000. The spread across the various floor plans right now is between \$680,000 and \$801,000. Part of this is just inflation, but part is also the community acceptance of the Highland Bridge concept, and the perception of Highland Park as being an elite neighborhood in the inner cities. These homes are being developed and sold by Pulte Homes, which now owns that parcel.

There is also a market-rate senior rental housing option, named Marvella Senior Housing, owned and being built by Presbyterian Homes and Services. They have a rental office in nearby Highland Park and are taking applications now. And there are a variety of affordable rental options which are proceeding. Project for Pride in Living (PPL) is helming several of them, and Common Bond is the owner and in charge of another.

housing buildings now nearing completion. If a future Highland Bridge resident walked or biked up the gentle slope and across Ford Parkway, what would there be to eat or drink?

On Cleveland Avenue, just a couple of blocks north, there is a great coffee shop with food items as well. Quixotic Coffee features coffee drinks from a local roastery, as well as nitro cold brew, tea, kombucha and smoothies to drink and pastries to eat. (Before the pandemic they had sandwiches and such, and the

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Guns ‘R’ Us

BY LYDIA HOWELL

In my home state of Texas, laws have gone gun-crazy. And Minnesota isn’t as sensible as I believed.

For conceal and carry permits, laws were changed from “sheriffs may issue” – allowing

temporary removal from people “deemed to be a danger to self or others.” The Minnesota Senate blocked it.

In Minnesota, you must be 21 to buy a gun, live in the county of purchase, not be in a gang database and provide a certificate of authorized firearms training.



some caution – to “shall issue,” putting more guns in public places. Echoing national challenges, the Minnesota House passed a “red flag” law allowing

The U.S. Senate bipartisan work group, responding to the Buffalo and Uvalde massacres, and attempting new gun safety laws, does none of these things.

Most infamous mass shooters were legal gun owners.

Republicans’ “mental illness” mantra after mass shootings is a distraction. People with mental illness are far more often victims than perpetrators of violence. Two months before the Uvalde attack, Texas Gov. Greg Abbot cut mental health services by \$200 million. The Senate’s gun safety framework raises such funding.

Semi-automatic weapons with high-capacity bullet magazines – favored by mass shooters – remain untouched.

What about daily gun violence, often by felons prohibited from possessing guns?

Progressives calling for criminal justice reform won’t find anyone answering phones at the Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention. Director Sasha Cotton leaves July 15 for another job. Here’s Minneapolis’ murder rates during her tenure: 2020 – 119; 2021 – 261; by early June 2022 – 222.

John Turnipseed, head of Mad Dads, has been working for 22 years to redirect males from criminal paths. “Crack and opioids make money ... to protect that money, you need a gun. There’re more guns on the street now – and they’re more powerful,” says Turnipseed.

One avenue for felons getting guns is “straw purchases,” where legal gun owners buy guns for felons. In Minnesota, that’s a gross misdemeanor, punishable by one year imprisonment and a \$3,000 fine.

Shun Tillman, 3rd Precinct crime prevention specialist, says, “Straw buyers should have higher penalties. They should be held accountable.”

Minneapolis Police Public Information Officer Garrett Parten expressed frustration: “People with multiple violent felonies are let out on a regular basis. Why? Even with illegal guns, they’re let go! Hennepin County needs to answer why.”

No person answered Hennepin County Attorney’s office

phones, and there was no response to messages.

Turnipseed and Tillman (both African Americans) agree that dysfunctional families living in poverty – some as intergenerational gang-members – are the root of much gun violence. They concur that stopping cycles of violence requires long-term strategies including strengthening families; investing in housing; education supports; after-school programming; youth jobs; and counseling.

Half of mass shooters have domestic violence histories. How does domestic violence or the aftermath of divorce impact children? Do schools actually address bullying, engaging both victims and perpetrators?

Plenty of violence is “conflict resolution by gun,” unrelated to crime. “Hurt people hurt people” is true.

Ignoring easy access to guns undermines solutions.

Four years ago, my friend “Sophie” struggled with her adult son’s return home while in a mental health crisis. He refused counseling. Unemployed and socially isolated, his depression deepened, and aggressive outbursts escalated.

“Are there guns in your house?” I asked.

“Yes,” she told me. “In the basement.” Her husband used to take their son hunting.

“You have to get those guns out of the house!” I said.

“I’ll ask my husband,” she said. I reminded Sophie that her husband’s sole reaction to their son’s problems was, “Get a job!”

“Maybe police could help?” Sophie said.

I faced this growing up in Texas, surrounded by intergenerational domestic violence, child abuse and guns.

I was 13. One night, in an alcohol-fueled rage, my grandfather held my grandmother and me hostage at gunpoint. Later, I hid the rifle in the alley culvert. When my grandfather reported his rifle stolen, police came. One officer took me outside. I

explained what happened, saying I’d called police many times about my grandfather’s violence. He replied, “It’s not safe to have a gun out there. Kids could get hurt with it.”

“If I show you where it is, will you take it away?”

He said yes.

The police returned the rifle to my grandfather.

In most states, including Minnesota, police won’t remove guns “until someone gets hurt.”

I persuaded Sophie to bring the guns, wrapped in black trash bags. We deposited them in garbage dumpsters.

The next day, her son went down to their basement. He slammed cabinet doors and overturned boxes, cursing loudly, and stomped back to his room. He was looking for those shotguns.

After the 2018 Parkland school shooting, Florida passed red flag laws when Republican U.S. Sen. Rick Scott was governor. It’s estimated that law prevented the deaths of over 6,000 Floridians who were at risk for suicide.

The Senate’s proposed red flag law was dropped. Republicans claimed that “vengeful women could use it to take men’s guns.”

Update on gun laws

On June 23, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that a New York law making concealed carry permits difficult to get is unconstitutional, effectively putting more guns on the street.

The U.S. Senate and House passed the bipartisan gun safety bill, and President Biden signed it on June 25. The bill includes money for child/family mental health; incentives for states to implement red flag laws; including juvenile records in background checks for gun purchasers aged 18 to 21; and higher federal penalties for gun trafficking and straw buyers.

Lydia Howell is a Minneapolis journalist.

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Miss Linda, from page 1

many years,” said Shari Seifert, the real estate agent with RE/MAX Results who handled the negotiations with the landlord, Greg Berendt.

Seifert worked pro bono and convinced her real estate company to do the same.

The haggling over the details was in progress when Berendt told Seifert that the deal was off. “He decided he wasn’t going to sell. His accountant told him he’d get a tax hit. I talked to him about options to create a path for him to work with us.”

After much back-and-forth negotiation, the landlord had a change of heart. Khabeb and Seifert had convinced him that the

sale was not only good business, but it was also good for his legacy. He would sell for cash, giving Taylor and her supporters until the end of June to raise the money. They did, raising \$275,000, enough to cover the sale with some left over to go to needed repairs. She closed on the house on May 31, a month before the deadline.

On June 25, the supporters of Miss Linda came together for a celebration, a block party with food, live music and love. Taylor’s daughter came from Chicago to celebrate and to see how important her mother, and her mother’s victory, was to friends, neighbors and supporters.

The story spread, with features appearing in publications

across the country, including the Washington Post, the Atlanta Black Star, the Star Tribune and even a publication in Montenegro, as well as news networks and local news stations.

“I am so proud of our congregation for being so generous. It’s a modern-day miracle. It’s a gift to the entire community and proof that something good can happen to you,” said Khabeb.

“It was an honor to help her. I told the story to my real estate closers, and they all came in to cheer her on,” said Seifert. “It’s a heartwarming story, but it’s a shame that to have a heartwarming story, it takes heroic efforts to make things right.”

3rd Precinct update

BY KAY SCHROVEN

3rd Precinct Advisory Council (3-PAC)

3-PAC is an inclusive organization whose purpose is to foster communication among residents, businesses and the police, serving the 3rd Precinct with a common goal of community safety. The group meets monthly (usually the second Monday), currently at the Corcoran Park building at 3334 20th Ave. S. from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The group has four officer positions including chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer. The agenda often includes updates from 3rd Precinct Inspector Jose Gomez, who encourages officers to attend when they can, plus guest speakers and discussion items where attendees are encouraged to share information and address specific topics of interest or concern. Residents and businesses may request to be on the agenda. 3-PAC also holds picnics and fundraisers and is currently developing a Facebook presence.

Operation Safe Summer

For five days in May the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) joined forces with other law enforcement agencies (the Department of Homeland Security, ATF, FBI, DEA, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the Minnesota Department of Corrections and the Department of Justice) in an effort to reduce violence by removing guns and drugs from our streets. The operation was able to remove 38 illegal firearms (many automatic), recovered 17 stolen

cars and made 97 arrests, with three of those individuals wanted for murder. The focus was on hot spots (high crime areas) such as 17th and Oliver Avenue North and 26th and Bloomington Avenue South. Arrests were made as far away as Bemidji, Minn. Fortunately, the operation rendered no serious use of force or injuries.

Staffing

Recruiting remains difficult and it's not just an issue for Minneapolis but a national challenge. Through attrition and continued hiring the numbers remain status quo.

The Minnesota State Patrol is assisting the MPD on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings with four officers and two squad cars providing four-hour shifts (from 4 p.m. to midnight) patrolling the Lake Street corridor between Hiawatha and I-35W. They do not respond to 911 calls but will assist officers on request. The Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is also providing 13 investigators to assist with assault and homicide cases.

There has been community input to the acting chief of police regarding the search for a permanent police chief for Minneapolis. The job announcement is now being drafted and announced. It is a challenging national search with 50% of police chiefs leaving their positions across the nation, due to retirement, resignation, etc.

Precinct home/location

Three sites are being considered for the 3rd Precinct's new

location as input is sought from the community and officers. There are strong feelings regarding resurrecting the former site at Lake and Hiawatha. Some feel there is too much history and trauma attached to the site because of the 2020 riots and prefer a new location.

Crimes (data as of 6/13/22)

In the 3rd Precinct, the following crimes are up (compared to the same period in 2021): assault; burglary (breaking and entering); vandalism; larceny/theft; motor vehicle theft; weapon violations; and domestic aggravated assault.

These crimes are down: carjacking; homicide; robbery; sex offenses; property theft; shots fired; and gunshot wounds.

The 3rd Precinct accounts for 32% of both homicide and carjacking crimes in the city of Minneapolis.

Guest speaker

The guest speaker for the June 13 meeting was Lt. Steve Heron, Supervisor from the Minneapolis Juvenile Unit. In addition to 18 community members and the guest speaker, four officers and Inspector Gomez attended. The Juvenile Unit is made up of eight investigators and the supervisor. Hot topics for the unit are carjacking and gun violence.

Many carjackings are committed by juveniles, often experienced criminals, teaching and instructing other juveniles. Recidivism is 70% among youth offenders. Two key issues regarding this group are competency and certification (as adults).

Juveniles under 16 are rarely if ever certified as adults. But there are some repeat offenders aged 16 and 17 whose crimes are so egregious that efforts are made to certify them as adults which hopefully leads to appropriate arrests and sentencing. The U.S. Attorney for Minnesota is said to be making carjacking a federal offense and is seeking to hold juveniles more accountable.

Competency is also an issue. There can be no trial if a youth is not deemed competent, that is, able to comprehend the charges. This issue can arise as early as during an arrest when Miranda rights are read, and the individual is asked if he or she understands what's been read. The youth may not understand, or may say they do not.

Another issue is home-monitoring systems used with youth offenders. The technology is less than ideal, and some youth find ways to circumvent the technology.

Meeting attendees also learned that carjacking takes place all hours of the day and night and opportunity is the key to the crime. Opportunity can involve location (no one around, poor lighting), a lone person (more vulnerable), as well as an occupied individual (on the phone, texting, or focused on an activity such as loading or unloading a car). Carjackers often demand the victim's car key/fob, wallet, phone, etc. The phone is soon discarded but not before there is an attempt to break into a cash application. To avoid victimization, protection of cash apps is critical.

Catalytic converter theft

seems to be committed more often by adults than juveniles. This crime requires a skill set, tools and a team, which is often beyond the abilities of youth.

Often cars that have been jacked are abandoned and watched – that is, watched by the perpetrators to see if the car is identified and recovered by police. The vehicle is regarded as hot during this time. If it is not recovered, the perpetrators will often return to the car and use it again. Hence, recovery of stolen vehicles is key to preventing additional crime. New technology allows the MPD to scan license plates along city streets and run checks to identify stolen cars and return them to their rightful owners.

Beat patrol is back and focused on developing relationships with business owners

Another issue for the 3rd Precinct is street car racing. A street car racing detail is being established to monitor and curtail street races that take over an intersection and sometimes shoot guns from their cars. There have been two homicides as a result of street car races which have brought as many as 200 people to the scene with 10 to 15 drivers. The State Patrol often assists with these crimes via helicopter toward arrests for reckless driving which increases the driver's auto insurance. Often the cars involved are Mustangs and Camaros.

The August meeting will be on Monday, Aug. 8.

Cam, from page 1

are part of the lawsuit, although one headed by former Council Member Diane Hofstede, the Great River Coalition, is listed on their website as a third “partner and friend.”

The Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan was adopted as required by state law under the Metropolitan Land Planning Act, approved by the City Council and submitted to the Metropolitan Council in December 2018. It went into effect on January 1, 2020.

This followed extensive community input and controversy over one strategy in particular: the fifth strategy under the first policy (Access to Housing) that said: “In neighborhood interiors farthest from downtown that today contain primarily single-family homes, achieve greater housing supply and diversity by allowing small scale residential structures with up to three dwelling units on an individual lot.”

There were concerns at the time that neighborhoods would be destroyed, “bulldozed” or gentrified and that single-family homes would be abolished.

“Our lawsuit,” says Smart Growth’s website, “provides the only chance to compel the City to properly environmentally scrutinize its Plan and respond accordingly.”

That lawsuit is focused on the potential harms resulting from more density of housing. The judge’s decision is based almost exclusively on a Sunde Engineering report commissioned by Smart Growth and written by Kristen Pauly. That report assumes a large-scale build-out of new houses and apartments, which could possibly result in up to 150,000 new housing units. “The Pauly Report,” Klein wrote, “concludes that potential environmental impacts are likely to occur and that the 2040 plan largely ignores those impacts, lacks an analysis of the impact on the environment, and does not provide for specific design criteria or measures which would mitigate adverse environmental impacts.” According to the report, these impacts could include increased traffic and noise, decreased air quality, water quality and tree coverage, as well as negative impacts on bird and other wildlife habitat.

Klein noted in his written

decision that the city attorney failed to provide a substantial rebuttal to the claims made in the report, and that “this unfortunate strategy has left the City bereft of any fact-based rebuttal or affirmative defense, the type of which is called for under MERA.”

The plan, however, has environmental impacts and concerns woven in throughout its 14 goals, 11 topic areas, 100 policies, and roughly 700 strategies. Of the 14 goals at least two (clean environment and climate resilience) are almost exclusively focused on the natural environment. Of the 11 topic areas, at least two (environmental systems and parks and open spaces) are environmentally focused. Of the 100 policies at least 19 stand out because of their focus on addressing environmental issues. Regarding birds, among its over 600 strategies, six specifically mention protecting them or improving their habitat.

The plan’s priority to focus on the natural environment may be one of the reasons why some prominent local environmental organizations support it and why they are worried now that the lawsuit is less about protect-

ing birds and preserving their habitat than it is about protecting segregated areas and preserving them for the wealthy.

“Mpls 2040 also addresses equity and the city’s history of housing segregation in important ways. Minneapolis has a long history of redlining and racial segregation that has kept low-income communities and people of color on the fringes,” the Sierra Club’s Catherine Pokorny and Joshua Houdek wrote after it was passed. “Restrictive deed covenants, racially isolated public housing projects, and discriminatory rental and real estate practices were used by landlords and real estate developers to segregate sections of Minneapolis based on race. Although these practices are now illegal, they facilitated the development of institutionalized racial inequalities that persist in the city today. Mpls 2040 takes crucial steps to dismantle these historical inequities by upzoning and has the potential to allow new people of all races and income levels to move into all neighborhoods across the city.”

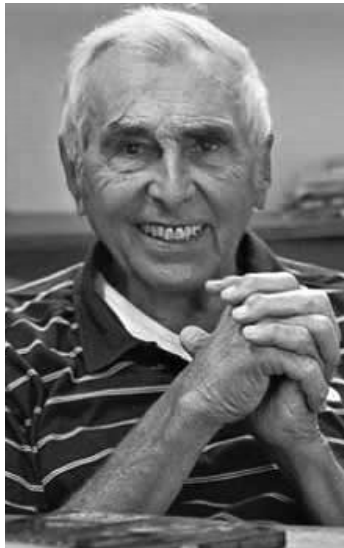
“The Minneapolis 2040 Plan is recognized nationally as a leading policy for promoting

affordable housing, climate resilience and racial justice,” said MN350’s Ulla Nilsen after the judge released his decision. “Opponents claim the plan will harm the environment, but the environmental benefits of planning for and making progress on denser housing and lessening reliance on cars are clear. Cleaner air will especially benefit Black, brown and Indigenous communities that have dealt with larger negative health impacts from our city’s reliance on fossil fuels.”

The judge’s order provided 60 days for the city to respond and invited them to make their case to rebut the Smart Growth arguments and address flaws in the report or offer an affirmative defense. Instead, they chose to appeal the decision. The city could win on their appeal but to do so they need to be better prepared than they have been so far.

“We expect the city of Minneapolis to mount a more vigorous defense of Minneapolis 2040,” said Nilsen, “including more documentation of its significant environmental and health benefits.”

Gun control



BY TONY BOUZA

We are the only Western country that regularly awakens to news of slaughters of our children by idiots with ridiculously easy access to all forms of firearms. In the aftermath of these awful and preventable events (we do regulate and license vehicles and a lot of other things), the leaders emerge, shed crocodile tears and remain firmly wedded to the National Rifle Association, which has never paid much attention to its

middle name.

And, oh yes, there is the Second Amendment, and its universal permission to bear arms. Only it ain't so.

The Second Amendment refers to "a well regulated militia" and allows it the right. It is a stretch characteristic of the whole debate that Americans have been persuaded the law applies to them rather than a militia. We pay a fearsome price for indulging such fantasies.

I came from a state with tough gun control laws but lots of shootings—with guns bought, stolen or put together from elsewhere. Only national legislation and controls can work. Tough regional laws enable the NRA to argue they don't work.

If you want to murder a clutch of babies in China—or practically anywhere else on the planet—you've got to get an ax.

I was once president of the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence (1997), and, predictably, got fired after three months for something I said on the Today Show—but not about guns (rather, it was about George H.W. Bush and Colin Powell).

In 1994 I ran for statewide

office. Overnight, literally, my campaign crashed and vanished because I said we "needed to confiscate unlicensed handguns." Yes, I was that stupid—but my hands were unstained by kids' deaths. Quite frankly, I'd unhesitatingly do it all over again.

Those sanctimoniously appearing before the klieg lights, wringing agonized hands, will be complicit in any tragedy they're deploring. The only newly recruited advocates for gun controls will be the parents of the dead kids.

The nation pays a terrible price for indulging its myths, lies, conspiracies and racist fantasies. The German people paid a ghastly price for embracing (yes, figuratively, hugging) Adolf Hitler. Such fantasies don't come cheap.

Our babies are murdered because we love our guns. We are as much to blame as those adoring flag-wavers cheering The Fuhrer. In the end they harvested an awful crop—sowed by adoring fans and reaped by an avenging Russian army.

The NRA celebrated its conclave only days and a few miles away from the recent Texas

tragedy. The leaders usually lavishing praise and love had to be damned circumspect. Hypocrisy comes easily to these folks.

In the end, truth and justice prevail, and lies and conspiracies exact their tolls. How

those Nazis loved it all, and how passionately do we cling to similar fantasies.

"There's a roar ahead," said the person paddling on the Niagara River. "I wonder what it is."

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Who is on the primary ballot?

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

State offices

On your primary ballot, no matter where you live in Minnesota, you will see several selections for top state offices: governor and lieutenant governor (they run as a team), secretary of state, and attorney general. All of these positions are held by DFL incumbents who are running for re-election in 2022.

Incumbent DFL team Gov. Tim Walz and Lt. Gov. Peggy Flanagan are opposed by Ole Savior and Julia M. Parker. I know next to nothing about them, but they don't really have a chance. There is no serious opposition to Scott Jensen in the Republican primary (sorry to my dear friends Bob Carney, Jr. and Captain Jack Sparrow, but it's true). Bob has clued me in on just how awful Scott Jensen is. He is a longtime MD in family practice, and he opposes all abortions, with no exceptions for rape, incest, ectopic pregnancy or threat to the

life of the person carrying the fetus. Apparently in his family practice he has never had a patient who even asked about an abortion. This man is more dangerous than Trump. I am as disappointed as the next person in the Walz-Flanagan team, but by God I'm voting for them.

For secretary of state and attorney general, there are lots of challengers, not one of whom is running in good faith. Unquestionably, you should vote for the incumbents – Steve Simon for secretary of state and Keith Ellison for attorney general.

U.S. Congress

All U.S. congressional representatives are running because they have two-year terms. U.S.



Mary Moriarty for county attorney, DFL-endorsed

senators have staggered six-year terms, but neither Minnesota senator is up for reelection this year.

In Congressional District 5, which basically covers Minneapolis, we have been happily represented by Ilhan Omar since 2018. She was challenged in the primary by Don Samuels, a former Minneapolis council member and a former Minneapolis school board member, who is becoming something of a perennial candidate. Don Samuels refused to abide by the endorsement. He brought a lot of allies to the CD5 convention, but nevertheless Omar won a third endorsement on the second ballot.

The CD5 section of the primary ballot shows five DFL candidates and three Republicans. In addition to Samuels and Omar,

the DFL candidates include Albert Ross, AJ Kern and Nate Schluter. Many of the centrist DFLers who are opposing Omar at this time are the same people who stand up and give impassioned speeches about respecting the endorsement and accuse progressives of not respecting it. This is the real scandal. What happened to the late Fritz Mondale's lauded "DFL decency"?

Rep. Omar is a stellar congresswoman, in my estimation. She is subject to constant attacks from all corners (except from progressives in her district) and even death threats. I believe we need to rally round and return another overwhelmingly positive vote for Omar.

Minneapolis school board

At the Minneapolis DFL convention, the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers was running



Dawanna Witt, candidate for sheriff

a slate for endorsement for the school board. It was a hard-fought race, but all the slate members won endorsement. I support all the DFL-endorsed candidates. They are Collin Beachy and KerryJo Felder for the two at-large seats, and Lori Norvell for District 5, Fathia Feerayarre for District 3, and Mary Jo McCollow for District 1.

Saving the best for last – Hennepin County races

If, like me, you are fortunate enough to live in Hennepin County, we have several juicy races with good candidates, which have for the most part been DFL-endorsed. I would urge you to vote for DFL-endorsed Mary Moriarty, a former public defender, for county attorney and for DFL-endorsed Dawanna Witt for sheriff (who I believe will be the first WOC sheriff in Minnesota if she is elected).

Who's on the DFL primary ballot?

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Senate District 63 has only one incumbent, Rep. Emma Greenman of 63B, who was endorsed by acclamation.

Running for Senate to replace retiring Sen. Patricia Torres Ray is Zaynab Mohamed, who was also previously endorsed by Twin Cities DSA, among others. Mohamed was endorsed without major shenanigans. Nevertheless, she now has a primary opponent – Todd C. Scott, the son of former DFL chair Rick Scott.

The shenanigans were all around the endorsement battle for 63A, the seat held by retiring Rep. Jim Davnie. There were three candidates with a drop rule of 15% and the lowest candidate, a strong environmentalist named Kevin McDonald, dropped voluntarily when he got just slightly more than 15% on the first ballot. This left Samantha Sencer-Mura facing Yusra Arab, and this is where the trouble came in. In my view,

Arab never had a shot at 60%, whereas Sencer-Mura was already within a few points on the second ballot, and crept a point or so closer on ballots three and four. Part one of the convention was recessed after 12 hours.

Part two of the convention, a month later, with two new co-chairs and major rules tweaks, was almost as bad, but Sencer-Mura was finally endorsed on the sixth ballot, after many of Arab's delegates logged out in a futile attempt to break the quorum. Neither Arab nor McDonald nor any new challenger is running in the primary, so the Senate race is the only primary in SD 63.

Meanwhile, there is a situation next door in SD 62, where Omar Fateh is the incumbent. He was sworn in in January 2021 after defeating Jeff Hayden. Fateh is liked by his district and by progressive allies, including Twin

Cities DSA which endorsed him in 2020. He is now under attack on several fronts. One was an attempt to tie him to the scandal about Feeding Our Future, a nonprofit that was supposed to channel federal grant money to food programs for children, and did so, but seemed to be taking in far more money than they could justify against charity and staff expenditures. The FBI suspects it of either fraud or money-laundering or both. This is a true scandal but there was really no connection to Omar Fateh. He received campaign contributions from 11 individuals with connections to Feeding Our Future (as did Jacob Frey and many other DFL politicians) but he returned them.

Another election fraud charge alleged that Fateh helped a nonprofit, Somali TV, get a grant, af-

See Ballot, page 13



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Open Streets East Lake will help to reclaim the neighborhood

BY STEPHANIE FOX

Open Streets is back after a pandemic pause. One of the most popular of these (usually) annual events is Open Streets East Lake,

held this year on Aug. 13, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This area of Minneapolis is recovering not only from COVID-19 but also from the rioting and looting following the murder of George

Floyd in 2020. Many of the small businesses there, a number of which are immigrant and minority-owned, are recovering and will welcome the returning crowds.

Motor vehicle traffic will be blocked on East Lake Street between 2nd and 22nd Avenues, but will be completely open to bikes, skates, skateboards and pedestrians, allowing people to explore their communities and meet their neighbors close up. A number of businesses, organizations, restaurants and services will have booths. There will be entertainment as well – music, dance and more.

Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association (MPNAI) will be there from 13th to 15th Avenues, with an information and activities booth, demonstrations by a Somali soccer team, and music.

Musical offerings will include the Brass Messengers, a Minneapolis street band playing music inspired by world melodies, including the music of Africa, the Caribbean and the Balkans. But they’ve been known to play whatever works to make an audience happy, including country, polkas and metal. They call their style the homegrown Minneapolis street sound, and that’s true!

Sarah Greer, a Twin Cities-based a cappella improvisational vocalist who lives in the neighborhood and who sings everything from jazz to classical, will also be on stage. She is passionate about every-



(Photo/Paul Jahn)

one’s right to express themselves through song and often leads what she calls “songtaneous” sessions.

Little Earth Drum Group will be there, too, as well as a local mariachi band.

A number of food vendors will have street kitchens and the Sisters’ Camelot Fruit and Veggie Bus will be giving free fruit and vegetables to everyone who stops by.

Also look for booths by the Banyan Community, the Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Quatrefoil Library, Hope Academy, Midtown Greenway Coalition and the MPNAI info booth.

Love You Cookie was created to spread “Defiant Optimism,” a belief rooted in the idea that there are still really good things we enjoy and work for together, said manager Ken Treadway. “Our goal is to encourage people to defy odds and spread hope in their lives, families, and communities. We accomplish this by selling the best gourmet, handmade cookies you will ever eat.”

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(Photo/Paul Jahn)



(Photo/Mike Beck)



(Photo/Mike Beck)

“More than that,” Treadway said, “our cookies are a vehicle to achieving our core mission: destigmatizing mental health issues and eliminating barriers to mental health and wellness resources, especially for members of BIPOC communities.”

At Open Streets, the Love You Cookie booth will be selling two types of their monster-sized cookies, a dark chocolate chip and cashew sprinkled with sea salt cookie and a sugar cookie that tastes like a birthday cake. What makes these cookies different, said Treadway, is that they are crunchy on the outside and gooey on the inside.

In 2020, their chocolate chip cookie was featured in the Star Tribune in their “Best Thing We

be on hand to help with wellness assessments and a health knowledge game with prizes.

People can also join a Zumba class and for those who are thirsty, they will be offering people a chance to try a healthy infused water instead of opting for a high calorie soda.

The Midtown Global Market’s talent performances will be there, on stage:

DJ Dime, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Mexico Azteca – Ballet Folklorico performance, 1:15 – 1:45 p.m.
Ecuadorian dance troupe, 2 – 2:45 p.m.
Ha Family lion dance and percussion group, 3 – 3:15 p.m.
Salsa dancing, 3:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Kalpulli KetzalCoatlucue, a non-profit Indigenous community dance troupe is made up of children and their parents. The youngest dancer is two years old and the oldest is almost 60.

“At Open Streets, we will have a tent and drums. When we dance, we help people understand our culture,” said director Susana De Leon.

The troupe has been a part of the culture of South Minneapolis for more than 25 years. De Leon is a lawyer by day, but she created Kalpulli KetzalCoatlucue to promote traditional Indigenous knowledge.

Dances are related to ideas such as being grateful, or feeling the energy of the sun on your skin. The dances are all about nature – our ancestors knew that nature is the divine, De Leon said.

The first dance will start at noon and a second set will begin at 1 p.m. Other dances will be presented at 3 p.m. and a last set at 4 p.m.

“When we aren’t dancing I want to have a Q-and-A and get to know our neighbors and get them to know us and what we do better,” said De Leon.

Regin Love Collections and Fly-Boyz Company are two clothing brands that will be at Open Streets, with Black Girls Matter and Black Boys Rock T-shirts for sale out of their booth. The company has been around for two years and makes specialty kids clothing, said owner Shanee O’Neal. They



(Photo/Will Woolworth)

will be showing off and selling the T-shirt designs that she hopes will help spread self-esteem to young Black children. “I specialize in kids clothing only,” she said.

The shirts are made for kids as young as six months and for older kids as well. They say, in a casual script, “Black Girls Matter Because We Are Worth It” with a princess crown. “I need to reach all the little people,” O’Neal says. “My whole clothing line is fun. People should stop by with their kids.”

As of publication, the word on the (Lake) street is that Eastlake Craft Brewery (not for kids, but for those 21 and older) will be on hand also. Zen hip-hop artist Purple Queen, who uses hip-hop to spread light, love and positivity with good vibes and good music, will make an appearance as well. Registration for participants is still open through July 27, so check the Open Streets website and Facebook page for updates on even more fun things to see and do on Aug. 13 at Open Streets East Lake.



Ate This Week” column.

Love You Cookie company managers are Ken and Octavia Treadway along with CEO Sahr Brima, but the company’s creative inspiration and creator is master baker Sarah Brima. The Brimas teamed up with local companies and organizations to be part of their VIP (Very Important Cookie Program). They use this money to donate funds that support people who are part of minority communities. Each month they have a drawing and this month the winner will receive free mental health support sessions.

The Midtown Global Market and Cultural Wellness Hub will be offering a number of services for the asking, including COVID tests, vaccinations and blood pressure checks. Health professionals will



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Marie Braun lives within us

BY SARAH MARTIN AND MEREDITH ABY-KEIRSTEAD

Marie Braun, 87, a longtime activist and beloved and respected leader in the peace and justice movement in the Twin Cities, died on June 27 after a very brief illness.

The response of Dave Logsdon, president of Veterans for Peace Chapter 27, reflects the reaction

paign for WAMM members to distribute thousands of lawn signs which said, "Call your congressperson. Say no to war on Iraq." These signs were not only pervasive across the lawns in our city but were also requested by other communities across the country.

For many years Marie organized a service at her church, Saint Joan of Arc, on the Feast

rived. The lead cop seemed beside himself that all these people planned to march without their permission. The lead cop demanded someone's driver's license so he knew where to send a summons. Marie said, "You can have my driver's license, but we are still going to march." By then, there were 1000 to 2000 people gathered. The cops just gave up and left."

In 2010, anti-war activists in Minneapolis and around the Midwest were targeted by the FBI for their peace and international solidarity activism. Both these writers were included in those subpoenaed to a grand jury and targeted by the FBI. Marie helped us organize our resistance through the Committee to Stop FBI Repression. Joe Iosbaker, an activist from Chicago who was also subpoenaed, remembered her solidarity: "I remember her best from her efforts with congresspersons and senators on behalf of the Anti-war 23. Getting those elected officials to speak out in our defense seemed unimaginable to me, but not to Marie and the veteran peace activists in the Twin Cities! And they were right."

For the past several years Marie chaired the WAMM End War Committee. Mary Slobig said, "I can't imagine the End War Committee without her sending out the agenda, holding us to task, and taking notes. She's our rock!"

Kristin Dooley, the director of WAMM told Fight Back! News: "Marie has been my friend, my mentor, and my partner in activism for decades. She was an incredibly capable activist. She could handle finances, personnel, membership renewals, fundraising, press and writing. She willingly interacted with religious, political, civil and police authorities. Marie let me know she had my back and I became a better activist because she believed in me."

Marie inspired us by her commitment and wasn't afraid to ask for involvement or money. Most of us have said, "You can't say no to Marie." She was a pillar of the peace movement and a key motivator for actions and effective change. She also was a skilled mentor and teacher and leaves behind strong organizations and individuals to carry on the struggle. She brought out the best in us, and we and the peace movement will miss her beyond words.

Marie Braun Presente!
Memorials can be sent to Women Against Military Madness at 4200 Cedar Ave. S., Ste. 1, Minneapolis, MN 55407.



Marie Braun speaking at a WAMM event

of so many: "Such a shock. She is so strong it's hard to believe this news. What a giant in our peace and justice movement."

Marie Braun was a member of Women Against Military Madness (WAMM) nearly from its inception 40 years ago. After her retirement in 1997 from the psychology practice that she ran with her husband John, she turned her full attention, incomparable work ethic, legendary organizational skills, boundless energy and warmth and humor to anti-war work.

She traveled to Iraq with Ramsey Clark, Jess Sundin and others on an International Action Center delegation in 1998 at the height of the brutal U.S. sanctions against that country.

Marie began the weekly vigil at the Lake Street bridge which has not missed a single Wednesday in its 23 years of anti-war presence, from the U.S./NATO bombing of Yugoslavia until today with the U.S./NATO-provoked conflict in Ukraine. For many years she and John were the ones to bring the signs, often newly made that week, reflecting whatever country the U.S. was bombing, sanctioning or occupying.

In the run-up to Desert Storm, she and John organized a cam-

of the Holy Innocents. She transformed this remembrance of Herod's slaughter of the children in Palestine to a memorial for the children of Iraq killed by U.S. bombing and sanctions.

Marie organized days-long occupations at U.S. Senators Wellstone, Dayton and Coleman's offices. She brought to town national leaders like Cindy Sheehan, Kathy Kelly and Dennis Halliday, the U.N. humanitarian coordinator in Iraq, and made sure they spoke to standing-room-only crowds. She developed a statewide network of anti-war activists to host speaking tours and to pressure elected officials. She left no stone unturned in her work against U.S. imperialism in Iraq, a tenacity she applied to whatever she undertook.

Alan Dale, Minnesota Peace Action Coalition founder, tells the story: "Marie was the most consistent activist, working with a wide range of people from many backgrounds, always keeping true to her own principles. Marie often took on the role of peacekeeper coordinator or lead marshal for protests. At one of the Iraq war anniversary protests starting at Loring Park, hundreds of people had gathered to march. Then the police ar-

EVENTS

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2000 2nd St. NE, Mpls.

Tuesday, July 19
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Pershing Park,
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Wednesday, July 20

'Black Panther' PG-13

The Commons
425 Portland Ave., Mpls.

Thursday, July 21

'Raya and the Last Dragon' PG

Keewaydin Park
3030 53rd St. E., Mpls.

Friday, July 22

'The Addams Family 2' PG

Folwell Park
1615 Dowling Ave. N., Mpls.

'Death of a Salesman'

Staged reading

Monday, July 18, 7 p.m.

The Conn Theater
Plymouth Congregational Church

Police, from page 1

the Academy are barely 22 years old. I have two young children, and the pressures of trying to perform adequately meant that I was stretched thin as a family man, and ultimately this made me realize that if I continued working for the department, I would lose out on raising my children.

The officers training us were generally good, but the direction we were heading was more militaristic than the community orientation that the department advertises. The Academy lacked a lot of the community element and trained us instead as if we were on the SWAT team, delving into the basics of searching buildings, traffic stops, and what to do if we were in an active shooting situation. The heavy emphasis on just these subjects, one could argue, does not make a well-rounded officer. Spending hours conditioning recruits to fear their constituents breeds officers who could cause misconduct.

The department is so short-staffed that one hand really does not know what the other hand is doing. I was told by one group of supervisors that I was doing great, while another group of supervisors made my time there very hostile, to the point I had to carry around a resignation

letter. I could feel their dislike of me and knew from the beginning that they despised me. It was a shame that one day I could be praised for my performance, and another day they made me feel like I was complete trash. How is that even allowed in any workplace?

One of my role models since the second grade was a St. Louis Park police officer. He came into the room of second graders and said, "How many people do you think I have shot?" An odd question, right? The kids yelled out numbers ranging from one to 25. The officer said, "Zero, I have never had to shoot anyone." This has always stuck with me as how a police officer is supposed to do their job. However, coming to Minneapolis, I was being trained by officers who had been involved in deadly force situations. One officer had allegedly shot and killed two people, but he was still training us despite protests from the community. Some of the officers training us were recently on TV for incidents of misconduct, yet they were still training us. This was very disappointing for me. How could I prove to the naysayers that the department was doing what it could to change while it was allowing these officers to train us?

A former MPD recruit

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Southside Pride / RIVERSIDE EDITION

1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls. Theater 45° in association with Theater Mu announces a free, staged reading on July 18 of Arthur Miller's "Death of a Salesman" featuring an Asian American principal cast. Miller's quintessential masterpiece depicts an ordinary traveling salesman in desperate pursuit of the American Dream for himself and his family. Winner of both the Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize for Best Play in 1949, "Death of a Salesman" retains its impact in an unflinching examination of this country's ideals, made richer by casting the Lomans as an Asian American family. Often erased from this nation's history, Asians in the 1940s certainly experienced the dashed hopes played out in Miller's story, with higher stakes and more devastating consequences. Admission is FREE with RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Although proof of vaccination will not be required, audience members must remain masked for the duration of the reading. Tickets and more information available are available at <https://theater45.com/our-work/death-of-a-salesman-with-theater-mu>.

'The Theater of Public Policy'
Tuesday, July 19, 7 p.m.
Bryant Lake Bowl Theater
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The Star Tribune called "The Theater of Public Policy" "what would happen if C-SPAN were suddenly swarmed by the cast of SNL." Each show starts with a live interview and audience Q&A with an expert guest. That conversation is the cast's inspiration for entirely unscripted sketch comedy. The show's host interviews a leading thinker on a big issue. Then a team of the Twin Cities' most talented improvisers use the conversation as inspiration for longform improv comedy. In the second half of the show, the guest answers questions from the audience. The show wraps up with more no-holds-barred unscripted comedy.

Visit <https://www.bryantlakebowl.com/theater-for-tickets-and-full-calendar-of-all-july-shows>.

Preventing and Prosecuting Atrocity Crimes: Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity
Wednesday, July 20, 7 to 9 p.m. CT
Online via Zoom
World Without Genocide will host a webinar on Wednesday, July 20, "Preventing and Prosecuting Atrocity Crimes: Genocide, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity." The worst crimes on the planet are known collectively as "atrocity crimes" – genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. These crimes are occurring today in many places, including Ukraine, Ethiopia, Sudan, Myanmar, China, Afghanistan and Syria. How to prevent these crimes? Wes Rist, J.D., Deputy Executive Director at the American Society of International Law (ASIL), will speak about atrocity prevention in international law. How to prosecute the perpetrators? Kristin Smith, J.D., Director of the Atrocity Crimes Initiative, will discuss responses to these crimes and accountability. Accused perpetrators are brought to trial at the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands, the world's most important court. The Court is celebrating 20 years of advancing justice for victims of atrocity crimes and ending impunity for perpetrators. This webinar recognizes these advances.
Registration is required by Wednesday, July 20, 6 p.m. CT at www.worldwithoutgenocide.org/anniversary
\$10 general public, \$5 students and seniors. "Clock hours" for Minnesota teachers, nurses and social workers. Free to Mitchell Hamline students (diversity credits available). \$25 for 2 Elimination of Bias CLE credits for Minnesota lawyers (pending). This is a live webinar program, and a recording will not be available. More information

at info@worldwithoutgenocide.org, www.worldwithoutgenocide.org, or 952-693-5206.

Four Season Foraging Wild Edible Plant Identification
Two remaining sessions:
Wednesday, July 20, 6 to 8 p.m.
Wednesday, July 27, 6 to 8 p.m.
If you're a forager who would like to hone your plant identification skills, then this series of workshops is for you! Join Maria Wesseler of Four Season Foraging as we learn about wild edible plants of summer. We will talk some about plant uses, but the focus of this class is to gain a deeper understanding of plant identification. There are two remaining workshops in this three-part series. You can take as many (or as few) of the classes as you would like. The first session on July 13 focused on leaves, the second session on July 20 will focus on flowers, and the third session on July 27 will focus on plant families. Sliding scale \$17.50 - \$37.50. Pre-registration required. For location and other details, please email info@fourseasonforaging.com, call 612-440-5958, or visit <https://www.fourseasonforaging.com/events>.

The Ainu of Northern Japan: Their Unique Textile Tradition
Thursday, July 21, 6:30 p.m.
Minneapolis Institute of Art
2400 3rd Ave. S., Mpls.
Made in part from fibers harvested from elm bark or nettles, Ainu robes feature elaborate embroidered patterns meant to please the eye and protect the wearer. This panel discussion focuses on the textile culture of the indigenous Ainu people, who traditionally live on Hokkaido (the northernmost of Japan's main islands), the Kuril Islands, and the southern part of Sakhalin (in today's Russia).
Panelists are Christina M. Spiker, Ph.D., visiting assistant professor of art and art

history, St. Olaf College, and Andreas Marks, Ph.D., "Dressed by Nature" curator.
Register by calling 612-870-6323 or register online here: <https://bit.ly/3byTZt>.

2022 Salsa Cook-Off at MGM
Saturday, July 23, noon to 2 p.m.
Midtown Global Market
920 E. Lake St., Mpls.
Eight Midtown Global Market chefs will create their own take on salsa to compete for the title of Best Salsa of 2022. Guests will have the opportunity to try their salsa recipes with influences from around the globe.
A donation of \$15 is requested for a full set of eight salsa samples. Proceeds will benefit our charity partner, Friends of Global Market. Friends of Global Market's mission is to support the Midtown Global Market as a vital community resource that supports small business, cultural diversity, and free/low-cost programming.
There will be a limit of 150 salsa sampling sets produced, so reservations are recommended. Salsa sets will be available for pickup on Saturday, July 23, between noon and 2 p.m. Guests are welcome to stay, enjoy, and vote for their favorite salsa at the Market. The top three winners will be announced on the Market's social media.
Participating Market restaurants include Andy's Garage; Arepa Bar; Moroccan Flavors; Pham's Rice Bowl; Manny's Tortas; Sabbai Cuisine; Salsa a la Salsa; and The Kitchen by Baked Brands.
Ramp parking available on Lake St. and 10th Ave. Reserve your tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/372316999167>.

Minnesota Orchestra
Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony
Friday, July 22, 8 p.m.
Saturday, July 23, 8 p.m.
Orchestra Hall

1111 Nicollet Mall, Mpls.
London-born conductor Kerem Hasan leads a program examining nature's profound influence on Beethoven and other composers, including Icelandic composer Anna Thorvaldsdottir, whose exploration of the cosmos, "Metacosmos," was premiered to acclaim in 2018 by the New York Philharmonic. Jon Kimura Parker appears as soloist in Beethoven's evocative "Moonlight Sonata," and In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre's puppet creations will bring to life Bedřich Smetana's "The Moldau." For more info and tickets, visit <https://www.minnesotaorchestra.org/tickets/calendar/2122/beethovens-pastoral-symphony/>.

28th ArtCar + ArtBike Parade
Saturday, July 23, 6 p.m.
Lineup viewing 5 to 6 p.m.
Bde Unma/Lake Harriet
Lyndale Park Rose Gardens
4124 Roseway Rd., Mpls.
Come one, come all! Every day is a parade for ArtCars and Artbikes! Artists use the car and the bike as their canvas to create beautiful works of art. Saturday, July 23, is their special parade. Join the artists as they cruise around the lake on their mobile works of art.
Bike, ride or walk over to the Lyndale Park Rose Garden where the parade will begin or find a place around the lake to watch the show. Bring a lawn chair and join us with a picnic from Bread and Pickle at the Lake Harriet Band Shell. (The Minneapolis Pops Orchestra will play from 7:30 to 9 p.m.) 5 p.m. lineup at the Lyndale Park Rose Gardens, followed by 6 p.m. parade/cruise around Bde Unma/Lake Harriet. For more information check out our website: artcarparade.com.



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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Plug it in

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

I must admit I get a certain amount of schadenfreude as the owner of a battery electric vehicle (BEV) when I see gas prices going up and up and up. At the same time I am very concerned about those who were already living paycheck to paycheck before the gas price spike but are reliant on a gas-powered vehicle to get by. We have seen this coming. We've known for years that gas prices would keep going up. And yet our elected officials have effectively done nothing to prepare for this moment.

When my husband and I went from car-free to car owners in the fall of 2020 we bought a 2015 Nissan Leaf, a BEV. We were privileged to be able to buy this car when we did; for one thing we have an off-street parking spot with access to electrical

charging. We also were able to go with a shorter-range electric car because we had spent five years without owning a car, so getting a car with a limited range still increased our mobility in comparison to walking and taking the bus places. In those moments when we needed a car that would travel farther, we were used to car sharing with services like Hourcar.

Now Hourcar is offering a new car-share option that might be of interest to those who are curious about electric cars but who aren't in a position to buy one. Between the megadrought out west and record high gas prices, this summer seems like the perfect time for the launch of Hourcar's new electric car-share program, Evie. Made up of a fleet of Chevy Bolts, this service functions differently from the current sharing model

used by the gas-powered cars already offered by Hourcar. The gas-powered cars are located at specific parking spaces and must be returned to that parking spot when the rental is finished.

For those who used Car2Go (RIP), Evie works more like Car2Go did. The cars are parked throughout the "home area" and can be returned to any legal parking spot within that area. When the car gets below a certain charge level, users are asked to park it at one of the chargers installed throughout the home area and plug in.

We recently used this service to drive to Wisconsin and back. It worked wonderfully. We didn't have access to a high-powered charger in Wisconsin, but the car had enough charge to get us there and back and we just plugged it into one of the Hourcar chargers when we returned it. The Evie service is slightly more expensive than the traditional gas-powered cars offered by Hourcar, so if you're curious about getting a BEV but aren't sure, this might be a fun



way to test out driving around in one.

Electric cars are not a silver bullet that will solve our climate crisis, but they offer an important tool in reducing our carbon footprint. By combining electric cars with car sharing we have the opportunity to reduce our impact both in terms of operational emissions and in terms of the resource cost by reduc-

ing the number of cars being manufactured. My husband and I contemplate being able to go car-free again once our daughter is big enough to move from the bulky and difficult-to-install car seat she currently needs to a more portable booster seat. Hourcar's new expansion makes this possibility more realistic, and I am grateful for it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support for pedestrian-friendly parkways

The DFL Senior Caucus seems to believe that the ability to drive and park a personal vehicle wherever and whenever one pleases is an inalienable right granted to every motorist. In the last issue of this paper, Patricia Kelly, Board Chair of the Minneapolis DFL Senior Caucus, alleged that a proposal to close down some of the Minneapolis parkways to vehicle traffic on just two weekends a month over the summer is "discriminatory towards both seniors and the disabled." This claim is both laughably overblown and totally inconsiderate to the many seniors and people with disabilities who either cannot or choose not to drive themselves. It is, at most, a minor inconvenience to a subset of car-owning individuals who now may have to take an alternate route to the parkway, or park in a different spot on a few select days of the month.

When the city closed down its parkways in 2020, the lakes and rivers became oases for people who wanted to get out of their homes and walk, rollerblade, bike or even just read quietly on a park bench without the safety risk, noise and pollution of automobiles. Now that the parkways have returned to business as usual, I've noticed that the walking and bike paths are often over-trafficked, while the roads remain relatively empty - though I have also seen the occasional car barrel through with reckless speed!

If we sincerely want Minneapolis to be a more livable, active and climate-friendly city, we need to stop bending over backwards to appease motorists and start making policy choices that make it easy for citizens to get outside, recreate and connect with each other.

Liam Mackin
Powderhorn resident

Ballot, from page 7

ter Somali TV had run ads for his campaign. The original charge said they "endorsed" him, but they don't endorse candidates. This kind of fizzled out when the Fateh campaign proved that the ad was paid for at the time.

The most harmful attack against Fateh centers around absentee ballots delivered by campaign volunteers, a practice which is permitted but highly regulated. Even if the irregularities alleged were proven, which they have not been, the total number of absentee bal-

lots cast is lower than Fateh's winning margin. But in the process of this investigation, a man named Musa Mohamed was convicted of perjury, and Fateh, it is alleged, denied he knew him. Musa Mohamed is Fateh's brother-in-law. Fateh says he never denied knowing Mohamed.

Then it was discovered that Zaynab Mohamed is Musa's sister and, therefore, Fateh's sister-in-law. There's nothing intrinsically wrong with any of these relationships. Musa is not running for office and Zaynab is in a different district from Omar Fateh.


Fateh is being challenged in the primary by Shaun Laden, who made the news leading the education support professional (ESP) chapter of the Minneapolis Federation of Teachers (MFT) in its historic strike this past March. Laden did not challenge Fateh at the endorsing convention but emerged just before filing closed. Laden is endorsed by Minnesota state Rep. Sydney Jordan, Minneapolis School Board Directors Ira Jourdain and Kimberly Caprini, and former Minneapolis Park Board commissioner Londel French.




Please send news of your faith-based community to
katherine.southsidepride@gmail.com


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Longfellow Eat Local BOGOs – plus openings, farmers markets, union and distillery news, and mini-reviews

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Openings and closings

It seems like the great wave of closings that plagued 2020 and 2021 is finally tapering off. There is only one south Minneapolis closing to announce, but it's sad because we enjoyed announcing the opening and then had to follow up with a dreadful story about a shooting that injured one of their staff. This ill-starred though pretty decent place was Side Chick in the Lyn-Lake area. Maybe it was the name?

On the upside, there are still lots of plucky food entrepreneurs announcing openings, expansions, and the launch of new ideas. One opening I am thrilled to see, being a library fan, a downtown girl, and a lover of coffee shops, is that a nonprofit called MARCH (Mobilizing and Releasing Caring Hearts Inc., which mentors urban youth through the operation of coffee shops) is opening a coffee shop called Mocha Momma in the space within the Minneapolis Central Library that used to house a Dunn Brothers. I have missed that Dunn Brothers so much! I expect to adore Mocha Momma.

In other news, an expansion and a return. Afro Deli, the small chain founded on the West Bank's Riverside Avenue by Abdirahman Kahin, has already expanded to the Minneapolis

skyway, Stadium Village, and St. Paul, while having to close its original spot. It is now opening another expansion back in the West Bank, just a block or so from its starting point.

Further good news from

let Mall farmers' market in mid-June and the Four Sisters Farmers Market on Franklin Avenue in early June, I think all the markets that are going to open this summer are open – and thriving. If you're like me and still wear-



O'Shaughnessy whiskeys

downtown Minneapolis is that the Minneapolis Women's Club has opened its famous rooftop patio to the general public for dinner Thursday through Friday. It was already open to all for brunch on Fridays only. And finally, a Rochester-based fast burger chain has opened (if they made their announced opening of July 1) a location in Apple Valley. The chain is called Newt's and the new Twin Cities outlet is Newt's 46.

Farmers' markets

With the opening of the Nicol-

ing masks in grocery stores but not outdoors, you'll welcome the opportunity to shop in the open air.

Workers United (Starbucks) progress update

Two more Minnesota Starbucks have held successful union elections since I last checked in. Welcome to the Workers United family to the Starbucks on the first floor of the Mall of America and also to the Starbucks in St. Anthony.

O'Shaughnessy Distilling Co. widens its distribution

The Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal has a piece about O'Shaughnessy Distilling Company in Minneapolis. O'Shaughnessy was founded a couple of years ago by two St. Paul Irish American brothers named O'Shaughnessy, and first hit the news when they were preparing to debut their distillery and cocktail room in Prospect Park. The big buzz was that they had hired away Jameson's master distiller, Brian Nation. Their initial launch was Irish + American, a whiskey distilled using Irish processes with three cop-

nessassociation.org for the list and their individual offers.

Most of the participants are familiar food and drink spots in Longfellow – Wildflyer Coffee, All Square, and Arbeiter Brewing are in on it – but one is a bit different. Eat for Equity is the chef-prepared meal kit company operating out of what used to be the Du Nord Craft Spirits cocktail room, and offering a pay-what-you-can option. (It's run by the same people who run the distillery but no longer run a cocktail room.) I am going to make a rare foray back into meal kit territory next week to try it out. I'll let you know what I think in August.



un dito at ie Italian Eatery

per pots, but using American grains. They followed this with an American single malt, and then Irish + Bourbon, as well as several specialty blends with novel "finishing" (extra flavors imparted in the cask stage). The latest to launch is finished with maple syrup.

The recent piece focused on their phenomenally fast growth in selling to bars and retailers around the U.S. CEO Mike Dugan, previously with Phillips Distilling Company, remarked on how unusual it is for a craft distiller to be shipping to 22 states within its first 18 months. He attributes this to getting their message out about how they are making whiskeys that are new to the world. "It's given us the ability to have, actually, distributors calling us saying, 'Please come to our state,' and that hasn't happened too many times in my career," he said.

Longfellow Business Association, Eat for Equity, and BOGO/ Eat Local punch cards

Longfellow Business Association launched an Eat Local promotion in early June, but it runs through the end of July, so it's not too late to cash in. You buy a punch card for \$10 at the first participating business you patronize, take their BOGO offer, and then take as many more of the 16 participants' offers as you can. See www.longfellowbusi-

Vegan meat raffles are a thing

At least they are here, featuring a spread of Herbivorous Butcher's products. They just had one at Palmer's Bar, of all places. Sorry, that's all I've got; that's the post.

Mini-review – un dito at ie Italian Eatery

I tried un dito at ie Italian Eatery in June. This is a fast casual extension of ie that offers panini, house-made gelato and sorbetto, and drinks, apps and snacks with a choice of patio dining, takeout, or inside in a small space up to 4 p.m. I ate inside, all on my own, which is lovely – you should try it sometime. I had what was advertised as a portabella panino. It was also lovely; very tasty, but it wasn't a panino. A panino (singular of panini) is supposed to be grilled in a panino press in olive oil or butter, with the innards of the sandwich squashed flat and the outside crisp and thin. This was basically a veggie burger where the burger was one big grilled portabella mushroom with fixings. It was in a hamburger bun or something similar. Big and soft, drippy and messy to eat, no crunch. Not a panino. I also had a house lemonade, which was good. I may return later to try their house-made strawberry

See *The Dish*, page 15



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The Dish, from page 14

sorbetto, which sounds intriguing.

Mini-review – Reverie

I finally used up my Reverie gift card which I got as a perk for helping to fund the opening. I had the smoked brussels sprouts appetizer and a main

dish salad that is called a BLT salad but also has croutons and vegan Caesar dressing. The “bacon” is smoky-flavored grilled strips of shiitake mushrooms. Both these items were good but my choice to have them together was poor, as they were too much alike. No counterpoint. Counterpoint is essential to the fine dining experience. And for me both had the same slight short-

fall on yumminess (and this is just me). I would have preferred less smokiness, more texture, and more of the creamy stuff – a cashew crema topping on the sprouts and the dressing on the salad. They both had these, but too skimpy for my voluptuous tastes. Vegan does not have to mean skimpy.

I also had the Sociable Cider Werks strawberry daiquiri. It

was OK, but I couldn’t finish it. Local ciders seem too high in ABV for me, or maybe it’s just my age. It didn’t really taste much of strawberries either, although the color was nice and berry-bright. I think the combo of dry apple cider and lime overpowered the strawberries.

Dessert mini-review – Pumphouse Creamery and Askinosie Chocolate

I am seriously falling in love with Pumphouse Creamery. First it was their Lemon-infused Olive Oil and Sea Salt (LIOOSS). Then it was their Decaf ice cream using coffee from a local roastery. Then it was their Brother Justus Whiskey ice cream. At my last



visit I was going to choose between Rhubarb, which had just come out for the season, and the LIOOSS. I ended up getting both and being talked into trying a new one – Askinosie Chocolate. The Rhubarb is excellent but ... Oh. My. Goddess. The Askinosie! Hurry up and get this limited run of ice cream while it lasts. Before you ask (because I did!) Askinosie ticks all my ethical sourcing boxes, as well. If you don’t manage to score the ice cream, Askinosie Chocolate is also available online at askinosie.com.

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