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Cam's Corner



MPD and consent decrees

BY CAM GORDON

The role of public involvement has been questioned as the mayor and City Council move forward towards court agreements on racist policing practices.

Last April 27, the Minnesota Department of Human Rights (MDHR) released a report that found probable cause that the city and its police department engaged in a pattern or practice of race discrimination in violation of the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

At the time, then City Attorney Jim Rowader said that he was "fully committed to working with MDHR to address the issue." After his resignation in June, however, the city stopped attending meetings with MDHR and started publicly challenging some of the findings.

The U.S. Department of Justice began its own investigation into discriminatory and possibly illegal practices of the Minneapolis Police Department in April of

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'After the Fire' by Sue Kolstad

Vine Arts Center reopening

BY SUE KOLSTAD

This September the Vine Arts Center will be celebrating its reopening with a Member Show, dedication and thank you to our supporters.

The Vine Arts Center had been closed for a few months due to COVID when, on May 29, 2020, sparks from the burning Hexagon Bar found their way to the Ivy Building for the Arts and a fire started on the roof. Some neighbors who live a block away saw the beginning of the fire and came to help and alert any tenants still in the building. A crew of neighbors and tenants worked on the roof, trying to contain the flames. Eventually the fire

department was able to get there and began to fight the fire. Most of the building, including several studios and the Vine Arts Center, was severely damaged. It has taken until this summer for the building to be repaired to a point where tenants could return. We owe thanks to those neighbors for their help two years ago.

We also thank the Lake Street Council, whose support has been instrumental in our ability to reopen.

We are finishing the work to bring the gallery back to usable condition. A Member Show opened Sept. 17-18 as part of the LoLa Art Crawl, and others in the building also had their spaces open.

This week, on Sept. 24 from 6 to 9 p.m., we will celebrate our return and dedicate the spaces to three important people in our development. We will be dedicating the Vine Arts Center to the memory of Howard Gelb, a World War II veteran, prominent attorney, real estate developer and patron of the arts, without whose generosity and support the Vine Arts Center would not exist. He transformed the Flour City Ornamental Iron Works building into the Ivy Building for the Arts and this vibrant arts center. The small gallery will be dedicated in memory of Mark D. Roberts, a founding member of the Vine Arts Center. Mark was a pioneer gallerist, mixed

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Better ideas for affordable housing

BY ELINA KOLSTAD

The Minneapolis 2040 Plan was back in the headlines recently when a judge put the plan on hold in June, siding with groups who said the city should have performed an environmental review, and then again in July when the same judge allowed the city to continue to implement the plan as it appealed the June ruling.

Personally, I can't make myself care about the outcome either way. The explosion in the cost of housing in the wake of the pandemic has taken its toll locally and, even if the real estate market crashes, rents are unlikely to go down and will likely continue to go up. If the city wins its appeal and 2040 remains in place, this reality won't be substantially different.

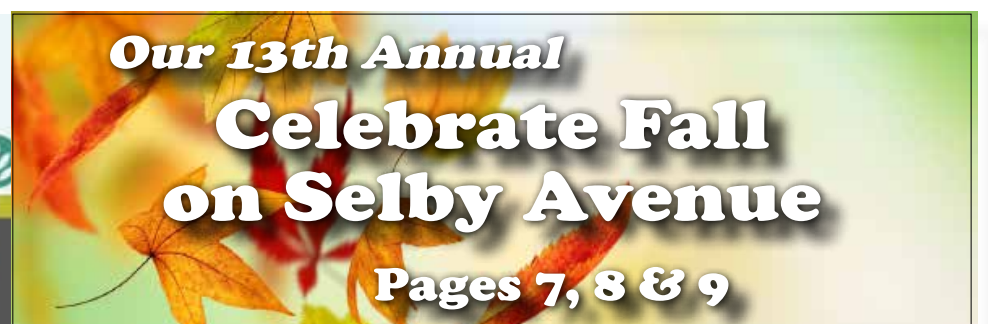
In my opinion, Minneapolis 2040 was always more hype than substance. Even proponents of the plan have talked openly about how little additional medium-density housing has been added since the plan's implementation. It is now touted as a success because it is inherently incremental and slow-moving. The fact that only five triplexes were built in 2021 in both Minneapolis and St. Paul, and that by June of this year only three triplexes had started construction for 2022 is cited by advocates of 2040 to say that opposition was



without foundation – because the only opposition they recognize is from those people who felt that 2040 would add too much infill density within largely residential neighborhoods.

Now that the plan has been in effect for a few years I feel vindicated in my opposition to it on the basis that it was never going to deliver on the vast majority of its promises. The most high-profile example of the plan's failure when it comes to adding density has to be the AutoZone on Lake Street. Burned down in the aftermath of the mur-

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One last summer fling at Open Streets Minnehaha

BY STEPHANIE FOX

The Minneapolis neighborhood celebration known as Open Streets will have its final festival for 2022 with Open Streets Minnehaha, in the Longfellow neighborhood on Oct. 1 from 11 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The street will be closed to all motor vehicle traffic between East Lake Street and East 46th Street, but open to pedestrians, bikes, skateboards and skaters. The philosophy behind Open Streets is to encourage people to explore their communities in a whole new way.

Visitors can spend time wandering the street to meet with local businesses and restaurants, with music and dance events to entertain everyone from kids to senior citizens. Dogs are welcome, too. You might even have

a chance to talk with candidates running in Minnesota's November election. There will be dozens of booths including the following:

Mactír Academy of Irish Dance (also known as the Wolfpack)
Performances at 11:30 a.m., 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.

Mactír Academy of Irish Dance gets its name from the Irish word for wolf, as well as the name of the studio's founder, Emily Wolff. She believes that Irish dance can help everyone develop skills that will benefit them for the rest of their lives. The studio has participated in Open Streets Minnehaha since moving into 3715 Minnehaha Ave. five years ago.

"We're going to have short performances and after that



Open Streets at Lake and Minnehaha

will be doing short classes," Wolff said. "You don't need special shoes or special clothes. We'll go through the fundamentals - how to hold your arms, where to put your feet and your posture. We'll teach simple steps.

"We're open to all ages, since Irish dance is for everyone, regardless of dance ability or experience. Anyone can come and learn. Our students start as young as 3 years all the way up to adults," Wolff said. "Our coaches

help dancers with encouragement and training to inspire creativity, spirit and drive."

Mactír will be collaborating with their neighbors the Zorongo Flamenco Dance Theatre and School as well as the International Wolf Center. "Our block is home to a few dance studios. We have the Flamenco and Tap-estry's social dance," Wolff said. "We love our street and the collaboration in our dance community."

SLFSH Massage

Jordan Will is the owner of SLFSH Massage based in Eagan, but he wants to show clients in South Minneapolis that people need to take time from their very hectic lives to give back to themselves.

"Massage is beneficial in many different ways. It helps with blood circulation and speeding up healing. It's a stress reducer. But we're try to remind people that your body is your best tool for everything you do, and by 'being selfish' and taking care of it, you keep your body working at its optimal levels. You can't help others without first helping yourself," Will said.

At Open Streets, "we'll be there to try to spread this message along with offering five-minute massages to cement this idea of self-care into Minneapolis and surrounding communities," Will said.

"We hope to gain new clients and supporters. I understand the grind and the effort that we

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Stop by our table during Open Streets!



Lifesize Jenga (Photo/LocalMN)

all put in with our jobs, families and friends,” Will said. “I understand we can’t always focus on ourselves. But I started and built this company to remind you all that you and your well-being matter too.”

BF50 Indigenous Health

“We offer health, wellness and cultural arts programming,” said Britt Howell. “I enjoy Open Streets because there’s a little something for everyone.”

Howell’s group will 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.”

They will also be signing people up for a food education program and classes about plant-based foods, Howell said.

a half, with one break. What we get out of attending is the opportunity to bring the joy of music to the community, and if we pick up a new member or two, that would be great.” All musicians should be able to play at a high school level and should be able to sight-read music. High school students can join with parental consent.

When the band was first organized in 2011, there were six members. The group now has more than 25 regulars, a perfect size for events like Open Streets.

Since first forming, the Crosstown Community Band has played for a number of local events in a variety of styles including traditional, contemporary, pop and jazz. They also hold an annual Christmas holiday concert. Their music ranges from “Peter and the Wolf” to John Philip Sousa and music from popular movies.



Open Streets Lake and Minnehaha 2017 (Photo/Paul Jahn)



Open Streets Minnehaha (Photo/Fibonacci Blue)



Kids Zone at Open Streets Minnehaha (Photo/Mike Beck)

grandmother’s empanada recipes for a take-and-bake product using all natural ingredients.

We have wonderful neighbors, and the sense of community is great,” she said.

Rodriguez is convinced that most people in the Twin Cities are familiar with empanadas. “For those folks who have never tried them before, I like to say they are little pockets with savory fillings,” she said.

“Every culture has some kind of dish consisting of dough and a variety of fillings, like samosas, dumplings, Jamaican patties, pasties or even pierogis. There is no heat in ours, but there’s definitely a lot of flavor in them,” Rodriguez said.

Attend Open Streets and stop by the booth and you can choose from various styles and flavors

of Rodriguez’s Quebracho Empanadas.

“Our chicken recipe is creamy like a chicken pot pie, with herbs, lemon and red bell pepper. The spinach and cheese variety is similar in texture to artichoke dip, with garlic, black pepper and a dash of nutmeg, and the beef recipe is similar to taco meat, with earthy notes of cumin and paprika,” Rodriguez said. And then there’s the Mendocino empanada.

“This last flavor also has eggs and olives and is what we in Argentina call the Mendocino empanada, a typical recipe from the wine country in Argentina,” she said. “Come and try them and enjoy.”



Open Streets Minnehaha (Photo/Paul Jahn)

At Open Streets Minnehaha, the group’s location will also include Pop-Up Poetry with Lupe Castillo (aka La Poetress), one of this year’s recipients of an arts grant from Minneapolis’s Creative Response Fund.

“BF50 Indigenous Health Corridor will be filled with energy around sustainable food and sustainable transportation as well as an eclectic vibe of celebrating culture,” Howell said.

Crosstown Community Band

“We’re the Crosstown Community Band. We’ve been in existence about 10 years, and play for a variety of events in a variety of musical styles,” said Bruce Wright, the band’s founder and one of their acclaimed clarinetists.

The Crosstown Community Band welcomes anyone who plays a band instrument. “We’ll be playing for about an hour and

Quebracho Empanadas

Belén Rodriguez moved to the U.S. from her home in Argentina in 2012. She started cooking foods from her home country, and six years later opened a farmers’ market booth and catering business. But COVID forced her to close these. Instead, she started to use her

While her empanadas can now be found in 130 grocery stores across seven states, she will be at Open Streets Minnehaha as a way to connect with and thank her home neighborhood in Minneapolis.

“I absolutely love living in Longfellow. We brought our Longfellow home six years ago.



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A Minnesota tourist in Cuba

BY YOEL YOHANNES

In the sweltering hours of a late summer's evening, airplanes touch down in Havana's José Martí International Airport and pull into gates, full of tourists and expatriates returning to see family. Past passport security and baggage claim, cigarette-smoking airport employees direct recent arrivals into the currency exchange boxes and vendors hawk bottles of warm beer and children's juice pouches. José Martí International, a multi-terminal airport, is named after a Spanish-citizen, Cuban-denizen poet and long-respected political prisoner and soldier of the third war for Cuban independence against Spain (1895-1898). As it turns out, this airport is the only port of entry for Americans. Some of the airlines that arrive at this particular airport include Southwest, American, Copa and JetBlue. Dispersed among Terminals 2 and 3, these airlines bring Americans from New York, Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Houston in to be asked, "Do you want your passport stamped?"

Since the airport is located a half hour's drive from central Havana, the only real option a U.S. citizen has is to travel by

taxi. It is possible to rent a car, but if you are using an American credit card to rent it, there is an almost 100% guarantee your account will be frozen. You cannot use American credit cards, debit cards or travelers' cards in Cuba. The Cuban government will allow it, the U.S. government will not.

Once settling to opt for the taxi, always know that no matter who you are, you have the option to haggle over the fare. Whatever the suggested price is, consider cutting it in half and adding maybe 200 pesos, or offering 60% of the requested payment. Most likely, the taxi driver will not even need a map. Tell them the address and the driver will reach the street and go down block by block. We would advise that you have downloaded the entire map of Cuba on Google Maps, as internet connections will be quite difficult to have most days on the island. On top of Google Maps, try to download the Google Translate Spanish translation dictionary onto your phone as well. You will be able to map out the cities you visit and translate any audio, video and written words offline. Very helpful.

I had reserved our casa particular (a hostel that is per-

sonally owned, as opposed to a state-operated hotel) and paid in cash once we arrived. One of the worries as U.S. citizens is to be careful not to plan out or pay for anything related to the Cuban government or the military. The rule of thumb is if the place looks fancy, it's government-owned. Because of the American embargo imposed on Cuba, Americans cannot travel there as tourists. There are 12 possible reasons Americans are allowed to go to Havana. These specific reasons are listed on the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) website. We chose the Journalistic Activity option.

The streets, especially San Rafael and O'Reilly, are filled with souvenir shops. Almost all of them are run by local owners who live either right above or next door. The owners are often the very same who run the shops and thus are the ones with whom you will haggle over prices. Many of the shops we visited were just down the road on Boulevard de San Rafael or de Obispo, and they offered almost exactly the same items, such as revolutionary-style green hats with Che's image, wooden cars, magnets, shirts, cigar cases and other trinkets. In between many



Live music performers at a local restaurant on Boulevard de Obispo (Photo/Haileab A. Ghebrekidan)

of these shops, restaurants and lounges, there are promoters that will try their best to move tourists into the shops and restaurants they are working for. They will neither hurt nor rob you, but the general deal is that if they bring you into a place to spend money, they are paid by the shop owner depending on how much you spend. In areas navigated by large groups of tourists, many of these promoters will be present. Often, they will approach apparent tourists and ask them where they are from, inform them of the nearby

cigar festival (which is nonexistent and just a gimmick to promote interest, seriously, THERE ARE NO CIGAR FESTIVALS), and then let their listeners know they can exchange currencies. There isn't really a problem with exchanging money, but just try for an exchange rate of at least 100 to 1, whether you have euros or U.S. dollars.

Both Obispo and San Rafael are dotted with cafeterias, restaurants, sandwich shops and other eateries. If you're inter-

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2021.

Since then, Mayor Jacob Frey has repeatedly objected to the idea of being subject to two consent decrees.

Nevertheless, the city started meeting with MDHR again and on July 14 the city and MDHR released a set of principles to guide efforts to reach a court-enforceable settlement agreement this fall.

The City Council has since established a new "Pattern & Practice Investigations Subcommittee" that received a report and update on the investigations from the city attorney's office on Aug. 16. The interim city attorney, Peter Ginder, reported that the DOJ is still in the investigations phase, but eventually he expects them to make findings that will result in a consent decree. "We don't know when the DOJ will be done with its investigation," Ginder said. If there are no findings there will be no report and the matter will be closed.

A consent decree is a court-approved agreement that resolves a dispute between two parties without admission of guilt or liability. The court maintains supervision over the implementation of the legally binding agreement and almost always uses an independent monitor to act on behalf of the court in evaluating compliance.

At the subcommittee meeting Ginder announced that the city was now holding regular closed, confidential meetings with the MDHR but was not working on

a consent decree. "We are currently working towards negotiating a court-approved settlement agreement with MDHR which is similar to, but not, a consent decree," Ginder said. He also told council members that they (and the public) would likely not see the agreement until it was completed. Then it would be presented in a closed session of the council before a vote would be taken. Only after it is approved would the public have access to it. It was unclear if the proposed settlement would include an independent court-approved monitor or not.

Expectations were raised in July when the MDHR worked with the Minnesota Justice Research Center (MJRC) to gather ideas about what should be included in a consent decree. Southside sessions were held on July 7 at Longfellow Park and on July 21 at Bryant Square. There, people shared ideas for ways to improve and measure practices in police use of force, community trust, use of social media, accountability, traffic stops, training and the makeup of a monitoring team.

"At the Minnesota Justice Research Center," wrote Justin Terrell, the group's executive director, "we are honored to play a role in developing the contents of the consent decree so that it truly reflects the experiences, perspectives, and desires of Minneapolis community members, especially Black and Indigenous communities."

When asked by Council Member Robin Wonsley (Ward 2) about community participation

going forward, Ginder said "the community will not be involved in the approval process."

In a conversation after the meeting, Wonsley said, "There are fears that we are going to get a very weak consent decree. There is a lot at stake with the consent decree and it is unfortunate that we are not being transparent." She also has no problem with two consent decrees. "If we need to be in two consent decrees," Wonsley said, "so be it."

"Past practice should lead us to expect this. But it is not acceptable, especially given the importance of these negotiations," said Dave Bicking about the closed meetings and lack of any public hearing. Bicking has been active in the watchdog group Communities United Against Police Brutality (CUAPB) for decades.

"For our part, since the announcements of the DOJ and MDHR investigations," said CUAPB's Michelle Gross, "we have held over two dozen meetings in the community. We also sent 30 canvassers into the street and have collected over 2,300 experience forms documenting people's experiences with the MPD. The experiences were all provided to the MDHR and DOJ and we continue to this day to provide additional forms to the DOJ."

Gross met with the MDHR commissioner, Rebecca Lucero, on Aug. 22. "She assured us that they will not just agree to a settlement with the city behind closed doors without public input," said Gross.



Amelia Huffman, Interim Chief of Police

CUAPB is drafting a "People's Consent Decree." "Due to the MDHR timeline, we are crafting and submitting parts of it in waves," said Gross. "We just submitted our first section, which is on Stops, Searches and Arrests/Citations. We will eventually provide this People's Consent Decree to the DOJ once they release their findings."

"At the very least," said Bicking, "once the settlement agreement has been written and presented to the council in closed session, the vote must not be taken in the same meeting. The text of the tentative agreement must be presented to the public, with adequate time for the public to analyze it in all its complexity. There should be public hearings."

Bicking is not as concerned with what the agreement is called. "The city's term, court enforceable settlement agreement, means precisely the same

as consent decree," he said. "I suspect this is purely public relations by the mayor, perhaps so we are not singled out as the first city with two simultaneous consent decrees."

Jordan Kushner, a local attorney who has represented many people in court cases involving the Minneapolis police, agrees. "But whether it is a settlement agreement or consent decree, it is more important that there are specific meaningful requirements for the city to follow and that the terms make it easy to get back to court to enforce, and that there is an opportunity for private citizens to enforce the terms through court actions and not just particular government officials or organizations that might not be motivated," he said.

"I am hoping for two consent decrees," said D.A. Bullock, a long-term critic of the police department. "I think the extensive systemic problems of our police department require robust and enforceable federal oversight from a judge. Take the police department into receivership if need be."

Whether it is called a consent decree or a settlement agreement, there is little doubt that many Minneapolis residents have invested a great deal in this process and will want to review the document and provide input on it before their elected representatives approve it. "This is just too important," said Bicking, "because this is one of our few realistic hopes for reform that benefits all residents."

Fighting crime with justice

BY LYDIA HOWELL

It's a strange time to be a progressive with a lifetime of doing anti-racism and police accountability activism and, now, seeing my city overwhelmed by crime.

Conversations about Minneapolis ping-pong between right-wing screeds, "Minneapolis is a crime-ridden hellscape! Leave NOW!" to progressives asserting, "The real problem is racial equity," while minimizing concerns about crime as (mostly) insidious bias largely felt by white, middle-class homeowners and businesses.

Pretending crime isn't happening – and hurting real people – won't create social change.

I'm working-class and live in public housing. Two African American neighbors were carjacked at gunpoint in our parking lot. Elder Somali neighbors, mostly women, are targeted for assault and robbery, followed home from the bank or shopping.

Gang rivalries and drug deals gone wrong ignite gunfire. Petty arguments anywhere, escalated by alcohol at bar close, get settled by bullets. Too often bystanders are harmed.

For two years, George Floyd Square memorialized victims of police violence, centered healing, and envisioned community rebirth. Crime ripples through there, too. In August, two separate shootings killed two men and seriously injured another.

I'm a survivor of multiple crimes from purse-snatching to sexual assault. Yet I worry that

rising crime intensifies the racist backlash and makes criminal justice reform more elusive.

With the decreased number of police officers, precautionary habits prevent opportunistic crimes. Walking while scrolling one's phone creates vulnerability. Cars, garages and homes must be habitually locked. Going out at night is safest in groups.

It's empowering to remind people that our choices can make us safer.

A friend's granddaughter left her car running at a convenience store. Moments later, it was stolen. Getting her car back quickly – without damage – implies juveniles joyriding. It seems that some juveniles are stealing cars just to ride around in them – not to sell them. Common sense would have prevented that crime.

"Defund the Police" was a dumb slogan distracting from making change. Mayor Jacob Frey didn't try to strengthen accountability, absurdly claiming that the new Minneapolis Police Department contract was not the place for reforms.

For over 20 years, Communities United Against Police Brutality has had the most comprehensive response to police violence. Their concrete, evidence-based reform proposals can be found in "What It Will Take To End Police Violence" (documents tab) at www.cuapb.org.

We've started redefining what police are for – serious, violent crime – not social problems better responded to by actually addressing them.

After George Floyd's murder, Canopy got \$3 million for mental health crises. In July, police killed Tekle Sundberg. It's unknown what mental health measures were tried. Since 2006, Hennepin County's COPE (Community Outreach for Psychiatric Emergencies) responds 24/7 if no weapons are involved (612-596-1223).

Traffic offenses and nonpayment of child support should be civil offenses. Restorative justice can address misdemeanors like shoplifting and vandalism. Determined coalitions can demand the failed "war on drugs" be replaced with harm reduction, treatment and decriminalization.

Obviously, this requires longer-term state legislative work to change laws. In the meantime, police, county attorneys and judges can exercise their discretion to shift priorities to what crimes to charge and jail people for.

When it comes to juveniles, we're in a 911 emergency.

It's a crapshoot whether a teenager gets sentenced to a juvenile facility proven to heighten probability of future crimes or diversion programs that drop recidivism to 15%. Probation is too often a missed opportunity – no consequences for the crime and no rehab either. Probation

alone sends the message: "You got away with it." Lack of interventions leaves youth walking negative paths.

My reporting this summer has found the Office for Violence Prevention unreachable. However, the people most knowledgeable about what troubled youth need might be groups like MAD DADS, who work to interrupt the crime cycles they know too well. Other nonprofits like the Y, Boys and Girls Clubs, churches, and youth-oriented groups (yet to be created) must innovate alternatives.

We already overload teachers, yet schools are public buildings that could host these alternatives after-hours. Disengaged and disadvantaged youth have unmet needs that could be filled by the types of arts enrichment, support groups, counseling, and mentoring that middle-class white children have.

Crime's economic appeal must be countered. Labor laws allow hiring teens 14 years old and up. With so many entry-level service job openings, early employment provides paychecks, social skills and self-respect. Local government and companies should collaborate on at-risk youth employment.

When we're looking at violence, criminal justice reform gets trickier.

The hard truth is that perpetrators are sometimes also former victims. Trauma-informed support must be more widely available. Would it help to reduce violence to intervene earlier where children and youth learn violence, such as school bullying, child abuse and domestic violence?

Can we admit how much violence is tolerated in our society before it's taken seriously – when we call it a crime?

"It takes a community to keep a community safe. We can't arrest our way out of this," says Minneapolis Police Public Information Officer Garrett Parten. "We have to care more for each other."

Lydia Howell is a Minneapolis journalist.



Love your neighborhood

BY DORIS OVERBY

I read a sign recently that said: "You are our neighbors ... no matter who you vote for, your skin color, where you are from, your faith or who you love. We will do all we can to be there for you."

The words reminded me of how grateful I am for my neighborhood and our block club that we started 30 years ago. We know that there is unity in community and by knowing the names of everyone, including the kids, babies and animals, we feel good about where we live. If any undesirable energy does occur, our neighbors are alerted. Cameras have helped in providing the police with details.

The National Night Out event in August was a fun time. Fifty neighbors, some from across the alley, enjoyed the evening with us. We missed some neighbors, but the good news is that they started their own block club just

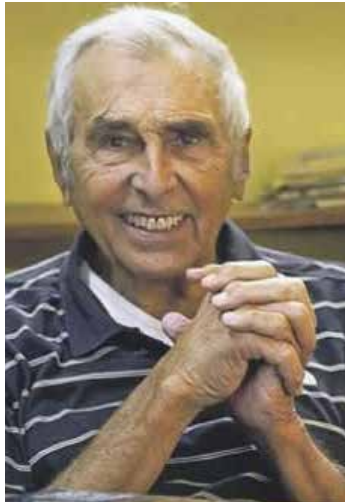
one block away. We had tasty food, many treats and many gift cards to give away, thanks to the generosity of our local restaurants and coffee shops. Inspector Gomez, our Third Precinct Inspector, stopped by to visit and he also had the opportunity to speak Spanish with two of our neighbors. He handed out soccer balls to the kids and threw a couple of football passes to our teenagers.

I wish that there was a way to emphasize the importance of knowing your neighbors and taking care of each other during the rough times (like the COVID pandemic and the 2020 riots) and also through the good times. We trust that we are always there for each other.

Starting a block club takes a little time but it is not difficult. You need to be willing to knock on doors. The potential is there to recognize and appreciate the value in knowing your neighbors.



I hear voices



BY TONY BOUZA

America has always spoken to me. Its powerful culture overwhelmed me on my arrival from Spain on Dec. 22, 1937, at nine and a half years old. I embraced the movies, songs, magazines, comic books, etc.—

and unconsciously rejected everything I came from.

And those voices?

What follows is a flawed impression only—no pretense of historicity.

1619: The first slave ship arrives and Southerners live with the “peculiar institution” for 246 years. Even Thomas Jefferson enjoyed its sins.

Breaking with Mad King George III was a wrench—but they did it with heroics from Nathan Hale, Patrick Henry, etc. Washington exhibited courage and an admirable affection for democracy when he rejected a kingship and a third term. Tom Paine was—along with such as Madison, et al.—its voice and scold.

Then came about a century of thefts from Mexico, tolerance of slavery and vigorous capitalist expansion. Martin Luther guided and shaped the actions.

The Civil War was a defining moment and wonderfully symbolized by Abraham Lincoln. America’s luck held.

Mark Twain helped define us. His depiction of racial brotherhood was inspiring. Harriet Beecher Stowe helped.

An insanity deeply embedded in us to this day. It is today reflected in the febrile dreams of the hard right.

Straddling this bloody conflict were two imperialist aberrations—Mexico and Spain, and plunder resulted from both.

And the voices?

Pretty still.

Woodrow Wilson saved England and France and then sowed the seeds of fascism through his maladroit handling of Versailles. Incredibly, he showed “The Birth of a Nation” in the White House.

America’s luck ran out—or, rather, Europe’s did, when

Hitler declared war, pursuant to his treaty with Japan.

Sprinkled throughout were the grateful patriotism of Irving Berlin, a refugee; the Ivy elegance of the brilliant poet Cole Porter; the patrician sophistication of FDR; our greatest writer, Herman Melville; songsters Rodgers and Hammerstein; brilliant directors Frank Capra and Stanley Kubrick; Virginia Woolf and Sylvia Plath and the baleful skepticism of H. L. Mencken.

Ochs and Sulzberger gave us The New York Times—bless them. Hearst—yellow journalism—damn him.

The great presidents—Washington, Lincoln and Roosevelt. My Rushmore.

So, it becomes a pantheon of Great Americans.

Let’s include Branch Rickey, Susan B. Anthony and Eleanor Roosevelt. Maybe Richard Wright, Spike Lee and Harry

Belafonte?

And let’s not forget the antisemitic screeds of Father Charles Coughlin; the anger of W. E. B. Du Bois; the racism of David Duke and George Wallace; the separatism of Marcus Garvey and Elijah Muhammad; the devotion to brotherhood of A. Philip Randolph, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the later Malcolm X.

I’m haunted by a chorale: the voices of two scorned and victimized peoples and their experience in America. How very different, the fate of Blacks and Jews. One arriving in chains and the other in rags. How very different the outcomes—centuries later. The result seems to flow from sociological, familial, religious, (yes, I hesitate) political economic forces and leadership. Yet, we do not study it.

Why?

The fear of fewer cars



BY JOHN DAHL

On June 6, Southside Pride published an opinion of Patricia Kelly, Board Chair of the DFL Senior Caucus Minneapolis Area Chapter, that denounced the MPRB’s Open Parkways initiative. Specifically, Kelly believes that prohibiting motor traffic in portions of our city’s parkway is “a step toward the desire to transition parkways solely to bicycles, or other non-motorized, wheeled conveyances.” Kelly also called the initiative “discriminatory towards both seniors and the disabled,” but was then refuted on July 4 by Liam Mackin, who pointed out that Kelly’s conclusion is “inconsiderate to the many seniors and people with disabilities who either cannot or choose not to drive.”

It seems that the anger and

inflexibility of Kelly’s position is based in fear. On the outside, Kelly may simply seem loath to find new driving routes. But on the inside, she’s afraid of being fundamentally wrong. Afraid of having spent decades behind the wheel, only to find out that this was asinine and that biking and walking were always superior. Better for personal health, better for public safety, better for the environment. Being so wrong for so long can be a pretty heavy hit to one’s ego.

Accordingly, Patricia Kelly wants to keep parkways open for motor traffic, and has signaled that the DFL Senior Caucus is not willing to give an inch. But this begs the question: why? Why should motorists be the first consideration when we talk about public amenities? Cars are loud, expensive and exceptionally dangerous.

As it stands, the MPRB has pulled the Open Parkways proposal in the wake of negative feedback from entitled people like Patricia Kelly. So for now,

she is allowed to drive as aimlessly as she likes. But the conversation is far from over.

Response to John Dahl

BY ED FELIEN

John, as a former biker, I recognize and appreciate your tone. You feel there is an antagonistic relationship between you and cars. They’re trying to kill you. And it’s a one-sided war. You hear about cars running over bikers, but you don’t hear much about bikers running over people in cars.

I can appreciate the generous bike lanes on Park and Portland. They’re meant to save lives. I have a special fondness for them because, almost half a century ago, when I was the City Council member representing the 8th Ward, and Park and Portland from 24th Street to 46th Street, I created the first bike lanes on Park and Portland. I had to re-

voke them after a couple of weeks because I had wiped out six handicapped parking spots. It needed further study at that time but I didn’t get re-elected, so I never had the time or opportunity to get back to the problem.

I now think a better solution would be to make Oakland a bikeway with cars allowed to drive only one block before being diverted back to Park or Portland. This would be safest for bikers.

The Biker Revolution began 30 years ago in 1992 in San Francisco. A few crazed anarcho-bikers started getting a gang together once a month to take over the streets. They called it Critical Mass. It soon spread across the country. Over 300 cities, Minneapolis among them, had Critical Mass events. As many as a hundred bikers would gather once a month in Minneapolis and ride all over town, ignoring traffic signals, stopping traffic and calling attention to the need for traffic to make space for people on bicycles.

Popular sentiment agreed there needed to be space for bikers and, with avid bikers and competent policy wonks like Jacob Frey and Lisa Bender on the Council, it was easy to take away lanes of vehicular traffic and give them to bikes.

But now, I think, the Biker Revolution has gone too far. It has allowed their natural antagonism to cars to get in the way of creating the safest routes for bikes to travel. We need to rethink traffic patterns and (in my opinion) keep bikes and cars as separate as possible.

Bikester Chronicles

There was a proposal before the Park Board to close Minneapolis parkways to vehicular traffic on certain days every month. The Board received so much negative feedback they canceled the proposal in August.

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Celebrate Fall on Selby Avenue

What's happening on Selby Avenue in St. Paul

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Rondo – reconnect or reparations, or both?

St. Paul's Rondo neighborhood was the center of the Black community in the Minneapolis-St. Paul region for much of the 20th century. The intact Rondo neighborhood was economically active, social and self-supportive. The core of Rondo was demolished between 1956 and 1968 to make way for the construction of the I-94 freeway. At least 650 families were displaced from the neighborhood, as well as many businesses

and community locations.

On Aug. 18 of this year, St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter III proposed the creation of the Inheritance Fund to help low-income former Rondo residents purchase homes. Residents who earn under 60% of the area's median income are already eligible for \$40,000 grants; Carter proposed using existing housing trust fund money for an additional \$50,000 (\$60,000 if they buy within the bounds of the old Rondo neighborhood) in forgivable down payment assistance.

This is what reparations could

See *Selby Avenue*, page 8



Jennifer Becker at work in her violin shop.

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Celebrate Fall on Selby Avenue

Selby Avenue, from page 7

look like. Of course, as is always the case with reparations, for some it will be too late. I thought of this as I read the story of Rev. George



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Davis, the late grandfather of Nick Khaliq of St. Paul. Nick Khaliq was born Nick Davis in the Rondo neighborhood in his grandparents' home at 304 Rondo Ave. Later, his mother and her children moved to their own place, but Nick remained close to his grandparents.

In an article published by Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity, Nick describes the trauma of the family's eviction when he was a young teenager:

"I came home that day and saw the big moving truck and saw police cars. I was looking around wondering what was going on. I knew that my grandpa didn't want to move. I asked, 'Where's my grandpa?' When I walked in I saw they were tearing stuff up to make sure he didn't come back in there. One of the officers said, 'I'll take you to where your grandparents are.'"

When Nick arrived at his grand-



Leah Raymundo, co-owner of Kalsada

parents' new place, a rental on the other side of town, he found them sitting in the dark. Their look said everything. "It broke my grandfather's heart because the only thing I think a Black man had back then

was his dignity, his pride, self-worth, and independence. He didn't ask anyone for anything. He was a pastor, and people in need would come by and he would help them out with prayer, food, or a word of encouragement." Despite being a healthy man, Nick's grandfather died a year later.

If you want to learn more about the history of I-94's construction, an online resource called MNopedia is a good place to start, with the article "Neighborhood Resistance to I-94, 1953 - 1965." Use the search function on the home page: www.mnopedia.org.

Another approach to repair is to repair the neighborhood itself. This is the aim of the Reconnect Rondo project. From their website, reconnectrondo.com:

"ReConnect Rondo is leading a restorative movement. ReConnect Rondo is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit orga-

nization driven to bring prosperity to the Rondo neighborhood. We're eager to right the wrongs of the devastation caused by the original I-94 construction. We're ready to work with the Rondo community and others in Minnesota to reverse systemic oppression once and for all. We're passionate about creating an African American cultural enterprise district connected by a community land bridge."

Retail and services on and near Selby Avenue

Selby Avenue today looks a lot healthier than it did in 1980, about 15 years after I-94 was completed. According to Wikipedia, at that point businesses could not get insurance, 20% of residents of the avenue were below the poverty line, and three of the four corners of Selby and Dale were vacant. Houses as well as commercial sites stood empty with boarded or broken windows.

Now most of Selby Avenue looks vibrant and thriving. It has all the types of businesses that make a neighborhood desirable. One of those is Walker West, a community music academy at 760 Selby Ave. (its third location, not counting the founder's home where it started). Walker West was founded in 1988 by two musicians, Rev. Carl Walker and Grant West, to teach piano to



ReConnect Rondo proposal (Photo/HGA)

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Gary Moore's furniture for J. S.

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neighborhood children. Coming into existence soon after Selby Avenue's nadir, the school has had two moves, some crisis points, and a few reinventions. They have added oth-

place the music classes they have dropped over the years due to declining enrollment and funding.

Another longstanding business that's also music-related is Jennifer

787 Selby Ave. Moore's interest in woodworking and furniture design "was sparked at school in England, and stoked by a grandfather with a 'make do and mend' attitude, who was into sustainability and eco-consciousness long before 'green' was a thing." Moore initially pursued printing as a trade but switched to his woodworking passion at age 37.

After design school, marriage to a Minnesotan, and fatherhood, Moore moved with his family to St. Paul and opened his business. “My designs are drawn from the natural world and inspired by great architecture. I love the hexagons of a honeycomb, and use them frequently in my designs,” Moore says. “I primarily use sustainably sourced wood and with the offcuts of the large furniture commissions, I make smaller pieces (cutting boards, iPad stands). Like my grandfather, I hate to see anything wasted. Even our sawdust ... is given away to a woman who keeps urban chickens.”

The final business we're highlighting is Mother Co., Plants. This is a business that sells houseplants of all types, plus the gear to take care of them, both in retail and wholesale mode. The business was launched in Northeast Minneapolis in 2018, and the branch outlet at 162 Dale St. (just south of Selby) opened in November of 2020. This business has a stellar reputation, judging by all the happy blog and Instagram posts from St. Paul customers who no longer have to trek across the river to get a new plant or some expert advice.

A couple of restaurants

Kalsada, a “modern Filipino” restaurant, is now open at 1668 Selby Ave. It’s a new venture by the couple who own Cafe Astoria. Kalsada serves Filipino dishes with contemporary interpretations – “authentic flavor, delivered proudly inauthen-

the Kimchi Brat-wich, which consists of a Beyond brat, bok choy, mustardy kimchi relish and mayo on a pretzel bun (can also be made gluten free). Check out their online reviews for a sampling of just how much people love J. Selby's food, staff and surroundings. As one reviewer wrote, "This is THE veg-



The Selby Avenue Jazz Fest from Walker West's Facebook page

er instruments and competencies over the years and now employ a full staff of teachers of all aspects of music.

Walker West's current executive director is Braxton Haulcy, who brings 35 years of business experience to the role. Haulcy's vision is to raise the profile of Walker West so more funders know they're there, and to partner with schools to re-




Walker West's summer camp ends with a concert.

tically, not your lola's cooking." You can download a menu and also order online from their website. They are open for dinner starting at 4 p.m. on Tuesday through Sunday, with additional hours for brunch from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

J. Selby's, a vegan restaurant in St. Paul, is still going strong, with the dining room open again. They're at 169 N. Victoria St. (Try the soft serve.) Their September special is

an restaurant. I can't even begin to describe how good the food is. Even meat-loving skeptics (aka me before I first had their cauliflower wings) can find something to fall in love with." As a side note, in an interesting juxtaposition of business-to-business hyperlocalism, Gary Moore designed and built the furniture at J. Selby's, so be sure to admire it the next time you're there.



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EVENTS

Golden Rule Peace Boat
Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7 to 9 p.m.
Unity Church – Unitarian
732 Holly Ave., St. Paul
Friday, Sept. 23, 6 to 8 p.m.
Veterans For Peace office
4200 Cedar Ave., #7, Mpls.
The storied Golden Rule anti-nuclear sailboat will be in Minneapolis/St. Paul from Sept. 21 through Sept. 25, kicking off a series of local events to raise awareness about the growing danger of nuclear war and to build support for the abolition of nuclear weapons. The 34-foot wooden ketch is sailing on a 15-month voyage around the “Great Loop” of the central, southern and eastern United States, making 100 ports-of-call. The Golden Rule is a national project of Veterans For Peace, which owns the boat.
The public is invited to tour this historic peace boat, which will be docked at the Watergate Marina, to hear about nuclear issues today, and to learn how we can stop the possibility of nuclear war!
Church, school and civic groups are welcome to schedule an educational presentation by contacting the Golden Rule Project Manager, Helen Jaccard, at vfpgoldenruleproject@gmail.com or 206-992-6364.

‘Unite to End Gender-Based Violence’
Thursday, Sept. 22, 5 to 7 p.m. CT
Virtual event
Global Rights for Women’s annual fundraising event, “Unite to End Gender-Based Violence,” will be held on

Saturday, Sept. 22, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are available for the livestream program featuring Professor Anita Hill in a live and virtual keynote address; Global Rights for Women Executive Director, Cheryl Thomas; Alicia Wallace, founder of Equality Bahamas, Scott Miller, Executive Director, Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs, and acclaimed global and national leaders in ending gender-based violence against women and girls.
All ticket proceeds go toward ensuring systems are responsive to survivors in our local and international communities, and that law and policies target the root causes of inequality and gender-based violence. The virtual event will be streamed live from Minneapolis. Tickets can be purchased at <https://globalrightsforwomen.org/annualevent2022tickets/> for \$10 or by visiting globalrightsforwomen.org.

Lambchop: ‘Showtunes,’ ‘The Bible’
Sept. 23 – 24, 8 p.m.
Walker Art Center
725 Vineland Pl., Mpls.
This Walker commission and world premiere presents “show tunes for people who don’t like show tunes” and “spiritual music for the godforsaken,” deadpans indie folk/pop hero Lambchop’s lead creative Kurt Wagner. This diverse collection of new songs from Lambchop’s 2021 album “Showtunes” and his forthcoming 2022 release “The Bible” features 16 accomplished musicians, including Andrew Broder (Fog) and CJ Camerieri (Bon Iver). Swirling together everything from turntables and a grand piano to horns and a choir, this new

work exemplifies the driving ethos of this unclassifiable band. Copresented with Liquid Music. Tickets: walkerart.org/calendar/2022/lambchop-showtunes-the-bible.

16th annual NAMIWalks Minnesota
Saturday, Sept. 24, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Minnehaha Park
4801 Minnehaha Ave., Mpls.
The 16th annual NAMIWalks Minnesota, a 5K walk to raise awareness about mental illnesses and celebrate hope, is set for Saturday, Sept. 24, at Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis. NAMIWalks supports the efforts of NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) to provide education, support and advocacy for children and adults with mental illnesses and their families. The event opens at 11 a.m. and runs through 3 p.m. There will be picnics and food trucks, music, speakers, mental health resource tables, a T-shirt contest, a tree of hope and more. NAMIWalks is a transformative opportunity in which participants reduce stress, build community, and find local support and services that can make a difference. Walkers can also join the Walk in their own way to raise awareness in their home communities, with some choosing to bike, run, skate, swim, canoe, post signs, start conversations or walk, for example. For details, including forming or joining a walk team, go to namimn.org or call 651-645-2948.

Vine Arts Center Celebration
Saturday, Sept. 24, 6 to 9 p.m.
Vine Arts Center
2637 27th Ave S., #228, Mpls.
Vine Arts Center will celebrate the end of construction on the rebuild of the Ivy Building for the Arts with a dedication of the Vine Arts Center to our benefactor, Howard Gelb, a member gallery to Mark Roberts, a founding member, and the store to Mary Stiff, also a founding member. This will include music from local band “Up in the Attic,” and member Edie Karras will present her children’s photo book, “Let’s Go for a Wander.” info@VineArtsCenter.org

Schubert Club Mix: Sound Sculpture
Saturday, Sept. 24, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 25, 7 to 9 p.m.
Landmark Center
75 W. 5th St., St. Paul
Sound Sculpture is an interactive musical instrument made up of illuminated building blocks created by Boston-based interdisciplinary MASARY Studios. Come and explore, play, and create music with Sound sculpture. Saturday is FREE and open to the public. Schubert Club Mix performances on Sunday will feature collaborating artists cellist Michelle Kinney, choreographer Darrius Strong/STRONGmovement, and spoken word artist Alexei Casselle aka Crescent Moon. For more information on Saturday’s FREE visiting hours and Sunday’s performances, go to schubert.org/event/sound-sculpture-free-visiting-hours/.

Revealing & Healing Histories: Racial Covenants Then and Now
Monday, Sept. 26
5:45 p.m. Pre-show events
7 p.m. Film screening
Parkway Theater
4814 Chicago Ave., Mpls.
This inspiring event will feature an educational bike tour, live performances, music and the premiere of a new TPT series, “Jim Crow of the North Stories” starting at 5:45 p.m. The evening will look at how Minneapolis residents have responded to the rising awareness of racist covenants, redlining and other forms of damaging segregation. The films and live performances will explore the history of systemic racism while lifting up Black resistance and resilience in the past, as well as present-day changemakers looking to right historical housing injustices. Reserve your seats for this FREE event at <https://theparkwaytheater.com/all-events/free-the-deeds>.

Rain Taxi Fall Events
Online
Rain Taxi is pleased to announce these virtual events to share with the world as we begin the drive to our in-person Twin Cities Book Festi-

val on Saturday, Oct. 15! Readers everywhere can plan to enjoy these free events from the comfort of their homes:
Jeffrey Archer
Tuesday, Sept. 27, 3 p.m. CT
Bestselling British author Jeffrey Archer marks the publication day of his latest novel, “Next in Line,” by beaming in from the U.K. to converse about his work with Minnesota mystery writer Carl Brookins. Register at www.raintaxi.com/jeffrey-archer/.
2022 Kerlan Award:
Andrea Davis Pinkney
Tuesday, Oct. 11, 6 p.m. CT
We are honored to broadcast the 2022 Kerlan Award Ceremony, this year celebrating the distinguished, award-winning, bestselling author of numerous books for children and young adults, Andrea Davis Pinkney. More info here: www.raintaxi.com/2022-kerlan-award-andrea-davis-pinkney/.

Dalakopa
Wednesday, Sept. 28
7:30 to 9 p.m.
Tapestry Folkdance Center
3748 Minnehaha Ave., Mpls.
Dalakopa, an internationally renowned group of musicians from four countries – Norway, Sweden, Denmark and the U.S. – and Spellemannpris (Norwegian Grammy) winners will be in concert for one night on Wednesday, Sept. 28 from 7:30 – 9 p.m. in Minneapolis. Together they have forged a special sound, due to the countries from which band members come. Their traditional repertoire comes mostly from Røros and Østerdalen, Sweden, with originals from the group’s composers. Dalakopa’s music has appeal for dancers accustomed to lively, old-time tunes as well as folks who enjoy listening to – and watching – energetic, soulful performances and personalities. Register at www.tapestryfolkdance.org/dalakopa-concert.

Mizna’s Arab Film Fest
Sept. 28 – Oct. 2
Opening night Wednesday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m.
Walker Art Center



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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Cuba, from page 4

ested in a bevy of five-star food spots and Michelin-rated dining, Havana isn’t really for you. The city does have higher-end eateries, but we focused on where locals ate and drank for our food and drink.
Walking down tourist-filled paths, we noticed that several sandwich shops and bakeries were operated directly from local residents’ home kitchens. Menus with pre-made juice blends, shots of instant espresso, and ham and cheese baguettes lined the streets in the mornings. Groups of people lined up to an entrepreneurial resident’s back door and shelled out a handful of pesos for egg sandwiches and lemonade. We followed suit and were treated to deliciously fresh beans and bread, mango juice and hot espressos, paying maybe two dollars total.
Since Havana is home to a large harbor, christened the Port of La Habana, water surrounds you in the capital city. Having said that, Havana was also the most defended city in the New World; the Spanish built safeguards throughout the city before moving on to build around Florida’s St. Augustine. Along the coast of Havana,

sights like the San Salvador Castle or the Malecon merge the ruggedness of stone and the fluidity of the water bordering it. However, seafood isn’t as apparent in the local diet as one would expect. We saw fish served at only one nearby restaurant. Our photographer, Haileab, preferred the lobster served at this locality.
Evenings were melodic and serene during our stay. We walked past closed services in Chinatown and saw quiet people-watchers setting their folding chairs in front of their apartments, cigars in hand. Open windows with metal bars gave snapshots into apartments where residents watched television and talked, some nodding their heads as we passed. Down Paseo de Martí, a hushed promenade between two streets leading towards the Bay of Havana, young locals practiced their skateboarding. Some would sit on the benches lining the walkway with their paramours and practice something else. Traffic was almost nonexistent, only two or three 60- or 70-year-old Buicks with newer parts shipped in from the east or a Moskvitch would pass every so often. Every few blocks, we would pass a small convenience store

based out of an apartment selling Coral brand fruit-flavored water in small pouches. This isn’t to say that no one was out. The streets still had promoters and tourists milling about, but daylight hours bring hordes of tourists and businesspeople. Compared to this, the late-night crowds only congregate around bars still open, or smoking lounges that serve small snacks.
We made plans many years ago to visit Havana, not realizing that we would not be able to go as tourists. It is quite fortunate for us that we were able to go now. It became a repeated mantra during our time in Cuba to say, “Imagine we made it to Cuba,” and laugh. Our experience in this part of the world, hit not only by political upheaval but by a historically momentous embargo by such a near neighbor and fervent defender in the past, showed us again that people find ways to survive even in the toughest situations. We encourage readers to visit Havana under the Support for Cuban People allowance, a U.S. governmentally legal opportunity to see the neighborhoods and locally owned shops in cities like Trinidad, Santiago de Cuba, Cienfuegos and, of course, La Habana.

• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / RIVERSIDE EDITION

725 Vineland Pl., Mpls.
Mizna's Arab Film Fest takes place Sept. 28 – Oct. 2 in hybrid format. The theme, Life in Diaspora, engages and interrogates SWANA diaspora as an experience and filmmaking practice. The festival will open at the Walker Art Center with a screening of "Memory Box," directed by celebrated Lebanese artist-filmmaker duo Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige. Khalil Joreige will be in attendance for a post-screening discussion. More info at <https://walkerart.org/calendar/2022/memory-box>
Early Bird Passes now on sale: Through Sept. 12, passes will be available at 25% off the regular price. There are a limited number so act fast to get yours! <https://tcaff22.eventive.org/passes/buy>

Buddy! The Buddy Holly Story
Oct. 1 – 30
History Theatre
30 E. 10th St., St. Paul
1956-1959. Part bio-musical, part rock 'n roll concert, and part toe-tap-pin', hand-clappin' celebration of the music of Buddy Holly. This young talent from Lubbock, Tex., had a meteoric rise to fame as he crossed racial barriers and rose to the top of the charts with his music in just four short years. His appearance in Minnesota was part of the legendary Winter Dance Party tour that brought him to Duluth and St. Paul just before his final show at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, Iowa. You'll be dancin' in the aisles with songs like "Oh, Boy!", "Heartbeat," "Every Day," and "Rave On!," as well as The Big Bopper's "Chantilly Lace," Ritchie Valens' "La Bamba" and more! Written by Alan Janes and directed by Ron Peluso, with musical direction by Ivey Award-winner Gary Rue and choreography by Jan Puffer. Tickets available at www.historytheatre.com/2022-2023/buddy-buddy-holly-story.

REUSE22
Tuesday, Oct. 4
8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
University of St. Thomas
Schulze Hall
46 11th St. S., Mpls.
Deonna Anderson will kick off Reuse Minnesota's national conference on Tuesday, Oct. 4, as the keynote speaker. Anderson is an award-winning journalist and senior editor at GreenBiz, a media and events company working to elevate efforts to address climate threats and share opportunities for more sustainable communities and businesses. "REUSE22 – Reflecting on our past, renewing our future" will be held at the University of St. Thomas Minneapolis campus, celebrating Reuse Minnesota's 10-year anniversary. Over 40 local and national reuse experts will present throughout the REUSE22 conference, highlighting ways for conference attendees to integrate reuse, rental and repair into

their business, life and community. The full-day event is bringing together thought leaders across multiple disciplines, from business professionals and nonprofit leaders to government entities and academics. Register online at reusemn.org/register. View the conference schedule and speakers online here: <https://reusemn.org/conference>.

Sound Unseen: 'Let There Be Drums'
Wednesday, Oct. 12
7 to 9 p.m.
Trylon Cinema
2820 E. 33rd St., Mpls.
Sound Unseen film series brings you "Let There Be Drums," the excellent documentary by Justin Kreutzmann (son of Grateful Dead drummer Bill Kreutzmann) about some of the greatest drummers in the world and why they chose the instrument they chose. This is a very heartfelt and personal doc that also features what is assumed to be the last recorded interview with Foo Fighters drummer Taylor Hawkins. More info and tickets at www.soundunseen.com/upcoming-events/2022/10/12/let-there-be-drums.

Free Ink Day
Saturday, Oct. 15
Noon to 4 p.m.
Highpoint Center for Printmaking
912 W. Lake St., Mpls.
Enjoy a day of free printmaking and beautiful Minnesota fall weather – Free Ink Day will take place in the Highpoint rain garden (behind the building) where you will have a chance to learn about and create relief prints. For this autumn event, we'll create fun prints, fall-themed designs, or spooky Halloween imagery to print and take home. This event is free and open to the public – families, adults, kids, all are welcome! This event is in coordination with Twin Cities Art Week. Stick around that night for the artist and curator talk with William Villalongo (6 to 7 p.m.) and view the Stand Out Prints Exhibition on display in the gallery. Would you like to volunteer to help with this event? Details on our website at www.highpointprintmaking.org/calendar/2022/fall-free-ink-day-fcz56-s3z4w.

Consortium Carissimi in concert
Sunday, Oct. 16, 4 p.m.
Mount Olive Lutheran Church
3045 Chicago Ave., Mpls.
Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts presents Consortium Carissimi in a concert highlighting the secular music of Dowland and Gesualdo, directed by Garrick Comeaux. The Consortium is an early music ensemble with 10 singers and lutes, theorbos, Baroque guitars, Baroque harp and viola de basse, and lirone. This event will coincide with the Twin Cities Early Music Festival 2022. The concert is free and open to the public; a free-will offering will be

taken to support the Music and Fine Arts program. A reception will follow the event if pandemic conditions allow. Please refer to the church website for COVID protocols applicable to this event and for possible live-streaming information. This is the first event in the 2022-23 Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts season. For further information on this event and on the Music and Fine Arts program, please contact the church office at 612-827-5919 or online at www.mountolivechurch.org/.

Circus Abyssinia: 'Tulu'
Through Oct. 23
Children's Theatre Company
2400 3rd Ave. S., Mpls.
Children's Theatre Company welcomes back Circus Abyssinia, the internationally acclaimed Ethiopian circus that delighted audiences in 2019, with their brand-new show "Tulu." This dazzling performance is inspired by the story of Ethiopian icon Derartu Tulu, the first Black African woman to win Olympic gold. Watch in awe as a dazzling spectacle of high-flying acrobatics, hand balancing, and juggling (sometimes with fire!) flashes before your eyes, backed by pulse-pounding Ethio-pop music. Feel the energy and spectacle of the Olympic games packed with extraordinary circus acts and be amazed as the world of triumph and virtuosity comes to dynamic life! Tickets can now be purchased at childrenstheatre.org/circus or by calling the ticket office at 612-874-0400.

The Jewish Artists' Laboratory: A Retrospective
Through Oct. 23
Minnesota JCC Sabes Center
Tychman Shapiro Gallery
4330 S. Cedar Lake Rd., Mpls.
"The Jewish Artists' Laboratory: A Retrospective" features a culmination of works from The Jewish Artists' Laboratory. The Artists' Lab brought together over 60 artists over 10 years who gathered as a community to study a series of thought-provoking themes as seen through the lens of Jewish text and commentary, bringing together many artistic disciplines – sculpture, photography, painting, story, poetry, glass, mixed media, papercutting, video and more. This retrospective exhibition features the work of more than 40 artists, representing the relationship between Jewish thought and creativity. minnesotajcc.org

Fulton Farmers Market
Saturdays through Oct. 29
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
49th St. & Chowen Ave. S., Mpls.
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)
www.neighborhoodrootsmn.org/

Vine Arts, from page 1
media artist and beloved mentor. He championed and helped legitimize photography in the fine art world. Mark considered himself first and foremost a photographer, working in black and white photography and alternative processes. And the shop will be dedicated to the memory of Mary Stiff, artist and founding Vine Arts Center

board member and treasurer, who worked tirelessly to make the gallery and store a success. Mary was a jewelry maker, painter and choral singer who derived her inspiration from her travels. We currently have an open call for art to support our fundraiser for Soup For You in the Seward neighborhood which provides free lunches every weekday and free groceries once a week. You

can check our Facebook page or vineartscenter.org for more information. The show and sale of this art will be Nov. 19 in person at the gallery and online. Join us as we honor those who made us who we are, celebrate our ability to fight off fire and rebuild, and explore what the future has to offer.



celebrate seward

Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Fadlan ka soo qaybgal xafladdan
ኑ ኣብርን እንደሰት
Maaloo koottaa wali gammada!
Music • Arts • Food • Unity

This is a FREE event at Matthews Park
2318 29th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55406

Join the Seward neighborhood in celebrating our community's love, friendship, optimism and resilience with live music performances, a resource fair, children's activities, artist vendors and food reflecting our neighborhood.

CHILDREN'S TENT: Make some nature art or be awed by the Byron of Bubble performing at 12:30 at the Main Stage (and at the Children's tent in the afternoon). Find the stilt walker making their way through the event.

PERFORMERS:
VAN NIXON TRIO: Van first studied classical music and opera at Simpson College in Indianola, IA, then moved to the Twin Cities in Minnesota, where he has performed professionally for close to 40 years. Performing from 11:30am – 12:30pm

THE CULT OF PERCOLATION: When David Bowie, Tina Turner, and Black Sabbath came blaring on sub-space frequencies, Mary Allen and her Cult of Percolation took their message to heart. They donned their most convincing skin-suits, hopped a light-speed saucer, and arrived on our planet to make life on Earth more bearable. Performing from 1 – 2pm

THE WAKE SINGERS: The Wake Singers have been around since Doug & Micheal Two Bulls were in art school at the Institute of Native American Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, over a decade ago. The current iteration of the band includes Doug, Mike, and Reed Two Bulls along with Dan Carroll and Dyami Giroux. Performing from 2:30 – 3:45pm

For information on Celebrate Seward, visit <https://sng.org/celebrate-seward/>

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EVENTS

Minneapolis Friends Meeting Fall-Winter Schedule Begins Sept. 18

4401 York Ave. S., Mpls.
The Fall-Winter schedule for Minneapolis Friends Meeting is in effect Sept. 18. Unprogrammed worship 9 to 10 a.m.; Mid-morning program 10:15 to 11 a.m.; Semi-programmed worship 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Services will continue to be hybrid – join us on Zoom or at the Meetinghouse. Please go to our website at minneapolisfriends.org for more information. All are welcome!

MCLC Celebrates 100 Years

Sunday, Sept. 25, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church
4101 37th Ave. S., Mpls.
MCLC has been on the corner for 100 years and in Minneapolis for longer than that, and it's time to celebrate all those years of worship, service and community. Join us for the service and party until 2 p.m. Activities include outdoor worship with coffee; walking tacos and ice cream for lunch; great music; bounce house; bingo; and more fun and games. Bring quarters for bingo and you're also welcome to bring a comfy lawn chair for the service. All are welcome! <https://minnehahacom-munion.org/>

'Many Voices United'

United Theological Seminary's 60th Anniversary

Wednesday, Sept. 28

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Register by Friday, Sept. 16

United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities

767 Eustis St., St. Paul

Founded in 1962, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities will kick off its 60th anniversary at a special event for students and alums, current and former faculty, and other members of the community on Wednesday, Sept. 28. The theme for the celebration is "Many Voices United."

"Many Voices United" pays homage to the ecumenical origins of the seminary and its ongoing dedication to educating leaders for the church and society, and weaving into its curriculum tenets of social transformation, theology and the arts, interreligious engagement and public theology. During the day-long celebration participants can tour our St. Paul campus, worship with Rev. Elizabeth Macaulay ('99), and enjoy special

intergenerational theological conversations between current and retired faculty members. There is also an option to view the program online. Please register for the event by Friday, Sept. 16. Visit <https://content.unitedseminary.edu/60th-anniversary-reg-form> to learn more and register.

Holy Name Church Rummage Sale Sept. 29 – Oct. 1

Holy Name Catholic Church

3637 11th Ave. S., Mpls.

The Holy Name Church rummage sale opens on Thursday, Sept. 29 with our Preview Sale from 4 to 8 p.m. Admission is \$1 per person. On Friday, Sept. 30, hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 1 is Bag Day (\$2 per bag) from 9 a.m. to noon.

We have books, clothing, furniture, household items, jewelry, toys and more. Check out our Oval Room with nicer items! For more information, call 612-724-5465.

Watch the Fire Prayer Vigil

Sept. 30 – Oct. 1

Gitchitwaa Kateri Catholic Church

3045 Park Ave., Mpls.

Join together with other faithful people in a local pilgrimage to pray for and learn about the effects of the Residential Boarding Schools for American Indians. Register to join in one or all facets of the pilgrimage. Learn more and register at <https://www.mary.org/news-events/events/walking-together-twin-cities#.YyILpqTMI2y>.

Episcopal 101 – Fall 2022

Mondays, Oct. 3 – 24, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Saturday, Nov. 5, 10 a.m. to noon

Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral

519 Oak Grove St., Mpls.

Episcopal 101 is a series of classes that offer an opportunity to deepen your knowledge of the Episcopal Church, to nurture your spiritual development, and to meet a variety of leaders at Saint Mark's. These classes are for you if you are new to Saint Mark's, new to the Episcopal Church, or simply want to learn more. The series is available for everyone, no matter how many times you have attended!

Each week is taught by a different member of the ministry team, with time set aside weekly to connect with one another. This class will utilize the book "A People Called Episcopalians," which is available through our Cathedral Bookshop. For the Monday evening sessions, the Zoom room opens at 6 p.m.,

followed by the program from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. The Saturday class will be in the Cathedral nave, allowing us to greet each other in person, to experience an instructed liturgy and to hear more about St. Mark's community.

Please contact Canon Community Developer Mary Lusk at maryl@ourcathedral.org with any questions. Register for Episcopal 101 at <https://onrealm.org/StMarksEpiscopa29272/PublicRegistrations/Event?link-String=OWU5ZWM4YWVETzJyYm-S00OTUyLTgyY2EtYWVvKODAxNTZ-jzQx>.

Ongoing Tuesday Vigils for Justice Tuesdays, noon to 12:30 p.m.

Plymouth Congregational Church

1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.

Racial Justice Initiative justice vigils are now being held from noon to 12:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Please join us when you are able. We always meet by Door 1 near Jones Commons. www.plymouth.org

Donations Needed for Newly Arrived Refugees

From the Minnesota Council of Churches: During the hectic past few months, MCC Refugee Services has been able to serve 225 Ukrainian individuals – nearly as many people as we served from Afghanistan – through Matching Grant and RCA programs. As folks settle into their homes, we have an urgent need for donations for newly arrived Ukrainians and others from around the world.

On the top of our list: trash bags; laundry detergent; kitchen/bathroom cleaners; shower curtain and rings; toilet brushes; brooms & dustpan or mops; bed sheets twin & queen, blankets twin & queen; pots & pans; kitchen knives; and kitchen utensils. Do you have items you would like to donate? Please email Rsvolunteers@mncchurches.org or call (612) 230-3219, or order online from our up-to-date Amazon Wishlist at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2144RAQ240DR9/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1?fbclid=IwAR1MPIVOD3g-P6giEmpmQ55m4HgCvYIDAUZ-G6p-zaZvp4InnFWWhK9Ev_dxo.

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/>

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.

Thursday noon to 2 p.m.

All are welcome, no restrictions or proof required.

To place an order, visit <https://www.dunordfoundation.org/get-food>.

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

612-825-6933

We're still here to serve you on the first through the fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We 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 5th Saturdays) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

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

612-825-6846

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

Minnehaha United Methodist Church

3701 E. 50th 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 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.

Community Meals at Walker Church 3104 16th Ave. S., Mpls.

612-722-6612

Free to-go meals and groceries are available for pick-up every Monday from noon to 2 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.

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/>

Park Avenue Church 3400 Park Ave., Mpls.

(Corner of Oakland Ave. and 34th St.)

612-825-6863

Free fresh food the third Friday of the month (Sept. 16 and Oct. 21) from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Free food and other items; legal consultations with lawyers, spiritual support; and music! All are welcome, all is free! Sponsored by Park Avenue UMC; Messiah UMC; Volunteer Lawyers Network; Iglesia Piedra Viva; Simpson Food Pantry; and Source MN, Inc.

The Riverside Religious Community Welcomes You

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

E. 29th St. & 32nd Ave. S.

612-724-3643

www.saintalbertthegreat.org

Weekend Masses with limited seating

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 9:30 am (also

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

www.minnehahacomunion.org

12-step groups Tuesday through

Friday evenings

TRINITY LUTHERAN CONGREGATION

Augsburg College, Hoversten

Chapel

Riverside & 22nd Aves.

612-333-2561

www.trinitylutherancongregation.org

Sunday Worship 11 am

Pastors: Jane Buckley-Farlee &

Alem Asmelash

Office: 2001 Riverside Ave.

Reconciling in Christ



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Openings and closings, food news, and vegan food celebrations

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Openings and closings

A sad closing happened in late July but didn't make it into the August Dish – Pie & Mighty on Chicago Avenue. We are so sorry to see them go. Another big favorite that closed recently, not so close to home, was Mort's Deli in Golden Valley.

Racket had a great piece about the recent surge in BIPOC-owned coffee shops. Read it here for the details I don't have space for! racketmn.com/a-wave-of-bipoc-owned-coffee-shops-are-changing-the-face-of-twin-cities-coffee/

One of the places mentioned, Abogados Cafe in Como Park, has an interesting backstory and is a place I want to visit soon. A second, Mocha Momma's, is another I was looking forward to checking out, and finally got to visit a couple of weeks ago. It's in the old Dunn Brothers space in the Minneapolis Central Library. A third one is Forreal Coffee at George Floyd Square, which is covered in the Chicago Avenue section in this month's Powderhorn issue of Southside Pride.

Racket also did a deep dive into all the new foods at the State Fair this year, ranking them Scarf, Shrug, or Skip, while the Sahan Journal (sahanjournal.com) focused exclusively and positively on the new Hmong foods at the State Fair. The Beer



Bebe Zito 'Pineapple Express' with THC gummies

Dabbler (beerdabbler.com) has a piece highlighting seven local summer brewery debuts.

Finally, not a new place or a new concept, but a new product announcement from Bebe Zito, the innovative ice creamery in Uptown. Due to the recent legalization of non-medical THC, Bebe Zito has mixed Delta-9 THC gummies into their "Pineapple Express" pints to become the first local supplier of weed ice cream. I have no idea what Delta-9 means nor how you get THC into a gummy; I'm just trying to keep up with the cool kids here.

Unionizing at more Starbucks and a Trader Joe's

More Starbucks stores an-



Trader Joe's workers embrace after their union win. (Photo/Max Nesterak, Minnesota Reformer)



The Starbucks on Cedar and 47th had a 2-day strike in August.

nounced upcoming union elections or elections held and mostly won, and as we go to press on Aug. 30, the unionized (but no contract yet) store at 4712 Cedar Ave. is holding a one-day strike to protest Starbucks' retaliatory tactics. The latest one was to give raises to all the non-union staff while freezing wages on the union members. Don't cross the picket line if you see one in the future, and pass the PRO Act to improve protections for workers.

The Trader Joe's in downtown Minneapolis became just the second TJs in the country to vote for unionization. The vote, in the second week of August, was 55-5! The online newspaper minnesotareformer.com has more details about the Trader Joe's drive:

"Workers in Minneapolis will be represented by Trader Joe's United, an upstart union created by workers at a store in Hadley, Mass., who became the first to unionize a Trader Joe's [in July 2022]. Workers at a Trader Joe's in Boulder, Colo., have also filed for a union election but with an established union: the United Food and Commercial Workers. The UFCW represents grocery store workers across the country, including in Minneso-

ta at Kowalski's, Cub, Lunds & Byerlys, [several food co-ops] and other stores."

Vegan food celebrations

August and September see a fun celebration of vegan food in the Cities presented by the animal rights organization Compassionate Action for Animals (CAA). Throughout the month of August, restaurants across the city participate in the Vegan Chef Challenge. Restaurants, whether vegan, vegetarian or omnivore, present one special vegan dish as an entry in the challenge. Diners who try the dish fill out review and voting forms, rating the dish on a scale of 1 to 5. They also share their thoughts and pictures on social media and each rating or share constitutes one entry in the daily draw for free meal coupons. The restaurant with the highest vote total wins the yearly award.

Then in September there is VegFest. You could call it Veg-Feast just as well. It's an outdoor festival featuring free vegan food, with information booths from many vegan product makers and eateries. This year's Fest is on Sunday, Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Harriet Island Park in St. Paul. Get more info at www.exploreveg.org/events/twin-cities-veg-fest-2022.

Mini-review – three Vegan Chef Challenges

I had big plans for the Vegan Chef Challenge. I was going to try 10 dishes, and post pictures of each one with a comment and vote on them, but I only made it to three.

The three vegan meals I sampled were:

- Parkway Pizza's Philly Cheese-Fake Pizza.
- Tiny Diner's Sesame Glazed Tofu.
- Reverie's Korean BBQ Mock Duck Tacos.

Parkway Pizza actually has a number of vegan specialty pizzas already, as well as a number of vegan "meat" and "cheese" options for BYO pies. A friend and I split the pizza, and even then didn't finish it. The pizza was slightly disappointing, but I took some home, so I must have liked it at least a little. There was nothing really wrong with it, but it was a little blah. Very reminiscent of the "real thing," the cheese-steak sandwich, which I also consider blah.

I asked our server what kind of vegan cheese and vegan ground meat it was, and she said it was from Herbivorous Butcher. This was an understandable mistake, because most of the vegan options on their menu are from HB, but when I later saw a more complete description of the Philly Cheese-Fake, it said the "meat" was Impossible Burger and the "cheese" was Cross Your Heart. I am strongly partisan pro-Beyond Burger in the vegan burger wars, so that may account for my being underwhelmed.

I also had what purported to be a "Strawberry Daiquiri" cider from Sociable Cider Werks, but even though it was pink in color, there was no detectable flavor of strawberries, just a strong dry-cider flavor with a hint of lime. Pleasant enough, but not as advertised.

Not as advertised sums up my experience at Tiny Diner too. Again, it wasn't bad, it was just less than what I was expecting. The name of the dish was Sesame Glazed Tofu. I expected the tofu to be glazed, i.e., have a shiny or sticky coating with



Garden Fairy cocktail



Second vegan challenge at Tiny Diner



Reverie's Korean BBQ Mock Duck Taco



Parkway Pizza vegan challenge

sweet-sour flavors and sesame seeds clinging to the surface to add a nice texture. The tofu cubes were not glazed. They were very well-browned with no perceptible coating and no alluring flavors. The sesame seeds were raw and just scattered over the dish as a garnish. In addition there were lots of noodles and a minimal amount of vegetables. It should have been fairly high in protein though, because two of the vegetables were mushrooms and edamame. I didn't hate it, but I also didn't finish it. I have had much better dishes at Tiny Diner, even much better vegan dishes. I don't really think their heart was in this competition.

My final Vegan Challenge dish was from the all-vegan Reverie Cafe and Bar. Their dish sounded weird but turned out better than anticipated in the execution. Korean BBQ Mock Duck Tacos sounded like a fusion too far. In execution, it was like a low-carb banh mi. The BBQ was Korean style, with lots of heat, but not overpowering. The tacos were the soft variety. In addition to plenty of mock duck, they contained the usual crunchy and leafy bits you get in a banh mi – radishes, carrot shreds, quick-pickled cucumber and cilantro. I had it with a side

The new commissioner meets the community

BY KAY SCHROVEN

Commissioner of Public Safety Cedric Alexander is wasting no time getting out to meet the communities of Minneapolis. On Aug. 25 he was introduced to the Phelps community at Phelps Park by Andrea Jenkins, City Council president and Ward 8 council member. It was Alexander's third week on the job.

Alexander and Jenkins were joined by interim Police Chief Amelia Huffman, 3rd Precinct Inspector Jose Gomez and a number of representatives of the community who are involved in the plans for transforming the intersection of 38th and Chicago, also known as George Floyd Square. The auditorium was full, with nearly 100 attendees.

Commissioner Alexander made it clear that he intends to get "the bad guys off the streets, especially those committing vi-

olent crimes." He shared that when he makes this statement he often hears, "Good luck!" Alexander admitted it is an uphill climb and that "more than luck is needed." He spoke about the shortage of cops on the force, stating, "We must fight with what we have, including community involvement."

Chief Huffman began by saying, "I love Minneapolis." She presented a five-page document outlining MPD initiatives and corresponding links and websites where additional information can be obtained. The initiatives include various new training programs in intervention, de-escalation, leadership development and use of force. Huffman also informed us about new software that will allow for improved record keeping and data improvement, collaboration with UCMT (Unity Community Mediation Team) from the

BIPOC and LGBTQ communities, restrictions on the number of hours employees may work, a new discipline matrix, new studies of existing protocols, grant funding for early intervention, and vendor selection for trauma services. She also listed open positions (such as Community Partnership Liaison and Communication Specialist) and current hiring initiatives. Huffman mentioned the high number of calls regarding shots fired (many automatic), gunshot wounds and calls to 911, followed by a description of efforts occurring to address this violence such as federal and FBI involvement. Recently, 120 guns and 4,000 Fentanyl pills were removed from the streets over a 15-day period.

Inspector Gomez was questioned about recent homicides at 38th and Chicago on Aug. 7 and Aug. 14. He said the victims were not from Minneapolis and that "several suspects" had been identified. Gomez said that the 3rd Precinct has new recruits coming onto the force and that cameras are installed at hot spots (high crime areas). He acknowledged that homicides are up. (In the 3rd Precinct there have been 17 homicides through Sept. 1 of this year.) Gomez underscored what Commissioner Alexander has been saying: "We need your help; we need involved partners in the community to curb crime."

The meeting took a turn when a gentleman at the back of the gymnasium spoke up, saying it was time for the panel to hear from residents in the neighborhood. He invited the panel to listen and asked anyone who wanted to speak to approach the microphone. He asked them to keep it short and pose just one question to any member of the panel. Many attendees got in line and the meeting went into overtime.



Cedric Alexander, Commissioner of Community Safety

Here are some of the comments:

"We never see police at 38th and Chicago, why aren't they doing outreach there?"

"We do not want reports, we want action!"

"I know you have plans but what are you going to do NOW about the violence?"

"Why hasn't the intersection been cleared?"

"Are you prepared to jail youth? We have a revolving door of re-offenders under age."

"Why haven't any representatives of the city apologized for what happened on May 25, 2020?"

"You can't arrest your way out of poverty."

"Why isn't anyone talking about affordable housing, jobs and health care?"

"38th and Chicago is a hoax. It is no longer a place of protest; it's a place of crime. People are dealing drugs, using crack, run-

ning guns."

"I recently had to hide between two garbage cans to avoid gunfire. My family will not visit me because they are afraid of the neighborhood."

"My 6-year-old son will only sleep in the basement. He is afraid to sleep on the ground floor for fear of gunshots."

Several community members were vociferous regarding their experiences at the scene of recent homicides at or near 38th and Chicago. "It was awful. The police were aloof." "Amidst trauma one officer said to me, 'People die every day.' How cold!"

Commissioner Alexander closed with an emotional apology to the neighborhood for what it's endured, promising to do what he can to improve the situation. Chief Huffman agreed to look into the callousness displayed by the officer(s) on Aug. 14 and "apply discipline if and where appropriate."

Housing, from page 1

der of George Floyd, it was quickly rebuilt. The 2040 Plan was in place at the time, but somehow the lot zoned "Built Form: Transit 20" was rebuilt with a one-story building. To clarify, the Minneapolis 2040 website states that "New and remodeled buildings in the Transit 20 district should reflect a variety of building types ... Building heights should be 6 to 20 stories." That "should" does a lot of work.

Whether the 2040 Plan is overturned or upheld in court, the city of Minneapolis should work aggressively and creatively to add to our housing diversity and housing affordability. There are a number of ways this could be done.

The city could create a program like Boston's Intergenerational Homeshare which connects graduate students in need of a place to live with older homeowners with a spare room. This provides financial benefits for those involved (the renter pays less than they would for their own apartment,

the homeowner collects rent), but it also reduces social isolation in older homeowners and enables them to better maintain their homes.

The city could also work with Hennepin county and advocate for a policy to provide tax deductions to owner-occupied, or home-steaded, properties where there is a rental. This tax incentive would need to apply to long-term rentals only, apply to apartments or rooms, and would need to be enough to offset the cost of a rental license.

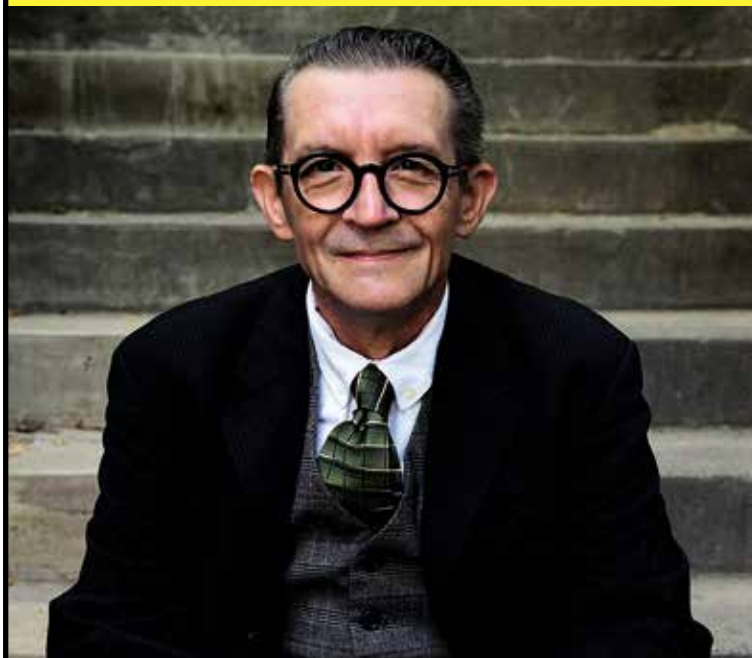
The city should also do more to discourage short-term rentals; at the very least a short-term rental license should cost more than a long-term rental license given how much more income these units generate and their detrimental effect on the local rental market.

The city could also look at ways to incentivize the construction of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) with a temporary permit waiver as was done in Portland. This saved homeowners \$12,000-\$19,000 per ADU. The policy was

seen as so successful that it was extended on the conditional basis that the unit constructed cannot be rented as a short-term rental for 10 years. Minneapolis could also encourage ADU construction by offering a program like that offered by the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LABDS) called the Standard Plan Program. Through this program the homeowner can find a pre-approved plan on the LABDS website and purchase it from the architecture firm that designed it. This means that the homeowner doesn't need to hire an architect to design their ADU from scratch and also the pre-approved nature of these plans means dealing with less red tape with the city, so there is less cost and time needed before the ADU can be built.

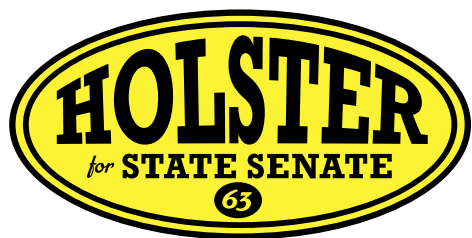
These policies wouldn't solve all of our housing affordability issues, but each could have a positive impact in its own way. Housing is a human right, and we need to be doing more toward that end.

BACK TO BASICS



Minneapolis is on a downward spiral as a result of exclusive DFL leadership and policy. It's time to think differently.

- Police reform and enhanced training
- School choice
- An "all of the above" energy policy
- Roads and bridges, not rail boondoggles
- Bring business back to Minnesota



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It's time

BY ED FELIEN

It's time.

"It's time," the people of the East Phillips neighborhood are saying.

It's time the city started taking itself seriously and started believing some of the things it's been saying about the environment and equity.

In 2019, Mayor Jacob Frey said, "Minneapolis is doing nation-leading work on climate change. Now we're taking the next step by formally declaring a climate emergency. In the coming months, we'll be moving forward with a new sustainable building policy and moving to adopt a social cost of carbon."

Fine.

The East Phillips Neighborhood Institute says, "Fine."

According to Council Member Jason Chavez, the city is planning to demolish the Roof Depot building sometime in October or November. EPNI, speaking for the neighborhood, wants to be assured that the arsenic-contaminated soil is removed in such a way as to not spread the dust all over the neighborhood. They are frustrated with negotiations. The number of parking places the city is planning for their diesel-polluting trucks has increased from 60-some to 80-some. If Frey and the city are serious about pollution and the environment, then stopping increased carbon pollution by city trucks in one of the city's most carbon-impacted neighborhoods would seem to be a good place to start.

EPNI wants to be involved in planning the job training program, and they want new hiring to give some kind of preference



to people living within a two-mile radius of the site.

The Southside Green Zone Council was created by the city in May of 2019. In their August 2019 letter to the City of Min-

neapolis, they said: "The environmental disparities we face as a community have been institutionalized through decades of planning, decision-making and investment patterns that

have sacrificed the health and well-being of our community and families. We hope that the next generation of investments by government, philanthropy and private capital will work to fix this history and be done in partnership with the Southside Green Zone and other critical local groups already doing work in the area. A much higher level of government and philanthropic resources is needed to achieve the sustainability and climate vision of the Southside Green Zone, a transition that must be grounded in justice. This is articulated in the Southside Green Zone's priorities on tangibly improving Air and Soil Quality, Healthy Food Access and Health in Energy in Housing intertwined with the social and economic priorities on Green Economy, Anti-Displacement, Self-Determination and Accountability. These all go hand

in hand to ensure the people living here are benefiting and designing the investments in air, soil, food, housing and energy."

The Native Lakota people drumming in the illustration above walked only a couple of blocks from their homes to the Roof Depot site where a rally was held to support EPNI's negotiations with the city on Sunday, Aug. 28. The Little Earth public housing site was formerly an abandoned industrial site that probably included a coal yard.

If the city truly believes in racial and cultural equity and wants to be a leader in protecting the environment, then it will listen to the voices of EPNI and the people of East Phillips and treat those voices with the same respect they give to people from Linden Hills and Lake of the Isles.

It's time for East Phillips to have a seat at the table.

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October 4 | Health Sciences Programs

October 5 | STEM Programs

**October 18
Saint Paul College Open House**

October 25 | Wellness Programs (VIRTUAL)

**October 27
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November 2 | Business Programs

November 9 | Culinary Arts Open House

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