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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

See Bouza, page 4



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 demol-

ish 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

See Time, page 6

New guy in town

BY KAY SCHROVEN

The Commissioner of Public Safety is a new position created to integrate five departments in the city of Minneapolis: Fire, Police, Emergency, 911 and Neighborhood Safety (formerly known as the Office of Violence Protection). The position carries a salary greater than the mayor's or the governor's. The goals of the position include improving policing, expanding community safety and streamlining practices with respect to 911. Mayor Frey identified and nominated Dr. Cedric Alexander, stating: “Alexander's qualifications, experience, and vision uniquely aligned with this opportunity to re-shape Minneapolis government and public safety.”

Community activists have expressed mixed feelings about the changes. Nekima Levy Armstrong approves while KG Wilson does not, namely because he would prefer a native who has history in Minneapolis, that is, an insider who knows the city, its history and is highly in-



Cedric Alexander, Commissioner of Community Safety

vested in outcomes. The other side of this disagreement is that an outsider comes with fresh eyes and perhaps ideas and skills that have not been tapped in the past in Minneapolis.

The Aug. 2 City Council meeting was largely about vetting Alexander. The result of the vote was eight in favor, two against and two abstaining. With seven yes votes required, Alexander was confirmed on Thursday, Aug. 4.

See New Guy, page 3

**Celebrate Hope
on Chicago Avenue**

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A simpler Hiawatha plan

BY ED FELIEN

Ian Young, in a Star Tribune editorial published Aug. 5, said, “Those commissioners voting to advance the nine-hole master plan are the ones who have done their homework and understand the reality of the issue.”

Really?

Young says any proposal to save Hiawatha Golf Course would “not be compatible with the other major goals for the site: managing flooding, reducing groundwater pumping and cleaning up pollution entering the lake.”

The 2017 Barr Engineering study said removing the remains of the dam/weir at 27th Avenue and an unused gas utility pipe would reduce the level of Lake Hiawatha by one and a half feet. Lake Hiawatha is 53.5 acres. An acre is 43,560 square feet. 43,560 times 53.5 means 2,330,460 square feet, times 1.5 would equal 3,495,690 cubic feet. One cubic foot of water contains 7.48 gallons. 7.48 gallons times 3,495,690 equals 26,147,761 gallons of water.

Getting the Park Board to take down the remains of the dam/weir and getting CenterPoint Energy to remove their unused utility pipe would mean we would increase Lake Hiawatha’s storm water capacity by 26 million gallons. That would go a long way toward “managing flooding” and “reducing groundwater pumping.”

“Cleaning up pollution entering the lake” is the responsibility of the city. Most of the trash comes through the storm sewer system that takes gutter trash from Lake Street to 43rd Street, from Chicago Avenue over to 27th Avenue, and dumps it into Lake Hiawatha. Andrew Johnson, chair of the city’s Public Works Committee, has shared with me that there is grant funding secured to implement a temporary litter catchment next year.

If for some perverse reason the Park Board refuses to take down the remains of the dam/weir, and CenterPoint refuses to remove their unused utility pipe, then people should write to Sarah Strommen, commissioner of the Minnesota DNR, and complain that the Park Board and CenterPoint are blocking the natural flow of Lake Hiawatha into Minnehaha Creek.

My understanding of regulations is that: “Federally-owned dams and dams determined by the DNR to be non-hazardous are exempt from the dam safety rules. Dams not subject to the dam safety rules will still require state and federal permits if they involve filling of public waters or wetlands.”

Backing up a foot and a half of water raises the water table in the surrounding protected wetlands. The peat soil conducts water easily and collapses sideways and floods basements.

They must have a permit to do what they are doing.

Do they have a permit to flood a wetland?

If they don’t have a permit, then they’re in violation of State Law: 103G.141.

And, if necessary, they should be prosecuted in a court of law.

“I believe the City has the responsibility to eliminate pollution entering Lake Hiawatha from our infrastructure. Litter comes through the storm water system from miles of roadway and dumps into the lake. We are exploring permanent infrastructure changes to address this, and once recommendations are before us we will be able to proceed with securing funding so that we can get permanent improvements implemented. In the meantime, we are implementing temporary improvements to help catch litter for removal.” – Andrew Johnson, Chair of Public Works & Infrastructure

Sometimes simple is not better: a response

BY CAROL DUNGAN AND FRIENDS OF LAKE HIAWATHA

If you’ve been following discussions about the Hiawatha Master Plan involving the lake and golf course, you can be forgiven for feeling a bit of déjà vu. That’s because some supposedly simple solutions keep being proposed as alternatives to an “expensive” master plan. You may have heard “do this one thing, it’ll solve everything!” because, hey, who doesn’t like a simple solution that costs almost nothing and solves everything? For some, the solution to the complex problems at hand boils down to removing a weir at the 27th Street walking bridge, accompanied by claims that doing so will lower the lake and keep the golf course and adjacent homes flood-free.

Let’s recap the problem with facts I think we all agree on: Hiawatha Golf Course was built in the late 1920s on a floodplain with dredged wetland material from historic Rice Lake. (I say “historic” because the lake and the land were part of the vast homelands of the Dakota people, from whom they were taken by deceit or by force.) The Minnesota Historical Society has photos of the area pre-dredging, showing a massive flat wetland stretching from 28th Avenue to Cedar. So all those rolling hills our homes and parks were built on? Man-made.

In the 1950s, as Hiawatha Golf Course gained a following among local Black golfers, its sodden foundation required pumping into adjacent Lake Hiawatha to keep the greens playable. Think of a sponge that is already soaking wet. The only way to soak up more water is to squeeze out the existing water. Pumping accelerated in 1992 but was permit-

ted only to remove stormwater. At some unknown point in time, MPRB began pumping ground water of between 300-400 million gallons per year – the only thing that keeps the course consistently dry. In violation of environmental law, MPRB had vastly exceeded permitted levels and type of pumping. Then came the flood of 2014, which cost an estimated \$4 million to fix. The illegal pumping was discovered, and the master plan process began.

In addition to remediating the flooding issues, the master plan diverts trash and polluted runoff into planned filtration and catchment areas, preserves nine holes of challenging golf, and introduces meaningful education and acknowledgment of the area’s complicated history – for Black golfers who created a safe space for all, and the Dakota peoples from whom the land was forcibly taken.

A frequently mentioned alternative to the master plan is removing a weir under the 27th Street walking bridge. But this is only one piece of a multipart case scenario outlined by Barr Engineering in 2017, not a solution in and of itself. Barr’s scenario would also require significant dredging of the creek from the outlet to Nokomis Avenue, reconstruction of bridges at 30th and Nokomis, redesign or lowering several sanitary sewers and a water main at 28th, and removal of an abandoned gas main. All of this would be at an unknown cost both to taxpayers and critical habitats to lower the lake by one to one and a half feet. Is this a significant amount? Not really. A quick calculation yields a total of approximately 37 million gallons of potential reduction in pumping into Lake Hiawatha but compared to the current level of 400 million gallons a year, it’s less than is pumped into Lake Hiawatha, on average, in a month.

One unfortunate aspect of

the divisive dialogue around the master plan has been misinformation about how it will lead to flooding basements of adjacent homes. MPRB Commissioner Cathy Abene, who is a licensed professional engineer in Minnesota and has been working in water resources for the public sector for most of her career, confirmed to Friends of Lake Hiawatha that homeowners shouldn’t be afraid that the nine-hole plan will fill in the floodplain. This is because the final version of the plan must and will accommodate flood storage.

The design for the nine-hole plan is only schematic at this point. I think that gets lost in all the back and forth between 18-hole advocates and those who support the nine-hole compromise plan. First, the plan must be voted on by commissioners. Once it’s accepted by a majority, it goes into the process of securing funding. Once funded, a full engineering design process begins, and adjustments are made to ensure the desired outcomes. But those adjustments can’t be made until we move ahead. The costs of further delay are only making the solutions more expensive and risking another flooding catastrophe – and FEMA will not help foot the bill. We should pass the master plan and secure the futures of both the lake and sustainable golf at Hiawatha Golf Course.

Response to ‘Sometimes simple is not better’

BY KATHRYN KELLY

The response by Carol Dungan and Friends of Lake Hiawatha (FOLH), “Sometimes simple is not better,” states that “in the 1950s ... Hiawatha gained a following from Black golfers.” That statement is incorrect. Black golfers golfed at Hiawatha as early as the 1930s, according to articles in the Spokesman-Recorder newspaper. Shortly after the golf course opened in 1934, Black golfers started soliciting the Central States tournament for Hiawatha Golf Course. It was a large regional Black tournament that drew Black golfers from all over the Midwest. This tournament was held at Hiawatha Golf Course in 1938. In 1951, Black golfers finally requested equal access to the facilities and privileges at Minneapolis golf courses.

Regarding the pumping of water from the golf course, my understanding is that the pumping wasn’t started until the 1970s or later. I don’t believe that there was any consistent pumping from the golf course into Lake



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The friendly neighborhood tour of art and artists in Longfellow Minneapolis! LoLaArt.org

Artists' work above, clockwise from left: Cherie Burke, Sharon Parker, Daren Hill, Mary Ila Duntelman, Gwen Partin, Jim Dunn, Ella Ritzman, Gordon Coons.

Simpler Plan, from page 2

Hiawatha in the 1950s. But, as the water levels in the lake increased over the years, more and more pumping needed to be done.

FOLH’s response also states that “pumping accelerated in 1992 but was permitted only to remove storm water.” I know of no permit to pump storm water into Lake Hiawatha until 2019. That is when Scott Pearson, the hydrologist at the DNR, told me that the DNR was finally going to require the Park Board to get a dewatering permit for the golf course, which the Park Board did. Regarding the statement about “violation of existing law,” the DNR should be asked why they didn’t enforce the law between

2014 and 2019, if the golf course was violating it.

The FOLH response also says, “At some unknown time, they started pumping 300-400 million gallons of storm water.” I have a whole list of projects that increased the amount of water in the lake and on the golf course, requiring the necessity for pumping more water. In other words, it was not a golf course problem – it was the fact that Lake Hiawatha and Hiawatha Golf Course have been used as a dumping ground for water by the city of Minneapolis and the whole watershed.

The \$4 million damage estimate is unsubstantiated. My calculations, using Park Board revenue figures, show a revenue loss of about \$560,000, along with the cost of some grass seed and a

few equipment repairs. The revenue loss would have been much less if the back nine wasn’t kept closed, apparently to get FEMA money. And please explain why the \$1.1 million FEMA award for Hiawatha Golf Course wasn’t used to fix the flood damage at the golf course. Maybe because it wasn’t needed? Most of the FEMA money was spent at Gross and Wirth golf courses. FOLH’s response also said that no FEMA money will be coming for a future flood. It was never needed in the first place, nor was it used to bring the golf course back to playable condition. So that is a moot point.

The trash does not come from the golf course. It comes from the city of Minneapolis storm sewer pipes and Minnehaha Creek. The

city of Minneapolis needs to immediately fix its contribution to the problem.

FOLH’s statement about homeowners not being afraid because Commissioner Cathy Abene has given them her assurance is not comforting to me. Studies were done for the original plan which did not include an elevated golf course. I know of no new studies conducted for this new plan, so the Park Board knows nothing about whether the homes will be protected from this drastically different plan. Common sense says that permanently putting fill and water on a flood plain is questionable at best. I have had a lengthy conversation with Commissioner Abene, and nothing she said has allayed my fears for homes in the at-risk neighbor-

hoods.

I agree with FOLH that the design for the property is only an idea that has cost almost \$1 million. That’s an expensive idea, and I would have hoped to have more than an idea for that amount of money. And who paid this bill? The golfers. Hiawatha Golf Course had revenue of \$1.6 million in 2021 and a profit of \$300,000, thanks to the hard work of the staff at the golf course on a miniscule budget. Is this now going to be wasted on more make-work for the Planning Group staff next year? And are the taxpayers of Minneapolis ready to pony up almost \$80 million for this project, which is the projected high-end cost in 2022 dollars?

New Guy, from page 1

Questions for Alexander from the council and residents who signed up to speak revolved around issues related to gun violence, prevention of violence, policing, racial justice, accountability, youth, change/reformation and working with grassroots organizations, etc. The overriding question seemed to be, “What do you bring to the table and how will you do things differently to get results?” When Jason Chavez, 9th Ward City Council member pointed out to the new commissioner that boots were needed on the ground, the commissioner replied, “I have boots.” Commissioner Alexander views himself as a change agent and believes that he is the right person for the job. “It is the right time for change, time to move on from George Floyd.”

Alexander has an impressive near-40-year-career in public service including Deputy Chief Operations Officer of Public Safety, DeKalb County, Ga.; Federal Security Director, Department of Homeland Security TSA, Dallas/Fort Worth; Deputy Commissioner, New York State Division of Criminal Justice; Police Chief, Rochester, N.Y.; Deputy Sheriff, Orange County, Fla.; and Officer and Detective, Miami-Dade County, Fla.

In addition he served on President Obama’s task force on 21st-century policing, was a faculty member in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Rochester’s Medical Center as well as author of “The New Guardians, Policing in America’s Communities for the 21st Century.” He received a B.A. and M.A. from St. Thomas University in Miami and completed his doctorate degree at Wright State University in Ohio.

Integration

The new commissioner states that his goal is to integrate the five departments reporting to him in order to create a more strategic approach versus each department standing alone as separate silos, unconnected. Another analogy might be a completed patchwork quilt sewn together rather than a collection of separate pieces. The end goal is improving public safety overall. Rather than viewing policing as a

stand-alone function, Alexander views it as part of a larger umbrella designed to service a wider set of community needs. “The police do not need to be involved in getting cats out of trees, that’s for someone else to do,” he said. In the 3rd Precinct the number one call to 911 involves pets. In theory, by narrowing the role of the police force they will be freed up to focus on critical issues and provide shorter response times for people in need.

Alexander believes in goals, achievement of goals and accountability. He favors programs that are preventative and restorative, not reactionary. He views the MPD as needing leadership and trust-building both within the department and with the community it serves. Alexander points out that the five leaders of the departments will need to adapt to changes, to embrace cultural change and reformation, and to build relationships and accept new challenges. He further stated that his first priority is to work with the five department heads to improve operational emergency plans to be executed in the event of an infrastructure failure (e.g., a bridge going down), fire, civil unrest/riots and weather-related disasters.

Community meeting

On Aug. 16, Commissioner Alexander’s seventh day on the job, he and representatives from the 3rd and 5th Precincts (Inspectors Gomez and Blackwell), 911, Office of Violence Prevention, Canopy Mental Health & Consulting, and human trafficking prevention met with community members at the Pearl Community Center. Ward 11 Council Member Emily Koski introduced the new commissioner to the approximately 100 people in attendance and led the meeting. Each representative gave a brief presentation of their role and challenges.

Commissioner Alexander began by sharing some personal information: he is from the deep South and has nearly 40 years of work experience. He is divorced and was caring for his aging mother until he lost her earlier this year.

Alexander stressed the need for the community to be involved and on board with the new approach and pointed out that there is a lot to do. He reminded us of

the severely understaffed police department: “Recruiting is difficult because many younger people are finding other things to do. We need to get creative in our approach to recruiting.” He also said the city needs to look deeper into potential police officers’ backgrounds, including their social media, to make sure they’re getting “the very best.” Seeking out the very best takes time, standards will not be relaxed. He shared that the 5th Precinct currently has 18 recruits for a September start. “Becoming an officer is a lengthy process, not everyone makes it through,” Alexander said.

Violence, prevention and response

Josh Peterson, Interim Director of the Office of Violence Prevention (now called Neighborhood Safety) introduced the concept of violence as a public health issue, a complex disease requiring complex solutions. The work of his group must balance short term goals with long term ones, relying on research. Some of the programs his group participates in include working with hospitals (Next Step) and with a group made up of police, social workers and community members (GVI). There is also a Violence Prevention Fund which can be applied for via a Request for Proposal (RFP). This fund supports programs designed to build skills and provides training in areas such as de-escalation, emergency procedures and working with the LGBT community (Spotlight).

The commissioner pointed out that 50% of guns used in committing crimes are stolen, often from cars. He will be focusing on reducing gun violence and robberies, pointing out that auto theft is up. When asked why he thinks this is he replied, “Kids are out of school, gas prices are up, and the economy is not strong.”

911

Jennifer Geiselhart, 911 Operations Manager, shared that in 2021 her group took 500,000 calls. She said that emergencies take priority but encouraged people to call 911 when appropriate because the pattern of the calls is studied and determines where and how resources are directed. All calls are important in order

to get a true picture of community needs and issues. Geiselhart also pointed out the importance of knowing your location when dialing 911 because 90% of calls come in from wireless phones, making it nearly impossible to trace them.

Canopy Mental Health & Consulting

Marisa Stevenson, Program Supervisor and Psychotherapist, described how her program works with emergency responders on voluntary crisis interventions. She is a mandated reporter.

Human trafficking prevention

Shunu Shrestha, senior advisor for human trafficking prevention, described how the parameters of her work includes not only sex trafficking but also labor trafficking. She originally focused on youth and then expanded. Shunu described this work as being at the intersection of health, violence and civil rights. With respect to creative approaches and training she gives the example of how a housing inspector can be trained to identify victims of trafficking, as can others who may come in contact with victims.

Technology

Commissioner Alexander addressed the growing need and use of technology to fight crime, such as facial recognition, license plate readers, shot spotter and drones. While realizing that this is a controversial subject given 4th Amendment rights and the possibility of technology working against certain groups and individuals, he stated that it is here to stay. Alexander acknowledged the fear and resistance (they may be spying on me!) but believes that education and communication are the keys. “The community needs to know what it is, how and why it is being used and the beneficial outcome in order to accept it.”

Compassion and accountability

The new commissioner closed by talking about why crime exists and is growing, about understanding the roots of crime in order to prevent it. He described

the roots of crime as being related to health care, education, economics and employment. When our communities are unhealthy, uneducated, unemployed and living in a weak economy, crime rises. Alexander stated his commitment to the vulnerable and victims – children and youth, the elderly, women, the disabled and underprivileged – and the city’s responsibility to protect them. He pointed out the need for compassion, saying, “Without compassion it is unlikely that these root causes will be properly addressed.” He also stressed that compassion does not eliminate the need to hold people accountable.

In early August, the Star Tribune published several pieces introducing and highlighting Alexander. Of the approximately 300 comments from readers in response, most were negative, cynical and skeptical. There seems to be a collective view that this is just another expensive layer of governmental bureaucracy to hide behind and that expecting one man to change what’s developed over many years in Minneapolis is unrealistic. Commenters repeatedly suggested that the high salary be used to hire more cops. Another reader who’d “done the math” estimated that this would cover the hiring of three cops (if there were qualified candidates who want to be cops). Another example of the pessimism and hopelessness: “This is like re-arranging the deck chairs on the Titanic.” The new position was repeatedly described as window-dressing.

A minority of readers pointed out Alexander’s impressive credentials and experience, pleading that the city give him a chance. One commenter asked, “Is he guilty until proven innocent?” And another wrote, “Culture change moves like a shifting continent, slowly, be patient.”

Clearly, for some, their patience is running out. The new commissioner believes that safety in the city can only be achieved with the involvement of the communities. If the reader comments are indicative of the public view, there is a big challenge ahead. Then again, maybe these comments are simply representative of a minority seeking an outlet for their beefs. Stay tuned.

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 June’s 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 hous-

ing 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 murder 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 homesteaded, 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.

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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 Hexa-

partment 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

the building will also have their spaces open.

The following 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 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.



‘After the Fire’ by Sue Kolstad

gon 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 de-

Council, whose support has been instrumental in our ability to reopen.

We are finishing the work to bring the gallery back to usable condition and plan to have a Member Show starting Sept. 17-18 as part of the LoLa Art Crawl. This will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, and others in

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<p>Bouza, from page 1</p> <p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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?</p>
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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 car-jacked 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.



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 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 (MNJRC) 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.

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

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.”



Amelia Huffman, Interim Chief of Police

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

and DOJ and we continue to this day to provide additional forms to the DOJ.”

Gross met with the MDHR commissioner, Rebecca Luce-ro, 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.

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

Time, from page 1

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 pro-

gram, 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 Minneapolis, they said: “The environmental disparities we face as a community have been in-

stitutionalized 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 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.

Visit www.southsidepride.com to keep informed about Southside Minneapolis

Celebrate Hope on Chicago Avenue

Celebrating Chicago Avenue, starting at George Floyd Square

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

George Floyd Square

George Floyd Square is settling into a place with an identity, at least that's how it feels to this writer, making pilgrimages there every other month or so, not as a tourist, or a penitent, but as an investigator. I have to say, I feel safe there. I feel welcome there.

My most recent sojourn found

me in the Forreal Coffeehouse. Drinking coffee, a decaf oat milk latte to be exact. I had recently read about this business and Billy Jones, the owner, in two separate places. The most thorough was a profile of Jones and the business in the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal, and the other was in a Racket (a local online newspaper at racketmn.com) piece about a recent wave of BIPOC-owned coffee shop start-ups.

And there Jones was, in the flesh, making a coffee drink. Forreal is the real deal, striving to be and largely succeeding as a community hub, a gathering place, and an anchor for this new community at George Floyd Square. Their coffee is very good too.

While I was at GFS I also dropped in to see a pop-up exhibit of photographs. This was in the gallery owned by Wing Young Huie, whose own photographs also hang on the walls. But spread out on a table and propped up on easels were dozens of powerful pieces of photojournalism from KingDemetrius Pendleton, an independent photojournalist who has recently self-published a book called "The Movement Never Stops."

This exhibit is based on one Pendleton produced last May. If, like me, you didn't know about Pendleton, read this piece by Unicorn Riot celebrating his work and what led him to become a journalist in his mid-40s and earn a photography degree at the age of 50. unicornriot.ninja/2022/kingdemetrius-pendleton-celebrated/

They don't have much food at Forreal Coffeehouse, but there are



Jakeeno's

two good places to buy food at GFS. One is Just Turkey. Like the name says, they sell meals based only on turkey, but that can cover a lot of ground. Offerings include turkey BBQ sandwiches, burgers, ribs, chili, lasagna, links, salads, tacos and wraps. Just Turkey came to GFS in the fall of 2020 and is run by business partners Sam Willis

and Cedric Steele.

Next door to Just Turkey is Smoke in the Pit, which has been around since 1998. It's one of the most popular barbecue and soul food destinations in Minneapolis. Highly rated by customers on Facebook, Yelp and Google, Smoke in the Pit serves BBQ beef or pork or chicken wings, as well as fried wings and fried catfish. Lunch orders come with fries, while dinner orders additionally include a drink and another side such as candied yams, collards or fried spaghetti.

GFS has been missing Dragon Wok, which originally was planning to return at some point, but now apparently is not. Instead, a 5-year-old catering firm called Chopped & Served is planning to move into the space. Chopped & Served is run by St. Louis Park-raised Imani Jackson and offers her own style of cooking called "Blewish Cuisine," which reflects her combined Black and Jewish heritage. Besides providing catering for all manner of corporate and special events, Chopped & Served serves the community by offering a monthly sponsorship subscription where folks can sign up to help feed the community, one family at a time. Check out their website at choppedandserved.com to learn more ways you can help.

Calvary Lutheran Church at 3901 Chicago Ave. has been a strong participant in the transformation of GFS. Now they are planning to contribute even more of something really needed in south Minneapolis - affordable housing. In June, the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal reported that a partner-



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See Chicago, page 8

Celebrate Hope on



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9:45am: one worship service in the sanctuary.
11am: enjoy lunch with our church community!

On the second through fifth Sundays our schedule is as follows:

9am: Backyard worship
9:45am: Faith formation for children and adults
10:30am: Coffee and conversation
11am: Sanctuary worship, live-streamed on Youtube

Please join us. All are welcome!

Chicago, from page 7

ship of the church with Trellis Co., which manages Spirit on Lake as well as many other housing developments, is seeking planning permission to build 41 units of housing in an extension of the church into its present parking lot.

Other food and drink spots on Chicago Avenue

There are several other interesting places to eat and drink along Chicago Avenue to the north of GFS. One of the neighborhood's well-loved spots is Jakeeno's at 36th Street and Chicago, a long-standing business selling Italian favorites like pizza and spaghetti. Jakeeno's has been family-owned and operated since 1975. Currently still doing takeout and delivery only, with online or phone ordering, it remains popular due to the high quality and reasonable prices. Jakeeno's opens at 3 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

A bit farther north, at 32nd Street, is one of my favorite comfort food places, Modern Times. The office home of this newspaper until just this month, Modern Times the



Just Turkey Restaurant at George Floyd Square

restaurant is a great hangout whether on the sidewalk patio or inside with its old-school funky diner interior. They have a broad selection of vegan and vegetarian foods, so large now that they have instituted a sep-

arate vegan menu to make ordering faster for vegan diners. And also, though you won't see them on the menu, there are often donuts!

A bit farther yet, at 1922 Chicago Ave., is the Daily Cairo Grill. Though advertised as an Egyptian restaurant, many of the offerings are clearly either Somali (goat with spaghetti, bananas with almost everything) or Ethiopian (various foods with injera for breakfast). The buzz around town is that they make the best sambusas.

Getting groceries on Chicago Avenue

Chicago Avenue north of GFS does have some places to get groceries. At 721 Washington Ave. downtown, just off of Chicago, there is a Trader Joe's that I have checked out and ap-

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Chicago Avenue



English Learning Center participants learn to fish in Powderhorn Lake.

proved. Another good place, just the size of a convenience store (in fact it was one back in the day) is the Elliot Park Grocery at the corner of 16th and Chicago. Don't let its appearance fool you, they have real food there, including ethnic specialties.

In the Powderhorn neighborhood, there is Southside Food and Deli at 3300 Chicago Ave. In addition to the normal corner grocery items, you can get a hot lunch there – sandwiches, wings, shrimp baskets and more. You can even get it delivered by DoorDash.

Service organizations on Chicago Avenue

There are a number of service organizations that make their home on Chicago Avenue. We'll highlight just

and the English Learning Center, at 2315 Chicago Ave. Our Saviour's Housing operates a small emergency shelter and a larger scattered-site permanent supportive housing program.

The English Learning Center, although focused on language teaching, is a more holistic service to help a wide variety of people who are immigrants or refugees learn other skills to navigate their new environment, as well as English.

The other service organization is Avivo, which is mainly known for addiction treatment and chemical health services, but also is involved in the work of trying to end homelessness. Avivo is a fairly recent name, but the organization has been in operation since 1960. They have locations all over the Twin Cities and in St. Cloud, but two of their largest Minneapolis facilities are on Chicago Avenue.

Recently Avivo has been in the news because of their "tiny house" project, Avivo Village. This is a fairly new facility (it opened in March of 2021) in Minneapolis's North Loop which consists of 100 tiny houses built indoors inside a large warehouse building. The village provides transitional housing that is stable and secure with 24-hour wraparound services to help residents move on to more permanent housing.



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Southside Pride / POWDERHORN EDITION

EVENTS

Minneapolis Monarch Festival/ Festival de la Monarca

Saturday, Sept. 10,
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Lake Nokomis, Mpls.
Butterfly, music and art lovers from the Twin Cities and beyond come together on Saturday, Sept. 10 for the free 2022 Minneapolis Monarch Festival/Festival de la Monarca. Scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the festival is filled with music, art activities, games, food, plants that monarchs love and more. The day offers a host of fun ways for people of all ages to learn about these amazing pollinators and their role in the ecosystem. The Festival will be held north-east of the lake near the Nokomis Naturescape, a certified Monarch Waystation (just east of the Lake Nokomis Community Center in the area bounded by E. Minnehaha Parkway, Woodlawn Boulevard, and E. Nokomis Parkway). Visit our

website at monarchfestival.org to learn more.

Saint Paul Classic Bike Tour Sunday, Sept. 11

7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Como Lakeside Pavilion
1360 Lexington Pkwy. N., St. Paul
This year, the 28th Annual Saint Paul Classic will again explore the beautiful off-road trails and protected bikeways that circle the city. Registration is OPEN to ride the Saint Paul Classic on Sunday, Sept. 11! This year there are two different check-in times: 7:30-8:30 a.m. and 8:30-9:30 a.m. Please make sure you are purchasing the correct tickets for your desired check-in time. This will greatly help reduce congestion on the route and lines at rest stops. We also hope it will allow a few more people to enjoy some of the best St. Paul has to offer including some newly rebuilt trails along the river (yay, no detours)! This year, we're once again going over the river and through the woods

to visit a hidden gem — Lilydale Regional Park. We're excited to ride together for a splendid day of bicycling, tasty treats and live music. Find out more and sign up to ride or volunteer at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/bicycle-alliance-of-minnesota-13331907631>.

The Jewish Artists' Laboratory: A Retrospective Through Oct. 23 Reception Thursday, Sept. 15, 6 to 8 p.m.

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.

The entire community is invited to the Sept. 15 reception where they will have an opportunity to meet the artists and celebrate this retrospective. minnesotajcc.org

Trans Equity Summit:
Building Trans Power
Friday, Sept. 16,
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Minneapolis College
T Building

1415 Hennepin Ave. S., Mpls.
Hosted by the City of Minneapolis, the ninth annual Minneapolis Trans Equity Summit takes place Sept. 16 at Minneapolis College. The summit, which is free and open to the public, includes both virtual and in-person events. This year's keynote speaker is louie ortiz-fonseca, the creator of Gran Varones, a digital project that highlights LGBTQ pop culture history and community storytelling through a Black/Latinx lens. An intergenerational panel discussion featuring youth and elders is planned, followed by breakout sessions.

The Trans Equity Summit is an event for trans and gender non-conforming community members to connect to resources and each other, and for all attendees to learn more about issues impacting their communities. For general questions about the summit, please reach out to TransEquity-Summit@minneapolismn.gov. Find more information, including accessibility details and registration links in English, Spanish, Somali and Hmong at <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/coordinator/race-equity/what-we-do/ongoing-work/trans-equity-summit/>.

SOLO

Sept. 16 – 17, 7:30 p.m.

In-person or livestream

The Cowles Center
528 Hennepin Ave., Mpls.
Join us Friday, September 16 & Saturday, September 17 at 7:30 p.m. for SOLO, presented by The Cowles Center and the McKnight Fellowships for Dancers. SOLO features six world premiere solos, performed by the 2020 – 2021 McKnight Dance Fellows. From innovative Hip Hop to rhythmic Chicago footwork to Brazilian contemporary choreographic explorations, we couldn't be more thrilled to open our season with

this performance! Learn more and get in-person or livestream tickets here: <https://www.thecowlescenter.org/2223/solo>.

Vine Arts Center Member Show/Reopening

Sept. 17 – 18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vine Arts Center
2637 27th Ave S., #228, Mpls.
Vine Arts Center will have its Member Show/Reopening as part of the LoLa Arts Festival. info@VineArtsCenter.org

Corcoran Park Improvements – Share your thoughts

After receiving feedback from the community on the proposed concept plan for the Corcoran Park improvements project, staff from the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) made changes to the proposal guided by the community's comments and suggestions. The feedback resulted in two revised concept plan options for community members to review, provide comments on and share their preferences. The key difference between the two options centers on uses for the park area where tennis courts are currently located.

Concept Plan Option 1 proposes adding a multi-use paved area with two basketball hoops at different heights to expand the playground, and a community garden with raised planting beds and a small orchard.

Concept Plan Option 2 proposes adding a full basketball court (high-school size) only (no community garden or orchard). This amenity is not included in the Corcoran master plan approved by the MPRB in 2016; therefore, if this option is selected the Board would need to approve a master plan amendment.

To review the full concept plan options and take a survey to share your preferences and feedback, go to: <https://www.minneapolis.parks>.



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• COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

Southside Pride / POWDERHORN EDITION

org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Revised-Concept-Plans-Options-1-and-2.pdf

Poetry and Jazz in the Holy Ground
Saturday, Sept. 17, 4 p.m.
Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery
2945 Cedar Ave. S., Mpls.
What better place to celebrate our connections to our ancestors than at the historic Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery in south Minneapolis. On the national historic register, this sacred place is “home” to veterans from the Civil War onward, workers from the Underground Railroad and thousands of early immigrants to Minnesota. On Saturday, Sept. 17 at 4 p.m., four local poets and a jazz duet will celebrate where we come from and who we are. The presenters are poets Joyce Sutphen, Sagirah Shahid, Patrick Cabello Hansel and Richard Terrill, who will also perform music with Larry McDonough. The event is free. Please bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on. The cemetery is located at Lake Street and Cedar; entrance is on the Cedar Avenue side. Rain date is Saturday, Sept. 24. Sponsored by The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts (www.semillacenter.org) and the “Not Dead Yet Poets Society.” Info: phcreate@gmail.com

‘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://global-rightsforwomen.org/annualevent-2022tickets/> for \$10 or by visiting globalrightsforwomen.org.

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

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>.


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 <https://www.tapestryfolkdance.org/dalakopa-concert>.

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

Fulton Farmers Market
Saturdays through Oct. 29
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
49th St. & Chowen Ave. S., Mpls.
<https://www.neighborhood-rootsmn.org/>

Kingfield Farmers Market
Sundays through Oct. 30
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
40th St. & Nicollet Ave.
(north end of MLK, Jr. Park)
<https://www.neighborhood-rootsmn.org/>

‘In Our Minds’
On view through Oct. 16
The M Window Galleries
Robert St. and 4th St., St. Paul
The M and Interact Center for the Visual and Performing Arts are excited to present “In Our Minds,” an exhibition celebrating artmaking as a form of research, improvisation and play. “In Our Minds” features artists with and without disabilities, from inside and outside the Interact studio community. Taking cues from Interact, “In Our Minds” seeks to advance frameworks for understanding creativity that move away from myths of independence towards recognition and celebration of interdependence. The M’s gallery spaces are currently closed to the public. “In Our Minds” is installed in the windows on Robert Street and 4th Street, as well as the M’s Ecolab Skyway entrance. Visitors can access the skyway via automated doors that lead to elevators at 350 Robert St. and at the Pioneer building lobby entrance on Robert Street. Some of the sidewalk surfaces around the viewing windows are uneven. The window installations are on view to the public 24/7. Admission is free, everyone is welcome, and a map is available adjacent to the windows north of the 350 Robert St. entrance. To make arrangements or for further help please call the M at (651) 797-2571 or email info@mmaa.org



Southside Pride

POWDERHORN EDITION

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

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

Southside Pride
3200 CHICAGO AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55407
CALL US AT 612-822-4662
email us at editor@southsidepride.com or edfelien@southsidepride.com

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Golden Rule Peace Boat coming to Minneapolis/St. Paul

Historic sailboat supports UN treaty to ban nuclear weapons

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.


Presentations are being scheduled, including:

- Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7-9 p.m., Unity Church - Unitarian, 732 Holly Ave, St. Paul, MN 55104
- Friday, Sept. 23, 6-8 p.m., Veterans For Peace office, 4200 Cedar Ave. #7, Minneapolis, MN 55407

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.

“We are sailing for a nuclear-free world and a peaceful, sustainable future,” says project manager Helen Jaccard. “Our mission is all the more urgent now that the two nuclear superpowers are confronting one another in Ukraine, greatly increasing the possibility of nuclear war.”



EVENTS

Rally & Renew 2022

Sunday, Sept. 11

9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Plymouth Congregational Church
1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.
It's time to Gather Home, Return, Rebuild, and Renew within our beloved community. Sunday, Sept. 11, will be the first time we fully gather in person for Rally Sunday since 2019. We invite you back to Plymouth to gather for joyful worship, welcoming fellowship, and opportunities to get involved in the many ministries of Plymouth. Join us for First Service at 9 a.m., featuring a more casual atmosphere and music by our jazz trio, or Second Service at 11 a.m., a more traditional service featuring the Plymouth Choir and Organist and Choirmaster Philip Brunelle. Whether it means coming early or staying after, don't miss our Rally & Renew community fair at 10 a.m. Enjoy music, breakfast treats, great coffee, and old and new friends. More information at <https://www.plymouth.org/event/rally-sunday-2/>.

Diamond Lake Lutheran's

Annual Fall Festival

Sunday, Sept. 11

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Diamond Lake Lutheran Church
5760 Portland Ave., Mpls.
People of all ages are invited to join us on the lawn from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 11 for our annual Fall Festival. Activities include balloon animals, face painting, a group craft, food, inflatable slide and more as we kick off the church year and celebrate being together in this community. Please invite your friends and neighbors as well. Anyone can show up and there will be fun for the whole family. More information at https://www.dllc.org/content.cfm?id=133&announcement_id=333.

Volunteer with Refugee Services: Orientation

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2 to 4 p.m.

Minnesota Church Center
122 W. Franklin Ave., Mpls.

Interested in volunteering with MCC Refugee Services? Join us for our upcoming volunteer orientation for

positions like Befriender, Apartment Setup Volunteer and Resettlement Assistant. To register, please contact a Volunteer Coordinator at rsvolunteers@mnchurches.org or call (612) 230-3291. Apply online at www.mnchurches.org/volunteer.

Old-Fashioned Church

Rummage Sale

Thursday, Sept. 15, and Friday,

Sept. 16, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 17,

9 a.m. to noon

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

Lots of great stuff! Housewares and linens; toys; books; electronics and more! (But no clothes!) <http://www.minnehaha.org/>

'Nowhere is safe': Uyghur

Repression

Thursday, Sept. 15, 7 to 9 p.m.

Online

At the World Without Genocide webinar, the speakers will discuss the global problem of transnational repression and the targeting of Uyghurs in the U.S. We will hear from Tara Kalar, J.D., Mitchell Hamline School of Law; Kaori Kenmotsu, J.D., Hamline University; Harold Melcher, J.D., League of Minnesota Cities; and Dragana Glumac, Analyst, FBI. Register at <http://worldwithoutgenocide.org/programs/upcoming-events/nowhere-is-safe-transnational-repression-of-the-uyghurs>.

'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 alumni, 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 dedica-

tion 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.

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@mnchurches.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=IwAR1MPIV0D3gP6giEmp-mQ55m4HgCvYIDAUZ-G6pzaZ-vpn4InnFWWhK9Ev_dxo.

SHARING FOOD

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

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 (Aug. 19, 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.

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/>

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>.

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/>

The Powderhorn Religious Community Welcomes You

Bahá'í

BAHÁ'Í CENTER OF MINNEAPOLIS

3644 Chicago Ave. S.

612-823-3494

Minneapolis.Bahai@gmail.com

Devotions at the Bahá'í Center and via Zoom, Sundays 10 am, and Tuesdays via Zoom 6:30 pm

See www.minneapolisbahai.org

So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth.

-Baha'u'llah

Christian

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

3901 Chicago Ave. S.

612-827-2504 or

www.clchurch.org

Sunday Worship at 10 am
Interim Pastor Kjell Ferris
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Center for Changing Lives
2400 Park Ave. S.

612-871-8831

www.messiahlutheranmpls.org

9 am In-person Messiah

Traditional Worship – 1st &

3rd Sundays

11 am In-person Messiah Praise
Worship – Every Sunday –
Fellowship Lunch Afterward

ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

www.stjoan.com

4537 Third Ave.

Saturday, 5 pm in the Church
Sunday, 7:45 am in the Church,

9 & 11 am in the gym

Video available on our website
and Facebook page

*We Welcome You Wherever
You Are On Your Journey*



*All Directory
Churches are
Wheelchair
Accessible*

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

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 par-

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 interested 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 perhaps saw fish served at 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.



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

into the currency exchange boxes and vendors hock 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 for a price. 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

ticular (a hostel that is personally 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 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



People & Pets together

We know pets are family. We help families stay together.

The People & Pets Together pet food shelf is open to residents of the city of Minneapolis. We provide dog & cat food and pet care items to individuals and their families in crisis.

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

People & Pets Together
Chuck & Don's Pet Wellness Center
2501 Minnehaha Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404
(612) 722-9998
<https://www.peopleandpetstogether.org/>

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 Minnesota 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 VegFeast 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 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



Garden Fairy cocktail



Second vegan challenge at Tiny Diner



Reverie's Korean BBQ Mock Duck Taco



Parkway Pizza vegan challenge

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 of fries and vegan aioli and an iced herbal tea. I scarfed up every speck and was perfectly satisfied.

“Someday there will be water wars” – that “someday” is here

BY JOHNNY HAZARD

Monterrey is an industrial city in the north of Mexico with, obviously, a large industrial working class and also one of the largest concentrations of wealthy people in Latin America. This summer, water shortages there have reached the point at which, while the wealthy suburb of San Pedro García Garza bogarts water, most of the 5.3 million people in the area (comprised of 13 municipalities) get running water once a week or less and pay inflated prices (500 percent more than at the beginning of the year) for a garrafón – a 20-liter jug of purified water. And they use it not only to drink, purify fruits and vegetables, or

wash dishes, but for bathing in this extremely hot city. It's four hours from Laredo, Texas, by bus.

The principal users of “concessioned” water in the Monterrey area are the metals and beverage industries, followed by real estate developers and just plain (rich) folks. Cuauhtémoc Brewery (Tecate, Indio, Bohemia, and now Heineken), founded in Monterrey, is the second largest industrial user of water in the region, after the steel industry. Coca Cola is number five.

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador publicly asked these companies to reduce their consumption in July but didn't move to impose legal limits, as health authorities did in the first months of the pandemic, when breweries were forced to shut down and beer became scarce all over the country. The president has also decreed the reorientation of some aqueducts and reservoirs and the construction

of others. This appears to be a doomed strategy of redistributing the insufficient existing water resources. On two occasions in the first half of August, government officials and media hailed the moderate-to-heavy rainfalls that had finally occurred; in some cases this led to only single-digit increases in percentage of capacity for almost completely depleted reserves. And it's still legal to export bottled water to countries like the U.S., where tap water in most places is potable and there is no need for bottled water.

Monterrey is not the only place: Only five of 32 states are not suffering from water shortages. These states are all in the south, on the Gulf Coast. Baja California, also home to a lot of breweries, may be the next state to be hard-hit.

In small cities and rural areas where real violence has occurred over water disputes – and this includes in some of the states that are not among the arid and semi-arid majority – the culprit is a series of federal laws that impose unfunded mandates. (Remember those?) The federal government passes water responsibility on to the states, which pass it on to municipalities, which delegate it to potable water committees and drainage committees at the level of neighborhoods or pueblos. Many people are snowed into thinking

that this is grassroots democracy, but really it's a disaster, as committees in small communities are expected to provide water and storm sewage and real sewage services when they have no economic means to do so. The result often is a battle between communities for drinking water or water for irrigation. (The latter is usually highly contaminated.) And, with no money to build a treatment plant or a series of humedales (wetlands constructed to filter water), about half of the sewage water is dumped raw into the nearest waterway. That is a government statistic. In fact, I know of almost no waste water anywhere in the country that is treated at all. It's common for one pueblo to discharge its water just upstream from the next one.

In Mexico City, where it rains heavily three months a year and very little the rest of the year, almost no rain water is captured. Paving everything is key; where in other countries you may find a yard or a garden, in Mexico there is a place to park cars, a “patio,” or the house or apartment building itself occupies all the space on the lot. But the real problem of excessive paving, deforestation, and water shortages in Mexico City comes not from irresponsible individual homeowners but from real estate sharks, as this article in Causa Natura

documents: <https://causanatura.org/visualizacion-de-datos/agua-para-el-concreto-crecen-megaproyectos-comerciales-ante-la-escasez-en-la-ciudad-de-mexico>. Large parts of the city have no running water, others have water that flows on certain days during limited hours. People with the means to do so build cisterns to accumulate water or buy it from water trucks called pipas. In some places, local governments provide pipas, and the drivers are often accused of charging for this free public service.

In the metropolitan area of which Mexico City is the center, Zona Metropolitana del Valle de México, there are 3.8 million people with no domestic access to running water. This is about 18% of the population. Millions of others have water for a few hours a day or a few hours a week. This, as mentioned above, is now the case in Monterrey, but has been a lifelong drama for residents of the center of the country.

What is being done? A limited amount of rainwater harvesting. (In the north of Mexico, this would capture almost nothing.) In Mexico City, there are some government programs to subsidize the installation of gutters and barrels.

What is not being done? Sewage treatment. Holding ponds.

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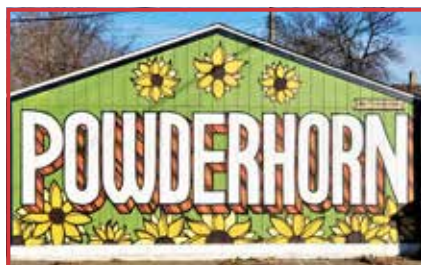


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