



We build Pride on the Southside

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Declining civilizations



BY TONY BOUZA

My very unscholarly appreciation of history includes the bromide that great civilizations implode through moral rot rather than outside challenges. As the saying goes, "All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing." I agree.

A recent case illustrated the point.

A Star Tribune reporter asked me to review an incident and furnish my analysis of the event. It was what I did as an expert witness for about 30 years.

It seemed to me that a mysterious tipping point occurred—through a number of failures to act morally—that plunged great societies into decline. The mental image was of a long line waiting patiently to see a movie. Someone cuts in. Okay. Then several more. Antsiness. A few more, and the line dissolves in chaos. That is the sociological metaphor that works for me.

A Chinese mogul comes to attend a prestigious business course at the University of Minnesota in 2018. One of the richest, most powerful men in China. The school moves swiftly to accommodate his comfort, serving as pimp to his needs.

An unworlly,

See Bouza, page 4



A detail from Picasso's 'Guernica'

Support Ukraine

BY ED FELIEN

As of November, 33,476 Ukrainian civilians have been killed by Russian bombs and missiles. And the unspeakable slaughter of innocents continued through Christmas Day and New Year's. In contrast, the bombing of Guernica in 1937 by the German Luftwaffe that inspired Picasso's painting killed only 1,654 people.

The peace movement in Minneapolis and the U.S. is confused by these events. They reflexively blame the U.S. This is understandable. Ever since the first marches from Loring Park to the Minnesota state Capitol in 1964 to protest the U.S. war in Vietnam, through demonstrations against Bush's Gulf War

(reaction to that war was the inspiration for us to begin Southside Pride in February of 1991), to the 20-year war in Afghanistan, the U.S. has been the imperialist aggressor.

The peace movement justifies its opposition to the war in Ukraine by reminding us that Clinton agreed not to expand NATO without Russia's understanding and agreement in their Partnership for Peace agreement signed in Budapest in 1994. Clinton assured Yeltsin that any NATO expansion would be slow, with no surprises, building a Europe that was inclusive and not exclusive and in partnership with Russia. Then, in 1999, the Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary joined NATO, and in 2004 Bulgaria,

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia joined.

Russia was solidly encircled.

Then, in 2014, Russia invaded and occupied Crimea. They justified the annexation by claiming it was part of Russia dating back to Catherine the Great. The population is mostly ethnic Russian. They held a referendum in which 83% of the population voted, and 97% voted in favor of integration with Russia. Most independent observers considered the results forced, and 13 members of the United Nations Security Council voted in favor of a resolution declaring the referendum invalid. Russia vetoed the resolution and China abstained.

Probably in reaction to the

See Ukraine, page 3

The divide between urban and rural

BY JOHN RYKHUS, JR.

Many consider the oft-quoted phrase by Abraham Lincoln, "A house divided against itself cannot stand," as almost cliché. But in reality, it may contain nearly as much relevance and be as applicable today as in Lincoln's time. Taking into account the social upheaval and political events in just the last several years alone, one detects shades of a societal climate that existed in the late 1850s and later during Reconstruction. The racially charged discourses of the abolitionists versus their Southern counterparts and later Jim Crow are reflected in today's actions and reactions regarding the Black Lives Matter movement and the passage of laws in several states to restrict voter access to the polls, as just a couple of examples. But while pundits and other media usually comment on issues involving race, women's rights or gender identity, there is one demographic that is often overlooked, that is, until the most recent presidential election. We are talking about rural America, a segment of the political and societal map whose attitudes and shifts in



political leanings can have far-reaching implications nationally.

There is a long history, of course, of rural dwellers being written off with the help of stereotypes as being rubes, rustic, ignorant, unsophisticated and isolated. But with the development of better schools in rural areas and the proliferation of public media, rural citizens have become much more connected and savvy than they were, say, 70 years ago. Yet there still remains a wide gulf between what I define as City Culture and Rural Culture. It consists of differences in values, attitudes, lifestyle and worldviews.

See Urban/Rural, page 5



There's No Place Like Home

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Arriving in Senegal

Trip to Africa is life-changing

BY ELAINE KLAASSEN

Steve Floyd (not related to George Floyd) has been taking

Black youth from South Minneapolis on trips to Africa since the early '90s. Floyd feels that traveling to Africa is one thing

that really works to help them heal from the effects of slavery throughout their history. He finds that the groups “return with a renewed sense of their own possibilities.” In November of 2022 he led another group, but this time adults went too—five adults, one young adult and three teenagers, all of whom live around 38th and Chicago.

The trip was organized in collaboration with Elder Atum and the Cultural Wellness Center,

whose People’s Theory of Sickness states that “individualism, loss of culture, and loss of community is what makes people sick.” Before leaving, the travelers met for two preparation sessions, in which they were encouraged to remember that they would be visiting someone else’s culture and would not be in charge. They were cautioned not to see people in other countries as their servants, as many people from the U.S. tend to do.

The 15-day trip was to Senegal and The Gambia, two West African countries located on the Atlantic coast. The many Senegalese friends Floyd has made over the years were waiting to greet the visitors. (There will be another journey in March, much to the joy of three people whose passports didn’t arrive in time for the November trip.)

Floyd’s main goal in taking kids traveling is for them to “see something different.” All they



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know is a four- to eight-block area in Minneapolis. The trips open up the world to them. Traveling to another country “is like getting a college degree,” Floyd says. Also, a trip to another country “allows them to have an identity as an American, something they can’t do here.” It’s like in North America they don’t count as Americans, but outside the U.S. they do.

Floyd first traveled outside the U.S. through his college basketball connections. As a young man, he went to Holland and Germany, which he said was “so much bigger than what I had. It was so mind boggling how much I could learn about other people.”

Since then Floyd has traveled extensively. In whatever country he finds himself, he builds relationships and now has friends all over the world that he keeps up with through texting and Facebook.

As Floyd expected, his group of November travelers immersed themselves in relationship-building, and all of them have come home with new friends across the ocean.

For everyone on the trip, a major purpose was to see places important to their identity and their history, such as the Slave House and the Door of No Return, the place where kidnapped Africans were forced to step onto ships that took them to the new world. Another was Jufurre, the village where Kunta

Kinte came from, the ancestor character in Alex Haley’s book “Roots” (made into a TV series that Floyd counts as a major grounding in his life). Before the creator of “Roots” died, in 1992, he did a lot to support Jufurre, but since then, the groups from Minneapolis have adopted the village and always take supplies whenever they go.

One of the teenagers on the trip, Floyd’s daughter Alyana, described many emotional moments. Seeing the Slave House and the Door of No Return on Goree Island made her “happy to know we don’t have to go through that no more.” At the Renaissance Statue she pondered the stories and realistic sculptures of people who were enslaved, noting with sadness how confused and deprived of education they had been. In the jungle she said she felt so much joy to see animals where they belonged, in the wild. She was angry to see European visitors on vacation, but a Senegalese guard at a tourist place told her, “You don’t forget, but you can forgive” and “We like people to visit us,” claiming his place as a host in his country, emphasizing that his country doesn’t belong to Europe.

Steve Floyd explained the pain that still runs through African culture wherever their ancestors had been captured and sold into slavery. It’s like a reunion when their descendants come to visit. The descendants participat-

ed in a naming ceremony of the Wolof ethnic group, in which the visitors each got an African name from a Wolof person. Dancing was part of the event and Alyana said she appreciated the way she felt free to dance even though she didn’t know how very well. People were so accepting, she said. “I didn’t think there was a place where you could go and feel good about yourself and want to be nice to everyone. [In Senegal] everybody will help you, support you and care about you,” Alyana said.

There were so many positive things in the culture, not the least of which was personal safety. In Senegal, Steve Floyd said, “Most people spend a lifetime never hearing a gunshot.” In general, the society is very peaceful, whether in urban or rural areas. There is a high value for “socialization, relationships and negotiation ... Everybody eats. There is no fighting ... It is typical for Christians and Muslims to live in the same village.” Floyd noticed that people could be in need but still be content—because they have their dignity.

Alyana noticed that if an argument seemed about to start, the other person would just back off. She was impressed that the police and security officers carry bats but not guns. She was also impressed that small children could be out at night playing by themselves without their parents. She felt a sense of freedom that she doesn’t feel in



Julian Johnson meditating and contemplating the Door of No Return on Goree Island

North America. he’s been back, “he has changed. He helps around the house and is not fighting.”

It was a big pleasure for Steve Floyd to see his group smile a lot. “I see people change before my eyes.” The mother of one of the teens, Theo, says that since

Ukraine, from page 1

Russian invasion and occupation, Albania, Croatia, Montenegro and North Macedonia joined NATO in 2020.

In reaction to the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the last historically neutral European countries, Sweden and Finland, joined NATO on July 5, 2022.

As a further justification for their most recent invasion of Ukraine, Russia claimed the ethnic Russians (which make up the majority of the population in Eastern Ukraine) were being persecuted by neo-Nazis. Russia officially annexed Crimea in March of 2014. Two months later alt-right neo-Nazis formed the Azov Brigade to defend Mariupol and the Donbas region. A few months later the Brigade was incorporated into the national army and the neo-Nazis lost their influence. But the Russians used its original character to claim the Brigade was killing ordinary Russian-Ukrainians. There is some evidence that some Russian special operations agents were committing acts of sabotage and (in a false flag operation) blaming it on the Azov Brigade.

Putin’s attempts to call the Ukrainians Nazis falls a little flat when you remember Zelensky is a Jew.

Putin wants Russians to recall the Great Patriotic

War when Russia repelled the German Nazi invasion—which echoed the Russian Civil War when 20 European countries invaded Russia from 1918 to 1920 through Ukraine to unsuccessfully try to defeat the Russian Revolution.

The taking of Crimea in 2014 had been fairly easy. There wasn’t much local resistance, and the sanctions the West imposed were offset by oil exports and a lucrative opium trade. The Russian high command was so confident that a show of force would frighten the Ukrainians into submission that they packed dress uniforms for a victory parade rather than extra food rations and ammunition.

The Ukrainians have pushed the Russians back across the Dnipro River in southern Ukraine, but the Russians still control large areas in Donbas and eastern Ukraine. They still control the 10,425 square miles of Crimea. They took another 46,000 square miles in the March 2022 invasion, but Ukrainian forces have since taken back 28,743 square miles.

The peace movement, here and nationally, wants an immediate cease-fire. But a cease-fire would mean the present battle lines would become new national borders. It would mean surrender of Ukrainian national sov-

ereignty. And it would not end Russian imperialist aggression. You do not get rid of a mad dog by throwing it a bone, you only increase its appetite.

Ukraine wants peace, but only after all Russian troops leave Ukraine and the criminals who began these atrocities are brought to justice.

Biden and the Democrats have been supporting the Ukrainian resistance with defensive military equipment. They have been careful not to supply offensive weapons that could attack inside Russia. Trump and the Republicans have been critical of giving a blank check to Zelensky. One has to wonder if Trump is still bought by the Russian mob that bankrolled his casinos and bought floors of Trump Tower in Manhattan.

If you want to help ease the suffering in Ukraine, consider giving money to the Ukrainian American Center: 612-379-1956, <https://uaccmn.org/>. So far, they’ve collected more than half a million dollars to buy ambulances and medical supplies.

For a clear analysis of events in Ukraine, listen to Eric Draitser on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-B53WjjeNU>.

You can also listen to Ukrainian Pie: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18jKXGZM>.



(Graphic/ <https://understandingwar.org/>)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Praise for Tony Bouza

Dear Chief Bouza,

I love reading your monthly articles in the Southside Pride neighborhood paper!

You will remember me from 35 years ago, while you were chief. I beat a ticket, with your help! The temp was 20 degrees below zero. I had just gotten my car jump started, then drove to pick up a package. Leaving the car running to run in, there was a ticket placed on my windshield when I came out! I called the police department later, and you answered the phone! I fought the ticket and won, thanks to your encouragement. I came to your office to thank you, and you graciously invited me in for coffee and a nice conversation. I told you my grandfather had been a Minneapolis police officer in the '20s, '30s and '40s, and that my grandmother had come to the U.S. from another country (France), like you (from Spain). My grandmother was still living (now in her 90s), so you sent her a birthday card for the next year or two. She was thrilled to get a card from the Minneapolis police chief! Thank you, sir!

You always had such a sense of humor while you were the chief. I remember you were often featured on the evening local news, but you would feign interviews saying, "Gee, I cannot talk now. My wife has just gotten out of jail, and I must be taking her home." (She was a famed activist fighting for important causes, always in the important light of local and national news, bless her!)

You provided much thought

with your new practice of putting cops in cars by themselves, not in pairs any longer, if my memory serves me correctly. That was revolutionary, and unpopular.

The city loved you! You were such a great intellectual! You were a man of higher education and big words! You were a thinker, a speaker, a problem-solver! Only envious small types did not like your style. My dad used to tell me that there weren't that many horrible people out there, really, but they did get around!

I do so enjoy your monthly articles in Southside Pride. I have my Oxford dictionary handy at my side, and my trusty thesaurus, too, so I am ready to look up the words you use that I may not know. I always learn something. You certainly have an admirable vocabulary. May the years continue to bless us with your fun memories and wry wit.

Best regards,
Suzanne McKitterick



Southside Pride columnist and former Minneapolis Police Chief Tony Bouza

Bouza, from page 1

21-year-old hottie is impressed into volunteer service as a kind of escort.

A dinner party is arranged for 16 people (15 of them male) at a fancy restaurant. Lots of coerced toasts of wine. The volunteer gets drunk. She's consumed more than one and a half bottles. A limo drive to her apartment follows. The mogul, now lusting, accompanies, groping her energetically. She is delivered into her apartment.

The woman is raped by the mogul. She, now pretty sober, reports the crime. She is thoroughly examined by U of M

medics. The mogul is arrested. Big events are set in motion.

The police hierarchy trembles and arranges for the dropping of the charges, releases the victim's phone number to the mogul's attorney, and withdraws. Altogether, a pathetic betrayal of duty.

The university—except for its medical attentions—similarly withdraws, clearly anxious to accommodate a patron. Uriah Heep would have loved it.

The prosecutor is energetically absent and uninvolved in a case central to his existence. The Invisible Man.

The mogul is scot-free. The woman is scarred for life, and everyone else is in survival

mode. Not one official takes up her case.

But it is the societal cost that intrigues me. That's a lot of people doing nothing. The triumph of evil is assured.

When our institutions—police, educational, prosecutorial—fail, deliberately, to dispense justice and honor their oaths, evil triumphs. The case—parenthetically and significantly—contrasted sharply with a similar case in Australia, where the authorities did meet the challenge.

How many such corrupt actions and neglects constitute the moral erosion guaranteeing decline? So much for Minnesota Nice.

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Competing options for rent control



BY CAM GORDON

The rent control debate is heating up. With the city's rent stabilization workgroup completing its work in December, it now falls to the City Council to approve a policy and draft an ordinance if we are to have rent stabilization in Minneapolis.

On Dec. 13, the 25-member workgroup took a vote between two competing frameworks and voted 14-11 in favor of a framework (Option 5) that would limit rent increases to three percent per year with exceptions for "substantial capital improvements" and for "deferred maintenance and habitability."

The other framework (Option 7) calls for variable rent increases starting at five to seven percent plus a cost-of-living increase and would have no controls in place when there was a vacancy, meaning landlords could set rents at any level they wanted. It would allow rental license holders to "bank" annual increases to be used later, and would exempt affordable housing, all new construction for 30 years and all owner-occupied rental housing. It also calls for rental subsidies for renters making 30% or less of the area's median income.

With the full report not coming until early 2023, many elected city officials have chosen not

to respond. Others have been quick to react.

Mayor Jacob Frey said the day after the workgroup's final vote that he would veto the recommended framework (Option 5) that set a three percent cap. He was concerned that it would hurt the rental market, pointing to what happened in St. Paul.

Ward 2 City Council Member Robin Wonsley was quick to praise the group's recommendation. "Minneapolis is ready for strong rent control with a three percent cap, no exemptions," she wrote. "Renters and small landlords voted to advance this policy to the City Council because it's what Minneapolis needs to keep people in their homes."

Organizations are also weighing in. The interfaith group ISAIAH called it a "big win in Minneapolis" and gathered with other coalition partners the next day to celebrate, calling on the council to "listen to voters and their workgroup."

"City Hall will hide behind the chasm of difference between these two proposals to debate the merits of rent control from scratch," said Minneapolis United for Rent Control (MURC), a group that campaigned for the rent stabilization charter amendment that narrowly passed in 2021 with 53.21% of the vote and gave the council the authority to pass or propose a rent stabilization ordinance. They were critical of Option 7's inclusion of "variable rent increases (basically no rent control), with rent banking, meaning that a landlord could 'bank' rent increases over years and implement one large rent increase, plus inflation! Their proposal also includes massive carve outs, including a possible 30-year exemption for new con-

struction."

The City Council voted against giving a representative of MURC a seat at the table earlier in 2022.

The Minneapolis Advisory Committee on Housing, however, did have a representative at the table. Their representative, Bruce Brunner, supported Option 7 and said that Option 5, if passed, would be the most restrictive policy in the country. "I believe in rent stabilization," Brunner said, "but I believe in a more moderate approach."

As both a landlord and a developer of mostly duplex and triplex rental housing for the past 20 years, Brunner has experience providing a variety of rental housing. "I am the largest provider of housing for the Stable Homes Stable Schools program," he said, noting that he also provides Section 8 and market-rate housing.

Brunner supports an exemption for new construction, although said it could be less than 30 years. He also believes that rents need to be decontrolled when a unit is vacant so that its rent can be adjusted to match the current market rate and that accommodations need to be made to address inflation and rising costs.

After years of relatively small and predictable cost increases, Brunner said that in 2022 his mortgage rates have gone up seven percent, his taxes have gone up eight percent, and maintenance has gone up 12%.

With only a three percent cap and no provisions for people to bank or reserve rent increases over more than a year, and no opportunity to adjust rents when there is a vacancy, Brunner believes landlords will decide to increase rents the max-

imum amount every year, and that will actually lead to higher rents for some tenants. He is also concerned that "we will get more and more places with delayed maintenance."

"It's important to have something that's passable at the ballot," Brunner said, acknowledging that city officials say they intend to put it on the ballot in November of 2023.

Daniel Sutor, a Central neighborhood homeowner, also served on the workgroup. He supports Option 5 and represented the nonprofit organization he works for, HOME Line, which provides tenants with free and low-cost legal, organizing, education and advocacy services.

"I don't think anyone would agree that what we have now is working," Sutor said. "We proposed a strong policy and there is no reason this won't work."

Option 5 "lays out a slate of drastically needed reforms for tenants," said Sutor. One of its strengths, he added, is the ease of how it will be administered and understood. "Simplicity will make it easier for everyone," he said. "It will become the way of doing business in Minneapolis."

Sutor believes that a separate cost-of-living increase is not needed because "we know for a fact that there has to be a reasonable rate of return" or the policy could be challenged and defeated in court. He points to St. Paul's ordinance that allows all landlords to have a base level of profit. The rent stabilization ordinance there limits monthly rent increases to three percent in any 12-month period, even when tenants move out, but also recognizes property owners' right to a "reasonable return on investment." The ordinance creates a process for landlords to

request an exception to the rent cap based on the right to a reasonable return on investment, and to consider specific factors when determining whether an exception is justified, including increases or decreases in property taxes and property deterioration.

While it appears unlikely that supporters of Option 5 would ever support removing the control when there is a vacancy or exempting new construction, there may be some openness to rent banking. In Oakland, for example, if rent has not been raised in recent years, a landlord can bank up to three years of allowable rent increases and apply the total increase in a single year. "I'm open to rent banking personally, but it needs to be studied more," said Sutor.

With the mayor promising a veto, a compromise may be necessary to get anything passed and approved. So far, the mayor has offered little insight as to what might get his support. Without it, the council will need nine yes votes to override a veto and move something forward to the ballot.

"I think there is plenty of room for compromise at the council level," said Sutor, noting that there are many details that would need to be worked out in an ordinance.

"There was no looking for compromise from many people" at the workgroup, Brunner said. "The City Council has to come up with a compromise to find something that is supportable and passable."

For a ballot question to be referred to voters in 2023, all legislative action must be completed by June 1.

Urban/Rural, from page 1

As someone who spent 12 years in the Twin Cities and then the past 25 years in rural Wisconsin can attest, these differences can be quite pronounced.

As an example, when I first emigrated from what John Hartford referred to as the "land of tall buildings" to western Wisconsin to edit a few small-town newspapers, I wore a jacket and tie to work. In Minneapolis I was an associate editor at this newspaper and an ad sales representative. The jacket and tie were the uniform of my profession. I soon learned that out here in God's country, the only people who wore a jacket and tie were lawyers and car salesmen, not to be trusted. Not to alienate my readership, I quickly ditched the tie.

But the jacket-and-tie example serves mainly as a metaphor for a wider rift between City Culture and Rural Culture. While I am generalizing here, Rural Culture tends to possess a healthy distrust of government, while City Culture tends to feel

more empowered and engages more in politics. Rural Culture is certainly more parochial and xenophobic in general, while City Culture tends toward a cosmopolitan world view. Rural Culture is more engaged with the land and its environmental surroundings, while City Culture makes decisions on environmental policy from its ivory towers whether those decisions make sense or not. (This is one complaint I hear constantly from hunters and fishermen.) It is the down-to-earth folks versus the people who live in their intellectual bubble.

But these differences are not innate, nor are they universal. It is not a deep gorge that separates the two cultures but more like a soft sloping valley. Still, many of the values and attitudes that are prevalent in Rural Culture derive from both historical factors and present circumstances. There is an underlying current of frustration and fear that is as much economic as political. Insurance companies and other large corporations buy up the farmland and create

"megafarms," pushing out the family farmer. Retail giants like Dollar General and Kwik Trip and Walmart shut down existing small businesses, while fast food corporations like A&W and McDonald's spring up to replace mom and pop cafes. People who once had economic freedom are forced to work long hours at low wages to support their families. It is like living in economic jail. While City Culture has some parallel problems, (and some which Rural Culture is happy to avoid), there is certainly more economic opportunity in urban areas.

How is Rural Culture facing these fears, frustrations and anxieties? For one, there has been a huge political shift. Once a bastion of Democratic political leanings, in the last presidential election they threw their support at then-President Donald Trump. Emboldened by the demagoguery of the former president, they found a voice to their frustrations where previously they felt marginalized, disenfranchised and left behind by the American dream. Lest the Democratic party make the fateful

mistake of losing this large bloc of American voters forever, they had best find a way to speak to these independent-minded citizens and address their particular issues and concerns.

John Rykhus, Jr., is the former news editor of the Morris (Min-

nesota) Weekly, a frequent contributor to the Morris Tribune, a former associate editor at Southside Pride, and the past editor of the Cornell and Lake Holcombe Courier and the Cadott Sentinel newspapers in western Wisconsin. He can be contacted at rykhusjohn@yahoo.com.

Attention Lawyers

We need legal advice on filing a lawsuit for a declaratory judgment that the Park Board is violating Minnesota Statute 103G.141 by damming Minnehaha Creek and flooding the wetlands surrounding Lake Hiawatha. We need to ask for injunctive relief to get the Park Board to remove the artificial barriers that are causing the flooding. This artificial flooding is being used as the reason for closing the historically significant Hiawatha Golf Course.

If you can help, please contact Ed Felien at edfelien@southsidepride.com

How did they do that?

BY ED FELIEN

What just happened?

Did we get hit with an inflationary spiral that skyrocketed prices just before the election and then calmed down just before Christmas?

It seems evident that a rise in gas prices began the action. This was caused—it was widely reported and believed—by the Saudis withholding supply. They cut off supply, and that raised the price.

But do the Saudis really control that much of the U.S. market?

The Saudi oil refinery in Port Arthur, Texas, pumps 626,000 barrels of oil into the U.S. every day. That's a lot of oil. It's the largest refinery production in the U.S. But it's only about 3% of the 20 million barrels the U.S. uses every day. By itself, Saudi withdrawal of oil from the market should not dramatically affect price.

The Koch refinery in Rosemount, Minn., pumps about 333,000 barrels every day. With the Saudis, the amount pumped would still be less than 5% of U.S. daily consumption. That still wouldn't be enough to affect supply and price—unless Charles Koch could convince his friends at Marathon and Exxon to go along with the game.

The Saudis couldn't have

started the inflationary spiral by themselves. They don't have enough market share to seriously rock the boat. They're the obvious fall guys for the machinations of Charles Koch.

Is that what happened?

Did Charles Koch make a few phone calls and orchestrate a drop in production and consequent inflationary spiral? Did he do this to help galvanize a Red Wave of Republican victories in November? Didn't he do the same thing to Carter in 1980—creating a gas shortage and lines at the pump—to ensure Reagan's victory?

It must be a deliciously evil game to play—creating all that anguish and suffering and getting a Democratic president blamed for it.

Isn't it time to stop Charles Koch from disturbing our peace and tranquility?

I wrote to Sen. Amy Klobuchar in October: "You are Chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, which is tasked with oversight of antitrust enforcement at the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission and monitoring the state of competition in a variety of industries to help protect consumers." I asked her why her committee wasn't investigating Charles Koch. I didn't hear back.



I called her Public Affairs Specialist, left a message, no response.

I wrote her again on Nov. 19: "I'm sorry we didn't receive a comment from Sen. Klobuchar's office on the obvious violation of the Sherman Antitrust law by Charles Koch and his partners in OPEC. <https://southsidepride.com/2022/11/07/lock-him-up-3/>"

"I read in the Star Tribune that

the senator is planning hearings in her Antitrust Subcommittee on the monopoly practices of Ticketmaster because their site crashed when people in Minnesota wanted to buy tickets to hear Taylor Swift:

"In an interview with WCCO-TV, Klobuchar said she will call a congressional hearing on the matter and demanded a Department of Justice investigation. On Friday, national media reported that the DOJ has opened an investigation.

"There just has to be consequences for this type of behavior," Klobuchar told WCCO.

"When she finishes getting tickets for Taylor Swift, would she consider asking her subcommittee to examine the practices of Charles Koch in the manipula-

tion of the oil market?

"As a scholar of trusts and the antitrust movements, 'Antitrust: Taking on Monopoly Power from the Gilded Age to the Digital Age,' Klobuchar understands how certain interests that control significant market shares can collude and fix prices to the detriment of the American consumer.

"Shouldn't Sen. Klobuchar hold hearings in her subcommittee to determine the role that Charles Koch plays in the oil market and, especially, how his actions in withholding oil and raising prices helped create this latest pre-election inflationary spiral?

"We would love to publish Sen. Klobuchar's response in our December editions.

"Thanks for your help."

A stylized graphic for Radio KFAI. It features a satellite dish with a signal being transmitted to a small satellite in space. The background is black with white stars and a crescent moon. The text "RADIO WITHOUT BOUNDARIES" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below that, "KFAI.org" is written in a large, bold font, followed by "90.3/106.7 fm" and "MPLS. - ST. PAUL - THE WORLD".

A black and white photograph of a car completely covered in a thick layer of snow, parked in a snowy landscape. Overlaid on the image is the text: "Don't let the weather keep you away from the news - Each issue of Southside Pride is available for pickup at over 150 convenient locations, or go to our website at southsidepride.com".



There's no place like home – finding “inspo”



Custom-made bunk beds

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

Inspo is not a tropical fish, like Nemo. Inspo = “inspiration” in millennial slang. Thanks for attending my tiny Ted Talk. In the throes of winter, even in the supposedly hopeful post-solstice part, it’s kind of hard to think about re-decorating, remodeling, or (shudder) moving to a whole new home. This is hunker-down time, grit-your-teeth and make-it-through time. But also dream time. So here are some ideas about getting fuel for your dreams, input for your plans, inspiration, or even inspo, if you prefer.

Expos, shows and fairs

January through March is a good time for home improvement expos and fairs. Local and national remodelers, materials providers, designers and home builders flock to the convention centers to show you what’s on trend or the latest

idea in home improvement or new homes. Some of these include gardens and landscaping. Some focus on second homes. Here are a few

attend, and you even get a goody bag of samples and discounts. You can find more details on this one at [minnesotahomeshows.com](#).



Reading nook idea from the Home and Garden show blog

big ones coming our way.

Very soon, on Jan. 13 - 15, is the Minneapolis Home Building and Remodeling Expo at the downtown Hyatt Regency. To get more details, type [homeshowcenter.com](#) into your browser then page down to find Minneapolis and click on it. Also in January, the Shakopee Home Show is a one-day only event on Jan. 21 at Canterbury Park. Unlike most of the other shows, fairs and expos, it is free to

[com/2023-spring-shakopee](#).

A really big show kicks off in early February. The Minneapolis Home and Remodeling Show takes place from Feb. 3 - 5 at U.S. Bank Stadium in downtown Minneapolis. This one has a modest entry fee, and you can get \$2 off if you buy the tickets online. Also you can virtually window shop it through an online portal (for

See *Inspo*, page 8

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There w

Inspo, from page 7

free). To do that and more, go to www.minneapolishomeandremodelingshow.com. One cool feature of this very local show is a contest sponsored by Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity ReStore. There will be a competition to highlight Twin Citians' crafting talents, where local individuals will be upcycling a small item to be displayed at the show and

guests will choose a winner. Another hyperlocal event is the Lake Home and Cabin Show, which happens only in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Minneapolis's version takes place on Feb. 10 - 12 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. In addition to homes, from tiny one-room cabins to vast compounds, this show covers camping and boating with such items as teardrop camper-trailers and boats and boat docks.

You can also get information about lodges, cabins and campgrounds for rent, and build-your-own cabin kits. The National Eagle Center of Wabasha, Minn., will be presenting live eagle programs every day during the show. There is a Facebook page called Lake Home and Cabin which is your portal to the show and more.

On Feb. 26, another one-day event is the West Metro Home Remodel Fair, happening at the Eisenhower Community Center in Hopkins. This one is also admission-free and is sponsored by three west metro cities. Although this show is focused on west metro homes and businesses, there is a lot of overlap in the exhibitors to the various events.

Co-sponsored by the St. Louis Park Community Education Department, this fair is rich in seminars. The 2023 seminars are not set yet, but the 2022 list gives an idea of what to expect, and one really stands out: the presentation by Just Deeds Coalition, with Maria Cisneros and Kiarra Zackery of the City of Golden Valley. Here's the description:

"Discriminatory covenants have



Imperial white currant for your edible perennial garden from the Experimental Farm Network

been used to keep people of color from buying houses in certain Minnesota neighborhoods, resulting in a

century of segregated communities. Though racial covenants have been illegal for decades, they remain on the titles of these properties. The impact has been made apparent through the work of Mapping Prejudice and the PBS documentary, 'The Jim Crow of the North.' In this session, you will hear a brief summary of the history of these practices, and learn about the Just Deeds Coalition, helping property owners remove the racial covenants from their deeds and educating about this hidden history."

The biggest expo will be the Minneapolis Home and Garden Show, running March 1 - 5 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Even though it has a completely different URL, the website for this fair is identical in look and structure to the expo at the U.S. Bank Stadium. So I went through the virtual interactive list of exhibitors and "hearted" all the ones I want to check out. (Go to bit.ly/3QccAea to see my list and access more information about the show.)

Parade of Homes Twin Cities and Minneapolis - St. Paul Home Tour

Another kind of event geared toward giving the potential home remodeler (or home buyer) infor-



Home gym in a newly built home



Minneapolis Home and Garden Show

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There's No Place Like Home make it even better!

mation and inspiration is the proverbial Parade of Homes or Home Tour. The Twin Cities has two major events of this nature, one for newly built homes and one for remodeled homes. They both have a fairly interesting history and sponsorship.

The MSP Home Tour is the one for remodelers. Here is the history summed up on its website:

"The tour started in the late 1980s as a program of the City of Minneapolis, joined by the City of St. Paul a year later. The Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), created in 1990 to revitalize the neighborhoods of Minneapolis, became a major sponsor of the Home Tour in 1992 and provided funding and staff support.

"Neighborhood organizations used their NRP monies for various programs to help renovate homes and complete other community improvement projects, and the MSP Home Tour served as a showcase for these projects and the neighborhoods. It was natural for NRP to take over leading the tour from 2003 to 2011, evolving it from being

24 years and selected Pro Media Inc. to perform the coordination function. In 2021 Pro Media transferred care and custody of the tour to the National Association of the Remodeling Industry of MN (NARI MN)."

The MSP Home Tour this year will occur April 29 - 30, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. The tour is self-guided and paced, with the

suggestion that might improve your wintry outlook as well. Visit the Como Park Conservatory Sunken Garden for its Winter Garden period, Jan. 14 through March 19, featuring cyclamen, azaleas, camellias, veltheimia, cineraria and foxgloves.

Then take that inspo shopping with you, as you visit Mother Earth Gardens, the Highland Nurs-



Countertop created from wood scraps

website providing a map of all the homes and you choosing the ones you want to visit and when. This is also a different kind of event because it still retains its sociable and neighborly quality, with the homeowners playing host and answering your questions.

The Parade of Homes Twin Cities is also presented by a trade association, Housing First Minnesota, an association of new home builders. All of the homes on the parade are newly built and empty, although some are presold. Check out the website paradeofhomes.org to get a list of the sites and the timing of open periods which is usually a five-week stretch starting in March and then another four-week period in the fall.

Online inspiration

If all this is too much for you, you can always find inspiration online as well. The home improvement channels have spawned lots of baby remodeling shows on YouTube and the like. Home and garden magazines have online spreads. Remodelers and other businesses in the trade (including many of our advertisers and most of the exhibitors at the shows) often have gorgeous photo galleries of their work.

A website of woodworking artists has some amazing and inspiring projects. Bored Panda did a piece on them, selecting some of the most awe-inspiring: www.boredpanda.com/wood-tech-craft. Or you can go straight to the source at www.reddit.com/r/woodworking.

Anticipating spring, and other mental health moves

Maybe you like to plan your garden in the depths of winter. Instead of doing it just in your head, here's a

ery, Egg/Plant or any of the other amazing garden centers we have in our area. I am excited to have discovered the Agrarian Seed and Garden store at 5152 Hiawatha Ave. (closed now but reopening in April 2023).



Traditional style in a newly built home from the Parade of Homes

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A handcrafted rocking chair

supported mostly by governments and nonprofit agencies, to a Minneapolis and St. Paul public/private partnership focused on showcasing homeowners and neighborhoods.

"As NRP ended its operations, it looked for an organization that could continue the Home Tour in the spirit and traditions of the previous



from the Parade of Homes

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Anita White Art Exhibition “Inner and Outer Journeys”

Opening Saturday, Jan. 14, 6 to 9 p.m.
On view through February 2023

The Vine Arts Center
2637 27th Ave. S., Minneapolis

The Vine Arts Center will be presenting a retrospective art show by Anita White called “Inner and Outer Journeys.” The show opens on Saturday, Jan. 14, from 6 to 9 p.m. and continues through February.

Anita is a longtime resident of the Longfellow neighborhood and cofounder of the LoLa Art Crawl. She uses her talents to create documentary drawings of events and people around her.



Papa John Kolstad as seen by Anita White

Her retrospective begins with her three-and-a-half years on Inisheer, the smallest of the Aran Islands, off the coast of Ireland. She documented her life there, including watching the process of making a currach (a kind of boat). The show follows her life story from Inisheer back to Minneapolis and her experiences here.

The past several years have included drawing people in health care settings, which Anita began when her husband fell sick and needed care.

“Drawing Through Crisis with Courage and Humor” was her first collection. She created “A Day in the Life of Hennepin Healthcare,” following the hospital workers through their days. Before this Anita could be seen at various events, especially musical ones, documenting the people around her and the performers. She has frequently been at local venues like Merlins Rest. More information at www.vineartscenter.org.

EVENTS

Richard Terrill and Rachael Hanel in Conversation

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 7 p.m.
Magers & Quinn Booksellers
30 Hennepin Ave. S., Mpls.
In-Store Event
Richard Terrill and Rachael Hanel will read from their recently published books, Terrill’s “Essentially: Essays” and Hanel’s “Not the Camilla We Knew.” Free event, but please register at <https://www.magersandquinn.com/event/Richard-Terrill-and-Rachael-Hanel-In-Conversation/152>.

Poetry Night with Janna Knittel, Peter Campion and Connie Wanek

Thursday, Jan. 12, 7 p.m.
Magers & Quinn Booksellers
30 Hennepin Ave. S., Mpls.
In-Store Event
Janna Knittel’s “Real Work” is about both physical and emotional manifestations of work, from

growing up on a small commercial hazelnut farm in Oregon to familial relationships and loss. It traces a journey from the Pacific Northwest to the upper Midwest through poems that hinge on attentiveness to nature and in which plants, animals, and seasons intertwine with human themes. Poets Peter Campion and Connie Wanek will also read from their work. FREE in-person event, registration required at: <https://www.magersandquinn.com/event/Poetry-Night-with-Janna-Knittel,-Peter-Campion,-and-Connie-Wanek/153>

Out There: Ontroerend Goed, ‘Are we not drawn onward to new era’ Jan. 12 – 14

Walker Art Center
725 Vineland Pl., Mpls.
“An admonitory piece about climate change that has a palindromic title and structure to match. ... After seeing this, you may never want to hold a plastic bag again.” — The New York Times
Both palindrome and sly metaphor,

this absurdist theater work by Belgium’s Ontroerend Goed is an endearingly clever and surprisingly hopeful comment on the climate crisis. Bleak yet beautiful, with a startlingly fresh mix of live film and ingenious stagecraft, “Are we not drawn onward to new era” questions how we got here and why. You won’t want to miss this rare U.S. performance by a leading force in European experimental theater. More information and tickets at <https://walkerart.org/calendar/2023/out-there-ontroerend-goed-are-we-not-drawn-onward-to-new-era>.

Sounds of Blackness: Music for Martin

Friday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m.
Ordway Center
345 Washington St., St. Paul
Incorporating jazz, blues, spirituals, rock & roll, R&B, gospel, hip hop and soul, Sounds of Blackness shares the music that fueled the civil rights movement interwoven with excerpts from Rev. King’s great speeches. Information and tickets to “Music for Martin” are available at <https://ordway.org/events/sounds-of-blackness/>.

‘Remembering Remy’ with Patrick’s Cabaret

Friday, Jan. 13, 8 p.m. CT
Online via Zoom
“Remembering Remy” — Patrick’s Cabaret is throwing a party/having a show to celebrate Remy Charlip — artist, writer, dancer, choreog-

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Greyduck Collective and Edina Coffee Roasters open coffee lounge in South Minneapolis



Greyduck Collective, a coworking space in South Minneapolis, is partnering with Edina Coffee Roasters to open a coffee lounge that will be open to the public. The location at 6020 Nicollet Ave. in Minneapolis will open its doors to coffee lovers starting Jan. 14.

The grand opening will feature light snacks and an opportunity to mingle with the baristas and staff. Greyduck Collective and Edina Coffee Roasters are excited to launch the coffee lounge and offer a unique coffee experience to the community.

The coffee lounge is not just a great spot for a great cup of coffee or a place to meet with friends — it’s also the perfect place to take advantage of the co-working space. Come by and experience the Greyduck Collective and Edina Coffee Roasters Coffee Lounge for yourself!

The coffee lounge will be open daily from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be sure to stop by on January 14 and check out this new coffee haven!



Ruth Bly, Tím Frantzić and Jim Lenfestey present

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January 12, 7PM

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Southside Pride / NOKOMIS EDITION

rapher, theater director, theatrical designer and teacher. Remy's birthday is Jan. 10, so (for good luck!) we'll have the event three days later, on Friday the 13th. Remy passed in 2012, having touched many. This show brings together just a handful of the many artists who consider themselves lucky to have connected to him. We will share our memories of our work with him, and his work. The show will be a party featuring dance, video, performance art and children's books. For details visit <https://link-tr.ee/PatrickScully>. Cost: \$15 (Can't make it to the show at this time? Email patrick@patrickscully.org for a link to the recording.)

Family Build for Art Car and Contraptions Parade
Saturday, Jan. 14, noon to 3 p.m.
Leonardo's Basement
150 W. 60th St., Mpls.
Every winter Art Shanty Projects appear on icy Bde Uman (Lake Harriet) for four weekends in January and February. The structures are enriched by clever interactive experiences and playful performances, including the Art Car Parade. We want to help you join in the fun and are hosting a workshop for you to design and build creations for the "Wearable ArtCars and Contraptions Parade." You'll join other wacky creators on four Saturdays at 12:30 p.m. to strut your stuff. Build your creation at home or bring your ideas and we'll provide tools and materials for you to contrive your dream car, car costume or contrivance. For ages 5 to 105! Ages 5-12 register with an adult. Ages 13-105 can register independently. <https://leonardosbasement.asapconnected.com/#Events>

'Inner and Outer Journeys'
Anita White Retrospective
Opening Saturday, Jan. 14, 6 to 9 p.m.
On view through February
Vine Arts Center
2637 27th Ave. S., Mpls.
The Vine Arts Center presents "Inner and Outer Journeys," a retrospective exhibition of the art of Anita White, longtime Longfellow resident. The show includes White's documentary drawings of the events and people around her, beginning with the time she spent living on Inisheer, the smallest of the Aran Islands, off the coast of Ireland, through her return to Minneapolis and her experiences here. The past several years have included drawing people in health care settings, which White began when her husband fell sick and needed care. For more information, visit www.vineartscenter.org.

Neighborhood Roots Winter Market
Saturday, Jan. 14, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Bachman's Floral, Gift, and Garden Indoor greenhouse
6010 Lyndale Ave. S., Mpls.
Neighborhood Roots Winter Markets return to Bachman's! Enjoy music and fresh, ready-to-eat food and beverages, and stock up on

produce, sweet treats, crafts and gifts from local farmers, bakers and artisans. This market series will take place outdoors indoors (January – March) at Bachman's Floral, Gift, and Garden and will feature all your favorite vendors from the Kingfield, Fulton and Nokomis Farmers Market. Pets are not allowed at the market. Service animals are always welcome. For more information, visit www.neighborhoodrootsmn.org/winter-markets.

Tom Maakestad 'Novellas' Winter Salon Group Show
Through Jan. 14
Groveland Gallery
25 Groveland Terrace, Mpls.
"Novellas" is an exhibition of new work by Minnesota artist Tom Maakestad. Raised in rural Northfield, Minn., in a family of artists among a community of farmers, Maakestad has always used his knowledge and appreciation of the land as a source of inspiration for his work. The exhibition runs concurrently with Groveland Gallery's annual Winter Salon featuring new work from 20 Groveland artists. Gallery hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, from noon to 5 p.m. You can also view the exhibitions online at grovelandgallery.com.

42nd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Tribute Concert
Sunday, Jan. 15, 3 p.m.
Ted Mann Concert Hall
University of Minnesota
2128 S. 4th St., Mpls.
The University of Minnesota will present the 42nd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Tribute Concert on Sunday, Jan. 15 at 3 p.m. This year's concert, hosted and curated by U of M alumnus G. Phillip Shoultz III of VocalEssence, will take place at Ted Mann Concert Hall. The program will intermix the words of Dr. King with reflections from U of M faculty and musical performances from U of M students and the greater Twin Cities community. This event is free of charge, and tickets are not required. For more information about the program or disability accommodations, contact the Office for Equity and Diversity at oed@umn.edu or visit <https://diversity.umn.edu/events/martin-luther-king-jr-tribute>.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration
Monday, Jan. 16
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Powderhorn Park
3400 15th Ave. S., Mpls.
Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association invites you to an MLK Day celebration! Enjoy performances, art activities, lunch, giveaways for kids and more. Free and fun for all ages, the celebration will showcase local artists whose performances are dedicated to ideals of community well-being like housing and environmental justice, and the elimination of race-based disparities to honor the work and vision of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. If you need any accommodations

to access the event please contact PPNA at info@ppna.org or 612-722-4817 by Jan. 3. More details on schedule of events at <https://www.ppna.org/mlkcelebration>.

Personifying Beloved Community
Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration
Thursday, Jan. 19, 11 a.m.
Virtual Event
Minneapolis College will host a virtual celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. on Thursday, Jan. 19, to encourage reflection on King's dedication to equality and the civil rights movement. "I am mindful of wanting to make King contemporary," said African American Empowerment Program Coordinator Charles Watson. "The legacy of Dr. King lives on." The event will showcase winning scholarship entries from students' essays on King's work and how it paved the way for overcoming today's barriers to equity and justice. It connects youth from various communities with the ideologies of this incredible leader whose work is equally as relevant today as it was during the peak of the movement he led. Visit this webpage to join the virtual event: <https://minneapolis.edu/mlk#>.

Northrop Presents
The Joffrey Ballet
Friday, Jan. 20 and Saturday, Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m.
Northrop
Carlson Family Stage
84 Church St. SE, Mpls.
The Joffrey Ballet returns to Northrop with a dynamic program of three works: "Serenade," the first ballet George Balanchine created in America in 1934; an electric "sneaker ballet" from Tony Award winner Justin Peck; and the Northrop Centennial Commission "Of Mice and Men," adapted by choreographer Cathy Marston. This new take on John Steinbeck's tender tale of friendship, perseverance, and sacrifice features an original score by 14-time Academy Award nominee, Thomas Newman (The Shawshank Redemption, Skyfall, Finding Nemo), played live by Northrop's ballet orchestra. Purchase tickets at www.northrop.umn.edu/events/joffrey-ballet-2023.

Highpoint Presents:
2022 McKnight Printmaking Fellowship Exhibition
On view Jan. 20 – Feb. 25
Opening Reception Friday, Jan. 20, 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Public Conversation: Friday, Feb. 3, 6 to 7 p.m.
Highpoint Center for Printmaking
912 W. Lake St., Mpls.
Highpoint is celebrating the 2022 McKnight Printmaking Fellows, Nicole Sara Simpkins and Amy Sands. This exhibition, opening Jan. 20, will feature prints, objects and moving images created during their year-long fellowship experience. Come meet the artists, celebrate their work, and enjoy refreshments during the opening reception on Friday, Jan. 20 from 6:30 to 9 p.m. A public conversation will take place on Friday, Feb. 3, from 6 to 7 p.m. with the McKnight fellows

featuring Amy E. Elkins, Associate Professor of English at Macalester College and author of "Crafting Feminism from Literary Modernism to the Multimedia Present." Admission is free, but space is limited so please RSVP: <https://www.highpointprintmaking.org/calendar/2022/mcknight-conversation>.

Wearable ArtCar and Contraptions Parade on ICE!
Saturdays at 12:30 p.m.
Jan. 21 & 28, Feb. 4 & 11
Bdé Umáñ /Lake Harriet Bandshell
4135 W. Lake Harriet Pkwy., Mpls.
It is happening again this year at the Art Shanty Projects! Bring last year's creation or make a new one and join us each weekend! Meet at the Bdé Umáñ/Lake Harriet Bandshell.
"The weekly parade around the Art Shanty Village features a convoy of regional artists wearing whimsical handcrafted outfits—ArtCars and Contraptions—made from recycled and repurposed materials. In addition to many of the colorful creations that debuted last year, this year's parade will feature wearable contraptions produced by youth and students from the Twin Cities. And once again, anyone can make an outfit to bring and join in or borrow one of the outfits available on site!"
<https://artshantyprojects.org/2023-schedule-of-performances-and-art-actions/>
<https://artcarparade.com/>

Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater
Free Workshops for Kids
Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5
Online
Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater is sponsoring these FREE workshops for kids. Graci Horne and Ifrah Mansour are co-creating an online workshop series Jan. 22, 29 and Feb. 5. Workshops will explore feelings, findings and footprints using discarded items in your home to make memorabilia for your very own time capsule. Through artmaking, you will explore what it means to be an ancestor and reflect on our collective role and impact on the climate change crisis. To learn more call 612-721-2523 or go to hobt.org/virtual-workshops/.

The Minnesota Musicians Concert Series
Lt. Sunnie, Mpls Drew, & GrayBeat
Thursday, Jan. 26
Doors 7 p.m., Music 7:30 p.m.
The Hook and Ladder Theater
3010 Minnehaha Ave., Mpls.
Hook & Ladder Theater and Minnesota Music Coalition come together to feature amazing Minnesota talent across a variety of genres. Join us monthly (every fourth Thursday) to catch some of your favorites as well as some musicians you may not have seen yet! Lt. Sunnie is a dynamic multi-disciplinary artist from the heart of Minneapolis! Through her passion for rap, singing and dance, Sunnie creates art for all people to pull inspiration and light from. 21+ show, general

admission \$5 early / \$10 advance / \$15 day of show. Tickets at <https://thehookmpls.com/event/230126-mmcs/>.

'Cumar'
Friday, Jan. 27 and Saturday, Jan. 28, 7:30 p.m.
Southern Theater
1420 S. Washington Ave., Mpls.
An innovative fusion of traditional music and dance from West Africa and Ireland. "Cumar" ("Confluence" in Irish Gaelic) brings together the complex rhythms and fluid, expressive movement of West Africa with the flowing melodies, percussive footwork, and intricate dance figures of Ireland, in an exuberant celebration of multi-cultural collaboration. The group features an outstanding ensemble of Twin Cities dancers and musicians, ranging from internationally recognized masters to dedicated young artists carrying these traditions into the next generation. Tickets are available at www.southerntheater.org/shows/cumar-at-the-southern-theater.

Lorna Landvik's 'Pages and Stages'
Jan. 6 – 28
6 p.m. doors, 7 p.m. show
Bryant Lake Bowl
810 W. Lake St., Mpls.
Start out the new year with a new bang! Performer/author Lorna Landvik is serving up an evening's entertainment in "Pages and Stages," a brand-new show that combines derring-do improv, set pieces, music, and stories/confessionals about her Hollywood days and writing career. It's highbrow, it's lowbrow, it's a Tony* award contender! (*says Tony di Commedia, avid theater fan who bestows awards — gift cards to Olive Garden — to his favorite performers). "Pages and Stages" plays every Friday and Saturday night in January, beginning Jan. 6 at the Bryant Lake Bowl. Tickets are \$20 in advance (\$22 day of show) and can be purchased online at eventbrite.com. For more information, contact the Bryant Lake Bowl, 612-825-8949 or online at bryantlakebowl.com/theater.

'The Root Beer Lady'
Jan. 28 – Feb. 19
History Theatre
30 E. 10th St., St. Paul
"The Root Beer Lady" is the story of Dorothy Molter, the last legal non-Indigenous resident of the Boundary Waters. The play, funny and passionate, explores her independence, fortitude and love of nature, and pushes back against the premise that her time in the North Woods made her the "Loneliest Woman in America," as the Saturday Evening Post claimed in 1952. Dorothy Molter's story will delight all, young and old. For more information and tickets, go to www.historytheatre.com/2022-2023/root-beer-lady.

Beyond the Page: Poets as Artists in the New Year
Through Jan. 30

See Calendar, page 14

EVENTS

Indigenous and Faith Leaders United: Launching a Bold Climate Justice Agenda for 2023

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 7 to 8:30 p.m. CT Online via Zoom

We’ve got the power! Let’s build the world we know is possible. Join faith and Indigenous leaders as we roll out a bold legislative agenda for 2023 that will center Indigenous leadership, drive equity, demand 100% clean renewable electricity, and leverage federal dollars to put Minnesotans to work rebuilding our energy infrastructure.

Come hear about our joint platform and leave with tools to build power in your community to usher in a new world. Speakers currently include (with more to be named!): Winona LaDuke, Sen. Patricia Torres Ray, Jim Bear Jacobs, Sara Wolff and Joshua Lewis. This event is co-sponsored by Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light, Honor the Earth, Jewish Community Action and Minnesota Council of Churches. Learn more and register at https://mnipl.nationbuilder.com/indigenous_faith_leaders_2023_launch_registration.

Taizé Service

Friday, Jan. 13, 7 p.m.

Minnehaha United Methodist Church 3701 E. 50th St., Mpls. With all that is going on around us, it is important to slow down and make sure we are feeding our souls and listening for God periodically. Take an opportunity for renewal through prayer, song and silence at our monthly Taizé services. Join us on Jan. 13 at 7 p.m. or any second Friday of the month (October through May). In addition, we will be livestreaming our services as

well, so you can catch Taizé from your home (or cabin or wherever you are) in real time, or anytime you want. www.minnehaha.org

Interfaith writing workshop for women of color

Apply by Jan. 15

This generative week-long workshop at the Collegeville Institute aims to build an interfaith writing community by and for women of color who seek to write creative prose (fiction, nonfiction and hybrid forms) that is inspired by personal experience. Learn more at <https://collegevilleinstitute.org/events/event/about-me-about-you/>.

The Listening Ear at Living Spirit: Mental Health for Everyone

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 6:30 p.m.

In-person and online

Living Spirit United Methodist Church 4501 Bloomington Ave., Mpls. Living Spirit offers a monthly night of mental health education and check-ins on third Wednesdays. The event on Jan. 18 begins at 6:30 p.m. with a half-hour education session, followed by some practical exercises. At 7:30 p.m., participants can meet one-on-one with a trained listener to check in about their mental health in general or discuss a particular issue. The event is free and open to people of any (or no) faith traditions. Participate in person at Living Spirit or online via our livestream/Zoom. More information at our website: <https://livingspiritumc.org/listeningear>.

Saint Mark’s Music Series In Recital: Andrew Kane

Feb. 12, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Saint Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral 519 Oak Grove St., Mpls. Baritone Andrew Kane with accompanist Raymond Johnston perform a

varied program, to include Dichterliebe by Schumann. <https://ourcathedral.org/concerts/>

The Praxis of Hope: Ricardo Levins Morales

Wednesday, Feb. 15

In person and online

United Theological Seminary 767 Eustis St., St. Paul “The Praxis of Hope: An Evening with Ricardo Levins Morales” will be presented to both in-person and online audiences on Feb. 15. Based in South Minneapolis, Morales is an artist and organizer who uses art as a form of political medicine to help people heal from the injuries and realities of oppression. This event, the second in a three-part “Praxis Series” aimed at helping participants embody and live into lessons about Love, Hope, and Faith that are foundational for justice work, is sponsored by the Leadership Center for Social Justice at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in order to broaden its social justice outreach to a wider community. For more information, visit www.united-seminary.edu.

Lent Procession Service

Sunday, Feb. 26, 4 p.m.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church 3045 Chicago Ave., Mpls. Mount Olive’s Music and Fine Arts Series is an artistic gift to God and the Twin Cities community. Each year Mount Olive produces a Music and Fine Arts Series aimed at the wider Twin Cities audience. Lent Procession is a contemplative service of lessons and carols for Lent. It is an opportunity to withdraw from the busyness of life; a time to sing, pray, listen, smell—a time to fully enter into the season of Lent, renewing our lives as children of God. Mount Olive Cantorei and David

Cherwien, organist and director. www.mountolivechurch.org/music/music-fine-arts-series/

Donate items to newly arrived refugee families this winter

It’s getting chilly out there! MCC Refugee Services is currently collecting warm bedding to help our families stay nice and warm this winter. We are collecting comforters, queen- and twin-sized sheets, and pillows. A unique request: we are also looking for a coffee table for one of our clients for her family to gather around for meals.

Do you have items you would like to donate? Please email RSVolunteers@mchurches.org or call 612-230-3219.

Contemplative Meditation

Thursdays at 9 a.m. online

First Monday of the month, 7 to 9 p.m. in person

Plymouth Congregational Church 1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls. The Plymouth Contemplatives are an affinity group committed to personal and collective transformation. Together we share in contemplative movement, silence, and group discernment as ways to be present to God dwelling in our hearts, in Plymouth’s congregational life, and in our wider community. We participate in a variety of practices with the common intention of releasing attachments to our smaller selves and consciously consenting to the movement of the Spirit through us. These exercises can help us step off the emotional roller coaster of our times. The practice of focusing on the Spirit’s movement helps us find our way through a topsy-turvy world. Everyone is welcome. Learn more about how to participate either online or in person at <https://www.plymouth.org/connect/contemplatives/>.

Minneapolis Friends Meeting

Fall-Winter Schedule

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

SHARING FOOD

New Creation Baptist Church

1414 E. 48th St., Mpls.

612-825-6933

We’re still here to serve you on the first through the fourth Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We have re-opened the food shelf to choice shopping. We do require mask, sanitizer and temp check. Be safe and God bless! <https://www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf>. Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays) 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Brown door on the corner of 48th St. and 15th Ave.)

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

5300 10th Ave. S., Mpls.

612-825-6846

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

evening between 5 and 6 p.m.

Minnehaha United

Methodist Church

3701 E. 50th St., Mpls.

612-721-6231

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

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/>

Greater Friendship Missionary

Baptist Church and Friendship

Community Service

2600 E. 38th St., Mpls.

Food Hub

Free food, hygiene products, and some household goods. Tuesday and Thursday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please bring ID and wear a mask. Social distancing guidelines are in place.

Du Nord Foundation

Community Market

3140 Snelling Ave., Mpls.

612-460-8123

We are a community-supported food shelf that is a welcoming place for neighbors to find free, healthy food for their tables and supplies for their homes. We invite neighbors to order online and choose the day and time that works for you for curbside pickup. Mondays and Wednesdays, 3 to 6 p.m. 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>.

Community Meals at Walker Church

3104 16th Ave. S., Mpls.

612-722-6612

Free to-go meals and groceries are available for pick-up every Monday from noon to 2 p.m. All are welcome. Sisters’ Camelot holds a separate food distribution out of Walker Church every third and fifth Tuesday of the month starting at 2:30 p.m. 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/>

The Nokomis Religious Community Welcomes You

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT

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

612-724-3643

www.saintalbertthegreat.org

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5 pm

Sunday 9:30 am (also live-streamed on Facebook)

Sunday 12 noon

Weekday Masses M, T, TH, F at

8:15 am in the Chapel, east door

and elevator entry

FAITH EVANGELICAL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

3430 E. 51st St.

612-729-5463

www.faithlutheranmpls.org

Sunday Worship 9 am and online

on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/felcmpls/>

Education Hour - 10:30 am

AA group - Mondays 6:30 pm

Senior Exercise Class -

Mondays 10 am

NA groups - Wednesdays

7:30 pm

Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Jared Yo-

gerst, PhD

FIRST FREE CHURCH

5150 Chicago Ave S.

612-827-4705

Sunday Worship

9 am - Community Hour includes

Adult Bible Study, Velocity Stu-

dent Ministry, Creekside Bible

Time

10 am - Fellowship Time

10:30 am - Worship Service

(in-person and online) and Chil-

dren’s Church

Nursery thru Preschool available

throughout the morning

www.firstfreechurch.org

Christ-Centered, Christ-Sent

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN

CHURCH (ELCA)

1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.

612-722-1083

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am

Education Time at 10:30 am

Sunday Worship recordings

online at

www.holycrossmpls.org

LIVING SPIRIT

UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH

4501 Bloomington Ave.

612-721-5025

Multicultural/

Intergenerational

Justice — Generosity — Faith

Worship In-Person or Online

10:30 am Sundays

Online: livingspiritumc.org

NEW CREATION

BAPTIST CHURCH

1414 E. 48th St.

612-825-6933

In-person Sunday Worship 10:45

am

Also on Facebook at:

[www.Facebook.com/NewCre-](http://www.Facebook.com/NewCreationBaptistChurch)

[ationBaptistChurch](http://www.Facebook.com/NewCreationBaptistChurch)

[https://newcreationbaptist-](https://newcreationbaptist-churchmn.org/)

[churchmn.org/](https://newcreationbaptist-churchmn.org/)

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Daniel B. McK-

izzie

NOKOMIS HEIGHTS

LUTHERAN CHURCH –

ELCA

5300 10th Ave. S.

612-825-6846

www.nokomisheights.org

Sunday worship 10 am, inside

the sanctuary

Sunday School and Adult Forum

at 9 am

Online worship premieres Sun-

days at 10 am on Facebook and

YouTube.

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

Family Mass - 9 & 11 in the

Church

Video available on our

website and Facebook page

We Welcome You Wherever You

Are On Your Journey



All Directory Churches are Wheelchair Accessible

So far, so what?



BY ED FELIEN

Kyrsten Sinema:

Sinema's great moment of fame came when she emerged as one of the principal architects of the bipartisan infrastructure bill. She suffers under the self-aggrandizing delusion that without her it wouldn't have passed. It was a budget bill. It only needed 50 votes plus Kamala to pass. It would have passed easily without Sinema's huffing and puffing. The progressives in the House held up the bill, wanting to pass a mightier addition to it. Sinema assured the progressives that if they passed her bill, she would support their version. She didn't, it failed, and we had to wait until this year and Joe Manchin's reluctant support to pass it as the Inflation Reduction Act.

Sinema announced her decision as though it were a just pro-

nouncement from the gods, and now she hurries into a perpetual vanishing.

In the sharp political divide of contemporary hyper-partisan American politics there is little room for a shameless opportunist caught in the disappearing middle.

Ruben Gallego, congressman from Phoenix, has been running against Sinema for two years, ever since she voted with Manchin to sink the sinking of the filibuster. She can count. There's no way she could get the Dem endorsement or even win a Dem primary. She thinks she's Lisa Murkowski. But Arizona isn't Alaska. There is very little middle ground in highly partisan Arizona. The Trump trials will eat up all the oxygen in two years. Republicans will be in full retreat (caution: the author is a pathological optimist).

On the coup d'état by Castillo in Peru:

My understanding of the social contract is that we agree to settle political questions democratically through elections. When someone rejects the decision of the voters, they reject the constitution that binds us together. When they throw out the constitution, when they try to rule by decree, whether they are Donald J. Trump or a German

prince or President Castillo, they are robbing us of our future—a world owned and operated by all the people who live here.

The elections in Taiwan:

The election of Chiang Wan-an, the new Taipei mayor, the Nationalist great-grandson of Chiang Kai-shek, will probably signify nothing. It's a lot of Nationalist shouting after Pelosi's visit (a visit probably sponsored by Nationalist supporters in San Francisco who have supported Nancy all these years).

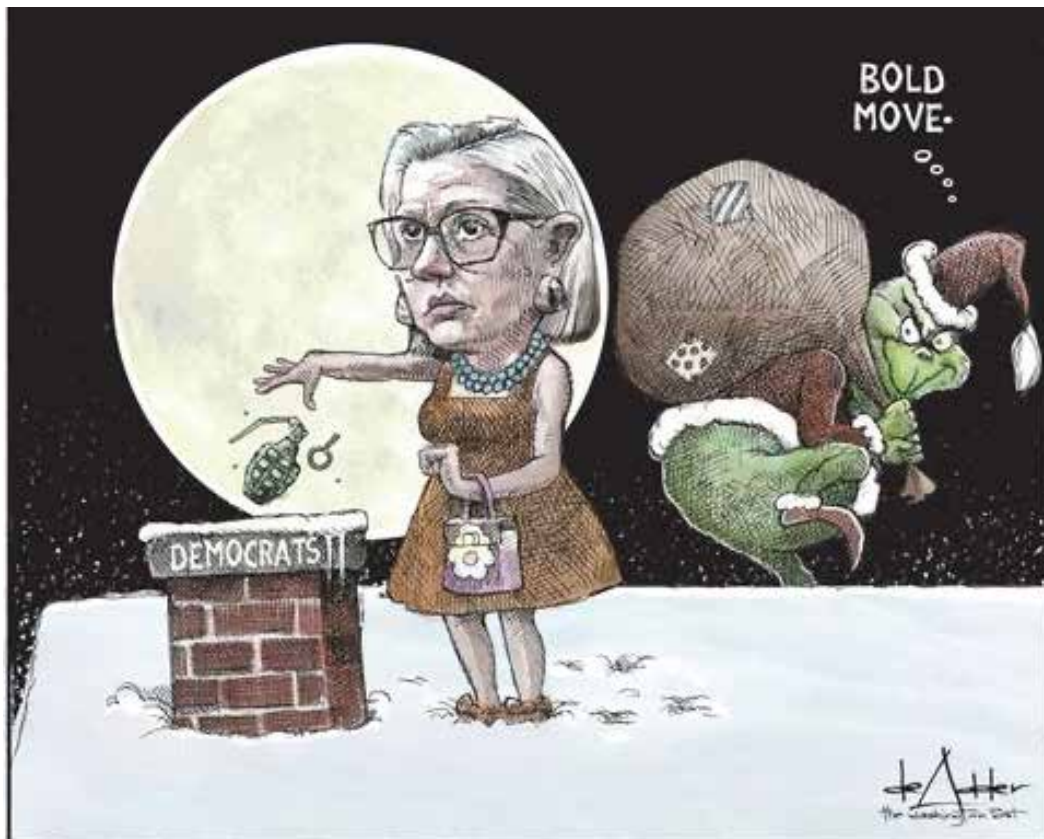
In terms of China/Taiwan relations, there is a strong material basis for not rocking the boat so much that someone falls overboard. Taiwan's top trading partner is mainland China — \$126.2 billion (28.2% of Taiwan's total exports). The U.S. is a distant trading partner with Taiwan with just a little more than half that amount: \$65.9 billion (14.7%).

Taiwan is one of the biggest investors in China. Between 1991 and the end of May 2021, approved investment in China comprised 44,577 cases totaling \$193.51 billion.

But, according to Bloomberg: "Confidence is running low particularly among international investors. They pulled a record \$2.5 billion from mainland stock markets on Oct. 24."

Protests in China:

Mao led revolutions against the Party leadership every 10 years—let the grassroots burn the structure from the bottom to the top. On the Long March in '36 to stop Stalin from running the revolution by telegraph; in '46 to Rectify the Party's style of work—see William Hinton's "Fanshen"; in '56 Let a Hundred Flowers Bloom—intellectuals, sit down and listen; in '66 the great proletarian cultural revolution.



Mao died in '76. A month after his death the Gang of Four were arrested: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gang_of_Four.

1989 Tiananmen Square protests.

Umbrellas in Hong Kong, and now, this.

It's wonderful. It seems spontaneous, but it means that consciousness and communication are at a very high level among Chinese youth.

I wish Bernie and AOC had a million ultra-leftists hungry for organizing and action who wanted to go back to the land and educate and socialize people in small towns. Have you read Ai Weiwei's "1000 Years of Joys and Sorrows?" It's a horror tale about his father dragging him and his family through hell in his fanatical Maoist crusade to bring literacy and reduce "the idiocy of rural life." It was a heroic and humbling experience.

We need a lot of young people today to go into these small towns and expand the range of possibilities.

Broadband funding in the Biden bill will help reach some of the more remote areas.

If it's just a small group watching Stephen Colbert, it could get to look a lot like Berlin in the '30s and Weimar Germany. We need to make sure everyone is in on the joke. Their argument is the fundamental Nazi argument that cosmopolitan city people are a danger to your purity.

The Cultural Revolution was an extremely chaotic period.

In the summer of 1966 at the Party Congress at a Yangtze resort, the leadership told Mao, "What does it matter the color of the cat, as long as it catches mice?" as their justification for being capitalist roaders. Mao went down to the river, jumped in and when he reached the other shore said two things:

"Nieh Yuan Tzu was right." She was a low-level administra-

tor at Beijing University. She wrote a big character poster that criticized the structure and values of the university that seemed to be creating a new aristocracy of the Party elite's sons and daughters rather than educating workers and peasants. She was being widely condemned.

"Bombard the headquarters!" This was a call for the grassroots to hold Party leadership accountable. "Question authority." That seemed to fire up a new generation.

There were tremendous excesses. Lots of mistakes. People were harmed. But almost everybody got to the other side.


Was it worth the trip? We'll know in a thousand years.

I think there is a deeper revolutionary consciousness in China. I think the Russian Revolution was a successful coup d'état, as opposed to Trump's amateurish attempt. The Chinese revolution was a long, dragged-out civil war, then a war of resistance against Japan, then a civil war again. Everyone knew what was at stake by the end of it.

I have some sympathy for Xi Jinping. Compare the value of human life in China versus the pro-life, anti-mask and anti-vax crowd in the U.S. "The COVID-19 death rate in the U.S. has now passed 340 per million residents, just over 100 times the rate in China." But maintaining zero tolerance for 1.5 billion people was a difficult task.

I do think their strategy for development is extremely clever. They invite any capitalist to build a factory in China. They will help with land and a stable workforce, and all they ask is 51% of the property. When the capitalist leaves, the means of production belong to the Chinese.

They take a very long view.



Southside Pride

NOKOMIS EDITION

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

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

Southside Pride
 2721 E. 42ND STREET SUITE B
 MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55406
 CALL US AT 612-822-4662
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Lake Street Council rising



BY KAY SCHROVEN

The Lake Street Council (LSC), a nonprofit organization, has been around since the late 1960s. It was formed to support businesses that remained on the Lake Street corridor as the escape from the urban landscape to the suburbs continued. This exodus began in the first half of the 20th century and has come to be known as a period of suburbanization and disinvestment. The goal of the LSC was and is to keep historic Lake Street alive, safe, healthy and vibrant in the face of change.

Lake Street was originally home to Indigenous communities, mainly Dakota and Ojibwa people. Over the decades it became the destination of both citizens and immigrants in pursuit of the American Dream. Early on, they came from the eastern

United States and Canada, and later from the Scandinavian countries. It has been home to small businesses for decades, such as American Rug Laundry, Ingebretsen's, and Soderberg's Floral and Gift, as well as nonprofits including Little Brothers - Friends of the Elderly, Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers, and Urban Ventures, to name a few who remain. Lake Street is also home to cultural organizations such as the Division of Indian Works, which has strengthened urban American Indian people through healing, education and leadership; MIGIZI, an organization that nurtures education, social, economic and cultural development of Indigenous youth; and First Nations Kitchen, a ministry led by Indigenous people for Indigenous people where free produce is distributed weekly and, when possible, hot meals are cooked and served.

Historically, the LSC has offered services related to branding and marketing, waste management, safety, storefront improvements and energy efficiency. They have also advocated for policies, community events, placemaking, transportation and real estate partnerships.

While it could not be anticipated, 2020 would impact the LSC and challenge it in ways never imagined.

The impact of COVID-19 and the civil unrest following the murder of George Floyd by former Minneapolis police officers in 2020 created an immeasurable need on the Lake Street corridor. How do neighborhoods survive without health care services, pharmacies, restaurants, churches, and other community services? The city was faced with unprecedented losses, destruction and upheaval.

Allison Sharkey, executive director of the Lake Street Council,



Allison Sharkey, LSC executive director

rose to the occasion by adding staff, including Marie Campos as the organization's communications and marketing coordinator. With hundreds of properties damaged or destroyed, the need for support and services grew and the LSC needed to grow to

be able to respond. Campos was hired to accommodate growth and to work closely with the organization's vendors, bringing her nonprofit background and experience in small business marketing to the post. Since this landmark year, the organization has grown from just a few employees to 11, including Senior Communications Engagement Manager ZoeAna Martinez; Senior Creative Operations Manager Theresa Swaney; Senior Strategic Initiations Manager Matt Kazinka; Grants and Administrative Manager Ruth Howell; Business Outreach Specialist Oscar Corral; Manager of Recovery Initiatives Russ Adams; Director of Development Alex Tsatsoulis; Business Advisor Yusra Mohamud; and Manager of Placemaking and Activations Charise Canales. The organization has an executive committee of four, plus 11 Directors at Large representing small businesses, banks, real estate businesses and the like.

The LSC is funded through business partnerships, individual and corporate donations, government grants and private foundations. They have approximately 130 business supporters including Gold Partners such as U.S. Bank, Children's Minnesota, and CenterPoint Energy, among others. In 2020, the LSC received 403 applications for sup-

port from small businesses with an average request of \$15,000, with 328 applications (81%) receiving funding. Of those who received funding, 82% were BIPOC-owned (Black, Indigenous, and people of color). Over 70,000 people have now donated to benefit small businesses such as Zizi Boutique, Peer Pressure Fitness and MIGIZI. The "We Love Lake Street" recovery fund allowed businesses to weather the 2020 storm. Approximately 300 businesses have now benefited from the \$5.5 million raised and donated.

Today the LSC is digging deeper into the needs of small businesses to identify and support a variety of issues, with the continued goal of rebuilding and reopening Lake Street and its neighborhoods.

Areas of needed support include business development, building improvement, social media-building, website development, technical and funding support, signage and murals.

As 2023 begins, the LSC is celebrating new beginnings and is excited about future projects which may include adding lobbyist activity and assisting in the corridor's introduction of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), as well as exploring a Lake Street Safety Center project.

Calendar, from page 11

Friedli Gallery and Studio
943 W. 7th St., St. Paul
Four Twin Cities poets/artists –
Deborah Keenan, Morgan Grayce
Willow, Paula Cisewski and William
Reichard – working in collage, photographic prints, artists' books and
zines, create portraits, landscapes

and abstractions that speak to the world around them, and give form to those things they cannot find a way to forge with language. Learn more at friedliartsgallery.com.

Hearts+Minds Wellness Program
Tuesdays, Jan. 31 – Feb. 28
3 to 4:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom
NAMI Minnesota offers a free, high-quality mental health and wellness education program for all people in Minnesota called Hearts+Minds. The program is designed to educate and empower individuals to manage their mental and physical health. Hearts+Minds

provides current research and information on how mental and physical health intersects, focusing on how nutrition and physical activity can address symptoms and conditions effectively. It includes information on managing medications, chronic pain, and improving sleep. Additional health topics and areas of interest are discussed, along with actionable ways to improve health and wellness with tools, strategies, and simple steps that make sense and aren't overwhelming.

People from all over Minnesota can participate online. From Tuesday, Jan. 31, to Tuesday, Feb. 28, (every week for five sessions), from 3 to 4:30 p.m., Hearts+Minds uses the Zoom format. If you are joining, you will need a computer or tablet with a camera and high-speed internet. Register at namimn.org/event/heartsminds. It is advisable to register as soon as possible. New year, new life! It's time to correct the idea that mental and physical health are separate conditions: NAMI Minnesota believes that mental health is physical health. For more information or to request a special class, contact Danielle Thornton, communityeducationcoordinator@namimn.org.

'The Stories Whiteness Tells Itself: Racial Myths and Our American Narratives'
David Mura book launch event
Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Minnesota Humanities Center
987 Ivy Ave. E., St. Paul
"The Stories Whiteness Tells Itself," available from the University of Minnesota Press on Jan. 31, is the newest work of nonfiction from Mura and uncovers the pernicious narratives white people have created, and continue to create, to justify white supremacy and sustain racist oppression. From the country's founding through the summer of Black Lives Matter in 2020, Mura unmasks how white stories about race attempt to erase the brutality of the past and underpin systemic racism in the present. He shows how deeply we need to change our racial narratives to dissolve the myth of Whiteness and fully acknowledge the experiences of Black Americans.

Following a reading of selections from the new book, Mura will be joined by best-selling author Alexs Pate for a discussion on the issues of race, history and education. A book signing will follow the talk. The Minnesota Humanities Center will be offering a limited number of complimentary copies to those in attendance, and the University of Minnesota Press will have additional copies for purchase. The event is open to the public and will include a moderated conversation with the author.

Tickets: Guests will need to register for this FREE event at: <https://www.mnhum.org/event/mn-writers-series-stories-whiteness/>.



The women who moved a castle

BY WILLIAM BURLESON

Much has been written about the former White Castle on the corner of 33rd and Lyndale in South Minneapolis. It is certainly a curiosity. Something about it says it doesn't belong there, this prefab fast-food restaurant in a largely residential neighborhood on a shady tree-lined street. It feels like the iconic little metal building is simply not in its native habitat, like a slider at a Minikahda Club wedding.

However, as story-worthy as this small building is, the better story is about the people who moved it: South Minneapolis's Calamity J. Contracting.

The building, now located at 3252 Lyndale Ave. S., was constructed in 1936. Known as Building No. 8, the Southside is its third home, the first being Washington Avenue in Stadium Village. The small metal building was one of the few made to be portable, with the idea that with the land under it rented, it could be disassembled and moved to another location easily. This is in fact what happened, when in 1950 it was moved to 329 Central Ave. in Northeast Minneapolis. There the tiny building stood, serving the iconic square burgers into the 1980s, when it was decided they needed a bigger location. Apparently, 28 by 28 feet wasn't cutting it any longer. A new White Castle opened in 1983 a few blocks away.

There was a groundswell of interest in saving the building. The Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission went looking for a buyer who would move the building once again. They found Calamity J. Contracting, who bought it for \$10.

Calamity J. Contracting started out in 1978 as a feminist collective founded by Rose Morin, Cathy Bryson, Joan Meyer, Kristin Wilson and Rita Pippinger. They had their office in South Minneapolis at 24th and Lyndale.

"When I joined in 1979, they were all there working away," says Kathy Berven, formerly of Calamity J. and a long-time Southside resident. "I was playing on the amazing Amazon [bookstore] softball team that summer ... and they said, 'Kathy, come and join us. You want a job?'" At the time, Berven was going to school at the U of M and working nights at UPS. "I said, 'Well, yeah!'"

At the time Berven knew little about construction, and neither did many of her coworkers. "We started out painting houses ... up on 40-foot ladders, hauling those things around." But they learned. On a bathroom remodel, Berven remembers how she and a coworker had to look up in a book how to put in a window. "Thank God homeowners are away during the day," Berven said.

Being a woman-owned construction company garnered a lot of attention. Berven remembers working on a roof and people going by, then circling the block for another look. However, Berven doesn't recall getting a lot of flak. "Maybe I just wasn't aware of it ... I think we got a lot of credibility from just being in business, being visible and being respectable and respectful."

As their business grew, they started thinking about ways to get noticed. They were "reaching for anything to differentiate ourselves, to put our name out there," says Berven. The idea was hatched to buy the White Castle and use it as their office. "I remember going down to Central Avenue and looking at that thing, and it looked pretty sore."

They bought it but needed to move it. So they did. Down Central Avenue, across the Mississippi, through downtown, and finally to South Lyndale. They didn't take advantage of its design allowing for it to be disassembled. Instead, "we just lifted it up and wheeled it down the street. It cost like \$10,000 to move it, I think," Berven recalled. As it went down Blaisdell Avenue, it passed the White Castle on Lake Street. "The workers came running out with bags of hamburgers for us. It was so cool!"

Once in its new location, the old White Castle made a good office and even served as a show-



The historic White Castle Building No. 8

room. Unfortunately, Calamity J. Contracting wasn't long for the world, closing just two years later in 1985. According to Berven, "We just didn't have the business acumen, we didn't have the capital, we didn't have enough projects with enough profit built in, and it just started sinking down." She adds, "It's really a tough business."

After Calamity J. Contracting left, the building has been home to a variety of businesses, from antiques to musical instruments

to jewelry.

However, Calamity J. left its mark in more ways than one.

Four decades later Berven is still working construction, although perhaps starting to slow down, moving incrementally into retirement with her life partner, Barb.

"We just thought we could do anything. It was the women's lib era, and we were just doing

whenever we wanted to do." Berven adds, "The seventies were like a golden era."

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