

# Southside Pride

**We build Pride on the Southside**

FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

**AUGUST  
2024**

**VOL. XXXIV, ISSUE 8**

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## Cam's Corner



### Debts to be paid, wounds to be healed

By Cam Gordon

Minneapolis is falling behind in addressing its racist past.

In October of 2020, following the police killing of George Floyd that previous May, the City Council and Mayor unanimously approved establishing a truth and reconciliation process.

Then, the focus was clear. The staff report, presented by Joy Marsh, who was heading up the division of race and equity at the time, said that “the ultimate objective of the reconciliation and transformational racial healing process is to begin implementing specific solutions to the specific harms that created and perpetuate racial disparities with a prioritized focus on healing with Historically Black/American Descendants of Slavery and American Indian/Indigenous communities.”

As of August 1, 2024, no process has happened.

A workgroup was formed, recommendations were heard, a report was filed and staff were assigned, but no process started.

American Indian and Black/African-descended communities have

See Cam, page 14



## Look out Donald, Momala is gonna lock you up!

BY ED FELIEN

Okay, so the Cheapside Carnival Freak show that is the Trump campaign, just got freakier.

First, some idiot kid takes his dad's AR-15 and, at the last minute, picks up a couple boxes of shells and heads off to become famous.

He makes it to the roof of a shed near the stage carry-

ing the rifle and the shells and a detonator to blow up his car as a distraction so he can make his getaway.

Someone sees him.

They shout to a cop, “Hey man, there's a guy on the roof with a rifle.”

A cop goes to check it out, climbs up to look at him.

The kid points his AR at him.

The cop retreats.

The kid opens fire at the stage.

He has to hurry his shot. Trump turns. Does the bullet take off part of his ear, or does it hit something like the teleprompter and a flying glass shard cut him in the ear? Trump won't release the medical reports, so we can't really know what happened.

See Trump, page 6

## Don Samuels' campaign evokes violent imagery

BY CLINT COMBS

Four days after Don Samuels posted on Twitter that, “no one sees any end worth pursuing with political violence,” in condemnation against an assassination attempt on Donald Trump, his campaign released an ad featuring a heads Congresswoman Ilhan Omar on a missing person's poster. The ad joyfully attacked Omar as missing on votes against the bipartisan infrastructure bill (even though she was a present no-vote).

“Ilhan Omar has gone missing on the issues that matter most for us,” the campaign ad narrates.

While Samuels's social media post condemning political violence in Butler, Pa. was largely ignored with 14 retweets and 51 likes (as of this writing), his campaign ad depicting Rep. Omar as a missing person garnered 900 retweets and was seen over 95,000 times.

Samuels's campaign was referring to Omar's no-vote on the bipartisan infrastructure bill that she defended at a town hall as a bargaining chip for the Inflation Reduction Act (a law that made historic investments in climate change). Omar described her no-vote as, “a piece of legislation that was part of the Build Back Better plan that we have.”

“I think if all of the House Democrats put up a vote for the infrastructure bill, we would not



have the Inflation Reduction Act, which has created so many investments and has actually become the cornerstone legislation for the president,” Omar said.

This is precisely the type of legislation that Don Samuels and his former billionaire benefactor donor, Harlan Crow, exploited by shutting down all traffic from Target to US Bank Arena just to film this ad.

After a campaign rally where a gunman fired his rifle killing firefighter Corey Comperatore, Samuels reposted Barack Obama's tweet: “There is absolutely no place for political violence in our Democracy.” The former president, who authorized airstrikes that killed civilians in Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Libya, Yemen, Paki-

See Samuels, page 14

**Celebrate Summer**

**Bloomington Ave. Pages 2 & 3**      **Lyndale Ave. Pages 9, 10 & 11**      **Grand Ave. Pages 12 & 13**



# CELEBRATE SUMMER ON BLOOMINGTON

## Summer on Bloomington Avenue South

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

### Two East Phillips institutions at Bloomington and Franklin Avenues

One of the biggest stories about this summer on Bloomington Avenue is happening right at its northernmost point. This is the heart of the city's Indigenous people's community at the Minneapolis American Indian Center (MAIC). In May, the center re-opened after a year-plus-

long renovation and expansion, which cost \$32.5 million. But the news I am referring to, within the MAIC, didn't happen for another month. In June, Gatherings Café reopened, with much larger kitchen and dining facilities moved up from the basement to a prime spot in the front ground floor, right on the Avenue. The executive chef, Vernon DeFoe, is a 20-year veteran professional cook and most recently worked at NATIFS, Sean Sherman's non-profit Indigenous food lab.

While preserving some of the big favorites from before, the cafe has also introduced a lot of decolonized (but "approachable," in DeFoe's words) items to the menu. So the wild rice bread and the bison melt is still there, including the cheese, and they use hen's eggs because duck eggs would be too expensive, but also there is maple cedar tea, Three Sisters salad, and root vegetable hash to be had. Programs to feed Indigenous elders and other communities in need continue as well. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Right across Franklin from the MAIC is another acronym-named institution in this neighborhood; Community University Health Care Center (CUHCC), a large clinic with a patient base reflecting the ethnic diversity of the area, and of South Minneapolis beyond. As a community



Dwight Gronlund, owner of Nokomis Cycle

conditions of neglected children and neglected animals. Over the years it left its animal advocacy to other organizations to focus more on children. This mission, through several name changes

development, and both to a goal of breaking cycles of poverty.

Along the way, the organization now called The Family Partnership pioneered early childhood education, started visiting nurse programs to improve public health and was instrumental in the creation of social work programs in universities. As government policy began to do more and more of the social work started out by charities, they were able to expand into programs like legal advocacy and support for LBGQTI+ youth and families. This year, after a pilot, they are expanding a new program called the EGG Toolkit. EGG stands for Empowering Generational Greatness, and the toolkit is based on the latest science of the developing brain and focuses on techniques and play that can overcome generational trauma and enhance executive function.

The Japanese Fellowship



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Chef Vernon DeFoe of Gatherings Cafe

clinic, they have a variety of programs to make free or affordable health care available to everyone; and as an extension of the University of Minnesota, they have access to some of the best educated health care professionals. Opened in 1966 as a pediatric clinic, CUHCC (pronounced "kook") provides family health care, reproductive health care, dental care, legal services, mental health support and more.

### More service and educational organizations on Bloomington

The Family Partnership descended directly from an organization called the Humane Society (of the Twin Cities), created in 1878 by the merger of two charities trying to relieve the

and many changes of focus and method, evolved into the present mission linking family emotional health to early childhood de-



Founding of Community-University Health Care Clinic in 1966



# BLOOMINGTON AVENUE

Franklin Ave

Welna  
Hardware

Lake Street

May  
Day  
Cafe

35th Street

Modus  
Locus

38th Street

Church (4217 Bloomington Ave.) was started in 1977, and moved into their current space, a renovated former warehouse, in 1994. The church is focused on fellowship, as the name implies. A bilingual Japanese-English worship service (with an on-line option using the Microsoft Teams app) is at 11 a.m. every Sunday, followed by a lunch featuring Japanese foods. They also have Bible study on Thursday evenings and other social programs, with lots of opportunities for Japanese conversation in a supportive, friendly, bilingual environment. Check their website for more information.

El Colegio (4137 Bloomington Ave.) is a culturally immersive charter high school for Latine youth and families. It's also a public school in that it's sponsored by the school system. In their own words: "El Colegio is more than high school, we are an anchor in our community. We provide a safe and trusted space for different local organizations and grassroots initiatives to convene, organize, advocate for change, encourage engagement in civic activities, and mobilize individuals to participate in their local democracy."

Minneapolis Gymnastics (4038 Bloomington Ave.) was formed in 2019 by four former

gymnasts and/or gymnastics coaches who were all parents of young children wanting to get into gymnastics. They started the business to fill a void, and a void there proved to be, because they have grown rapidly in the four-plus years and now have a second location in NE Minneapolis. They are based on an idea of accessibility and affordability. They also offer an extremely popular summer camp. Check out their Facebook page for more.

The Music Lab (5161 Bloomington Ave.) is a music studio offering instruction and the opportunity to perform and explore music as a career. Their offerings cover many aspects of music, from songwriting, composition and forming your own band, to most major instruments and choir. They also have summer camps. The Music Lab was founded in 2011 by Josie Just and Jillian Rae, friends who met as teachers at Schmitt Music. Check their website or Facebook page for class and concert schedules.

#### Retail, services and eateries on Bloomington

Kno Woodworks (4649 Bloomington Ave.) builds wooden fences, pergolas and decks.



A KNO Woodworks team at work

They've been in business and getting great reviews since 2012. Their website has all the info you need if you're contemplating an outdoor project, plus gorgeous photos and a blog with useful information like how to clean algae from your wooden structures, or whether chain-link fencing helps or hurts your property value.

Nokomis Cycles (4553 Bloomington Ave.) has been in business since 1994, when it was opened by Dwight Gronlund, certified bike mechanic. He has become known for his customization skills. Nokomis Cycles works on all types of bikes, including electric bikes, and for adults, teens, and children. It has grown beyond just a repair and customization shop to include full retail of bikes and accessories.

Twin Cities Barber (3745 Bloomington Ave.) describe themselves as "not your ordinary neighborhood barbershop" but "a traditional barbershop with modern style." The crew of owner Gunnar Dockan and three other licensed and talented barbers offer haircuts, beard trims, hot lather shaves, head shaves and various combos. They have discounted haircuts for seniors and kids 12 and under or seniors and have online booking.

4ever Sale'ing (3447 Bloomington Ave.) is a relative newcomer to the shops at Bloomington and 35th. This is a very garage-sale vibe thrift store owned by Tasha Anderson. Bring gently used donations only when she's open (hours posted on the door) or pick up some great bargains.

The May Day Café (3440 Bloomington Ave.) had a rough pandemic with a staff person testing positive in the first week. It even looked for a while like we would lose the café. Like many local eateries, they did fundraising and mutual aid a lot in the fraught days of 2020. They reopened somewhat later than other places during the takeout-only era, closed for a break for a couple of months, but gradually got to being open seven days and really thriving. The menu is richer, with more ethnic options like Ethiopian, Spanish and Indian, and fancy donuts and other new desserts. But the old favorites still remain as well; fundraisers still happen, too. Check their Facebook page for a colorful daily menu and luscious food photos.



Japanese Fellowship Church cleanup day

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# Fighting Russia to the Last Ukrainian

By Dave Gutknecht

Tragically, since my late 2023 article here, many more thousands of Ukrainian lives have been lost or ruined. Like President Biden's decline, the direction of things on the battlefield has been evident for some time to those who believe their own lyin' eyes rather than what approved voices tell us. A quick review:

As testified by high-level participants, the 2014 and 2015 Minsk Agreements were betrayed by Ukraine and its Western minders, in preparation for war—killing 14,000 eastern Ukrainians while making false promises about peace.

NATO head Jens Stoltenberg recently told a loyal audience that the Ukraine war began after the 2014 coup (U.S.-sponsored) and that Russia entered in 2022 to stop NATO expansion. This is what many critics of the West have said for years—but not in mainstream media, where we hear the big lie that Russian intervention was unprovoked. Repeated endlessly and uncontradicted in the mainstream, “unprovoked” is believed.

Russia's 2022 military operation was far from “full-scale”—rather, the threat to Kiev was quickly pulled back after achieving its purpose of diversion from the key eastern front and driving the Ukraine government to negotiations. Those sessions began just three days later.

The March 2022 Istanbul agreements were recently published by the New York Times and demonstrate that Russia was committed to negotiations that would have minimized Ukraine's loss of territory to the Russian Federation and would have saved over half a million Ukrainians from emigration, injury or death. The Times failed to describe the termination of those agreements, when U.S. errand boy Boris Johnson told Ukraine not to sign and that the West would back them through war: fighting Russia to the last Ukrainian.

The lie about Russia being unwilling to negotiate ignores its major diplomatic attempts to discuss European mutual security terms in 2008, in late 2021, March 2022 and now in 2024. Each time, these proposals have been rejected and the Ukrainian



strategic position has worsened. The key issue throughout: recognition of Russian security interests through neutrality for Ukraine.

Ukraine is being destroyed, but the lies about the war are

thick and impossible to summarize—except that the US keeps promising more effective weaponry. Realistically, the best Western military position was in fall 2022, argued Pentagon chief Gen. Milley, who said then that opportunity for a negotiated settlement would never be better—but he was overridden. Now, as I write in mid-July 2024, a group

of international relations scholars and former British and U.S. ambassadors to the USSR and Russia have issued a statement declaring, “If a peace based on roughly the present division of forces in Ukraine is inevitable, it is immoral not to try for it.”

The US is not engaging in diplomacy and has proven itself “agreement incapable,” leading to the ongoing sacrifice of the Ukraine people and economy—and the loss of international trust. Again, the overall U.S. goal: weaken Russia through broad-spectrum attacks to achieve regime change and gain access to its immense resources.

Another big lie is the repeat-

ed descriptions of NATO as a “defensive alliance”—despite its wars of aggression in Serbia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Ukraine and beyond. NATO is a prime cash cow for the military industrial complex, and Ukraine is a giant money-laundering operation for it and its government friends.

Our war machine is the world's most expensive, but it is less effective in achieving strategic political goals. The Blob works to (1) designate an enemy country opposing our interests; (2) maintain fear of the designated enemy through propaganda and shameful ethnic hatred while lying about U.S. provocations; (3) successfully increase the military budget and suborn smaller regional powers (Europe and elsewhere) with alliances, debt and dependence. Ukraine is the latest such U.S. disaster. These ongoing campaigns typically destroy much of the enemy's society. We are serially frustrated diplomatically and militarily, then we depart and encourage historical amnesia: in Korea, Vietnam, Serbia, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and Syria (where, despite funding ISIS, we were defeated after Syria invited help from Russia).

We're told the US promotes democracy and the rule of law—yet we contradict that by proclaiming our exceptionalism and the right to impose illegal sanctions on other nations and to intervene militarily without local or UN approval. (See also Palestine, etc.) The US is failing the neo-liberal dream; its practiced “values” are not liberal, rather they are reflected in more censorship, little diplomacy and more war. The fundamental issue, in Cuba 1962 and now over sixty years later, is mutual respect for other nations' sovereignty and security; imagine Russian or Chinese missiles and military exercises with Mexico near our border. The question is how and when will Western rulers be shocked into conceding that their deadly world dominance dreams are done.

**Editor's note:**

I think we could legitimately disagree about what started the war. My analysis is that President Viktor Yanukovich agreed to the European Union-Ukraine Association Agreement but then refused to sign it on orders from Moscow. This sparked the Maidan Square protests in November of 2013. Yes, the protests were supported by the CIA and initiated by neo-Nazis, but they were soon joined by the Ukrainian left.

Russia invaded and occupied Crimea in 2014.

Russia invaded and occupied the Russian-speaking Eastern provinces of Ukraine in 2022.

I agree it's muddled, but I blame Russia for firing the first shot.

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September 14 – October 13



# The Trail of Tears and Sderot

BY ED FELIEN

The Trail of Tears was the forced displacement of the Cherokee, Muscogee, Seminole, Chickasaw and Choctaw nations between 1830 and 1850. 60,000 people were forced to leave their ancestral homes. Many thousands died on the trail that led from Georgia and South Caroli-

na more than 800 miles to Oklahoma. President Andrew Jackson. He said: "It will separate the Indians from immediate contact with settlements of whites; free them from the power of the States; enable them to pursue happiness in their own way and under their own rude institutions; will retard the progress of decay, which is lessening their numbers, and perhaps cause



The Trail of Tears, 1830-1850



na more than 800 miles to Oklahoma.

The Cherokee were the first in Georgia to cultivate peaches. But their trees were too bountiful. Their fruit too tempting. Frustrated miners, whose dreams of wild fortunes did not pan out in the Georgia Gold Rush of 1828, looked on the trees with envy and coveted their neighbor's fruit and simpler life. They came up with a plan to steal those lands.

The Indian Removal Act of 1830 was signed into law by

them gradually, under the protection of the Government and through the influence of good counsels, to cast off their savage habits and become an interesting, civilized, and Christian community."

In 1922 the League of Nations granted the British a Mandate to rule Palestine as a safe homeland for Jews. Between 1922 and 1926, 75,000 Jews emigrated to Palestine.

But the British grew weary of the burden of trying to maintain peace between Jews and Arabs.

The Irgun and Stern Gang were harassing and murdering Arabs and agitating for independence from Britain. The bombing of the British administrative headquarters in the King David Hotel in Jerusalem in 1946 by the Stern Gang was the last straw. They said they would abandon the Mandate on May 14, 1948.

On that day, Israel declared its statehood and was immediately invaded by Arab forces from Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Israel successfully defended the territory ceded to it by the United Nations and gained even more. More than 700,000 Palestinian Arabs were driven from their homes. Palestinians call this the Nakba, the catastrophe. They were driven into Lebanon, Jordan and Gaza.

The village of Huj, where Palestinians had once sheltered and protected Zionist militants from the British in 1946, was violently depopulated, looted and destroyed by Israelis two weeks after May 14. Sderot was built in its place.

The Palestinians were driven into Gaza, but, unlike the 800 mile exodus of the Cherokee, Gaza was only about half a mile from their homes, their citrus groves and their banana trees. Between 2001 and 2008, rocket attacks from Gaza killed 13 people in Sderot, wounded many more and caused millions of dollars in damages.

On October 7, Hamas military units attacked and occupied the police station in Sderot. The next day IDF troops counter-attacked, killed the insurgents and demolished the building. There were 50 Israeli civilian casualties, 20 Israeli police and military casualties, and 20 Hamas military casualties.

There will only be peace in Israel and Palestine when the Israeli settlers in Sderot welcome back their Semitic brothers and sisters, the Palestinians, who were there before them.



The Nakba, 1948



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# Are we sure they are guilty?

BY KAY SCHROVEN

Seven months after Marvin Haynes was exonerated, having served nearly 20 years in Stillwater Prison for a murder he didn't commit, Hennepin County Attorney Mary Moriarty announced the creation of the first Hennepin County Conviction Integrity Unit (CIU). The unit will be led by Andrew Markquart, former Staff Attorney with the Great Northern Innocence Project (GNIP) and counsel for Mr. Haynes, whose case was overturned based on faulty eye-witness testimony.

Markquart has investigated and represented wrongful conviction cases in both State and Federal Courts. He also co-authored *The Wrong Carlos: Anatomy of a Wrongful Execution*, a book about a case of mistaken identity in Texas in the 1980s that led to the wrongful execution of Carlos DeLuna. This case is the basis for Patrick Forbes' 2021 documentary, *The Phantom* (on Netflix).

Moriarty says, "This new unit is dedicated to justice, integrity and transparency. The unit's purpose is to learn from and

correct past errors and improve the Hennepin County system going forward." The unit will also free up the existing Minnesota State's Attorney General's Offices Conviction Review Unit (CRU) to focus on out-state cases.

A Conviction Integrity Unit is a division of a prosecutorial office that works to prevent, identify and remedy false convictions. CIUs are increasing in large cities across the country, now totaling about 100. While CIUs—alone or in cooperation with other groups (such as The Innocence Project)—helped secure over 50 percent of exonerations reported in 2021, their impact varies. There are some who view CIUs as watch dogs, policing the police, attorneys and others who participate in the judicial system. Criticism of CIUs mostly revolves around the belief that they exist "in name only." That is, they are created to improve public opinion. After all, elected officials need to stay in the good graces of the public, right? Is it a way to appear "progressive and accountable"? As CIUs gained traction the Bar Association amended the Model Rules MR3.8 (g) to compel pros-

ecutors from coast to coast to place justice above convictions. "Cautiously optimistic" is the term often used in discussions about CIUs. Moriarty assures us that "No prosecutor wants to see innocent people convicted of crimes; and as the work of the CIU is better understood and best practices are in place, people will come around. Errors happen. We are human."

Multiple research sources identify eye-witness misidentification as the #1 reason for wrongful convictions. Race is a significant risk factor because eye-witness misidentification disproportionately impacts people of color. According to the Innocence Project, 63 percent of wrongful convictions involve eyewitness misidentifications. Wrongful conviction comes with a high cost and can be caused by any number of errors or a combination including:

- Official misconduct
- Perjury or false accusation
- False or misleading forensic evidence
- False confessions
- Ineffective lawyers
- Biased jurors
- Withheld evidence
- Faulty forensic science
- Erroneous jury instructions

According to the National Registry of Exonerations (2021 report) Innocence organizations and CIUs took part in 84 exonerations (61 percent) These cases involved homicide and sex crimes, as well as non-violent crimes. Reported in 2019, Min-

nesota had 16 exonerations since 1989 (16 in 30 years), Texas led the pack with 363 (mostly drug related) and New Hampshire had just 1.

When asked what propelled her toward creating a CIU for Hennepin County, Moriarty cites her 30 years of experience as public defender and county prosecuting attorney. She also shared that a 2009 study published by the National Academy of Sciences re: forensic science influenced her. The NAS report (Strengthening Forensic Science in the U.S. - a Path Forward) established a blueprint for research, engaged the scientific community and spurred important reform. It also fostered a new understanding between the scientific community and the criminal justice system. It was this report that opened Moriarty's eyes to the fact that forensic science is not infallible and that more work needs to be done. Scientific progress with DNA, blood and fingerprint evidence, cell phone tracking, facial recognition, wide use of cameras, license plate readers, etc. has revealed errors and created the need for reexamination of evidence and conviction in certain cases. As Moriarty planned her 2024 budget she requested and was granted a budget for a CIU.

Deciding which cases are of merit will be part of Markquart's job. This will require more than just reviewing existing documents. It will involve interviewing forensic scientists, medical professionals, witnesses, would-be witnesses, various experts, etc. He and Moriarty stress that they will need to dig deep,

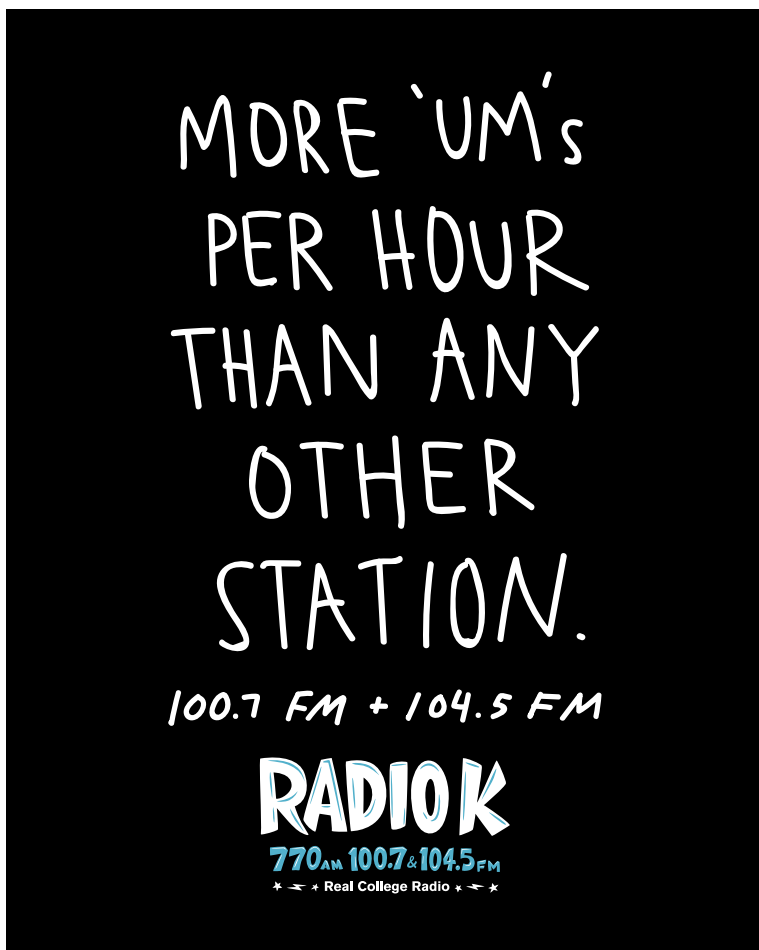
respect confidentiality and be thorough in their processes and practices in order to gain the trust of the legal community and the communities they serve. "In order to gain integrity and respect we have a lot of educating to do, not only with our internal staff, but the community as well. When a conviction is overturned it can be devastating to the family of the victim. We must approach these cases with a great deal of empathy."

The new unit is in its infancy, establishing practices and protocol, staffing up and setting up. "It is critical that we get best practices in place before we accept applications for case review." In this environment, with the support of the county, Markquart will have more resources than he has had in the past. He anticipates a high volume of applications, and he plans to be rigorous in determining which cases truly have merit.

Prosecutors will decide if there is enough evidence to re-examine a case. The defense attorney will petition the court seeking relief. A judge will make the final decision. Moriarty and Markquart point out that exoneration is not the only measure of success, although this is often the focus when examining CIUs. New evidence may support a reduced sentence; a lesser crime may be established as well as parole rather than incarceration. Simply having such a function where past errors can be identified, addressed, examined and corrected when appropriate is a success in itself.



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.....  
**Trump, from page 1**

But Trump is quick to confirm it as a miracle.

"I'm not supposed to be here tonight, but I am here by the grace of almighty God."

"We live in a world of miracles."

"I thank God."

Eric Trump: "By the grace of God, divine intervention and the Guardian Angels above, you survived."

The "miracle" confirms his divine calling:

"I alone can fix it."

"I am your warrior. I am your justice. I am your retribution. So that the powerful can no longer beat up on people who cannot defend themselves."

He proclaimed himself the anointed savior.

But then, another event pushed the Trump martyrdom off center stage.

In an act of selfless patriotism, Biden stopped his campaign and endorsed his vice president, Kamala Harris.

Kamela Harris's father, Donald Harris, is a Jamaican from Irish and Jamaican parents. He taught the undergraduate course

in the Theory of Capitalist Development at Stanford until his retirement in 1998.

Her mother was born in southern India. Shayamala Gopalan won a national competition for singing traditional Indian music as a teenager, and Shayamala Gopalan Harris made important contributions to breast cancer research at U C Berkeley and elsewhere with her scientific work on the progesterone receptor in mice. It changed research on the hormone responsiveness of breast tissue.

With her mixed and complex ethnic background, Kamala Harris makes the perfect adversary to a pronounced white racist.

With her history of support for women's reproductive rights, she is right person to take on the man who boasts, "I killed Roe v Wade."

With her history as Attorney General of California prosecuting sex offenders and fraudsters, she is the right person to take on a convicted sex offender and fraudster.

With her father's simple Christian faith combined with her mother's exuberant participation in Hindu rituals, she

is the right person to expose Trump as the anti-Christ.

In Matthew 24: 4-24, Jesus answered: "Watch out that no one deceives you. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah,' and will deceive many. . . . and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. . . . At that time if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Messiah!' or, 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."

History will look back on this moment with wonder. How could so many be bamboozled by such an obvious huckster? But history will have to take into account the depth of racism and white male privilege that was so threatened by what seemed like inevitable progress.

They were an aggrieved class. They felt the earth move under their feet. There was a new world waiting for them, but they held onto the old and the delusions that reaffirmed their ancient prejudices.



# What Trumpers got right

BY ED FELIEN

First, what they got wrong. This whole white male privilege thing is way out of date. The last time that worked was before the Civil War. Is the antebellum South the “Great” era that Trump says he can “Make” for “America Again”? Birth of a Nation, D W Griffith’s classic film about a “heroic” Ku Klux Klan saving the white race from his caricatures of corrupt and degenerate African-Americans, was shown in the East Room of the White House in 1915. Is that the kind of birth of a new nation that Trump is talking about when he says he will Make America Great Again? Trump must know the film. It’s popular with Klan members, and Trump’s dad, Fred Trump, was very active in the New York chapter of the KKK. He was arrested in Queens in 1927 for refusing to take off his hood and for fighting with the police at a Klan march and rally that got violent when 100 cops tried to arrest 1000 Klansmen. When Trump was asked by Jake Tapper in the 2016 campaign about his endorsement by David Duke, the titular head of the KKK, Trump said, “I know nothing about David Duke; I know nothing about white supremacists.” Which is a cod-

ed message to other organized racists and KKK people who understood that the phrase “I, Know Nothing” was a reference to the Know Nothings that were an America First, racist and anti-immigrant political faction, popular just before the Civil War.

Those ideas are dead now. There is no life or validity in them. We know there is no such thing as different races. We’re all part of the human race. We all evolved from the same roots—starting out as amoebas, single-celled animals that eventually split and formed two separate living creatures, that eventually, after four billion years, become primates and then humans. Of



course, there are people who don’t believe that. Some people, like Mike Johnson, the Speaker of the House, say they believe their god created the earth and human beings in six days. This demonstrates a tragic failure in public education.

Many men, of all colors and cultures, say they’re pro-life. That means they believe any sperm they deposit in a woman’s womb is sacred. A woman’s womb is their safety deposit box, and, once it’s in there, no one is allowed to touch it. And they have the same religious conviction about the sacred quality of their sperm that they have about the creation of life on earth in six days. Another sad failure in public education.

But there are some things the Trump people get right.

It is true that there’s a smart-ass intellectual elite that’s running things. They do things, change things around, get rid of familiar things and replace them with things you can’t understand, and then they tell you it’s better for you.

The City of Minneapolis is going to tear up 10th Avenue this month. They’re going to change a two-way street with parking on both sides into a one-way street with parking on one side, and bike lanes on the

other half. This revolutionary change is being done without a public meeting to discuss it, without any explanation of what it will be and why it’s good for us. And the people most affected by the change haven’t even been told about it. The forty to fifty young Latino men who come to Powderhorn Park to play volleyball after working all day were not consulted or even considered. This change will dramatically affect their access to the park. The parking and traffic problems will discourage them. They’ll stop playing volleyball. It is a loss for all of us. This is, perhaps, the most tragic failure of public education.

Why haven’t the neighborhood organizations held public meetings to tell people about these changes? Why haven’t city officials met with the neighbors? Why haven’t Park officials met with the Latin men and families and showed them alternative sites?

This arrogant indifference by the government at all levels to the concerns of people most affected by change is the principal public complaint of Trump people. Tayler Rahm (who gave up a run for Congress to work on Trump’s Minnesota campaign) said, “it is my honor to join President Trump as he fights for the

forgotten men and women of this country.”

The elitist government officials who believe they know better than us what’s good for us, have left us all behind. Whatever happened to the notion that “Governments are instituted among Men [and Women], deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed”—from the Declaration of Independence? We have a right to be consulted about changes that will affect our lives, and governments have a responsibility to ask for our consent.

The fact that so many Trump voters feel abandoned and dictated to by local, state and federal governments, by schools and libraries, means there has been a very serious breakdown in communication.

If our elected officials want to stop the alienation of Trump supporters, then it is their job to talk to them and explain the reasoning behind government programs and policies. Otherwise, we go back in time to Make America Great Again by reviving old prejudices and superstitious taboos.

That is the task before all of us—to educate everybody about how their government will change their lives.

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# Retraction and apology to Bob Kroll

BY ED FELIEN, EDITOR

**We received this correspondence:**

**“Dear Mr. Felien:**

“I write to request that you issue a retraction and apology for the false statements about our client, Bob Kroll, in your June 4, 2024, article titled “Trump and the threat of civil war.” In this article, you made statements that are demonstrably untrue and defamatory. Our client seeks a retraction and apology to avoid further legal action.

“Specifically, your article states the following about Mr.

wrongly.

“So, consider the following: Can local Twin Cities cops, particularly one mentioned but not named as a defendant in a pending racial-discrimination lawsuit filed by five black Minneapolis police officers, be held responsible for the questionable conduct of associates in an off-duty capacity?”

“Nearly a dozen Minneapolis and St. Paul cops belong to the Twin Cities chapter of City Heat, a Chicago-based, off-duty law-enforcement motorcycle club. The club Web site’s photo gallery contains, last I looked, pictures of some members wear-

partment badge and patch,’ said Minneapolis police Lt. Medaria Arradondo, a 20-year veteran.

“Kroll, however, thinks Arradondo and the law firm representing Arradondo and four other black officers in the lawsuit are on a fishing expedition.

“If there were any merit to the lawsuit, it would be able to stand on its own without the far-reaching stretch to an off-duty motorcycle club,” said Kroll, a supervisor in a Northeast Minneapolis police precinct. ‘Ever hear the phrase “throw a lot against a wall and hope something sticks?”’

“The lawsuit — which names the city, its police force and its chief, Timothy Dolan — alleges that the five cops were wrongly disciplined, stripped of or denied promotions or retaliated against as a result of their race or ethnic origin.

“Over the last approximately 20 years, African-American officers employed by defendant Minneapolis have been subjected to a hostile work environment and have been subjected to disparate treatment and disparate impact on the basis of their race and color,’ the suit claims.

“The suit notes that a letter signed ‘KKK’ that every black city cop received in 1992 through the Police Department’s interoffice mail. The letter threatened ‘each African-American officer’s life.’

“The suit also singles out Kroll, who is vice president of the Police Officers Federation of Minneapolis, as an alleged example of ‘racially discriminatory’ conduct, and comments made by white officers that are allegedly tolerated by the Police Department.

“The suit accuses Kroll of calling Rep. Keith Ellison, D-Minn., who is black and Muslim, a terrorist.

“An inspector, a deputy chief of professional standards and a commander of training were present when Kroll made these racist statements, none of whom objected or took any corrective action in response to Kroll’s discriminatory statements,’ the lawsuit alleges.

“As for the rebel flags, ‘if you travel the South, Confederate flags are quite popular,’ Kroll explained.”

So, a court of law never found Bob Kroll guilty of racially discriminatory conduct in the hiring and promotion of Black police officers, although attorneys John Klassen and Andrew Muller, in their lawsuit claiming racist discrimination by the MPD, cite statements by Kroll as part of the racist culture of the MPD.

Six years ago Bob Kroll and I had a very interesting dialog on these pages about the MPD kill-



**Bob Kroll**

ing of Thurman Blevins and other young Black men. Four years ago, the MPD killed one Black man too many when Derek Chauvin murdered George Floyd. That murder was captured on camera, and the whole world judged the MPD as racist murderers. There were demonstrations lasting three days, then chaos and buildings burning. The wholesale destruction began with The Umbrella Man smashing windows at Auto Zone and spray painting: “Free Shit for Everyone Zone.” In 2023 I wrote: “a search warrant issued by Sgt. Christensen identifies the Umbrella Man as Mitchell Wesley Carlson from Ramsey, Minneso-

ta. Carlson was a member of the Aryan Cowboy Brotherhood and also a member of a white nationalist motorcycle club. It’s not too hard to imagine Bob Kroll and Mitch Carlson riding together and imagining themselves as heroic warriors and defenders of white male privilege.”

I’d like to resume my dialog with Bob Kroll and ask him, “Did you know Mitchell Carlson? Did you ever ride together? Did you have communication with Mitchell Carlson during the George Floyd riots?”

Space will be made available in our next issue for your reply.



## Trump and Kroll

Kroll: ‘He’d been found guilty of racial discrimination by interfering with the promotion of Black officers. He was a leader of City Heat, a motorcycle gang of cops who flew Confederate flags.’”

**James V. F. Dickey, Senior Counsel Upper Midwest Law Center**

## Editor’s Note:

Perhaps I overstated my case. I find Bob Kroll guilty of racial discrimination against Black officers. I think any objective reader would find Bob Kroll guilty of racial discrimination against Black officers, but it is true that no court of law found Kroll guilty of racial discrimination.

Most of my information about this comes from an interview Bob Kroll gave to the late, great reporter, Ruben Rosario of the Pioneer Press published January 10, 2009:

“My late grandmother’s favorite piece of advice to me, one I still try mightily to adhere to: ‘You tell me who you hang out with, and I will tell you who you are.’

“It’s not only guilt or praise by association, but also the perception, she would remind me, that could be right or easily misconstrued by others. And you may pay the consequences, rightly or

ing recognized symbols of hate and racism on their ‘colors’ vests.

“One unidentified member is wearing a KKK cross emblem with an ‘I’m here for the hanging’ patch right below it. Other members wear ‘No blacks’ patches and an assortment of swastikas, Confederate flags, Iron Crosses and other items that hate-crime watchdog groups say are often displayed by members of neo-Nazi or white-supremacist groups.

“None of the dozen or so Minneapolis and St. Paul cops who belong to the club’s local chapter is seen in the posted pictures wearing any of the items. That includes Minneapolis police Lt. Robert Kroll, a member of City Heat who says he is ‘vaguely familiar’ with the lawsuit.

“But the pictures could become an issue when the lawsuit goes to trial, possibly later this year.

**“POLICE LIEUTENANT SINGLED OUT**

“I am disturbed that these Minneapolis police officers associate with other law-enforcement officers who very publicly and proudly display racist symbols of hate next to their police de-

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## NEIGHBORHOOD EDITION

**Southside Pride is a monthly community newspaper delivered on the first Tuesday of each month to convenient locations in and around our Southside communities. We are proud of the racial and cultural diversity of the Southside, and we oppose racism and other efforts to keep us apart as a community.**

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

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# CELEBRATE SUMMER ON LYNDALE AVE.

## Summer on Lyndale Avenue South



At Lucky Cat Grand Opening in July

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

### The Wonderful Wedge

Do you mean the neighborhood or the cooperative grocery store? I could mean both! But right now I mean the co-op. Although I've been a member of a different co-op for 33 years, my favorite co-op to shop is the Wedge (2105 Lyndale Ave. S.). The Wedge was founded in a small apartment on Franklin Avenue in 1974. It began growing immediately, and soon neighbors began to see lines of members on the street outside on business days. As their website says, they have been growing out of loca-

tions for the past 50 years.

Most recently they grew by merging with Linden Hills Co-op in 2017. They named the resulting entity Twin Cities Cooperative Partners, until a year ago when it was changed to Wedge Community Co-ops, with the stores being called Lyndale and Linden Hills, respectively. (Linden Hills Co-op is almost as old, having been founded in 1976.)

Whether you are a member or not, if you need more information about the Wedge Co-op, check out their website (wedge.coop) and sign up for email news and notices of sales and events.

### Cultural resources on Lyndale Avenue South

The Jungle Theater (2951 Lyndale Ave. S.) is a theater company focusing on recent and unconventional plays. They just concluded a very successful 2023-24 season, and announced the performances for the 2024-25 season:

- Dinner for One, co-created by Christina Baldwin, Sun Mee Chomet and Jim Lichtscheidl and featuring Sun Mee Chomet and Jim Lichtscheidl. Nov 30 through Jan 5.

Based on an iconic slapstick

See *Grand*, page 10



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# CELEBRATE SUMMER ON LYNDALE AVE.

Grand, from page 9

comedy sketch and New Year's Eve tradition in Europe for over 60 years, Dinner for One tells the story of a butler helping his employer celebrate her annual dinner party. (This is a return of a highly successful 2023 run.)

- The Effect by Lucy Prebble featuring Christina Baldwin. March 1 through 30.

When Connie and Tristan sign up for a clinical trial to test a new antidepressant, they fall for each other—hearts racing, knees buckling—hard. But are their feelings real or nothing more than a dopamine-fueled side effect?



Wedge moving into first storefront in 1979

- Fast Fwd Motions by Katie Ka Vang. May 31 through June 29.

This world premiere follows a team of working-class Hmong-American women practicing and competing in their ferocious Volleyball League here in Minnesota.

Treehouse Records (2557 Lyndale Ave. S.), the successor record store to Oarfolkjokeopus, closed in 2017. The space has sat empty all this time, waiting for someone to open a record store. Lucky Cat Records is that store, and Michele Swanson is that someone. Lucky Cat opened Saturday, July 6 with a packed-in crowd of nostalgic fans and had a big party culminating with an in-store concert from Tommy Stinson, formerly of The Replacements. “Oarfolk” as the original store was called, lasted from 1973 to 2001 and was the hangout of the Replacements and many other iconic bands of the Minneapolis 1980s. Treehouse was open from 2001 to 2017. Let’s hope Lucky Cat (which appears to have an all-women staff!) will last at least as long.

#### Places to eat and drink on Lyndale Avenue South

Baba’s Hummus House and Mana’eesh Bakery (2220 Lyndale Ave. S.) opened about a year ago and has proven to be a hit. Even

if you haven’t been there, you may already be familiar with Baba’s hummus and/or flatbreads from your grocery store, but the restaurant offers so much more. Mana’eesh is a rich flatbread (not sold in stores) that can be dolled up to make a sort of Palestinian pizza. They offer delivery and have a small market of Middle Eastern favorites in the store.

New sports bar, Beckett’s (3006 Lyndale Ave S.) opened this past July in the previous Fool Me Once spot. Instead of focusing on one sport, or only Minnesota teams, their decor reflects every professional sport across the nation. The ceiling is papered in pennants. Their hours are Monday to Thursday, 2 p.m. to 1 a.m., Friday 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. and weekends 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Tender Lovin’ Chix is currently a popular food truck in the North Loop, but is coming soon to 2700 Lyndale Ave. S., the former home of Fire and Nice Ale House. Meanwhile, you can do a taste test from the food truck. Marques Johnson and “Billy from Billy Sushi” own the business.

The Brothers’ Café (3450 Lyndale Ave. S.) is a modern diner type of place with all-day breakfast. It just opened this past January in the space previously home to Vo’s Vietnamese

**CELEBRATING LYNDALE DAYS**

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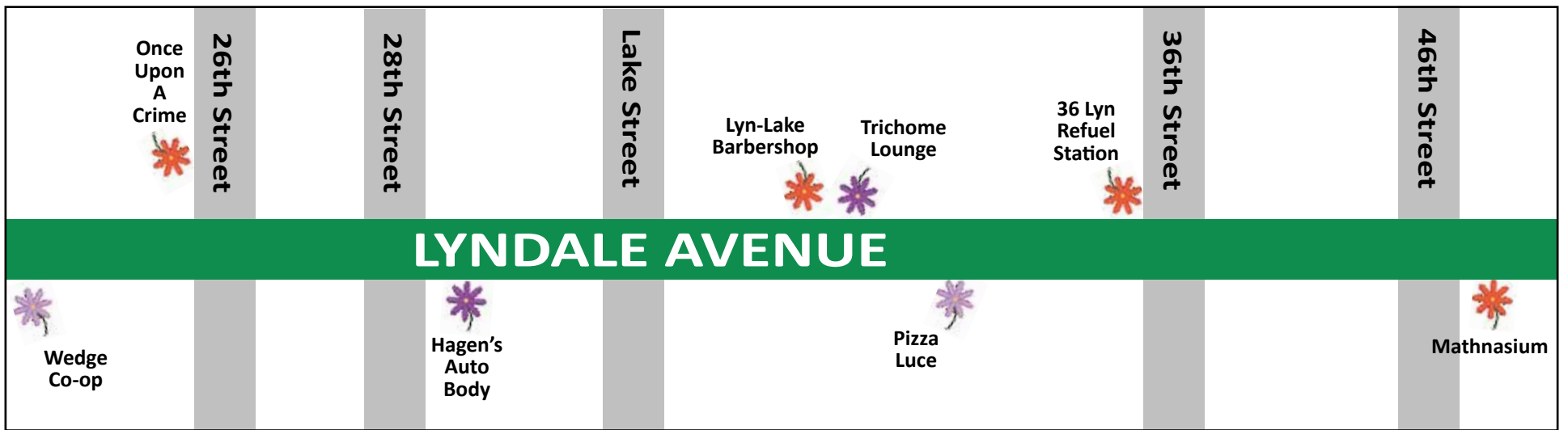
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Mural at Trichome Lounge

restaurant. Their menu is comfort food, “classics with a twist.” They are open Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Delivery is available via GrubHub.

Khaluna (4000 Lyndale Ave. S.) is Chef Ann Ahmed’s third restaurant, by far her most elegant, and the one that hews most closely to her native Laotian food and culture. Some of the decor and food choices are based on those of popular (but not cheap) southeast Asian resorts, and Ahmed said she was specif-

ically going for the look and feel of a luxury overseas vacation. In addition to the dinner menu, take a look at the brunch menu, one of the most interesting I’ve seen in this town that loves interesting brunches. There is a well-received bar with its own menu, and in the shop, there are curated food and non-food items from around southeast Asia for sale. You can also reserve the shop for private dining events.

**Other interesting shops on Lyndale Avenue South**

Trichome Lounge (3037 Lyndale Ave. S.) is one of the latest new businesses promising a fun, safe and chill joint to get your 420 on. The cannabis-infused, alcohol-free venue offers space for movies, live performances and DJ sets in their lounge, which boasts a retro gaming corner and vibrant murals by Minnesota artists. On the retail side the shop features adaptogens, nootropics, mycology kits and even a seed bank for DIYers. A tiered membership program offers packages from daily passes to year-round lounge access.

Larue’s Vintage Shop at 40th

and Lyndale moved to Linden Hills, citing a lack of street parking. The building owner divided the space into two smaller shops and started interviewing prospective tenants. He chose Dandelion Fiber Co. and Love Token Vintage & Handmade (3952 Lyndale Ave. S). Love Token Vintage is operated by Laura Reiger (she/they) and carries vintage clothing, small antiques, and work by local artists.

Dandelion Fiber Co. is the brainchild of friends Lara Valente and Tiffany Sather. Sather, originally from Fargo, previously co-owned Lowry Hill Meats with her husband. Valente, originally from Brazil, has also been a manager at Petite Leon and a

buyer for Marigold. The shop carries interesting and unusual yarns and fabrics, aimed at fabric artists and designers.



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# CELEBRATE SUMMER ON GRAND AVE.

## Summer on Grand Avenue

BY STEPHANIE FOX

It has been said that you don't need a Minneapolis passport to visit the iconic St. Paul thoroughfare called Grand Ave., and it's true. Among the 100-year-old houses and apartment buildings on that thoroughfare are unique restaurants and shops that are worth the trip across the river.

Red Balloon Bookshop (891 Grand Ave.) is a specialty children's bookstore, and for the last 40 years, has been in the business of helping readers find the best in books. When the original owners Carol Erdahl and

Michele Comer-Poire retired in 2011, Holly Weinkauf acquired the store.

Weinkauf says it's a great place for people to get together with other book-lovers. Customers can come in and browse or attend some of the store's popular events. At weekly story times everyone including infants and toddlers, is welcome. Wednesday mornings feature Storyteller Kelly and on Thursday, Storyteller Angela entertains with stories and rhymes.

In 2018, Red Balloon received the Woman's National Book Association's Pannell Award, and

in 2024, the store was named a finalist for Publishers Weekly Bookstore of the Year. The Red Balloon Bookshop is open Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. and noon - 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Chef Alex Roberts opened Brasa (777 Grand Ave.) in 2007 with the radical idea of bringing rotisserie-focused American Creole food, foods of the American South, the Caribbean and Mexico, to Minnesota.

Everything served at Brasa is made with regionally sourced ingredients. Menu items include Creole rubbed chicken, smoked beef with BBQ sauce, cornbread, yellow rice, black beans and collard greens.

Some of the restaurant's best sellers include Creole-style rubbed rotisserie chicken, smothered chicken with creamy gravy, a roast pork with garlic-lime mojo and the fried catfish. There are also gluten-free, vegetarian and vegan options.

Prices support wages of \$16 to \$25 an hour, paid time off and health insurance. No tipping is needed.

Brasa is open 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., Sunday - Thursday, and 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.



Tim Grundhauser at George's Shoe & Leather

One of the more popular restaurants on Grand Ave., the cozy Iron Ranger (1085 Grand Ave.) offers "traditional Iron Range fare" including nachos with porketta, porketta sandwiches and a porketta Cubano. You can even add porketta to one of their specialty salads.

Iron Ranger also offers burgers, Buffalo chicken wings, flatbreads, codfish and chips and a lot more. If you are in the mood for an adult beverage, check the menu for local beers, wine and a number of exceptional and creative cocktails and mocktails.

Come hear live music featuring Ross Bell on Thursday evenings and Alex Sandberg on Sundays.

Dining is from 11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m., but the bar stays open later. Happy hour is from 3 - 5 p.m. on weekdays. Iron Ranger is closed on Mondays.

Treadle Yard Goods (1338 Grand Ave.) has been on Grand Ave. since 1976, but when Michele Hoaglund bought the store nine years ago, she wanted to spread the word that sewing is a creative venture and to teach current and future generations of about what she sees as an art.

Right now, the store's main focus is the kid's summer sewing camps, which she warns, book up fast. "Some of the kids have never used a sewing machine. And, we teach them hand sewing. It's fun," she said.

"For 25 years I've been doing custom sewing and have had classes of 25 years," she said. "But people are getting more interested in sewing now. It's about sustainability and creativity. The kids come in and start

with bookmarks and soon they are doing skirts with ruffles."

Adults too, can take classes, even if they've never sewed before and there's advice for those advanced in sewing. "Some people come in with partially done projects. Some people come in with a button and ask us to sew it on. We show them how. They go 'Oh!' and then they do it themselves."

Her half-dozen part-time employees, who call themselves the Treadettes, pride themselves on customer service and giving advice to others who sew.

Treadle Yard Goods is open Monday through Thursday from noon until 6 p.m., Friday from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday noon - 4 p.m.

While many toy stores focus on younger kids, Mischief (818 Grand Ave.) carries products that can also appeal to older kids, teens and even adults.

"We go toward the edgy and rebellious," said owner Abigail Adelsheim-Marshall, who runs the store with her parents, Mille Adelsheim and Dan Marshall. From books to board games, lava lamps, Jellycat brand stuffed toys, ukuleles, edgy stickers and even pronoun pins, they have it all. They even carry a locally made hula-hoop called Hooperina. Customers wander the store to find the fun and the unusual.

The store was inspired by a family road trip nearly 10 years ago, to find new ideas as they changed the store from a baby store to what it is today.

"Halloween is very big for us," she said. "We carry a lot of themed things and have a costume contest. It's one of our fa-



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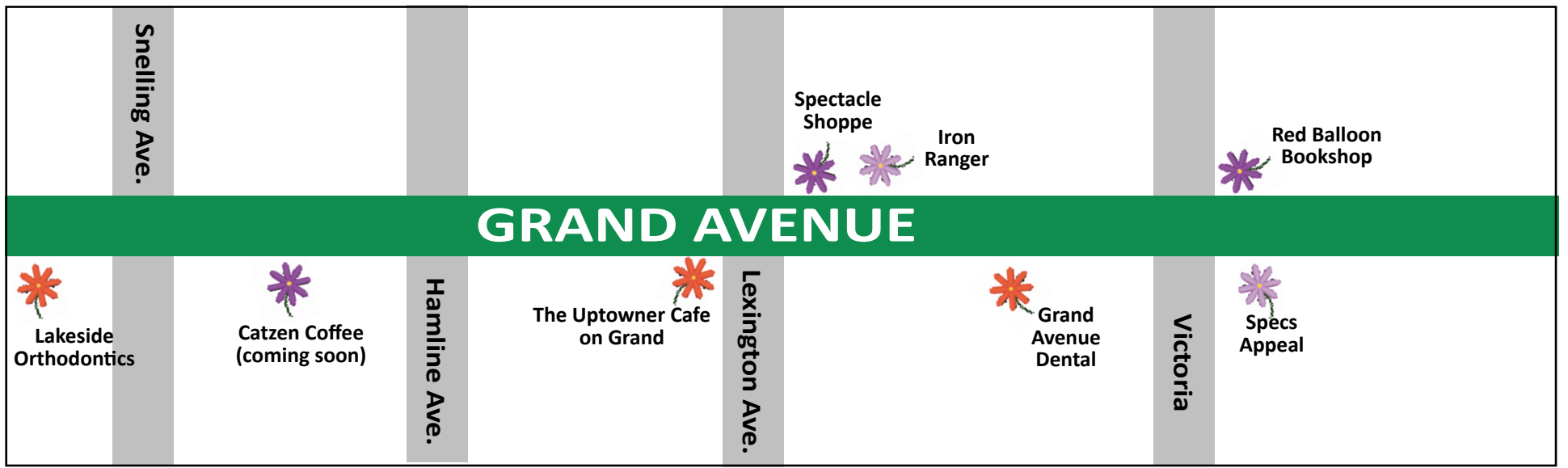
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favorite events.”

“Pretty much everyone will find something to excite them,” she said. If you don’t find what you want, the store is looking for recommendations. “Every

pairs a week. I like taking anything that looks bad and make it whole again.”

In addition to leather repair, George’s is the place to bring your hockey equipment. “We fix

Some of the repairs are more fun and games, including a pair of clown shoes and a leather elephant that needed a new trunk and saddlebag. And, said Brian George, they repair a lot things dogs have chewed.

George’s Shoe Repair is open Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. They are closed Sunday and Monday.

Woman-owned grocery Golden Fig Fine Foods (794 Grand Ave.), now in its 18th year, might be small; but if you are into cooking and good food and are looking for unique or high-end ingredients for your recipes, this is the place to go. Everything for sale is American made (much of it locally made) from the fresh and frozen foods, cookbooks, candles and even doggie treats, all using clean ingredients with no artificial coloring or flavoring.

The store also carries their own line of herbs and spice blends, vinegars and sugars, all blended and bottled in small batches each week.

In 2014, the store hosted a visit from President Obama who had heard about the shop and its local food focus and wanted to visit this and other St. Paul small businesses. A week later,



**Treadle Yard Goods**

kid wants something different.”

Mischief is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon - 8 p.m. and Sunday noon - 5 p.m.

While there are a lot of long-established shops on Grand Ave., few have been around for 119 years and still owned by the original family, like George’s Shoe and Leather (672 Grand Ave.) Bring in your leather shoes, purses, jackets and gloves and the leather workers here will have you taking them home, good as new.

The George brothers, Brian, Chris and Dan took over the store 20 years ago and hired and trained Tim Grundhauser.

“It’s crazy busy,” said Grundhauser. “We do about 200 re-

broken blades, goalie gloves that need to be restrung. We repair hockey equipment from local high schools and even the pros.”

## COMING SOON

A welcoming specialty coffee shop, with cats!

Located on St. Paul’s vibrant Grand Avenue.

[catzencoffee.com](http://catzencoffee.com)




**CATZEN COFFEE**



he called the owner Laurie McCann-Crowel to ask her about being a small-shop owner.

Golden Fig Fine Foods is open

Monday through Saturday: 10:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.



## Red Balloon


BOOKSHOP

Bring in this ad for 20% off one in-stock book or gift.

REDBALLOONBOOKSHOP.COM  
891 GRAND AVE. // ST. PAUL, MN

# 20% off

expires 9/20/24



## LAKESIDE ORTHODONTICS

### ALL SMILES ON GRAND

Schedule a free consultation and get \$250 off your new smile when you mention this offer!

DR. ABBY SYVERSON  
1696 Grand Ave, St Paul, MN, 55105  
651.699.2013 · lakesideorthodontics.com



**MINNESOTA'S Best 2023 GOLD WINNER**

## “Best Eyewear Shop in Minnesota”



**Spectacle Shoppe®**

Uptown, New Brighton, St. Paul and St. Louis Park



**IRON RANGER**  
1085 GRAND, SAINT PAUL



Burgers | Flatbreads | Cocktails | Sandwiches | Salads






**Samuels, from page 1**

stan and Somalia. added that we should “use this moment to recommit ourselves to civility and respect in our politics.”

Not surprisingly, after the events in Butler, Pa., Samuels seemed quite proud of the ad, tweeting: “While Rep. Omar and I agree on numerous policy positions, I’m running for Congress because I believe at this moment we must turn away from rage, division, and self-promotion that has become her trademark.”

It should go without saying that it is fair game to scrutinize Omar’s voting record, as a lawmaker pushing ambitious policy. There’s also nothing wrong with imagining a world without assassination attempts, even against politicians who openly promote violence at campaign events.

Activists and survivors of sexual violence, particularly those who had family members killed by stalkers, told reporters that depicting people on missing posters triggered past trauma.

“Don has been following the textbook abuser playbook by calling out Ilhan as not attractive enough, not cute enough, and then featuring her on a missing poster,” Asma Mohammed Executive Director of Reviving Sisterhood said.

“There is mudslinging in politics. I know that. And then there’s complete dehumanization of women that leads to gender-based violence,” Mohammed added. “Men like Don don’t want

safe places for us.”

Sue Goodstar from Camp Neenookaasi was reminded that her greatest fear was that people would take advantage of her vulnerabilities. And all of a sudden, her goodwill in helping those unhoused seemed to crumble.

“What Don Samuels did was the most disgusting thing I ever saw. It was beyond disgusting actually,” Goodstar said. “When

In 2020, at least 9,575 Indigenous people were reported missing according to data from the U.S. National Crime Information Center.

“Kateri is a friend of mine, and she’s been missing for 17 years,” said Goodstar.

Lakeisha Lee founded the Brittany Clarify Foundation, an organization that runs Brittany’s



**Mishow’s name is spelled out on a mural on the front wall of the Little Earth Community Center.**

I saw that ad, it enraged me. I guess you could almost say I was ready to throw a shoe at the TV.”

“This is what a missing persons poster looks like,” Goodstar said holding up a poster holding up a poster of Kateri Mishow, an Indigenous woman who was last seen wearing a blue jean jacket and pants and an oversize black leather coat in 2007.

Place, a shelter for victims of sex trafficking.

“A political ad putting anyone’s face on a missing poster, in 2024, is uncalled for,” said Lee. “My sister was murdered in 2013. On June 29th she would have been 30 years old. She was murdered and put in a car here in Minnesota.”

“It’s not fair and it’s not right

for white supremacy, because that is what this is the root of, to be able to do these kinds of things to people,” said Toshira Garraway Allen founder of Families Supporting Families Against Police Violence. Her fiancé, Justin Teigen went missing in 2009. Teigen’s body was found in a dumpster with his skull cracked in half.

“This is mocking to the families who have actually endured,” said Allen. “This is disrespectful to the families of those who experienced their loved ones being missing.”

Rep. Omar meanwhile wants U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland to create a federal office to help solve the many cases of missing and murdered women and girls.

“We’ve been focused on following the leadership of some of our legislatures here in Minnesota who established an Office for Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls and trying to create a national office with the Department of Justice that hopefully will work across the 50 states and territories,” Omar said.

Omar added that, “the reason that we are focused on a federal level, is that while Black women and girls make up 15 percent of the female population of this country, they make up nearly 34 percent of women reported missing in 2020.”

Samuels’s campaign did not respond to multiple requests for comment.

This is not the first time Sam-

uels has mocked those missing or dead. Issac Childress III went on a bike ride led by Don Samuels and his wife, Sondra Samuels. Samuels allowed Childress to dip his feet in the water before the Mississippi River’s strong current swept away the 6-year-old child. His body was found two days later. Sondra Samuel’s insurance company agreed to pay \$301,000 in what Hennepin County records described as a wrongful death settlement.

“Who is @Ilhan’s primary challenger?” Briana Rose Lee tweeted. “A man with such poor judgement that he literally is the person responsible for a child drowning and dying while he watched from shore.”

Rose Lee asked, “If you can’t trust him to babysit, how can you trust him with an entire district?”

“Can’t swim, but can govern,” Samuels replied.

Bipartisan calls to condemn political violence seem a little contrived. Samuels predictable rush to join the chorus is in bad faith considering his past behavior. Here’s another typical mock on social media:

“I hope Ilhan Omar wins. My niece can’t see her son anymore because of your WIFE,” Angela Madison posted on Facebook. “We had to bury him because of her negligence.”

Samuels, always the gentleman, responded with an avatar of his hands shaped into a heart.

**Cam, from page 1**

not been offered a formal way “to speak openly about harm” as called for in the resolution. The formal apology, and plan with “dedicated financial resources and accountability measures” has not occurred.

Now, nearly four years later, Minneapolis appears to be as far away from implementing specific solutions as it was in 2020.

“The Department of Justice consent decree findings alone make the case for reparations,” said Trahern Crews, who has been following and advocating for reparations in Minnesota for more than ten years and is the chair of St. Paul’s reparations commission.

Minneapolis, he noted, is leading the nation in the racial disparity wealth gap, being “#1 in home ownership disparities and #2 in income disparities.”

“Considering the great chasm of disparity and need for reparations, more work needs to happen everywhere,” Marsh, who no longer works for the city, said in July.

Lynn Hinkle, a Powderhorn resident who has been working on reparations for years, wants to see Minneapolis turn its attention to realizing the work called for in the resolution.

“Well, we could say it’s a good beginning,” he said, “and we’ve got an example right across the river of what we can do next.”

Hinkle believes that those who have benefitted from the

harmful practices of the past are obligated to help repair the historical harm done through generations of unjust racist practices. “You don’t get a 1 to 9 wealth disparity by mistake, it’s an intentional program that has to be undone and it’s not charity,” he said, “it’s a debt that’s owed.”

Earlier this year, state legislators introduced (but did not pass) a bill, called the Minnesota Migration Act, which would provide funding to study reparations for American descendants of chattel slavery in the state, and many cities throughout the country have taken action.

According to the National League of Cities, Evanston, Ill. became the first city to implement a reparations plan. In 2019 they established a \$10 million fund to address housing discrimination and segregation from 1919 - 1969. In 2022, the city began paying up to \$25,000 to Black residents or their descendants who were harmed by zoning laws that prevented African Americans from buying homes in certain areas.

The league lists Burlington, Vt.; Boston, Mass.; St. Louis, Mo.; Providence, R.I.; Asheville, N.C.; Tullahassee, Okla.; and Berkeley, Calif. as cities who have programs. Other cities and counties that have authorized commissions to study reparations programs include Fulton County, Ga.; Shelby County, Tenn.; Alameda County, Calif.; Kansas City, Mo.; Los Angeles; Northampton, Mass.; Detroit,

Mich.; St. Petersburg, Fla. and St. Paul, Minn.

“St Paul is one of the few that’s actually got a standing commission,” said Hinkle. “It is there for good and now the question is, are we going to get it the kind of funding it needs?” St. Paul has also issued a formal apology via an official resolution and the commission is meeting regularly to develop funding recommendations.

Most of the efforts, in St. Paul and throughout the country, came after the police killing of George Floyd and civil unrest that followed.

“The spectacle murder of George Floyd just a few blocks from here sparked a global movement that moved whole sections of society to talk about how to do reparations,” said Hinkle.

“George Floyd didn’t die just for a statue,” Hinkle said. Following the murder, he recalled, “there was an outpouring of concerns and people were finally saying it’s time to deal with institutional racism and understanding how essentially every aspect of our lives is skewed against BIPOC and every aspect of our life is skewed to advantage white folks.”

According to reports in the LA Times, Washington Post and elsewhere, George Floyd’s great grandfather, Hillary Thomas Stewart, got his freedom from enslavement as a child. As an adult he had 500 acres of land he had acquired stolen from him

by white farmers, denying him and his offspring the benefits of generational wealth.

Hinkle believes that it is time for Minneapolis to establish a reparations commission and use St. Paul’s example. Both cities have a past of racially unjust redlining, deed covenants, zoning laws, policing practices, hiring practices and more.

What the specific reparative actions are, Crews said, should be based on community feedback and recommends that, whatever form it takes in Minneapolis, “there should be two separate efforts, one focused on Indigenous people and the other centered on the Black ancestors of slaves.”

So far, he said, the Indigenous priority has been on getting land returned and the ancestors of slavery may be more interested in direct monetary payments.

Hinkle agrees and also thinks it is worth looking at the response from some of the faith communities.

The Presbyterian Center of Lakes and Prairies Restorative Action, for example, is a reparations initiative of the Presbyterian Church and other partners.

They have calculated the harms to American descendants of slavery and Indigenous people and decided to pool 15 percent of their assets to be distributed to trustees, one representing Indigenous people and the other American descendants of slavery.

Fifteen percent of the city’s

2024 \$1.83 billion budget would be \$274,500,000. That amount set aside annually would be a substantial investment. It could be used to purchase land, create saving accounts or trusts or provide income over a number of years for a significant number of people.

Hinkle thinks that one way for the city to show its commitment to reparations would be to include it in the redevelopment of George Floyd Square at 38th and Chicago. The city has purchased the People’s Way property and including reparations as one of the three categories it is seeking input on to determine who’s going to develop that. “Maybe the Global Center for Reparations Organizing could be located in a facility that is transformed from the People’s Way,” said Hinkle.

According to Hinkle, a good reparations process starts with truth-telling, which he thinks Minneapolis has made progress on. That must be followed by building multiracial relationships and political solidarity to get policies in place to actually transfer wealth.

“You have to have racial healing, but it doesn’t happen without repair,” he said. “This is not just an economic discussion. This is about morality.”

“Writing a check without doing the truth and reconciliation is just a hollow gesture,” he added, “Just doing an apology and not moving to wealth transfer is equally hollow.”



# • COMMUNITY CALENDAR •

## Southside Pride / NEIGHBORHOOD EDITION

### EVENTS

#### Rep. Omar In-Person Town Hall August 7, 6 - 7 p.m.

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church  
5025 Knox Ave. S, Mpls.  
Representative Ilhan Omar invites constituents to her in-person Town Hall.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. if you'd like to arrive early. Congresswoman Omar will provide an update on her work in Congress, discuss the services her office can provide, and answer your questions. This event is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required via Eventbrite.

The event venue is ADA accessible. If you have any questions, please email [mn05.info@mail.house.gov](mailto:mn05.info@mail.house.gov) or call 612-333-1272. If you are not able to attend in-person, the event will be livestreamed on Congresswoman Omar's social media. There is no need to register for the livestream.

#### Mary E. Roach, BETTER LEFT BURIED - with Jackie Sommers! August 7, 6 p.m.

Red Balloon Bookshop  
891 Grand Ave., Saint Paul  
Knives Out meets A Good Girl's Guide to Murder in Mary E. Roach's debut YA mystery *Better Left Buried*, in which two girls try to get to the bottom of a town full of secrets, a family full of mystery and an abandoned amusement park where people keep turning up dead. Join Mary E. Roach and fellow author Jackie Lea Sommers for a conversation about the book and all things writerly at Red Balloon! After the event, enjoy launch day treats and have your books signed. Space is limited, so registration is required to attend this event. You can register for a ticket for free through August 7, 4:00 p.m. and preorder the book on Red Balloon's website. If you need specific accommodations, please email [events@redballoonbookshop.com](mailto:events@redballoonbookshop.com) or call 651-224-8320.

#### 'The Garden'

Friday, August 9, 7 p.m.

Saturday, August 10, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Children's Theatre Company (CTC) is pleased to announce that the 2024 Triple Threat production will be the World Premiere Musical *The Garden*. Featuring book, music, and lyrics by Hannah Bakke, *The Garden* will be directed by Emma Y. Lai, with choreography by Jack Morman, and music direction by Justin Church. More information is available at [childrenstheatre.org/garden](http://childrenstheatre.org/garden).

*The Garden* is the world's first music venue, the genesis of honkytonks—an electric, cozy place where creation begins and woman finds her voice. It's a story old as time, told through the lens of Eve's self-discovery and resolve. This bluegrass, backwoods revival takes you on a journey of what it means to be imperfectly perfect.

Tickets to *The Garden* may be purchased online at [childrenstheatre.org/tickets](http://childrenstheatre.org/tickets) or by calling the ticket office at 612.874.0400. All tickets are \$25. Recommended for ages 10 and up.

RUNNING TIME: 1 hour 50 minutes with one intermission.

#### 2024 Lung Run/Walk Twin Cities August 10 @ 7:30 - 11 a.m.

Lake Harriet Bandshell  
Join the MN lung cancer community at the 18th annual Lung Run/Walk on Saturday, August 10 to raise your voice for change!

This event offers a 5K walk or chip-timed 5K and 10K runs with prizes for best times, KIDS FUN RUN with medals for kids 5-12, LIVE music, doctor/patient team stories and a lung cancer research update, a lung cancer survivor resource tent, and to end this beautiful day, we will gather lakeside to remember and honor our loved ones lost to lung cancer at the Rose Raft of Remembrance Ceremony. Information at [abreathofhope.org/](http://abreathofhope.org/)

#### The Downtown Minneapolis Street Art Festival

August 10 - 11, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Nicollet Avenue from 6th to 8th Street.

The Downtown Minneapolis Street Art Festival is a free and unique downtown art experience for residents and visitors that celebrates street art in all its forms. The festival takes place annually the second weekend in August and features chalk and spray art, murals, performance, craft, food and fun! We hope to see you, your friends and family for this inclusive and joyful experience in the heart of downtown Minneapolis!

New to 2024, Downtown Minneapolis Street Art Festival is excited to welcome Jackalope Arts to the festival lineup! The indie artisan fair will be bringing over 100 local, hand-select artisans to the festival streetways. Shoppers can expect to find trendsetting indie goods including original fashion and jewelry design, paper goods, innovative home decor and housewares, art, photography, food, plus much more. Learn more about Jackalope Arts here. Vendor applications for Jackalope Arts in partnership with the Downtown Minneapolis Street Art Festival are open now! [www.mplsstreetartfest.com/](http://www.mplsstreetartfest.com/)

#### August Monthly Mingle: Brewery Edition

August 13, 6:30 - 9 p.m.

Sociable Cider Werks  
1500 Fillmore St. NE, Mpls.  
Come mingle with fellow animators/motion designers/vfx artists/etc from across Minnesota. We're excited to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

We're switching it up from our usual lounge— everybody cheer for not having to park downtown! Head over to Northeast and find us in the West Taproom at Sociable Cider Werks.

Make sure you RSVP through this eventbrite, as we do have a max cap on tickets.

Can't wait to see you there! Pssst— If you don't know anyone or are nervous, our Nice Moves events committee members will be there and can try and introduce you to people! Or say hi in our discord server ([discord.gg/9TBzjRR](https://discord.gg/9TBzjRR)) before coming to meet some people in advance and introduce yourself.

#### Lake Street Mural Day

August 17, 3 - 6 p.m.

1601 E. Lake Street, Mpls  
This three-hour free family-friendly

event will feature a festive sidewalk atmosphere filled with art, food, music, and activities. Individuals will have access to food and entertainment along Lake Street between 15th and 17th Ave, with a "check-in" area at 16th Ave and Lake Street. Mural tours will be held every 45 minutes or individuals can do a self-guided mural tour with a printed map.

#### Hookstock '24

Saturday, Aug. 17, 8 p.m.

Hook & Ladder Theater and Lounge  
3010 Minnehaha Ave.

Celebrating the Influential Festivals, Artists, and Music of 1969 "Dawn of Aquarius" house band performing the music of Richie Havens, Joan Baez, Santana, Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Who, Jefferson Airplane, Joe Cocker, Janis Joplin, Sly and the Family Stone, Jimi

Hendrix & more.

Peace, Love, Music and Art.

Reserved Seats: \$30, GA: \$18 ADV / \$24 DOS

Information at [thehookmpls.com/](http://thehookmpls.com/)

#### Rob Stokes Live at Choo Choo Bob's Train Store

Saturdays, 11 a.m. - noon

214 4th St. E., Saint Paul

Come for an hour of Train-tastic tunes by Rob Stokes!

Live music is included with play space admissions! The admission is: \$10 for kids 1-10

[info@choochoobobtrainstore.com](mailto:info@choochoobobtrainstore.com)

#### Wild & Wonderful: A Fall Foraging Retreat

September 18, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Join Maria Wesslerle of Four Season Foraging and Jaime Rockney of Chick of the Woods for a day of foraging fun! Learn all about edible fall

goodies in the woods! The morning will be mushroom-centric with a presentation by Chick of the Woods on common edible fall mushrooms, followed by a walk in the woods searching for, talking about and picking the mushrooms we find. A home-style lunch will follow and will be included with your ticket. The afternoon will be focused on all things plants! Maria will teach us all about plants, berries and nuts that are in season followed by a walk in the woods finding, identifying, harvesting and even tasting some forest delicacies. This event will take place at ARC Retreat Community in Stanchfield, MN. Cost is \$150. Pre-registration required. For more details, please email [info@fourseasonforaging.com](mailto:info@fourseasonforaging.com), call 612-440-5958, or visit [www.fourseasonforaging.com/events](http://www.fourseasonforaging.com/events).



**Join us!**  
SATURDAY • AUGUST 24  
11-5PM  
LYNDALE AVE. S. (22ND ST. - 36TH ST.)  
**EVERYONE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!**  
OpenStreets MINNEAPOLIS  
Minneapolis City of Lakes



**RADIO WITHOUT BOUNDARIES**  
**KFAI.org**  
90.3 / 106.7 fm  
MPLS. - ST. PAUL - THE WORLD



### EVENTS

#### Lakewood Cemetery

3600 Hennepin Ave., Mpls.  
 • Art and Ritual: An Evening with Day Schildkret  
 August 3 @ 6 - 9 p.m.  
 \$35 in advance / \$45 at the door  
 Moderated by MPR host and End in Mind founder Cathy Wurzer, this intimate discussion held in Lakewood's historic Memorial Chapel, will explore how artist and author Day Schildkret's nature-based practice has inspired people around the world to mark key milestones, reflect on life, and remember loved ones who have died. A reception held in Lakewood's brand-new Welcome Center will follow, with the chance to connect with the author and others interested in his practice.  
 • Morning Altars Workshops  
 August 4: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. or 2 - 5 p.m.  
 \$50 in advance / \$60 at the door  
 In these interactive sessions, Day will guide attendees through his 7-step Morning Altars practice, creating mandalas out of natural, foraged materials. Following the creation process, attendees will have an opportunity to share stories and discuss experiences as part of this mindful practice.  
 Tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/art-and-ritual-an-evening-with-day-schildkret-tickets-865915014117>

#### Second Church Of Christ, Scientist

1822 Hennepin Ave. S.  
 Holding Special Healing Prayer Services focusing on "Our Beloved Community"  
 We hold Christian Science Testimony Meetings on Wednesdays, August 7, 14, 21, and 28 starting at 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
 Please join us for these four specially focused community meetings on healing our beloved Minneapolis. We begin with inspiring readings and follow with spontaneously shared stories from our attendees on overcoming challenges individually and in our neighborhoods through powerful prayer. Open to all ages and childcare is provided. You can find out more

about us at [secondchurchminneapolis.com](http://secondchurchminneapolis.com). Parking available in back.

#### Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral

519 Oak Grove St., Mpls.  
 612-870-7800  
 Summer Sundays Fellowship every Sunday; coffee and treats in the Community Room, and outside in the courtyard (weather permitting).

#### Plymouth Congregational Church

1919 LaSalle Ave., Mpls  
 • Midsummer Mingle  
 August 7, 5:20 - 8 p.m.  
 Jones Commons, 1919 LaSalle Ave., Mpls.  
 Join us for food and fellowship monthly.  
 • ICOM VIGIL  
 August 13, 7:30 - 9 a.m.  
 Whipple Building at Fort Snelling, 1 Federal Dr, Minneapolis  
 Join Plymouth members and other faith communities at one of the upcoming Interfaith Coalition on Immigration (ICOM) vigils at the Bishop Whipple Federal Building showing support for immigrants.  
 • Community Conversation: Bail, Jail, and Pre-Trial Policy  
 August 15, 5 - 7 p.m.  
 Conn Gallery, 1900 Nicollet Ave., Mpls.  
 MN Justice Research Center presents A Community Conversation on Bail, Jail, and Pre-Trial Policy A Community Conversation with MN Justice Research Center and hosted by Plymouth Church, Minneapolis.  
 • Book Club  
 Plymouth Church's book group meets in-person and over Zoom every third Saturday of the month at 10:30 a.m. in Plymouth Hall. If you are interested in joining us, or you have any questions, please reach out to Wanda Bee at [realestate@wandabee.com](mailto:realestate@wandabee.com).

#### Dakota Sacred Sites Tour- Healing Minnesota Stories

Tuesday, Aug. 27  
 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
 Helping people understand the history and living legacy of the Dakota sacred sites around the Twin Cities.

Free of charge, donations welcome. Open to high-school age individuals and older. Contact [Jimbear.jacobs@mchurches.org](mailto:Jimbear.jacobs@mchurches.org)

#### Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church

4101 37th Ave. S., Mpls.  
 612-722-9527  
[secretary@minnehahacomunion.org](mailto:secretary@minnehahacomunion.org)  
[www.minnehahacomunion.org](http://www.minnehahacomunion.org)  
 • Play group every Thurs. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. For more information contact Pastor Martha Bardwell at 612-871-2967.  
 • Summer day camp (8/19-8/28) New location: Diamond Lake Lutheran (5766 Portland Ave. S.)  
 Open to those entering kindergarten through middle school. For more information contact Pastor Martha Bardwell at 612-871-2967.

#### Taizé Service

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. We will be live-streaming our services, so you can catch Taizé from your home (or cabin or wherever you are) in real time, or anytime you want. [www.minnehaha.org](http://www.minnehaha.org)

#### Welcome refugees by donating household supplies!

From the Minnesota Council of Churches: The last few months have been very busy! Since January, MCC has welcomed 392 new arrivals to Minnesota, providing them with housing, clothing, and all other necessities they need to have a good start here. We're looking for your support in creating welcome kits to greet them. Donation guidelines and links to our wish-lists are available at <https://mchurches.org/ways-help/give-items>.

#### Central Lutheran's Free Store needs donations!

Restoration Center at Central Luther-

an Church  
 333 S. 12th St., Mpls.  
 The Free Store is a critical community resource that allows guests to shop for what they need at no cost. Items especially needed: blankets, towels, sheets, kitchenware and clothing. Donations accepted from 4th Ave. loading dock, Sunday through Thursday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Press the call button and someone will come to help you. All donated items should be clean and in good condition. Questions? Call (612) 870-4416.

### SHARING FOOD

#### Harvest of the Heart

Church of the Incarnation  
 3817 Pleasant Ave. S., Mpls.  
 Tuesday - Friday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Sat. 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
 612-822-2101; Espanol 612-874-7169

#### Soup for You! Café

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
 2730 E. 31st St. Mpls. 612-978-7974  
 Monday - Friday, lunch at noon - 1 p.m.  
 Wednesday, groceries from noon - 1 p.m.  
 More information on our Facebook page or at <https://soupforyou.info/>.

#### Calvary Emergency Food Shelf

3901 Chicago Ave., Mpls.  
 612-827-2504, ext. 3  
 The Calvary Food Shelf has returned to 3901 Chicago Ave., now that the building renovations are completed. The Food Shelf will continue its mission of providing access to fresh, nutritious food for the community. Call 612-827-2504, ext. 3 for more information.

#### 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. - 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!

[www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf](http://www.facebook.com/NCBCfoodshelf).  
 Saturdays (except 5th Saturdays) 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 (Grey 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 - 6 p.m. Free, to-go meals served from side door on 53rd Street. Open to everyone, no questions asked. Whatever your circumstances, 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.

#### First Nations Kitchen

3044 Longfellow Ave., Mpls.  
 612-791-1253  
 First Nations Kitchen, an outreach of All Saints Episcopal Indian Mission, welcomes all to our weekly To Go meals and Produce Give Away every Sunday from 4 - 5 p.m. outside our building. We cook fresh, organic, indigenous meals and give away organic produce rain or shine. This is a barrier-free food program. To donate or volunteer contact us at [director@firstnationskitchen.org](mailto:director@firstnationskitchen.org) or go to our website: <https://firstnationskitchen.org>.

#### Minnehaha United Methodist Church

3701 E. 50 St., Mpls.  
 612-721-6231  
 The Minnehaha Food Shelf serves food for the hungry on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. - 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/>

## The Southside Religious Community Welcomes You

#### Bahá'í BAHÁ'Í CENTER OF MINNEAPOLIS

3644 Chicago Ave. S.,  
 612-823-3494  
[Minneapolis.Bahai@gmail.com](mailto:Minneapolis.Bahai@gmail.com)  
 Devotions at the Bahá'í Center and via Zoom, Sundays 10 a.m., and Tuesdays via Zoom 6:30 p.m.  
 See [www.minneapolisbahai.org](http://www.minneapolisbahai.org).  
*So powerful is the light of unity that it can illuminate the whole earth.*  
 —Baha'u'llah

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# Unionizations, new restaurants and consumer activism

BY DEBRA KEEFER RAMAGE

## Openings around town and coming soon

Darling (3311 25th St. E.) opened in the former Birchwood Cafe space in the Seward neighborhood in mid-June. A friend and I went there for a late-ish brunch in early July, and it was pretty packed. I only had one thing, so don't feel qualified to say if it's better or not. But it was good. Although I haven't made it there yet, the new Gatherings Cafe (1530 Franklin Ave. E.) reopened after renovations, also in mid-June, about six weeks later than the American Indian Center, within which it's located. The cafe is twice the size from before the renovation, and with

results. Sebastian Joe's opened up a shop in the former Apoy space (4301 Nicollet Ave.) Read all about it in Southwest Voices here: [tinyurl.com/DKRatSSP-SebastianJoes](https://tinyurl.com/DKRatSSP-SebastianJoes). La La Homemade Ice Cream and Luncheonette (3146 Hennepin Ave.) in Uptown has expanded its space into a deli, serving mostly local and scratch-made foods and an old-time soda fountain. The name of the new enterprise is Sugar and Salt.

## Unionizing workers and whiny management: restaurants today

In the July 12 Flyover at [racketmn.com](https://racketmn.com), Keith had this to say: "Susan Du does an excellent job in the Strib writing about

unionization drives at the very pinnacle of trendy dining in the Twin Cities, Kim's in early June, and Café Ceres and Colita a couple of weeks later. These establishments are all helmed by James Beard nominated or awarded chefs: Ann Kim and Daniel del Prado, respectively. The article is worth a full read ([tinyurl.com/DKRatSSP-Union-SEIU](https://tinyurl.com/DKRatSSP-Union-SEIU)) delving into both recent (pandemic, start of union push) and early 20th century (founding of HERE) history, citing current UNITE HERE Local 17 officer Sheigh Freeberg and labor historian Peter Rachleff.

## Bitter Southerner does it again!

"The Taste of Memory" is the latest gem of food writing from Bitter Southerner, which has been winning awards for the quality of its writing on food and culture. It's about Laotian and Hmong rainbow-hued rice varieties being grown today in North Carolina. Read it here: [tinyurl.com/DFRatSSP-NCriceBS](https://tinyurl.com/DFRatSSP-NCriceBS).

## More foodie news, mostly local

The Best Budget Bites series is a great occasional series where Em Cassel or a guest writer highlights a great meal or dish for \$9.99 or less. The latest one, by Cassel, is the breakfast sandwich from the Band Box Diner (729 10th St. S.), a tiny diner in the Elliot Park neighborhood just south of downtown. Look for the series in the Food & Drink section of [racketmn.com](https://racketmn.com).

No Appetite for Apartheid is a subproject of the BDS project seeking to end the war in Gaza as well as eventually achieve full democracy for Palestinians. This project focuses on consumer boycotting of specific products that would impact the Israeli economy. On the weak side, this will only have an effect if a LOT of people do it, but on the strong side, there are no barriers to doing it, like there are for divestment and other BDS tactics. If you think you may want to participate, go to [na4a.org](https://na4a.org) for more information.

On another Quixotic consumer boycott front, I wrote a letter to Oatly, trying to determine if their chocolate was fair trade or not. Here is their not especially helpful response: [tinyurl.com/DKRatSSP-Oatly-cacao](https://tinyurl.com/DKRatSSP-Oatly-cacao).

## Mini-reviews

Nice Time Market (2402 38th St. E.) opened a couple of weeks ago in the spot of the last Tom Thumb in the Twin Cities. It's a cozy little dream of an updated Mom and Pop. All it needs is a bodega cat. They have a curated selection of basic grocery and



Sebastian Joes Kingfield and the kids who brought it there

convenience needs, and then a whole bunch of great deli offerings that they are working on getting approved for EBT.

## Vegan Chef Challenge 2024

Next month I will be reviewing several vegan dishes in the Twin Cities Vegan Chef Challenge, an annual celebration of vegan food and awareness of animal rights and welfare, presented by Compassionate Action for Animals (CAA). This unique Twin Cities event has grown from a week or two in August to the entire month, as well as including more restaurants each year (26 this year.)

Anyone can participate by simply visiting some of the restaurants and eating their vegan challenge specials, then voting on the website for the best dish, and posting on social media to win fun prizes. By

the time I publish my reviews (it won't be all of them sadly) the voting will be closed, but the winners are announced and awarded at the other main CAA event, the Annual Veg Fest, September 22, 2024. Details here: [exploreveg.org/twin-cities-vegan-chef-challenge](https://exploreveg.org/twin-cities-vegan-chef-challenge).



Heather Olsen and Tatum Barile of Nice Time Market

twice the kitchen space, a new executive chef, and a more decolonized (but still "approachable") menu.

Brühaven Craft Company (1368 La Salle Ave.), a new opening in Loring Park, is a brewery tap room and more. It's also a coffee shop, and the brewery produces NA hop water seltzers.

how the city of Minneapolis's proposed Labor Standards Board is continuing to make restaurateurs lose their collective mind. Du catches the owners in several fabrications. For instance: 'Nobody here is saying no to a Labor Standards Board,' [Nettie Colon of Red Hen Gastrolab] said, contradicting [a] letter signed by the



Cafe food at Sugar and Salt - La La Ice Cream Uptown

It's family friendly, dog friendly and designed for both big events and all-day hanging out. Ococo (811 La Salle Ave.), a Malaysian and Thai Monday - Friday breakfast and lunch place, has opened in the Residence Inn in downtown Minneapolis.

A letter from some Kingfield area school kids pleading for an ice cream shop had immediate

100 restaurant operators." Ordinance-opposed owners have also complained that there would be seats on the board reserved for union officials. (There won't.) All this over an ordinance that doesn't even exist yet—not even in draft form!

Also in Racket, on July 3, Jay covered the then-developing story about almost overlapping

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Some facts and thoughts that I don't recall being part of Derek Chauvin's trial:

- 1) Floyd and Chauvin had both worked as security at the nightclub in the Odd Fellows Building on 27th Ave. S. and Lake St.
2) Floyd was far more popular and effective at the job.
3) Chauvin was not only working that job—he was also busy in his side hustle of distributing lucrative side jobs to other cops.
4) Chauvin's ability to parcel out side jobs made it very difficult for other cops to discipline him, since cops above him in the department were also dependent on him for getting those side jobs.
5) Did anyone ever ask the owners of the nightclub whether they'd discussed using George Floyd and his connections instead of cops for their security?
6) The video of Chauvin and Floyd standing next to each other before the take-down made it clear that Chauvin was physically fearful of Floyd and disliked him. How much of what followed was actually personal?
7) Was there a preference by the personal injury lawyers to avoid having the above issues raised because the damages claim against the City of Minneapolis would be stronger without them? If Chauvin had been shown to have gone off on a personal tangent rather than just acting as a cop, the City wouldn't have been so liable for so much.

I have a bit of a personal interest in all this because my first office was across the street from the Odd Fellows Building, upstairs over the old Fanny Farmer Candy Store (3002 27th Ave. S.), which is still standing.

Dave Porter, lawyer

Flooding Questions

I picked up the July 2024 issue last Wednesday and I need to ask some follow-up questions about the front page "Nero Of The Northland" article.

I live in South Minneapolis, renting a house within walking distance of the creek. Our landlord has done severe foundation work in the past, as have our neighbors. I know in 2000 or 2001 or so the city even bought out some very damaged houses, tore them down, and turned the lots into ponds that help lower the water table.

You barely even mention the name of the dam and I'm trying to figure out what the purpose is and what you'd prefer they do. If the floodgates were thrown open, all dam operations basically forgotten, wouldn't the basement flooding problem be the same but in a slightly different location? Yes, I now know the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District website says the dam is trying to mimic pre-urbanization, but is that just nice wrapping on a boring practical development to pre-empt environmental concerns from residents?

I enjoyed your photoshop and the sardonic venom, but I could've used more context in the article and less focus on the callous disregard of the current head of the park board.

Is this related to the stupid golf course that we're spending \$\$\$ to constantly pump out? Is that it?

Micah Mueller

Editor's note:

You say, "the city even bought out some very damaged houses, tore them down, and turned the lots into ponds that help lower the water table," but the ponds don't lower the water table, they simply register it. That's where the water table is for South Minneapolis—thanks to the dams that are holding back water from emptying down Minnehaha Creek.

You say, "If the floodgates were thrown open, all dam operations basically forgotten, wouldn't the basement flooding problem be the same but in a slightly different location?" If the dams were eliminated it would lower the water table in the Watershed District for everybody around Lakes Hiawatha and Nokomis by three to five feet, and all that water would flow from Minnehaha Creek into the Mississippi River.

The fact that the Park Board wants to "mimic pre-urbanization" is the same as the ego of Roman emperors who created naval battles in the Coliseum for their amusement. All of South Minneapolis was once a swamp. Do they want us all to abandon our homes so they can play swamp?

Dear Editor,

Please take your own advice, Ed Felien. (Please Stop! July 2024 Southside Pride). How is calling the Israelis "Nazis" an invitation to dialogue? Of course the war in Gaza is horrible, the amount of casualties is appalling, both Jewish Israelis and Palestinians—who have lived there for two millennia—need a safe homeland, and Netanyahu and his supporters are anti-Palestinian.

All wars are horrible and cause the deaths of thousands of innocent people. But in every other war, the attacker was not held responsible for safeguarding the civilian population: the ruling government was. So why aren't you demanding that Hamas protect its Palestinian civilians?

Truthfully, Hamas has purposefully placed its military operations in densely populated areas that include apartment blocks, hospitals, mosques and schools. Hamas representatives have repeatedly stated their indifference to the deaths of Palestinians. Hamas has provided no safe passage out of areas of intense fighting. And Hamas has not shared its stockpiles of medical supplies, water, fuel and food with Palestinian civilians who desperately need them.

If dialogue towards a just and peaceful future is your goal, please provide your readers with more truthful coverage of the Gaza war. Divisive rhetoric only increases both peoples' outrage and suffering.

Trina Porte

Editor's Note:

Thank you for writing.

The comparison of the Israeli war on Gaza to Nazi atrocities is, of course, not unique to me. Perhaps the best statement of it is "In the Shadow of the Holocaust" by Masha Gessen in The New Yorker, Dec. 9, 2023, in which she compares Gaza to the Warsaw Ghetto. Gessen is a holocaust survivor who lost her entire family to the Nazi horror.

Here is what I wrote last month:

"We have, in past issues, condemned that action [by Hamas on Oct. 7] as an atrocity. But what seems even more unthinkable than the original murders, Hamas knew their horrific actions would elicit an even more horrific response from Israel. They were willing to sacrifice the lives of innocent Palestinian women and children to score political points against Israel. That is a contemptible and compounded atrocity."

I wrote in our January edition: "The Hamas leadership that planned and executed the Oct. 7 raid on Israel, and Netanyahu and his war cabinet must be investigated by a U.N. commission to determine whether either or both sides committed war crimes and crimes against humanity."

"But the atrocity committed by Hamas on October 7 cannot excuse the continued atrocities committed by Israel. One atrocity does not condone another atrocity."

"Hamas killed 1139 Israelis in their October 7 raid. Israel has killed 38,000 [now, closer to 39,000] in their retaliation."

"Is that enough?"

"Do we need more?"

"The standard for horrific atrocities in war was established in Gubbio in Italy. Partisans had killed a Nazi officer. The Nazis rounded up 50 Gubbio citizens and killed them. There is a mausoleum in Gubbio containing their remains that commemorates this slaughter. The Israelis are approaching the fifty to one standard set by the Nazis with a thousand times greater impact."

"Enough is enough."

"Stop the war."

"Recognize the grievances on both sides."

"Hold each side accountable for atrocities."

"Recognize the legitimacy of a Palestinian state."

"And declare peace on both sides."

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# Pumping water at Hiawatha Golf Course

BY KATHRYN KELLY

SaveHiawatha18 met with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) about the pumping issues surrounding Hiawatha Golf Course. We discussed the questions that were posed in a previous Southside Pride article.

We questioned what sources of water (groundwater, surface water, storm water, re-circulated lake water) should or should not be included in the pumping numbers. We were told that the DNR pumping permits do not require the separation of the sources of water. The DNR just requires reporting of the total volume that is pumped regardless of source. So, the anomalies we found regarding the sources of the water were just internal calculations made by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) for their own purposes.

We asked how the reported pumping numbers are vetted by the DNR. We were told that the permitting process is self-reporting and the numbers that are reported are based on the honor system. This means that, generally, there is no vetting or review of the reported numbers unless a problem is detected.

The DNR also explained that they do not require a specific

method for determining the volume being pumped (for example, calculating volume based on the run-time of the pumps versus having a physical volume meter on the pumps).

DNR documentation we received states that Minnesota Statute “requires all installations for appropriating water to be equipped with a flow meter to measure the quantity of water appropriated within the degree of accuracy required by rule (10%). The commissioner may approve alternative methods of measurement based on the quantity of water used, the method of appropriating or using water and any other information supplied by the applicant.”

We asked how the DNR will assess the proposed plan for the Hiawatha Golf Course. DNR staff clearly stated that the DNR has no say in how the land is used. Land use is the purview of the municipality. The DNR regulates bodies of water. And any assessment of a plan proposed by the MPRB will be made based on the unique effects, if any, of the pumping on the Hiawatha Park property and other potentially affected properties, and any changes to Lake Hiawatha.

Regarding the massive jump in pumping from 2016 to 2017 when rainfall decreased, DNR



staff only gave a theory that it may have been residual water pent up from the 2014 flood. To us, that would mean that the water was pent up for almost three years before finally producing a heavy flow into the golf course. This seems unlikely. We believe that it seems more likely that the change in the pumping regime (running one pump versus running both pumps simultaneously) caused the higher pumping rates. In 2015 and 2016 Pump 2 was regularly used while Pump 1 was used as a back-up or for high rainfall situations. Starting in 2017, both pumps were used

simultaneously.

Pumping values (in millions of gallons) were as follows:

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Pump 1:	45	11	252	262
Pump 2:	216	290	214	209
Total:	261	301	466	471
Rainfall:	36.1"	40.4"	32.4"	33.6"

A look at these numbers strongly indicates that the change in pumping regime is the likely cause of the increase in volume pumped, most likely from pumping more re-circulated lake water. Coincidentally, this 2017 change in pumping

regime coincides with the Park Board's push in 2017 to close Hiawatha Golf Course with the claim that the pumping was unsustainable.

One other note to mention is the cost of pumping. Xcel Energy electric bills obtained from the MPRB for the years 2011 to 2018 showed that the cost of electricity for pumping ranged from \$174 to \$251 per year. In 2014, the year of the flood, only \$192 was spent on pumping. So, the cost is minimal, and it is paid for by golf revenues.

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# Why utility franchise agreements matter for equitable climate solutions

BY ULLA NILSEN AND LEE SAMELSON

We are at a crossroads, again. Minneapolis is facing a historic opportunity for bold climate action in Minneapolis as our agreements with electric and gas utilities are about to expire.

Advocates see the franchise agreement negotiations—happening behind closed doors—as a crucial opportunity to secure funding for these ambitious goals. “If we make sure that the biggest polluters pay their fair share,” said Sara Lopez of Unidos MN, “the city could raise the revenue necessary to make truly accessible clean energy home programs available to all residents, no exceptions.”

Eleven years ago, the last time Minneapolis negotiated franchise agreements with utilities, both utilities promised to be “good partners” and established the first-in-the-nation Clean Energy Partnership with Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy. Now, local climate and equity advocates are encouraging city leaders to set up mechanisms to ensure utilities finally make good on their promises to the city.

Advocates from the Just Transition Fund Coalition are calling for four key provisions in the new agreements:

- Shorter contract terms (five years instead of ten) to allow more frequent reassessment
- Franchise fees that are set up to make the biggest polluters pay their fair share, based on electricity carbon intensity and fossil gas volume to incentivize clean energy
- Clear, enforceable annual performance metrics for utilities with consequences for failure to meet city goals
- Commitment to transparency about the cost of our local energy system

John Farrell, co-director of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance, echoed these points in a recent Star Tribune op-ed. “If city leaders are serious about meeting their own energy-affordability and climate goals, they must not let the utilities dictate the terms of the negotiation,” Farrell wrote, urging aggressive action in the franchise talks.

Farrell and others argue the Clean Energy Partnership, while groundbreaking, has fallen

short of expectations. They point to utilities’ resistance to trying programs like inclusive financing for energy efficiency with Xcel slowing down local solar projects and CenterPoint continuing to promote gas appliances. The new negotiations offer a chance to strengthen accountability and secure concrete commitments aligned with Minneapolis’ climate targets.

“The task of addressing climate change is monumental, and the utilities responsible need to be part of the solution,” Farrell wrote. “Minneapolis leaders can act this year to make sure they do.”

The push for more aggressive climate action has been building momentum in Minneapolis. Last year, a coalition of environmental and social justice groups drafted the “People’s Climate and Equity Plan” to guide the city’s efforts. As reported by former city councilmember Cam Gordon in the Southside Pride in June of 2022, the plan calls for making every building in Minneapolis carbon-free by 2030, eliminating the racial wealth gap, and creating climate-resilient neighborhoods connected by clean transportation.

A newly released report outlines innovative funding mechanisms that could accelerate the city’s transition to clean energy if the Mayor Frey’s office is willing to stand firm. The report — “Equitable Funding Mechanisms for Climate Action in Minneapolis” — was developed by the Institute for Market Transformation (IMT) in partnership with the Just Transition Fund Coalition, and emphasizes that the transition to clean energy must be designed with equity at the forefront. Recommendations include focusing investments in historically marginalized communities. And in alignment with the Biden Harris administration’s Justice40 initiative, at least 40 percent of funds should be directed to areas like the city’s designated Green Zones.

The IMT report provides a detailed roadmap for implementing such a system, while addressing concerns about impacts on vulnerable residents. It suggests strategies like targeted exemptions, gradual phase-ins, and prioritizing investments in frontline communities to ensure an equitable transition. “The climate crisis demands urgent and equitable action at a scale far

beyond what we have accomplished or envisioned so far,” the IMT report concludes.

The Franchise Agreement negotiations will put both city and utility commitments to equitable climate solutions to the test. With the franchise agreements set to expire at the end of 2024, the coming months will be crucial in determining Minneapolis’ climate trajectory for years to come. The city has a rare opportunity to pioneer an innovative, equity-focused approach to climate funding that could serve as a model for municipalities nationwide. As negotiations progress, all eyes will be on City Hall to see if leaders seize this historic moment.

What can you do? Tell your neighbors, talk to your City Council Member, call and write the mayor. Public pressure is our best lever. While the utilities own and profit from the vast majority of the energy assets in our city, it’s our air, our climate!

*Ulla Nilsen and Lee Samelson are with the Just Transition Fund Coalition.*



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# Tommy Goodroad and The Highway Birds



## Tommy Goodroad

BY ED FELIEN

Tommy Goodroad and The Highway Birds made it home last month. On Thursday night, July 11, they played songs from their new album, See You Around, at 7th Street Entry. Pictured above is Peter Briggs on electric steel guitar, Tommy Goodroad on guitar, George Adzick on fid-

dle and Cooper Gatzmer on bass. Most of them grew up in Seward and graduated together from South High. The drummer, Sam Stroup, and Cooper have been playing in bands together since fifth grade. Their new-fangled honky-tonk style of country music was a welcome treat

to the sold-out hometown crowd. Everyone had a real good time

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## Guthrie Tribute Album

There's a new album out that is the first hometown tribute to Woody Guthrie. It was recorded on December 1, 1988, at the historic Crystal Theatre in Okemah, where Woody performed as a child.

The event played before a full house. Besides Larry Long and seventy school children there was banjo virtuoso Alan Munde, "Fiddlin' Pete" Watercott, gospel pianist Shirley Davis, Wood-

row (Wotko) Haney and Olen Edwards. This was not only the first time that an African American choir had ever graced the stage of the Crystal Theatre, but that Woody Guthrie's words were spoken in both the Seminole and Creek language.

Released by Larry Long Music in association with Rock the Cause Records and The Orchard.

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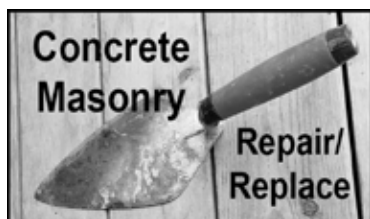
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# Little Shop of Horrors

BY KAY SCHROVEN

This odd and delightful play began in 1960 as a low-budget movie, created by B-movie mas-

Through the dim, second-story windows we see the silhouette of the productions' talented lead musicians Denise Prosek and Jason Hansen. Scattered at ground

Vie Boheme, Gabrielle Dominique and Erica Durham bring the pizzazz as denizens of Skid Row who serve as a Greek chorus, advancing the story with their high energy, rich voic-

es and diverse song and dance numbers. Costumed by Sully Radtke in white shifts and neon glasses, the trio belt out doo-wop, rockabilly and vintage R&B heightening the dynamic 1960s

vibe. On the Wurtele Thrust stage at the Guthrie Theater through Aug. 18. [Guthrietheater.org/](http://Guthrietheater.org/) 612-377-2224.



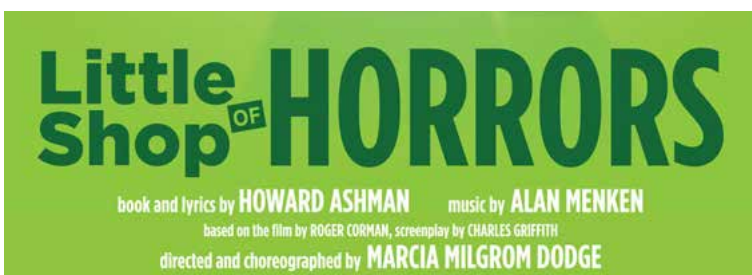
ter Roger Corman, who recently passed away. The screenplay was written by Charles Griffith, Alan Menkin composed the music and Howard Ashmen the lyrics. The play has enjoyed multiple iterations on stage and in film, including rewrites of the ending. It enjoyed a huge success off Broadway and has become a staple for high school and regional theater. It may best be described as a campy horror-comedy-musical. It takes place in a downtrodden florist shop on "Skid Row." With a bloodthirsty talking plant as the main character (a spectacular creation by puppeteer Yvonne Freese) a sadistic motorcycle-riding dentist, three feisty rock 'n roll street urchins, the loyal and reliable if bumbling Seymour, the lovable but lost Audrey and curmudgeonly florist Mr. Mushnik—where could this story possibly take us?

There are no weak links in this production. The cast of 19 and creative team of 18 maintain the gold standard that the Guthrie continues to bring to its audiences year after year. This production soars under the direction and choreography of Marcia Milgrom Dodge, beginning with Lex Liang's set/scene design, which is a star itself. The set is dark, with red brick, worn wood and Muntin bars protecting the doors and windows. Mushnik's Florist sits at street level below the Zig-Zag record shop, next to a thrift store.

level are garbage cans, discarded crates, a bench and the denizens of Skid Row shuffling about.

Nerdy, likeable Seymour Krelborn, played with aplomb by Will Roland, works for Mr. Mushnik (Robert Dorfman) as does Audrey—and things aren't going well. In fact, the flower shop may close. Seymour saves the day by nursing some seeds he picked into an exotic plant. He places his cultivated plant in the shop window which brings in high roller customers in furs and flashy sunglasses. Mushnik places his future on the plant and implores Seymour to nurse it. Under his tender care the plant grows. And GROWS. It talks too, roaring "Feed me!" in T. Mychael Rambo's deep voice.

Cheeky Audrey, brightly played by China Brickey, is entangled in an abusive relationship with Orin, the sadistic dentist, played by David Darrow, who brings maniacal to new levels. Seymour wants to rescue Audrey from this monster and have her for his own. Audrey wants an "American Dream" life like she sees in Better Homes & Gardens magazine which she describes in Somewhere That's Green, one of the plays endearing tunes. If Seymour is to win Audrey, he will need to be able to offer this kind of life and hence must keep feeding Audrey—his source of income. Seymour's Faustian bargain sets the scene for the comical horrors to follow.





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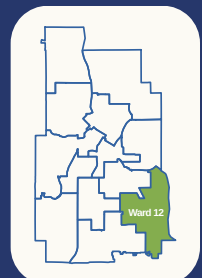
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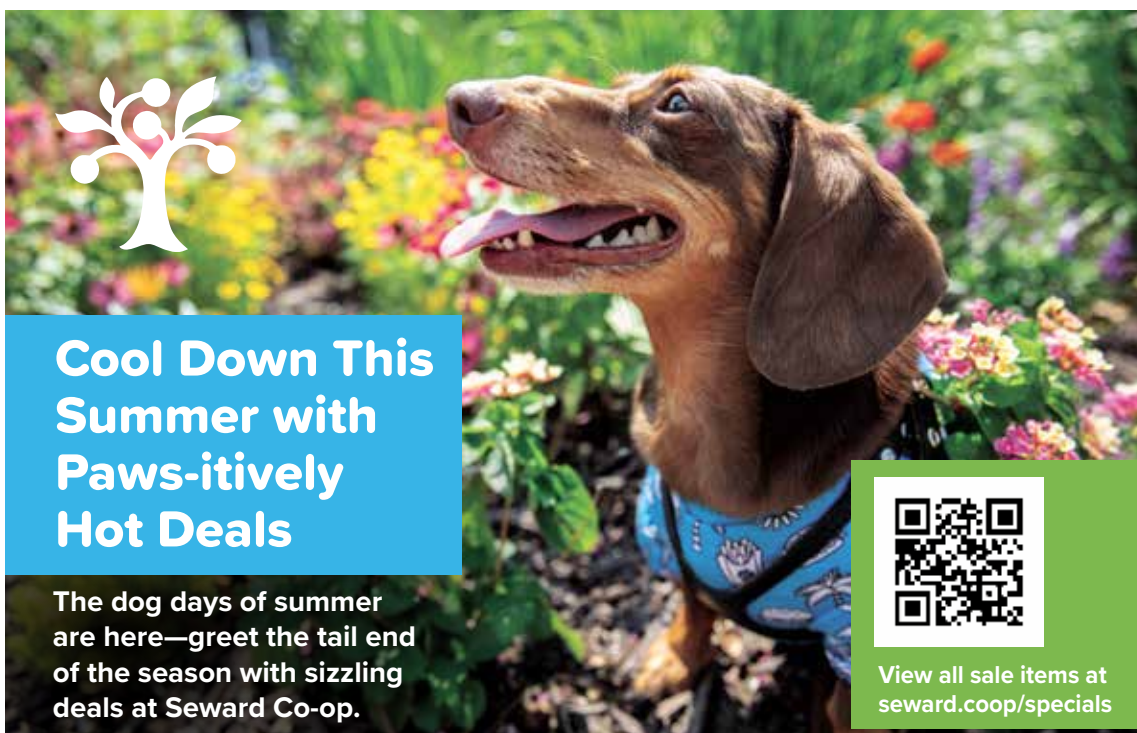
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