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A SAFER APPROACH FOR CUSTODY CASES

Battered Women's Justice Program's guide helps get at who is doing what to whom and why to figure out what's best for kids



VOICES AGAINST FAMILY VIOLENCE

By TESHAM. CHRISTENSEN

Who's right? Who's wrong? And how does it affect the kids?

Figuring out family dynamics in custody cases can be tricky, but the Battered Women's Justice Project (BWJP) in St. Paul has a tool to make it easier.

The SAFeR framework is designed to help gather, synthesize and analyze information about the context and implications of domestic abuse in order to improve informed decision-making. It can be used by anyone who make decisions on custody, child support, or child welfare for families – from attorneys, custody evaluators, guardians ad litem (GALs), parent consultants (PCs), court staff, judicial officers, dispute resolution professionals, advocates, and pro se survivors representing themselves in court.

It's a systematic approach according to BWJP's Ana Martinez-Mullen.

In one family, a judicial officer might order a full order for protection (OFP) for mom and children, although mom didn't want it to cover the kids so that dad can still do childcare while mom goes back to college. In another case, dad might not have physically harmed mom in front of the kids but he was abusive in other ways that they saw – breaking glass and leaving the house in disarray when he was angry. But the judicial officer orders 50/50 parenting time anyway.

Those who use the 62-page SAFeR guide dig into not just what happened but also how it affects a family unit.

A SAFER APPROACH FOR CUSTODY CASES >> 5



THIS IS WHAT COMMUNITY LOOKS LIKE



The Calvary Lutheran Church congregation spills into the street to the upbeat music of Brass Solidarity on Sept. 11, the last service Calvary will have there until renovation is complete to add deeply affordable housing units to 39th and Chicago. In the interim, Calvary will worship at Iglesia Luterana San Pablo/St. Paul's Lutheran Church (2742 15th Ave.). (Photo by Jill Boogren)

Calvary church makes room for deeply affordable housing at 39th and Chicago

By JILL BOOGREN

Sept. 11, 2022, marked the last day of service for a while at Calvary Lutheran Church (3901 Chicago Ave.). It looked a little different on this day, mostly celebratory, a little bittersweet, with Brass Solidarity

leading a musical procession into and out of the church, former pastors and congregants giving thanks, George Floyd Square (GFS) community members offering testimony and preaching, a presentation following food and fellowship, and a documentary crew filming the

whole thing.

Calvary is doing what few ministries would. They are downsizing their space while expanding their service to the community – by making room for affordable housing.

CALVARY CHURCH >> 2



Native plantings add to Highland Bridge's sustainability. The waterway runs through the 122-acre site. More photos: LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com (Photo by Terry Faust)

Highland Bridge taking shape on former Ford site

New Lunds & Byerlys store opens Sept. 29

By IRIC NATHANSON

More than 10 years after Highland Park's massive Ford assembly plant closed, a new planned community is taking shape on the former plant's sprawling site overlooking the Mississippi River.

Highland Bridge, as the site is now known, is still mainly a busy construction zone. But the development is starting to take on the feel of an authentic St. Paul neighborhood now that a network of streets is in place linking Highland Bridge to the broader Highland Park community.

The project's most distinctive feature is its waterway, a meandering stream landscaped with walkways and gardens, that runs through the center of the 122-acre development. The waterway is intended to replicate a natural stream that had been covered over when the Ford plant was built in the 1920s. While providing a prominent amenity for Highland Bridge,

the waterway functions as a storm water management system, cleansing rain runoff and channeling it over Hidden Falls before the stream empties into the Mississippi. When the final stage of the waterway is completed, visitors will be able to walk along the stream through a tunnel under Mississippi River Boulevard to a newly-built Hidden Falls overlook.

The concept for the waterway, also known as the water feature, was incorporated in the city's initial master plan for the Ford site. The plan proposed a highly dense residential and commercial development with some buildings as high as

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Standish tile artist creates unique pieces for homes

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YOUR GUIDE TO EVERYONE RUNNING FOR OFFICE

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Learn more about candidates

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Calvary Lutheran Church at 39th St. and Chicago Ave. To its left is the apartment building that will be built in the parking lot. To the right, behind the church, is the education building that will be converted to apartment units. (Rendering by UrbanWorks Architecture)

Calvary church makes room for deeply affordable housing at 39th and Chicago

>> from 1

Calvary is partnering with Trellis and Simpson Housing Services to convert Calvary's education building and roughly half of its church basement into housing units. A brand new apartment building will be built in the parking lot next door. In all, 41 housing units will be created, many of which will have three or more bedrooms. Fifteen of the units are reserved for supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness.

Several keys make the project "deeply affordable," according to Trellis Vice President of Housing Development Dan Walsh. First, there is 100% project-based rent assistance, which enables them to serve an "extremely low-income population." The Minneapolis Public Housing Authority awarded Section 8 rent assistance vouchers, and Simpson secured "housing support," a rental and living subsidy for the supportive housing units.

"Everybody that lives here will only pay 30% of their income towards the rent," said Walsh. "So, if their income is \$100, they'll just pay \$30 towards the rent."

They also put a formal income restriction on all the units to be at or below 30% of the area median income, and they've added a land use restriction to prevent any future building owner from converting to market rate units or other use of the property. The restriction is in place for 55 years, but Walsh envisions it being in place for much longer.

"We're more than 30 years old, and our mission is to keep housing affordable indefinitely, so I hope that Trellis is just as

strong in 55 years, so then we'll sign another one," he said.

Calvary will become one of the tenants, and the Calvary Emergency Food Shelf will return to operate in the non-housing area of the basement. Other plans for the space make the project unique, as well. Inside the sanctuary, a room divider will be installed to create a community space at one end and a place for worship and a small kitchen at the other. The stained glass windows and the church's exterior will not change (the existing buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places), and the banners on the bell tower and outer wall will stay.

In collaboration with the community, the Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center is creating a public art sculpture for the courtyard between the church and education buildings (see sidebar).

CALL TO ACTION

Conversations within Calvary about what to do with their excess space had been underway for several years. For Shari Seifert, a Calvary member since 2010, it was really important to think about their values, including valuing and doing what's best for their neighbors. Rather than just sell to the highest bidder, they began exploring the possibility of creating affordable housing.

Then came spring of 2020 – the pandemic and the very public murder of George Floyd down the street.

According to food shelf coordinator Melissa Brooks, food distribution, which had evolved into a free grocery store fo-



CAFAC TO CREATE PUBLIC ART AT CALVARY

The Chicago Avenue Fire Arts Center (CAFAC) will be creating a public art piece guided by the Calvary community, which includes the congregation, food shelf and Urban Arts Academy, all of whom have also used space in the buildings.

To show examples, volunteer coordinator and instructor Jess Berman Tank (above left) and CAFAC artistic director and founder Heather Doyle shared art forms cast from objects selected by George Floyd Square community members as meaningful to them. Shown here, from left to right, is an enamel design, metal casts of photographer Billy Brigg's camera and caretaker Jeanelle Austin's hand, and a texture pressed in clay.

Other objects shared (not pictured) were keys from the piano at The Peoples' Way, seeds from a garden, texture from fabric inside the South Shack, the word MINNEAPOLIS from a manhole cover that was accessible when the streets were closed to through traffic, and a spray can. A variety of materials and techniques were used

– enameling, plasticine clay, silicone molding and a metal pour.

"Our concept is these will be installed throughout the Square, sort of like a historic tour of... what's happened here," said Doyle.

For the Calvary project, CAFAC is asking for input on themes or interests that tie the Calvary community together, as well as for elements that make the space a natural community hub.

"It will be fun to take a look at what everyone has contributed and ideated in the space," said Doyle. "It's a great opportunity to really engage with the community that's here and have them be able to come see their own work in their community."

Once created, the sculpture will be situated in the small courtyard between the church and the former education building, with design elements carried throughout the space on garden fencing, bike racks and some planters. CAFAC is located at 3749 Chicago Ave.

cused on customer choice, moved "back into bags and out to the corner of 39th and Chicago."

"When George Perry Floyd was murdered, people came from all around to this neighborhood to grieve, process and witness with the George Floyd Square community in Minneapolis. After the fires and looting closed many stores, our increased visibility in the neighborhood led many neighbors from near and far to Calvary," said Brooks during the Sept. 11

service. "Our congregation and the surrounding community stepped up with time, money and lots of donations of food and household items, coming in every day. The need that was already present in the neighborhood became more visible with the lines of people and cars at our distribution as word spread of the sharing of food that we were doing."

Other needs became evident, as well.

CALVARY CHURCH >> 3

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CALVARY CHURCH

>> from 2

Chris Van Meter, a 10-year member of the church, said being a block away from where George Floyd was murdered, “really cemented us, gave us a chance to open up to the critical needs.” He remembers when media used the space during the Uprising to recharge – their batteries and themselves.

“One day there was a woman who just needed some peace,” Van Meter recalled. “She was from one of the networks, and she sat down at the piano, and she just played for 20, 30 minutes. She had not had that solitude in quite a while.”

Calvary responded in a multitude of other ways as protests continued. Seifert recalls being met with many “yes”es to requests for support that came in the form of people setting up tables, bringing masks, food and water to people, nurses showing up to give emergency care, creating a rapid response team in case emergency shelter was needed.

Speaking to the congregation, Roosevelt High School teacher and resident of George Floyd Square Marcia Howard recalled being walked through the building where there were plastic tubs for if they’d get doused with teargas. There were snacks, charging stations and clothes if people needed them. She said the question had to be asked of the higher ups whether they could use the church as sanctuary, and they said, “Yes.” That if anything were to happen on that block, everyone could find safety and shelter at Calvary.

“I don’t think that people outside of south Minneapolis understand the significance of this congregation saying ‘Yes, we in fact, open our doors,’” said Howard. “That did not mean everybody here was on 38th St. But what they were sayin’ was that 38th was welcome here.” This was met with a robust applause.

“We were outside,” said Seifert. Soon



Dan Walsh, of Trellis, and Wendy Wiegmann, of Simpson Housing Services, share plans to create 41 deeply affordable apartments, including 15 supportive housing units, at 39th and Chicago. “Everybody that lives here will only pay 30% of their income towards the rent,” said Walsh. (Photo by Jill Boogren)

she heard of neighbors meeting in the streets and started showing up herself. “The group evolved into the most amazing community, a beloved community, that gets more right about being a good neighbor, liberation and justice than any church I’ve ever been a part of,” she said. “I mean, we’re workin’ on it.”

In many ways the housing project is a continuation of that work. It demonstrates a “tremendous care for neighbor,” said Seifert, while at the same time addressing racial disparities in housing and in income. As a real estate agent herself, she spoke to the value of determining the highest and best use of the land.

“I think we found it,” she said. “I think this is the highest and best use of that land.”

Van Meter sees it as a chance to change public perception of the neighborhood.

“It’s gonna give us a chance to hopefully draw people in and see that this community’s not just worth salvaging,” he said. “It’s beyond that. There’s confidence in it again.”

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Delivering the sermon together, guest Rev. Jeanelle Austin, executive director of George Floyd Global Memorial, and Pastor Kjell Ferris touched on themes of love, rest, the responsibility to care for one another, helping others reach their fullest potential and building a flourishing community.

In designing the project, Walsh took

to heart a sentiment shared with him by Howard: this development needs to be “of the community and for the community.” That meant considering who was going to live there, the quality of the spaces and how it was going to be managed. One of the things he’s especially proud of is they’ve allocated funds from their operating budget for a half-time position for a services and activities coordinator for all units. Although they’ll work for Simpson, they won’t be attached only to the 15 supportive housing units. They’ll make sure all of the residents are connected to community resources.

Wendy Wiegmann, Simpson’s associate director, is excited this position will be built in. She envisions a lot of families on site, kids’ activities, movie nights, as well as formation of a resident council who will decide what activities to offer, how to build community in the space, and how best to use money in an annual budget. Even more, Wiegmann is excited to be able to be of service in south Minneapolis, where Simpson originated 40 years ago.

“This is where people want to live. People want to stay in this community. They want to be able to afford to live in this community and to be a part of it,” she said. “And I’m just really excited to be able to partner and offer them assistance and service to keep people here.”

In closing the sermon, Rev. Austin initiated a call and response, so familiar out in the streets: “Tell me what community looks like” and “Show me what community looks like.” It was met inside the sanctuary with a loud and resounding: “This is what community looks like!”

Renovations in the existing space are expected to take nine months, with construction of the new building complete a few months later. In the interim, Calvary will worship at Iglesia Luterana San Pablo/St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (2742 15th Ave.). The food shelf is closed while they move and expects to reopen in a temporary space in mid-October. For updates, check the Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/calvaryfoodshelf

CITY BRIEFS

LAKE NOKOMIS WATER STUDY

Professor Joe Magner, research scientist Kerry Holmberg and M.S. graduate student Grace Andriacchi, from the University of Minnesota, are researching water and sinking ground issues in the Hale, Page, Diamond Lake, Keewaydin, and Wenonah neighborhoods. As a part of their study, they are having conversations with residents and are asking all residents, whether they have had water issues or not, to complete an online survey.

HI-LAKE BRIDGE REDESIGN

Hennepin County held an open house on Sept. 20 at the South Minneapolis Human Service Center where they shared three new design concepts for the Hiawatha Avenue and Lake Street intersection that will be reconstructed in 2024. The improvements will include an added traffic signal which they hope will reduce wait times and confusion; squared turns and narrower ramps to slow vehicles entering Lake Street from Hiawatha Avenue; simpler and safer crossings for pedestrians and bikers; and wider sidewalks with more community space underneath the bridge. Three different designs

for the public space underneath the bridge have been created. Visit the project page at <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/fde7e2e9714f4aebaae52d488f850a5c> for more information and to take a survey at <https://bit.ly/hi-lake-bridge>.

DEMOLITION OF FORMER US BANK BUILDING

Demolition started in early September at 2800 E. Lake Street of the former U.S. Bank building. The building is expected to be completely taken down in early October. U.S. Bank plans to convey the title and ownerships of the site to Seward Redesign Inc. following demolition. The bank opened a new branch at 3600 Lake St. in February.

EARLY VOTING

Early voting for the Nov General Election begins on Friday, Sept 23. Any Minneapolis voter may choose to vote early at the Minneapolis Elections & Voter Services center at 980 E. Hennepin Ave. or at the elections service area in the Hennepin County Government Center, Skyway Level, 300 6th St. S. Except for designated holidays, the Minneapolis Center will be open Monday-Friday, Sept. 23 - Oct. 21 from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Monday-Friday, Oct. 24 - Nov. 4 from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 30 and Nov. 6 from 12-5 p.m. On Monday, Nov. 7 they will be

open from 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. and on Election Day, Nov. 8, when all the precinct polling places will be open, they will be closed for voting but open for ballot drop-off open until 3 p.m. Visit the county elections website at <https://www.hennepin.us/residents/elections/absentee-voting> for details about hours, which are different from the city’s. To see your sample ballot, visit <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>.

NEW CITY ATTORNEY

The City Council has unanimously approved Mayor Jacob Frey’s nomination of Kristyn Anderson for City Attorney. To take the position Anderson will be leaving her job as Minnesota Management and Budget’s general counsel, enterprise employment law counsel and state ethics officer. Prior to that she worked at the Minnesota Attorney General’s Office for 13 years in civil litigation. She starts officially as City Attorney on Sept 26.

POLICE CHIEF FINALISTS

The city has announced three finalists for possible appointment to be the next chief of police for Minneapolis. They are Elvin Barren, the chief of police for Southfield, Mich.; RaShall Brackney, a former Chief of Police for Charlottesville, Va. and George Washington University; and Brian O’Hara, who is currently the deputy

mayor of Newark, N.J. This is the result of a national search led by the Public Sector Search & Consulting Inc. that started last March. A special mayoral search committee also helped interview candidates and recommended the finalists to the mayor for consideration. The mayor is expected to make his nomination in the coming weeks and is not required to select one of the three. The mayor’s nomination then requires the approval of the council. If it not approved, the mayor will need to nominate someone else.

INCREASED AIRPORT TRAFFIC

There are temporarily more jets flying over south Minneapolis. Since Sept. 6, a runway has closed for restoration at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. Airport officials are warning that this could result in a noticeable increase in air traffic for Minneapolis residents. They expect it to be completed by the end of October. This is a project of the Metropolitan Airports Commission, which owns and operates the airport. People can get flight information on the commission’s online flight tracker at MAC Flight Tracker (macnoms.com) or call their community relations office at 612-726-9411.

~ Briefs compiled by Cam Gordon

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Suicide rates too high; we should learn warning signs

By SUE ABDERHOLDEN

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. Suicide rates in Minnesota declined slightly in 2020, but it's important to remember there were a record number of suicides in 2019, and this is the sixth year in a row where more than 700 Minnesotans have died by suicide. There are far too many deaths, and many families are devastated by these deaths.

Just as many people know first aid, people need to know the warning signs of suicide and what to do. Some of the warning signs include:

- Previous suicide attempts
- Statements revealing a desire to die
- Expressions of hopelessness or having no reason to live
- Prolonged depression, being very sad
- Sudden changes in behavior
- Unexplained anger, aggression, or irritability
- Withdrawing from friends and family
- Giving away prized possessions
- Changes in eating or sleeping habits
- Using drugs or alcohol more often

If you are worried about yourself, a family member, or a friend, know that caring help is available. There is hope. People can now call or text 988 to be connected to a trained counselor. All Minnesota counties have a mobile mental health crisis team that can help in a crisis. And in Minnesota, 911 operators are supposed to link people to the mobile crisis team if

Suicide, overdose, and ACEs are **URGENT, RELATED, and PREVENTABLE** public health challenges per the CDC.

6 IN 10



adults reported experiencing at least one type of ACE, and approximately 16% of adults reported experiencing four or more types of ACEs.

70,000+

individuals died from an overdose in 2019.

47,000+

individuals died by suicide in 2019.

CALL 988

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health, suicide or substance use crisis or emotional distress, reach out 24/7 to the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) by dialing or texting 988 or using chat services at suicidepreventionlifeline.org to connect to a trained crisis counselor. You can also get crisis text support via the Crisis Text Line by texting NAMI to 741741.

appropriate.

NAMI Minnesota offers several suicide prevention classes during September, including QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer), which teaches the three steps anyone can take to help prevent suicide.

Suicide is a public health issue and

1 IN 4 STUDENTS REPORT AT LEAST 1 ACE

Approximately 37% of all students in the Minnesota Student Survey reported at least one Adverse Childhood Experience.

The number of ACEs a child has experienced is strongly correlated with the likelihood of suicidal ideation and attempts. Of all ACEs, sexual abuse has the highest correlation to suicidal ideation and attempts.

is preventable. Please join in the efforts to save lives. Learn more about the steps you can take and the resources in your community by visiting NAMI Minnesota's website at www.namimn.org

Sue Abderholden is the executive director of NAMI Minnesota.

I'm scared - what about you?

STORIES AND JOURNEYS

BY DONALD L. HAMMEN



Is it Halloween? Are there ghosts in my house? I can only focus on what is in front of me. What is this me being scared? It's a mystery. Do you ever get scared? Is it a mystery to you? Tell yourself, tell others or tell me at news@longfellownokomisemessenger.com. Boooooo!

In my life experience, so I have heard, we are not human beings having a spiritual experience – rather we are spiritual beings having a human experience. Is me being scared, me being human? Same for you? If you have read this far, don't be spooked. Consider yourself to be a spiritual being. You're just taken the plunge into the river of life experiences, human and otherwise that is Stories and Journeys.

In my life experience, so I have heard. Life is a pause between two mysteries, birth and death. At the Minnesota State Fair, I have heard there is place to go to watch the miracle of birth. I have not heard that there is a place to go to experience the mystery of death. A place like a death cafe. In fact I have participated in several Death Cafe

events at Lakewood Cemetery, where I will be residing some day after my death. There people who are dying, aren't we all, can discuss the mystery of death since death is part of life. At age 78, it is my body that is nearing death. I'm scared! I'm a spiritual being having a human experience.

In my life experience, so I have heard. The only thing certain, in this life, is death and taxes. These two certainties have heightened my awareness. My awareness of my recent trip to Iowa. It was a trip for my brother's military committal service. He died. Now he's at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery. My awareness of my need to assemble my 2021 tax data. It's for Oct. 15 filing deadline that is also the start of Medicare open enrollment. As I am writing, I am aware of my recent trip to Iowa as I am assembling my 2021 tax data and anxious about Medicare Open Enrollment. What a combination! Scary!

MOVING TOWARD A COMPLETED LIFE

What constitutes a completed life? For me. For you. For anyone. The task of life completion. In a phone conversation with my brother prior to his dying, we agreed that we were both moving toward the completion of our lives. This leads me to the work of Connie Zweig, Ph.D. author of "The Inner Work of Age: Shifting from Role to Soul." In the chapter called "Moving Toward a Completed Life," she writes:

"What is a completed life? Is it based on a feeling of gratitude, happiness or for-

giveness? Is it based on a belief of redemption, salvation or, reincarnation? Is it based on the achievement of an external goal? Is it based on the transmission of a legacy for a new generation? Is it based on an internal attainment of a spiritual stage of awareness?"

These questions may weigh more heavily on readers like me, as elders. We all may have our own life experiences for clarifying what constitutes a completed life. It continues to be a work in progress for me. How about you? Tell yourself, tell others or tell me at news@longfellownokomisemessenger.com

So, here I am a spiritual being having a human experience, a pause between two mysteries, continuing to reflect on my brother's life and death and beyond, assembling my 2021 tax data while I anticipate Medicare open enrollment starting Oct. 15 and deciding for whom to vote in the current election cycle as I move toward life completion. Note to self: the more conscious awareness you bring to your living and dying in each moment the less scary you will feel. At least try it!

And now, I need to check the obituaries in the newspapers I read to see if there is anyone I know who has died, including me.

In gratitude. Who I am, who you are at any given moment is enough! No expectations! Everything is a process.

Donald L. Hammen is a longtime south Minneapolis resident, and serves on the All Elders United for Justice steering committee.

LETTERS

Stop systemic racism and roof depot project, city of Minneapolis

Please see this blog on how the East Phillips Urban Farm shows the city of Minneapolis' disregard for its promises to stop systemic racism. It's such an important issue for not only East Phillips and Longfellow, but our city as a whole.

Thank you for considering this!
<https://healingmystories.wordpress.com/2022/09/02/east-phillips-urban-farm-shows-the-city-of-minneapolis-disregard-for-its-promises-to-stop-systemic-racism/>
Delany Russell
Longfellow

Thanks, 34th street businesses

Many of the businesses along 34th Ave. have planted perennials to pollinate bees and butterflies. Many of the businesses have no outside faucets to water the plants. Many of them have to be hand watered. I just want to thank our community for making this such a beautiful place to walk.

Sandy Masgai
34th Ave. resident

Send in your letters for publication by emailing: tesha@longfellownokomisemessenger.com.

Letters should be under 200 words. Unsigned letters will not run.

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Story ideas always welcome.

Letters to the editor under 200 words and news releases for publication can be e-mailed to news@longfellownokomisemessenger.com. Unsigned letters will not run.

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Design & Layout:

Tesha M. Christensen

Printing by: ECM/Adams Publishing Group

This issue is printed on recycled paper using soy-based ink. Approximately 95-97% of material that enters the print facility is recycled.

TMC
PUBLICATIONS CO



Delivery: Bjorn Willms

612-235-7197, delivery@swconnector.com
Mail subscriptions are available at \$40 a year.

Contributing Writers & Photographers:

Jan Willms, Jill Boogren, Penny Fuller, Chloe Peter, Cam Gordon, Donald Hammen, Susan Schaefer, Terry Faust, Iric Nathanson, Amy Pass

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A SAFER APPROACH

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The framework was developed by Loretta Fredricks and Gabrielle Davis, who have since retired from BWJP, based on research and in collaboration with various others, including the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC). Grant funds came through the Violence Against Women Act.

ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

The first step is to screen for domestic abuse, which can be physical, emotional, financial, sexual or psychological. "Domestic violence is undercounted," pointed out Martinez-Mullen. There might have never been an OFP or a police call or a visit to the hospital. "If I'm a practitioner and only looking for those indicators, I'm going to be missing a lot of stuff."

Step two is to assess the nature and context of the abuse, and step three is to focus on the affect of the abuse.

SAFeR helps practitioners ask the right questions. "I don't think the onus should be on the survivor to know what to say," said Martinez-Mullen. "Practitioners need to know what questions to ask."

These questions help get at the nature and context of the violence, and what the effects of it are. At the base is "who is doing what to whom and why," said Martinez-Mullen.

One partner might push to instill fear, while the other pushes to escape. "These nuances are going to have a different affect on the children," she pointed out.

Questions on the SAFeR list ask who was responsible for childcare and making daily decisions; if a person has freedom to come and go as they'd like; if they have access to money, bank accounts, food, housing and transportation; and if they have ever been burned, slapped, or pinned down by the other. Risk assessment factors include increase in frequency/severity, access to firearms, recent separation, threats, illegal drug use, alcohol dependency, assault during pregnancy, stalking, suicide attempt, or major mental illness.

When there is no documentation of abuse, it could be that a) there was no abuse, b) the abuse happened but was never reported, or c) the abuse happened and it was reported but it was never documented. If the physical abuse was relatively minor, it could a) not be relevant to the case, b) because a low level of physical violence was all that was required for the abuser to maintain power and control over the victim, or c) while the physical abuse is nominal there are other risk markers that indicate a heightened danger.

If allegations of abuse were not raised until the custody case was filed, a) the abuse never happened and the victim is trying to "get a leg up," b) the abuse happened and the victim is trying to "get a leg up," or c) the victim did not disclose abuse until it was necessary.

If the alleged abuser seems nice enough, a) the abuse never happened, b) the abuse happened and the abuser has a pleasant disposition, or c) the abuse happened and the abuser is a good manipulator.

There are multiple pages in the SAFeR guide listing various scenarios and what they might mean.

After drilling down to the specifics, a practitioner can then make recommendations that are responsive to the needs of the survivor. As the SAFeR guide points out, the family court system is often focused on divvying things up, including the various aspects of the child's life. It does not always account for post-separation abuse, ongoing coercive control, or



Ana Martinez-Mullen

the safety and well-being of the battered parent.

NATIONAL LEGAL CENTER ON CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Ana Martinez-Mullen is the National Legal Center on Children and Domestic Violence Project Director. This division of the BWJP was formerly known as the SAFeR Project, but was renamed earlier this year. In part, it was done to make it easier to find. A survivor or professional looking for information will put the words "children" and "custody" and "domestic violence" into a search engine. But they don't know what they don't know, and they probably don't know about SAFeR.

"At NLCCDV, we're looking at the intersection of anything that has to do with children and the effects of domestic violence in their lives and how that reflects in our different systems. We are looking at family court. We are looking at child support enforcement. We are looking at child welfare," observed Martinez-Mullen.

This means that NLCCDV isn't focused on one particular area but many. "We know that survivors move in different areas. They move within all these systems and oftentimes they're involved in all these systems at the same time," said Martinez-Mullen.

As a former domestic violence shelter advocate and attorney, Martinez-Mullen knows that women are often working on orders for protection, divorce, child custody, child protection, and child support at the same time.

"These systems don't talk to each other and they're giving the survivor conflicting messages," stated Martinez-Mullen.

A child protection worker might advise a mom to keep her children away from an abusive dad. But a judge in family court will punish her for keeping a child away from dad, label it "alienating behavior," and not consider what she was told by child protection.

BWJP is a technical assistance provider, offering training and resources. "To me it is very important that as we move forward that we are always keeping in mind the number of survivors that are moving through the system without any type of representation or guidance. So when we're creating tools and we're thinking about the webinars that we offer, we're trying to keep that in mind."

She pointed out that the SAFeR model can help women pinpoint issues and make connections that are important for others to know.

COERCIVE CONTROL LAWS

In everything they do, BWJP works

to be survivor-centered. "What would be helpful for us to know?" they ask survivors. Then they seek to share that perspective in the policy work they do.

They took this approach regarding coercive control. "There's currently a conversation going on about coercive control," said Martinez-Mullen. Some are pushing for it to be added to the definition of domestic abuse in states, while others think it will be used against survivors.

Coercive control is a behavioral pattern of threatening, humiliating, or intimidating actions that seek to take away a person's freedom and strip away their sense of self. Throughout the country advocates and survivors are actively debating whether and to what degree coercive control should be codified in the criminal, protection order, or family laws of their state.

Last autumn, BWJP held listening sessions with intimate partner violence advocates, state coalition staff, and people working with survivors in criminal and civil legal systems across the United States. They spoke with over 100 professionals from 50 jurisdictions, including 44 states, 4 tribal nations, D.C. and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This year, BWJP published "Coercive Control Codification: A Brief Guide for Advocates and Coalitions."

Minnesota state laws do not specifically call out coercive control as domestic abuse. Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Hawai'i and Oklahoma have recently added it to their state statutes. It is also criminalized in the United Kingdom, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and France, and is being considered in Australia.

"You're going to have different definitions in different contexts," remarked Martinez-Mullen.

The key to evaluating abuse is the nature and context, stressed Martinez-Mullen. Parent A may refuse to let a child talk to the parent B to exercise power and control. However, parent B may limit texting and phone calls from parent A because parent A is using it as an opportunity to deride and abuse the child. In this case, parent B is trying to protect the child.

Or, parent B may be limiting how often the children see parent A in order to protect them from abuse.

Parent A may use this to claim parental alienation or resist/refuse, and someone not familiar with the dynamics of abuse may incorrectly use a coercive control law to further harm a survivor.

Christina M. Jones heads up the BWJP coercive control division. Find more information and the Taking Back Control podcast online.

A NEW BRAND AND WEBSITE

This fall, the Battered Women's Justice has introduced a new logo and updated website. The website had a wealth of information, but wasn't being highly used, pointed out Victoria Taylor, communications manager. They worked to organize it to make it more user friendly.

The new logo is an abstract butterfly icon that symbolizes metamorphosis, change, growth and freedom. The four vibrant colors used represent the four movements the BWJP works within: gun violence (orange), domestic violence (purple), trafficking (blue) and sexual assault (teal).

Martinez-Mullen has been with BWJP for one and a half years. She sees value in the work she does.

"Information is power," said Martinez-Mullen. "If I can be a tiny piece of that puzzle and be useful to affect some change and work to make the system more responsive to their needs, that's what counts."

BWJP staff is spread across the United States, and Martinez-Mullen works out of Florida. The BWJP headquarters, headed by its new chief executive officer Amy Sanchez, is located at 540 Fairview Avenue N, Suite 208 in St. Paul. For more information, call (800) 903-0111 x 1 or browse bwjp.org.

4 SPURS AT BWJP

- 1) Domestic violence
- 2) Gun violence
- 3) Trafficking
- 4) Sexual assault

1 in 8 suicides and suicide attempts by women are due to domestic abuse

SAFER FRAMEWORK

For close to three decades, the National Legal Center on Children and Domestic Violence, formerly the SAFeR Project, has been at the forefront of providing training and technical assistance on child custody and family court matters.

In 2009, BWJP's National Child Custody Project developed the SAFeR approach to decision-making in family law matters. This approach was developed in response to concerns voiced by advocates and survivors who observed that custody and child support systems professionals needed new methods and procedures to address domestic violence.

SAFeR is an approach to decision making in family law matters. Using this framework, we can improve the safety and outcomes for survivors and their children. SAFeR consists of four steps:

- 1) Screening for violence
- 2) Assessing the full nature and context
- 3) Focusing on the effects of GBV
- 4) Responding to the lived experience of the violence

Find guides online at bwjp.org.

COERCIVE CONTROL

Coercive control is a behavioral pattern of threatening, humiliating, or intimidating actions that seek to take away a person's freedom and strip away their sense of self.

An abuser uses coercive control to make their partner dependent on the abuser by isolating them from support, exploiting them, depriving them of independence, and regulating their everyday behavior, according to Dr. Evan Stark who wrote "Coercive Control" in 2006.

In fall 2021, BWJP held listening sessions with intimate partner violence advocates, state coalition staff, and people working with survivors in criminal and civil legal systems across the United States. A brief overview of the issues raised can be found in a guide available on the BWJP website.

Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Hawai'i, Oklahoma, and Puerto Rico have codified (included) coercive control in their DVPO statutes. The Illinois definition of domestic

abuse includes: Interference with personal liberty" means committing or threatening physical abuse, harassment, intimidation or willful deprivation. In Michigan, a mediator "shall make reasonable inquiry as to whether either

party has a history of a coercive or violent relationship with the other party." Mississippi references "coercion or intimidation of an intimate partner" in its domestic violence definition.

Depending on the context of the behavior – the intent behind it, the effect it has on the partner and how it fits into an overall pattern – it might be part of an abuser's strategy to force compliance from their partner, or it could be a survivor's attempt to escape violence, or it could be an isolated bad decision on the part of anyone in a relationship. Differentiating between the contexts in which these similar behaviors occur requires a very educated bench, good information from parties and the right tools. Find guides online at bwjp.org.



UNDER THE HOOD



BY SUSAN SCHAEFER

Something under the hood is not immediately apparent or obvious. This column will uncover stories that span the neighborhoods covered by TMC Publications.

A SHOWSTOPPER EXHIBITION

When cooler temps and shorter days signal the Fall Arts Season in the metro area, there are many cultural activities competing for attention. As always, this column strives to undercover the oft-hidden gems, and their backstories.

One such treasure is "A Picture Gallery of the Soul," the current exhibition at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery located on the University of Minnesota Campus West Bank, running through Dec. 10, 2022. Featuring the work of over 100 Black American artists, "A Picture Gallery of the Soul," "honors, celebrates, investigates, and interprets Black history, culture, and politics in the United States from the 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries."

This exhibit is an indisputable showstopper, as is the story of noted art collector and south Minneapolis resident, Herman J. Milligan, Jr., who with Nash Gallery Director Howard Oransky co-curated the exhibition that has been eight years in the making.

BRINGING A CONCEPT TO FRUITION

Oransky explains that the project began in 2014 with an email from his UMN Art Department colleague, Jim Gubernick, recommending the work of Louis Draper (whose 1968 gelatin silver print, "Girl and Cuba," hangs prominently near the beginning of the show). Seeing Draper's work sparked an idea to hold "a group exhibition of Black American artists who used photography at different times and in different ways."

In 2016, Oransky invited Milligan to co-curate the project. The two are long-time colleagues, having traveled in the same art circles since the mid-1990s when Oransky was a staffer at the Walker Art Center, where they served together on the community advisory committee. In 2012, Oransky invited Milligan to curate a soundscape entitled "An Evening of Jazz" for the Minnesota Funk exhibition at the Nash.

COOL AND SOPHISTICATED:

MEET HERMAN MILLIGAN

Milligan is the irrefutable choice to merge a cool factor with the soul of this show. Which on the surface may seem incongruous: To many in the metro area, Milligan is highly regarded for his business and corporate credentials – well-known as a former senior executive at Norwest and then Wells Fargo; a project management expert in the financial service, non-profit, health care, and advertising industries; a consultant providing marketing research, competitive intelligence, and fundraising development services to an impressive array of clients – as well as for his legendary reputation for non-profit board service.

However, under his business banner flies the soul of one cool cat who is conversant not only in the jazz, art and pho-

THE SOUL BEHIND THE IMAGES:

'A Picture Gallery of the Soul' exhibit at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery through Dec. 10



St. Paul resident, Robin Warshaw, enjoys the soundscape of "A Picture Gallery of the Soul" exhibit at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery on the University of Minnesota Campus West Bank. It runs through Dec. 10 and is free. (Photo by Susan Schaefer)



Art collector and south Minneapolis resident Herman Milligan. (Photo by Susan Schaefer)

tography, but in academics, as well.

As a teen growing up in Trenton, N.J., Milligan was on his way as a performing artist, smitten with music, playing the clarinet in his junior high school band and singing in the school, church and Mercer County choirs. Like many teens, young Milligan was concerned with being cool and hip. Back in those days, Trenton was alive with musical influences from both NYC and Philadelphia, and Milligan kept current with the latest and greatest sounds and dance steps from "American Bandstand" and the "Jerry Blavat" television shows.

When Milligan added academic notes to his repertoire, earning his Ph.D. in so-

ciology at UMN, where he won a national fellowship in criminal deviance, he continued to hit the high notes playing tenor sax, which he had studied in Cambridge, Mass. at the New England Conservatory of Music.

Milligan loves to tell an illuminating story about his musical background: He played tenor sax with the Cecil Taylor Black Music Ensemble at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where he was a part of a group of Black students (and eventually White and other students of color) who went on strike for six weeks in 1969 to demand the establishment of Black Studies and other issues. As part of the group's "13 Demands," they brought the

PLAN YOUR VISIT
 Operated by the Department of Art, Nash Gallery exhibits are free and open to the public. "A Picture Gallery of the Soul" runs from Sept. 13 – Dec. 10, 2022

LOCATION AND HOURS:
 Regis Center for Art (East)
 405 21st Avenue South
 Minneapolis, MN 55455

- Tuesday and Friday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Saturday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Access the gallery via the Regis Center for Art main entrance.

There is limited on-street metered parking. A convenient parking garage is located directly across the street, and the gallery is accessible by Light Rail Line's West Bank stop.

illustrious Cecil Taylor himself to teach in the School of Music!

But Milligan's creative bent doesn't end with his musicality. He learned photography from a friend who taught him the basics of darkroom development, exposure, and more. "I took pictures, developed them, and began going to museums and shows to learn more about the subject matter," he reminisces.

When Milligan came to UMN for grad school, he continued studying photography in the fine arts department. A few years later, he joined a Photography Collective that was part of a group led by

TO THE WOODS >> 7

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"A Picture Gallery of the Soul" features the work of over 100 Black American artists. It continues through Dec. 10, 2022. (Photo by Susan Schaefer)



Above: Ebony Patterson's "From the corner of my eye." At right: Detail from Daesha Devón Harris' "The work, I do not need Freedom when I'm dead. I cannot live on tomorrow's bread." (Photo by Susan Schaefer)

THE SOUL >> from 6

well-known Twin Citians, Seitu Jones and Ta-coumba Aiken. Together, they established an African American Culture Center in Minneapolis located at 31st and Nicollet Ave. that boasted a darkroom. "Many local photographers used the facilities. We held shows, lectures, and exhibitions in which I participated," he remembers. "It was then I began to buy or trade prints with other photographers, as well as buying photography books."

Through Milligan's friend, Les Edwards, who was in the UMN MA Journalism program, he met the late Ted Hartwell, curator of photography at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, who had an Open Door Policy. He explains: "I visited Hartwell to learn and see original prints in the collection by Walker Evans, Gordon Parks, Dorothea Lange, Edward Steichen, and more, and was introduced to local photographers." Milligan was well on his way as

art expert and collector. Milligan's multifaceted influence on this show cannot be understated: Scholarship, art and photographic expertise, and musical prowess.

"Rightly viewed, the whole soul of man is a sort of picture gallery...."
- Frederick Douglass

In the Preface to the exhibition catalogue Milligan explains the derivation of the show's title from Frederick Douglass' 1861 "Lecture on Pictures," about the importance of photography, "an emerging art form at the time."

"One hundred and sixty-one years after this important speech by Douglass," writes Milligan, "the visual legacy



of Black American experience is shown to be well-documented and explored by the artists in this exhibition, who have created compelling, beautifully executed and well-composed images."

ASPECTS OF THE SHOW

This quote is an understatement. There is a fierce and sometimes haunting quality to almost every image. Not only is the curation of images impeccable, the team responsible for the exhibition installation also deserves a standing ovation.

One powerful and stunning pair of images is "The work, I do not need Freedom when I'm dead. I cannot live on tomorrow's bread," 2017, by Daesha Devón Harris, which has a well-earned place at the entrance to the exhibit. The chromira prints in hardwood boxes with etched glass weave "historical imagery and text with found objects," inspired by stories of the African diaspora.

From Milligan's own collection, a digital print on aluminum by Ebony G Patterson, "From the corner of my eye, 2015," evokes a tsunami of emotions as well as careful consideration. Do the colorful pants and shoes of the image belong to a boy or girl? Does the gender matter? Is the child resting on a couch or in a coffin? The shock of joyous, colorful patterns in this photo conflicts sharply with an innate knowledge of the violence faced by many Black youth. This work "is densely layered, in order to draw the viewer closer and to question how we engage in the act of looking."

A pause from the intensity of "the act of looking" is available in a space set up living room-style, with stylish couches, chairs and coffee table, where visitors can don provided headphones and thumb through the show's catalogue and other pertinent photography books while listening to Milligan's superbly curated jazz soundscape.

In the nearby Quarter Gallery, viewers should visit the captivating Gordon Parks High School Student Projects display, available until Oct. 8, 2022

Indeed, one visit to the Nash Gallery may not suffice. This is an exhibit that invites one to return.

Susan Schaefer is a widely published independent journalist, creative writer, and poet. Her articles appear in the Minneapolis Star Tribune, PBS' online magazine, Next Avenue, Next Tribe, and beyond. She was columnist and features writer for Minneapolis' Southwest Journal and Minnesota Good Age magazine.

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Financing for this project was provided by the Metropolitan Council Metropolitan Livable Communities Fund, the City of Minneapolis, and the Hennepin County Affordable Housing Incentive Fund and Environmental Response Fund.

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Standish tile artist creates unique pieces for homes

Inspired by nature, Haruko Ruggiero is guided by 'less is more' principle

By TESSA M. CHRISTENSEN

Standish tile artist Haruko Ruggiero always had a sense that she would develop her own "something" related to interior design and patterns. She began by fashioning together mosaics.

"Finding my tile options lacking in color variety and appeal, creating my own tile line became a new and stronger focus," Haruko said.

Learn more about her work below.

WHAT OTHER THINGS TIE YOU TO THIS SPACE?

Ruggiero: I have lived in Standish for just about 10 years. I grew up in Whittier and went to Andersen Elementary and South High, so I spent many years on this end of Lake Street. Many of my friends were in this neighborhood. What ties me to this space now are my home, garden and studio, and that I have no plans to move. I view my home as a treasure to consistently improve and care for and to pass on to my family. When I see home-insecure people in this city, which is increasingly common, I am ever aware of the notion of the "haves and have-nots" and it is a more than disconcerting situation for our city and for our country to be in. To have safe, clean and private shelter is not something to take for granted.

WHEN DID YOU FIRST START MAKING TILES AND WHAT PROMOTED YOU TO DO THIS WORK?

Making tiles is a way to create pattern, and also a way to create something that enhances a home, both of which have captured my interest for many years.

I am drawn into pattern in textiles, tiles, jewelry, woodcarving, landscape design, plants, animal and rocks, household objects. Essentially, where patterns exist, I am curious and will no doubt take a closer look to consider.

People have been creating patterns since the beginning. There are notably consistent similarities, as well as differences, amongst patterns around the world and throughout time. One such example would be the triangle shape that is prevalent in southwestern patterns in states such as Arizona or New Mexico, yet also present in patterns originating thousands of miles from there, where the Uyghur in Northwestern China live. The people of those places both use triangles, perhaps symbolic of mountains and/or spiritual ideas, but the two groups do so differently, with their own color palette, line width, and sense of spacing. Another example would be bands of pattern created by lines encompassing a floral or geometric pattern within, and that is shown in the work of the Sami people from far northern Europe and Russia, yet also by the Bedouin of the Arabian Peninsula. Walking through the exhibits at the Minneapolis Institute of Art provides countless oppor-



Standish resident Haruko Ruggiero points out that the smaller houses in south Minneapolis offer the opportunity for homeowners to make the most of what they have, and to make each space special. (Photo submitted)

tunities to view objects presenting patterns of all kinds from around the globe.

PLEASE WALK US THROUGH YOUR CREATIVE PROCESS.

When I create tiles, I am putting in action that which is inspiring (see below). I grow and collect material primarily from my garden and yard, and, on occasion, a few things from walks in the woods.

The process has changed over time and has essentially been of two parts whereby the first part I would consider the several years I created hundreds of tile prototypes. I learned about my material (for rolling, drying, imprinting, firing and glazing), practiced the most compelling design ideas that arose, studied and recorded all of this and then made final decisions. These decisions are now what make the second part of the process and comprise the tile offerings I now have available, which are both current and evolving.

Also, a very notable aspect of the creative process has involved learning from my tile customers. I learn what they like, what they are drawn to, and what their considerations are. Often some of the best new developments come from working in tandem with and/or for a customer.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU?

In addition to the patterns and designs created by others over millenia, it's the details in nature that I encounter while walking, in my garden or yard, or in an image in a museum, online or in a book. The designs you see on plants and animals, like a monarch butterfly, a birch tree or a dill frond, are tremendously inspir-

ing and I love how I have an opportunity, in making tiles, to incorporate these elements of our natural world into living spaces. The tiles I make that are imprinted with plant material and bark embrace the intrinsic symmetry or asymmetry, pattern, detail and dimension that the material holds. The tiles that are hand-scored honor the sense of motion that exists from lines.

I am guided by the principle of "quality over quantity" and inspired by the notion of "less is more." When something serves its purpose thoroughly, draws admiration in its craft, is undoubtedly sturdy and long-lasting, these are the marks of ideal things to acquire for use and/or enjoyment. In our highly consumptive world, I am happy to only have "one" of something and to plan to keep it indefinitely. Through an artisanal lens, I value each time I encounter another person who has developed/is developing their skill – whatever it may be – and presents ideas or things, one single creation at a time. It may be a chair, a song, a belt, a knit scarf or a pie. When it is steeped in the maker's commitment, interest and knowledge of what they are doing, it is very moving.

Many homeowners in south Minneapolis have relatively small homes, especially when compared to the homes that are frequently built now, which reflect a more than doubling of the average "square footage per person." With these smaller houses we have an opportunity to make the space very special, paying keen attention to each wall and each little space. I think making the most of what

TIPS FROM A TILE ARTIST

Haruko Ruggiero's tips for people who are trying to decide whether to place tile in their homes and what to select are:

- If you are looking to bring new energy into a room, changing to or adding tile is a great way to do it. Welcome the opportunity to introduce new texture and color. Choosing color is indeed easier said than done, but color makes such a difference in terms of the feel a room has (dare I say, "Stay away from grey"?). Make a list of what colors make you happy to be around, and importantly, ask yourself which colors you have enjoyed for years? Those are the ones to go with, the colors that don't seem to veer from your core style.
- If you spend a fair amount of time in your home, invest in what you like.
- When making decisions, take your time and don't rush, if you don't have to. Deliberate if you need to. Unless, of course, you know right away what you would like once seeing the options! Which is most certainly a fortuitous thing!
- Ask yourself if you want the uniformity and/or texture that a machine will make or that which a hand will make. Both can be beautiful and just the right way to tile a wall, albeit certainly representative of different histories.
- Decide if you want to create further dimension with the arrangement of the tile shapes. Patterns can be made with a single shape or with two. Geometrical patterns can bring a sense of balance and unity when playing out and resolving on a wall.
- Determine how much time you have. With handmade tile there may be a wait for the finished products. In the case of Ruggiero Artisan Tile, the tiles are usually complete within 4-8 weeks and not longer. I work on just a few orders at a time, with the tiles being produced gradually and consistently over many consecutive days.

you have is a very worthy aspiration, albeit a humbling one. Updates and changes by way of handmade tile, artistic light switches, refinishing woodwork or adding another window are all efforts that are slightly more subtle initially, yet highly impactful in making a home elegant and no doubt more valuable.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT WORKING WITH CLAY?

You can make so many things! It's like paper for a watercolor artist or food for a chef.

With clay you can make objects that are used or engaged with day to day; providing daily visual nourishment when encountered, which could be from viewing the tiles on a wall or perhaps the experience of drinking from a handmade mug. When you look at or hold the item, you can sense the humanity, the consideration, and the effort behind it.

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ELECTION 2022

The Messenger and Southwest Connector reached out to local candidates with questions on a variety of issues. Here are the responses of the candidates who responded. Any who respond after our print deadline will be posted online at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com.

MINNEAPOLIS SCHOOL BOARD AT-LARGE (VOTE FOR 2)

Vying for this position are Collin Beachy, Sonya Emerick, KerryJo Felder and Lisa Skjeft.

SONYA EMERICK

www.Sonyaformps.com

Emerick is a lifelong Minneapolis resident, an MPS grad, and a parent of an MPS student. "Our educational system holds a standardized idea of how every student should learn and behave that's based in whiteness and ableism," she said. "When kids can't fit that narrow standard, we too often exclude them from the educational experience. That exclusion affects the learning environment for every single student whose needs and identities are devalued. Educators need to be supported to provide culturally sustaining instruction and an environment of true belonging, and all stakeholder groups need leadership committed to ensuring delivery of that support and to engaging our families and communities in authentic, meaningful ways. It's my honor to participate in this important work."

How will you reduce the achievement gap between Black and White students in the district?

MPS needs to meaningfully and effectively implement its Climate Framework at every site and across stakeholder groups in service of dismantling racism and related forms of oppression in the district. It's time for leadership to commit to bringing our school communities together to co-create transparent metrics for implementation so that every student, including and especially students of color and Indigenous students, have access to safe and culturally sustaining educational spaces where they have the opportunity to learn from well-supported, highly skilled educators who racially and culturally mirror them.

How will you change the culture of a top-down management approach and seek to include the voices of teachers, paraprofessionals and other staff in decisions?

Systems for integrating community voice must be co-crafted with parents, caregivers, families, and other stakeholders. We need to stop imposing surveys and public opinion collection strategies that aren't serving their purpose, and instead honor and expand avenues for feedback that communities have identified as useful and important.

How will you bridge the gap following the strike between teachers/paraprofessionals/parents/students and administrators?

Educators need to be treated like

skilled professionals, and they need to see leadership fighting HARD for state funding to increase their wages and address working conditions.

Families have been clear about their need for increased culturally responsive engagement. Communities are brilliant at and motivated to generate feedback about their experiences and priorities. MPS leadership must learn how to listen, and how to be in conversation with our families and communities, in order to establish a starting place for repair.

How will you follow up on the Comprehensive District Design and evaluate the changes?

I would use the metrics outlined in the strategic plan to track CDD impact. What I am most concerned with is how we move forward to mitigate disruption, celebrate and expand our gains, and ensure that what we have gone through together is in service to a system that prioritizes equitable access to a high quality education for every single one of our kids.

What are your ideas for educating students holistically?

I believe fiercely that all students are engaged, motivated and skilled learners, and it is the job of educational leadership to remove barriers. I'm passionate about frameworks and practices that honor all student strengths, needs and identities as valuable and enriching characteristics of our learning communities. I'm committed to elevating student voice and developing our future leaders by giving our children opportunities to successfully lead today, particularly those disproportionately harmed by disparities and difficulties.

MINNEAPOLIS SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 5

Vying for this position are Laurelle Myhra (myhra4schoolboard.com) and Lori Norvell (norvell4schoolboard.com).

HENNEPIN COUNTY SHERIFF

Vying for this position are Joseph Banks and Dawanna Witt.

JOSEPH BANKS

banks4sheriff.com

Banks started his law enforcement career in south suburban Robbins, Ill. as Police Explorer. After serving in the United States Marine Reserves, he started his first law enforcement job as a police dispatcher and became a part-time police officer. He moved to Minnesota in Minnesota in 1993. He has served as chief of police for the Lower Sioux Police Department and city of Morton, Minn.

How will you balance the Minneapolis voters' split desire for alternative resources for policing versus adding police?

I would balance the Minneapolis voter's split desire for alternative resources for policing versus adding police by first adding more deputies on the street for more

HENNEPIN COUNTY ATTORNEY

Vying for this position are Martha Holton Dimick and Mary Moriarty.

MARTHA HOLTON DIMICK

marthaforhennepin.com

Martha Holton Dimick is a retired judge and is running for Hennepin County Attorney to rebuild trust and restore effectiveness into the county attorney's office. She served as the first Northside community prosecutor at Hennepin County and worked as the criminal deputy in the Minneapolis City Attorney's Office, where she managed over 60 attorneys and staff. "I love my neighborhood in north Minneapolis and I have grown to love Hennepin County during this campaign," she said. "My top priority is redressing the increase in crime that we have seen since 2020, and restoring public safety for all who live and work here."

What do you propose to manage public safety and rising crime rates?

The research shows that when more public safety officers are on the streets – both police and alternative responders – we reduce both crime and eventually incarceration rates. As prosecutors, we can partner with cities to enforce consistent penalties for violent and repeat offenders, and ensure police misconduct results in discipline.

How do you view child protection and support cases?

Child protection is an important part of our office. There are well-known inequalities resulting from cultural barriers between the office and community members. We must continue working toward family reunification when it's safe and appropriate, and continue lobbying for critical funding to ensure family resources are available and effective.

How will you address the public's

proactive and impartial policing. This is because of the recent uptake in violent crime and gun violence. I would also work with the community to use community based alternatives to support the efforts of policing working together. Everything is on the table when it comes to keeping the citizens of Hennepin safe.

How do you plan to handle and address the spike in carjackings?

I plan to go after the individual that the carjackers are selling the cars to and insure that those whom are committing these carjacking are arrested and held accountable.

How will you work to restore trust in the sheriff's office?

I will restore trust in the sheriff's office by hiring deputies from Hennepin communities and through efforts to be more transparent as possible.

How do you propose engaging youth and stopping the cycle of crime?

I plan to bring more cop houses to Hennepin and also by teaching our depu-

changing opinions on criminal justice reform?

I believe public safety should take precedence over public opinion. Outdated policies like incarcerating low-level drug offenders do not make anyone safer. We must dedicate resources to bolstering alternatives to incarceration for low-level and first-time offenders because those alternatives work. My office will deal with everyone equally, compassionately, and with dignity.

How do you view the use of juvenile diversion and restorative justice programs?

We need rehabilitative programs that will treat juvenile offenders, but especially preventative programs that intervene before the first act of violence occurs. It makes no sense to punish kids for their entire lives for a mistake when they were young. Programs and personnel that treat children with mental health issues are sorely needed and will be an emphasis of my administration.

How will you address equity issues in prosecution?

Regaining trust in the community starts with prioritizing equity in prosecution and in hiring a diverse group of attorneys. Many people who come through the justice system have committed a serious crime and are a clear danger to society. Many are not. Prosecutors have discretion and need to apply it equitably for the system to be fair.

MARY MORIARTY

www.MaryforHennepin.com

Moriarty began her career as a public defender in Hennepin County in 1990 and worked her way up to serve as the county's first female Chief Public Defender for six years. She credits her dad, an Itasca County Attorney and Director of the Leech Lake Reservation Legal Services Project, for many of her beliefs. Moriarty attended Macalester College and then the University of Minnesota Law School.

ties and officers in the county to use more discretionary authority to determine if it's an arrestable or teachable moment. Educating people so they don't have to go to jail and working with the community to find and identify alternative services for youth offenders.

What is your opinion on the use of drones and social media monitoring?

I think that drones can be very helpful in police chases and monitoring of some social media could provide law enforcement a leg up on certain types of crime and help to keep the community safe.

DAWANNA WITT

wittforsheriff.com

Witt is a wife, a mother, and a grandmother. She has 22 years of experience in law enforcement and currently serves as a major at the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, where she leads the single largest bureau: Adult Detention and Court Services. She grew up in North Minneapolis.

However, in Minnesota, every vote for regional and state-wide offices, counts equally. And registering to vote is easy with mail-in, online, and same-day registration options. Elections are won and lost by very slim margins. If every Minnesotan exercised their right to vote, the values and priorities of elected officials might better reflect those of the people they represent.

The non-partisan League of Women Voters advocates for a whole range of policies that would make elections more free, fair and equitable. We are also focus on educating, motivating and helping voters overcome barriers in order to raise up all voices. Contact us at vote@lwvmppls.org if you'd like us to work with your community on voter registration, education or turnout.

Visit 411.org for information about voting.

Who votes, who doesn't and why

This is part of a series about the 2022 municipal elections by the League of Women Voters Minneapolis.

Recent Supreme Court rulings have exposed the reality that government representatives often don't act in accordance with the will of the people. Polls indicate, for example, that Americans support access to abortion, yet the highest court in the land rescinded that right. So why the disconnect? It's about voting – who votes, who doesn't and why.

Among the pool of all eligible voters in the U.S., approximately 1 out of 3 did not vote in the 2020 Presidential election. The top reasons that these 77 mil-



lion Americans did not vote were: 1) lack of interest in politics, 2) they didn't like the candidates, and 3) they didn't think their votes would matter. Those least likely to vote were under 34, Hispanic,

less educated, unmarried and with lower incomes. Difficulty of voting was not identified as a major reason for not voting, but we know there are subgroups, such as those living with a disability or with logistical barriers (childcare, transportation) for whom voting can be challenging if not impossible.

Then there are the disenfranchised. Minnesota is one of 20 states in which

anyone convicted of a felony is prohibited from voting until they have been discharged from their entire sentence, including any term of probation or supervised release which may include monetary restitution. As a result, 57,000 individuals (1.5% of Minnesota's voting population) are denied the right to vote.

At the federal level, the most significant reason for the mismatch between Americans' values and those of our elected officials is unequal representation in the Senate that gives smaller and less populous states more political clout. Because there are 2 senators elected per state, the 40 million people who live in the 22 smallest states get 44 senators to represent their interests, while the 40 million people in California get just two. More than half of all Americans live in nine states, giving them just 18 (out of 100) U.S. Senate seats.

Bringing houseplants inside for the winter

THE CITY GARDENER

BY LAUREN BETHKE,
Master Gardener



This summer, you may have brought your houseplants outside to enjoy the warmth and humidity – I certainly did! As the nights get colder and days get shorter, it's time to bring houseplants back inside for the winter. There are several things to consider to give your plants an easy transition back to the house.

First – if you generally keep your houseplants inside the house, consider giving them a “summer vacation” outside next year! Many houseplants are native to tropical climates, so they tend to thrive in Minnesota's hot and humid summer weather. If you've ever wondered why your houseplants don't seem to grow much, try setting them outside in the spring when the weather is consistently above 50 degrees overnight. You may be surprised by their rapid growth over the summer months! If you have an indoor palm tree, I'd particularly recommend bringing it outside to enjoy the warm weather. Ferns also thrive outdoors in the humidity (but be careful to keep them out of direct sunlight to avoid sunburn).



When you bring houseplants inside, check to make sure there aren't any pests.

When you bring houseplants outside in the spring, you should slowly acclimate them to the brighter light and more variable outdoor temperatures. The same is true in reverse when bringing houseplants back inside in the fall. In general, give plants plenty of time to acclimate to new conditions. If you have a three season

porch or small greenhouse, this can be a great intermediate location to get plants used to being inside again. Otherwise, I've had success just keeping them next to a large sunny window, which I open during the day and close at night when the temperature drops. Also, natural sunlight is much more intense than the sun that comes in through a window, so once you bring your plants inside, you'll want to keep them in a sunny location for a while and gradually reduce sun exposure.

It's also important to make sure your houseplants aren't bringing in any insect hitchhikers. When the plants are outside, it's not a big deal if they have a few aphids, mealybugs, or other pests – but if those pests are brought inside your warm home as the weather cools, you could end up with a major infestation. Make sure to closely inspect your plants for pests. Some people completely repot all of their plants with fresh potting mix before bringing them back inside, but I don't usually go to that much trouble. You can soak plants in a bucket of water with a few drops of mild dish detergent, or give them a good spray with the hose to clean the leaves and dislodge any pests. If you opt for the hose treatment, it's a good idea to individually wipe down each leaf, as well. I like to use a systemic treatment before bringing houseplants inside to make sure there are no pests hiding in the soil.

This is also a good time to separate

or repot plants if needed. If your plants have gotten too big for their pots over the summer, you can create more plants by carefully separating the root ball into two (or more) pieces and replanting each piece in its own pot. Alternatively, if you want to keep the plant large, you can put the whole thing into a new pot that's about two inches larger. Don't go too big when choosing a new pot – it's much easier to overwater when using a large pot because it holds a lot of potting mix, which retains water around the roots. Also, some common houseplants prefer to be a little crowded in their pot, so don't rush to repot them. These include peace lilies, spider plants, snake plants, ZZ plants, and aloe.

I'll close with one top tip for keeping houseplants alive over the winter, and that's to think tropical. Many people have told me that they're just not good with houseplants – but honestly, it's not too surprising that plants adapted to tropical environments have a hard time in Minnesota winters, with 30% humidity, seven hours of sunlight, and a sharp difference between cold drafts and strong heat from a radiator or vent. Adding humidifiers and grow lights to try to mimic tropical conditions, and keeping your plants away from cold windows and doors, can make a world of difference.

For more information, check out the University of Minnesota Extension Yard and Garden website. Extension resources are written by experts, and contain the latest and most reliable research-based information. Happy gardening!

What does public safety mean to you?

Foot traffic, resources, accountability would bring safety to 38th and Chicago Ave., local neighbors say

By JILL BOOGEN

A few dozen residents filed into an upstairs gymnasium at Sabathani Community Center (310 E. 38th St.) on Aug. 29 to talk about public safety – specifically as it relates to planned road reconstruction at 38th and Chicago. Seated three-to-five people to a table with markers and white paper at the ready, neighbors shared their experiences and ideas with each other.

They were asked to respond to three questions: what public safety means, how to achieve it, and how the design of the intersection can facilitate it.

For one group, public safety meant feeling comfortable in the space, a feeling of belonging, with no gunplay or harm to people. For another, public safety meant having freedom of movement, including the right to protest for social justice. Another defined it as the ability to walk through the neighborhood without fear of violence or crime and called for “public safety officers we can trust.”

Accountability of police officers and city leaders was deemed necessary for safety; longtime resident Brett Davis (who incidentally challenged Prince to a game of

basketball in the very same building back in the day) said he had been harassed three separate times by police. One resident reported that lack of service was “the flip side” to police brutality; police officers need to be doing what they're supposed to be doing. Another expressed that “Neighborhood Watch is us looking out for each other.” And another said, “Justice brings safety.”

Resources need to be redeployed to level the playing field, said one group, and provided for people who need help with housing and addiction, said another. There was a call for mental and physical health care and conflict resolution resources. Hennepin County Commissioner Angela Conley, speaking on behalf of her group, suggested investing in youth, ages 12-24, as a means to prevent future violence.

“If our babies are not okay, that means none of us in this room are gonna be okay,” she said.

One resident said they didn't want traffic to slow to two miles per hour, while others called for little or no car traffic and a design like Milwaukee Ave. in the Seward neighborhood, which is open only to pedestrians and bicyclists, or Nicollet Mall, which is open to buses.

A number of residents spoke to the international significance of George Floyd Square, where many visitors make a stop during their stay in the Twin Cities. There was a desire for the preservation of sacred space and to respect the culture of what's been created at the site. There were also calls to create a National Historic Landmark and a Black Wall Street.



Neighbors discuss what public safety at 38th and Chicago means to them. Aug. 29 was the first of 12 “learning tables” to be held every fourth Monday at Sabathani Community Center. (Photo by Jill Boogen)

Jay “The Gardener” Webb, a “builder and architect” of the roundabout surrounding the fist sculpture in the middle of the intersection, spoke to its significance: “No one can ever pass by it and be the same,” he said. “They come to mourn, and they take away the peace.”

There was a call to maintain services and provide public bathrooms, an assembly space, a garden, plaza and library, as well as deeply affordable housing. A couple of people suggested turning the former gas station, now known as The Peoples' Way, into a more permanent gathering space.

Written on one piece of paper: “Designers should live in neighborhood.”

This was the first of 12 monthly “Learning Tables” to be held every fourth Monday at the same time and place, 6-8 p.m. at Sabathani, with dinner included (Afro Deli catered this evening's conversation). According to facilitator James Trice, of Public Policy Project, participants can expect a different topic each time.

“The world is watching what happens at 38th and Chicago,” said Trice, in closing out the meeting. “So, it's up to you to create what you wanna see there.”

For more information and to sign up for updates, visit the project website at Minneapolis.gov/government/projects/38th-chicago-ave/

Want a calmer city street? New process lays out details.

By CAM GORDON

This month, the city is starting a new Neighborhood Traffic Calming process intended to make things more transparent and predictable.

According to the report presented to the city council in August, “The new process to intake, review, and implement traffic calming on neighborhood streets will provide a more proactive, data-driven,

transparent, and equitable process that is easy for community members, their neighborhood organizations, and city employees that are implementing it.”

It is also intended to be a more effective use of limited resources.

“Public works receives approximately 2,500 requests annually for safety and traffic calming,” said public works engineer Jennifer Lowry. “To date the process has been very informal.” Requests have been

taken individually on a case-by-case basis. Of those requests, due to available funding, she estimates that 10 to 20 calming projects are completed each year.

As of Sept. 15, anyone can make traffic calming requests online, or through 311. Those requests made by Nov. 1, 2022, will be considered for construction in 2023.

“The goal of this effort is to create a better process to vet the requests that come into us in a transparent and equitable manner,” said Lowry. Going forward all requests will be recorded and shared online and placed on a map that anyone

with internet access can view. Ward 12 Council Member Andrew Johnson, who chairs the public works city council committee, said the process “will bring order out of the chaos of the 2,500 requests.”

Improvements could include pavement markings, speed humps, raised pedestrian crossings, curb extensions, pinch points, traffic circles, median refuge islands, or the conversion of a street to a one-way or a two-way street. Additional signage or the more temporary installation of posts or bollards could also be used.

Read the full story online at www.LongfellowNokomisMessenger.com.

HIGHLAND BRIDGE >> from 1

seven or eight stories. When it released the plan in 2017, the city of St. Paul ignited a fire storm of opposition from an angry group of Highland Park residents who were convinced that the project would overrun their neighborhood with traffic and congestion. Later, when the city selected the Ryan Company as the site's master developer, the plan was modified by reducing the number of housing units in the project and limiting the height of the buildings to five stories.

Frank Jossi, a longtime Highland Park activist, thinks St. Paul made the right move by selecting the Twin Cities-based Ryan to develop the Ford site. "Ryan was a known quantity, a local developer who understood neighborhood dynamics. If the city had gone with an out-of-town firm, the project might never have happened," he said.

Jossi remembers the night that Ryan unveiled its own plan at a community meeting at Highland Park High School "They had a video rendering that made the project seem real. Until then, the plan had only been abstract-words and drawings on pieces of paper. Now, people could see the parks and open space and how they related to the buildings. When Ryan was finished with its presentation, people stood up and applauded. That was the turning point. After that night, the opposition became much more muted."

In the months following the Highland High School meeting, as the Ryan plan was refined, the city officials worked with neighborhood resident to select names for the new city-managed parks at Highland Bridge. Two of the names selected reflected the history of the site. One park was named "Unci Makha" (Mother Earth in Dakota), which recognized the site's native legacy. Another was called

"Union Assembly," which honored the men and women who worked at the Ford Plant.

A third green space, known as Gateway Park may not have had an historical reference, but that park, which included a skateboard installation, had special significance for two young Highland Park residents. Theo Miller was 10 years old and his buddy, Luke Hanno, was 12 when they persuaded the city council to include a skateboard park in Highland Bridge. Their lobbying efforts led to the creation of Gateway Park.

In addition to the park names, the project's planners and designers found other subtle ways to include historical references in the new development. A circular grate guiding the waterway flow was intended to evoke the spokes on the wheels of Ford's iconic Model T. Colorful coverings for a series of overflow drains were made of Fordite, a material extracted from the floors of the paint shops at Ford assembly plants.

One parcel of the property, included in the master plan but not controlled by Ryan, has sparked a recent controversy. St. Thomas University hopes to purchase the 13-acre parcel now mostly owned by the Canadian Pacific Railroad for use as athletic fields. Still in the discussion stage, the St. Thomas plan is getting push back from some nearby neighbors.

While the parks and open space at Highland Bridge are receiving widespread praise for their public accessibility, housing under construction on the site is much less accessible – at least in financial terms. One rental development, known as The Collection, which sits on top of the new Lunds & Byerlys grocery store, is completed and now being leased. Rents at the Collection start at about \$1,450 a month for a 480-square studio apartment and top out at over \$5,000 for the largest two-bedroom units.

Marvella, the senior housing project under development by Presbyterian Homes, offers independent living, assisted living and memory care. Monthly rents for Marvella's smallest independent units start at about \$2,280 with an upfront entry fee of just under \$50,000. Marvella's larger two-bedroom units have all been reserved. They rent for \$4300 a month, with an entry fee of \$185,000. For-sale town houses start at \$800,000, while costs for the 35 single-family homes on the site are expected to exceed \$1 million.

The master plan calls for 20% of the housing units at Highland Bridge to be affordable. If fully implemented, the 20% goal would provide 760 units targeted at people with incomes of up to 60% of the Twin Cities area median. Thus far, only about 195 units of affordable housing in three separate projects are on the drawing boards. Those projects are on hold, pending a revision of St. Paul's rent control ordinance.

"The truth is that not many current Highland Park residents can afford to live in Highland Bridge," Jossi acknowledged. "That is the reality of the housing market in 2022. But this new development does provide public amenities that are available to everyone in the community.

"I think the city and Ryan have done an exceptional job of creating a park system that meets the needs of a variety of groups. There is this beautiful water feature where people can sit and read a book or just enjoy the view. There is a nature park that children and their parent can explore, a dog park for pet owners, volleyball courts and a skate board park for young people, picnic areas for families, even posts where visitors can hang hammocks.

"Even though Highland Bridge has only been open for a few weeks, people are already discovering everything the area has offer. On balance, I think Highland Bridge is a real plus for our community."

HIGHLAND BRIDGE LUNDS & BYERLYS

Minneapolis southsiders who shop at the Highland Park Lunds & Byerlys will find a familiar layout in a brighter, more open space when the grocery chain's Highland Bridge store opens on Sept. 29.

The new store at Cretin and Ford Parkway will be 20% larger than the existing Lund's, with much of the new space devoted to a food court featuring different ethnic cuisines. Shoppers will also find a covered ramp with two levels of free parking, a welcome feature for Lund's regulars who have had to haul shopping bags out to an open parking lot on rainy and below zero days. For walkers, the main entrance on Ford Parkway will lead to the food court and a Caribou Coffee.

The Highland Bridge Lund's will have a new feature that should appeal to local pub crawlers. A gathering space on the store's mezzanine level, known as the Mezz, will provide taps for 30 craft beers and wine. In good weather, shoppers will be able to bring up carryout from food court, grab an adult beverage and take their food and drinks on to an outdoor landscaped plaza adjacent to the Mezz.

Lund's staged a grand opening ceremony with speeches by company officials and political notables at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 29. At 3 p.m., the new store opened for business. Through the first weekend in October, Lund's current Highland Park store will stay open with markdowns intended to clear out the existing inventory.

LCC partners with Free the Deeds

LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

BY ANDREA TRITSCHLER,
communications
andrea@longfellow.org



Longfellow Community Council has joined forces with Free the Deeds to engage residents in conversations around racial covenants. Free the Deeds is an artist-led initiative that illuminates our common history and offers a path to repair. The Minneapolis-wide public project invites every property that had a racial covenant on it to display a lawn sign in its front yard to inspire learning and conversation.

Racial covenants began appearing on deeds in the 20th century all across the country to prevent people who were not White from homeownership and land occupation. Racial covenants served as legally-enforceable contracts. They stipulated that the property had to remain in the hands of White people and they ran with the land, which meant that it could be enforced in perpetuity. Anyone who dared to challenge this ban risked forfeiting their claim to the property, according to Mapping Prejudice. Mapping Prejudice is a local team of historians, librarians, geographers and activists that has been mapping these covenants in Hennepin and Ramsey counties.

Racial covenants were banned by the Minnesota State Legislature in 1953, but by that point covenants had already accomplished what they were invented for – Black people were denied affordable housing and were segregated into areas of the city that soon after were destroyed by the construction of the highway. Covenants divided our city by race, and ensured that African Americans would not be able to

accumulate wealth and pass it down to their children. And many of the neighborhoods that once had racial covenants continue to have a higher than average percentage of White homeowners.

South Minneapolis had one of the highest rates of racial covenants in the city, and many of those covenants are still attached to deeds throughout the Longfellow neighborhood, especially along the river. One of the streets along West River Parkway, Edmund Boulevard, is named after Edmund Walton, a real estate developer and one of the first developers in Minneapolis to follow the national trend of including a racial covenant on the deed. There is a petition to change the name of this boulevard and people can share their thoughts at rethinkingedmund@gmail.com. This history is all around us. It is our present.

Equitable housing and housing justice is something that is important to our organization and the community. Our equitable housing committee works on initiatives that promote equitable housing and work to support tenant rights, community-led development and more. Housing justice is part of equitable housing. Many African Americans were shut out of homeownership because of this legal racism and the legacy of those policies can still be felt today. The Twin Cities has the highest gap between Black and White homeownership rates for any major metropolitan area in the country. While 78 percent of White families own homes in the Twin Cities, only 25 percent of Black families are homeowners.

We are working to support renters who are struggling financially with our renter support fund, which will supply 32 renters with \$900 a month in barrier-free rental assistance. With eviction filings on the rise and the eviction moratorium and other renter protections no longer active, we want to support our neighbors and keep them in their homes.

Housing justice is rooted in disman-

ling policies and changing histories rooted in systemic racism. As a neighborhood association it is critical that we engage with our neighbors about racial covenants, intergenerational wealth and how redlining and covenants kept White power structures in place and prevented BIPOC from accruing wealth. Knowing our histories empowers us to make changes in our communities today that will have a positive impact on our future. We hope that we can get the remaining racial covenants in the Longfellow neighborhood removed and inspire other neighborhood organizations to help in this work.

Residents can look up their property on our website or on freethedeeds.org to check if they have a racial covenant

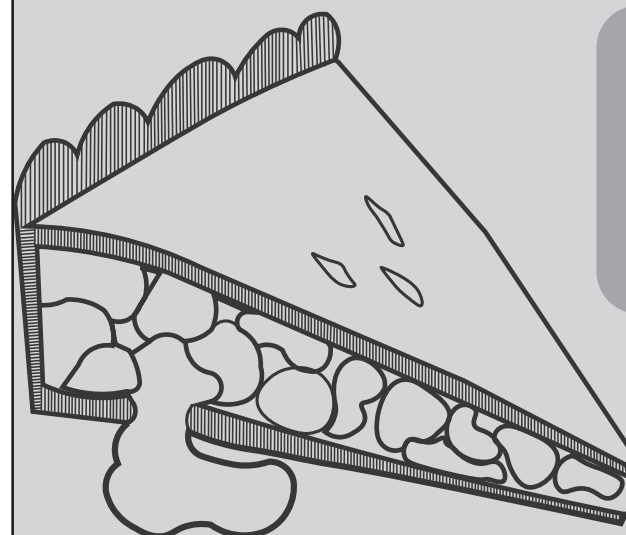
on their deed. Through the Just Deeds program and Hennepin County, homeowners can have the covenant removed for free and receive a lawn sign or poster from LCC. The lawn sign offers people the chance to see and feel the history of this discriminatory practice. We encourage those who have a covenant or not to support the African American Land Trust, which works with Black home buyers on downpayment assistance.

If you are interested in volunteering with LCC to continue the work of Free the Deeds, contact info@longfellow.org. We will be organizing door knocking and tabling opportunities as we work to dismantle past racist structures and build a community with justice and equity at its core.

LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

No Pie Charts, Only Pies! General Membership Meeting & Volunteer Appreciation

6 to 8 pm
November 10
Longfellow Park
Multipurpose
Room



more info at longfellow.org

Superintendent statement on Hiawatha Golf course plan

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Commissioners voted to approve the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan at their regular meeting on Sept. 7, 2022.

MPRB Superintendent Al Bangoura issued the following statement:

"On the surface, the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan seeks to reduce flooding risks and eliminate the need for the pumping of hundreds of millions of gallons of water that contribute to the pollution of Lake Hiawatha. In addition to better protecting the environment by returning a portion of Hiawatha to its natural state as wetlands, it maintains a nine-hole golf course to preserve play and its history, while creating room for additional recreation activities.

"That said, I fully acknowledge that the vote to move forward with the Hiawatha Golf Course Master Plan has real racial consequences. There is no way around that. The long and well-documented history of racism and the generational trauma it inflicts still manifests in the inequities felt today, here in Minneapolis and in our park systems nation-wide. As a Black man, I understand why there is hurt, distrust and anger around the plan approved yesterday.

"This process has been gut-wrenching

for communities of color, including the Black community who embraces Hiawatha Golf Course for its historical significance as the one of the first courses to admit Black golfers, as well as the 75-year history of tournaments that continue to honor this legacy. It has also been traumatic for the Indigenous community who seeks to return Hiawatha to its natural state, creating a place to honor ancestral land and gather in community among clean water and wild-life.

"No matter how conflicted I am, my job as Superintendent is to execute the policies and directions passed by the Board of Park Commissioners and lead the dedicated staff who do the work. Changes will not be made overnight. In fact, the Hiawatha Golf Course will remain an 18-hole course until the funding is secured to implement the changes outlined in the plan.

"As we move forward, I will direct our staff, expert engineers, scientists and dedicated community members who have been working on this plan for years to help find ways to honor the cultural legacies of the course just as we seek to create a more sustainable one.

"I'm interested in ideas and solutions as we continue to our strong focus on racial equity and inclusion across our entire organization, and hope that you will continue to support us in those efforts."



Al Bangoura

ADOPT A DRAIN?

NOKOMIS EAST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

BY BRANDON LONG
executive director
Brandon@nokomiseast.org



which focuses on assisting existing homeowners with the potential loss of housing while remaining in their home. CLCLT invests in debt restructuring for a sustainable housing payment and/or significant rehabilitation in exchange for the homeowner enrolling in a perpetually affordable housing model that will sustain a home's affordability to future purchasers. More information at <https://www.clclt.org/copy-of-partnership-developments>

FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

NENA co-hosts a free food distribution at Crosstown Covenant Church - 5540 30th Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55417 from 2-4 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. All are welcome, and volunteers are needed. Items include dairy, frozen meat, fresh produce, pantry staples, toiletries, cleaning supplies, and culturally appropriate food options.

UPCOMING:

10/27/2022: NENA Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Morris Park Recreation Center
11/17/2022: NENA Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Morris Park Recreation Center

PROTECT LAKE NOKOMIS AND MINNEHAHA CREEK

Now is a great time to adopt a drain near you. This year's drought has stressed our trees, which could make for an early leaf drop. Storm drains flow directly to local lakes, rivers, and wetlands, forming a conduit for trash and organic pollutants. By adopting a drain, you can help keep Lake Nokomis, Lake Hiawatha, and Minnehaha Creek clean. Visit www.adopt-a-drain.org.

SUSTAINING YOUR HOME'S AFFORDABILITY

Minneapolis supports the City of Lakes Community Land Trust (CLCLT) with their Project: Sustained Legacy (P:SL),

PLAN IT

OPEN STREETS MINNEHAHA OCT. 1

The final Open Streets Minneapolis for 2022 will be on Minnehaha Avenue Saturday, Oct. 1, 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. along Minnehaha Avenue from East Lake Street to East 46th Street. During these free, family-friendly events, local nonprofit Our Streets Minneapolis partners with the City to temporarily close major thoroughfares to car traffic, opening them to people biking, walking, rolling and connecting with neighbors and local businesses.

AUDITIONS FOR CHRISTMAS SHOW OCT. 17 & 18

Classics Lost 'n' Found Theater company needs 16 actors (gender neutral) for its original holiday play, "A Christmas Carol Krampus" by Lisa Phelps. Heroes, villains and Three Stooges impersonators required. Definitely not a family-friendly holiday show, "A Christmas Carol Krampus," is intended for grown-ups. This irreverent Christmas mash-up examines holiday traditions and considers how times are a-changing. Auditions will be held on Monday, Oct. 17 and Tuesday, Oct. 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church, 1620 E. 46th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407. Actors will be asked to read from the script. The performances will be Dec. 9, 10, 16 and 17 at 7 p.m. at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church. For further information, contact frankdelmotte@gmail.com

WOMEN'S FILM FEST AT RIVERVIEW OCT. 26

Minneapolis Women's Film Festival for Racial Healing & Community Peacebuilding is eight short films by and about women. It will be Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7-9pm, Riverview Theater and virtually. The Honorary LUNAFEST Chairwomen are President Deidra Peaslee and Vice

President Wendy Roberson of St Paul College who are leading the first mission driven anti-racist, trauma-informed educational institution in Minnesota. Proceeds benefit Minnesota Peacebuilding Leadership Institute (mnpeace.org) racial and economic equity programs. Details and tickets at <https://lunafest.eventive.org>.

BAREBONES 29TH ANNUAL EXTRAVAGANZA

The BareBones 29th Annual Extravaganza will be at Midtown Greenway (2828 11th Ave. S.). There will be four shows: Oct. 28, 29, 30, and 31, 7-8 p.m. Tickets online at barebonespuppets.org.

VINCENT WYCHOFF TALK NOV. 4

Nokomis community author Vincent Wyckoff will share details of Refuge from the Sea, his newest book in the Black Otter Bay trilogy at the Nokomis Library on Thursday, Oct. 20, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wyckoff will talk about his writing process and answer questions during the Q&A.

LUTEFISK DINNER NOV. 5

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran will hold its Annual Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 5. Food is served family style with mealtimes at 3, 4:15, and 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids under 10. To reserve your seat, call 612-722-9527.

ANNUAL BAZAAR NOV. 19

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church will hold its annual bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 19, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be craft tables, silent auction, raffles, bake sale, and grandma's attic. Flotegrot and ham sandwiches will be available for purchase (4101 37th Ave. S.).

Faith

Neighborhood churches welcome you.

Bethlehem Covenant Church
3141 43rd Ave. S. • 612-721-5768
www.bethlehemcov.org

Pastor Colleen Nelson
(Handicapped Accessible)
Traditional Service - 9 AM
Contemporary Service - 10:30 AM
All sermons can be found online

Epworth United Methodist
3207 37th Ave. • 612-722-0232
www.epworthmpls.org

Welcoming our New Pastor,
Rev. Dr. Beatrice Mungania!
Sundays 10am - Worship In-person
& Live-streaming on Our FB Page
- @EpworthUMCMPLS
Oct. 7 & 8, 9am-3pm, Rummage Sale
Harvest Festival - For info, email
epworthumcmplsmn@gmail.com

Faith Ev. Lutheran Church
3430 East 51st St. • 612-729-5463
www.faithlutheranmpls.org

Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Jered Yogerst, PhD
Sundays - Worship - 9 am
(Communion 1st and 3rd)
Mondays: Exercise Class, 9 am
AA, 6:30 pm
Wednesdays: NA group, 7:30 pm
1st Saturday: 10 am - Book Club
Oct. 22: 12-2pm, Blind Ministry
Oct. 7-8: MOCA Rummage Sale, 9 am
Oct. 30: Fall dinner, 11:30 am

Minnehaha Communion Lutheran
4101 37th Ave. S. • 612-722-9527
www.minnehahacommunion.org

Pastor Shawna Day
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& online. Info on church website
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Park Avenue United Methodist Church
3400 Park Ave. • 612-825-6863
www.parkavechurch.org

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www.saintalbertthegreat.org

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Sunday mass 9:30 am (also live-streamed on Facebook), 12 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation 4-4:40 pm Saturdays; Sunday 11:30-11:50 am; Or by appointment
Weekday masses at 8:15 am, M, T, Th, F in the chapel

Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls
5212 41st Ave. S. • 612-724-3691
www.trinityfalls.org

Pastor Matt Oxendale
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m. In person/online
AA Sun & Tues 7:00 p.m.

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Neighborhood Association

NENA Community Resources

nokomiseast.org

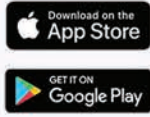
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Home

ANNUAL SALE

Fall Rummage Sale, October 8th 9-1pm, Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, 4101 37th Ave So 55406.

COMMUNITY ED

The Importance of Peace - Explore a unique perspective on how to access Peace and Hope in today's world shared by Prem Rawat through dynamic videos. This class on inner peace is through the MPLS Community Ed system at

South HS four Thursday evenings beginning 10/27 through 11/17/22 from 6:30 - 8 pm. Call to register at 612-668-4326.

CRISIS HOTLINE

Call the Minnesota Day One Crisis Hotline at 1-866-223-1111 if you or someone you know is seeking shelter due to a dangerous relationship or needs to create a safety plan.

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MPLS Storage located in the Longfellow neighborhood has units for rent at low rates. Locally owned and family operated. 1/2 block from Lake and Hiawatha. 612-333-7525.

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Nurses' negotiations highlight staffing shortages

Three-day Minnesota Nurses Association strike has ended, but no agreements have been reached for 15,000 nurses

By CHLOE PETER

Outside of Children's Minnesota Hospital - Minneapolis (2525 Chicago Ave.) and M Health Fairview Southdale Hospital (6401 France Ave. S.), nurses in bright red T-shirts held signs with sayings such as, "Remember when you called us heroes?" "Burnout led to this turnout," and "Fairview broke its nurses, not its budget." Cars driving by honked in support as nurses cheered back, and the picket line was filled with talk of what was going to happen in the upcoming days after the three-day strike.

On Sept. 1, 2022, nurses with the Minnesota Nurses Association (MNA) announced that 15,000 nurses throughout the state planned to strike for three days beginning Sept. 12. The nurses have negotiated with the hospital executives for more than five months and is the largest private-sector nurses' strike in U.S. history, according to the union.

The MNA press release from Sept. 15, 2022, stated, "Nurses have been bargaining for six months over new contracts, seeking changes to address the crisis of understaffing and retention in our hospitals. There is no shortage of nurses in Minnesota, but deteriorating care and working conditions are driving more nurses to leave the bedside. Recent studies show that more than half of all nurses are considering leaving the profession while adverse



Tricia Ryshkus (far left) and Susan Gerome (far right) are nurses at Children's Hospital, striking for safe staffing and retaining nurses. Gerome has been working Children's Minneapolis for 37 years. (Photo by Chloe Peter)

events for patients are increasing."

The strike affected 16 hospitals in the Minneapolis-St. Paul and Duluth area. The nurses union has been asking for a solution to short staffing and retention issues, and a wage increase of 27 to 30 percent over the next three years. While wages have been included in the negotiations, the primary concern of nurses on the picket line was staffing and patient care.

"We do not have appropriate staffing," said Nellie Arsenyeva, a nurse striking outside of Fairview. "We are expected to work double shifts, and may have six to eight patients to care for at one time."

Not all MNA nurses participated in the strike, and the positions left over

during the strike were covered by qualified temporary nurses. Allina Health released a statement reassuring patients that care would go on as normal. No agreements had been reached between executives and the MNA as of press time. However, Allina Health also announced that they are "looking forward to returning to the bargaining table," and are scheduling a bargaining session this week with the MNA on a contract agreement.

Another nurse on the picket line at M Health Fairview Southdale Hospital, Donna Soriano, said, "[People make] it sound like the strike is all about money but it's about patient safety, about not being able to give our patients the care

they deserve."

Nurses on the picket line in front of Children's Minneapolis played music including "We're Not Going to Take It" by Twisted Sister. They chanted, "We give great care every day. We need support every day. We need retention every day. We need contracts every day." Susan Gerome, a nurse outside of Children's Minneapolis, has worked there her entire career - 37 years. Her husband and daughter were with her in support, and mentioned that they needed safer working conditions for her.

Trisha Ryshkus, a registered nurse at Children's Minneapolis, said, "In order to protect our patients, we need safe staffing."

Tracey Dittrich, a nurse who has spent 24 years in the emergency room at Children's Minneapolis, was voted to be on the negotiating team representing the MNA nurses at Children's Minneapolis. This job includes attending bargaining meetings with executives at Allina Health, and advocating for better conditions for nurses at the hospital while negotiating current contracts.

While Allina Health has said they are "disappointed the union continues to demand unsustainable wage increases," the MNA published information showing that executives are making \$21 to one compared to an average registered nurse. Similarly, M Health Fairview executives are making \$40 to one in their pay ratio. Dittrich also said that, in bargaining, executives have focused on the wage increases and have ignored staffing concerns.

In looking ahead, the MNA press release from Sept. 15, 2022, stated, "As the three-day strike concludes, nurses stand ready to resume negotiations to win fair contracts to protect patient care and the nursing profession at the bedside. Hospital executives with million-dollar salaries can afford to make the changes necessary to protect care and working conditions at the bedside."

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