

SOUTHWEST Connector

NEWS FOR EVERYONE, DELIVERED TO EVERYONE • OCTOBER 20, 2022 • VOL. 1 • NO. 19



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THE SOUL BEHIND THE IMAGES

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



Ebony Patterson's "From the corner of my eye" is part of "A Picture Gallery of the Soul" exhibit at the Katherine E. Nash Gallery. (Photo by Susan Schaefer)

By **Susan Schaefer**
UNDER THE HOOD
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.

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SAFER APPROACH FOR CUSTODY CASES



By **Tesha M. Christensen**

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.

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. 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

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MINNEAPOLIS RESIDENT APPOINTED NEW CITY ATTORNEY

Kristyn Anderson wants "nothing more than to give back to the city that has given me and my family so much."

By **Cam Gordon**

Minneapolis has a new city attorney. Following a public hearing on Sept. 6 and city council approval on the 8th, Kristyn Anderson was officially sworn in for a four-year term on Sept. 27.

Unlike the mayor's last nomination, Jim Rowader, who had little experience in the public sector and chose not to seek another term last May, almost all of Anderson's 26-year-long career has been in the public sector. Also, unlike some of the mayor's other recent nominations, she has lived in Minneapo-



Kristyn Anderson has lived in Prospect Park since 2003 with her family. (Photo by Cam Gordon)

lis for years and is well known in the state. Anderson was born and raised in Racine, Wis., and received a bachelor's degree in political science and history from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She moved to Minneapolis in 1993 to go to the U of M Law School, and has stayed in the Twin Cities ever since. After living in St. Paul for a time following her graduation from the U of M, she moved to the Prospect Park neighborhood in 2003. "We didn't even know where Prospect Park was at the time," Anderson said. "Our real estate agent suggested we look in Prospect Park and we loved the neighborhood immediately. The Witch's Hat water tower is iconic. The windy roads that people who park here for football games get lost on. The way everyone goes all-in for Halloween. Having a community school at the center of the neighborhood that is supported by the whole community, regardless of whether they have school-aged kids. We met wonderful life-long friends while our kids played together on the Pratt playground." Outside of work, Anderson enjoys walking around the U of M East Bank campus. "It's so energizing to be around students who are newly experiencing their independence in Minneapolis," she said. "I also really enjoy all of the fun places to

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RUNNING FOR GFS

The main caretaker for George Floyd Square (38th and Chicago) and members of the team ran in the Twin Cities Marathon on Oct. 2, 2022 to raise money in support of the memorial and an internship in memorial caretaking and cultural heritage preservation.

Jeanelle Austin is the director and founder of Racial Agency Initiative, a resource for racial justice leadership coaching. She is also the lead caretaker of the George Floyd Square.

"In the spring, I was reminiscing about my dad, who died in 2019, with my mother. We talked about the time I ran the Twin Cities Marathon in 2016 and my dad wore my medal all afternoon. At that moment, I remembered that charities could run the marathon, and that the George Floyd Global Memorial could sign up as a charity to raise money for our programming. After all, it fit with our Rise & Remember theme: We Will Heal Us. It was the perfect opportunity to help the community engage in being healthy and raise money that would benefit our community at George Floyd Square. So, we organized a George Floyd Square team composed of neighbors and volunteers. We had nine runners signed up for the 10-mile race and four runners for the marathon race.

"This summer, we launched our Cultural Heritage Preservation Internship program. We hired three black youth from high school and college and taught them skills in memorial caretaking, archiving, art conservation, and exhibition. The experience went so well that we knew we wanted to keep the program going and run to raise money for youth jobs next summer. We did the math and figured that every \$4,000 provides one youth internship.

"Collectively we raised over \$7,000 for youth internships next summer! People can still give through the George Floyd Global Memorial website. When giving, simply put 'CHPI program' in the PayPal memo, and it will go toward the summer program.

"We had an amazing race this year. One of our runners, Phi Khalar, placed second in the non-binary category for the 10-mile race. We are so proud of them! The best part about it all is that we got to show the Twin Cities that we at George Floyd Square are truly a community and will continue to live and support Black life and Black liberation. We just may expand people's imaginations as to when and how we show up for Black lives."

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▶1 THE SOUL BEHIND

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 photography, 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 sociology 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 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 well-known Twin Citians, Seitu Jones and Ta-coumba Aiken. Together, they established an African American Culture Cen-



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)

ter 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



"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)

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 chromi-

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 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.

ra 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.

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.

WHY WE MUST WORK TO GET OUT THE VOTE THIS YEAR

TEAMING UP FOR GOOD

We still live in a democracy – where the person who gets the most votes, the person who wins the election, is the person who takes office. That could change if Republicans take control this year.

Democracy is on the ballot. Along with abortion rights, climate change, and racism.

But I'm not writing today about the awfulness of what will happen if we lose the House and Senate this year. Rather, I want to talk about what we can do about it.

But first, I want to give some context, for it's not just liberals like me who are making these claims.

The quotes below are from a recent Washington Post interview with well-known conservative elite Bill Kristol, once the Chief of Staff to Republican Vice President Dan Quayle, then founder of the political magazine *The Weekly Standard*. He is now chair of the Republican Accountability Project.

Here's the headline for this interview:

"A longtime conservative insider warns: The GOP can't be saved"

Referring to the Republican Party, Kristol calls Trump "the infection that makes the underlying medical issue inoperable.... (but) Trump himself departing the scene by no means guarantees the de-Trumpification of the Republican Party..." Kristol goes on to say, "The fact



By **Larry LaVercombe**

is, I have not voted for a Republican since Trump became president.

"It would be foolish to watch Trump take over the Republican Party – to watch so many conservative elites rationalize and acquiesce and enable Trump – and then say, 'Conservatism is totally healthy.' You can't say that with a straight face."

Interviewer: "It sounds like you don't think the Republican Party can be saved."

Kristol: "At least not in the short term. And if we don't have two reasonably healthy parties, the unhealthy party has to be defeated."

Yes, that's what this longtime neo-conservative who was instrumental in defeating the Clinton Health Care Plan of 1993 said: "The unhealthy party has to be defeated."

Now of course, there's always a counter-argument. In a recent conversation of my own, it was suggested that this kind of talk could lead to Civil War, for in fact, there is a segment of the Republican Party that is threatening violence if the elections don't go their way. But is that reason to cooperate with them, and reach across the aisle in friendship? Do we really need to unite under threat? Or, do we need to recognize the unhealthiness in a group of leaders and voters who value power over character and honesty. As I said in a previous column, if you are subjected to abuse in a marriage, you don't kiss and make up. You get divorced.

But therein lies another of our problems. We only have two viable parties at this point, so Republicans who want to leave their party have nowhere to go except to the "enemy" side. Of course, I do

recognize that we have the Libertarians, and the Independent, Green and Legal Marijuana parties, but until we get ranked choice voting approved statewide, those parties only serve as spoilers.

If ranked choice voting was the law of the land, then respectable, non-election-denying Republicans could go to a party like the Libertarians and Independents and have hope that their vote would not be wasted. But in order for that to happen, we in Minnesota will first have to vote in a Democratic State House and Democratic State Senate, for it is Republican opposition that stands in the way of us adopting that method of voting that eliminates the spoiler affect and that leads to election results where a true majority is represented.

Which gets us to the action point: getting out the vote.

For many of us (and by us, I mean the privileged), the personal issue that moves us most is a moral one. We vote for Justice. We vote not for lower taxes, but for peace, and fairness, and for the environment. We can't understand how you could vote Republican in these times... But we do understand why people don't vote at all.

Many of the underprivileged, the poor and disenfranchised, have little faith in government, so that group is hard to mobilize. Also hard to mobilize is what I call "the preoccupied middle," those who don't understand that inflation won't matter if we don't have a democracy, and who still don't recognize that in fact our democracy is at stake.

So it becomes our job to educate

them, and to get out the vote – because that is what will preserve the freedoms and rights that so many of us take for granted.

And here's the good news: You actually can do things that will directly affect the vote. You can Team Up for Good with other do-gooders by volunteering two hours to walk a precinct and door-knock for a good candidate. You don't need special skills for this, just a commitment to do good. You can also send money, of course. But while that may be all you can do at this point to help Senator Warnock defeat Herschel Walker, door-knocking affects the Minnesota State House and Senate.

We have superb State Legislative Representation in Frank Hornstein and Jamie Long, and they, along with our Congressional District Chair Scott Graham, spearhead a Get-Out-The-Vote effort that spreads deep into the purple suburbs. All you need to do to join the effort is go directly to Frank or Jamie's websites: www.jamielong.com and www.frankhornstein.org. They are personally leading many of these walks, and they are inspiring to be with. You can also visit www.dfl.org and click on the "Volunteer" button. That will take you to the "Mobilize Us" Page – and there you can pick the most convenient time and place to help out.

Do it. We will win.



Larry LaVercombe is a writer, filmmaker, and activist, born in Detroit and arrived in Minneapolis in 1975. He lived in a treehouse in San Diego before getting an MFA from the USC Film School. He writes most days, and as Team Larry he has been selling residential real estate in Minneapolis for 26 years.

I'M SCARED - WHAT ABOUT YOU?

STORIES & JOURNEYS

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.



By **Donald L. Hammen**

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 forgiveness? 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.



We want to hear from you. Email news@SWconnector.com

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SOUTHWEST Connector

The Southwest Connector is a twice monthly community publication in Southwest Minneapolis, owned and operated by TMC Publications, CO. Visit our website for our calendar and publication dates.

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Story ideas always welcome.

Keep in touch with the Connector. Letters to the editor under 200 words and news releases for publication can be sent via e-mail to news@swconnector.com.

Unsigned letters will not run.

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Design & Layout: Tesha M. Christensen
Billing: billing@swconnector.com

Printing by: ECM/Adams Publishing Group

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

Delivery: Bjorn Willms, 612-235-7197,

Delivery@swconnector.com

Mail subscriptions available at \$80/year.

Contributing Writers & Photographers:

Abha Karnick, Susan Schaefer, Jan Willms, Jill Boogren, Cam Gordon, Iric Nathanson, Stewart Huntington, and Terry Faust

Member of Minnesota Newspaper Association and Midwest Community Free Papers.

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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.

▶ 1 A SAFER APPROACH

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 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.



Ana Martinez-Mullen

"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.

NEED LEGAL HELP?

- BWJP provides research and resources.
- Battered Women's Legal Advocacy Project, now called Standpoint, provides domestic and sexual violence victim-survivors help in a legal crisis. Standpoint is also based in St. Paul's Midway at 2233 University Avenue West, Suite 150. The Action Line Toll Free: 800.313.2666; text Line: 612.743.7397; email: info@standpointmn.org. Calling is recommended over email, as email is an insecure form of communication.

NEED IMMEDIATE HELP?

Call Minnesota's 24/7 crisis hotline at 866.223.1111



The Southwest Connector and Longfellow Nokomis Messenger reached out to local candidates with questions on a variety of issues. Here are the responses of the candidates who responded. View more election resources online at www.swconnector.com.

Minneapolis school board at-large (vote for 2)

Vying for this position are Collin Beachy, Sonya Emerick, KerryJo Felder and Lisa Skjefte (no response).

COLLIN BEACHY

www.www.beachy4schoolboard.com

Beachy is currently in his 21st year of teaching. This is his eighth as a special education teacher with Minneapolis Public Schools.

"I come from a family of teachers, and I am a strong advocate of public education," he said. "I am running for the school board in part to help restore the trust that we have lost with the public. I believe that a school district cannot be run with a corporate mentality, one that treats its employees, students, and families as inventory on a spreadsheet rather than investments into our future. I am part of the Safe and Stable Schools slate and am DFL and union endorsed. My priorities will be ensuring that our teachers and parents have the tools they need to provide the best education possible for our students."

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

There are curricular frameworks that respect diverse populations while at the same time stressing academic rigor. If we are to be serious about our commitment to closing the gaps, we need ensure our staff are fully versed in how to implement these frameworks into their teaching methods through targeted and intensive professional development training sessions.

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?

I am fully union endorsed and intend to ensure that the people who are truly the ones keeping MPS running will be priority. This district has lost the trust of the community. Under the current system, the flow of information comes from the administration to the board. That information now needs to be fully vetted by those stakeholders who will be most affected by administrative decisions.

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

There are two clear paths for us to follow post-strike. After Chicago's teacher strike, the fighting resumed. After the Los Angeles teacher strike, the administration, school board and unions created a process separate from negotiations to avert another



strike. I would like to encourage us to pursue a process like the latter rather than the former.

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

I would ask the following questions: 1-What are the long-term visions and goals of the CDD. 2-What are the benchmarks for the long-term vision? 3-How have we hit our targets and what are the next steps moving forward? 4-Has the public been fully and dutifully informed? 5-If we did not hit our benchmarks, what are the plans to address where we fell short?

What are your ideas for educating students holistically?

The public mental health crisis that was building before the pandemic is definitely affecting many of our students. I believe a quality education should include one that addresses our students' academic as well as non-academic needs. Ensuring our students have access to wraparound services such as tutoring, enrichment activities in the arts, and workforce development should be a part of our educational services.

SONYA EMERICK

www.Sonya4forms.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.

KERRYJO FELDER

www.kerryjo4schoolboard.com

Felder is a graduate of the Summatech magnet and the second student to double magnet by partaking in the Visual & Performing Arts (VPA) for two years. Her passion for this work began alongside a large coalition of alumni that saved North High

School from the brink of closure in 2010. KerryJo is an MPS bonus mom of two children: one goes to Franklin Middle and the other to North High School.

She serves on the Victory Neighborhood Association and June-teenth board, and she directs the Fremont Avenue Parade on Juneteenth.

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

Even before the school board started discussing it, I knew we had to get on a structured literacy with heavy phonics and structured math teaching district wide. Structured literacy with phonics is the one to cut across most lines, whether it be ethnic, comprehension or dyslexia.

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?

Well, that's how I knew about answer #1. I want to be on the school board, not a reading specialist, so I reached out to math teachers, paraprofessionals, and parmentors, to see what they thought about the different options. They look at if the children are interested, is it easy to teach, do the children stay interested, can teachers make it interesting and a lot more factors.

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

Students and parents should lead the way and confide in their teachers, who should confide in their administrators, who should run that up as well. We have been doing it wrong for far too long. Most parents know the teachers were right and the district didn't have to choose to prolong the way it did.

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

We have schools with too few and schools with too many students. We have families split up and they deserve to have the lines redrawn so their children can be together again, even if they drive. Plus, we have redistricted, so the lines should be revisited to be more fair citywide anyways. Also, making sure math/reading are identical throughout the district. We just had one side of district program heavy for too long and the boat started sinking. We have to put together a district that will be competitive and sustainable.

What are your ideas for educating students holistically?

Having students tell us what they need and then implementing it. Having parents tell us what their children need and implementing it. Asking what our people (all staff) need inside the schools and implement them. It's time to make our schools whole and leave everything else outside. Of course growing fantastic programs, getting to seven hours all around, an on-time bussing schedule and after school activities for all.

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.

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@lwvminn.org if you'd like us to work with your community on voter registration, education or turnout.

Visit 411.org for information about voting.

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 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 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 car jackings?

I plan to go after the individual that the carjackers are selling the cars to and insure that those whom are committing these car-

jackings 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 deputies 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.



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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."



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. One of her first cases went all the way to the US Supreme Court. Moriarty attended Macalester College and then the University of Minnesota Law School. "During my six years leading the second largest public law office in the state, an independent evaluation recognized it as one of the most effective offices in the country," she said. "I'm proud to have the endorsement of the DFL, Keith Ellison, Scott Dibble, Jamie Long, Frank Hornstein, pro-choice groups, and over 50 legislators, mayors, city council and school board members across Hennepin County."



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

My job will always be to keep everyone safe. I will focus our resources on prosecuting violent crime, especially gun violence. As Hennepin County Attorney, I need good police work to successfully prosecute those responsible for violent crime. I will partner with police to improve processes for effective prosecution.

How do you view child protection and support cases?

We need to protect children and we need to make sure caregivers have the resources they need to be successful. Parents should pay support for their children, and we also need to ensure that they aren't punished in ways that result in losing the means to pay.

How will you address the public's changing opinions on criminal justice reform?

I will make data and research-driven decisions and I believe in transparency, accountability, and accessibility. This means that the public will know our office's policies and what the data shows. I will engage communities throughout the county to make sure that we are hearing and addressing their concerns.

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

We need to hold kids accountable for the crimes they commit to protect the community and also to help kids develop better decision-making and avoid reoffending. We can help prevent reoffense through structured risk and needs assessments, and interventions rooted in adolescent brain development, trauma-informed care, and restorative justice practices.

How will you address equity issues in prosecution?

My office will collect data on racial disparities in every part of the system to examine decision points and create policies through a racial equity lens. In particular, we need to monitor high-disparity touch points including traffic stops, "consent" searches, and arrests.

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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 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



Ama Sushi. It's been a while since I've had a go-to sushi place, but Ama Sushi could be the one. The space is pretty cool and small (much like I imagine a sushi place to be in Japan), the people are friendly, the place has a buzz to it, and the "Sushi Deluxe" entree can't be beat. Side bonus: They also make a pretty good Tibetan Momo (dumpling) if sushi isn't your thing. (Illustration by WACSO)

Q&A WITH LOCAL TRUE CRIME AUTHOR

Celebrate launch of 'The Quarry Girls' at Once Upon A Crime on Nov. 1, 6 p.m.

By **Chloe Peter**

Anthony and Thriller Award winning author of crime fiction, Jessica Lourey, has a new book called "The Quarry Girls" based on real-life true crime events that happened in St. Cloud around the 1970s. Now a resident of East Isles in southwest Minneapolis, Lourey said she enjoys writing about Minnesota because of the complexities Minnesota has that she hasn't found anywhere else.

HOW DID YOU BEGIN TO WRITE BOOKS?

Lourey: It started when I was six. I wrote this Minnesota haiku for my awesome grandpa:

Grandpas are full of love
Grandpas are full of tickles

But grandpas are especially full of pickles.

People loved it. Aunts hugged me, cousins were jealous, uncles asked me to immortalize them next. My poetry skills have not evolved since that day, but the enchantment with words and their power grew inside me like a watermelon seed. I wrote my first novel when I was 26. It featured three women traveling across the United States. Like most first novels, it was embarrassingly self-involved, full of overwritten description and 20-pound dialogue tags.

Amazingly, no publisher would take a look at the first three chapters. I ended up with two master's degrees, one in English and one in sociology, and a teaching job at Alexandria Technical and Community College while living in rural Battle Lake, Minn.

But, like most writers, I couldn't stop thinking of book ideas, scribbling down sparks of description or snatches of conversation that I overheard and would love to work into a story, feeling lazy and envious when I read a fantastic novel. When a traumatic life event reminded me of the true power of writing, I started penning MAY DAY, the first in my Murder-by-Month mysteries for adults.

It turned out mystery writing fit me well.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INTERESTED IN THE MYSTERY/TRUE CRIME GENRE?



Jessica Lourey's book "The Quarry Girls" examines how crime and the fear it brings shows people for who they are. It releases on Nov. 1, 2022. Lourey resides in southwest Minneapolis. (Photos submitted)

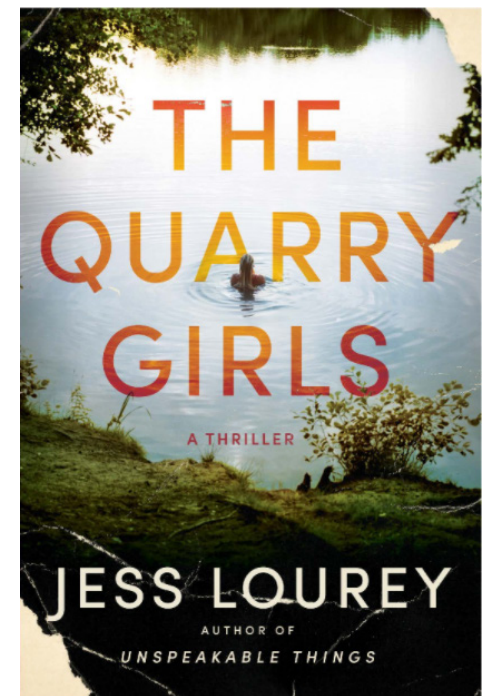
Lourey: I wrote my first mystery, and my first published book, "May Day," after my husband committed suicide. I wrote it because I was pregnant and spiraling into a deep depression. I needed to focus on justice, on answers, and on allies to stay healthy, and writing a mystery gave me that.

HOW DOES LIVING IN MINNESOTA INFLUENCE YOUR WRITING?

Lourey: It's funny because when my first book came out in 2006, I was told by many people in the industry that writing books set in the Midwest is a hard sell, with some notable exceptions. We're considered a flyover state. But I can't separate me from Minnesota, and so every book I've written starts out here if it's not entirely set here. At the moment, I'm writing a dystopic YA set in 250 years in the future, and my editor gave me license to set it anywhere. ANYWHERE. Space. A made-up world. Tasmania. Anywhere. I set it in southern Minnesota.

CAN YOU TELL US A BIT OF WHAT "THE QUARRY GIRLS" IS ABOUT?

Lourey: In St. Cloud in the 1970s, there were two, possibly three, serial killers operating. I was a child living in St. Cloud,



WHERE DID YOU GET THE IDEA TO BASE THE STORY OFF REAL TRUE CRIME EVENTS?

Lourey: I stumbled onto it with "Unspeakable Things," my 20th book as well as my breakout novel. It's a fictionalized version of the true story of growing up in Paynesville, Minn. In the 1980s, boys were being abducted and returned, and no one would tell us kids what was going on. At first, my agent couldn't sell. She did a last-ditch pitch to Thomas & Mercer, an imprint of Amazon Publishing. They picked it up and found its audience. It's sold over 350,000 copies.

WHAT DOES THE PROCESS OF WRITING A MYSTERY/TRUE CRIME BOOK LOOK LIKE?

Lourey: I think it's different for every writer, but for me, I write two books a year. My publisher tells me what they want – true-crime-inspired, thriller, short story, or novel, etc. – and I find a way to make that meaningful to me so I'm telling a story that I think is important. Once I land on the kernel for the idea, I start watching movies and reading books set in the era and/or in the genre that I'm going to write. When writing suspense, I particularly like to watch horror movies. Research takes me about two weeks, and then it takes another 10 weeks to write the first draft. After that comes a lot of editing.

"The Quarry Girls" launch party will be held at Once Upon a Crime in Minneapolis on Nov. 1 at 6 p.m. I'll be joined by other Minnesota authors, as well as award-winning Chicago author Lori Rader-Day: <https://onceuponacrimebooks.indielite.org/event/jess-lourey-quarry-girls>.



and I remember that immersive fear made worse by the vagueness with which adults talk to children about violent crime. "The Quarry Girls" examines what it was like to be navigating that, and how crime and the fear it brings shows us for who we are, creating a space for either a profound and painful reckoning, or for a doubling down of the thinking and behavior that created a fertile environment for the crime in the first place.

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GIFTS FROM SURGERY RECOVERY

FROM YOUR CENTER WITHIN

As a pharmacist and health and wellness coach, I felt as prepared as possible heading into my total knee replacement Aug. 29. With the looming nursing strike in our community hospitals, I did my pre surgery exercises and appointments knowing there would be circumstances that I could not control. Fortunately, there was a full and amazing team of health care providers on staff for my surgery and hospital stay.

As recovery from surgery and trauma goes, there have been ups and downs. The practice of mindfulness, being in the present moment with what is with as little judgment as possible, has become an epic practice. My mind-body practices of deep breathing, biofeedback and listening to therapeutic music have been daily occurrences.

The first couple weeks were a blur. There were earth angels daily supporting me with meals, overnight stays, and nu-



By Michele Rae

merous well wishes. PT and OT came to the house to teach me how to stay safe and begin my journey to recover the range of motion in my knee. As I moved into weeks three and four, my nerves began to wake up and repair themselves creating pain up and down my leg.

My body's innate wisdom has been front and center leading in letting me know what most serves its recovery. I have truly been in awe and wonder at the innate process of body repairing the traumatized tissues in my leg. Inflammation, nausea, pain, and restlessness required attention. Sleep and my rigorous twice daily home PT exercises have also been a top priority.

Skilled practitioners providing integrative therapies of healing touch, massage, Reiki, microcurrent, homeopathy, herbs, Bemer and Biomat therapy, reflexology, essential oils, and guided meditation have contributed positively to my recovery. We live in a community of abundance of brilliant and well-trained health and wellness professionals. So appreciating our wonderful order and pick-up restaurants and shops, too. The beautiful fall weather this past month has allowed me time on

the deck with nature and friends. What gifts! These moments being flooded with gratitude have supported my healing process.

The memories of previous trauma also surfaced into my awareness. This being my first surgery, I was surprised to feel triggered with inner anguish remembering my 37-year-old sister's death three days after having leg surgery. This trauma I experienced lived in my cells and re-emerged for deeper healing and releasing. I have done more reading and talking to people about the way trauma is stored in our body and their mind-body experiences as they recalled past related suffering. The recovery and healing are like peeling an onion, one layer at a time.

This process has been humbling as I feel vulnerable, raw and groggy. As a holistic coach, I support my clients and students as they make sustainable choices to live a more authentic and empowered life. As I recover from this knee surgery, I am the receiver not the giver – triggering a buried belief it is superior to give over receiving. Inner self talk told me I need to have my own back, pull myself up by my bootstraps, and be independent. I had attached the belief that I am somehow indebted, owe or obligated when I receive. Where did I learn I need to earn my keep

before deserving support, love, and kindness? My capacity to unconditionally love has expanded, realizing how conditionally I have received love.

So, I continue to practice relying on my amazing support system. Friends and family are providing rides, meals, help with chores, and inspiring dialogues. Having a strong network of caring people in our lives supports our wellbeing no matter what circumstances we are living through, from joy and sorrow to impatience and contentment.

I am curious – on the other side of this healing process – how the lasting effects of this experience will impact my identity, my ability to love and to serve. As I return to my coaching practice, I treasure even more deeply the tender authentic conversations with my clients. For now, I am living in the present moment, attending to what is arising and required. I am practicing gratitude throughout my day.



Michele Rae, RPh, MA, NBC-HWC is the founder of The Center Within, LLC and author of "Living From the Center Within: Co-Creating Who You Are Becoming." She provides holistic coaching designed to accelerate and support personal, professional, and organizational transformation.

▶ CITY ATTORNEY

eat that have popped up on the north side of University Avenue."

"Minneapolis is my city. I live here. I go to church here. My kids went to school here," she told the council following the public hearing. "I want nothing more than to give back to the city that has given me and my family so much."

Anderson and her spouse have three children, ages 16, 18, and 20 who all attended Minneapolis Public Schools through all their K-12 years. The two older ones are away at college, but Anderson hopes that they will move back eventually.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC EXPERIENCE

Anderson began her career in the private sector, practicing employment law for four years, before moving to the public sector where she has worked ever since.

Since 2014, Anderson worked as Minnesota Management and Budget's General Counsel, Enterprise Employment Law Counsel, and the State Ethics Officer where she provided legal advice and training to state agencies on a variety of issues including, compliance with ethics rules, employment laws, and data practices.

For 13 years prior to that, she worked at the Minnesota Attorney General's Office litigating civil cases, where she represented all branches of state government and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

One of her proudest accomplishments was developing a sexual harassment prevention training program in partnership with the Minnesota Management and Budget Enterprise Talent Development team. "It is an annually required online training – there is a leader module and an all-employee module," she said. "You can hear my voice as the narrator in one

of the modules. I truly loved my whole 22 years at the state. I am proud to have had the opportunity to serve the people of Minnesota."

TRANSPARENT AND CONSISTENT ADVICE

The search for the new city attorney started last May when Mayor Frey convened a volunteer search committee that included Lee Sheehy, Charlie Nauen, Emily Piper, Lola Velazquez Aguilu, and Sam Clark. Over two months, the committee met, reviewed credentials and recommended several candidates for interviews. They also consulted with the Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers, Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association, Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Lavender Bar, Minnesota Association of American Indian Lawyers, Minnesota Association of Women Lawyers and Twin Cities Diversity in Practice.

When asked why she decided to seek the position, Anderson said, "I am a public lawyer through and through. The Minneapolis City Attorney job is a fantastic job for a public lawyer. It's a way to serve the community more directly even than in my prior roles."

The City Attorney's Office represents the City of Minneapolis, elected officials and staff, city departments and independent boards and commissions in civil legal matters. They also help draft and provide legal guidance for ordinances and other council decisions, with an attorney assigned to each council committee. They negotiate and draft development agreements, advise on constitutional protections, and represent the city government in administrative proceedings and in federal and state court to hold landlords accountable, defend against challenges to city ordinances and policies, and advocate for Minneapolis and its residents. The of-

fice also has a criminal division that prosecutes criminal cases involving adults who commit petty misdemeanors, misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors in the city.

As City Attorney, Anderson will oversee roughly 100 employees and receive an annual salary of \$172,000 to \$217,000.

Seven people (Kristin Batson, Dori Leland, Tim O'Malley, Howard Dotson, Myron Frans, Emily Piper and Sam Clark) spoke at the public hearing, and all supported Anderson's appointment.

"She has dedicated her career to good government and the public good. She has high standards for what people should be able to expect from their government and its representatives, and she embodies those standards on a daily basis," said Kristin Batson, who worked with her when she was with the Office of Management and Budget.

Dore Leland called her "truly one of the most trusted and respected and beloved members of state government." Myron Frans highlighted her work at the office on workforce diversity, sexual harassment, improving equity and inclusion and working with labor. Franz said that she "understands the critical role of legal counsel in the public sector."

Following the hearing, several council members asked how she would manage being the legal counsel to both the mayor and the city council. "The mayor, the council members, the department heads," she said, "you all can rely on me to follow the rules of professional responsibility and give you all my best, transparent and consistent legal advice." She added, "I'm not giving different legal advice depending on who's asking."

"As a public lawyer I know that at the end of the day my client will be the city and the people of Minneapolis."

Ward 7 Council Member Lisa Good-

man formally moved to approve the nomination at the committee. Goodman said, "Her commitment to public law cannot be questioned." The motion passed with council members Payne, Wonsley, Rainville, Vetaw, Goodman, Jenkins, Chavez, Chughtai, Koski, and Palmisano voting in favor, with Ellison, Osman, and Johnson absent.

At the full council meeting, Anderson's nomination passed with a 12-0 vote, with council member Johnson being absent.

"My short-term priorities are to learn the parts of my job that are unique to being city attorney and to build relationships so that I can be an effective lawyer for my client and a good support for the amazing staff of the City Attorney's Office," she said, "and to stop getting lost in City Hall."

In terms of longer-term priorities, she said, "I'm really in study mode right now. The city has great existing diversion and victim witness programs, as well as strong ethics requirements for city employees. I want to look more at what additional things the office may be able to do related to criminal justice reform, as well as promoting accountability for public employees."

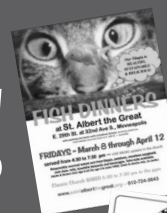
Anderson is aware that the city has been through challenging times and has lived through them as a city resident. "Minneapolis is a wonderful city, but it has obviously been an especially hard few years and many of our Minneapolis neighbors are hurting," she said. "I think city leaders, including myself, are all committed to the change that needs to happen, but change never happens fast enough."

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DEBUT OF OPERATIC FILM 'MINÁGI KIŃ DOWÁŃ: A ZITKÁLA-ŠÁ OPERA' THIS WEEK

"Minági kiŃ dowáŃ: a Zitkála-Šá opera," ("My Spirit Sings" in Dakota) is an original film written, composed and sung by an all-Indigenous team. The premiere took place at Water Works Park in Minneapolis on Oct. 14, 2022, and is followed by three screenings at Indigenous Roots Cultural Center in St. Paul. On Oct. 21 and 22, 7 p.m., there will be a community festival with food and art vendors, music and artist roundtables, and an 8 p.m. screening. On Oct. 23, there is a 4 p.m. community festival, and 5 p.m. screening (*ASL interpreted). There are 75 pay-as-able tickets available per show. Performances presented in English and Dakota with closed captioning and translations.

The mission behind the film is to honor the life and legacy of Zitkála-Šá, a Dakota woman born in 1876 on the Yankton Reservation in South Dakota. Not widely known today, Zitkála-Šá (pronounced: Zeet-KA-lasha) was highly influential during her lifetime as a prolific artist and activist who was a published writer, performed in the Oval Office in 1900, premiered an opera in 1913, and co-founded the National Council of American Indians in 1926, and is actually buried not far from JFK.

In addition to the opera, a documentary series is also being created to share what decolonizing the process about the film of eurocentric art can look like. Episode one can be found at <https://vimeo.com/680314285/88a9d0f0ba>



NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFS

POSTERS FOR PARKS OCT. 22

Back in person at Royal Foundry Craft Spirits after two years of online-only sales, Twin Citians can once again come together for the annual Posters for Parks for Show. The 2022 gallery-style event on Saturday, Oct. 22, 4-8 p.m. at the Royal Foundry showcases the work of over 40 local artists who created original poster designs inspired by Minneapolis's renowned parks and the people, plants, and animals that share them. Posters for Parks benefits the Twin Cities community, with 50% of each \$45 poster purchase going to the artist, and proceeds from the remaining 50% designated for the Minneapolis Parks Foundation's People for Parks Fund. Last year, more than \$36,000 was raised, which helped the Parks Foundation make nine equity-aligned grants throughout Minneapolis in 2022, supporting Slow Roll MSP, swimming lessons at Webber Natural Swimming Pool, and Afro Cardio/Yoga classes at North Commons Park and much more.

HALLOWEEN TOUR OCT. 24-31

Enjoy the sights and frights around Armatage and Kenny for this year's Halloween Tour. The tour is self-guided and great for all ages. The tour map will be available at armatage.org and at kenny-neighborhood.org just a few days before the tour starts. From 6-8 p.m., visitors will be able to tour and vote for their favorites in the following categories and the displays. The most votes in each category will get a \$50 gift card donated by neighborhood favorite, Book Club Restaurant.

KINGFIELD FALL FEST OCT. 30

Join the Kingfield community from 3-6 p.m. at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 4055 Nicollet Avenue for Fall Fest 2022. They will have a back-to-school drive, a live dj, trick-or-treating and other family-friendly activities. It is free to attend. For more information, text "FALL" to (612) 470-8532.

BRYN MAWR HEDGE

Sept. 18, 2022 marked the first anniversary of the Bryn Mawr hedge planting.

FUN FACTS ABOUT THE HEDGE

- 2.5 years of pre-planning
- 10 Volunteers on hedge letter preparation and jute placements
- 5 Letter Leaders Supervisors
- 115 Volunteers working in eight teams to plant the hedge in record time
- 318 Cotoneaster Lucidus Shrubs planted
- 100% survival rate thanks to drip irrigation system funded by BMNA
- 3 hedge trimmings to date

Interested in helping trim the hedge, distribute chips around the lilacs, pulling weeds or cutting nuisance tree seedlings? Contact Dennie Juillerat at Dennie.Juillerat@bmna.org or leave a text message at 612-850-5658.

IMS ART CRAWL RETURNS

International Market Square presents its IMS Art Crawl Minneapolis Oct. 27-28, 2022, 4-8 p.m. Entry is free and open to the public. "This fall we have gathered talented creators, painters, sculptors, jewelry makers, photographers, musicians & more for our semiannual event," remarked Matt Cook, Owner of Sawhill Custom Kitchen & Design and member of the IMS Art Crawl Minneapolis committee. "IMS is a hub for everything design related from finishes to fabrics and fixtures.

DIA DE MUERTOS

Midtown Global Market is partnering with CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio) to present a free, festive, and educational celebration commemorating Día de Muertos on Saturday, Oct. 29 from 12 - 5 p.m. Día de Muertos (Day of the Dead) is a tradition-filled Mexican holiday.

CITY BRIEFS

CITY GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

The Minneapolis city council has advanced Mayor Jacob Frey's proposed restructuring of city government. The proposal was developed by a task force he established earlier this year in response to ballot question #1 that was narrowly approved by voters in 2021. The ballot question, that needed 51% of the vote to pass, asked, "Shall the Minneapolis City Charter be amended to adopt a change in its form of government to an Executive Mayor-Legislative Council structure to shift certain powers to the mayor, consolidating administrative authority over all operating departments under the Mayor, and eliminating the Executive Committee?" It passed with 52.41%. The proposal significantly restricts the council's ability to work with and direct most city departments. The city council made minor amendments to an ordinance draft before holding the one required public hearing on Oct. 18. More amendments could be made before final approval later this month or in November.

SENIORS RESOURCE FAIR

The city is holding a South Minneapolis Seniors Fair on Oct. 26. The fair will feature the American Association of Retired People, Avinity Senior Living, Minneapolis 311, Assessors Office, Clerk's Office and Public Works Department, Hennepin County Library, Minneapolis Public Schools Community Education, Nokomis Healthy Seniors, Southside Clinic, Trust Inc, Trellis and more. Participants can join workshops and receive free blood pressure tests, COVID-19 tests, vaccinations, boosters, and flu shots. It will go 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Sabathani Community Center,

310 E. 38th St.

2022 ELECTION

Early voting for the Nov. 8 general election is underway. You can 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. On Election Day, anyone who hasn't voted early can only vote at their assigned polling place. All polling places are open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. If you are going to vote on election day you may have a new polling place because of the redistricting process. Find your polling place at www.pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us. To see your sample ballot visit <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>.

COUNTY TAX LEVY

After Hennepin County staff recommended a 3.5% property tax levy increase for 2023, the county board is considering adding 1%, or \$9 million more. This follows a 0% property tax levy increase for 2022. Commissioner Irene Fernando said that the county needs a larger reserve as the federal funding from pandemic relief is spent. In October, the board supported Fernando's proposed 4.5% increase proposal by a 5-2 vote, though it must still vote on final approval on Dec. 15.

FALL STREET CLEANING UNDERWAY

During the last weeks of October and into November, the city will clean some 1,100 miles of city streets. Parking will be banned from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the day a street is swept. To avoid getting ticketed and towed for parking on the street watch for temporary "No Parking" that should be posted at least 24 hours before street is swept. In addition to the "No Parking" signs posted the day before

sweepers come through, the city will make about 3,000 automated phone calls each evening to let residents know their street will be swept the next day. People can use the street sweeping schedule map on the city's website to see in advance when their street is scheduled to be cleaned.

XCEL'S PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission has set public hearings on Xcel Energy's request to increase electricity costs for all its Minnesota customers. On average, the proposed rate change would increase the electricity bill for a typical residential electric customer by \$18.56 per month. The increase must first be approved by the commission who has set hearings for Friday, Oct. 21 at 2:30 p.m. at Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Doty Board Room; and virtually online at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 31 and 6 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 2. People can also submit written comments without attending public hearings through January 6, 2023. Please contact Jorge Alonso at 651-201-2258 or jorge.alonso@state.mn.us or Ben Gustafson at 651-201-2247 or ben.gustafson@state.mn.us for more information.

NEW POLICE CHIEF

Mayor Jacob Frey has nominated Brian O'Hara, who is currently the deputy mayor of Newark, New Jersey, to be the next police chief for Minneapolis. A city council committee is expected to set a public hearing for later this month. The mayor's nomination requires the approval of the Council. If it not approved, the mayor would need nominate someone else.

▶▶ Briefs compiled by Cam Gordon.

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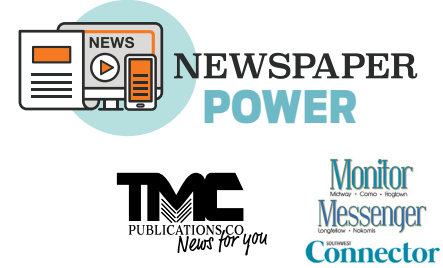
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COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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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HEALING OUR HOUSE DIVIDED

Westminster Town Hall Forum aims to heal polarization of society today through discussion.

By **Chloe Peter**

This fall, The Westminster Town Hall Forum presents "Healing Our House Divided" a four-part series in which intellectually diverse thinkers will argue that community can surmount what separates them. All of the forums are free and open to everyone.

Westminster Town Hall Forum Director Tane Danger, a Kingfield resident, mentioned they will offer meaningful ways individuals can reach out across rifts and cultivate a less antagonistic, angry society. They will show ways one can build bridges for a more respectful, pluralistic, and peaceful world.

In 1980, Westminster Presbyterian Church members Paul and Diane Neimann, launched the Westminster Town Hall Forum at the church 1200 Marquette Ave.). Watergate special prosecutor, Archibald Cox, was the first speaker, and the Reverend Donald Meisel moderated. Since then, more than 250 speakers have addressed forum audiences.

HEALING OUR HOUSE DIVIDED

This year, the advisory board wanted to focus on something that has impacted many people across the entire state and country. Over the course of conversations that the board had, the topic of healing, and 'healing our house divided' came up. Danger stated it continues to come up, in part, because of how polarized society has become.



Kingfield resident Tane Danger organizes the Westminster Town Hall Forums.

"The world right now feels like it's very split and very pulled apart in a variety of different ways, and we were ruminating on that as a topic," Danger said.

However, the board did not want a forum to focus on being divided, but rather wanted to try and focus on what the community and an individual may be able to do about it. They wanted to present questions such as: Are there solutions? Are there ways to build bridges across the divisions that we see and bring people together?

The series includes Jonathan Reckford on Oct. 5, 12 p.m. (recording available online), Lisa Pruitt on Oct. 25, 12 p.m., Eric Holder on Nov. 22, 6 p.m., and Chris Blattman on Dec. 8, 12 p.m. All forums will also be livestreamed on their website and are also available to view afterwards.

"We wanted people who were going to dig into what actually drives some of the polarization that we see, and what you can do about those roots of the divisions in our communities," Danger said. "We were actively looking for people who were going to talk about something deeper than that on this question."

One of the things that Danger really encourages people to do with the forums is to take time to challenge what they think personally. He pointed out that many may tend to think about how these talks may change others' opinions, but that these should also bring in self-reflection.

"The work starts at home and how we challenge ourselves to think differently

about any issue is really important both for the health of the conversation and, in this case, democracy," Danger said. "It's as important for that as it is for ourselves and for how we grow and function."

ENGAGING WITH THE WORLD AGAIN

Danger believes that civic engagement and civic dialogue aren't something an individual does to other people, but it is a practice that should be done with the self in order to be in a place to listen and engage thoughtfully with other people.

He also pointed out that, since many people were isolated during the COVID-19 pandemic, it can make one feel more divided or more separated from people who are living in different places or with different experiences. Danger hopes that this series is an invitation for folks to step out and really think about how they engage with the world beyond.

"I think it is vitally important for the health of our democracy because, if you can't find ways to connect with people civilly, it gets really scary to think about what the alternatives to that would be," Danger said.

Each forum is one hour in length and consists of a speaker followed by a Q&A with written questions from the audience. Local musicians perform a half hour before each forum, and a public reception, often with a book-signing by the speaker, follows the presentation. Danger pointed out that these receptions are a great way to try and build bridges with other community members.

"You come to the forum and then immediately afterwards there's a buffet of snacks and refreshments, and you can have a conversation with other folks who are in the same talk, and meet some people who are there," Danger said. "And so, they obviously have something in com-

WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL FORUM UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Mending the Rural-Urban Rift - Oct. 25 at 12 p.m. Lisa Pruitt's roots in rural America go back five generations. She believes politicians make a grave mistake writing off rural places and communities. She argues against conflating rurality with whiteness. At the same time, she pushes for a more nuanced understanding of rural and working-class whites, especially in the era of Trump.

A Conversation with Eric Holder - Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. Eric H. Holder, Jr. made history in 2009 when President Obama appointed him as attorney general, the first African American to hold that position. During his tenure, he championed landmark legislation on voting rights, immigration law, national security, and same-sex marriage.

Why We Fight: Global Conflict and How to Avert It - Dec. 8 at 12 p.m. Chris Blattman is an internationally renowned expert on violence and peacebuilding. His new best-selling book, "Why We Fight" draws on decades of economics, political science, psychology, and real-world interventions to lay out the root causes and remedies for war.

mon with you, but you might be hearing it or thinking about it from a very different perspective."

To find out more information on the forums, look online at <https://westminsterforum.org/> or email questions to info@westminsterforum.org. Their website also includes a full list of archived presentations since 1980 with audio recordings of the talks before 2004 and videos thereafter.

"I really try and drive home that I think that we forget that we're lucky to have something like the Westminster Forum, and I want to encourage people to really take advantage of that," Danger said.



Join Us!

OCTOBER 2022 ADMISSION EVENTS

LOWER SCHOOL (K-5) OPEN HOUSE
Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
1150 Goodrich Avenue, St. Paul

MIDDLE/UPPER SCHOOL (6-12) OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, October 27, 2022, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
1712 Randolph Avenue, St. Paul

Our October Admission Open Houses are designed for the entire family to spend the morning getting to know our community in a welcoming and flexible way. Join us to take a tour of campus, meet faculty and staff, and connect with current students and parents.

RSVPs are not required, but we encourage families to let us know if you plan to join us by registering on our Admission Events page at www.spa.edu/AdmissionEvents or by giving us a call at 651-696-1332.

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