

# Community REPORTER

SERVING WEST END NEIGHBORHOODS, DOWNTOWN ST. PAUL TO FORT SNELLING SINCE 1972

## BUILDING A NON-RACIST COMMUNITY

### The Deep North – Racism Today

BY TIM JOHNSON  
Retired Pastor of Cherokee Park United Church

**Editor's note:** This is the third in a series that Tim Johnson is writing for the *Community Reporter*. His reflections are drawn from the 2019 Overcoming Racism Conference held at Metropolitan State University.

I had never heard the expression “Deep North,” but as soon as Native activist and author Winona LaDuke uttered the words, they rang true. She was speaking about the racism she encounters as an Ojibwe woman in Minnesota. The clear implication was that racism is something that has as much reality in the Minnesota north as it does in the “Deep South.”

It is tempting to think of racism as either a thing of the past or as someone else's problem (especially the South), but not our problem. As a preacher, any temptation I had to distance myself from the shortcomings of those who sat in the pews was always called up short by the words of Jesus who said, “How can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye, when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye?’” Speaking of the Deep North has to do with recognizing and addressing the log in our own eye.

The log of racism in the Deep North was the subject of an article written by Randy Hurst and published this past September in the *Star Tribune* entitled “How did Minnesota become one of the most racially inequitable states?” Hurst took note of an unsettling reality recognized by various studies that found in Minnesota “the disparity gap between whites and blacks is among the largest in the country.” These same disparities exist between Hispanics and whites as well as American Indians and whites. The disparities are present in all the leading indicators including employment, homeownership, income and education.

Winona LaDuke, among others, finds the log of Deep North racism in the willingness of the State's Public Utility Commission to approve Line 3, allowing Enbridge to build new pipelines across lands that are part of the treaty rights for Ojibwe people in Minnesota. Just as the state ran interstate 94 directly through the once thriving African American Rondo community in St. Paul, the PUC is willing to put at risk wild rice beds and water ways so vital to Ojibwe life.

A few years ago, the log of racism in the Deep North was amplified by the Minnesota Historical Society Press when it published a book entitled *A Good Time For the Truth*. The book is a series of essays by authors of color and native authors reflecting on their present-day experience of race and racism in Minnesota. The first essay is by Taiyon J. Coleman, who came to Minnesota as a graduate student in a creative writing program at the University of Minnesota.

Taiyon, who grew up in Chicago, tells the story visiting a graduate program that she was considering in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. At first, she was charmed by the sites, colors and warmth of the South, but then she began to notice “Confederate flags all over the freaking city.” Taiyon determined she could not live with such “explicit and conspicuous symbolic displays of white supremacy.”

In Minnesota she found no such conspicuous displays. Instead what Taiyon encountered were white professors who were dismissive and unwilling to engage the creative use of Black urban vernacular in her work. She encountered a liberal institution whose predominant, almost exclusive models for writing were white and a room full of white students made noticeably uncomfortable by her presence. Taiyon concludes her essay by saying “there are Confederate flags everywhere, even in places where we can't see them.”

Anyone who has ever had anything in their eye, knows how unpleasant it is. Those of us who live in the Deep

North can take the log out if we are willing to be honest about the racism which exists. Minnesota has much to offer. I love this state of my birth, but we will only be our best if everyone can be their best.

[The fourth essay in this series will appear in April: “Reproducing Racism.”]

**Taiyon concludes her essay by saying “there are Confederate flags everywhere, even in places where we can't see them.”**



Transit is for everyone.

By Miriam Axel-Lute  
Editor, *Shelterforce*

**T**ransportation access is the No. 1 factor in lifting adults out of poverty, an often overlooked finding from the last several years' wave of big data research into economic mobility, or the lack thereof, in this country.

Transit is a crucial component in creating healthy neighborhoods, equity, and economic justice. But just as gentrification debates suck up a lot of the air in housing conversations, certain parts of the transportation conversation hog of the air time. Expanding rail lines, and the emerging world of bike shares and scooters are things that interest young urban professionals — and concern those who fear the affordability and cultural changes that tend

#### Editor's Introduction

*Community Reporter* is planning another round of attentiveness to our transit situation, now in a kind of limbo with the Riverview Corridor Locally Preferred Alternative chosen, but a predicted 12 years before any system might be operative. What do we do in the meantime? Our approach will be to explore the need for **equitable transit**, asking whether our present system or the proposed project can achieve existing Metro Transit goals of “**Equity**: The transit system plays an important role in providing access and opportunity to a number of disadvantaged groups, including people with disabilities, people of color, and low-income populations. This includes a large portion of the region's transit-dependent population.” The article, reprinted with permission from *Shelterforce*, gives us a start in thinking about how much could be done in this next decade.

to follow those professionals — and so a lot of time and ink is spent on them. They are still important, of course. We absolutely need far more and better rail service and multi-modal transportation options to get to where we can meaningfully reduce our car dependence.

But until the vast demand for walkable, transit-oriented neighborhoods is actually met, we need to intentionally mitigate the

rising unaffordability that comes with those neighborhoods.

But it would nonetheless be a mistake to let those conversations define all of what transit activism or advocacy can be. Improvements in existing transit — usually buses — can make a huge difference in the lives of low-income households, without being as likely as a new

TRANSIT, PG 3

## Victoria Park universally accessible play area gets a boost

When the idea of an accessible playground for Victoria Park was included in the master plan, the City stated explicitly: “Victoria Park Playground relies on private financial contributions of all sizes, as well as advocates to share and promote the need for safe, accessible and free play space. Please join us now by making your contribution of funds, time, and talent.”

A group of fifth and (one) sixth grade students at Capitol Hill Magnet School in the LEGO League program wanted to address the issue of handicapped accessibility in parks for their project this year, and realized that there was already a full park idea formed around it. They decided to become part of the Victoria Park process, responding to that City request, and have launched a Go Fund-Me campaign with the help of their coaches.

At their website page (universalparkforsp.weebly.com), they explain the project: “Back in October we began our second season of LEGO League with a challenge to find something in our community that could use improvement and with the right solution can benefit a lot of people. Our first idea was to design a park with things like heated sidewalks and wheelchair-accessible swings so that kids of all abilities, the elderly, and everyone in between could make full use of our parks, no matter the season.”

“We started talking to people at the city planning and parks departments to see what we needed to think of. We soon learned that the City of St. Paul had already given the



**To join the effort, see [gofundme.com/f/wgdam-help-fund-the-victoria-park-universal-play-area](https://gofundme.com/f/wgdam-help-fund-the-victoria-park-universal-play-area)**

Parks Dept. funding to plan a park, exactly like the one we were talking about, but there wasn't money to build it just yet. This became the problem that we wanted to solve.”

The students have also developed a backup plan in case the fundraiser isn't any more successful than the \$50k they are initially aiming for. The backup plan, which they

have already discussed with the city, would be to use the funds they do raise to upgrade existing parks with new, accessible features. This is only if there is no chance that there will be funding in the near future for the rest of the price tag that comes with the Victoria Universal Play Area.

They are also reaching out to city and state leaders, meeting with community groups (including Highland Friendship Club), and constantly looking for opportunities to have a bigger impact than the immediate fundraising goal.

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COUNTY PERSPECTIVES



You Count! And we all need to!

We all do better when we are all counted, especially when it comes to the U.S. Census. I want to share two important messages: First, fill your census form out as quickly and fully as you can. You can find the form starting March 12 at 2020census.gov. Second, if we fail to get an accurate count, we will lose as a state and a region and our most vulnerable will lose the most. We at Ramsey County, along with many community partners, have already been working to make sure the census will be a success. A success means we count everybody accurately, and over many years we have observed the challenges that make that hard. Our first goal was to help the census bureau to hire enough census takers to do the job in Ramsey County. We set an ambitious goal of getting more than 4,000 people to apply for the census worker jobs and we just recently achieved that. It is my hope that we will have the workers to serve in their own neighborhoods because they tend to be the most effective. A complete, accurate census count is necessary for equal political representation, fair distribution of federal and state funding, and sound planning and investment in infrastructure, real estate, business development and public policy. An inaccurate census denies money for schools, roads, and transit to millions of low-income urban and rural households, immigrant communities, people of color and young children. In the coming weeks, every person will receive a letter from the census bureau inviting them to fill the form out online. If people don't respond, then they will receive reminder letters and then be visited by the census workers I referred to earlier. The sooner you fill it out, the sooner the census bureau can focus on the hardest-to-reach folks. Once you have filled out the form, you can still help by spreading the word through your circles that this is easy and that your information is completely confidential. There is also NO citizenship question. I understand worry about leaders who are anti-immigration, but I must assure you that The U.S. Census Bureau never identifies you individually. It combines your responses with information from other households or businesses to produce statistics, which never identify your household, any person in your household, or business. So, fill out your form, encourage others, and I thank you.

Editorials & Opinions

The letters, opinions, and editorials expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect the views of the Board of Directors of this newspaper or any of our advertisers or sponsors.

Your involvement is requested

As a nonprofit organization we are governed by a Board of Directors, and we have openings for community members to join. We encourage your involvement in the creative side of things. We have correspondents, reporters, reviewers and general writers involved. You can write a letter to the editor on a topic we have written about, or in response to one of our columnists, or a longer "Neighbors Speak Out" piece.

You can also contribute story ideas: We aim to cover a wide range of interesting areas in the neighborhood. Your ideas for stories and topics are always welcome. Discuss the many possibilities with the Editor. Leave a voice message at 651-665-0068, or e-mail editor@communityreporter.org. -- Jerry Rothstein, Editor, Community Reporter



WEST END HEALTHLINE

Coronavirus: Time to worry?

BY JONATHON DICKMAN, MD, PHD

Nearly everyone has now heard of the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak in China, and images of ships being quarantined and warnings about travel to China have been all over television and radio. Many news reports create a sense of fear and worry that our health may be in imminent danger. There is a growing perception that this is a lethal infection. So this leads to the question — how worried should we be? The sense of impending doom is likely a media induced overreaction. 2019-nCoV is in the same family as other viruses that cause the common cold. Although not completely understood, it is currently believed that this virus spreads through saliva that a person can come into contact with when an infected person coughs, sneezes or does not wash their hands. Currently, wearing an N95 mask is what is recommended for those infected with the virus. 2019-nCoV causes an infection that has a wide variety of symptoms ranging from no symptoms, to cold symptoms, to pneumonia and trouble breathing that can be severe enough to cause death. Although this is similar to most infections we experience during the winter, the illness that occurs from this specific virus was given the name coronavirus disease 2019 or COVID-19. At the time this article was written, more than 74,000 cases of COVID-19 were confirmed worldwide resulting in over 2,000 deaths. The best estimate is that a little over 2% of those infected with COVID-19 died, with most deaths occurring in populations that were older or had other significant medical conditions. Thus, the vast majority of people exposed to the virus survive and many have minimal symptoms. So why is the department of health focusing more on influenza instead of this new virus? As of late February, the CDC estimated that there have already




been over 26 million illnesses, 250,000 hospitalizations and 14,000 deaths from influenza infection in the United States this season. This contrasts with only 15 confirmed COVID-19 illnesses in the United States. Although more people survive influenza infection, the burden of this infection in the United States is massive in comparison to COVID-19. Influenza infection has resulted in at least 12 million medical visits and many more people missing work or school due to illness — and the flu season is not even close to being over yet. Unlike 2019-nCoV, there is a vaccination available for protection and decreasing the burden of influenza infection, but only about 50% of kids and 68% of older adults have received this immunization. It is not too late to get your vaccination completed! So, should we start to panic about COVID-19? With all the hype surrounding this viral infection, one would think that most people who get COVID-19 will

die and that we need to do something different in order to protect ourselves. This is not true, however, as ~98% of people survive this new viral infection and there are very few cases thus far in the United States; thus, we do not need to live in fear. The advice from medical providers is the same: cover your coughs and sneezes, wash your hands, stay home if you are sick to avoid infecting others, and get your flu shot completed. If you are very young or old or have other medical problems then call your medical provider's office for advice on next steps if you are sick. If you are generally healthy, it is rare to need medications or hospitalization for these infections. Always let your medical provider know if you have traveled recently, especially if you went to China. Always feel free to call 651-241-1000 to schedule an appointment at United Family Medicine if you have questions and we can help manage your medical needs.

WHOLE WIDE WORLD WEST 7TH PUBLIC LIBRARY

BY CATE SERING, LIBRARY MANAGER  
Calling all home chefs! Join us on Monday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m. for our first ever **Let's Dish Cookbook Book Club**. Come share your current favorite cookbook or dish you have been experimenting with. All ages are welcome as we dish about our love of cooking and baking. Food to share is welcome but not required. Please stop by or call 651-298-5516 with questions. The **West 7th Book Club** will be discussing *Chronicles of a Radical Hag* by Lorna Landvik on Thursday, March 26 at 6:30 p.m. Join us for conversation with fellow book-lovers; all are welcome. For help finding copies of book club titles, give us a call at 651-298-5516. One-to-One Tech Help is adding

evening hours. Slots are available on Tuesday, March 3 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and Thursday, March 19 from 6:15-7:15 p.m. Call to make a 30-minute appointment with us for help with your personal device (including smartphones, tablets and laptops), or a library computer. Join us at the West 7th Library on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. for **Preschool Storytime**. Enjoy time with your child while building a foundation for reading success. Storytime teaches social skills, letter/number recognition and vocabulary all while moving, singing and having fun. **WEST 7TH LIBRARY HOURS**  
Mon 12:30-8pm. Tue 11:30am-5:30pm. Wed 10am-5:30pm. Thu 12:30-8pm. Fri 10am-5:30pm. Closed weekends, holidays.



## FEDERATIONUPDATE

974 West 7th | [fortroadfederation.org](http://fortroadfederation.org)

The Federation Board meeting was held Feb. 10. The next Board meeting is Monday, Monday, March 9 at 7 pm, 882 West 7th St, Suite 6 on the second floor.

**BOARD UPDATE**  
The Board discussed outreach for the upcoming Annual Meeting and recruiting more renters and candidates to run for Board positions.

**BOARD CANDIDATES NEEDED, RENTERS AND YOUTH**  
Starting this year, we have three Board positions dedicated to residential renters AND some Board positions are open to youth ages 16 and up. We'd love to talk with you about running. You can learn more at our website [fortroadfederation.org](http://fortroadfederation.org) or call Emily at the office at 651-298-5599.

**ANNUAL MEETING**  
The Federation's Annual Meeting will be April 7, 6-8:30 p.m. at Summit Brewing Co. Similar to last year, a conversation hour will start at 6, with the program starting at 7. We'll have conversation topic tables and a kids' area that is not child care. Sean Kershaw, West 7th neighbor, is the featured speaker.

**STAY IN TOUCH**  
"Like" the West 7th / Fort Road Federation on Facebook and subscribe to its e-newsletter on our website — [fortroadfederation.org](http://fortroadfederation.org).

**CONTACT**  
Emily Northey, FRF executive director + community organizer office: 651-298-5599; [emily@fortroadfederation.org](mailto:emily@fortroadfederation.org); 882 West 7th St, Suite 6, in the Rathskeller Building.



265 Oneida St. St Paul, MN 55102

**AD DEADLINE & MEETING**  
Copy Deadline/Meeting: March 16. Ad Deadline: March 18. Third Monday of each month. Articles should be typed, double spaced. The editor reserves the right to edit submitted copy. We can design your ads, camera ready, tiff or jpeg files on disk.

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CONTACT JERRY ROTHSTEIN, Managing Editor, 651-587-8859

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# Community News & Events



The Science Museum will join in the year-long celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing with a new exhibit, a stunning giant screen movie, and a host of space-related programming.

The hands-on exhibition was produced by the U.S. Space & Rocket Center and explores the decades-long rivalry between the United States and the USSR. Using objects and artifacts from the U.S. Space & Rocket Center's archives, the exhibit sets the scene of the era and explores the social and political forces that pushed these nations to sacrifice man and machine to be the first humans to set foot on the moon.

*Apollo 11: First Steps Edition* in the Omnitheater is a giant-screen version of Todd Douglas Miller's critically-acclaimed 2019 documentary. Crafted from a newly-discovered trove of never-before-seen 70mm footage and more than 11,000 hours of uncatalogued audio recordings from the National Archives, it shows viewers the historic moon landing by reconstructing the final moments of preparation, liftoff, landing, and return of Apollo 11.

For program details and schedules call 651-221-9444 or visit [www.smm.org](http://www.smm.org).

**DODGE NATURE CENTER**

**Full Moon Shinrin-Yoku** (Forest Bathing); 3/9, 7-9 p.m. 1701 Charlton St., West St. Paul. Participants will be given a series ways to connect to their surroundings. The experience will be mostly silent, honor each participant's personal space, and cover just about a mile and-a-half over generally flat surfaces. At the end, the group will share a few words with a short tea ceremony. Guide: Leigha Horton, a Certified Guide and mentor with the Association of Nature and Forest Therapy Guides and Programs, and Co-Founder of Silvae Spiritus Nature & Forest Therapy ([silvaespiritus.com](http://silvaespiritus.com)). This program is for adults. Preregistration is required. \$30.

**Maple Syruping**: Saturdays, 3/14, 21 & 28, 1-2:30 p.m. Celebrate spring by observing age-old process of turning tree sap into syrup. For kindergarten and older. Preregistration required. Cost: \$7 per person.

**TRANSIT, PG 1**

train station to spark real estate speculation.

What sorts of improvements? Here's a quick, non-exhaustive list of examples:

**Rationalizing bus routes.**

Many places have bus systems that were developed a long time ago. They are inefficiently serving old population and job centers, while not serving new ones at all. A detailed overhaul of bus routes and stops can often be a cost-neutral way to serve many more people, and serve them better. Of course, such an overhaul will not be without losses of service to some folks, and must be done with equity outcomes firmly in mind. "Frustrating and obsolete transit networks seem eternal, unchangeable, until one night they change," writes transit consultant Jarrett Walker about the day in 2015 when Houston launched a cost-neutral redesigned bus system that more than doubled the number of people it was able to reach, and increased its frequency dramatically. This is something that needs to be undertaken by a transit agency, but community-specific support is crucial to

**Nature After Dinner: Animal Tracking**: 3/19, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Discover stories left behind by animals in the mud and snow. For kids ages 3-8, children must be accompanied by an adult. Adults free. Preregistration required. \$10/child.

**Spring Break Camps for Grades K-8**: 3/30-4/2 — Check-in: 8:15-8:30 a.m. Check-out: 3:315 p.m. 365 Marie Ave W., West St. Paul. The forecast shows a 100% chance of fun. \$55/camper (materials extra). Registration closes 3/23 at 12 noon. Preregister: 651-455-4531 or [DodgeNatureCenter.org](http://DodgeNatureCenter.org).

**RIGHT TRACK 2020**

Right Track is St. Paul's youth jobs initiative for building a diverse future workforce, while supporting young people and their families now. Right Track connects young people from low-income homes to summer jobs and internships, trains them for professional

get the ball (bus?) rolling and inform the process with local knowledge about transit experiences and needs.

**Seeking partners to expand ridership.**

As part of a successful larger bid to increase ridership, Richmond, Virginia, created a deal with Virginia Commonwealth University to let its employees and students ride for free, including employees of the university's affiliated hospital, a major employer. The county government also chipped in to expand service out to a suburban mall that had become a job center.

**Adding frequency or service where it's needed.**

As a complement or precedent to route rationalizing, adding frequency and/or extending service hours on existing routes serving low-income areas dramatically increases mobility equity, helping people reliably get where they need to go and spend less time doing it. These are campaigns that can sometimes be folded into a larger rerouting when it comes along as happened with AVillage, in Albany, N.Y. The community organization worked in

success, and helps employers prepare for, recruit and mentor the next generation of diverse talent.

In 2019, Right Track trained and hired 935 Saint Paul youth as interns, giving them valuable work experiences and professional development training. Businesses can now join the program and pledge to hire a Right Track intern at [righttrack-app.stpaul.gov](http://righttrack-app.stpaul.gov) or call 651-266-6363.

Internships impact lives. Research demonstrates that summer work experiences are directly linked to positive short and long-term outcomes for youth including higher graduation rates, better future employment prospects, and increased earnings later in life. A recent intern says, "I would just like to say that joining Right Track two years ago was the best decision I have ever made financially and educationally. I ended up getting rehired as an official employee at the end of August and I just love it!"

**VOTERS SUPPORT STRONGER GUN LAWS**

Everytown for Gun Safety and Minnesota Moms Demand Action have released research that shows Minnesotans favor (by a 5-1 margin) background checks on all gun sales and strong red flag legislation. And 74% of voters add that a candidate's position on gun issues is "very important" to how they will vote.

The national organization and its state affiliates are planning a \$60 million campaign this election year to encourage lawmakers to act on these issues.

"It's never been clearer: Minnesotans overwhelmingly support stronger gun laws and are tired of lawmakers refusing to take action to end gun violence in our communities," said Molly Leutz, volunteer with Minnesota Moms Demand Action, a part of Everytown for Gun Safety.

There is growing momentum for common-sense gun safety legislation in Minnesota. In 2018, Minnesotans flipped the Minnesota House of Representatives to a gun sense majority and elected Governor Tim Walz (D), who campaigned strongly on the issue of gun safety. The Minnesota House then passed background check legislation and a strong red flag law during the 2019 legislative session, but the Republican-controlled state Senate refused to hold a vote or even a public hearing on the bills. For details and survey info, see [momsdemandaction.org](http://momsdemandaction.org) and [everytown.org](http://everytown.org).

**LENTEN ENCHILADA DINNER AT OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CHURCH**

All welcome! An authentic dinner Fridays, Feb. 28-April 3 (not serving Good Friday) 11:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Large plate \$10; small plate \$8. Enchiladas "to-go" \$20 per dozen. OLG Church/Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, 401 Concord, St. Paul: 651-228-0506.

the city's South End, a neighborhood at the bottom of a steep hill. Most of the city's health care facilities were concentrated around two major hospitals at the top of the hill, but no bus ran between them. Thanks to organizing from AVillage, a new loop route was added in 2011 that made it much easier for the neighborhood's residents to access the healthcare they needed — plus jobs at the medical centers. Indianapolis also recently organized to increase bus frequency, focusing on stories like parents who had hours-long commutes that kept them from their children.

TRANSIT, PG 7


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**For more information and to learn if you are eligible;**  
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# Community Arts & Culture

## National Tour of *The Color Purple* at The Ordway

*The Color Purple* is the 2016 Tony Award winner for Best Musical Revival. Hailed as “a direct hit to the heart” (*The Hollywood Reporter*), this joyous American classic has conquered Broadway in an all-new “ravishingly reconceived production that is a glory to behold” (*The New York Times*). The epic story about a young woman’s journey to love and triumph in the American South is told through a soul-raising, Grammy-winning\* score of jazz, gospel, ragtime and blues, and is an unforgettable and intensely moving revival of an American classic.

Playing March 31-April 5 at The Ordway, 345 Washington Street, 651-224-4222.



Sandie Lee and the Company of the National Tour of *The Color Purple*

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## All My Relations Arts Exhibit: *Rights of the Child*

The USA is the only country in the United Nations that hasn’t ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. What exactly does this mean?

All My Relations addresses this question through an exhibition of paintings and digitally designed posters by Duluth-based artist Moira Villiard that explores the essence of childhood and children’s rights in modern times. Her work also calls attention to the individual cognitive dissonance, or “doublethink,” that occurs when people hold two contradictory beliefs about an issue or situation. This free event will focus on children’s rights at a global and local level, how these areas overlap, and shed light on the notion of “doublethink” that creates an atmosphere of misunderstanding. One of the questions asked will be, “What are the core aspects of children’s rights, and how is consensus about their applicability achieved?”

The subjects of the paintings include a mixture of images of Villiard as a child in different contexts and referenced photos of people she knows (who also are mixed identity) when they were children. Villiard felt she could not adequately get consent from children to paint them for this exhibit so that’s where the decision to rely on permissions of people who are no longer children and who can consent to the use of their childhood photos came from. Some



"Steveboyji" by Moira Villiard

of the children (i.e. “Portrait of Steveboyji” above) have specific stories that the work tries to capture. Others will be pieces that explore the fun and curiosity of youth in a more general sense. The combination of depictions will allow for a broader illustration

tion of the complexity of childhood and the rights that come with it.

**RIGHTS OF THE CHILD** runs through 4/19 at, 1414 E. Franklin, Mpls. Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-7pm; Sat 9am-6pm; Sun closed. Family Day: March 14, 12-3pm; Coffee with the Curator: March 18, 10-11 am; Panel Facilitated by Moira Villiard: March 26, 6-8 pm. Free and open to the public.

## Native Peoples' Concepts of Health and Illness

Native Voices: Native Peoples’ Concepts of Health and Illness examines concepts of health and medicine among contemporary American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. The traveling exhibit, produced by the National Library of Medicine, explores the connection between wellness, illness, and cultural life through a combination of interviews with Native people, artwork, objects, and interactive media.



Topics include Native views of land, food, community, earth/nature, and spirituality as they relate to Native health; the relationship between traditional healing and Western medicine in Native communities; economic and cultural issues that affect the health of Native communities; and more.

Exhibit runs through May 14 at the Bio-Medical Library, Diehl Hall, 505 Essex St SE, Minneapolis (U of M East Bank).



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# In the Community

## A Vintage Classic Comes to West Seventh

By Margaret Kinney

What do Anthropologie stores and film producers have in common with folks in our neighborhood? Well, they might all be frequent clients of Go Vintage Classic Threads, the latest addition to the West End's collection of unique retailers.

Owner Kevin Looney began collecting vintage clothing in the early 1980s for his own use. He was and is attracted to the high quality and styles of clothing and accessories manufactured before the 1980s. What started with a serendipitous windfall of 1950s bowling shirts, became a career of collecting and selling sought-after classic attire.

Also a builder, Kevin redesigned and renovated the retail space to resonate perfectly with his clothing displays.

Although Kevin still lucks out and finds the perfect estate sale or individual who might have just the right era of clothing for him to buy, he has regularly traveled far and wide buying and selling. From Manhattan to Santa Monica, he has participated in vintage fairs, making new connections and finding repeat clients. He also scours the internet and Craigslist, picking and choosing individual pieces or entire lots of merchandise. Kevin makes full use of the international market for reselling his pieces. "Some of my best customers are in Tokyo and Paris," he explained. "They can get three times the



Go Vintage owner Kevin Looney resale price there than I can get here."

Once he gets repeat customers, such as executives from HBO's series *Boardwalk Empire*, he knows what to acquire for them and has it ready to go. Sometimes celebrities buy directly from Go Vintage, such as when Matt Damon picked out his 1960s Goodyear jacket for the recent movie *Ford v Ferrari*.

Luckily for us West Enders, his

enormous inventory of enduring men's and women's garments has something in everybody's price range. (My husband, who is a follower of all things film noir, got a 1950s tie for Valentine's Day.)

"I think what attracts people to vintage clothing is, in addition to having terrific design, they were made so well and can last a lifetime," says Kevin. "Clothing made now is largely disposable, and contains questionable fibers. I like looking cool and helping the environment at the same time."

As a visual artist, I view much of his inventory as an art collection. In fact, Kevin has furnished a few museum curators with pieces. As a life-long lover of sewing, I marvel at the construction of the jackets, coats and dresses in his store, and couldn't help but stroke the silks, cottons, linens and wools.

Kevin is open to buying from the general public, so if you have pre-1980s apparel in good condition, Kevin might want to see it. He also likes to share anecdotes about his years of collecting and selling, so be prepared for some fun storytelling.

**GO VINTAGE CLASSIC THREADS,** 955 West Seventh: call 651-646-4455 or e-mail govintagego@hotmail.com. Hours: Thursday, 12-6; Fri & Sat 12-8; Sun 12-6.

Margaret Kinney is a West End writer and artist, and facilitator of *Memoir Writing Workshops*.

## CollegeBound Saint Paul Looks to Kids' Futures

Every child born in St. Paul starting January 1, 2020, will have a birthday gift deposited into his or her CollegeBound educational saving account. The program will help families build a strong foundation to invest in their children's education and future. Families can contribute additional money and watch their college savings and dreams grow along with their child over time.

The City will contribute \$50 to open the account, and children and families will have the opportunity to receive more money in their accounts through bonuses. They can earn bonuses by logging into the Savings Portal for the first time, reaching milestones, participating in early childhood programs, and using financial capability resources provided by the City and community organization partners. It will also be a great opportunity for family and friends to make contributions over time to help the account grow.

To ensure sustainability, CollegeBound Saint Paul will have a range of funding sources. The City will fund the program staff and the account/information management platform through the Office of Financial Empowerment. The seed deposits, family outreach and engagement and bonuses will be funded through local community foundations, corporate foundations and donors, as well as individual donors.

The program is inviting St. Paul community members to be involved in several ways. Visit collegeboundstp.com for details:

- **Community Outreach and Enrollment Partners;**
- **Program Champions** — People and/or organizations who support and endorse the program will raise awareness of the program by hosting and facilitating events and talking to the families in their communities about CollegeBound Saint Paul.
- **Program Outreach Ambassadors** — they will be crucial to the program's success, activating their communities through connections and trusted relationships with families.
- **Lead the work by attending trainings** and taking part in leadership development opportunities.
- **Facilitate and host CollegeBound St. Paul events.**
- **Have 1:1 conversations** with eligible families in your community.
- **Recruit program champions.** Ambassadors will receive a stipend and have leadership development opportunities and invitations to events during the program.

**Outreach Ambassador application deadline is March 15,** followed by phone interviews March 17-19 and orientation on March 31. If interested, please email collegebound@ci.stpaul.mn.us to receive a link.



Both Nova's Mock Trial teams are undefeated, and will compete for State title. Richard Lin (center) capatins this one.

## Nova Senior Lands Prestigious Nomination

Richard Lin, a senior at Nova Classical Academy, has been named a candidate and invited to apply for the prestigious honor of becoming a Presidential Scholar. This means that he is one of 4,000 students nationally, and 50 in Minnesota, who have already been recognized for their achievements.

The next steps involve Richard completing an application to expand on his work in the areas the program values most: leadership; community service; scholarship; visual, creative and performing arts; and technical fields. His strengths are in scholarship (perfect ACT scores) and one of five Nova finalists for a National Merit Scholarship; leadership; and community service. After the next round, 500 will remain to compete for 160

Presidential Scholar positions.

Richard grew up in Monticello and came to the Twin Cities to start ninth grade at Nova, living with his older sister who was just starting at the U of M. She'll be graduating this year too, planning to go on to study dentistry.

Richard's four years at Nova have seen him grow into a hardworking, dedicated and confident student. He has captained both the soccer team and Mock Trial, which is now competing for the State title. He volunteers in several community programs as well.

Looking to study computer engineering with a minor in business and to become fluent in Chinese, he favors Georgia Tech, and is also considering Berkeley and Carnegie-Mellon.

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# Community Nourishment



**HALLE O'FALVEY**  
columnist

## BIRDS IN PARTICULAR Life on the Ice

Herring gulls are residential and migratory birds. They live year-round in Grand Marais, Minnesota, on Lake Superior, roosting in the bay this winter. They are the most common water bird in the Great Lakes, save the ring-billed gull. Their wingspan is about five feet wide, they are about 25 inches long, weighing between 2 and 3 pounds. They are mostly white with grey wings and a black tail, pink legs with a yellow bill and a tiny red spot on the tip of the bill. Gulls prefer shorelines, mudflats and beaches, but we find them foraging parking lots, landfills, and dumpsters. Inner-city gulls feed their young French fries, Dorito chips and garbage. Could they be a barometer to the health of the society we live in? I watched this small colony of herring gulls as

they came to roost around 2 p.m. I couldn't believe they were just sitting on the ice. There was open water in the bay, but they chose a thick slurry of crackling ice near the shoreline to rest for the night. It was Valentine's Day weekend, mind you, with air temperatures -15 below zero through the night in +34.5-degree water. Their feet are mostly tendons and bones and their blood supply has a heat exchange system that somehow warms up the blood before it goes back to the gull's heart. The Danish hygge over winter. So, I got in on it a bit on my trip to Grand Marais, as I hygge(d) with intention. Hygge (hoo-gah) is being in the moment in winter and not complaining about the snow, ice, cold winds, bumpy city roads, and torrent temperatures that changes over a weekend. This Danish word is hard to translate, but can be summed up as mindfulness. Enjoying the "chill" in the hearth.

Taking time to be around those you love, share food with them. Linger, breathe, play games, tell stories, actually sit and listen to music. Grand Marais has a Hygge Festival every year, I caught the last weekend, February 14-16. It was grand, sunny and warm as we sat playing cribbage overlooking Lake Superior. Then headed up the mountain to the cabin for some more relaxing. I got out snowshoeing three days in a row. I broke some nice trails. Pine martens live on my friend's property, we saw the tracks that seemed to disappear into nowhere. They like to tunnel through the snow. They are the cutest mammals ever. See [dnr.state.mn.us/mammals/americanmartens.html](http://dnr.state.mn.us/mammals/americanmartens.html). Start looking for those early migrants. Leave out food and water for them. Listen for the mating songs. And sigh as the sun continues to shine a little bit longer each day. Sprinkle native prairie flower seeds on the snow, they need the cold to germinate. All Shall Be Well. All Shall Be Well. And All Matter of Things Shall Be Well (Julian of Norwich). Happy Spring birding: [halleofalvey@gmail.com](mailto:halleofalvey@gmail.com).



**DEBORAH PADGETT**  
columnist

## DEAR DEB Teach Our Children Well

Just last week the PBS News Hour sponsored The Plastic Problem and the *Pioneer Press* in St. Paul featured a front-page article regarding the dilemma humanity faces due to the waste we produce. Those of us who have been around for fifty or more years remember warnings about over-population, reliance on pesticides, reliance on fossil fuels, accumulation of nuclear waste, the depletion of the ozone layer and the buildup of trash from rampant consumerism. Back in my teens and twenties sermons were preached on the stewardship of the earth and our responsibility to care for each other and the earth. Rampant consumption was scorned. We were urged to "teach our children well..." by Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, and many of us took this to mean our responsibility as parents, teachers and guides was to teach by example and urge our children toward the morality of keeping the earth clean and safe for future generations. We must cease our carelessness and take individual and collective responsibility to reduce the harm our consumption and waste bring to our world. Each year Ramsey County and the City of St. Paul produce a flyer and update their websites with specific information on what can be recycled and where and how. Sadly, even with adherence to these programs, a surprising percentage of what we put in the recycling bin does not get recycled or put to any earth friendly use. I believe reducing harmful environmental effects from waste products can best be tackled by research and development toward new methods, technologies and products, and feel strongly that corporations and retailers must cease to use products destructive to the environment. I am interested in the role I can play in harm reduction. For example, over the past several years, as I noticed the use of Keurig Pods and/or Styrofoam cups offered in service environments such as health clinics, fitness centers and banks, I contacted either the purchasing agent or facilities management. I asked if they might consider changing their practices. Without exception the people I approached said they had simply not thought of the harm but only of the added expense of changing their practices. I began carrying my own cup and continued to ask if they would look into possible solutions. My YMCA started a "go green" initiative urging members to

bring their own cups and offered compostable paper cups to use sparingly. Health East Midway dropped Styrofoam while Allina at Bandana Square kept using it. Wells Fargo on Grand dropped the Styrofoam and finally, when I last checked, so did US Bank. Kowalski's has altered some of its plastic packaging and has added some recyclable, pressed paper or compostable options. I believe the consumer can have an enormous effect on our local businesses by simply refusing to buy items that will not break down in the environment. **Some tips I follow:** Buy meat wrapped in butcher paper. Bring reusable produce bags for fruits and vegetables. Styrofoam or black plastic? Do not buy it. Let the store know you are refusing it. Buy products in glass jars rather than plastic whenever possible. Shop the bulk aisle and bring canisters or glass containers for syrups, grains,

nuts, dried fruits, honey and syrup. Buy glass-bottled wine and spirits. Those wine boxes house a plastic or plasticized foil liner that will not biodegrade. Try to stay away from single use plastic. Buy cosmetics and make-up in glass containers that can be rinsed and recycled. Try a new bar style shampoos and conditioners. A 2016 article by Lara Newcomer at Greatist.com described one study that if residents in a Minneapolis-size city purchased the most minimally packaged versions of 10 common household products, the city could eliminate 150,000 tons of trash annually. Here's a simple list of helpful tips adapted from that same article. Recycle when you can but when in doubt, throw it out. Choose recycled, recyclable, and/or biodegradable packaging. Choose reusable products steering away from plastic whenever possible. Buy less stuff. Buy in bulk. Choose products with minimal packaging. Use your own bags and containers when shopping or eating out. Ditch plastic water bottles. Buy used products. Repair and maintain products. Advocate for companies to reduce packaging and use biodegradable or truly recyclable options.

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**CHURCH BULLETIN**  
editor@communityreporter.org

**St. Peter's Church:** March 7, Women's Fellowship first Saturday monthly: 8:30am. Bible study 9-10am. Sunday services 8:30am. Bible Class & Sunday School 9:45am. Lenten services March 4, 11, 18, 25 6:30pm. St. Peter's, 530 Victoria S. 651-228-1482.

**Humble Walk Lutheran Church:** Worship on Sundays 4:30 p.m. Art House North, 793 Armstrong Ave.

**Immanuel Baptist Church:** Sunday, 10am Bible Study; 10:45am Worship. Wednesday, 7pm, Bible Study/Prayer — 740 Watson Ave., 651-227-5075. Immanuel Baptist is an independent church.

**The Way Church:** Services Sunday 12:30 with Pastor Joseph Webb IV at St. Mark, 550 W 7th. Info/text 612-859-2572 or 651-668-0065 and leave a voice message.

**Keystone**  
COMMUNITY SERVICES

**WEST 7TH COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**265 Oneida, St. Paul**  
**651-298-5493 west7th.org**

Register at least one week in advance.  
*Note: providing free events is no longer feasible. With a \$30 yearly membership, these activities are free. If costs are a concern speak with a Seniors staff member.*

**ADULT 55+**

**WELLNESS**

**Fit and Fabulous Exercise Class:** Mon, Wed & Fri, 9-9:45am, \$10 per month. [May be covered under Silver & Fit program; check your insurance.]

**Heavy-Weight Yoga:** Wednesdays 10:45-11:45 am. \$10 per class.

**T'ai Chi Ch'uan:** Thursdays 9-10am. \$12 per class.

**Gym Walking:** Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9:45-10:30am. Free.

**Foot Care Clinic:** 3/5, 9:30am-2:30pm. Call for appointment; \$30.

**Caregiving Services:** Call Holly Brackett, ext. 206.

**Block Nurse Program:** 65+ in-home nursing & health aide through Recover Health. Medicare certified.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Fiberazzi:** Knitting & Crocheting Group Tuesdays: 1-3pm, \$1. Free for members.

**Family Law:** 3/11, 4-5pm. Dave Burns Law Office, LLC provides FREE one-time consultations to assist with family law issues such as divorce and child custody. Must preregister and will be served in order of arrival. Call 651-298-5493.

**Health Insurance Counseling:** 3/12, 10am-noon. Call Senior Link Age for appt at 1-800-333-2433.

**Ask the Lawyer:** 3/19, 3-4pm provided by Melanie Liska of Tarrant & Liska.

**Lunch 'n Bingo:** 3/19, 11:30am-1pm. Register by 1/9. Jimmy John's sub sandwiches, chips & dessert: \$7 lunch, \$1 bingo cards. Vegetarian options available.

**Cribbage:** Mon, 12:30-3pm; \$1. Free/members. 500/65 cards: Fridays, 12:30-3pm.

**Movie & Popcorn:** 3/25, 12:15-2:15pm, *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* (PG 2018, drama/bio/comedy). \$1.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

**FREE Tax Assistance through AARP:** Mon & Wed 9-11:30am; Through April 15. Call for appointment: 651-298-5493.

**St. Patrick's Day Party:** 3/13, 12:15-2:15 at 2000 St. Anthony. Isn't it true that we all want to be "A wee bit Irish" on St. Patrick's Day? Dig out your green duds and join the fun. Games, singing and a potato bar meal with dessert: \$8. Sign up by 3/6.

**TED Talks:** 3/5, 11:30am-1pm; Battling Loneliness. Watch pre-selected TED videos, then have discussion. Bring your lunch. \$1; free/members.

**Bridge:** Mondays, 12:30-3:30pm. Weekly bridge in the Seniors' Lounge. \$1 for non-members.

**Coloring Jam:** 3/10, 10-11:30am, \$1. Free/members. Come to open coloring sessions. Materials available, or bring your own.

**Mobile Menders:** 3/16, 5:30-7:30pm. Provides free sewing and mending services on site.

**Fare for All Discount Groceries:** 3/6, 10am-noon. Affordable & nutritious foods. Cash, check, EBT or credit card accepted. Info: Cathalina 651-298-5493.

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**Meals on Wheels** - Delivery: 1x/month, 11am-12pm.

**Friendly Visitor** - Visit seniors who need companionship.

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**Community Kids After School Program.** Serves students K-10, M-F, 2:15-6pm. Free. Homework help, tutoring in reading, math, social skills, enrichment activities, STEM, sports, fitness, field trips, healthy snacks. Transportation may be available. Julie, 651-504-2246 or [jmurphy@keystoneservices.org](mailto:jmurphy@keystoneservices.org).

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TRANSIT, PG 3

**Making Fares Accessible.**  
A low-income fare discount can bring a measure of equity to a transportation system, especially given the benefits regular users of transit provide to a region. More ambitiously, better funding from other sources for transit could lower fares across the board, which helps low-income riders, doesn't cause a "cliff effect" when rising income makes the discount suddenly go away, and encourages more ridership. Many cities around the world have moved to make some or all of their transit system free. Fareless systems can increase mobility and accessibility and ridership, but from an equity standpoint, beware of partially free systems that benefit those who need it least, like free fares only on a downtown circulator shuttle or airport connection, especially if those rides are subsidized by riders on other routes.

**Improving Pedestrian Infrastructure.**  
Crosswalks, lights, walking bridges, and other pedestrian safety infrastructure around bus stops, especially ones that are on highways or near suburban job centers, are crucial to making transit use safe for those who rely on it (plus more appealing to those who don't). It's startling just how many bus stops exist on the side of a multi-lane road with neither sidewalks nor crosswalks in easy reach. People in low-income areas, and people of color, are more likely to be killed by vehicles while walking. Lack of infrastructure could be part of the reason.

**Creating Bus-Friendly Roads.**  
When roads are being redesigned, advocate

for designs that are bus (and pedestrian) friendly. This isn't always obvious. Beth Osborne of Transportation for America told me that people often think, for example, that places for buses to pull over on busy roads is a transit-friendly design. But actually, that only benefits the cars that are not stopping behind the buses — pulling out of the travel lane to stop makes bus service slower and less reliable because it requires buses to merge back into traffic after each stop.

**Make buses go faster.**  
Bus rapid transit (BRT), which involves dedicated lanes and pre-payment of fares, is extremely rare in the United States, but it could be gaining steam. It was a key part of Richmond's turnaround. While it is unfortunate that things that don't rise to the standards of full BRT frequently get called BRT in the hunt for funding, that doesn't mean the baby steps on the way aren't important. Such steps include bus-only lanes, even just in certain congested areas, bus control of traffic lights, and express routes.

So the next time you hear "transit," don't necessarily limit your thoughts to light rail and transit-oriented development. Community-based organizations can either spearhead or support efforts to build a better bus.

*This article originally appeared in Shelterforce. Sign up at shelterforce.com to receive Shelterforce Weekly in your inbox. Shelterforce is an independent publication that serves (and sometimes challenges) community development practitioners across the United States.*

BULLETIN BOARD



**Landmark Center Urban Expedition — Indonesia: 3/8, 1-3pm. Free.** Learn about the world right here in St. Paul's backyard. In its 14th season, five individual programs will provide authentic cultural experiences that included music, dance, crafts and traditions from different destination countries. For more information visit [landmarkcenter.org/urban-expedition](http://landmarkcenter.org/urban-expedition).

**Welcome writers!** Thursdays, 10:30am-noon, Merriam Park Library. Experienced writers provide feedback, support to fellow community wordsmiths. Info: Jim, 651-442-3544.

**Her Voice Productions Celebrates International Women's Day:** 3/5, 7pm. Park Square Theatre, 651-291-7005. Songs and sweets, to uplift and celebrate women and girls. Twin Cities Women's Choir, Twin Cities Girls' Choir and ENCORE! perform a selection of songs.

**Beginner Square Dance Classes:** Mondays 6:30-8pm. at St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church, 550 West 7th. Triple T Square Dance Club offers weekly beginner classes. \$5. First dance is free. Pre-registration not required. 651-503-7040.

**Upcycled Jewelry Workshop:** Wednesdays 5:30-8:30pm. 957 W. 7th St. Create jewelry from a large selection of old pieces. RSVP: [centerforlostobjects.com](http://centerforlostobjects.com) \$25 includes all supplies. Info: 612-382-8100.

**Power-Up Legal Clinic:** 3/5 & 19, 1-4pm at Walker West Music Academy, 760 Selby Ave. A free walk-in legal clinic dealing with any non-criminal law issue. 651-894-6912, or [interfaithaction.org/legalclinic](http://interfaithaction.org/legalclinic).

**We're Gonna Be Okay:** 3/6-7, 12-14, 7:30pm. Hamline University, Anne Simley Theatre, St. Paul. Hamline season, A slyly hilarious, compassionate look at anxiety in America during the Cuban missile crisis. Advance reservations are recommended, 651-523-2905 or [tickets@hamline.edu](mailto:tickets@hamline.edu).

**Home Improvement Fair:** 3/7, 8:30am-1pm at Cretin-Derham Hall, 550 S. Albert St. Provides info and guidance on designing trends, remodeling techniques, financing options, and resources for seniors. Free fair with more than 50 exhibitors and 15 workshops to help you take on your next project and save money, energy, and time in the process. Tech Dump St Paul will be at the 2020 fair collecting small electronic items: cell phones, tablets, and cables/charging cords. Food trucks.

**Hand Drums for Beginners:** 3/10, 5:30-6:30pm. Women's Drum Center, 2242 University Ave W, St. Paul. \$10; drums are provided — [info@womensdrumcenter.net](mailto:info@womensdrumcenter.net).

**Music History Trivia at the Minnesota History Center:** 3/10; seating 6pm, trivia 7-9pm, free. Test Your Rock and Roll Knowledge with host Ryan Cameron of Let It Be Records and special guests from the Twin Cities music scene.

**Carondelet Village Memory Café:** 3/19, 1-2pm. Carondelet Village, 525 Fairview Ave. No RSVP, free. A chance for people with dementia, families and caregivers to meet, socialize in a safe space, ask questions, learn from each other. See [actonalz.org/st-paul-neighborhoods](http://actonalz.org/st-paul-neighborhoods) or call 612-871-3700.

**Flavors of Slovakia Ethnic Dinner:** 3/22, 12:30pm. Sokol Hall, hosted by Czech and Slovak Sokol Minnesota; 651-290-0542 for reserved seating and prepaid reservations by 3/15. Public welcome. Additional information at [sokolmn.org](http://sokolmn.org).

**Exquisite ArtisanShip.** Stuart Loughridge & Janel Jacobson: through 4/17. Raymond Ave Gallery, 761 Raymond, 651-644-9200. Gallery hours: M-F 10am-4pm.

**Cantus Concert There Lies the Home:** 4/4, 7:30pm. Ordway Concert Hall, St. Paul; \$23-\$43 at [cantussings.org](http://cantussings.org) or 612-435-0055. Group discounts. Honoring the experiences of those who have braved the high seas — whether forced, seeking opportunity, or by necessity.

**Drinking Problem?** Alcoholics Anonymous: Contact [aaminneapolis.org](http://aaminneapolis.org) (952-922-0880) or [aastpaul.org](http://aastpaul.org) (651-227-5502). You may call 24/7.

**Women for Sobriety:** Meets Mondays, 10am, Pilgrim Lutheran Church library, 1935 St. Clair Ave. Info: 651-235-1935.

**International Institute of Minnesota Programs:** Citizenship classes; communication & computer English for work; Spanish language; English language. Call 651-647-0191 or see [iimn.org](http://iimn.org) for schedules & details.

**Tuesday Pax Salons:** 6:30-8:30pm, Mississippi Market, 1500 W. 7th. Info: 651-227-3228. Free; donations appreciated. Open discussions all month. Please join us!

**Caregiver Support Groups:** Alton Memory Care, 1306 Alton St., third Wednesday of every month 5-6pm. Call Kristen, 651-695-2384. Sholom Home East, 740 Kay, second and fourth Monday 3-4 p.m. Contact: Chris 651-690-8920.

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**RIVERSIDE HITMEN** MARCH 13-14, 8:30PM  
**PADDY WAGON** MARCH 15, 6-9PM  
**THE MIDAS TOUCH** MARCH 27-28, 8:30PM-12:30AM  
**ST. PATRICKS DAY AT O'MANCINI'S!**  
**THE BLARNEY STONES** MARCH 17, 1:30-5:30PM  
**RIVERSIDE HITMEN** MARCH 17 7:30-11:30PM

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W7BA, Highland BA, Grand Avenue BA and Selby-Snelling BA have joined with District Councils, Chambers of Commerce, government representatives and other organizations to form the Southwest Business Coalition. Its mission is to educate, collaborate, celebrate and advocate on issues important to neighborhoods, businesses and the wider community, and to bring such issues to the attention of the City and Ramsey County.

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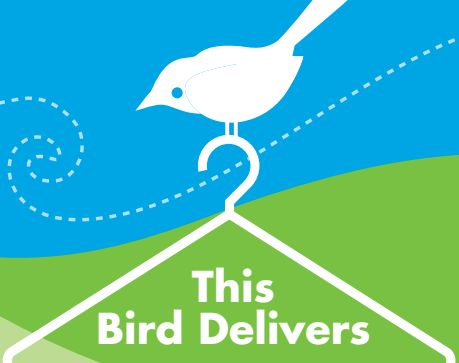


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