

Hill & Lake Press

'Where the biggies leave off...'

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Providing local news to the Minneapolis lakes community since 1976

Volume 49 / Number 8 www.hillandlakepress.org

August KIDS' ISSUE 2025

A PROLOGUE to the KIDS' ISSUE

By Jackie Brown Baylor, Parent Editor

EWE WON'T

It's time for the Kids' Issue again!



"This annual tradition is one of our favorites and it wouldn't happen without the dedication of our community."

— Jackie Brown Baylor

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Jackie Brown Baylor is the parent editor of the Kids' Issue and a Hill & Lake Press Board Member. She lives in Lowry Hill with her two kids and husband.

We are proud to present the highly anticipated 2025 Kids' Issue of the Hill & Lake Press! On behalf of our board and staff, I want to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this special edition possible — especially our Kids' Issue partner,

Artrageous Adventures, and the many young writers, artists and families who contributed their creativity, time and energy.

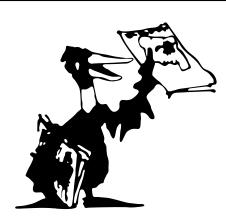
This annual tradition is one of our favorites, and it wouldn't happen without the dedication of our community. From imaginative stories to colorful artwork, every page celebrates the voices and vision of the next generation.

This year, we're also taking a stroll down memory lane with a selection of throwback

articles from the July 28, 1979, issue of the Hill & Lake Press. We hope this blend of past and present brings you joy, reflection and maybe even a few surprises.

Thank you again for supporting this joyful, collaborative issue. We loved making it, and we hope you love reading it.

THIS YEAR'S EDIHORIAL SHAFF Theo, age 8 Liel, age 9 Frankie, age 7 Jack, age 10 Max, age 8 Inez, age 8 Nico, age 10



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Hill& Lake Press

Founded in 1976, Hill & Lake Press reports community news and events, educating and informing our neighborhood community members about issues of the day. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Hill & Lake Press.

HILL & LAKE PRESS

P.O. Box 50052 Minneapolis, MN 55405 www.hillandlakepress.org

Staff

Craig Wilson, Editor craig@hillandlakepress.org

Barb Davis, Advertising barb@hillandlakepress.org

Carla Pardue, Outreach carla@hillandlakepress.org

Christopher Bohnet, Production

Photographers: Ryan Jandl Courtney Cushing Kiernat Tim Sheridan

Jill Field, Copy Editor Jeanette Colby, Proofer Kathy Low, Copy Editor

Board of Directors

Jackie Brown Baylor, Secretary Barb Davis Mike Erlandson, Chair Susan Lenfestey, Vice-Chair Brian Lucas Dominic Saucedo Andy Schwarm, Treasurer

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Our goal is to offer readers diverse perspectives on newsworthy events or issues of broad public concern to the Hill & Lake community. Our copy limit is 300 words (750 words for a commentary) and we reserve the right to edit for clarity and length.

Remembering Lisa Stortz: A Minneapolis Community Maker

My East Isles next-door neighbor Lisa Stortz finally won me over with Fritos. It wasn't the tens of thousands of bulbs that exploded each spring in the front yard of her famed Minneapolis Tulip House on Humboldt Avenue, turning our corner into a riot of color. It wasn't her role as the social glue that held our block together — though people certainly loved her for those things. She knew who everybody was and everything about them.

But I didn't truly succumb to her unusual and generous personality until she handed me a small bag of corn chips at one of the back-patio get-togethers she hosted every couple of weeks. I accepted the Fritos readily — maybe greedily. Lisa soon learned how much I liked them, and from then on, she made sure to have a dozen little bags at every future gathering in several flavors.

Lisa died in June after an unexpected illness. Her passing shocked our neighborhood not only because it happened so suddenly but because her presence had been so vibrant. She had a boisterous voice, a ringing laugh and a giant spirit. Her absence was palpable. The sudden quiet from the house and yard next door was difficult to comprehend — and even harder to accept.

Jet Jedele, who met Lisa five years ago when she and her husband moved to East Isles from the suburbs, often told her suburban friends, "There is this wonderful neighbor who has made this block special." She believes Lisa built our neighborhood into a kind of family. Thanks to Lisa's efforts to bring people together, "we learned of neighbors celebrating the birth of a child, neighbors who needed a lift, neighbors who could lift us up. What neighborhood has that? The one Lisa created."

Who was Lisa Stortz?

"Besides loving people big and small, she loved entertaining, good food, googly eyes, being in the water — she was a synchronized swimmer — reading four books at once, dropping pennies randomly when she was out and treating service people generously," said neighbor Kay Thomas. "Some of her favorite stories were about people who said walking by her corner made a bad day better because of the colorful, happy gardens."

Lisa also delighted trick-ortreaters with extravagant candy spreads, delivered to kids via an inflatable slide from her deck, recalled Peter Agrimson. "Her main goal was to make extraordinary memories for those lucky enough to venture to her house on those cold Halloween nights," he said.

Susan Yassin, a renter in Lisa's



duplex, will always remember her for the small, thoughtful gifts left on the back stairs — usually hastily packaged leftovers from Lisa's cooking sprees. For Susan and her husband, Peter Agrimson, Lisa was much more than a landlord. "She called us family, and we truly felt

Much of that familial feeling came from the regular neighborhood happy-hour gatherings Lisa hosted, often providing all the food and drinks. Barbara LaBounta recalled the first one she and her husband attended, just after neighbors had begun emerging from their COVID cocoons. Lisa peppered Barbara with questions about her interests, family and career.

"Now I realize perhaps she was curating — carefully curating a collection of neighbors who could build a circle of camaraderie, community and connection," Barbara said.

When Andrea Johnson moved into the neighborhood and went to one of the gatherings, "Lisa made sure to introduce me to everyone more than once. I felt welcomed, included and like I belonged from the start." Andrea believes that bringing people together was Lisa's true vocation.

Another neighbor, Kristen Paulsen, agrees. "Lisa got us out of our houses and into each other's lives, continually crafting and nurturing our neighborhood into a community of authentic friendship."

Danelle Reid remembers a National Night Out gathering when Lisa arrived trailing a wagon. "She pulled it up to our group and served us beef brisket sandwiches and gin and tonics from her wagon." A few weeks later, Lisa invited Danelle and others to an event devoted to making sandwiches for the unhoused. These, too, were acts of generosity.

"I wish every neighborhood could have a Lisa," Kristen said.

Lisa also paid attention to her neighbors as individuals. Kristin Gray Hamilton will never forget Lisa's support when Kristin's husband was dying of brain cancer. "Lisa just showed up with random love and kindness, and our friendship grew," she said. Lisa offered her shoulder to cry on and her arms to hug whenever anyone needed them.

"She was the sun for our neighborhood universe," said Henry LaBounta

Andrea Johnson, a Unitarian Universalist minister, discovered that Lisa's life mission was to bring joy to the people she cared about. "Her charge to us is to go and do likewise, to take care of each other," she said.

I still have a few Fritos bags saved from Lisa's gatherings. Soon those will run out. No one yet knows if the tulips will return. But Lisa will continue to be missed — and her flamboyantly generous spirit

I didn't know Lisa Stortz, but her death made me pause and reflect on what truly matters. Her flowers and spirit of community uplifted the neighborhood in a not-so-small way — a massive gift of spring cheer and open love. I shed tears when I heard the "tulip lady" had died. I rarely cry. Lisa, you made an impact through your actions. Thank you for making our community more beautiful in every way possible. (Image and caption: Craig Wilson)

and the example she set for cultivating neighborly love and fun will never fade.

Jack El-Hai East Isle

If This Is How They Run a Convention, Imagine the City

I've been to many DFL conventions over the years, but the Democratic Socialists of America, or DSA, dominated one that endorsed Omar Fateh on July 19 took the cake. It was thoroughly corrupt, and the endorsement should be declared null and void.

The first sign of trouble occurred early on. The electronic voting system was found defective in a test run. We were supposed to receive emails confirming our votes, but, did not.

Despite numerous protests, we were required to use that flawed electronic system in the first mayoral ballot. Once again, no confirming emails.

We waited several hours for results ("What's going on?" people asked). When they were finally announced, the numbers didn't add up. Although the credentials committee had established attendance of at least 750 eligible voters, the electronic system recorded only 590 votes. What happed to the rest of them?

Eventually the chairs confirmed the obvious: The electronic system wasn't working properly. Therefore, they said, the next round would be by paper ballot.

That raised the obvious question as to why the results of the flawed electronic system should be considered legitimate. After all, it had a substantive effect — it knocked the three lowest vote-getters out of the running.

Fast-forward to 8 p.m. Delegates were leaving in disgust, especially Frey supporters. There was a request for a quorum count. Convention chairs refused to provide it.

With so many delegates leaving, the chairs announced a new rule. They said simply walking out of the convention wouldn't constitute leaving. Delegates had to surrender their badges to be truly "gone." Undoubtedly some delegates left without hearing about a new rule announced in their absence. So, they were "present" without actually being there.

Ultimately, with a fraction of the total delegates left in the hall, an endorsement for mayor of a major American city was taken — not electronically, not by paper ballot — but by eyeballing an unknown number of delegate badges waved in the air.

This DSA-run event was a cartoon of a convention. It was corrupt. If this is how the DSA runs a con-

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August KIDS' ISSUE 2025 FOLLOW-UP 3

vention, it is also how it would run our city.

The state DFL should declare the DSA-juiced endorsement of Omar Fateh — and the similarly made endorsements of park board candidates — null and void. Otherwise, it will jeopardize not only the legitimacy of these endorsements but also the credibility of the DFL here and statewide.

Mary Pattock
DFL City Convention delegate
Cedar-Isles-Dean

Explore the City and Build Community with Bryn Mawr's Active Transportation Committee

Looking to meet your neighbors, enjoy the outdoors, and support local businesses — all while getting around in fun, sustainable ways? Join the Bryn Mawr Active Transportation Committee for a series of upcoming events designed to bring people together through walking, biking and public transit.

On Friday, August 15 at 5 p.m., we'll gather at Bassett Creek Playground (at Chestnut and Thomas, across from 1 Thomas Ave S) for our "Bubble Walk to the Trailhead." This kid- and dog-friendly stroll will take us along a two-mile, flat, paved path through beautiful Wirth Park. We'll arrive at the Trailhead building just in time for live music and food. Back by popular demand, we'll be bringing hands-free bubble makers — sure to delight kids and kids-at-heart. We'll walk back together before dark.

Then on Saturday, September 13, join us for a bike ride to North Minneapolis' newest restaurant, Tap In. Located at Lowry and Thomas Avenues, Tap In promotes itself as a hub for social change and community gathering. We'll meet at the Garden of Hope & Healing at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church (420 Cedar Lake Road) and take a casual fourmile ride along the protected paths of Theo Wirth Parkway.

Later this fall, we'll celebrate Park(ing) Day on Friday, September 19 and host a Holiday Décor Ride on Saturday, December 6. Stay tuned for details on both events by following us on Instagram at @activetransit. brynmawr.

These events are about more than just getting from point A to point B—they're about connecting with one another and experiencing our city in new and meaningful ways. Have questions or ideas? We'd love to hear from you at activetransit-brynmawr@googlegroups.com.

Benjamin Lester Bryn Mawr

Shade Needed: Kenwood School's Outdoor Classroom Nears Completion Amid Scorching Summers

By Elyse Colpitts

Elyse Colpitts is a Kenwood Community School parent and volunteer. She lives in Lowry Hill.

After more than seven years of dreaming, designing and planning, Kenwood Elementary's vision of an outdoor classroom is coming to life — and it's almost ready to welcome students this fall. But before the ribbon is cut, there's one last piece we need to put in place: shade.

This summer alone, Minnesota has already seen more than a dozen days over 90 degrees with multiple heat index warnings urging people — especially children — to stay indoors or seek shelter. As climate change intensifies, extreme heat is no longer the exception but the new norm. For children in schools like ours, where air conditioning is only partially available, this poses a growing challenge. That's why we are working hard to raise a final \$20,000 to provide much needed shade structures for Kenwood's new outdoor learning space.

Located at the corner of Franklin and Penn Avenues, the once-quiet underutilized space is transforming into a vibrant outdoor oas is — with smooth boulders for climbing, pollinator gardens buzzing with life and raised beds planted by Kenwood students and Kenwood Rec Center campers. It's a beautiful, imaginative space designed for reading circles, science experiments, garden observations and art classes — but it needs shade to be safe and accessible year-round.

Without protection from the sun, this dream classroom will be difficult to use during the hottest parts of the year — the very times when we most need alternatives to overheated indoor spaces. Environmentally friendly outdoor furniture — made from recycled milk jugs in Duluth — and sun sails will ensure students and teachers can learn comfortably, safely and sustainably.

This project is the result of years of collaboration among educators, families, students, neighbors and local supporters. We've been careful stewards of every donation and are deeply grateful to those who helped us get this far.

Now, we're asking for one final push. Will you help us protect our kids from the heat? Your gift will provide essential shade for students and help this outdoor classroom ful-



Conceptual rendering of a proposed outdoor classroom at Kenwood Community School. (Images: Kenwood Community School)

fill its full potential. Donations can be made online at the Kenwood PTA website – by simply scanning the code at right – or by mailing a check to:

Kenwood PTA

c/o Kenwood Elementary School 2013 Penn Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55405









Ice Cream with Elizabeth!
AUGUST 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th

JOIN US – FRIDAYS IN AUGUST FROM 3-5 P.M.

Stop by Campaign Headquarters, located at 2000 Hennepin Ave South ~ Right next door to Sebastian Joe's Ice Cream Cafe ~



Prepared and paid for by the Campaign for Elizabeth Shaffer, P.O. Box 50289, Minneapolis, MN 55403

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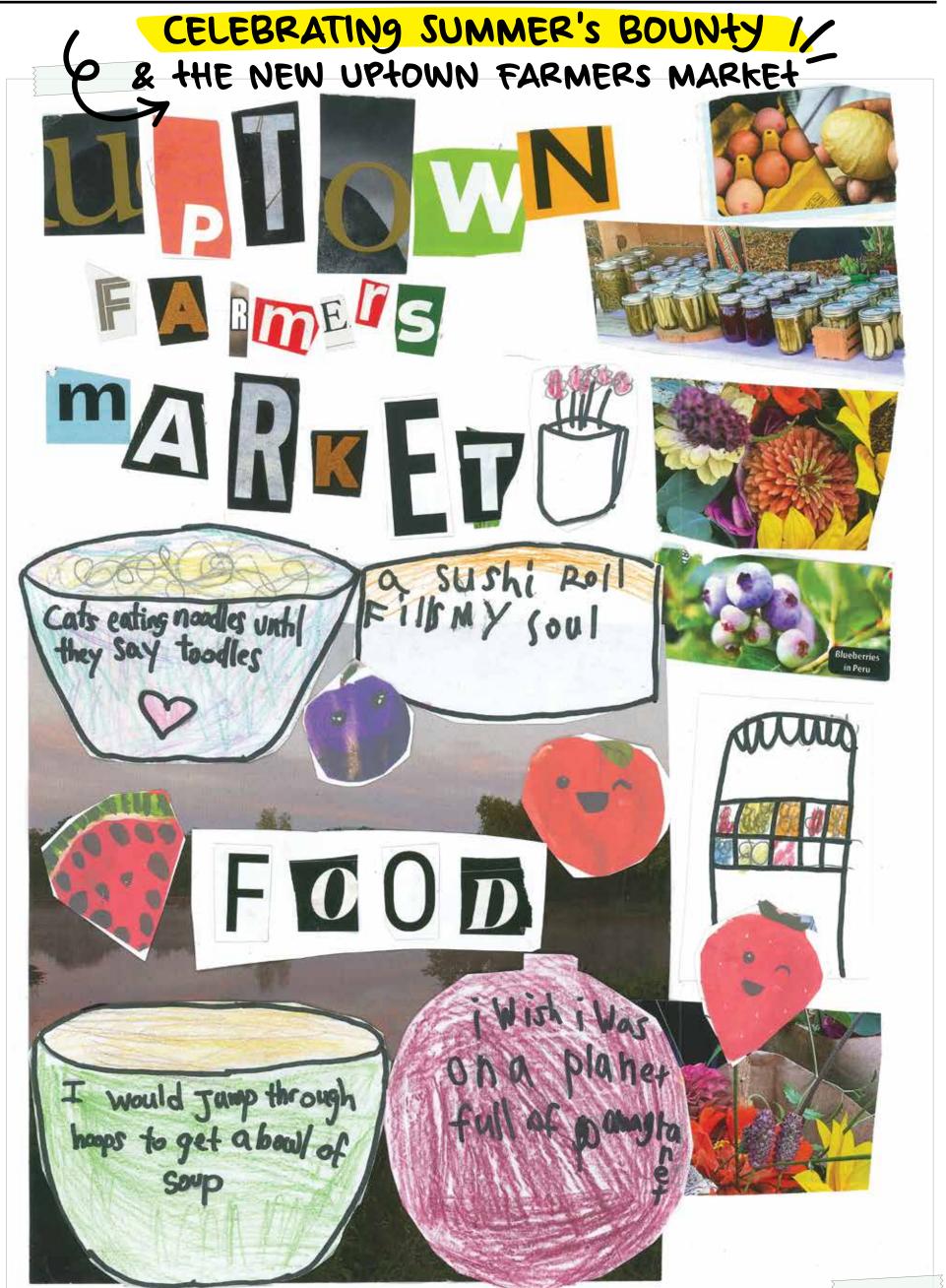
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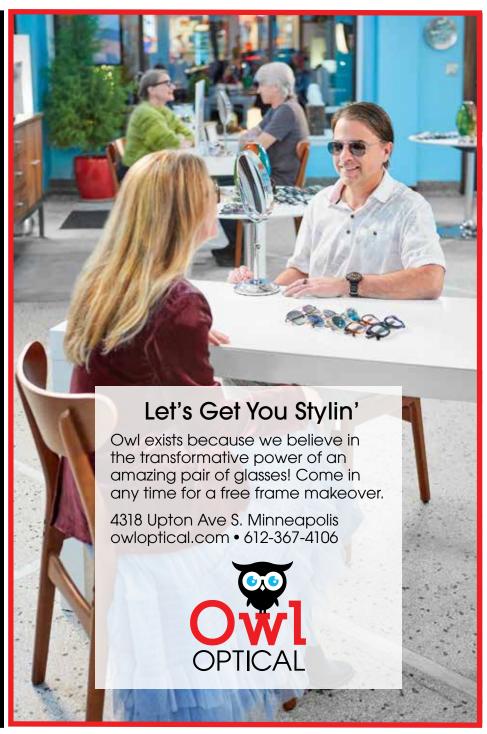


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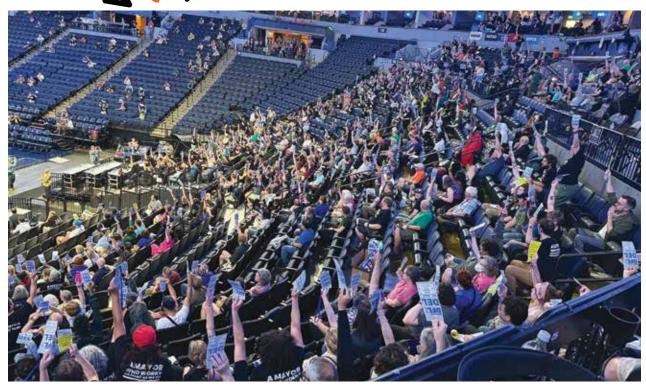








INSIDE MY FIRST DFL CONVENTION: Confusion, Division and Disillusion By Sonia Kharbanda



A last-minute vote was called by a show of ballots — no paper trail, no electronic count. With no way to verify who was a credentialed delegate or how many were present, party leadership still declared endorsements for both mayor and park board. (Image: Anonymous)

Sonia Kharbanda is entering her senior year at St. Paul Academy, where she serves as the editor in chief of her school newspaper. She lives in Kenwood and hopes to pursue a career in journalism.

Democracy is messy. But after attending the Minneapolis Democratic-Farmer-Labor convention on July 19, I'm convinced it shouldn't be this painful.

I'm 17 years old, and this was my first time attending a convention — or any organized political event, for that matter. This year, the planned two-day affair was shortened to one, so hundreds of delegates, activists and organizers hunkered down for 12 hours in Target Center to choose the DFL endorsements for mayor, Park and Recreation Board and the Board of Estimate and Taxation.

The roughly 800 delegates were selected through a caucus in each ward — a muddled process that caused numerous complaints to the credentials committee, devouring hours of the day. I had never heard of these caucuses; evidently, only dedicated DFLers show up.

A last-minute change to the venue and a massive backup of delegates waiting to enter delayed the welcome time by an hour. When Minneapolis DFL chair John Maraist finally addressed the crowd shortly after 11 a.m., I knew we were in for a long, expensive night (\$30 for chicken tenders!).

As a convention newcomer, I was struck by the exclusivity of the process.

Richard Carlbom, chair of the Minnesota DFL, said the party was focused on beating President Donald Trump through a unified "big tent" approach and an ambitious organizing program. "Listen. Learn. Lead. Meet voters where they're at," was identified as one of four priorities before the midterm elections.

Yet these voters, just everyday people, seemed dismissed throughout the convention. Mayoral candidate Brenda Short

said it best, explaining why she had a smaller group of supporters present than her fellow contenders because: "They're at work."

Even if they weren't working, I doubt most registered DFLers, especially young people, would want to attend. Interactions between DFL leaders and delegates were strained, full of arcane language and complex rules, making it difficult for a first timer to follow. Even seasoned attendees were baffled by the upgrading process — alternates were not supposed to be "promoted" to voting delegates before the convention; some were in the wrong seats and confused whether they were allowed to vote.

If the party is serious about reconnecting with mainstream and new voters, it should first look within, to its decision-making processes. Readings of the affirmative action, outreach and inclusion statement declared a pledge to equity and inclusion but led me to wonder: Do the delegates represent the actual diversity of Minneapolis?

I witnessed people of different racial and ethnic groups, gender identities and ages, but all appeared to care deeply about politics. Most delegates had already committed to a candidate before the convention. People who couldn't commit to the convention's extreme time commitment of 12+ hours or lacked information about the process were, albeit inadvertently, excluded.

The factions among Democratic Socialists that support Omar Fateh and more moderate supporters of incumbent Mayor Jacob Frey were on full display.

State Senator Omar Fateh, who was endorsed by the Twin Cities chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America, clearly had a strong base and eventually earned the DFL endorsement around 9:30 p.m. — only seven hours behind schedule.

But if anything, exasperation with Frey was most evident: his comments

drew boos from the crowd, and several of his opponents took aim at his fraught relationship with the City Council and his support for police chief Brian O'Hara. Frey repeatedly claimed that he and his opponents agreed on "95% of the issues," but at least at this convention, that didn't appear to be the case.

Frey and Fateh's bases are primarily split along generational lines; one Frey supporter complained to me about the more radical Democratic Socialists sitting near him. The different camps didn't seem to be one party.

At one point, a senior DFL leader announced that he had been notified of harmful comments made toward transgender attendees who were trying to use the bathroom. Anti-trans sentiment at a DFL convention feels like an oxymoron, reflective of the clashes on social issues within the diverse party.

The electronic voting process was plagued with distrust; delegates voiced concerns that they weren't receiving email confirmations and asked to switch to written ballots. Yet they had no objection to the numerous, entirely unscientific voice votes throughout the day, in which a DFL leader proceeded based on the magnitude of "ayes" or "nays."

Ultimately, Fateh was chosen for the mayoral endorsement by a vote of raised badges with an unknown and unverified number of people remaining in the auditorium, after Frey delegates left the building.

Frey's campaign has since challenged the endorsement, citing a lack of quorum.

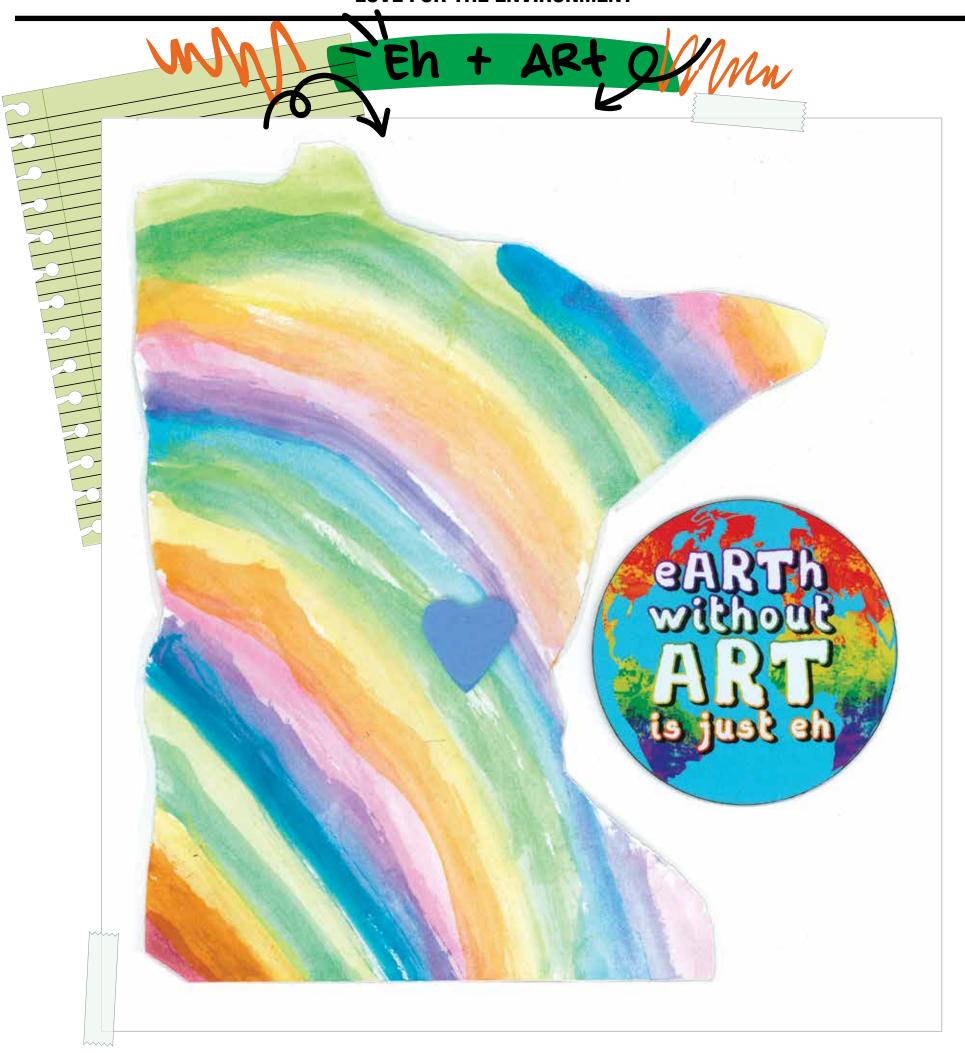
If they couldn't resolve simple disagreements about the voting process, how are they expected to unify against Trump?

This degree of dysfunction over an endorsement makes me worried that the various factions will again fail to come together when it counts.

It's not that there weren't talented politicians: each mayoral candidate delivered impassioned and inspiring speeches about their love for Minneapolis. It was the inefficiency and lack of transparency of the process, as well as the DFL's lack of relatability, that disappointed me. Convention veterans groaned bitterly about the chaos, but the leaders seemed almost unbothered.

Like most in attendance, I love Minneapolis and am proud to be from this city, but unless the DFL changes course to attract young people to politics, I worry for the party's future. We are in a crucial moment for Democrats in Minnesota and nationwide, in which the youth vote will be essential for victory in 2028 and beyond.

In a moving tribute to the late Rep. Melissa Hortman, Rep. Samantha Sencer-Mura (DFL-63A) acknowledged that Hortman appreciated the "big tent" approach and often had little patience for Minneapolis politics. To honor her legacy and succeed at the polls, DFL leaders must make the party more accessible, starting with the convention process.







Donna Minter at the final destination of her ride at the AtaIntic Ocean. (Image: Bruce Brunner)

Minneapolis grandma bikes across U.S. to raise awarenes for climate change

At 67, East Bde Maka Ska grandma
Donna Minter is proving it's never too
late for an epic adventure. The retired
neuropsychologist and peacebuilding
educator biked 3,230 miles from the
Pacific to the Atlantic—raising nearly
\$46,000 for climate action along the way.
"I DID IT!" she wrote after completing
the journey from San Diego, CA, to St.
Augustine Beach, FL. Fueled by a love
of cycling and a deep concern for future
generations, Donna's ride wasn't just a
personal milestone—it was a bold call
to action for a livable planet.

Grammy Climate Ride Independent Challenge 2025

Support her mission and learn more on her Climate Ride fundraising page:





Scroll down to read the full story!

Passing it Down...



Fishing is a family tradition for grandfather and grandson Theodore and Theo Nagel. On a beautiful summer day at Lake of the Isles, Theodore Sr. was seen passing down his love of fishing to the next generation. (Image: Craig Wilson)

Tagging Along...





Dennis and his companion cat, Fig, spotted enjoying a stroll around Lake of the Isles. Dennis explained that Fig seemed eager to join him one day, so he brought him along—and now, Fig tags along on every walk. (Image: Craig Wilson)



Hill& LakePress

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East Isles Neighborhood Association (EINA)



 Cedar-Isles-Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA)



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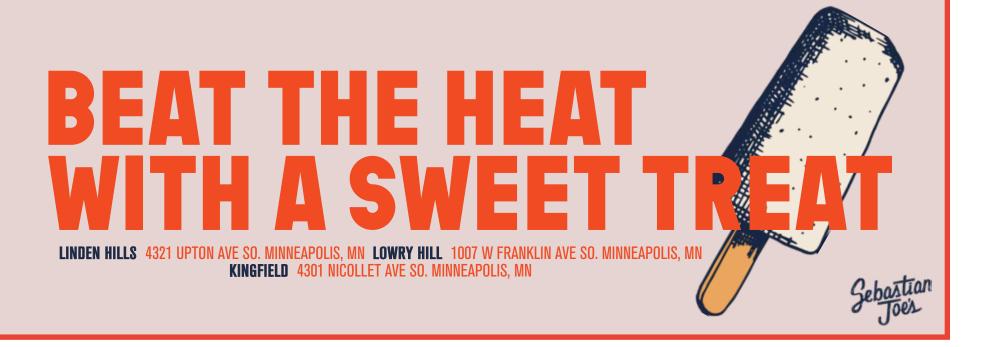
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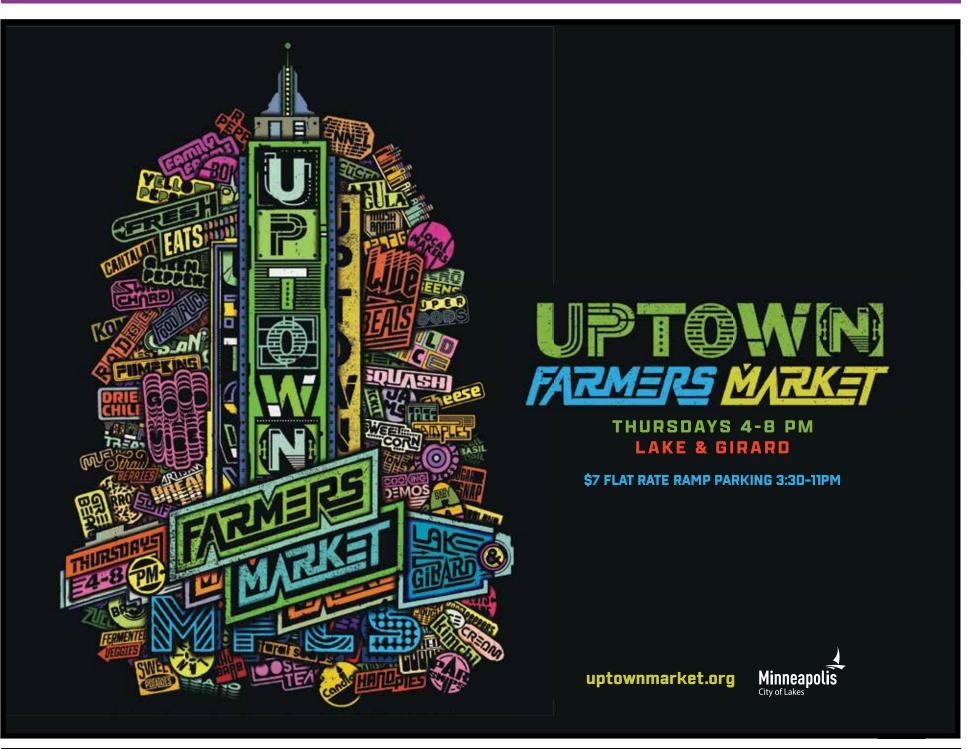
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WEST MAKA SKA neighborhood council







SUMMER INTERNSHIP









Haifu Owen (19) is entering his sophomore year at Haverford College in Philadelphia. He lives in Lowry Hill.

This November, we'll have Minneapolis' general city elections, with specifically the City Councill races on the table. This will be a decisive and highly influential race that can shape the direction of the city. One of the many races on the ballot is the Ward 7 City Council position. Elizabeth Shaffer, the park commissioner for the general area, local advocate, and my neighbor, is running for this seat. I previously worked for Elizabeth's park commissioner election, and this year I have been fortunate to join her campaign staff again. Working alongside her, I've seen the ins and outs of her campaign and wanted to share the many experiences I've had.

One of the most interesting things that stands out while working in a campaign office is meeting numerous types of people. Elizabeth's campaign office is next to the neighborhood staple, Sebastian Joe's, and conveniently serves as a home base for people to interact with Elizabeth. While sitting in the office, it's not uncommon for people to either stop

in and speak with Elizabeth about their specific concerns or just stop by for a quick hello. This makes each day at the office a new experience as I see firsthand how the City Council position could support its constituents. The people who enter the office to speak to Elizabeth range from small business owners whose concerns about Uptown brought them there, or local citizens who wanted updates about parks and the city. Each opinion and perspective was different. but it's important to the campaign to note these down. On one of the walls of the office, we place several large notepads full of constituent concerns and needs, reminding us of what goals are ahead of

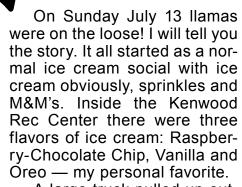
Outside of the office, I also help with door-knocking and staffing candidate meet-and-greets at people's homes. Through these two different activities, I've begun to understand the interconnection of the city and its residents. From one event to another, I've met people who are incredibly passionate about local politics and change. While talking with some of these folks, I've realized they knew much more about Elizabeth than I do. It's exciting to see that kind of interest and care,

campaign.

I was also surprised by how welcoming and kind people are. While doorknocking in Bryn Mawr with my sister in 90-degree weather, many Elizabeth supporters offered cold water and even their homes for rest. There were even people who were supporting Elizabeth's opponent who still spoke fondly of Elizabeth as park commissioner. These interactions with regular locals shape the foundation of Elizabeth's campaign, and it's been exciting to see this process unfold.

I've only been working on Elizabeth's campaign for 2 months, but throughout that time, meeting the myriad of people, participating in events, and tackling tasks has been extremely rewarding and fun. I'm excited for November and can't wait to celebrate.

LIAMAS ON the LOOSE! Symm



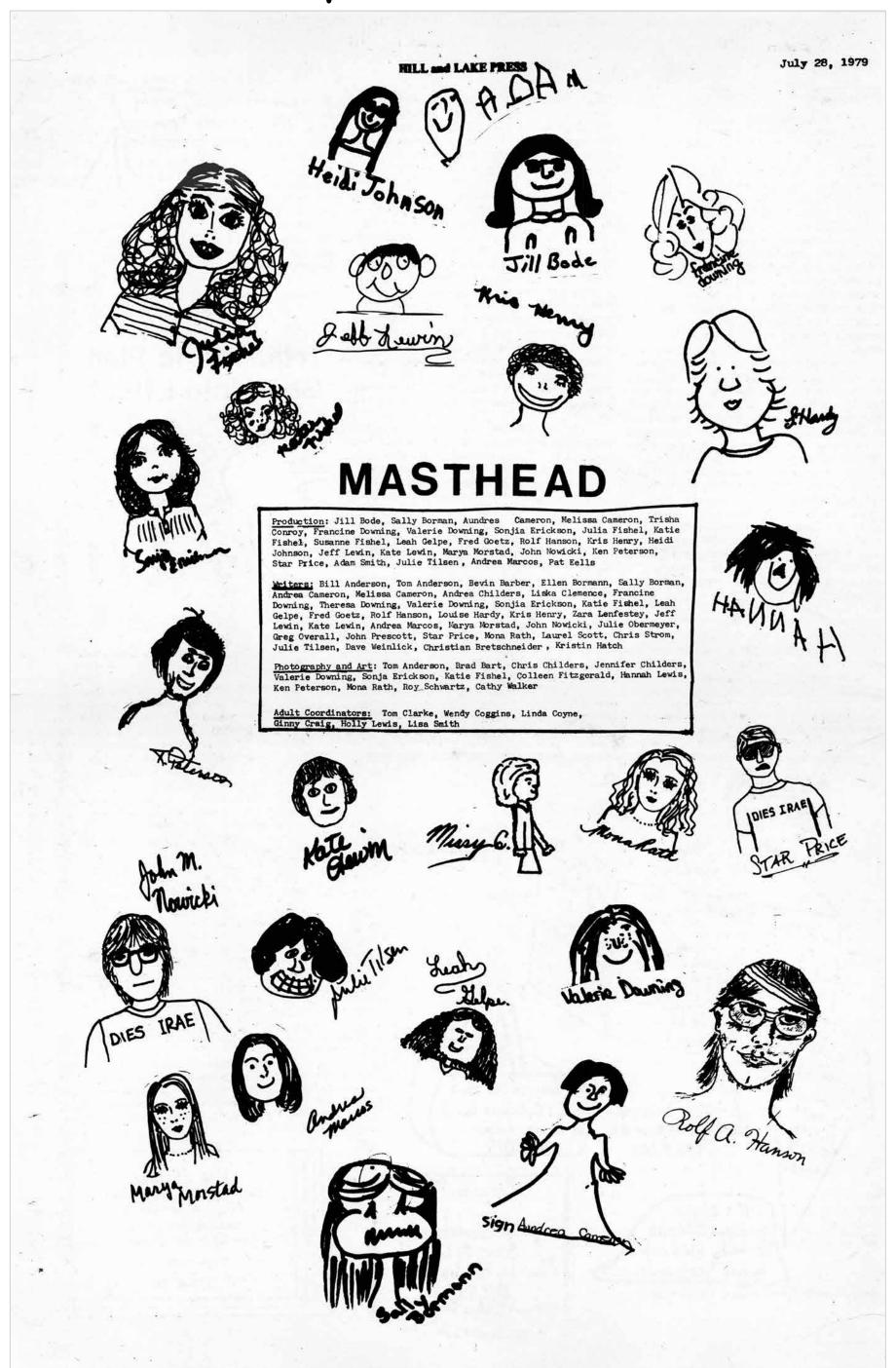
A large truck pulled up outside and there was a farmer who opened the gate. I saw eyes and I saw hair. The next thing I saw were llamas bursting out of the truck! There were big ones and small ones. The owner of all the llamas has even asked my mom and dad thirty llamas at his farm back for a llama of my own! home. We were lucky that there weren't all thirty – there were just five.

We ran to get the llamas' leashes. We gave them grass, we hugged them, we walked them around, petted them, and we even gave them treats. My favorite llamas were named Calypso, Bob and Mr. freckles. The llamas liked the shade. One of the helpers told us not to walk them too much in the sun. I had so much fun spending the day with the llamas I



Hill & Lake Press

the 1979 kid's issue team



SELECTED ARTICLES

July 28, 1979

HILL and LAKE PRESS

3

ESSAY ON MAN:

A MEANINGFUL EXISTENCE

Throughout time man has pondered the question "What is the meaning of life?" It naturally anisses life?" It naturally arises from man's seemingly absurd existence. By answering the question (and in the case of most, neglecting this question) man reaches various conclusions as how to use his existence. Through their in-terpretations of a meaningful existence, people often believe they have discovered the definitive answer of existence and thus pursue their idea to the maximum. This essay will focus on several of these interpretations and their im-

pacts.
For the purpose of this essay people will be divided into two groups: 1)People who have wondered why it is they exist 2)People who don't wonder my they exist but conform immediately to the environment. The latter constitute the majority of the people. Poor, rich, ill-educated, scholarly--people composed of all different backgrounds and social groups and yet these people all have one fault in common—they have never questioned life. They have no motive, no goals beyond their present of the tremendous power of man as an individual entity. These people often become warped by the society's values and consequently are drawn towards a selfish materialistic existence. They have unfortunately never reached the level of self criticism and appraisal which is so vitally necessary for one

But now let us view the more fortunate minority, those who have consciously evaluated their life and have decided their course. One such inter-pretation if that man is alive now and should reap all the pleasures and benefits of life while he lives. This approach creates hedonistic individuals who abandon many far-reaching humanitarian responsibilities for a selfish desire to please oneself. Such selfpleasure taken to extremes can often result in excessive drug use, obsessions with sexuality, and unwarranted feeling of righteousness.

Another conclusion for a meaningful existence is reflected through people who make their single priority the worship of a supreme power. Many people believe and strongly maintain that the sole reason we live is to glorify our creator through worship and the transformation of ourselves into humble servants. This is most singular-ly exemplified by the religions. Though

following religion as meaningfulness comes from the subjectivity of faith rather than from the objectivity of inner questioning, it can still be considered an answer to the question "What is the meaning of life?" Simply to these people life is to serve God while on earth so that after death they can achieve eternal happiness.
A third interpretation of life's

meaning is to, in some way, add to man's knowledge. With a deep driving force at truth, people often experience periods of extensive self-education with the purpose to help man by adding to knowledge. Ideally with each addition man comes closer and closer to that ultimate state of awareness, stepping farther from the clutches of ignorance.

A fourth and final conclusion for the meaning of life is reflected throu-

gh people who believe that the individual is powerful, that a transcended understanding of the self should take priority, and that they should attempt to share their understanding through a communicative love for their brothers. This is an altruistic approach to existence but nevertheless a very achie-vable one. Of course there are many other interpretations and many mixtures of these four.

This essay has not been an attempt to slur or criticize any individual lifestyle but rather to present various interpretations to a basic philosophical question. There is no final or ultimate answer to "What is the meaning of life?" but in answering this question each individual unlocks and perceives within himself a message about himself, a glimpse at who he truly is. An honest treasure of self-realization. An honest and sincere attempt to understand oneself and one's motives will ultimately lead to a happy and a meaningful existence.

> John Nowicki, 17 2400 Russell

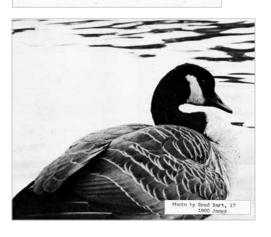
MONDALE REMEMBERS

On the 22 of June, I was riding my bike down 24th street by Fremont, I saw a lot of policemen and state troopers at the Jewish Synagoguethought it had been robbed until I saw a blue cadillac with an official looking seal on the door. I saw a friend and he told me that the Vice President was in there, so my friend and I went inside to talk to the secret-servicemen. They were funny secret-servicemen. They were funny. The secret-servicemen said we could stand three feet away when he came out, but the police said we had to move about seventy-five feet back.

When he came out he started to come toward us. One of the secret-servicemen suggested he shouldn't, but he said, "It's all right, this is my old neighborhood." He came over and shook our hands. Since we had just got back from soccer, we had our jerseys on and my friend explained yerseys on and my rriend explained what WESAC meant. I told him that that afternoon I got my hair cut at the same barber he used to go to. He shook my hair around and said, "Didn't do good enough for you either Then he went into his car and left and I thought he was one of the nicest men I've ever known.

Editor's Note: Vice-President Mondale use to live at 24th Irving.

Bill Anderson, 13 2304 Humboldt



20



1806 Chestrut

The Minnesota Orchestra in Kenwood

On July fifth the Minnesota
Orchestra played a one hour concert
in Kenwood Park. Since the cate was
so close to the Fourth, the program
included such songs as "Stars and
Stripes Forever." It was a very
well-rounded program, including
onnular course, a mediev of some of the popular songs, a medley of some of the best known works of Rogers and Hammer-stein, and pieces by classical galactic very long, which kept the concert

moving quickly.

The weather was nice, but the mosquitoes were out and this perhaps accounted for lower attendance than last year's concert at Kenwood Although there were fewer people than last year, the attendance was good. The crowd consisted mostly of families. Lots of kids played all over the park throughout the concert, but their noise didn't ruin the concert in any way and added to the casualness of the event. Some people brought chairs, but most lay on blankets or sat on

The speaker system worked very w

well and the music was easily heard at the back of the crowd. It was nice this year not to have high winds that have interfered with the P.A. system in some previous programs. Rveryone was very much at ease and many hummed with the music. Nost of the people were from the

surrounding area; people could be seen walking to the park an hour fterwards. Most people stayed for all of the concert and judging by the way some four-year-olds danced to the music, even the 'little people' got something out of this community performance of live, 'good' music. Most people talked as they walked home about how much they had enjoyed the concert and how they think that these free, open concerts are great and should be continued. People rected people they hadn't seen in months. Even the dogs behaved. All in all, it was a typical neighorhood gathering where everyone seemed to enjoy being together and to enjoy what they were doing. Ellen Bormann, 18

22 * * CINEMA * *

HILL and LAKE PRESS

BOND BLASTS OFF

When Sean Connery first intoduced himself as" ... Bond, James Bond..." in the film "Dr. No" in 1962, the public fell in love with slick, cool, super spy 007. James Bond became the definitive secret agent, and although numerous attempts have been made to copy the Bond formula, none has succeeded as the Bond films have. Commery went on to make five more films as James Bond (George Lagenby played the agent in "On Her Hajesty's Secret Service"), but anymore, the producers selected Roger Moore of "The Saint" televised series as his replacement.
Moore's first two films were like the earlier Bond efforts, with a well constructed plot and believable action, but the audience for Bond was beginning to fade, so Bond went big budget, and in the summer of 1977, the most expensive Bond film (\$13 million) was released. "The Spy that Loved Me" bore little resemblance to the book that Ian Fleming had written years before. The movie had incredibly lavish sets, exciting chase scenes on mountain roads and underwater, and foot hit man with steel teeth, called Jaws, that Bond fought through-out the film. However, this movie widn't have the well detailed and somewhat believable plots that the excuse for all its chase scenes and special effects. But, no one could complain, especially the producers, for it was an enormous hit, and its title song even reached the top ten. Its slogan was "Bond is back", and

indeed he was. So now we find ourselves in 1979 and "Moonraker," the newest of the James Bond series, appears to be one of the big hits of the summer. Just as "The Spy Who Loved Me" bore little resemblance to its book, "Moonraker" can be said to have practically nothing in common with the 1955 novel written by Fleming. Made at a budget of \$30 million, over twice the amount of any earlier Bond efforts, "Moonraker has the same format as "Spy", 90% action, 10% plot. In this film, no expense was spared in bringing this to the screen.

As in all the Bond films, there is a man who wants to take over the world. In this case it's Hugo Drax (Michael Lonsdale), ex-space scientist and builder of the American space shuttle, Moonraker. As the shuttle is being flown on the back of a 747 to England on loan, Drax

has it hijacked right off the back or the plane! This shuttle joins his fleet of shuttles and at a huge space station that he has somehow constructed secretly up in space. Apparently, Drax has plans to create a genetically perfect society in his a generically perfect society in his station, destroy all the people on the world and start the human race over with his "space-ark" inhabitants.

Enter 007, fresh from an exciting

fall from an airplane and a mid-air wrestling match with Jaws, returning from "Spy". His boss, "M" tells Bond that, of course, England must recover the shuttle and return it to America. It's up to Bond to find it and return it to the shuttle and return it to the shuttle and return it to the shuttle bond to find it and return it to the shuttle. it quickly. Bond is of course supplied with various weapons which just so happen to come in handy later on, and then he's off! He runs into an American CIA agent also working on the case (Lois Chiles) and together they end up saving the world, until the next Bond film.

However, it wasn't that easy! Bond has a battle with Jaws on top of a TRAM, over towering mountains, and a high speed boat chase with Jaws again over a waterfall!

In perhaps the best scene of the film, Bond is peacefully traveling gh the canals of Ve nice in a gondola when a speed boat begins to chase him, machine guns firing. this the end of James Bond? OF COURSE NOT!, for Bond's vehicle just so happens to have a hidden motor and in reality is an amphibious gondola. He then drives through a crowded plaza of Venice to complete his escape. This is even before he gets into space! "Moonraker" is the most enjoyable action film since "Star Wars". You barely get a chance to catch your breath as the film's pace

moves at a break-neck speed.

It's sad in a way how the makers have dropped the somewhat believable plots that the earlier Bond films had, for action and special effects, but if that's what you like "Moonraker" has some of the best!

> Star Price, 17 1783 Irving



kID's Poetry

THE RELUCTANT HORSE HILL and LAKE PRESS



I sit on her back.

"Move you dumb horse!"
She sits.

"Get Up!"
But no... that stupid horse!

"Come on!"
So she stands.
Now I'll make her move.

"Move your legs and trot!"
She turns her head and
stares at me, as if
to say,

"Don't push me, kid."
I'll make her trot, you just wait ...

Sonjia Erickson, 12 3253 Emerson

July 28, 1979

EMPIRE UNNOT

West,
Underestimated.
Old and unkept, yes:
Yet, neat in its own way
It has a character, all its
Other people think it's not wort
That it sits on. Why can't th
How majestic it looks on its
Royalty among commonalty
Can they see that?
Or are they
blind?

Laurel Scott 2634 Bryant

TREASURE

For a long time Greg and Rusty have been living on their own island and have been trying to make a capsule that could go under ground and under water. Finally, one day Rusty said, "I did it!!!!" "You did what?" "I finally made the G.R. capsule's fuel." "What are we waiting for? Let's go!" So they put on their pressure masks and they were off. Rusty said "EHC! look at that skeleton!" Greg said, "And that blood! Hey, let's go through that tunnel! "Okay."Look at that golden sword. Let's get on our scuba and dig under there." And they found treasure.

Greg Overall, 9 2700 Chowen

JENNY'S PENNY

There once was a girl named Jenny,
She had an old silver penny,
She couldn't decide,
To save or to ride,
That very old silver penny

Jack's Sack
There once was a man named Jack,
Jack wanted to sleep in a sack,
His mother would cry,
"Take off your tie,
And get in your little old sack."

Jill's Walk
There once was a girl named Jill,
Jill wanted to walk up a hill,
It was very hard,
But she found a card,
The card helped her reach the mill.

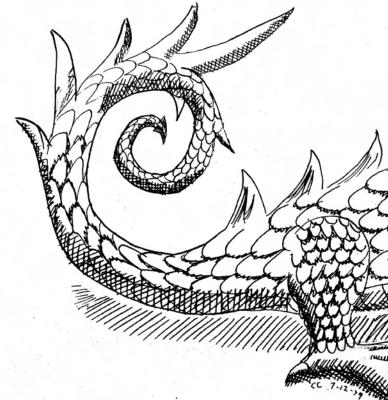
Andrea Childers, 10 1704 Humbolt

FROM OUT OF THE SKY

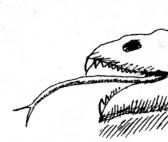
Once upon a time in Italy, there lived two mice named Thretal and Petticon. They lived in a small hut by a pond. Every day they went fishing. One day while they went fishing, on July 11th, 1979, the day skylab was supposed to fall, they heard a loud noise. So they went back to the hut to see what the noise was, but all they saw was burnt ashes where their hut used to be. They told their friends what happened. Their friends felt sorry for them and helped them build a new modern house. From that day on they were very careful never to leave their house when anything was to fall from the sky (even rain).

Zara Lenfestey, 9 1925 Girard Julie Obermeyer, 9 2016 Girard





Lay-out By Kris Henry Julie Tilsen



DRAGONS



In the year 8,920,753 B.C. d were all kinds of dragons--flyin even very small ones. In this t were plants, cave bears, saber-t when a dragon was hungry, he had getting back to our story: ther Charlie Clamfooterapstoperdie, (with his mother. Her name was F gether, but one day Chuck got re in a cave where he thought nobod bears did find him. He started mother found him. So he had to a special treat. She took him t place that can solve every singl Maco, the Magical Lion, and he g Chuck drank it and they lived ha

kID's Poetry

July 28, 1979

own. h the land ev see hill,

, 16

NIGHT

HILL and LAKE PRESS

THE OCEAN AND I

Night is falling over the city. Like a big, dark blanket it covers the sky. The stars are tiny holes in it That the light shines through. Crickets start chirping, And bats come out. When the brilliant orange ball Slides over the edge. Children are tucked in bed As day turns into night.

> Laurel Scott, 16 2634 Bryant

The ocean That wild creature that covers most of the earth. I respect it: Sitting on a beach listening to it crash into the land. And if you swim out just beyond the breakers. Something happens inexplicable. When you sit there bobbing up and down, You become part of the ocean. To me the ocean is like a friend.

> John Prescott, 12 2801 West 28 Street

FOREST ANIMALS



At night the forest is dark and cold. Have pity on animals who must sleep there every night. Sonjia Erickson, 12

LIFE... DEATH

Poor mouse Poor bunny near by in a small tree the owl is watching ...

Sonjia Erickson, 12 3253 Emerson

DIFFERENT

The wind played with the trees then left them behind twisted, tangled, A tragedy for all to see! It makes the place I know so well different, strange. No one will know it as how it was--Only me And the remaining trees.

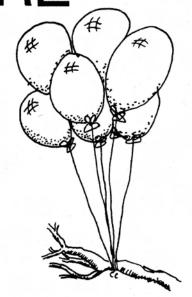
> L. H. Hardy, 12 3149 Dupont

EVERYWHERE

1704 HUMBOLDT

ragons roamed the earth. There g ones, fire-breathing ones, and ime, the only other living things oothed lions, and turtles. So to catch a bear or a lion. Now, e once was a specific dragon named we'll call him Chuck) who lived rances. They lived happily toallymad and ran away. He hid away y would find him, but a family of living with them until one day his go home. Then Frances gave Chuck o Jason Jumprat's Fair. (That's a e problem of yours). They went to ave them some percusphanucus. ppily ever after. The End.

Dave Weinlick, 9 2524 Aldrich



FOR A. MERE 25¢

The long slender airship sped through the sky, a mere speck to the universe, yet yet a huge colossus to a being. Inside people were attending their work -- meteorologists, aeronautics. They all had their part in keeping the ship alive; and over to the starboard, another speck arose from the black sky, confused. The first ship tried to make contact but failed. Suddenly both ships stopped, and then there was an explosion. The first ship was gone, with its thousands of passengers and crewmen.

Then the game was over and somebody else inserted a quarter and anothe long slender airship appeared on the screen.

> Tom Anderson, 15 2304 Humboldt

HE BEST RESTAURANTS FOR KIDS, According to a nine year old By Arlene Helen Katt

Red Cow

I like Red Cow because it's walk or scooter there. When you walk in, you see a painting of a blue cow. Why is it blue? Shouldn't it be red? The kids menu has fun activities. My fathe difference. My brother and I always order the lemonade at the same time. I order the cheeseburger sliders. My brother gets mac and cheese. They also have corn dogs. The kids' meals come with a snickerdoodle cookie. I usually eat half first and save the rest for dessert. They used to give you carrots, but now it's grapes. I liked the carrots more. Last time we went with my grandpa, and he let my brother and me split a chocolate milkshake. Our waiter Max put it in two different cups and gave us a little extra. We blew the wrappers off our straws and we hit our parents in the face. The cheese curds and ketchup are delicious, too.

Sushi Train

My favorite part of Sushi Train is that the sushi comes around on a conveyor belt thing. For kids, they have pea- SK Coffee nut butter and jelly rolls. They butter and jelly on them and roll it up like a sushi roll. I like it because it feels like you're eating sushi, but you're actually eating a PB&J. Their edamame is good and they always put salt on it. We like their Japanese sodas. You open them by pushing a little glass ball into your soda. It doesn't come out, so you can drink the soda without swallowing the glass ball. My favorisometimes order chicken tem pura, or shrimp tempura betried the sushi because I don't and chalk outside. It's so fun! like seafood. Maybe I will try it someday.

Punch Pizza

My favorite thing at Punch is close to our house and we can that the pizzas are really warm and have really good cheese on them and sauce. You get to watch them put it in the oven. Also, they have really good lemonata in a can. It's vorite is tic-tac-toe and spot but it's really good still. They also have an orange flavor. We usually sit outside. It's by a because it's sweet and sour bookstore and we sometimes get to pick out a book after.

Milkjam

They have good ice cream. Some of their ice cream is vegan and gluten-free, so anyone can have it. They always have four special flavors. Once it was a rootbeer one and it was really yummy. You get free samples. I've tried the sweet cream flavor and mango, but my favorite is the black, which is made with dark cocoa. They have an ice cream called cereal killer. It has lots of Fruity Pebbles in it, so people who like cereal should order that. Milkjam is right next to a restaurant called World Street Kitchen, so you can have dinner first and then get ice cream. I usually get quesadillas at World Street Kitchen.

I don't drink coffee, but SK put bread down, and put peanut has yummy hot cocoa. They also have delicious brownies and cookies. They have homemade pop tarts, but I've never tried them. Every spring, they host an art show for Whittier International School. The SK staff goes to the school and picks art they like from the hallways and frame it. Then they hang it up at the coffee shop. You get your art back at the end. I've been in the show twice, once with a te is the strawberry kind. We rainbow painting in kindergarten, and once with a giraffe in second grade. They have a big cause my brother likes it. My party to celebrate the opening parents like the sushi. I haven't of the show, and have bubbles



Red Cow

2626 Hennepin Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55408 (612) 767-3547 redcowmn.com

Milkjam Creamery

2743 Lyndale Avenue S Minneapolis, MN 55408 (612) 424-4668 milkjamcreamery.com

SK Coffee

2401 Lyndale Avenue S Minneapolis, MN 55405 (612) 870-6114 skcoffeeplease.com

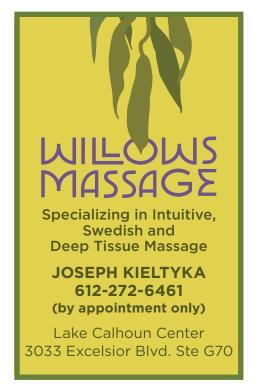
Located at Greenway Lakes Commons:

Sushi Train

3236 W Lake Street Minneapolis, MN 55416 (612) 354-2581 sushitraincalhoun.com

Punch Pizza

3236 W Lake Street Minneapolis, MN 55416 (612) 929-0006 punchpizza.com









We CHANGED BREAKFAST at Ella Baker and Beyond By Sandro Antonio, rising 8th grader

Last January, my teacher a lot of people liked the new sys-Ms. Lehn asked students to share our ideas on how to change the breakfast system so that more students would take advantage of the healthy breakfasts Minneapolis Public Schools provides.

teria is in the basement and some students, especially middle school students who have class on the 3rd floor at 7:30 AM, don't want to go down to get breakfast and then walk up 4 floors to class. So, I got called into the principal's office to talk about my plan to put breakfast on each floor. I thought serving breakfast from carts on each floor would help more students eat breakfast and there would be less trash on the floor.

When we made the change,

tem, and the result was exactly what I expected. After two months, I talked with the district board members, and they said they will probably make this change in other schools.

At Ella Baker, we hope our The problem is, our cafe- advocacy not only helps our students but gives an example to other schools too.

> Have you heard about our inclusive playground? You can learn more and donate at -

> thewedge.org/playground.html



Ella Baker Global Studies and Humanities Magnet School, located at 1200 W 26th St, Minneapolis, MN. (Image: Courtey of Homes.com)







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FROM A SUNDAY SCHOOL PARENT >

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READ THE ARTICLE: You'll find me at the kids' table

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TOUR OF the Star tribune: Is Journalism a dying sport?

By Aristotle Baylor, Age 11



Aristotle with a recent edition of the newly named, The Minnesota Star Tribune. (Image: Jackie Brown Baylor)



This summer I am attending a Nonfiction Writing Workshop Camp at my school. On day two of our camp, we set out to explore the world of journalism from a closer lens by taking a field trip to the Star Tribune headquarters. The Minneapolis Tribune was founded in 1867, and Minneapolis Daily Star emerged in 1920. In 1982 the papers merged and in 1987 the name was shortened to Star Tribune. In 2024, the paper was renamed Minnesota Star Tribune. Over 158 years have passed and as an 11-year-old I had one question: Is journalism a dying

We arrived at 225 South 6th Street in Minneapolis. Our group entered the towering concrete and glass building and were led to a conference room where we were to meet with a reporter, an editor and a philanthropist. We all asked them a bunch of questions. How do you end your article? And who does what exactly? When the questions were finished the tour officially began. The headquarters looks just like what you think an office in the movies would look with rows of booths with computers. We reboarded the bus and headed to the place where the papers are printed just a mile

dwn the road. Our tour guide greeted us and took us to the plate rooms which had UV red lights that affected the plates. These plates served a different purpose than a car license plate but looked extremely similar. From the plate room we went to the room where they press the paper, and I found out that one printing press costs six million dollars and one roll of paper they use to make the newspaper was eleven miles long if you rolled it out to its full extent. Next, we went to a paper delivery room that had train tracks inside that a train used to deliver the paper. Overall, it was a pretty good experience, and I highly recommend it for a field trip. So, I bet you are wondering if I discovered the answer to my question. Is journalism a dying sport? No! I believe it will always be around but with time it may look or be completely different. My generation is surrounded by technology, the internet and YouTube reels/shorts that spread misinformation easily. Journalism and newspapers couldn't be more important than now, and I think the Star Tribune is doing a good job of balancing the new and while honoring the old.

> MUSKELLUNGE are in these waters Minimum Legal Size is 54"

LURE THEM IN!

By Aristotle Baylor



This summer I have had a lot of fun fishing around our neighborhood lakes, and I would like to share my top three lures for fishing and why. The first and best for fishing is live bait. Live bait is a good bait to use for beginners because it sends vibrations through the water itself by moving on its own with the person and the rod not having to do so manually, which requires a bit more time and experience to get right. I like this bait because if the fish steals your bait once it is swallowed and it will not harm the fish like some artificial lures could.





My second favorite lure is artificial worms. Artificial worms are liked by most fish species, especially bass, which I really enjoy fishing for. Knowing each species' favorite foods is important when selecting the right lure. The artificial worms come in many different colors and some are reflective, have glitter or a scented slime to attract the fish. There are more eco-friendly biodegradable lures that are made from biodegradable plastic that will dissolve over time.

My third favorite on my list is Spinner Bait. Spinner Baits are one of the best lures to use when you are fishing from shore/ shallow water as their shiny bodies are easy for the fish to see and some fish do not have good eyesight. The lures also spin and make vibrations through the water to attract the fish while they spin. Spinner bait is also good to keep the hook away from the weeds.

I hope you and your friends and family go out to explore our lakes to enjoy the wildlife and nature through fishing. No matter what bait you choose you are sure to have a good time. I hope this article will help you make the best bait selections for your fishing quests and will encourage you to try something new.



EYE SPY "ADOPT A DRAIN" (HALLENGE -

STEP (1)

Gather supplies; gloves, trash bag, small hand shovel or brush rake and picker if you have one.



STEP (2)

Adopt the Drain, give it a name, check it when you can, especially before/after big rain storms.



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Visit —

mn.adopt-a-drain.org

STEP 3

Enter the Adopt a Drain Contest, some neighborhoods eligible for prizes!



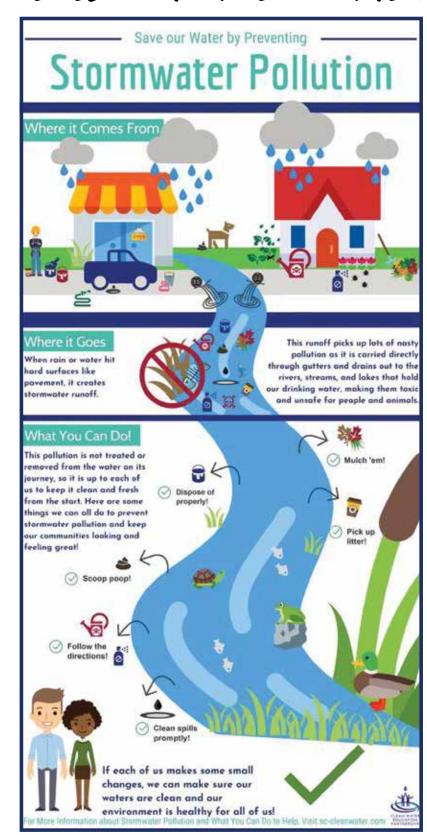
 Hey kids, ask a grown up to join you for a walk to find your closest storm drain.





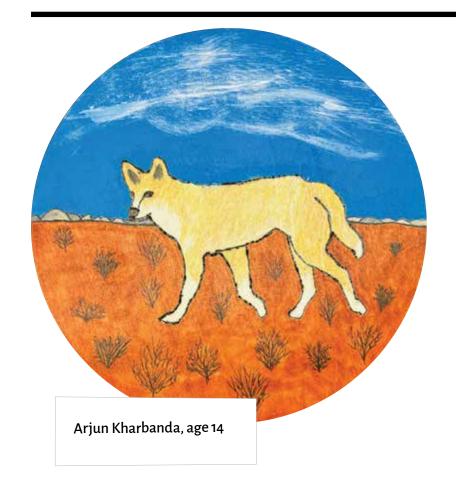
KIDS, YOU CAN DO 14!!!!

BY CLEANING A STORM DRAIN, YOU ARE HELPING TO SAVE OUR WATER.





(Images: Infographics courtesy of Clean Water Education partnership)







Big Monster Truck Simon Jeffers, age 6

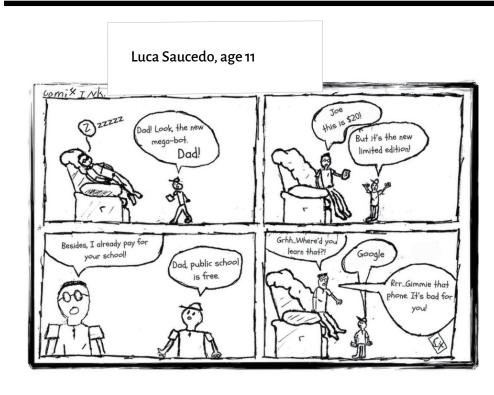




Rising 2nd Grader



Yellow Sun Henry Walcker, age 2

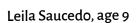




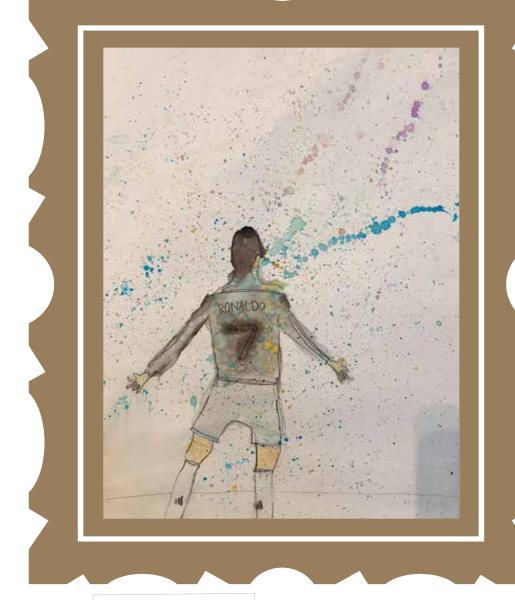


Shelby Can We play with

- COMIC WEITTEN BY INEZ -









JokE:

Why did the police bring in a drawing for questioning?

It was looking a little sketchy.

Robin Dolphin, age 9

Teacher and Professinal Ultimate Frisbee Player

Interview by Flynn Morrow







At left - Max Hanscom, number 96, with the Minnesota Wind Chill (Image: Minnesota Wind Chill); At Middle - Minnesota Wind Chill Ultimate Frisbee Association; At right - Max "Sunshine" Hanscom. (Image: Ultiworld.com)

I interviewed my fifth grade teacher at Agamim Classical Academy, Max Hanscom, who is also a professional Ultimate frisbee player but before we get to that, let's start with his early life

Early life

Max was born in Seattle but has lived in many different states (now including Minnesota). One of the things he did before teaching was ranching (his favorite horse was Frank the Tank).

Teaching

He started teaching people when COVID struck and now it's one of his passions. He loves teaching people

and said, "I love connecting with young people and getting surprised by them."

Frisbee

Max got started with his middle school teacher who played for the national team. He loves being outdoors, playing sports and exercising, playing frisbee specifically.

Some of the good friends he has made are Leo and Niamh. One of his favorite craziest trick shots was throwing a frisbee across the street through a half open window on the fourth floor!

His nickname, Sunshine, makes perfect sense when you know him. The teams he has played for are the Hamilton Hawks, the Garfield Purple Haze, the Middlebury Pranksters, the Minneapolis Birds, and the Minnesota Windchill! The sports that probably helped him are cross country and maybe skiing.

"I love frisbee since I get to be outside with my friends and it also has good team camaraderie," Max added.



There is a new store in Uptown called Moona Moono. You can buy blind boxes, stickers, candy, notebooks, pens, pins, keychains, stuffies, Korean beauty products and more

Korean beauty products and more. My favorites are the Tayto stuffies and the lip glosses. There is also a café. These are some drinks that they have:

- Strawberry milk
- Lemonade with Boba
- Black sesame latte
- Coffee and
- Espresso tonic

When I was at sleepaway camp I got a Moona Moono package and it had snacks and a blind box, a keychain, and a pin. It made me really happy.

My aunt owns the store. Before it opened, I helped clean the windows and put price tags on blind boxes and stickers. When I am in the store, I feel excited to be in the space. I'm proud of my aunt for opening the store.

Moona Moono

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Moona Moono, a modern coffee shop and retail experience that celebrates Asian American and Asian culture. (Image: moonamoono.com)









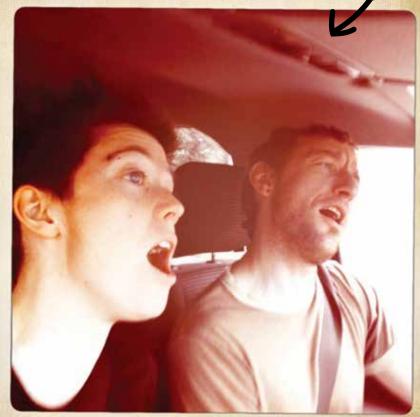




AMY SHELLEY, MUSICIAN from the indie-pop duo High Fiction

Interview by Jack Crews, age 10





Amy Shelley. (Image: Artist/Bandcamp)

Amy and her bandmate, Gary Grundei. (Image: Artist/Bandcamp)

This interview is between Jack Crews and Amy Shelley, half of the indie-pop duo "High Fiction." Amy is a longtime friend of the Crews family, and lives in Denver, Colorado. Amy and her bandmate, Gary Grundei, both joined the band for Silversmith as part of a vocalist residency hosted by Nona Invie at Berlin on Sunday, June 22.

Jack: Why do you like the drums?

Amy: I like the drums because they are super fun to play, and because I like variety. The drums are in many, many genres of music. I can play jazz, rock, and many other styles of music.

Jack: How did you meet Gary?

Amy: I met Gary while playing a gig. He came out to see the gig with a friend of mine, so I met him during the set break. After that he hired me to perform in a musical play, and eventually we started a band together, which eventually turned into High Fiction.

Jack: When did you start your band? **Amy:** We started High Fiction in 2011.

Jack: How old were you when you started High Fiction? **Amy:** 31.

Jack: What's your favorite High Fiction song you've made?

Amy: I think my favorite would be "Stars So Clear."

Jack: What's your most famous song? Amy: That's probably "The Young Men."

Jack: How did you get the idea of High Fiction?

Amy: It evolved over time. And it took us quite a while to figure out the sound of High Fiction. Gary and I both play many genres of music. We both have our foundations in jazz, classical, rock and theater, and we had to figure out our sound, and what the band values. And we value working with other artists that we love.

Jack: What band do you really like to listen to?

Amy: There are a lot of bands I really like to listen to, but if I had to pick one, I'd probably pick Radiohead.

Jack: How do you get inspired for your

songs?

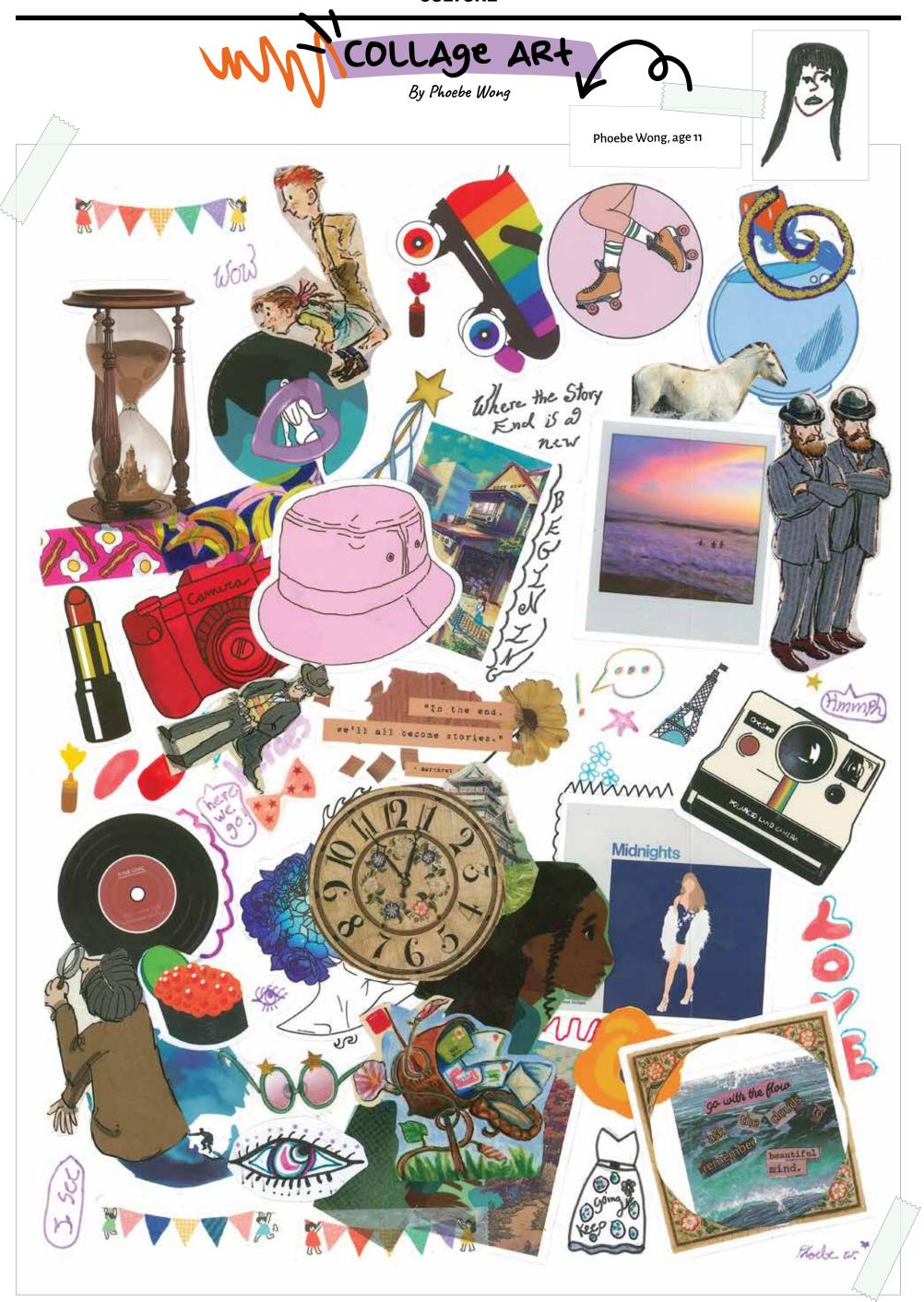
Amy: I journal quite a bit and see what comes to the surface. Sometimes we'll just sit down at instruments and see what we play, and sometimes we like it and we work to develop it into a song, and sometimes it's just a fun exploration. Right now we're working on a concept album about Frankenstein, so that's been the inspiration for our songs for a while now. We're inspired by the literature that we're reading.

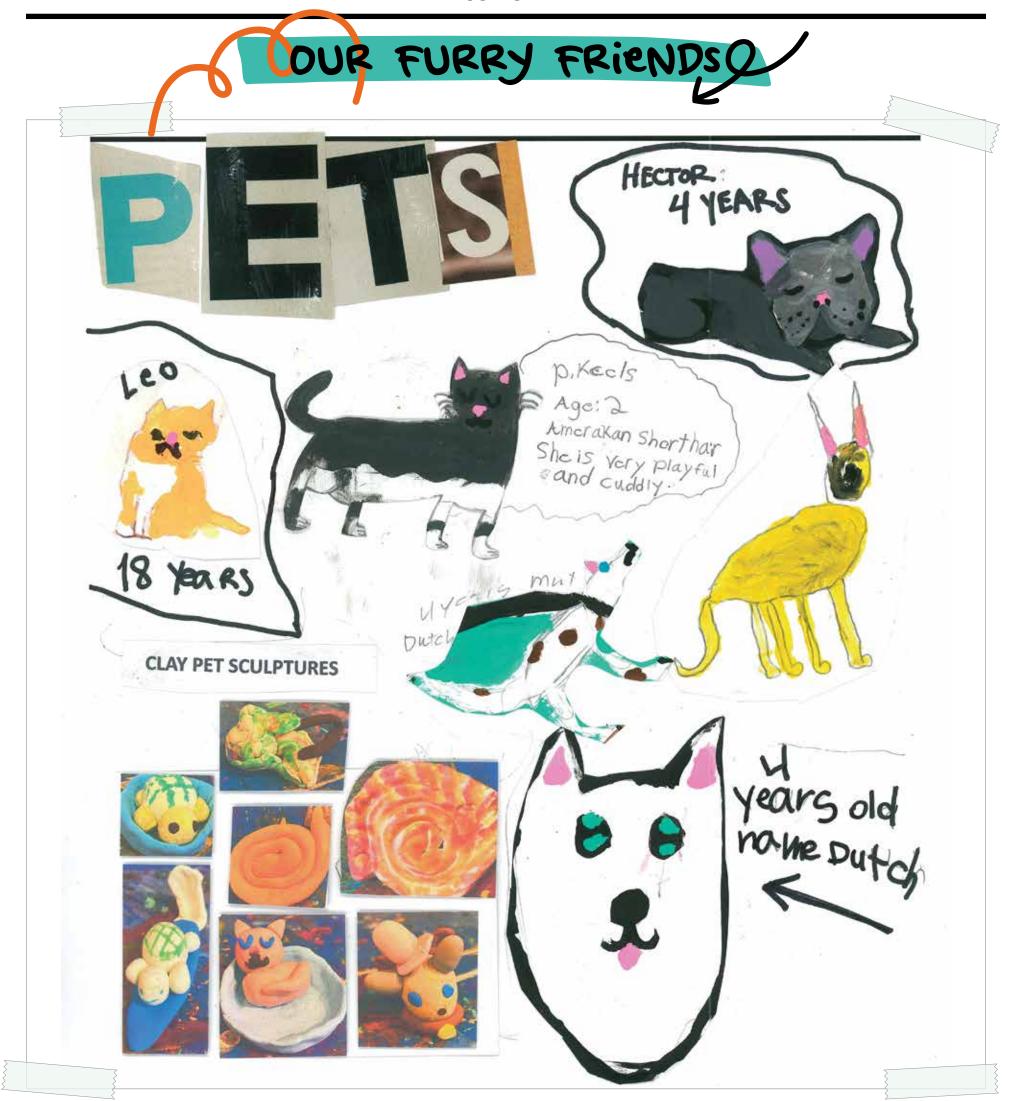
Jack: Do you like to play other people's songs?

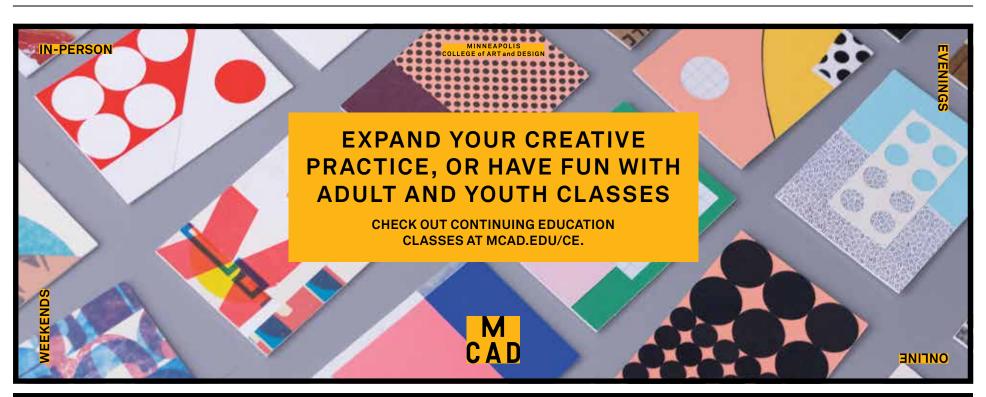
Amy: Yes!

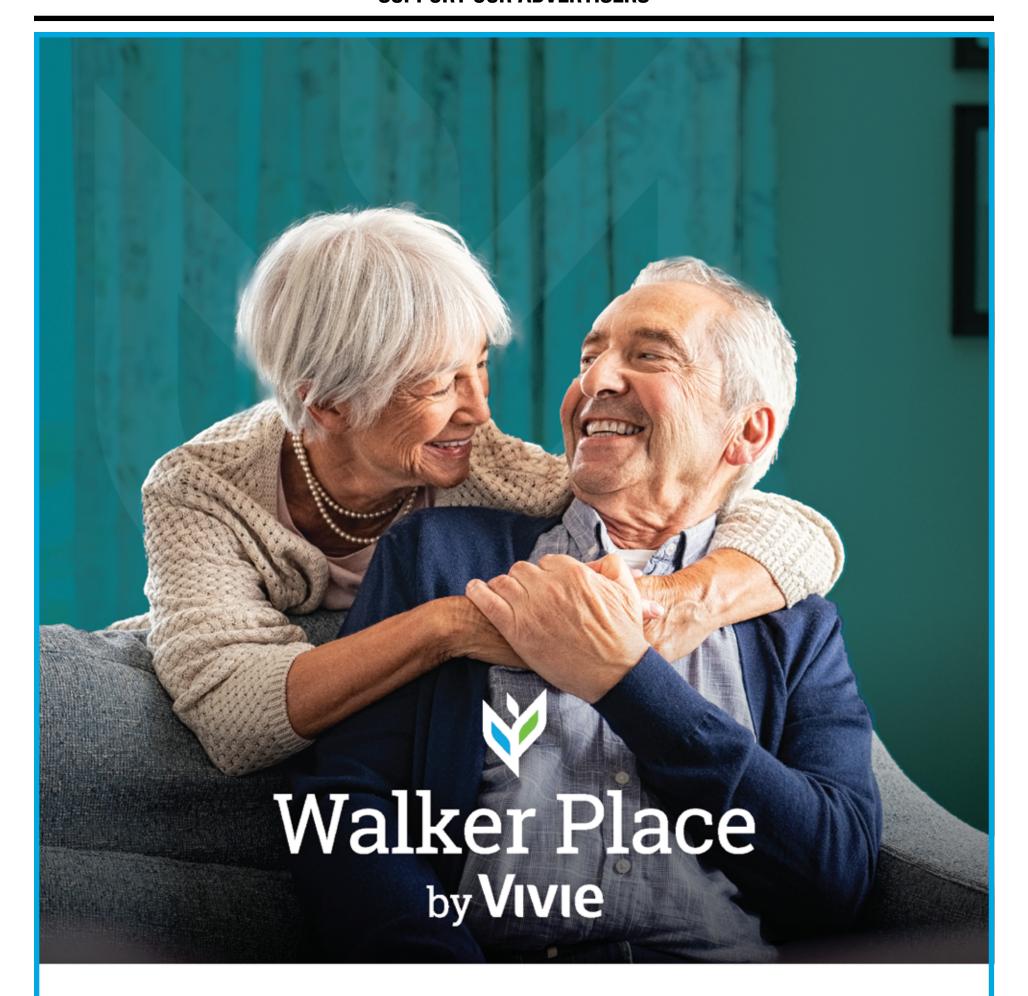












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