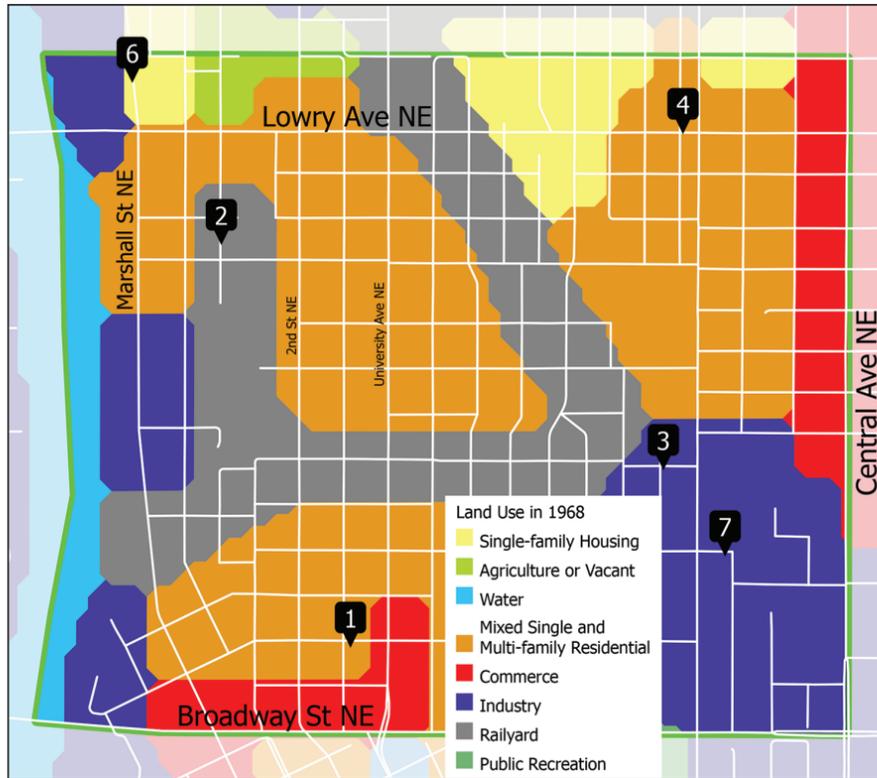


University of Minnesota graduate student **Kenny Niemeyer** is interning with the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District this summer cataloging the land uses, talking with building owners and exploring ways to preserve maker space and compatible industry. Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Mapping, he created this version of our signature map, showing the locations of Arts Insights advertisers.



The map shows land use in 1968, scanned and digitized from a physical map created by the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Land use categories in Minneapolis were established in 1962 and remained mostly unchanged until 2000 when categories were significantly expanded.

- Advertiser Key:
- 1 - The Anchor Fish & Chips
 - 2 - California Building
 - 3 - Casket Arts Complex
 - 4 - Clay Squared to Infinity
 - 5 - Davis Law Office - 28th & Johnson
 - 6 - Siwek Lumber & Millwork
 - 7 - Solar Arts
- Also located outside the map bounds:
 Turbo Tim's Anything Automotive - 28th & Central, Michael Gacek - Edina Realty, Michael Rainville - candidate



arts INSIGHTS

A page about artists and The Arts at Work by the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District in collaboration with the Northeast.

Preserving plywood protest art

by Margo Ashmore

Anyone who wants to "own a piece of this history," referring to the plywood protest art created after the murder of George Floyd, gets "a flat and resounding NO" from Memorialize the Movement (MTM) founder and Executive Director Leesa Kelly. "You can attend the public events like anyone else," but the idea of people making historic artifacts something only available to whoever visits their home "is just a grotesque concept," she said.

Her dream, and that of allies who helped collect what is now about 850 sheets of painted plywood stored in a small far corner of the Northrup King Building, is that there will be a large permanent space where the boards can be accessible for people to "sit with and absorb" and think about the messages of the moment. Community exhibit events like one they held at Phelps Park on May 22, near the anniversary of Floyd's death, take a lot of heavy hauling and expose the ephemeral boards to damage.

How did that event go? "People said it was too white," she blurted out, explaining she's from Chicago where they don't hold back. "Perhaps a lot of black people thought it would re-traumatize them and decided not to go." There was a "vibe check" at the entry points setting the tone (see page 7). The mixed response was somewhat expected, Kelly said, but in it she found validation. "When we first started, I wondered 'do people really want me to be doing this?' and now I believe the answer is yes."

Kelly's background is with the group Global Shapers, an initiative of the World Economic Forum, whose local members helped with the initial gathering of boards. Anything curatorial or artistic has been learned on the fly, taught by volunteers who work in the field. "Who knew to take museum studies?" As we walked and talked through the halls of Northrup King Building, various arts outside the closed studio doors caught her eye, from her friend Beverly Tipton Hammond to MB - Michelle Bruesegaard, to the spiderwebs at the ceilings and an A-frame cart on wheels.

The Northeast Minneapolis Arts District wasn't a deliberate choice, Kelly said, it just happened that



Artspace, Northrup King Building's owner, was willing to lease to MTM for what they were able to pay. The irony of landing here (where for a long time and for many people diversity was fine as long as the skin color is white) is not lost on her. "Someone's got to do that work. If black people aren't here, black people won't come." She moved to the Twin Cities in 2017 and found it was "culture shock" to realize that there are still a lot of spaces that are not at all diverse.

The MTM spaces at Northrup King Building are closed to the public and are just for storage, staging, the repair, stabilizing and cataloging underway. It's like big decks of cards standing on end. It is hoped to have the entire collection photographed and posted online by the end of the

year. For more information or to donate toward the future, go to <https://www.memorializethemovement.com/>

Weigh in on creating an Arts Office

by Mark Peterson

In late July, the Minneapolis City Council will vote on an ordinance establishing a Department of Art and Cultural Affairs. Ninth Ward Council Member Alondra Cano, who spearheaded the effort to create the office, said that the arts are a five billion-dollar industry in the city, and the new department "would acknowledge how much we receive from it." She added current arts support is diffused, the city needs a "dedicated, centralized, and reliable funding source" (the general fund) for arts projects and support, while still pursuing grants from programs such as the Jerome Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Cano noted that there is \$52 million in funding through the NEA through the American Rescue Plan Act that the city could apply for.

It has been said that over the years, millions have been left on the table for lack of staff to write applications.

In November 2019, staff members of the City Coordinator's office recommended the creation of the department to be accountable for all arts and culture related programs and investments, to increase attention beyond the city's core to surrounding neighborhoods, establish a dedicated revenue stream for arts and culture investments, and promote the city as a "premier arts and cultural destination." The funding retreat over the past dozen years of traditional arts donors, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the livelihood of artists and creative workers, and civil unrest all figured in the urgency of creating a unified response by and for the arts community and the City itself.

A proposed budget for the department would more than double the money for programs and operating costs (from \$2.3 million to \$5.46 million) and triple the number of full-time employees (from 5 to 15).

The Minneapolis Arts Commission (MAC) discussed the ordinance June 16. Chartered in 1974 with funding from the national Endowment for the Arts, the commission's 17 members, appointed by the Mayor and the City Council, advise the Long Range Planning Division of the Minneapolis Department of Community Planning & Economic Development (CPED) on public art and related policymaking. MAC Chair Joan Vorderbruggen called for a "robust conversation" and proposed a letter of support (passed unanimously), "with an expectation that MAC would have a meaningful role in shaping the ordinance and the department itself." Gulgun Kayim, the city's Director of Arts, Culture & the Creative Economy, said, "The City Council wants to know how the public feels...your voice is critical."

On June 30, beginning at 1:30 pm, there will be a public hearing for live, virtual or telephone comments; written comments can be added to the public record until 1:30 pm on July 21. The City Council is set to take action on the ordinance the week of July 27.

The proposal can be read here: <https://lirms.minneapolismn.gov/File/2021-00387>

The comment link and resources for advocates will be posted on northeastminneapolisartsdistrict.org

The Anchor Our tent is open!
 302 13th Ave NE
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theanchorfishandchips.com
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rainvilleward3.org
 Paid for by Rainville Volunteer Committee, Aileen Johnson Treasurer. PO Box 18763 1600 18th Ave NE, Mpls MN 55418

Items of Note

Heights raises tobacco age to 21

At its June 14 meeting, the City of Columbia Heights City Council raised the legal age for purchasing tobacco from 18 to 21. The change takes effect in mid-July. It also banned indoor smoking in public places, at indoor public meetings or indoors at places of employment. Sampling of tobacco products, e-cigarettes or lobelia delivery products and the products used in them is also prohibited. The change will take effect Jan. 1, 2022.

Exploration High School approved to open

Exploration High School, 229 13th Ave NE, has been approved to open in September. The Minnesota Guild, which accredits and authorizes charter schools, gave the go-ahead in mid-June. The school has finished hiring staff and has 70 seats for 9th and 10th graders in its first year. For more information, send an email to connect@explorationhighschool.org.

U of M demographer dies

Kevin Ehrman-Solberg, 33, passed unexpectedly of unknown causes June 17. A resident of the Windom Park neighborhood, he was a demographer at the University of Minnesota, and one of the founders of the Mapping Prejudice project, which pinpointed, among other things, homes in Northeast and St. Anthony which had restrictive racial covenants. Kevin is survived by his fiancée Maggie Mills, his mother Virginia Ehrman, his father Kenneth Solberg, his stepmother Jacque Wiersma, his sister Bridget Ehrman-Solberg and his stepbrothers Jacob and Raphael Wilson. Services have been held.



College graduations

University of Wisconsin-Stout graduated **Salena Abram-Weselenak**, BSn Early Childhood Education; and **Roberts Delins**, BS, Computer and Electrical Engineering, Biomedical Instrumentation. Both are from Columbia Heights.

North Dakota State University conferred degrees on **Justin Thomas McLaughlin**,

BS, Economics; **Joseph Stewart Tillotson**, BS, Natural Resources Management; and **Mel Walker**, BS, Architecture (with honors). All are from Minneapolis.

Dean's listers

St. Cloud State University named **Shafi Farah**, Columbia Heights, and **Sarah Khan**, Minneapolis, to the spring dean's list.

Emma Hjerpe, **Leah Kendall** and **Nicole Stepan**, St. Anthony; and **Partab Mahadeo** and **Cindy Xiong**, Columbia Heights, made the dean's list at Minnesota State University-Moorhead.

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire named the following students to the dean's list: **Josiah Johnson**, Columbia Heights, and **Kylie Dahlberg**, **Emma Friend**, and **Stuart Scamehorn**, St. Anthony.

Kayla Nordin of Columbia Heights was named to the dean's list at Bradley University, Peoria, Ill., where she is studying nursing.

Nathan Ramirez (Columbia Heights), **Sally Hazen** and **Anna Heebsh**, (St. Anthony), and **TyTeona Howard** and **Audrey Pederson** (Minneapolis) all made the dean's list at Bethel University.

Kelsey Burt of Columbia Heights has been named to the deans' list at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Vibe Check

The statement below was posted at an exhibit in Phelps Park May 22 (see Arts Insights, Preserving plywood protest art, page 8).

"Justice for George: Messages From The People" is meant to offer our communities an opportunity to heal from and reflect on the murder of George Floyd on May 25th, and the uprisings that followed in 2020.

To our BIPOC community, we know the trauma that you experienced last year because we felt it alongside you. We see you and we hope that through this experience you find peace. We have invited organizations from our community whose mission is to offer you safety, joy, and creative outlets to express yourselves. This space is for you. Every resource in the park today is here with the mission of supporting you and ensuring that you leave today feeling lifted.

To our allies, we welcome you into this space and ask you to stand with us as we commemorate the life and death of George Floyd. We hope that through this experience you learn, process, and ultimately gain perspective and understanding of what it is like for BIPOC in the Twin Cities. We hope that you take what you learn here today and apply that understanding to everything you do moving forward. Only through mutual understanding and continued conversations can we grow together as one community.

NORTHEAST AREA Worship Directory

COMPASSIONATE OCEAN ZEN CENTER
652 17th Ave. NE (now on Zoom)
612-781-7640 • www.OceanDharma.org
Sunday talks and weekday meditations
Buddhist Studies courses
Introduction to Mindfulness (MBSR) ♿

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
1500 6th St. NE
612-788-2444 • gracenempls.org
Worship at Grace Center Sundays 10am
-- Masking When Indoors --
Livestreamed on Facebook.com/GraceNeMpls
Pastor Emmy Kegler ♿

GREATER LIFE
4000 Quincy St NE, Columbia Heights
763-789-8710
reach. equip. send.
Sunday 10 AM & 6 PM
Wednesday 7 PM ♿
www.yourgreaterlife.com
facebook.com/GreaterLifeCH
@greaterlifech

GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)
27th Ave. & Johnson St. NE 612-789-7256
Worship 9:30 Sundays by Zoom, contact Deacon Phil Holzman for link, philh@gachurchmpls.org
Interim Pastor: Susan Masters ♿
www.gachurchmpls.org

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Holy Cross • St. Clement • St. Hedwig
612-930-0860
In Person Services
Saturday: 4:00 pm at Saint Hedwig
4:30 pm at Holy Cross
Sunday: 7:30 am & 9:30 am at Holy Cross
10:00 am at St. Hedwig
11:15 am at St. Clement
11:30 am at Holy Cross (in Polish)
6:30 pm at Holy Cross
Subscribe to our YouTube Channel:
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A spiritual community of practice gathering on-line & in NE
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There is Power In Together to heal.
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@intertwine on Instagram
Contact us: info@intertwine.org

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Masses ♿
Tue., Wed. & Fri at 7:30 a.m.
Thursday at 7:30 am (June - Aug)
8:30 am (Sept. - May)
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Sunday at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 p.m. in Spanish
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Phone: 612-353-1755

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www.mtcarmelmpls.org
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www.negospelchapel.org
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10:20 am Family Bible Hour - Ministry
11:00 am Evening Service
6:00 pm Wed. 7:00 p.m. Prayer/Bible Study
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Lowry Ave. at Cleveland St. N.E.
612-789-7462
Worship by phone, dial: 1.929.205.6099 US, then enter this Meeting ID: 863 764 547
To join online, www.northeastumc.com
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4:30 pm Divine Liturgy (Eng)
Sun: 8 am Divine Liturgy (Eng) 10:00 am Divine Liturgy-(Ukr)
Contact stconstantineuc@gmail.com | Pastor: Fr. Ivan Shkumbatyuk

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Wednesday 9am English
Saturday 6pm Spanish
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www.stmatthew-ch.org
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(Link through website for online worship) ♿
Pastor Bill Hugo

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waiteparkchurch.org
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