



Fulton Neighborhood News

a publication of Fulton Neighborhood Association

July 2021

Summer Events are Back in Fulton Neighborhood!

Now that pandemic restrictions have begun to be lifted, Fulton Neighborhood Association (FNA) is working on a series of outdoor events this summer to give residents a chance to gather together in a safe way. We have three events planned, each on a Thursday evening, in conjunction with a Story Stroll (see below.) All events will be held near the recreation center at Pershing Park. Distancing is encouraged for those who are unvaccinated for COVID-19. ALL AGES WELCOME!

Popsicles in the Park **6:30-8 p.m.** **Thurs., July 15**

Join us for a popsicle on a hot summer night!



Ice Cream Social in the Park **6:30-8 p.m.** **Thurs., July 29**

Enjoy a cone of Sebastian Joe's ice cream while listening to a concert by Fulton's own Overdressed duo (see sidebar.) Bring a chair to sit and enjoy the concert.



Cookies in the Park **6:30-8 p.m.** **Thurs., Aug. 19**

Join us for a cookie treat after dinner! Cookies by Quiet Cat Bakery, a local black-owned business.



Overdressed



The Fulton-based Overdressed duo holds regular concerts in the neighborhood. Check out their website (overdressedduo.com) for a concert schedule at 4909 Drew Ave S. Concerts are free and family friendly.

Story Strolls in July and August

The Fulton Neighborhood Association's Equity Committee, in collaboration with Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board and Hennepin County Library, will be hosting three Story Strolls this summer at Pershing Park. As you walk to the Fulton Farmers Market or take your kids for a swing at the park, stroll from page to page and enjoy the unique experience of reading a children's book along the boulevard. Each story selected will feature a non-white protagonist with a variety of themes focusing on transforming a neighborhood through art, exploring social justice issues and celebrating Black joy and culture.

The schedule of the strolls are as follows:

July 14-19: *Maybe Something Beautiful* by F. Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell; Rafael Lopez (Illustrator)



July 28-Aug. 2: *Hands Up!* by Breanna J. McDaniel; Shane W. Evans (Illustrator)

Aug. 18-23: *Black is a Rainbow Color* by Angela Joy; Ekua Holmes (Illustrator)

Walking Tour of Fulton Neighborhood

On a recent Saturday, a group of FNA Board members gathered outside Dunn Bros at Xerxes and 50th St. for the first of a two-part walking tour to acknowledge, discuss, critique and evaluate our neighborhood. Discussion topics were to include proposed pedestrian bridges over the creek, trail access, business nodes along Xerxes and Penn avenues, functionality of streets, intersections, modes of transport, and houses.



On this walk we ventured down Xerxes to the creek at 54th St, east along the 54th St. corridor to Penn, north along Penn to 49th, then through the neighborhood along 49th past Lake Harriet Upper campus back to 50th and Xerxes.

Some key outtakes:

- Enabling development that serves the neighborhood
- Communicating effectively with both the city and county for signage and better directional cues for different transportation modes, especially at 50th & Xerxes
- Encouraging space and functionality for various transport modes
- Highlighting standout areas and enriching the pedestrian experience
- Improving how people interact with three primary business nodes

All neighbors are invited to join our next walking tour from 10 a.m. to noon July 17 (meet outside Dunn Bros). The route will head along the 50th St. corridor from Xerxes to France Ave, stopping at Pershing Park and at proposed/possible development sites on Ewing and France avenues. This is an opportunity to have your voice heard. The FNA has limited capability to strongly influence development, but we can have an impact. We believe it's important to share ideas, questions, and have intentional discussions about how we live, work, play and get around Fulton.

Fulton/Lynnhurst Garage Sales Are Back in 2021!

Sat., Sept. 18
9 a.m.-4 p.m., rain or shine

If you would like to host a sale, mail registration and \$5 fee (checks made payable to Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association) to:

Mary Vander Leest
4653 Aldrich Ave S
Minneapolis, MN 55419

Questions? Call Mary at 612.718.5814

Your \$5 registration fee includes a spot on the sale map, advertising in the Star Tribune and listings on a variety of social media sites.

NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

Registration must include:

- Your name and phone number (it won't be published, but just in case there are questions)
- Address of the sale
- In 25 characters or less (including spaces and punctuation), a description of your sale (e.g. kids gear, general household, sporting goods, etc.)

Deadline to register: Sept. 11

Fulton Neighborhood Conversations on Racial Equity: Supporting Our AAPI Neighbors

Written by Jenny Floria, FNA Racial Equity Committee member

Edited by Monique Hernandez of CAPIUSA



The Covid-19 pandemic has brought to light the disparities and injustices that exist in our country on a daily basis. One particular community hardest hit by the pandemic are those who identify as Asian American or Pacific-Islanders (AAPI).

Bigotry against people who identify as AAPI has a long history. In 1871, a mob in Los Angeles' Chinatown attacked and murdered 19 Chinese residents, a reflection of growing anti-Asian sentiments. The success of nonwhite populations was threatening to white communities, who in many cases used violent means to destroy the lives, homes and businesses of AAPI and Black people.

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 banned the immigration of Chinese laborers, and the Page Exclusion Act of 1875 prohibited the entry of Chinese women. During WWII, more than 120,000 Japanese Americans were held in internment camps across the United States as instructed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's executive order. FDR's stated goal was to prevent espionage on American soil; instead, his actions are seen as one of the most atrocious violations of civil rights in the 20th century.

Asians have been held up as a 'model minority' of desirable people to have in our communities due to the stereotype of being industrious, hard-working and law-abiding. These stereotypes result in bigotry against Asian populations from workers who mistakenly believe Asians will "steal their jobs." In 1982, Vincent Chin, a Chinese American, was beaten to death by two Detroit auto workers who thought he was Japanese. The killing took place during a recession that was partly blamed on the rise of the Japanese auto industry.

The other impact of the 'model minority' stereotype is that it creates hierarchies between Asians and Black Americans. Instead of focusing on the policies themselves that cause poverty and inequality, policymakers use selective immigrant success stories to blame the Black community for failing to escape systemic poverty and build wealth.

Some political leaders' insistence on calling COVID-19 the "Chinese virus" resulted in a rise in AAPI hate crimes in the United States. When hate crimes against AAPI communities began to rise, some in state leadership stated in August 2020 that they did not find calling the virus "China Virus," "Kung Flu," and "Wuhan Virus" to be offensive.

The organization "Stop AAPI Hate" saw more than 6,600 hate incidents reported in the pandemic's U.S. surge from mid-March 2020 to March 2021. For the nine months of 2020 in this study, an average of 465 hate crimes were reported per month. In 2021, that number is up to 803 crimes per month. In one incident, a young Asian couple in Minnesota came home to a note on their door saying, "We're watching you. Take the Chinese virus back to China. We don't want you here infecting us with your diseases! Signed, your friendly neighborhood."

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In March of this year eight people — six of them Asian women — were murdered at three spas in Atlanta. This devastating hate crime brought Asian and Pacific-Islander bigotry into the national spotlight, resulting in protests and marches across the nation to stop Asian hate. In response, U. S. legislators drafted versions of what would become the "Covid-19 Hate Crimes Act" which was signed into law in May. This legislation expedites the review of pandemic-related hate crimes and makes grants available to help local law enforcement improve reporting of bias-driven incidents.

This legislation is a step in the right direction, but only supporting pandemic-related hate crimes does not address deeply rooted racism that Asians and Pacific Islanders experience daily.

Fulton neighborhood is 89 percent white, according to Minnesota Compass, a project by

the Wilder Foundation. Of the 11 percent who are non-white, 23 percent identify as Asian American or Pacific Islanders.

If you see or hear someone being targeted for their race, Fulton residents, speak up. Change happens right where we live — understand the biases that others hold and challenge them to change their thinking. If you are involved in a local institution or company, ask them to make a public statement denouncing racism against AAPI communities.

This November, all Minneapolis City Council seats and the mayor are up for re-election. Get to know your local candidates and ask what they are willing to do to support AAPI communities in our city.

And support AAPI-owned businesses by visiting and spending money. The YWCA of Minneapolis recently published a directory of AAPI-owned businesses and organizations in the Twin Cities; find the list at tinyurl.com/AAPi-businesses.

Racial Equity Book Club and Committee



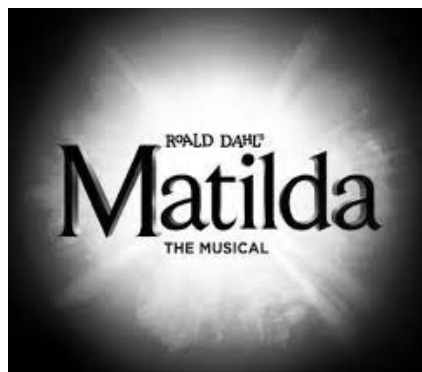
Join the virtual book club! At 10 a.m. on Aug. 14 we will continue to discuss: *Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning* by Cathy Park Hong

Interested in joining the Book Club or Fulton's Racial Equity Committee?
Contact Ray Klahr at: rayklahr@gmail.com

Minneapolis Community Education Presents:

Roald Dahl's *Matilda the Musical*

August 3-8



A pre-professional adult and youth community production.

For performance and ticket information, visit sites.google.com/mpls.k12.mn.us/matilda/home or scan the QR code.

