



May 2021

provided Neighborhood Roots Minnesota with a founding grant in 2011 to start a market where neighbors could buy and eat food from local vendors and producers. This is how Fulton became fertile ground for its own farmers market so we can all feel connected to the land, our neighbors, and the food we eat. None of this would have been possible without Lake Harriet United Methodist Church, whom Emily Lund, Executive Director of Neighborhood Roots, describes as “an incredibly generous and wonderful partner,” who is “a radically hospitable partner. They allow the use of the parking lot for the market every Saturday, provide storage in the basement or shed depending on the season, and have a group of church volunteers who monitor the facilities.”



With the pandemic arriving, a challenge was presented, and as early as March 16, 2020, the FFM had to make a quick decision about if and how it would operate. Since it was an essential business and part of the local food system, the market moved forward, making a series of adaptations to operate every week, outdoors. Safety protocols are in place and include: masking requirements for all vendors and customers, hand sanitizer stations, no eating or sampling at the market, no pets and keeping social distance.

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Fulton Neighborhood Racial Equity Survey

Fulton Neighborhood Association's Racial Equity Committee has created a short survey to better understand what information and experiences our neighbors need in order to help accelerate racial equity in our neighborhood and greater Minneapolis. Take the survey by scanning the QR code or going online to: tinyurl.com/FNA-RE-Survey. Thank you. We look forward to hearing from you!

Support your local businesses!

With the ongoing pandemic restrictions, local businesses continue to need our help now more than ever before. Please check out fultonneighborhood.org for a list of local businesses that have helped us in the past and support them with your purchasing power. Check back frequently as the content may change over time.

West 47th Street

Publication Information

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West 54th Street

Meet the FNA Board: Jill Lock

Jill Lock joined the Fulton Neighborhood Association Board in January of this year. A native of Michigan, Jill and her family moved to Minneapolis the summer of 2014 and have finally found their "home." In Fulton, they found the proximity to nature and parks, walkability, bikeability, and most importantly, the vibrant local community they were seeking. Jill has always loved connecting people and creating community, so joining the board seemed a natural extension of how she goes about living in the neighborhood. A member of the Environment Committee, Jill and her family are interested in gardening, reducing their impact, and protecting local nature and wildlife. Jill currently stays home with her three children and supports their distance learning. Prior to this, she was both a public health and pediatric oncology nurse. She can often be found walking the creek or Lake Harriet (especially in the migratory season) and reading too many books all at the same time. She also spent a significant amount of time in the last year working on election protection and promoting voting rights. It is through this recent volunteer work that Jill found a renewed sense of urgency and agency to make Fulton neighborhood and Minneapolis better for all, not just for some.



Fulton Small Grants in Action



Our 2021 Fulton Small Grants are in full swing! Grant recipient Kids in the Kitchen is providing our youngest neighbors with the opportunity to learn fundamental cooking skills, explore their culinary creativity, share fantastic meals with family and discover tips for successful cooking and baking. Many thanks to Fulton resident Mary Woollen for offering this fun engagement opportunity to the youth of Fulton neighborhood.

Fulton Neighborhood Conversations on Racial Equity

by June Theimann (June can be reached at june@usinternet.com)

As we continue to learn more about the Fulton neighborhood, it's also important to understand it's long and rich history.

In the mid-15th century, the Pope issued the Doctrine of Discovery, which applied to all European nations and stated that if a Christian European explorer planted a flag in the "new" world and named it for a Christian European monarch, the land was now his even if someone else was there first.

Since then, "discovering" land that was already inhabited has gone hand-in-hand with the White settler tendency to "not see" existing inhabitants. Here in Fulton we are in the homeland of the Dakota, just a stone's throw from Bdote, where the waters of the Mississippi and the Minnesota rivers converge.

The Dakota people considered the confluence of these two mighty rivers to be a sacred place, filled with deep energy and history of their people. At the same time, a village flourished at Bde Maka Ska where local historian Kate Beane's ancestor, Cloud Man, ran an experimental farm and language school until 1839. This was only one of many groundbreaking and artisanal activities in this area as Native farmers hybridized corn, beans, and manoomin (wild rice), long before White farmers had grasped such a concept.



To this day, when Fulton residents come across a patch of berry bushes, especially near a grove of fruit and nut trees, they are most likely encountering the fruits of labor of a Native gardener who tended these spots generation after generation. In this region the art of tapping maple trees was refined millennia ago, before White settlers ever "discovered" the land. This technology was shared with White settlers and their descendants who, to this day, fail to give credit where credit is due.

Our history books teach that America was founded on the principles of individuality and local rule in rebellion of the British monarchy. What most people don't realize is that democratic principles, "speaking one's truth," and an egalitarian ethos were and still are hallmarks of Dakota, Ojibwe, and other Indigenous cultures. The concepts of a loving mother (a.k.a. First Woman or Sky Woman) are Native parenting concepts, instead of the corporal punishment that was the hallmark of European and White settler parenting.

To erase these truths, White officials went to great lengths. They built Fort Snelling on the holiest of holy Dakota sites, tricked Native leaders into signing questionable treaties that were later broken, sanctioned germ warfare and imported nearly 100,000 White and non-English-speaking immigrants to homestead to eradicate the Native dwellers who already lived on the land. When all of this couldn't eliminate the existence of Dakota people, the MN legislature of 1862 made it illegal to be a Dakota person on Dakota land and created a concentration camp at Fort Snelling where hundreds of Dakota people died of disease and harsh conditions.

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Racial Equity con't. from p. 3

Students touring Fort Snelling today will learn about the soldiers who lived there but are not educated about the Dakota people who were imprisoned and died there. As recently as 2005, the Doctrine of Discovery was quoted in a Supreme Court decision invalidating a Native nation's rights to land.

Ultimately, the connection between Mni Sota and the Dakota people could not be broken and, thanks to efforts by Native scholars and activists, the true history of Fulton is becoming known to its residents. The Treaty Signers Project is documenting the history of the more than 400 treaties in existence and the business connections that drove the U.S. government to pursue the acquisition of Native land. Other organizations like the Water Protectors, We Are Still Here, and Dream of Wild Health (to name a few) gives Native leaders the ability to still care for Native land. It's time for the rest of us to get to know our grandmother, too.

In our next issue, we'll focus on racism in the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.



Racial Equity Book Club

Join the virtual book club! At 10 a.m. June 12 we will discuss: *Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning* by Cathy Park Hong

Contact Ray Klahr to join: rayklahr@gmail.com

Farmers Market con't. from p. 1

One of the silver linings of the pandemic was that most vendors put their information on the online platform and started accepting credit card payments. "Prior to COVID, only 1/3 of vendors accepted credit cards," Lund explains, so the market was brought into the digital age. The market is asking to have only one member per household at the market, as this allows the market to serve more households and reduces congestion. The market also encourages social time to be moved to nearby Pershing Park instead. Area market managers talk every other Friday to share best practices and the trends they are noticing. "People have learned how to operate now in a safe way during the pandemic," Lund says. "A year ago, we had to manage the behavior of a large group of people, but now people have been educated about how to adapt to COVID" to be safe while shopping.

The 10-year anniversary can be a great occasion to visit the farmers market. Many organizations and institutions have faced countless tests during the pandemic, and we have all had to make choices to prioritize and support those that are vital to the fabric of our community. "This is where life happens," explains Lund. The market is more than a cute place where you get the full rainbow of local produce, flowers, and local products. It's also a place for meaningful conversation, connection, and an avenue to support all the members of our community, including those facing challenges and the less fortunate. If you are able to give a personal donation to the farmers market, sign up as a volunteer (if you do, you get a t-shirt!), spread the word, or share a candid photo to its Facebook page or Instagram account @neighborhoodrootsmn, there's no better time than the present! There are a variety of volunteer opportunities to fit your skills, interests, and availability if you want to help. Let's celebrate its first decade of life and keep it going for another decade and more.

**The Fulton Farmers Market meets every Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.,
at the Lake Harriet United Methodist Church, 4901 Chowen Ave S.**