

NOTHING ABOUT
US WITHOUT US;

AND NOTHING
WITHOUT US
AT ALL

BRIDGES TO BELONGING

a pittsburgh co-de ZINE project



november 2024 | volume I

introduction

This collaborative zine was co-created by fourteen (12 credited + 2 anonymous) Pittsburgh community members at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh in East Liberty to explore and express ideas about access to third places in the city.

what is a *third place*?

- an informal gathering space outside of work and home (the 1st and 2nd places) where people can connect with their community
- and/or, a familiar public spot where you regularly connect with others known & unknown, over a shared interest or activity.

“yinzers in extraordinary time”

made by erica

Yinzers

in

extra

ORDINARY TIME



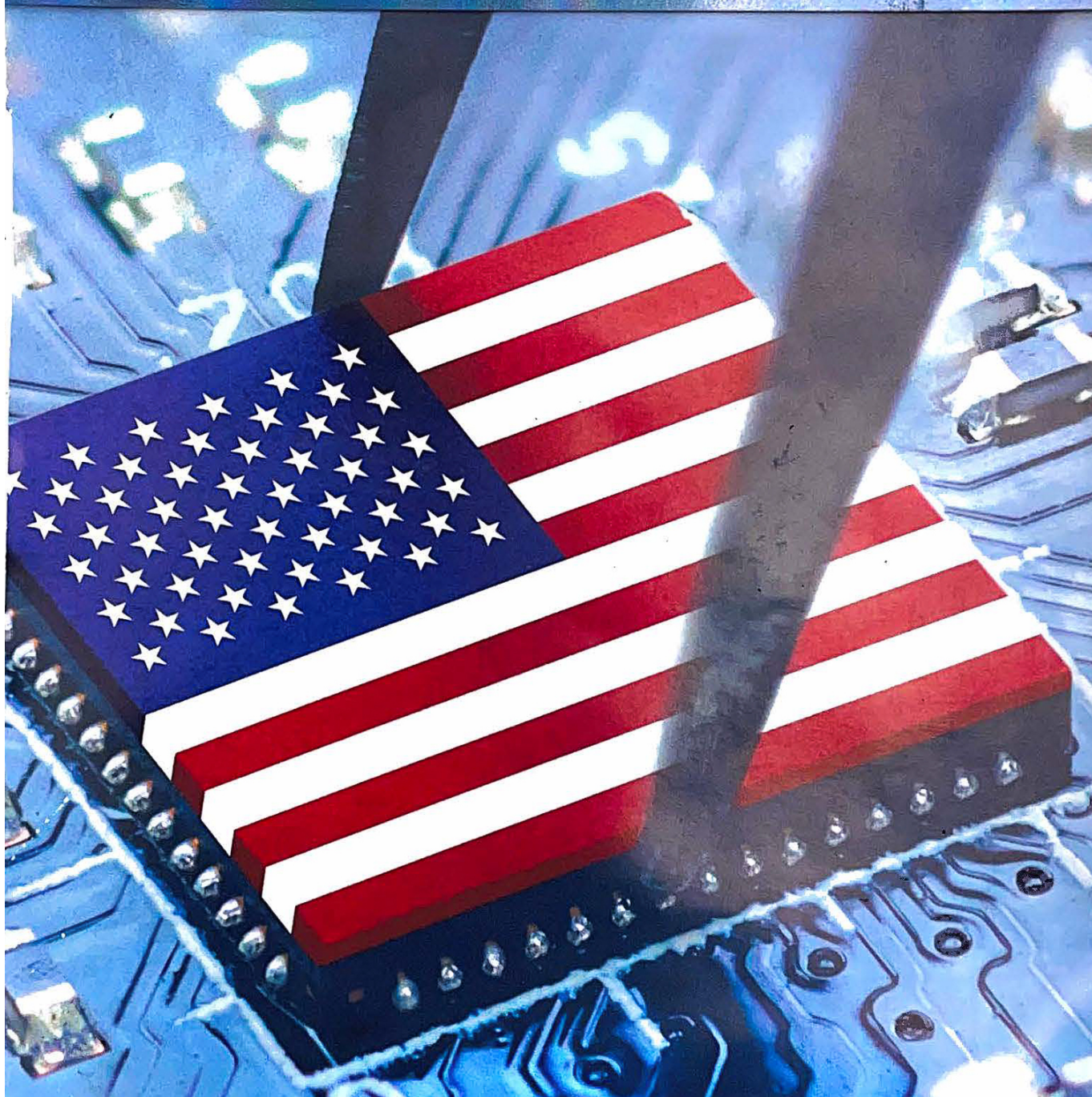
2024

Pittsburgh, PA

“polarizing politics from the
heart of the empire”

made by marcus

POLARIZING POLITICS FROM THE HEART OF THE EMPIRE





blind

distortions

Race, identity and

Letting it all
'burn' down

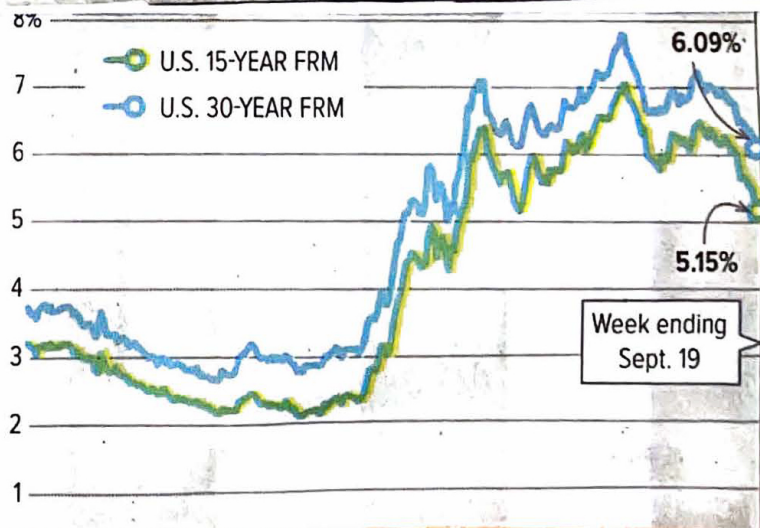
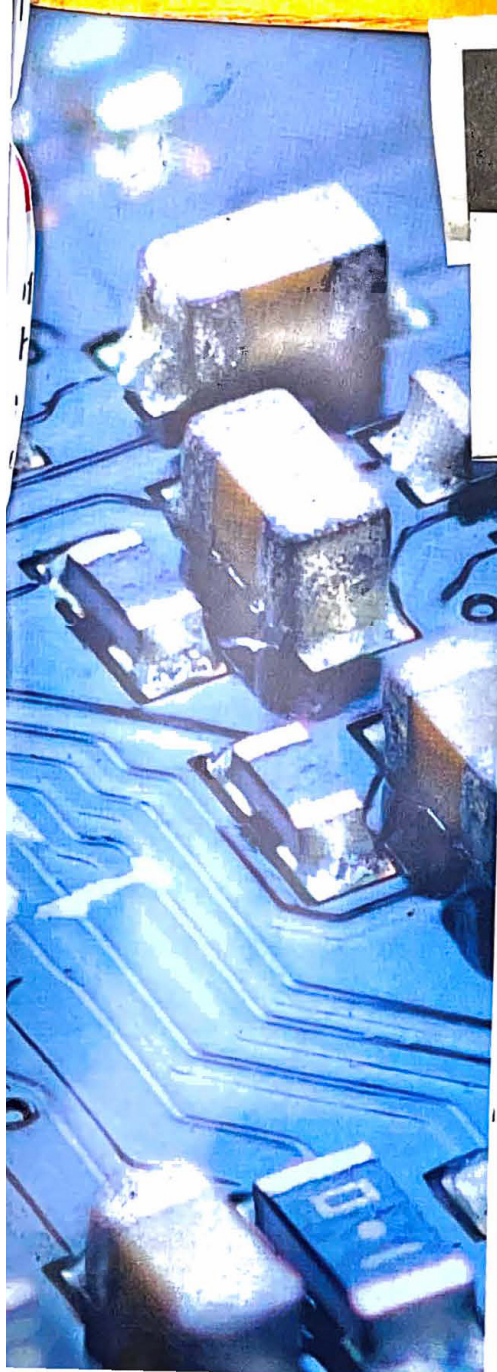
a new culture

a new language,

and the climate

legacy

DIFFICULT LESSONS



BECOME
UNCOVERABLE



“untitled”

made by ange

Working people demand to live with dignity and decency, including utility rates that do not force us to choose between heating and eating.

THE
FATHER

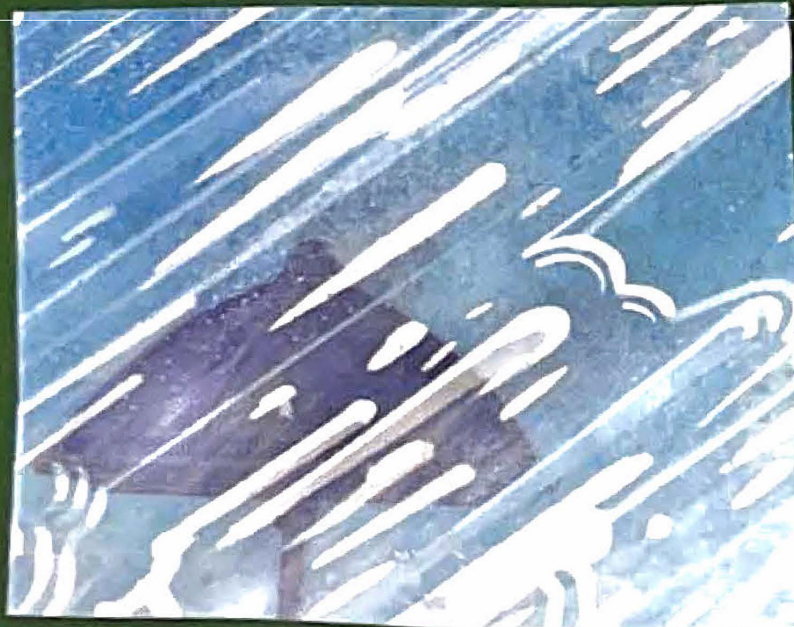
OF

THIRD
PLACES

THIRD PLACES
are nice! in
theory. In
practice? IDK

It's hard
to find
them. I ask
if it's bc
I'm lazy
OR..

It'd be...



D
E S



SLOW

UH-OH!

I DON'T
KNOW

I feel like they should
be easier... I dk!

“untitled”

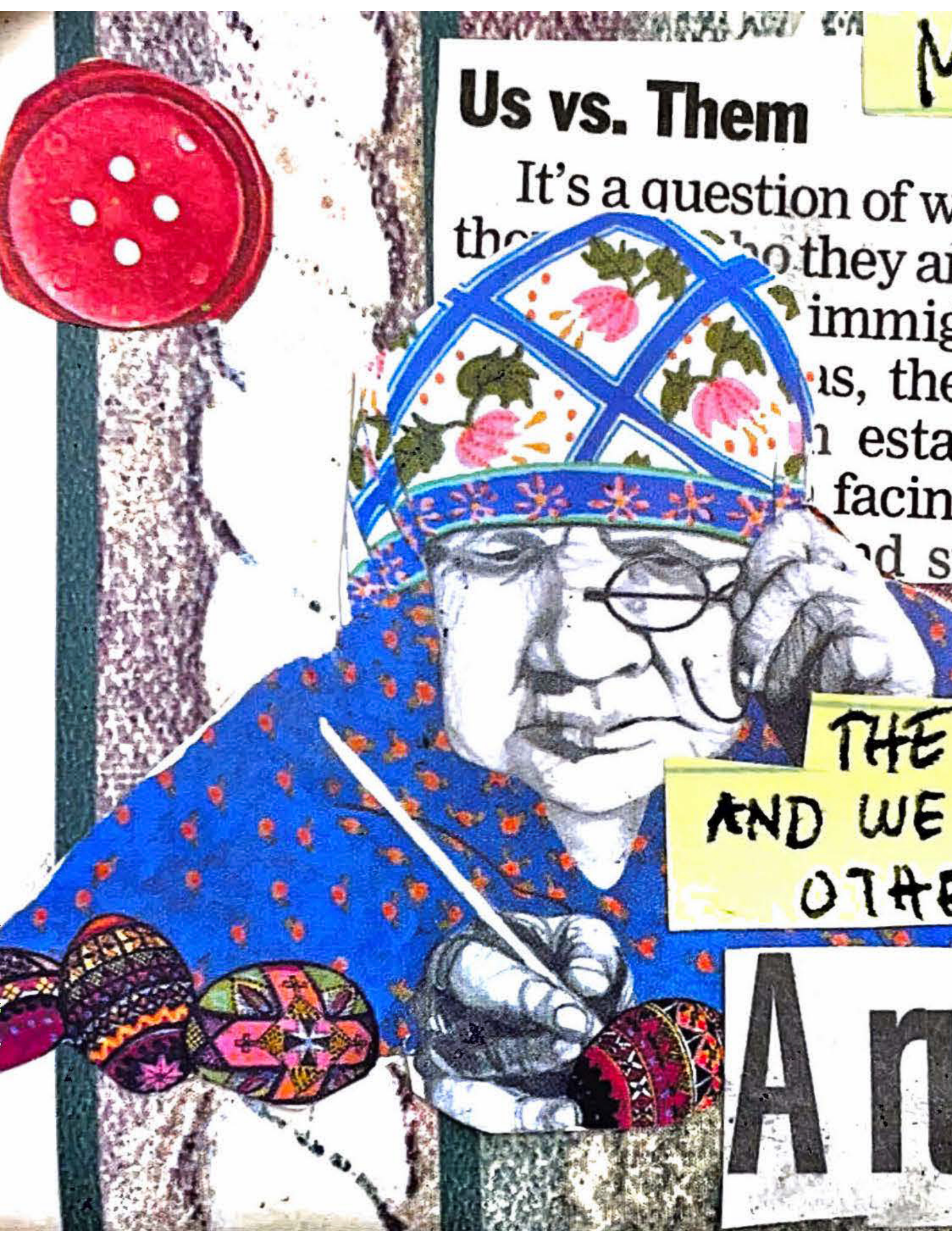
made by anonymous

Us vs. Them

It's a question of w
the who they are
immig
as, the
n esta
facin
d s

THE
AND WE
OTAE

Ar



MILL HUNKIES
HAD CHILDREN

who we are and
re.

grants arrived
ey faced great
blished com
g accusations
uspicion. But

WHO HAD

CHILDREN

WHO FORGOT HOW

TO DANCE POLKA.

DANCING HALLS CLOSED

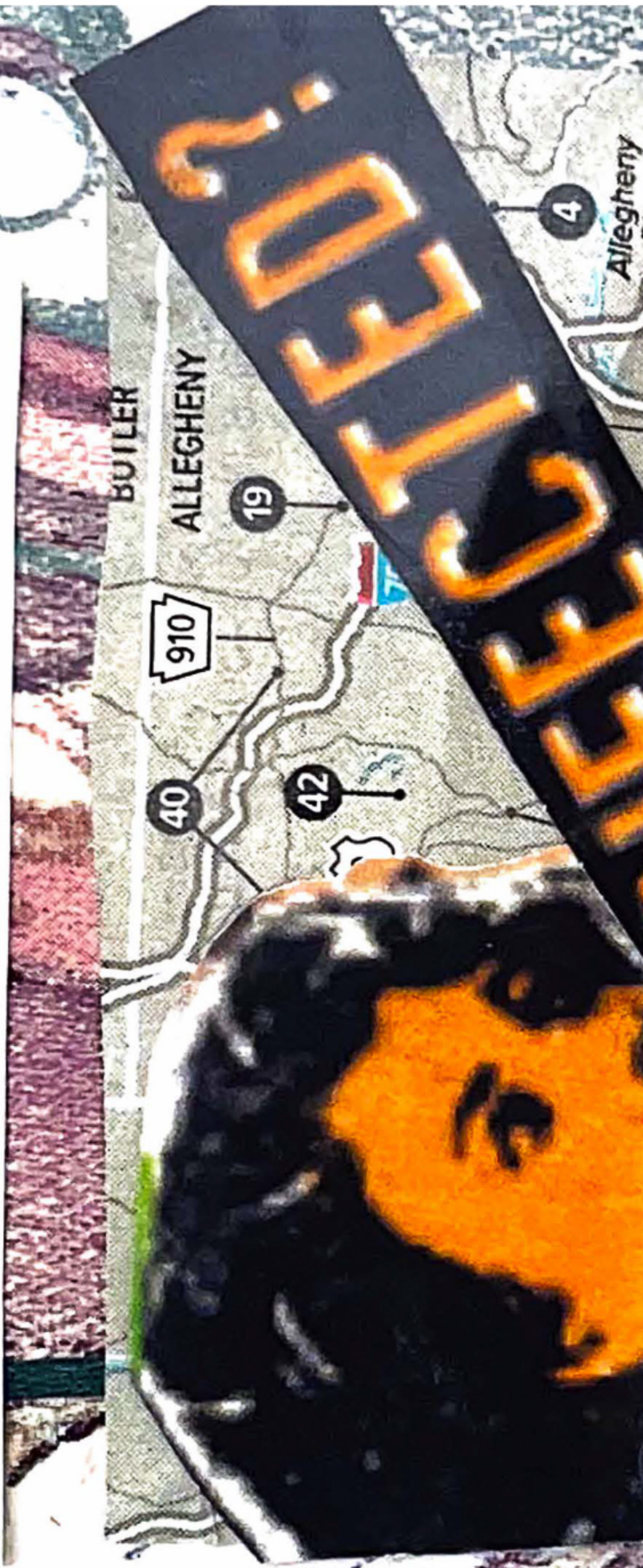
ONLY SEE EACH

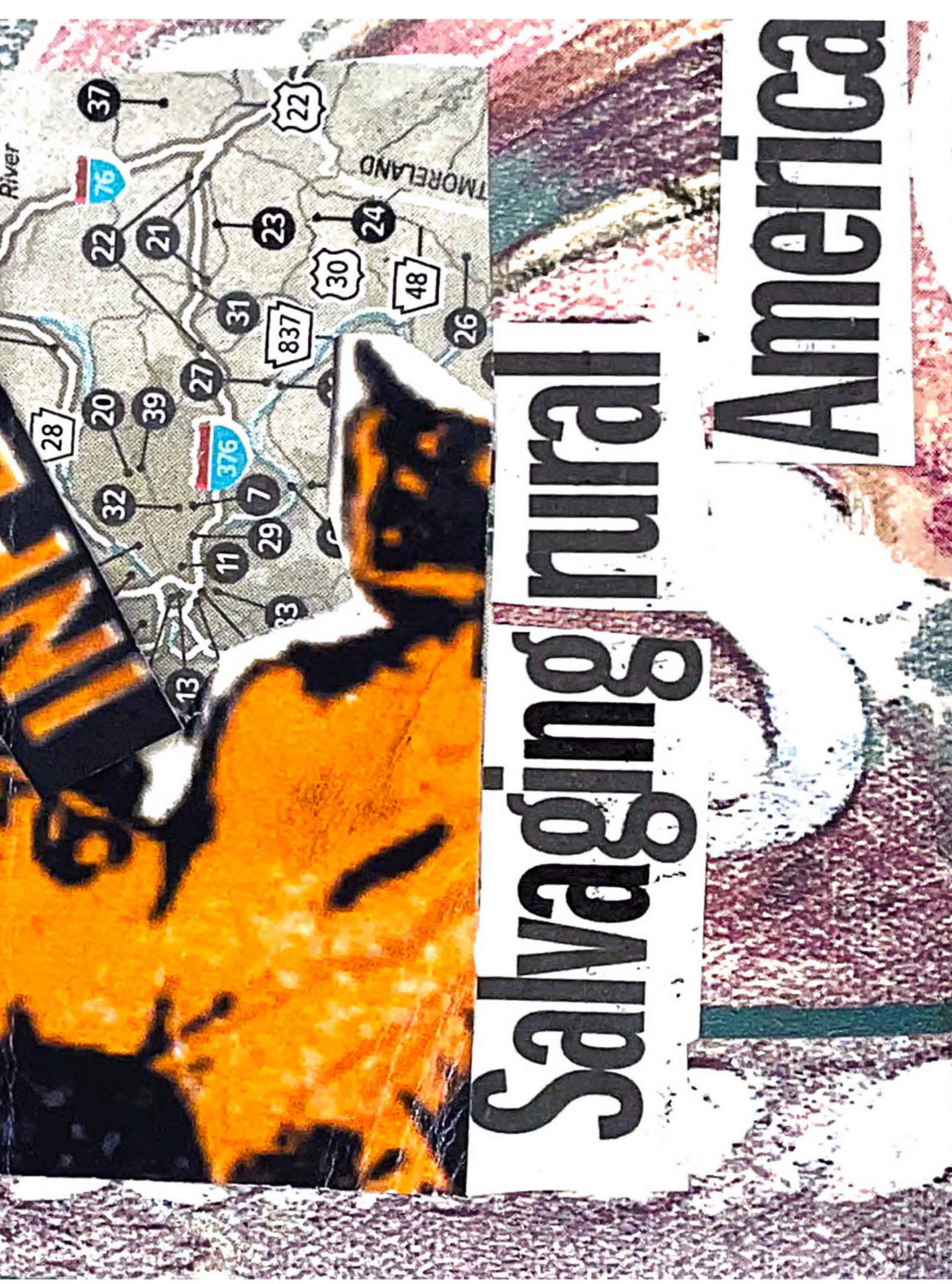
ER IN GAS STATION

PARKING LOTS

ural Pa. town

NO MORE STRIP MALLS







reckon

small

n with

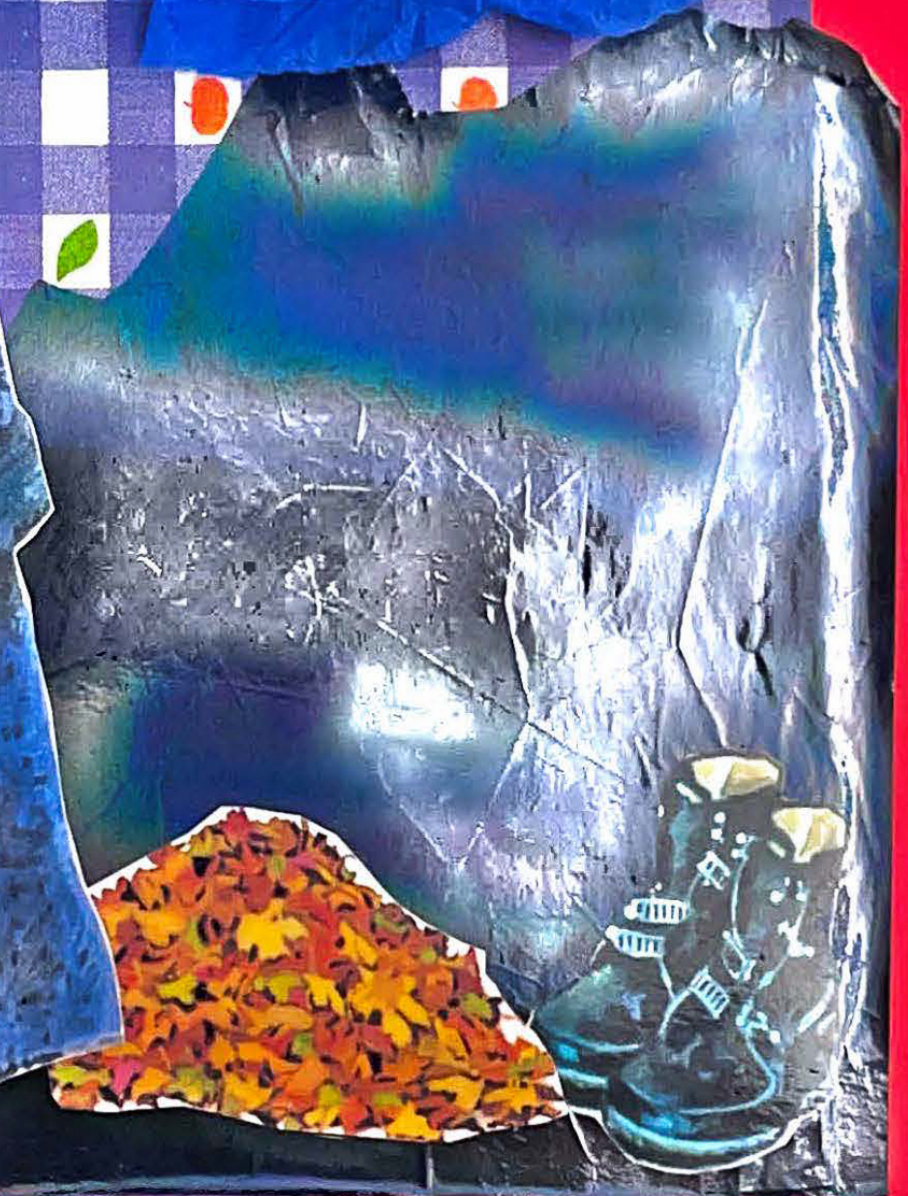
towns



“november 1999”

made by maria

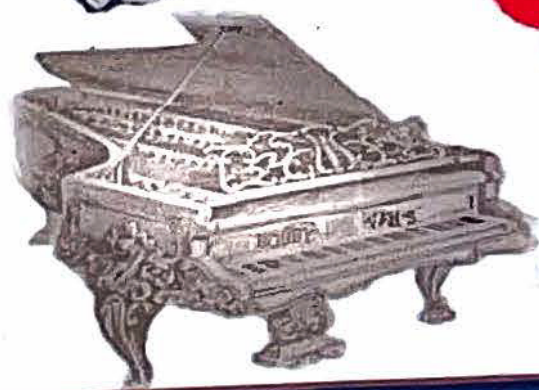
November 1999



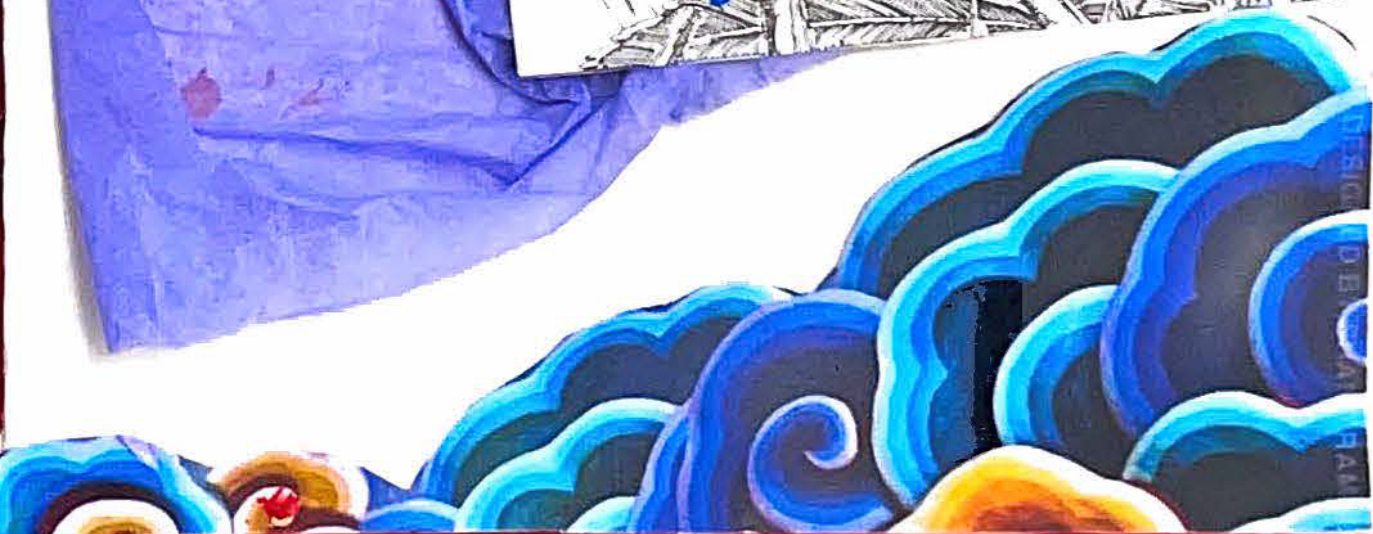
ART

OF

THE



where?



Still I wish th ~~was~~ something you could say
To try and make me change my mind and stay
we never did too much talking any way
so don't think Twice, its all right

I'm walking down that long lonesome road, Babe
where I'm bound. I can't tell
~~Goodbye~~ too good a word, say

so I'll just say face thee well

~~I can't~~ saying you treated me unkind
You could have done better but I don't mind
just kind a wasted my precious time
But don't think Twice, its all right

I ain't no use in calling out my name gal

Like you never did before
I ain't no use in calling out my name gal

I can't hear you anymore

In a thinking and wondering all the way down the road
I'm told

was loved a woman, a child I'm told

N

I ain't no use

It ain't matter

how

and why, Babe

And it ain't no use to sit and wonder why, Babe

If you don't know by know,

when the rooster crows at the break of dawn

look out your window and I'll be gone

cause the reason I'm traveling on

Don't think twice, it's all right

If ain't no use in turning on your light, Babe

Let light I never knowed

And it ain't no use in turning on your light Babe

It's on the dark side of the road

do or say

7993M
Perfect Blue

7996N
Twilight Zone
CGI

F4
.....



“cider fest”

made by gianna



September 2017

24

25

26

27

28

Gold Star
Mother's Day

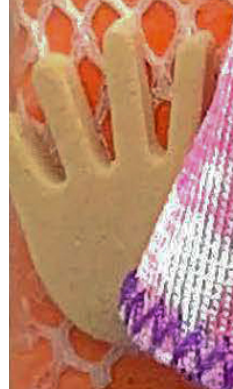
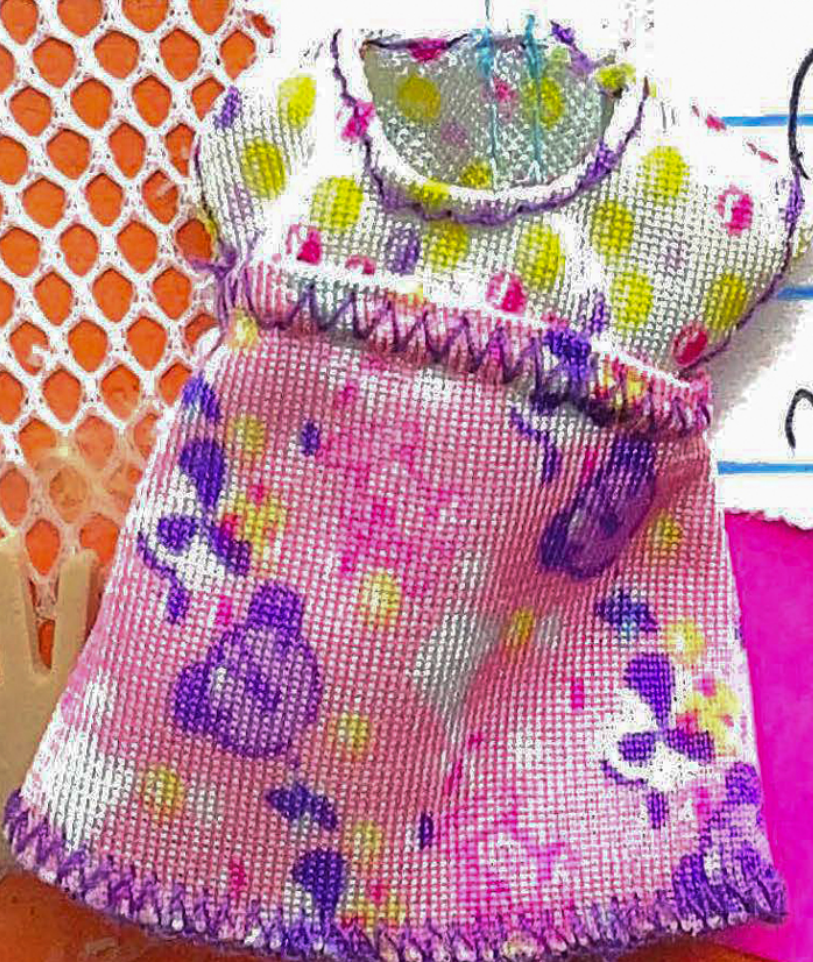
PCL

“whimsy”

made by kt



Whimsy



KT

Jesus
Loves
me



TO:

FROM:



ARC



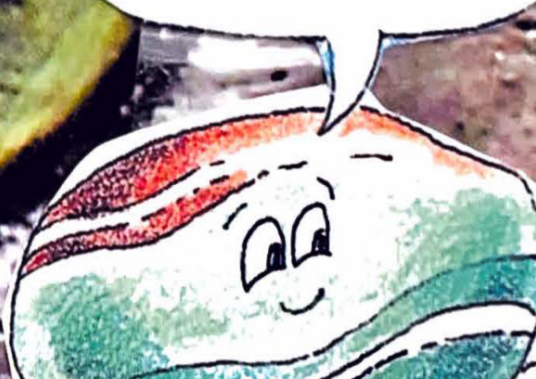


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E
RE



You wouldn't
believe all
the pressure I've
been under!

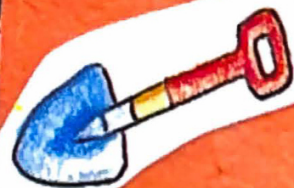


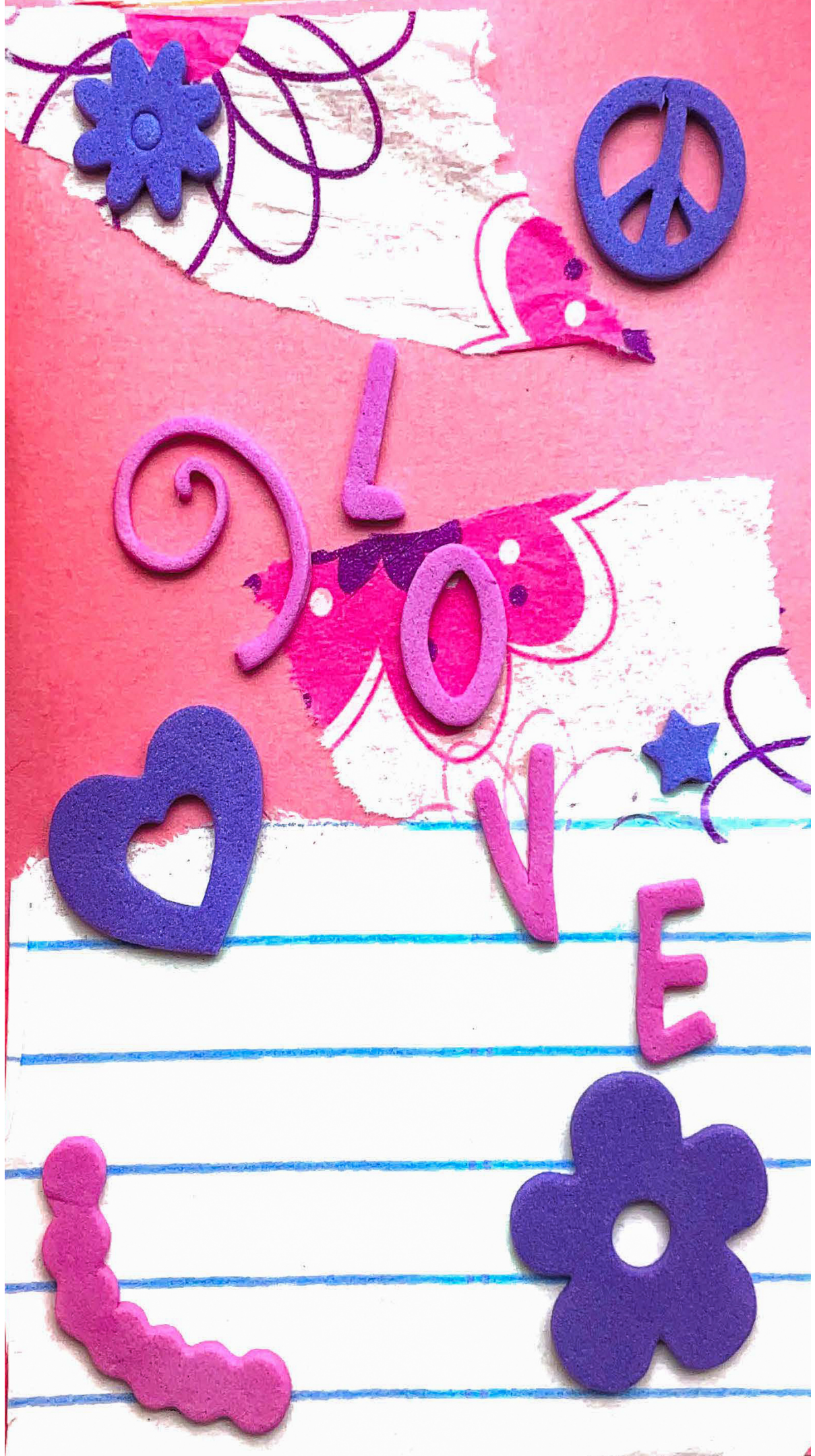
You might
see me in
a museum
someday!



In Our Life

and minerals are all around you. You find them in your backyard and as sand and pebbles at the bottom of the grand canyons of the desert and throughout the world. Many nations have laws to protect areas of special natural beauty near our cities. Sand and crushed rocks are used to produce gravel and concrete. Many of the things we use every day are made of minerals.





“untitled”

made by nick

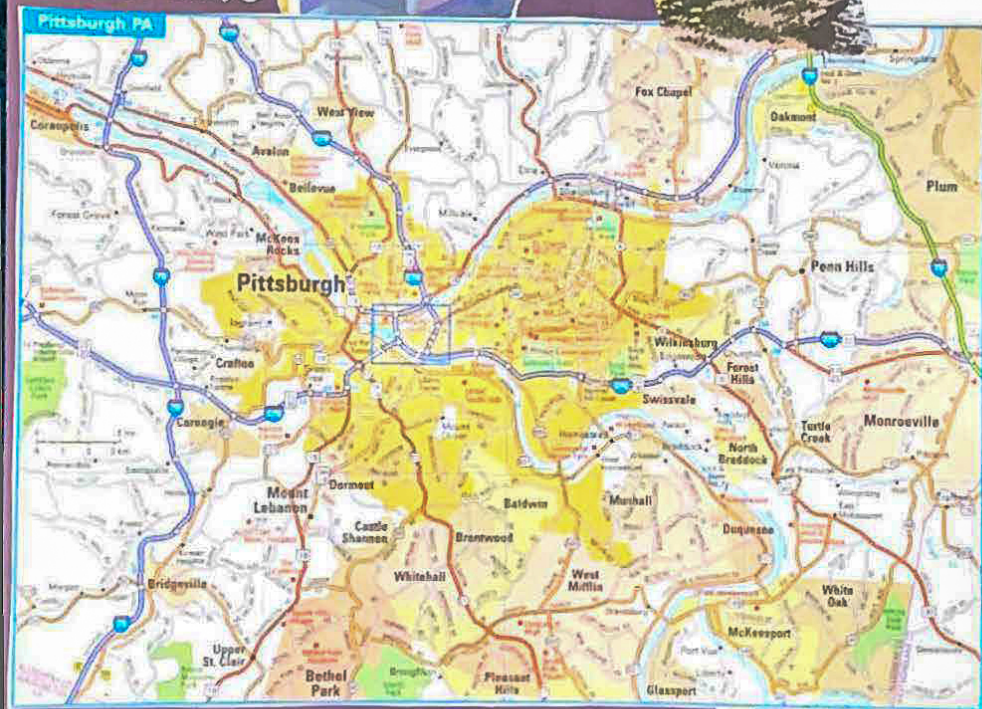


“untitled”

made by vasu



& we laugh
& we cry
& we work
& we read
& we play
& we sing
& we give
& we learn
& we create



“blueprint for thirds”

made by gale



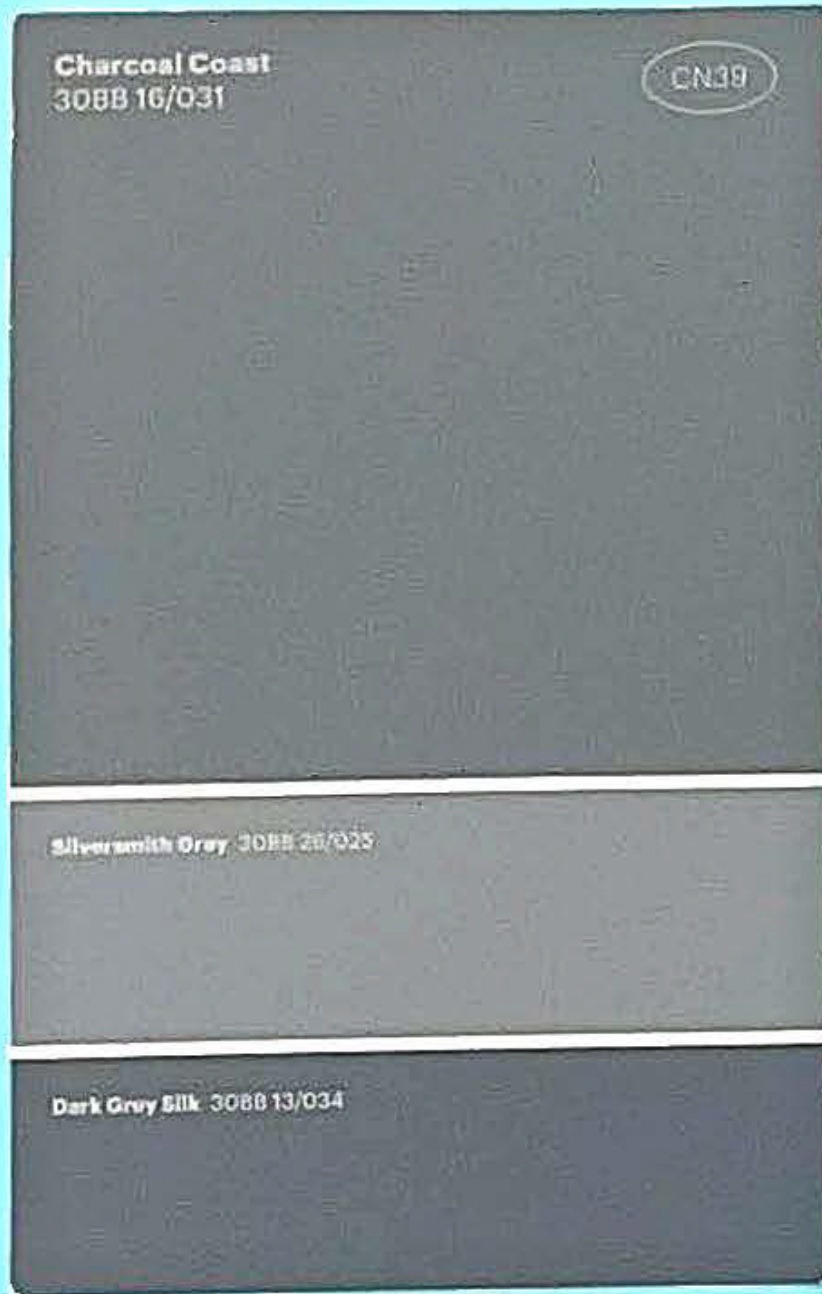
BLUEPRINT FOR THIRDS

A ZINE ABOUT MY
LEAST FAVORITE
THIRD PLACE

+ SOME THOUGHTS ON
WHAT MAKES A GOOD ONE

By: GALE

MY LEAST FAVORITE 3RD PLACE

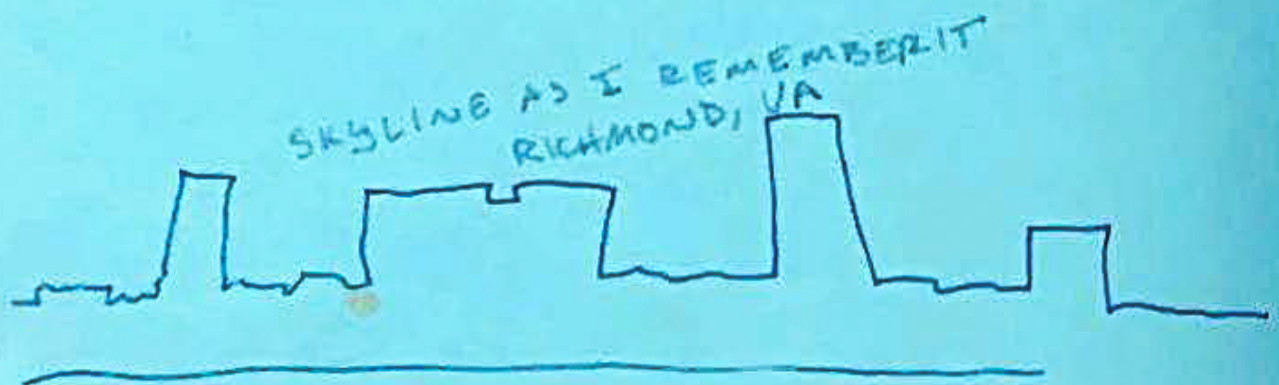


LOOKS
LIKE

THIS

A MISERABLE
SQUARE OF
MUDDY TURF
AND A
CONCRETE
STAIRCASE

SO YOU CAN LOOK AT THE RIVER
AND THE SHITTY SKYLINE.

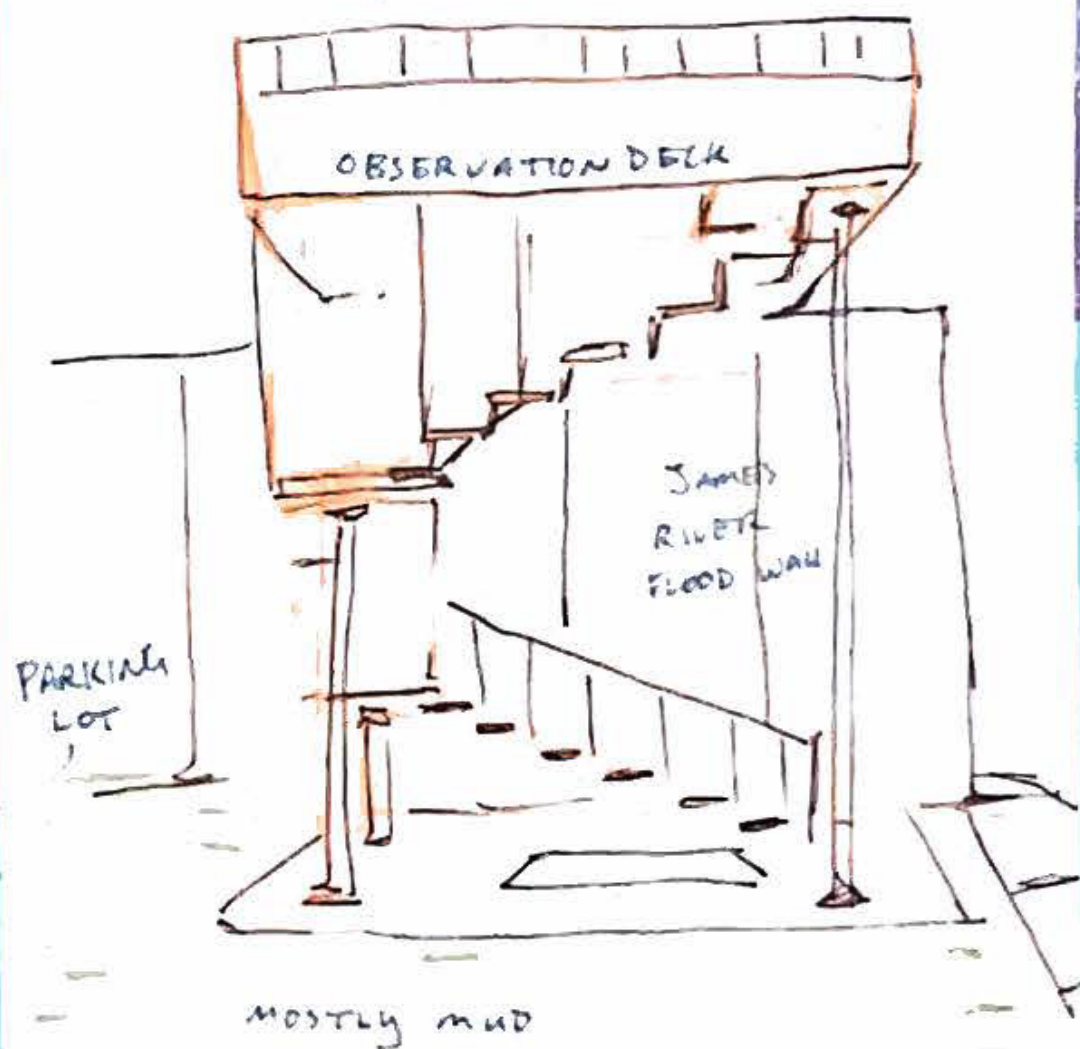


I HATED GOING HERE. THERE WAS NOWHERE TO SIT DOWN, AND WALKING THERE WAS A SIMILARLY DANGEROUS AFFAIR. THE STREET WAS FAST-MOVING AND THE SIDEWALKS WERE UNPROTECTED, BOTH FROM THE TRAFFIC AND THE SUN.



ME,
I PASSED
OFF

FLOODWALL "PARK"



ROAD
w/ 40
MPH
FLOW
OF
TRAFFIC

WHAT MAKES A
3RD SPACE

BAD



COSTS
MONEY

LOUD



OPEN
M-F
9-5



NOT NICE
TO LOOK
AT - FULL
OF SAD
CONCRETE

GOOD

3RD PLACES

ARE

- * FREE TO ATTEND
- * FACILITATES CONVERSATION
- * AESTHETICALLY THOUGHTFUL
- * COMFORTABLE TO
HANG OUT AT*
- * OPEN OUTSIDE OF
"BUSINESS HOURS"



- * COMFORTABLE FOR EVERYONE!
X-WIDE SEATS, BENCHES, HARD + SOFT
CHAIRS, PLACES TO PUT BAGS + CANES.

IT'S NOT FOR EVERYBODY UNLESS IT'S FOR EVERY BODY.

THIRD PLACES + ACCESS



GOOD DISABILITY
ACCESS WELCOMES
EVERYONE INTO A
SPACE. THE VERY OLD,
THE VERY YOUNG,
PARENTS AND MORE
BENEFIT FROM MOBILITY
ACCOMMODATION. AND IT
ONLY EXPANDS FROM
THERE! MORE TO SAY
THAN SPACE TO SAY
IT IN.

(5)

MY LEAST FAVORITE
3RD PLACE IS A
NIGHTMARE FOR
ACCESS. - THE BROKEN
SIDEWALKS, MUDDY LOT,
AND LIMITED PARKING
WITH NO CURB CUTS
MAKES THE RAMPS TO
THE OBSERVATION TOWER
MORE OF AN INSULT
THAN ANYTHING.

NOTHING ABOUT
US WITHOUT US;

AND NOTHING
WITHOUT US
AT ALL

VISIBILITY

BEING VISIBLE
MAKES A SPACE
SAFE

SO WAVE YOUR FLAG WITH PRIDE

THIRD PLACES ARE
WHAT WE CONVINCE
OUR SOCIETY TO MAKE
THEM. USE YOUR SPACES,
CALL + WRITE TO IMPROVE
THEM, AND WELCOME
YOUR FELLOW CITY DWELLER.
TOGETHER, WE BLOOM



THIS ZINE MADE POSSIBLE BY

ANNE + OLIVIA AT UPITT.

THANK YOU EAST LIBERTY LIBRARY!

AND MY SPOUSE (FOR LETTING ME COME +
NOT COMPLAINING ABOUT BIKING HOME IN THE
RAIN.)

YOU CANNOT FIND ME ANYWHERE, I'M
ALLERGIC TO SOCIAL MEDIA!

PEACE + PROGRESS

- GALE

“little haven”

made by olivia



I Can Hear the



e Sun

GAY
OK!

“ask a neighbor for an action
word”

made by andy

Wild Card

**Ask a
neighbor
for an
action
word**

T

here's more than one problem here. Honest to god I think the literal lack of third spaces isn't the biggest one, although it does suck.

I am mostly going to speak from personal experience here, that being one of a well-off suburbanite - if your experience is different, my opinion does not override it.

My thesis is that people
changed because their work
lives changed. It's less that
third spaces are gone, although
free* and accessible community
gathering places are quickly
vanishing - and that's my definition
of a third space. It's more
that people are
always **FUCKING**
EXHAUSTED also depressed.

*cheap is
fine but
not ideal.

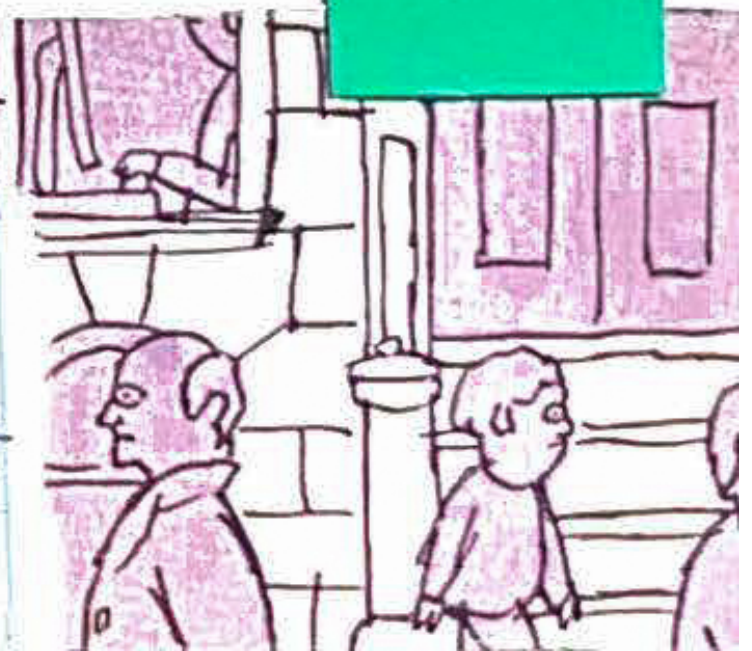
when I was in high school and bored out of my mind, my friends and I would do dumb bullshit like wear cloaks and pretend to be in a cult, or throw a pumpkin as hard as we could - kid shit. And we would do that kind of shit anywhere. Parks and playgrounds were good, but the middle of the street, or someone's back yard, or

a parking lot worked.

I think people can make
a third space out of
anything if the
desire is there.

And there's our
problem - the desire,
in general, is still
there.

but we are forced
to put work first
and use the internet
to fill in the gaps.



Now to be very clear

i hate anti

internet

Wikipedia

How do

the internet in and of
itself is NOT the problem.

Just... a shitty solution for
the problem.

If you feed a hummingbird
only stevia, it'll die, but
using stevia in your coffee
is fine, you know?

but in this metaphor, the
younger generations are overworked
hummingbirds offered stevia on
a silver platter while the sugar
is a 30 minute drive away.

After working an eight hour shift at your minimum wage customer service job, then driving doordash

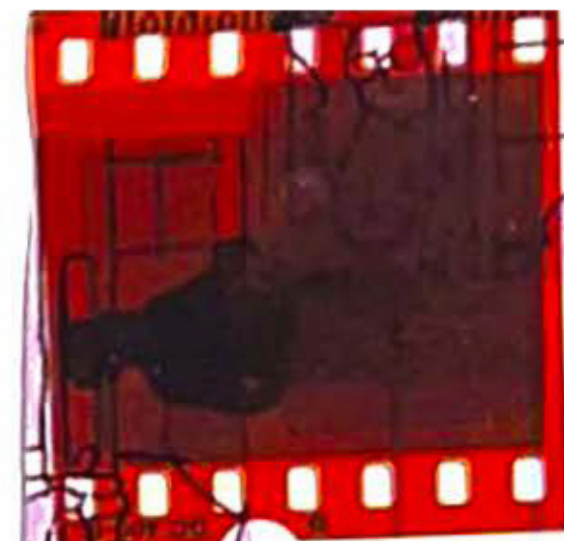
for two hours, then cleaning yourself and your apartment

(and it is an apartment, you can't afford a house)

and cooking and taking care of kids or pets or other dependants and hobbies

and whatever else,

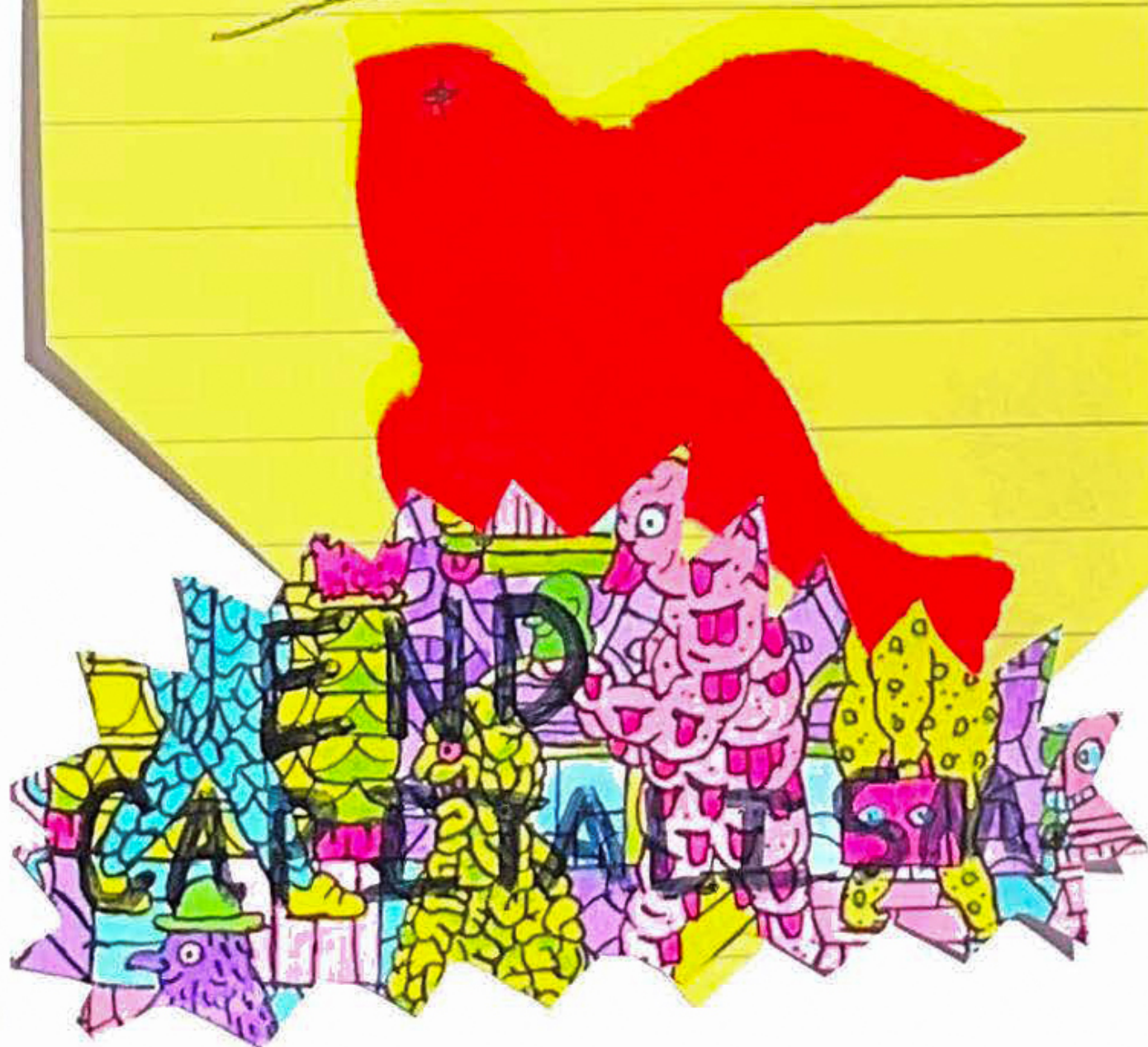
i would choose the stevia too



and of course none of that
even begins to touch on mental
health. Gen Z is more depressed

than ever. In my experience, depression
makes you ~~TH~~ TIR-D. ~~Fatigue~~
is a commonly recognized symptom
medically speaking too.

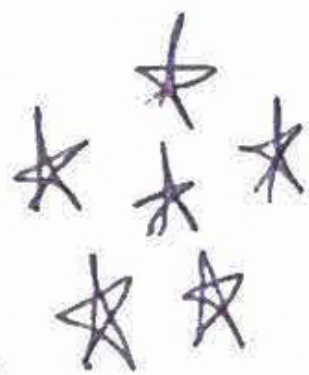
You may ask -
"OK, great -
WHAT's the solution??"



! If you're Boring I
guess you could make
more third spaces,
or make the minimum
wage higher, or put
various pressures on the
housing market to lower
costs, but that's like
putting a bandaid on
a bullet hole.

THANKS FOR
READING

talk to
your neighbors,
and each other!



“untitled”

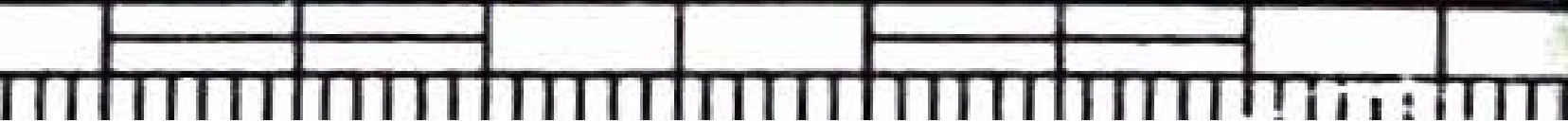
made by maia



“untitled”

made by kurt

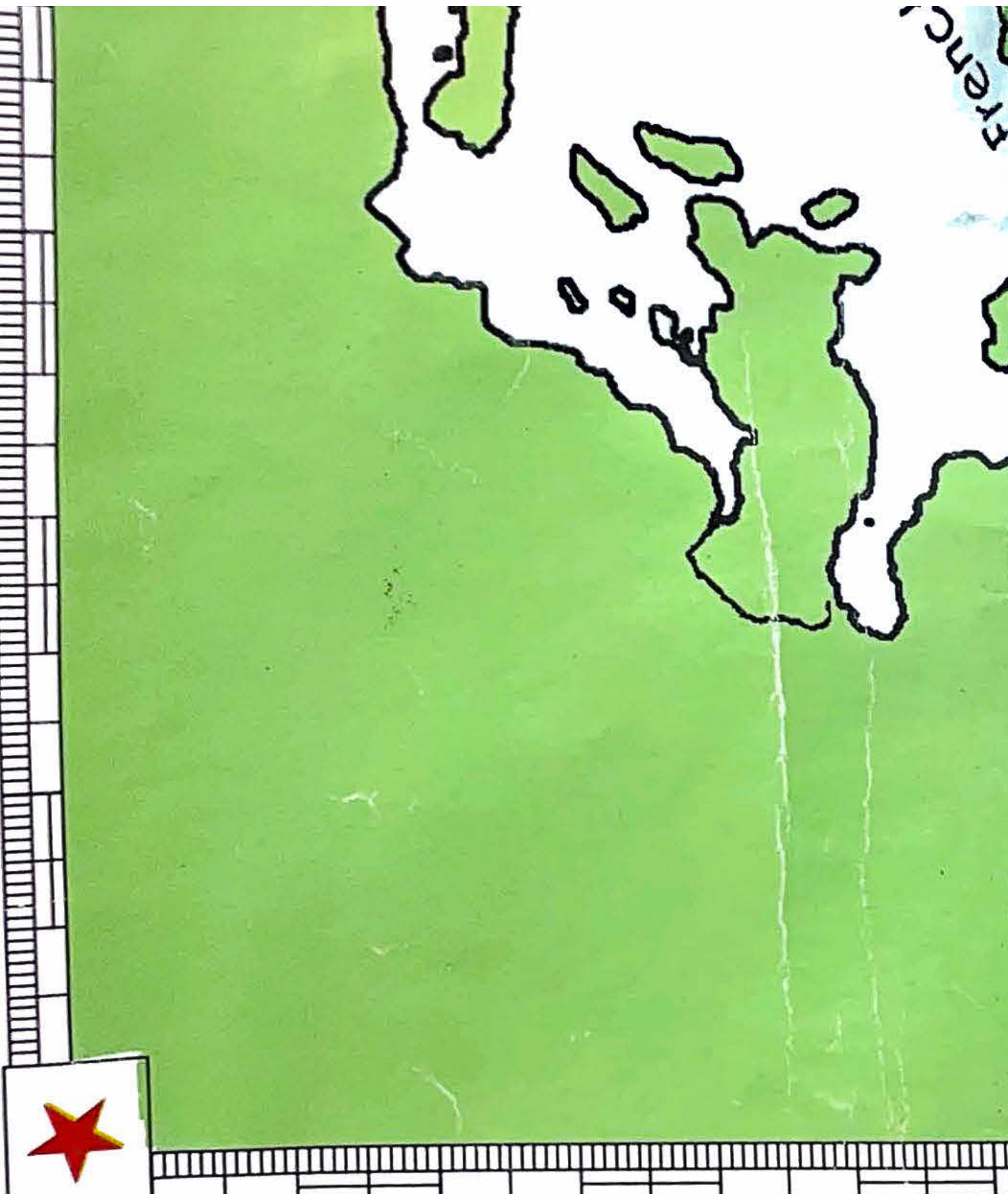




It's not to
add be
your gard

PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Too late to
plans to
then scene







acknowledgements

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Brittani from CLP Oakland

CLP East Liberty

GSWS Department

DNID Capstone Class Fall 2024

Dr. Fitzpatrick

all of whom we couldn't have created this zine without.

TOGETHER, WE BLOOM 

BLUEPRINT FOR THIRDS - GALE

Marcus Vanderheid

Erica Vanderheid

KT Kaage

Conrad

Vasu!

Olivia Terry!

Maia McCabe

Andy **

Kieran Gorman ^ ^

NICK

Angie Pho



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the bridges to belonging project
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anp275@pitt.edu
ortl3@pitt.edu