A highway divided, but it didn’t conquer. New community project in Phillips West

The Alley Online!
www.alleynews.org
www.twitter.com/alleynewspaper

R. P. Braun, the assistant state highway commissioner at the time, dismissed these concerns (as per, “The Evolution of Whittier”), referring to “a study done by planning consultants in the mid-fifties [that] concluded that no functional neighborhood existed in the freeway corridor.” In light of such unassailable affront to their rights, it’s difficult to fathom what happened next. In order to reconnect their neighborhood, the community came together, devised a plan and lobbied tirelessly (among them, a primary leader was Pastor Warren Sorteberg, of Our Saviour’s Church at 24th and Chicago Ave.). Their persistence finally paid off in 1971 when the city agreed to install the pedestrian bridge and again in 1974 when the sound barrier walls were built.

Now that is a story we can get behind!

This year marks the 40th anniversary of our forebearers’ incredible achievement. The bridge, arguably one of the area’s greatest assets, has too long been a dark, dangerous, underutilized space. After years of extraordinary challenges, our neighborhood is under going a slow, quiet renaissance as emerging. It’s time to reinvigorate the bridge, both literally and figuratively. The Bridging Minneapolis

A smile is…
the shortest distance between people.” — Victor Borge

“Turning A Negative Into A Positive….”

GI Hi-Jacked at Hi-Lake!!...
Green Institute dead to South Mpls.

By Annie Young

Last month The Alley print ed a piece about the ReUse Center closing. Now another part of the story unfolds before our eyes, where has the Phillips Eco-Enterprise Center and The Green Institute gone? On Monday, January 25th the Phillips Eco-Enterprise Center’s name came down and Greenway signage was put up. On Friday, January 29th the Green Institute offices moved out of the building with a smattering of files and limited staff up to the other ReUse Center store in Maplewood.

To date, none of us in the Phillips neighborhood know the GI Board’s response to the administration’s malfeasance. We probably never will. That is their business and we probably don’t need to have the Green Institute see page 2

MAPLETOWN (largely minority) community, the affected community itself…facing another imposition. The bridge, both literally and figuratively, is emerging. It’s time to reinvigorate the bridge, both literally and figuratively.

What is a Bridge?

Who Shall Rule Us? Money or the People?

If Corruption rolls over us like a flood, it is not Corruption of the humbler classes. It is Millionaires who Steal, Banks, Mills, and Defaulters who live in Palaces and make away with Millions, it is Money Kings who buy up Congress!

When the imminent installment of 35W was announced in 1962, the affected community fervently protested but was summarily dismissed. According to a Minneapolis Tribune article by Ted Kolderie, “Minneapolis finds itself…facing another impossible choice between accepting a highway plan to which a substantial segment of the community objects, and delaying the program again for another study”. Despite the resistance of the (largely minority) community, the freeway project was completed in November, 1967. Residents, who’d been forced to move, experienced extreme hardship in their protracted effort to restart their lives. Those who remained not only lost their neighbors but also suffered through the deafening roar of traffic as they watched the neighborhood disintegrate over the ensuing years.

By Dallas Johnson

A bridge is more than a connection between two places. Yes, our very own 24th St pedestrian bridge across 35W connects our neighborhood to Whittier. But did you know it’s also a testament to community activism? You are invited to help breathe new life into the incredible story of our bridge.

What’s the story?

When the imminent installment of 35W was announced in 1962, the affected community fervently protested but was summarily dismissed. According to a Minneapolis Tribune article by Ted Kolderie, “Minneapolis finds itself...facing another impossible choice between accepting a highway plan to which a substantial segment of the community objects, and delaying the program again for another study”. Despite the resistance of the (largely minority) community, the freeway project was completed in November, 1967. Residents, who’d been forced to move, experienced extreme hardship in their protracted effort to restart their lives. Those who remained not only lost their neighbors but also suffered through the deafening roar of traffic as they watched the neighborhood disintegrate over the ensuing years.

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March Phillips What Where

Guess What and Where this is and get a chance to be in a drawing for $10. Gift Certificate to Welna Hardware on Bloomington Avenue.

Gerald Peterson, Pamela Rivera, Chiffor Williams, and a MYSTERY WOMAN (whose name and number we’ve misplaced) all got it correct that the PWW Photo in January and February was:

A New Relative on the Ave: Van Wert Sculpture

Rhianna Yazzie described it well following the unveiling in November 2010:

Driving down Franklin Avenue, you might notice at the corner of 15th Avenue a new relative greeting you. The Three Sisters might be better known to the Native community — Corn, Squash and Beans that when grown together complement and replenish the soil in which they are grown — but the Fourth Sister, the crystal inlay standing 12 feet high atop a metal base with a plaque framed by the words “American Indian Cultural Cooperative” Van Wert wants that “to help influence some of the younger people if they want to be an artist.”

In trademark Native fashion he continued to joke that “You don’t have to be a doctor or a lawyer or an Indian Chief, you can be an artist... it’s worth it.”

Good News! For the MYSTERY WOMAN: You ARE THE WINNER OF THE FEBRUARY DRAWING. PLEASE CALL US AGAIN.

Green Institute

from page 1

dirty laundry hung out for every- 
one. However, it seems we do 
something need to communicate 
that the GI, ReUse Center and 
Institute are all but gone — or what’s left of them has gone to Maplevowel... So be it for grassroots democracy and action. And the feeling that the Phillips com-
munity has been proud of its Green Institute, ReUse Center and Deconstruction Program. It has won awards for its endeavors. The projects were the first of their kind, entering the fight for environmental, 


I know and am sure that there are 
big obstacles and eventually, the 

4. Depression.

Some of us have seen the orga-

Some of us have seen the orga-

No one can deny the GI Board of Directors has 

At the end of a very long meeting 

A MYSTERY WOMAN (whose name is unknown) would say) but in isolation from 


to the community — both 

The Fourth Sister that sits at 

The Fourth Sister that sits at 

For years, the Phillips com-

Avenue. It will probably have a dif-

The Institute was founded in 

Over the years the GI Board had 

The Board of Directors. But even with that 

The Institute and the ReUse Center were great medals of Honor for the community — sure signs of victory and bringing jobs and services to the community. 

over the years, the GI Board had 

The Green Institute in the initial 

Can this really be happening? 

April Alley Deadline:

And the feeling that the Board of Directors built an Institute (a fine first step at that, most days people would say) but in isolation from the needs of the Phillips commu-

2. Anger.

So as one of the Founders, along with Susan, Harvey, Joan and a multitude of others I find myself 

Can this really be happening? 

Mailing address:

The Alley Newspaper • March 2011
March Programs at the Franklin Library

BY ERIN THOMASON

Children’s Programs

Family Storytime
Wed. Mar. 2-May 25, 10:30–11 a.m. Age 2 and up Share books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement with your children.

Sheels Carneau Al-Soomaali/a

Wii games at the library! Grab a

Tues., Mar. 1–May 31, 4–5 p.m.

La waxdagga maca la yaar da-

dugsi. Ka soo qaybgal sheekooyin
curaar, heeso iyo hawlo wax-

barra.“ S oo faddiihi kuu mu-

naajinta waxaa lala kaasduu

******.

Join us for stories, songs and activities.

Guthrie Theater: Acting
Games for Beginners Fr.
Mar. 18, 4-6 p.m. Registration
required. Register online or call 952.847.2925. Grades 3-5. Learn how actors rev up their creative juices, tune up their spontaneity and stay in the moment. No expe-

rience necessary; just get ready to play!

Kids Book Club
Fri., Mar.25, 4-5 p.m.
Grades 4-6. Join other kids to talk about a great book! No pre-

reading required. We will read a book and discuss.

Teen Programs

Career Club Tues., Mar.
Mar. 1-31, 5-6 p.m. Grades 6 and up. Meet, mental, arts and teach-

ing professionals from your com-

munity. Learn about their jobs and paths and explore your own career choices!

Game On! Gaming Tuesdays

Wed. Mar. 2-May 25, 4-5 p.m.

Games 4-6. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours.

Game On! Gaming Wednesdays

Wed. Mar. 2-May 25, 4-5 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours! ***

Reading Club Wed. Mar.
Mar. 2-May 25, 5-6 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Come explore the liter-

ary world of reading, non-fiction and adventures! Share your ideas and creativity along the way.

Urban Farming Thur.
Mar. 3–May 26, 4-6 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Urban farming is a great way to get outside and learn where your food comes from! Learn about farm-

ing history and the methods for sustainable farming. Plant and maintain the Franklin Teen Center urban garden. Then bring home the vegetables you harvested.

Game On! Gaming Thurs.

Thur. Mar. 3-26, 6-8 p.m.

Grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours! ***

Down Time Every Sat. 2–

6 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Looking for a quiet and comfortable space? Take advantage of “down time” at the Teen Center. Work on the topic of the week or use our computers, board games and other self-directed activi-

ties.***

Guthrie Theater: Duke It Out

Tues. Mar. 15, 5 p.m. Grades 6-9. Learn the secrets of safe stage combat! Fall in but without hurting anyone – just the acts on do it! Stage fight really, just it’s a safe way to experi-
ence necessary. Registration required.*G

 MV Studio: Music and Video
 Production Thurs. Mar. 29,
 5:30–7:30 p.m. Registration
 required: online or 952.847.2925. Grade 7 and up. Get hands-on experience to create your own beats. Learn music mixing tech-

iques using the latest technology in music and video production. Record and produce your own music or video in this exciting two-part workshop. Let your voice be heard supported by the library’s Teen Tech Squad and in partnership with IPR (Institute of Production and Recording). *Register in partnership with the IPR (Institute of Production and Recording).

Guthrie Theater: Acting
Games for Beginners Thur.
Mar. 24, 5 p.m. Registration
required, begins Feb 24: online or
952.847.2925. Grades 6-9. Learn how actors rev up their creative juices, tune up their spontaneity and stay in the moment. No expe-

rience necessary; just get ready to play! **

Microsoft PowerPoint: Basics
Thur. Mar. 25, 10 a.m. – noon
Learn to create presentations and use the ribbon to create a basic slide show.

Microsoft Word: Basics
Thur. Mar. 31, 6-8 p.m.
Learn how to use the ribbon, enter and delete text, basic form-

atation and tables, and when to use “save” and “save as.”

Franklin Learning Center: 952-

847-2934

Internet Program for Seniors
Expands to 6 locations

A program to Help Seniors use

the Internet for the first time is being

offered by East Side Neighborhood Services, Inc. has expanded to 6 sites. Build your own class schedule based on your personal need; we are flexible and here to serve you.

East Side Neighborhood Services
1700 Second Street Northeast Minneapolis
Telephone: 612.787.8000

VOA Southwest Senior Center
5612 Bryant Avenue South
Minneapolis
Telephone: 612.822.3194

VOA Monroe Day Elders
1900 Central Avenue N.E.
Saint 102
Minneapolis
Telephone: 612.767.3322

Little Earth of United Tribes
2495 18th Avenue South
Minneapolis
Telephone: 612.724.0023

LACO America
2468 West Broadway Ave.
Minneapolis
Telephone: 612.302.9154

SOMali American Parent Association
1421 Park Avenue, Ste 204
Minneapolis
Telephone: 612.359.8489

Individualized Computer
Wellness Corridor
from page 1

Internet (Training) for Senior
Adults

Interested in learning to use the
computer? Perhaps you need a bit of
patient support to be comfort-
able with the computer. Familiarize yourself with the computer basics and

learn to access the internet and email to connect with family, friends and places around the world. Maybe you

would just like to travel around the

world from the convenience of your

home. With the help of experienced Peer Coaches, work through a specially designed pro-
gram "Generation on Line."

We can help you reach your objec-
ives. East Side Neighborhood Services computer Learning Centers are conveniently located through

Hennepin County, where you can tune in and practice your

skills.

Training sessions are FREE and open to anyone age 55 and older. Typically classes are Monday thru Friday, 10:00 a.m. – Noon. For additional locations and schedules call ESNS at 612.787-4000.

If you or someone you know could benefit from taking this course, please call ESNS at 612-787-4000.

Instruction is given on a one-on-one basis with two or three students at a time.

1702/2nd Street NE.Minneapolis, MN 55413. 612.781.6011 www.

esns.org

“Santa Claus has the right idea: visit people once a year” -Victor Borge

“MINNESOTA"
Squire Borden, Tender of first Bridge Across the Mississippi River

By Susan Hunter Weir

Squire Borden was born on the Atlantic Ocean on August 25, 1823. Perhaps that explains his life-long attraction to water. For many years, he worked as the bridge-tender on the first two suspension bridges that spanned the Mississippi River, the Minneapolis Bridge and the Mendota Bridge. He had, in fact, been a member of the crew that built the suspension bridge and since everyone who crossed the bridge encountered him, he was one of the most familiar faces in the city.

In 1854, local entrepreneurs paid for the first bridge in the country to span the Mississippi River. The bridge was made of wood, and the cost of operating it was initially covered by tolls (two cents for a pedestrian and 2.5 cents for a wagon). Twenty years after it was built, the bridge was in poor condition and too narrow to accommodate the number of wagons that needed to cross it. The City contracted with Thomas M. Griffith, a nationally-known engineer, to build a replacement. The second bridge, 675 feet long and 32 feet wide, was constructed of steel and concrete rather than wood. It was thought to be an engineering marvel and crowds gathered along the riverbanks every day to watch construction workers string the cables from one side of the river to the other. Local boosters claimed that this new wonder would last for at least half-a-century, but it lasted only 24 years.

During the declining years of the first bridge and the first six years of its replacement, it was Squire Borden’s job to monitor the condition of the bridge and to assist those who needed help crossing it. It was a steady job but one that was never without its hazards. In July 1877, Mr. Borden was underneath a wagon that had bro- ken down on the bridge. A large piece of lumber that the wagon was carrying slipped and fell on him. The Tribune reported that the “crash... was not fatal or even dangerous, but it was mighty painful.”

In May 1881, the Tribune reported that “a drunken individual assaulted Squire Borden... but before any blood was spilled a police [sic] yanked the offender to the lock-up.

Squire Borden’s unusual first name suggests that his parents had high hopes for their son. There are several definitions of “squire,” but the most one commonly used refers to English country gentle- men or large landlords. It is unlikely that his family owned any substantial amount of land (or any land at all) in England. If they had, they would not have emigrated and had a son who would later boast that he was born on the ocean.

He was, in July 1881, the age of 59 from an enlarged heart. He was buried in Lot 5, Block N. His widow, Gertrude, and their four children moved to Los Angeles. If his father had hoped that Admiral Farragut Borden would someday go to sea, that never happened. Admiral Farragut Borden worked as a florist in Los Angeles.

St. Paul’s Lutheran (Iglesia Luterana San Pablo)

Something’s Fishy Fund Raiser Friday, March 4, 2011 • 6:00 p.m.
We’re having a Fundraising Dinner to benefit St. Paul’s Sustainability Project and Repair Fund. $10.00 from each ticket sold will go to one of these projects.
Menu: New England Clam Chowder, Oyster Stew, Baked Salmon, Roasted Asparagus, St. Paul’s Salad & Desserts
Tickets are required. Call Lowell Hanson at 651-459-7277 for reservations and more information.

Do you know that The Alley has a website:
www.alleynews.org
Even hipper, you can follow us on Twitter @alleynewspaper

Seward Co-op Grocery & Deli

Open 8 a.m.—10 p.m. daily • 2821 4th Avenue • Minneapolis • 612-313-2465 • seward coop.org

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Members of the Minneapolis Cemetery Protective Association’s Ladies Auxiliary sprucing up the cemetery in the Spring of 1926. The cemetery will reopen on April 15, 2010.
FOOD OBSESSION:
PANCAKES

BY JANE THOMSON

More pancakes and less prose (could this be on a t-shirt?)
Pancakes, combined with bread and either milk, eggs, yogurt or sausage make a decent meal. It’s only when you take in “all you can eat” that they become a weight hazard. Any of the pancakes below would be good with syrup, honey or tart sweet fruit jelly.

WATKINS OATMEAL PANCAKES – (This must refer to the Watkins company that sold household items, including vanili- la, door to door. Perhaps they are still in business.)
1 cup rolled oats
1/4 cup of whole wheat or unbleached white flour
2 1/2 cups milk
2 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
Combine oats and flour. Add milk, beaten eggs, baking powder, vanilla and cinnamon. Beat until well blended. Let stand in refrigerator for 30 minutes (all of these recipes flour is blended well. Let stand in refrigerator for 30 minutes (all of these recipes).

GINGER PANCAKES – From the "Fewer Pancakes, More pan-
2 1/2 cups flour
2 1/2 cups sugar
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. ginger
1/2 tsp. cinnamon
Combine and blend everyone according for good measure.
1 1/2 tsp. ginger
2 tsp. vanilla
2 eggs, beaten
1/2 cup of melted shortening or margarine or butter
Sift together powdered ingredients. Combine milk and molasses separately. Add eggs to that mixture, stir in melted fat and blend into dry mixture. Stir in raisins. Bake on heated griddle, using about 1/4 cup of batter (this amount good for any pancake recipe). Makes about 20 pancakes. These pancakes might be covered with a thin layer of more molasses. Syrup or honey were fine, as was the fruit jelly.

CHOCOLATE GRIDDLE CAKES Serves Four (no, probably more)
1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa pow-
der
1 1/4 cups flour
1 cup sugar
1/3 tsp. baking soda
2/3 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup vegetable oil
Sift dry ingredients together; then whisk in the eggs, buttermilk, oil and vanilla until well combined (much like recipes above). See top recipe for cooking pancakes, in case you don’t already know. The original recipe came with a recipe for a sauce, made by carefully combining 7 oz. semi-sweet chocolate, finely chopped, with 1 cup of heavy cream, which had been brought to a boil. I didn’t make this. I had some chocolate syrup on hand.

9 Cent Movies and Sugar from Minnehaha Fire Station

Bill Nelson, Director of Correctional Services at Volunteers of America, shares some of his many Lake Street memories. Go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=leakstreet to watch his whole story, and those of others.

BY JOYCE WISDOM AND CHRIS OEN

My name is Bill Nelson and I showed up in the neighborhood of March 1941, which was just a few months before Pearl Harbor. Some of my earliest memories go back to shortly after the beginning of World War II, when I and my mother, along with my brother, who was an infant at the time, would make the trek from 36th Ave. to the old fire station on Minnehaha [the current home of Patrick’s Cabaret]. And of course, you take a kid my age, she could hardly drag me away I was so fasci-

ated with the fire engines. But the reason we went there was to get our sugar rations. Those were the days of austerity and World War II.

I grew up at 36th & Lake, just a half block off from Lake. In the vicinity were businesses like Peterson Drug, Lubis Hardware, Supervisors, and of course every-

one knew Liberty Grocery, which was on 35th & Lake. When we went to the movies, we went to the matinee usually, and paid nine cents to get in. We went to the El Lago Theater, but also in the area on 27th was the Lake Theater, and further down was the East Lake. That’s how we spent our time, it was quite a treat to go to the mov-

ies. I can only remember once that we went out to eat. It was always that you ate at home, and that was it.

My dad worked for the tractor factory known as Minneapolis Moline [where Target is now]. Many, many people in the neigh-

borhood also worked there. He worked the second shift. There was a point when he got a better spot at Moline, but it did involve running a drill press for eight hours a day. In those days at least, he was not allowed to wear any protection on his hands, so I have memories of him waking up in the morn-

ing, having coffee, and looking at his hands. His hands were full of burns from metal, hot metal, that went in there and so forth. He worked at Minneapolis Moline for quite a number of years.

For transportation, those were the days of the streetcar. The trol-

ley was a strange beast. It had a basket in the front, always referred to as the cow catcher. My percep-
tion was the years, they’d fall into the basket. There was an oper-
a tor, but also early on, there was a conductor. He had a box about three-quarters of the way back on the streetcar. It costs us ten cents to ride, and I remem-

ber our particular streetcar was called Plymouth-East 25th Street.

It came up 36th Ave., made a turn on to Lake Street, and continued on.

Minnesota-Moline company formed in 1929 from merging Minneapolis-Moline Implement Company, Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company and Minneapolis Steel & Machinery Company.

They started producing the Twin City models which were carriercarformed by the Moline Steel & Machinery Company. That tractor produc-
tion continued through 1934 and was followed by many other popular models of tractors - one of the most extensive in the industry at that time.

MM was acquired by the White Motor Company in 1963 from a "horrible takeover" and closed the plant two years later, leaving hundreds of industrial jobs.

What is a Bridge?

from page 1

Project aims to do just that. Neighbor/activist Dallas Johnson launched this project in December.

Soon after, MCAD referred two renowned mural artists, Oreta McLain and Elvisa Citarolf. The artists had been developing a simi-

lar project so the timing proved serendipitous. They are collabora-
ting with organizations on both sides of 35W to create four-foot circular mural panels that visually convey the answers to the ques-
tions, “What is a bridge? How have you been a bridge? How have you been a bridge?”

In order to activate as much participation as possible, the proj-
ecct is multi-faceted. Madeline Douglas is conducting historical research, representatives from local universities are helping with data collection, two community ideation workshops are being held, a mosaic painter is being created (via the Phillips Semilla project [The Alley Newspaper will feature an article in April about Semilla Project]), collaborative, improvisational performances will take place on the bridge through-

out the summer and an unveiling ceremony is being planned for late summer, coinciding with the new 24th Street bike path.

What can you do to help?

Promote the project, website development, Documentary videography/editing, Historical research, Identify organizations to participate, Project coordination, Share your great ideas

Offer encouragement/support

Join us at a fundraising feast on March 5th at the Eagles Club on 27th Ave. to the old fire station on Lake Street.

MEMBERS MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2011
Time: 1:00PM – 1:00PM
JOIN US FOR LUNCH BUFFET!
Location: Safari Restaurant & Banquet Hall
2616 27th Ave South, 55406
Small parking lot located north of building. Street parking is also available.

MEMBERSHIP

Members: 155
Mailing Address: 1210 8th Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55403
Please register in advance Call: 763-673-0664 or visit our website at www.lakestreetcouncil.org

Phone: 612-922-8522
Email: lakestreetcouncil@gmail.com

Press release

Duplicate press releases to other community organizations.

What is a Bridge?

from page 1

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In order to activate as much participation as possible, the project is multi-faceted. Madeline Douglas is conducting historical research, representatives from local universities are helping with data collection, two community ideation workshops are being held, a mosaic painter is being created (via the Phillips Semilla project [The Alley Newspaper will feature an article in April about Semilla Project]), collaborative, improvisational performances will take place on the bridge throughout the summer and an unveiling ceremony is being planned for late summer, coinciding with the new 24th Street bike path.

What can you do to help?

Promote the project, website development, Documentary videography/editing, Historical research, Identify organizations to participate, Project coordination, Share your great ideas

Offer encouragement/support

Join us at a fundraising feast on March 5th at the Eagles Club on 27th Ave. to the old fire station on Lake Street.

MEMBERS MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 15, 2011
Time: 1:00PM – 1:00PM
JOIN US FOR LUNCH BUFFET!
Location: Safari Restaurant & Banquet Hall
2616 27th Ave South, 55406
Small parking lot located north of building. Street parking is also available.

MEMBERSHIP

Members: 155
Mailing Address: 1210 8th Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55403
Please register in advance Call: 763-673-0664 or visit our website at www.lakestreetcouncil.org

Phone: 612-922-8522
Email: lakestreetcouncil@gmail.com

What is a Bridge?

from page 1

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Howard's top 10 movies of 2010

King's Speech

The King’s Speech is this year’s favorite film for me after pondering which one. It stars Colin Firth (nominated for best actor in a “Single Man” in 2009) plays King George VI. He ascends the throne in Great Britain in 1936, when his brother King Edward VIII (Guy Pearce) abdicates the throne rather than sever his marriage to twice-divorced American socialite Wallis Simpson (Eve Best). His marriage causes a constitutional and ecclesiastical crisis for the United Kingdom and the Dominions. Before George VI takes the throne, he is Duke of Cornwall.

George VI has one stumbling problem: he stammers. He’s sent to a rather unorthodox speech therapist, Lionel Logue (Geoffrey Rush) who, after a number of hurdles with George, achieves success. George VI's wife Elizabeth (Helena Bonham Carter) encourages him to continue to see Lionel. George VI ascends the throne concurrently with Hitler beginning to move aggressively across Europe.

“The King’s Speech” was nominated for best director (Tom Hooper), in addition to best picture as well as Colin Firth for best actor; Helena Bonham Carter for best supporting actress and Geoffrey Rush for best supporting actor.

Inception

Inception is arguably the most imaginative big film of the year. What irks me though is the Academy conveniently snubbing director Christopher Nolan for nomination in the best director slot. Though it received eight nominations, but Nolan is disgracefully excluded. Why and how “The Fighter” director David O’Russell is chosen over Nolan how “The Fighter” director David Fincher is an impressive piece of work that transcends the political webs of undue bias.

Winter’s Bone

The year’s dark horse film which I said deserves an Oscar nomination along with the new kid on the block, Jennifer Lawrence. “Winter’s Bone” is an impressive piece of work that transcends the political webs of undue bias. Inception is full of illusion and perception, starring Leonardo DiCaprio as James Cobb. He is on a path of tyrants because he has the “gift” of insert inserting ideas into people's dreams. His challenge is to successfully insert in the hopes of getting the person to think it is his or her own idea. Cobb is wheedled by a shrewd Japanese businessman, Saito (Ken Watanabe). Cobb’s memory of his wife (Marion Cottilard) haunts him and he wants to reconnect with his children. Arthur (Joseph Gordon Levitt), Ariadne (Ella Purnell) and Eames (Tom Hardy) work with Cobb in pursuit of business magnate Robert Fischer (Cillian Murphy).

The Red-Riding Trilogy

Three films are inspired by the true story of the Yorkshire Ripper. Vagaculating between a “Silence of the Lambs” and an Agatha Christie formula, three films by three different directors Julian Jarrold (Number one in 1974), James Marsh (Number two in 1980) and Anson Tucker (Number three in 1983), respectively build on a cold case of a serial killer who may have been deliberately pigeon-holed by law enforcement in the West Riding district. Julian Jarrold’s “Red Riding in the Year of Our Lord 1973” sets the tone. It stars Andrew Garfield as a young journalist, Eddie Dunford, trying unsuccessfully to solve the mystery of at least one little girl’s disappearance. Jarrold’s 1973 story is the best of the three, but the following two (Paddy Considine as Sean Harris, etc.) are still very good to see.

Animal Kingdom

Except for Jacky Weaver getting an Oscar nomination for supporting actress for “Animal Kingdom” (Australia), this little gem of a film probably went unnoticed by most moviegoers. The Machiavellian grandmother goes by the name “Grandma Smurf” aptly played by Weaver, whose 17 year old grandson Josh (James Frecheville) stays with her and is surrounded by her criminal -minded sons. Josh has little desire to join his uncle’s crime spree, monitored closely by “Grandma Smurf” in Melbourne, Australia, in the 1980s. Detective Leckie (Guy Pearce) believes he can nab the uncles by way of Josh.

Inside Job

As far as documentaries go, the genre tends to preach to the choir. Director Charles Ferguson’s “Inside Job” presents the world’s financial crash, how and why it happened; which affects us all regardless of our political persuasions. Therapacousness of Wall Street served under the watch of Reagan, Clinton, two Bushes, and faces an uncertainty with Obama. Ferguson continues to say many of the principal players for the financial crisis are still on the scene: Timothy Geitner, Lawrence Summers. This is an impressive piece of work that transcends the political webs of undue bias.

Winter’s Bone

The year’s dark horse film which I said deserves an Oscar nomination along with the new kid on the block, Jennifer Lawrence. “Winter’s Bone” is an impressive piece of work that transcends the political webs of undue bias.

Created and performed by Kathy Kim and Andrew Kim. Directed by Mark Whitaker. In forgotten boxes in an attic, a woman discovers the story of her grandfather, a survivor of World War I, and his unexpected encounter with a stray dog who knew no boundaries. With evocative puppet characters, live music and an every changing set, Thiniumagja Theatre from West Yorkshire, England - explores a fabule war and the miracle of friendship when all else seems lost.

Co-presented by Open Eye Figure Theatre & In the Heart of the Beast Puppet Theatre. Performances are at Open Eye Figure Theatre, 506 E. 24th St, Minneapolis. Tickets are available from Open Eye Figure Theatre Box Office: boxoffice@openeyetheatre.org or by phone at 612-874-6338.

The November Day

March 5
Ring Around the Rain Garden
Barb Tilsen, Margo McCreary and Gayla Ellis
Explore how we are part of the web of life, the way we live upon and care for Mother Earth, and how we can better protect our water resources.

March 6
A short puppet film or two
In the Heart the Beast Youth Troupe, Winter Session
Watch and see what the brilliant minds of our very own Youth Troupe create in film. Add your own art with an interactive live shadow puppet section!

March 22
MayDay Community Meeting
Join the process of selecting this year’s MayDay theme by attend the next MayDay Community Meeting.

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KOIN 6 NEWS

I know [canned music] makes chickens lay more eggs and factory workers produce more. But how much more can they get out of you on an elevator?" -Victor Borge
Millions In Motion

The people in this neighborhood of the world have yet another opportunity to experience an enhanced human connection—to elicit a smile and eye contact from the Arab people among us. For example, don’t just plop coins on the counter at the corner convenience store, but boldly ask, “What’s your opinion regarding the Egyptian Revolution?” You are likely to discover a knowledgeable person.

Why the commotion in Arab lands?

In Egypt, we are told, the corruption of the old regime cost more than $6 billion in public money per year. Estimates of the former president’s accumulated fortune range as high as $70 billion. Mubarek’s good buddies became merely billionaires while millions lived on less than $2 per day. Heartless brutality appears as the hallmark of a regime which sadly was considered to have been a “good friend of the United States”.

What line of march forward?

Early on, this writer some-what errantly objected to the term “revolution”, preferring instead “National Democratic Revolution” is now deemed appropriate inasmuch as all social classes were represented in the street demonstration. The establishment of democratic institutions and practices (i.e. “self-determina- tion”) is the goal. So yes, we have witnessed a revolution.

Note: The present strike movement of the Egyptian working-class will inevitably subside in the period of democratic construction. The focus will shift to the formation of political parties, etc. No doubt, certain earnest revolutionists will call me “Stalinist” for revealing this truth!

Yet, in due time, all good bourgeois democratic regimes must succumb to the imposition of revolutionary worker’s democracy. Fundamental transformations along socialist lines will come. A new humanity will be born. This too is inevitable.

Claude Delbassy was always Mubarek’s final song. It is also a reminder that even with turbulence in his life composer Claude-Achille Delbassy was able to compose contemplative and even romantic music like this song of the moon. Borge and Frank Big Bear juxtaposed on the front page of the February issue of The Alley Newspaper was emblematic of the tremendous richness of the arts right here in our own backyard.

The two featured galleries and museums also have coffee bars: ASI and its Coffee Stuge and My Own Relations Gallery and newly opened, Pow Wow Grounds are so diverse and yet so similar.

Our community has experienced its own turbulence over the years. This issue mentions a couple examples:

• The onslaught of 35W smashing through our neighborhood with people like R.P. Braun, assistant state highway commissioner at the time, adding insult to injury, “a study done by planning consultants in the mid-fifties [have] concluded that no functional neighborhood existed in the freeway corridor.” [See page 1 “What are Bridges?”]

• Read Annie Young’s article where she recall how the Green Institute and ReUse Center were conceived and nurtured in our community. But the original visions were destroyed by self-centered, incompetent management and taken to the suburbs. [See “GI Hi-Jacked at Hi-Lake” page 1].:

In spite of those and scores of other onslaughts and detractions, the resilience and fortitude of our Community continues to rise. Through adversity we, together, “Face the Wind” [page 7] exemplifying the “fever-spasm” of which Wendell Phillips speaks [see page 1] when he reminds us that the politics that has often hurt us is in the “common pulse beating.” Reminding, too, that we need to ask, “Who is to rule? And we answer that it is our- selves, or they who do we take back our community.

• Annie Young’s “turning a nega- tive into a positive.” Pg1

• Robert Albee’s call to name a common street for our Wellness community because “programs might die, but, good ideas and community... live.” Pg1

• Dallas Johnson’s invitation to neighbors and artists to hallmark their stories and strength. Pg1

• And Peter inviting us to smile with our Arab neighbors. Pg 7

• A miracle of friendship from WWII in “November Day” at Open Eye Theatre Pg 6

In our community and in a much larger way in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, and elsewhere, the words of Wendell Phillips continue to ring true: “revolution is the fever-spasm” calling forth people in strength.
Update on the Backyard Initiative

Rebirthing Community: A new project gets approved by the Commission on Health

BY JANICE BARBEE, CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER

The Commission on Health approved the project of another Citizen Health Action Team (CHAT) of the Backyard Initiative. On February 3, the CHAT presented its ideas to the Rebirthing Community CHAT, which received the go-ahead to implement their project, which intends to create “Communities of Light.”

The Backyard Initiative was started two years ago as a community partnership between Allina Hospitals and Clinics and the residents of Phillips, Powderhorn Park, Central, and Corcoran with the goal of improving the health of the community. The core work of the Backyard Initiative is done within teams of community residents (CHATs) which develop and implement their members’ ideas. Each CHAT appoints two members to sit on the Council of CHATs to represent the Backyard Initiative.

Rebirthing Community CHAT – Creating Communities of Light

The goal of the Rebirthing Community CHAT is to build and strengthen the relationships, the knowledge, and the capacity for community residents to create their own communities for health through intergenerational dialogue and working together on a solar energy project. They plan to light up the yards and residences in the Backyard with solar-powered lanterns.

The CHAT members told the Commission on Health that the Rebirthing Community CHAT “will organize and conduct 88 intergenerational workshops during 2011, which will bring families together to discuss community issues, learn about energy and produce the solar lanterns. These workshops are a means to create and implement new models of leadership, self-sufficiency and sustainability within our community.”

Communities of Light cooperative

The CHAT members will use their seed money to purchase the materials for over 700 solar lanterns. Participants will make one lantern to keep and more to sell. The money from the sales will be put back into their co-operative business that will make the project self-sustainable. The co-operative will provide opportunities for the community to gain and improve business skills.

The team members got their idea for the project from their experience last year in preparing Pangaea Worlds for the In the Heart of the Beast May Day Parade. As their proposal stated: “The joyful participation of youth and elders in the preparation for and marching in the May Day event was a clear signal from the community that we are yearning for ways to interact.”

The Rebirthing Community CHAT members describe their vision for their project: “During the first phase of the project, the solar lanterns, which will be assembled during the workshops, will be hung in the windows, doorways and on fences of our houses and apartments in our neighborhood, symbolizing the re-lighting of our community spirit…Use of their products will promote health awareness and well being among community members. We expect the symbolic concept of Communities of Light to bring into focus our hope for a future filled with pride and prosperity.”

CHAT Meetings at the Cultural Wellness Center

Eleven CHATs have now been approved by the Commission on Health. There are two more CHATs still developing their projects which will soon be presented to the Commission. Up to 15 CHATs will be implementing their strategies for health in 2011.

CHATs are always looking for new members – if you live in one of the four neighborhoods of Phillips, or in Powderhorn Park, Corcoran, or Central, you are welcome to come to the community meetings on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5 PM at the Cultural Wellness Center, 1527 East Lake Street, in the Franklin Bank Building. Call the Cultural Wellness Center at 621-721-5745 for more information.

Concrete Beet Farmers Puts Down Roots in Midtown Phillips

BY DUSTY HINZ

What do you get when you mix a global environmental crisis, an industrial food system that threatens our food security, a city with an increasing number of vacant properties, and six conscious young people with an entrepreneur neural and community spirit? The answer is a micro urban farm that seeks to help residents of the community food system, beautify our neighborhood, and combat climate change.

Concrete Beet Farmers is a new urban farming venture being started in a vacant lot in the Midtown Phillips neighborhood that will be the focal point of this solution. The team of six entrepreneurs consists of four current Macalester students, a recent Augsburg graduate, and a recent University of Minnesota graduate now living in the neighborhood. The farming venture will not be held captive to the sole pursuit of profit; rather, it will strive for profitability, but not at the expense of financial sustainability, and community food access and education.

This small-scale, tangible project is devoted to the triple-bottom-line—where profits are measured environmentally, socially, and economically.

Pow Wow Grounds Coffee Grand Opening

NACDI is pleased to announce the grand opening of Pow Wow Grounds Coffee on Tuesday, February 8th! The coffee shop hours are 7AM-6PM Monday, Saturday, and 8AM-PM on Sundays.

1414 E. Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Pow Wow Grounds will feature specialty coffee drinks, baked goods, smoothies, sandwiches, and signature wild rice products! This new venture in the All My Relations Gallery brings a new Indian-owned business to the American Indian Cultural and Community Center. The shop is owned by Robert Rice, an enrolled member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, who also runs and owns the 42nd Avenue Station, in north Minneapolis.

East Phillips Improvement Coalition

Up-coming EPIC General Membership Meetings:

NOTE: Schedule Change

March 3rd (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. – Phillips West Community Center (EPPCC) is open, EPIC General Membership Meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the EPPCC – 2307 17th Ave. S., Mpls., MN 55404.

April Meeting: 16th and 20th (Tuesday) 6:30 PM at East Phillips Park

East Phillips Improvement Coalition:

The Community Center is OPEN! East Phillips Park Partnership: If you are a part of an organization, which could help provide programs, activities and/or services through the East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center located at 170 Ave S. and E. 24th St, please join with 21 program partners. Contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478 or bpass@aisnet.com.

Phillips Community Swimming Pool Located at 11th Ave. S. and E. 24th St. EPIC is working with the other three Phillips Neighborhoods, Waite House and others to Save the Swimming Pool and to fully utilize the rest of our neighborhood. For more information, please call or email Dusty at: 612-916-8478 or Dustin@aisnet.com.

Energy program: East Phillips Park Partnership – darned cold in the neighborhood.

East Phillips Park Partnership:

Concrete Beet Farmers is exploring various ways of distributing fresh, quality produce to their neighbors at an affordable price, of which the central focus will be a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model. In a CSA, members invest in the farm with a yearly, one-time fee with an agreement to receive in exchange a weekly share of fresh produce, which will be flown on its own and I produce for the duration of the growing season. At the core of the farm is a desire to grow food in Phillips for members of the community.

If you are interested in investing in a basic or deluxe CSA share or just buying fresh produce from us on a one-time basis during the growing season please e-mail us at concretebeet@gmail.com, or visit our website at http://concretebeetfarmers.wordpress.com. Also, feel free to look us up on Facebook. We’re excited to get our hands in the dirt, and to get out and meet our new neighbors!

After 18 years! Tim Springer Resigns as Executive Director: Replacement Sought

BY TIM SPRINGER

“Wow. I am profoundly grateful for the opportunity I’ve had to work on the Greenway as part of a team with dedicated staff, partners, elected and public officials and private partners. Yay for the Midtown Greenway, Minnesota’s busiest bikeway! I’m also very proud that we’ve created a new national model for community involvement with alternative transportation and city building. I made the decision to leave so the Coalition can fly on its own and I can explore new things.”

The Coalition board requests your help in appointing an new Executive Director prior to Tim’s departure on June 3. Applications are due March 11. Visit the Greenway web site to view the job description.

“Tell Me a Story” Communications CHAT.

Wants YOU to join us!

Are you a storyteller, artist, good neighbor, great listener, quiet person, one that is talkative or someone who wants to be sure people of all ages know what is going on in our community? Then we need you to join the Communications CHAT and help us to think of fun and creative ways to communicate with people who live in the Backyard.

To get involved in the Communications CHAT, call or email

Sueastaphilipps@aol.com

Suzan Gust (612) 724-5753

Concrete Beet Farmers

Even with snow still blanketing the ground, numerous wheels are in motion for the farm: a lease is being drawn up for the land; seeds have been ordered and started; and start-up funding is being pursued through grants and potential investors.

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My Relations Gallery brings a new Indian-owned business to the American Indian Cultural and Community Center. The shop is owned by Robert Rice, an enrolled member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe, who also runs and owns the 42nd Avenue Station, in north Minneapolis.

Visit the Greenway web site to explore new things. “I don’t mind going back to daylight saving time. With inflation, the hour will be the only thing I’ve saved all year.” -Vitor Borge

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