The Hope Closet is now managed by Hope Club, a group of students who want to make a positive difference in the lives of students who are experiencing homelessness. Donations are provided by members of the First Universalist congregation with the addition of an Indian Education Program and expanding the Special Education Department.

Over the years, many partnerships have been formed to increase student access to resources. One of the strongest partnerships has been with the First Universalist Church of Minneapolis. A course in Social Justice that has been provided support in organizing students during the years the school has evolved to fit the needs of their students, increasing student support with the addition of an Indian Education Program, Social Work Department, Work Based Learning Program and expanding the Special Education Department.

The Hope Closet is now managed by Hope Club, a group of students who want to make a positive difference in the lives of students who are experiencing homelessness. Donations are provided by members of the First Universalist congregation with suggestions from Hope Club. Students are also able to purchase items through a grant from the First Universalist Foundation. The Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship Public Achievement Initiative has also provided support in organizing students during the 2015 – 2016 school year.

Public Achievement, an initiative of the Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship at Augsburg College [see Sabo Center article page 8], works with Augsburg Fairview Academy students on student-led projects that address community needs. During the 2012 – 2013 school year to provide their fellow students with food, toiletries and clothing.

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CUHCC responded to an emerging trend that face; that never dimmed”

The 40th anniversary issue of Changing Times (January, 1987), “Between 1953 and 1986 [U.S.] household prosperity grew at an annual rate of 1.7%. Between 1953 and 1968, a period of almost uninterrupted growth, the rate was 2.9%.”

Students parlay learning into activism

BY LAURA WATERMAN WITTSTOCK

I remember sitting in the basement of the Hennepin County Government Center during the 1992 Fifth Congressional District endorsing convention. It was a warm Spring evening and the issue was military spending. Papa John Kolstad, Dean Zimmerman and Lisa Neubauer-Stoll, pushing for cuts to the defense budget were all running for the endorsement, using a strategy to split the votes and deny the incumbent the 60% vote needed. Martin Olav Sabo was the incumbent. Neubauer-Stoll emerged as the lead and the voting went on for seven ballots before Sabo was endorsed. It was a heavy, long, tiring meeting, which seemed to go on forever, but probably ended about two in the morning when labor members came into the meeting to vote for Sabo. Later that morning, I had to catch the 7 a.m. plane to Washington, D.C. I was very tired, and just in front of me in line was ‘Martin’ Sabo, as he was known, on his way to be the Capitol. We exchanged weary smiles. He acknowledged why we were so tired and smiled about it. I felt guilty as hell because I had voted for Papa John and Neubauer-Stoll several times in theballoting, before swinging to Sabo.

I was new to the DFL in 1978 when Marty made his brief speech saying he was going to run for the Congressional seat being vacated by Don Fraser. I had worked in Washington, D.C. and I knew Fraser and several of his aides. After my move to Minneapolis, I transitioned from reporter and editor to program director and administrator. That put me right back in the same political environment, but now I had my hand out for federal funding to benefit the Indian community. The transition was not easy. American Indians had gone through steady tough times while the rest of the world made gains, even in the slim years.

U of M Clinic receives aid to expand services of opioid-use disorder with NACC and IHB

The University of Minnesota (U of MN) Community-University Health Care Center (CUHCC), was honored to be one of the 271 health centers across the U.S. awarded 94 million dollars to expand funding for substance abuse treatment. CUHCC was awarded $325,000 to expand medication treatment and support services for patients with opioid-use disorder. The award also supports a partnership with sister health centers, Native American Community Clinic (NACC) and Indian Health Board (IHB), to further expand coverage for the community.

CUHCC responded to an emerging trend in its community. Minnesota has seen an increase in opioid related deaths over the last decade and even more dramatically in CUHCC’s backyard.

CUHCC is celebrating fifty years of service in the Phillips community in South Minneapolis; first opening its doors in 1966. The clinic’s mission is to ensure health equity in the community by advancing the well-being of diverse people. As a department of the U of MN, CUHCC employs renowned providers while also educating and training emerging health care professionals to deliver innovative, patient-centered, culturally responsive care.

CUHCC is a one-stop-shop. A true health care home for the community, providing medical care, dental care and a wide scope of behavioral health services like therapy, psychiatry and other community health programs. The addition of substance abuse treatment onsite for opioid-use disorder at CUHCC, NACC and IHB will increase access to these services and improve the health of the Phillips community.

Sara Bolnick is CUHCC Grants and Program Manager.
April 11, 1-3 pm. Would you like to create a record of your personal history? Bring what you have written. Collaboration with Other Lifelong Learning Institute.

Franklin Learning Center: 612-543-6934

Free, one-on-one tutoring for adults who are learning English and math, preparing for the GED and citizenship exams, and gaining life skills. Community volunteers needed! No experience necessary; we provide training and materials.


Delivered to: every Phillips Community residence by Sara Nelson Delivery; to 150 businesses, places of worship, institutions in Phillips and adjacent neighborhoods by Peter Molenar, Board of Directors: Cathy Strobel-Ayres, President; Sue Hym Swearingen, Vice President; Joan Hauptman, Monthly Alley Communication Board Meetings: 6:30 PM 3rd Wed. Call for Location. Letters and e-mails to Alley Communications for this Editor become the property of Alley Communications dba Alley Newspaper and may be chosen for inclusion in the Alley Newspaper.

Donations are needed, and Tax Deductible. 

Whether the great newspapers don’t say…much, see what the little indepen- dent ones say.” – Wendell Phillips

By Erin Thomasson

Children & Family Programs

Family Storytime

Fri, 10:30 am. All ages and their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format appropriate for young children. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

Franklin Teen Programs

Urban 4-H Club

Tues, 5–7 pm. Urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater. Teen Tech Workshop

Wed., 4:30–6 pm. Make music, videos, animation and other projects using both high- and low-tech tools. Everything from iPads and 3D printers to synthesizers and sewing machines.

Young Achievers

Thurs 4:30–6 pm. Want community involvement? Then bring friends and come for poetry, arts, games and more!

Adult Programs

Education Alternatives

Mon, April 4, 1–3 pm. A monthly discussion of persistent problems in education and possible solutions, based on the writings in Knowles Dougherty’s blog: educationpersistentproblems@wordpress.com. Collaboration with Other Lifelong Learning Institute.

Institute

Memoir Writing Group

Fri April 15, 1–3 pm. Would you like to create a record of your personal history? Bring what you have written. Collaboration with Other Lifelong Learning Institute.

Phillips West

Upcoming Events

www.phillipswest.info

April 7th (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. – Phillips West Community Meeting!

Join your neighbors and other Community Partners for updates from Local Government, Business Partners and City of Minneapolis 3rd Precinct Police. The meeting will take place at the Center for Changing Lives in the Centrum Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking is available in the rear of building off Oakland Avenue. Free Jakoetoe’s Pizza & Beverages will be provided! If you would like more information or would like to get involved with the neighborhood please contact Crystal Windchitl at 612-90-3383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com

April Means Art!

By Patrick Cabello-Hanuel

What is the connection between the image that we see, the word that we hear and the power that we are? Where do we see art as our community, live art in our lives, create art in our world? These are some of the questions the Semilla Center at St. Paul’s Lutheran will explore during a month long celebra- tion of International Poetry Month. WORD/IMAGE/POWER will explore the deep connec- tions between art and the writ- ten and spoken word. Watch for pop up poetry and art around Phillips—where will creativity pop up? Watch for on-line pop ups at https://www.facebook.com/SemillaCenter

Copacetic

* Stiang adjective means decent, respectable, A-OK, all right, common, satisfactory. It is pronounced koh-puu-shet-ic. Suspected origins include Latin, Yiddish (Hebrew kol b’seder), Italian, Louisiana French (coupe-setique), and Native American. The Alley Newspaper’s inherent expose’ and emphasis on the many dynamic qualities of our Community that are Copacetic.

Bill “Bojangles” Robinson, May 25, 1878 – November 25, 1949 is credited with having introduced a new word, copacetic, into popular culture. Robinson was an American tap dancer and actor, the best known and most highly paid African American. There are many theo- ries about the origin of copa- cetic. Bill “Bojangles” Robinson believed he had coined the word as a boy in Richmond, Virginia. When patrons of his shoeshine stand would ask, “How’s everything this morning?” he would reply, “Oh jes’ copa- cetic, boss; jes’ copacetic.” But the word was current in Southern Black English per- haps as early as 1880, so it seems unlikely that Robinson (born in 1878) could have invented the term. Another explanation is that the word is from the Hebrew phrase kol be eder, meaning “every- thing is in order.” Possibly it was coined by Harlem blacks working in Jewish business- es. The word’s popularity among Southern blacks, how- ever, points to its originating in one of the Southern cities in which Jewish communities thrived, such as Atlanta.

WELNA HARDWARE

• KEYS MADE
• LOCKS RE-KEYED
• 5 GALLON PAINT
• EXCELLENT PRICES
• RUG DOCTOR RENTAL
• EXPERT WINDOW/SCREEN REPAIR
• TRAILERS FOR RENT–OPEN AND ONE ENCLOSED
Van and Emma Tyler

Wars’ indelible scar: Soldier’s Heart or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

By STEVE SANDBERG

Thanks Alley Newspaper. It was really interesting and fun to read Sarah Silver’s memoir of being the jingle girl at the Burma Shave company from 1926 to 1940, as well as stories of Van Tyler from Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery, a book by Sue Hunter Weir. But the best read of the day was Soldier’s Heart or Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, a book by historian and artist Tim McCall. McCall wrote this book, primarily about the effects of war trauma on soldiers and their families, because of his kinship with the subject matter. McCall is the great-grandson of Vincent “Van” Tyler, a Civil War veteran and, according to his military papers, was steady and reliable. He enlisted in Company C of the 20th Iowa Volunteer Infantry in 1862, and was promoted to corporal and served until July 8, 1865. When he returned from Iowa, Tyler was short on cash. He went to visit his former boss, Harlow Payne, who owned a grocery store. Payne thought very highly of Tyler. He, too, described him as “steady and reliable” and tried to help him out by paying him to do odd jobs around the store. Early on Emma had been in the habit of stopping by the store around closing time and waiting for her husband to get off work, so Payne assumed that they were happily married, but Payne admitted that he’d never raise concern about Tyler’s behavior.

On the day before the shooting, Tyler had shown Payne a box of empty bullet shells. According to Payne, Tyler was “unusually downcast and quiet” and seemed to have “something of his mind.” On the morning of the shooting the store had been stopped by the police and Payne was relieved to see that he was not under suspicion.

Before he’d returned to Minneapolis Tyler had written to Emma asking her to join him in Iowa. She refused. He had come back to press his case but with- out any luck. At some point, he began to see Emma as not a woman fully worthy of his love.

Emma was a small-town girl who had found a glamorous job in the big city. She worked as a seamstress for the Smith Clothing Company, a company that rented out gowns and fancy costumes for theatrical and operatic performances, and for carnivals and marqueed balls. It was a world populated by stars, stunts, and for carnivals and marqueed balls. It was a world populated by stars, stunts, and incurring a debt to the combat zones are just one of the general symptoms.

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The EPIC Report – April 2016
www.eastphillips-epic.com

For Your Calendar: *

EPIC Community Meetings are on the SECOND Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Community Center – 2307 17th Ave. S -

Join the EPIC Board of Directors
Requirements for Board Members
• Be over 18 and live, work or own property in East Phillips
• Attend at least 1 EPIC Community Meeting in the year preceding the Annual Meeting, & attend the Annual Meeting
• Represent ALL of the people of East Phillips
• Complete the Election Forms at – eastphillips-epic.com – Click About EPIC
• It’s not too late to attend a meeting! Join us Thursday, April 14th

EPIC Annual Meeting
Saturday, April 30th 2016
9:30 AM to 11:30 AM at the East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center
2307 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN
Free Pancake Breakfast, Door Prizes, Update on EPIC Projects, Board Elections, Grand Prize & much more.
Board Member Election Forms
Go to: eastphillips-epic.com
Click on: About EPIC

To get involved in EPIC and East Phillips, Join us on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30

East Phillips Park SummerFest - Sunday, June 12th starting at 1:00 to 7:00 PM in the Park.

Design and Paid for by East Phillips Improvement Coalition

GET INVOLVED!
Do you live, work or own property in Midtown Phillips?

Join or start a community workgroup on a topic of interest to you:
• Housing and land use
• Safety and Livability
• Midtown Festival and other events
• Clean Sweep
• Community Outreach
• Strategic Planning
• and more!

Join the board!
OPEN POSITIONS:
• At Large Rep
(Rep may live or work anywhere within Midtown Phillips)
• District 4 Rep
(Rep must live or work between 26th to 28th Streets and 12th to Bloomington Avenues)
612.232.0018, midtownphillips@gmail.com

This Monthly Alley Newspaper Half Page was paid for by Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Inc.
Nearly six years ago, Ventura Village began its own planning work on Peavey Park, which had been all but abandoned to the drug dealers and roustabouts who chose the mostly empty park land as their “home.” Crime in this park was the highest in Minnesota, until Inspector Lucy Gerold asked the neighborhood to join the Third Precinct police in starting to turn the park once again into a place for families and fun-loving residents to re-occupy and re-use. With the help of Professor Ignacio St. Martin of the University of Minnesota and some of his students and many neighborhood volunteers, a 48-page full-color report entitled, Overcoming Crime: Transforming the Physical Design and Character of Peavey Park, was presented to the City, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and to Ventura Village.

The Thrownes area at the intersection of Franklin and Chicago needs to be repaired, but should maintain its public arts theme. Placing a building on East Franklin would be a problem in that it would block views into the park, creating a bigger safety issue. That is why the building placement will be at the 22nd end of the park. The building was to be seen as a future public/private development to improve safety by having more consistent “eyes on the park.” With interconnecting walking loops and plazas of different types, the idea is to create more of a destination for Peavey rather than a “pass-through” of mostly empty space. With a paved walking trail around the park and a trail looping through the park, the current walking pool adds too much in annual maintenance and a greater need for supervision; a water feature will be added in several of the places to add fun and interest. These inter-active water play areas would replace the pool, yet will add fun and coolness to several of the planned play areas.

A group picnic shelter just across from the open soccer/field next to the orchard provides a real opportunity for extended family activities cognizant of the transformations needed to adapt Peavey Park to newer Americans to use the park for a family and friends gathering area for an entire day of activities. This calls for care in placing youth and adult play areas adjacent to kids and toddlers play areas to maintain eye contact and allow for a fuller family outing. Instead of a baseball diamond that gets very little attention during the week, multi-use fields are provide for large-area games like soccer and touch football, or can be used for a concert venue as well. It is hoped that artificial turf can be used, but hopefully with less odor than experienced with existing Minneapolis park facilities.

Basketball is really big in this park and additional courts will be built in the northwest section where traffic noise is less a distraction. Plans call for two full basketball courts along with one half court and a warm-up hoop for shooting practice. The area located in the southwest corner of the park is ideal for lawn games such as bocce ball, croquet and other games that could benefit from a natural turf and a very level playing field. Already Ventura Village has spent time and resources developing a more portable form of bocce ball court that can be quickly set up and used without forcing an area to be dedicated to a single activity. It is hoped that this design can enable the very same part of the park to be flooded for winter skating and sliding. With so few kids having ice skates, a much more creative use of the winter ice could be part of the developing a new paradigm for as diverse a community as Ventura Village has become. This is the time for more residents and stakeholders to join in Ventura Village Board members in making sure that Peavey Park becomes a premier place to play for people of all ages and cultures through all the seasons.

In addition to the AICDC Detox, Hennepin County will be providing a new 16 bed Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Center for short term residential supervision and support to those not needing intensive inpatient psychiatric care. Each patient would stay for 5-7 days and not be allowed to leave the facility. Ventura Village gave its approval with the condition that it would be part of the selection process for the licensed provider who will be selected to manage and operate the upcoming 16 bed facility. No outside work on the building will be necessary.
The eastern wall of the Minneapolis American Indian Center (MAIC) at 1530 E. Franklin Avenue has been turned into a 3,306 square foot canvas. Guided by Native youth, mural artists Gregg Deal and Votan have created a stunning new mural alongside George Morrison’s wood collage on the MAIC that showcases the wealth of Native public art in the Phillips Community. This new mural acts as an entrance to the American Indian cultural corridor along Franklin Avenue.

The MAIC mural was a collaboration between ClearWay Minnesota, a non-profit working to reduce commercial tobacco usage; the Native Youth Alliance of Minnesota; and community organizer Charlie Thayer. The project was further supported by Mary LaGarde, Executive Director of MAIC, and Frank Downwind and Ozzie Snowdon from Little Earth of United Tribes.

In February 2015, ClearWay Minnesota hosted two community dialogues in the urban American Indian community to develop murals to convey the message: “Keep Tobacco Sacred.” Charlie Thayer and Senior Community Development Manager at Clearway MN, CoCo Villaluz, had participated in a fellowship through Intermedia Arts and dreamed up doing murals in the American Indian Community that shared the voices and values of Native peoples. As Thayer observed, “Art is a powerful tool that we can utilize to build our communities; there is power in activism through art.”

With leadership from Lannesse Baker, Executive Director of the Native Youth Alliance of Minnesota, connections were made between motivated Native youth from south Minneapolis and community organizers and artists. Baker explained that the goal of the Native Youth Alliance of Minnesota “is always to create support for young Native people to develop and strengthen leadership skills. We know this happens in the most profound ways when we facilitate positive relationships with healthy adults and create opportunities for learning through service and action projects. The mural project is one example of this approach.”

The mural design process was community centered and youth-driven. Indeed, one of the faces depicted in the mural is an actual image of a youth involved with the mural visioning process. Youth leaders engaged over 100 youth to determine the visual message young Native people wanted to share with their communities and the broader society about who they are, health, traditions, and hopes for the future. Youth involved with the Wiconi Waste program at Little Earth were among those who influenced the design and put in many hours helping to paint.

Baker noted that “the youth crew did an incredible job facilitating and hosting conversations with their peers. It’s powerful for Native youth to know they are valued and that their input matters because they are oftentimes the most overlooked and invisible group. With this project, their voice and vision were visible immediately. These types of projects challenge dominant story lines about who young Native people are and inspire change.”

For the Native youth of Phillips “there are a lot of possibilities out there...to be a part of...”
Youth leaders engaged over 100 youth to determine the visual message young Native people wanted to share with their community and the broader society about who they are, health, traditional tobacco, and hopes for the future. This is one of those sessions.

East Phillips Native youth will get to see themselves as a part of a continuing project that will connect generations around the globe. Although the painting of the mural was completed last spring, the project has become a catalyst for other projects throughout the world. Thayer and others involved with the project will soon be traveling to Nicaragua and working on a similar project with Indigenous relatives to the south.

A community organizer involved with the project, Deanna Standing Cloud, sees the mural as “a timeless creation that reflects the strength in our collective wisdom for many generations in the East Phillips neighborhood. The revitalization of our traditional teachings can connect our Native youth to their identities. This mural offers a visual representation of our innate knowledge we each carry within the strands of our own DNA, even through generations of trauma and colonization. It is a beautiful gift to our vibrant Native community in the Twin Cities.”

How much paint? That, in itself, is quite the story. We had originally ordered over 300 cans of spray paint, aside from the 3 – 5 gallons primer paint, from an online company, only to find out the company was on a stand-still and not processing orders even though we submitted it online with payment and everything went through. After multiple calls to the company without success, it was time to start the actual painting.

We had to go to every art store in the 7 city metro area to find spray colors for the murals; including mixing and matching to come up with the right color combinations. We even had to go to Home Depot multiple times to have them use their spectrum color wheel in buckets of paint to try and recreate the colors we needed. We became very acquainted with all their sales clerks who were all more than willing to help us in our paint journey.

Pablo Picasso said, "Painting is just another way of keeping a diary." This is just one of hundreds of stories our mural-painting participants experienced that, for them, are painted as their diary on this wall.
Martin Olav Sabo, who served as a Democratic Congressman from Minneapolis for 28 years and became chairman of the powerful House Budget Committee and died on March 16 from respiratory ailments, is well known as a masterful legislative leader and craftsman. But it was his wider vision, as bridging the gap between government and citizens, which led to the merger of his center at Augsburg with our Center for Democracy and Citizenship, for many years at the University of Minnesota.http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/14/us/politics/after-my-death-sabo.html

I first met Martin Sabo when I was beginning the Reinventing Citizenship initiative in 1993 with the White House Domestic Policy Council, just after Bill Clinton had become president. Barb Rohde, Washington liaison to the Humphrey Institute where I direct the University’s nonpartisan center known for compassion in-era-of-partisanship-dies-at-78.html, r+p

A Bridge over Hiawatha Ave?

BY HARVEY WINJE

A bridge over Hiawatha Avenue for Greenway traffic? Impossible! Challenges: the space between the LRT wires and power lines are too short for bridge beams and there is no space beneath for bridge columns between highway lanes. The passageway is too high for an accessible ramp.

Mission accomplished! Elongated ramps were designed within the land limits and the roadbed was supported by cables instead of columns. Appropriateness of this bridge being named after Martin Olav Sabo:

• Sabo’s astuteness knowing when and how to “pull strings” • Sabo’s ability to appreciate the importance of a good design • Sabo’s civility that emboldened negotiating.

Sabo’s savvy to seek expert advice on details. • Sabo’s compassion for the people he represented and their causes.

Every day last year, a special photo was taken to capture the life, character, activities, and scenes of the Powderhorn Park neighborhood. The seven weekly volunteer photographers, plus a few guests, snapped these 365 interesting and arful photos, and all are now preserved in a photo book published by the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association. You can order the book by visiting the project’s website, www.powderhorn365.com, and clicking on the link near the top: Powderhorn365, The Books. “We hope the photos on these pages will open our eyes to the wonder of other people and break down the barriers that foster fear and injustice. Information is powerful. Alternative media (Like Southside Pride and The Alley) and social media (including the Palestinian territories, Poland, and Japan. Sabo, believing in the positive role of government, also saw the need for government “of the people, by the people, and for the people.” For these reasons, it made sense to merge our two centers. The two centers are now merged in the Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship. I would say Sabo embodied the spirit of democracy, never more needed in our communities and the country than today. Harry C. Boyte, founder of the Center for Democracy and Citizenship at the Humphrey Institute, is now Senior Scholar in Public Work Philosophy at the Sabo Center for Democracy and Citizenship, Augsburg College.

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A Bridge over Hiawatha Ave?

BY HARVEY WINJE

Build a bridge over Hiawatha Avenue for Greenway traffic? Impossible!

Challenges: the space between the LRT wires and power lines are too short for bridge beams and there is no space beneath for bridge columns between highway lanes. The passageway is too high for an accessible ramp.

Mission accomplished! Elongated ramps were designed within the land limits and the roadbed was supported by cables instead of columns.

Appropriateness of this bridge being named after Martin Olav Sabo:

• Sabo’s astuteness knowing when and how to “pull strings”

• Sabo’s ability to appreciate the importance of a good design

• Sabo’s civility that emboldened negotiating.

• Sabo’s savvy to seek expert advice on details

• Sabo’s compassion for the people he represented and their causes.

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The Phillips History Museum is a playful, interactive art installation exploring the history of the Phillips neighborhood. Created by artists from In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre (HOBT) in partnership with neighborhood youth from the United Tribes of Little Earth, Waite House, and the Collaborative Village Initiative, this annual event is part of HOBT’s ongoing Phillips Project. On Wednesday, March 16th the 2016 Phillips History Museum explored themes of ‘migration’. The event was generously hosted by the nearby American Swedish Institute, who endeavor to provide a gathering place for all people to share experiences around themes of culture, migration, the environment and the arts. In conjunction with the event, a project called Green Card Voices joined the exhibition. Green Card Voices’ mission is to share various stories of our nation’s 40 million immigrants and put a human face to the current immigration debate.

Each year each site participates in parallel themes through site-specific art projects that focus on the expression of cultural identities and creation of dialogue with the people and places in the Phillips neighborhood. The artists conduct workshop sessions for three hours per week throughout the year. Youth involved study the history of the neighborhood’s physical and social landscape and the people who have lived there, led by local historians, naturalists, community members and teaching artists. Youth participants also observe and collect stories from the present day communities, families and individuals living in Phillips. They use the stories to explore the cultural and physical landscape, history, and sense of place in their neighborhood.
Zootopia

Howard’s Recommended MOVIES of 2015

“Zootopia” is a Walt Disney Studios creation that’s colorful, imaginative and full of life that adults as well as children can enjoy immensely.

The three directors Bryon Howard (“Tangled”, “Bolt”), Rich Moore (“Wreck-It Ralph”, “The Simpsons”) and Jared Bush (“Part-Time Hero”, “Big Hero 6”) created terrific storytelling starting with the heroine Judy Hops (voice by Ginnifer Goodwin), a bunny from a rustic community who is determined to hit the big city called Zootopia and become a cop. When she arrives to the place where all types of animals cross paths, she’s relegated (“covert” sexism) to being just a ticket maid cop. When she arrives to the place where all types of animals cross paths, she’s relegated (“covert” sexism) to being just a ticket maid cop.

“In this case, sort of. They become friends—partners in fighting crime and solving a mystery—in turn Judy insists she’s ready to be a real cop and prove her naysayers wrong.

I’ll say no more than to convey “Zootopia” depicts how important inclusion, self-worth, determination, integrity and bravery are in our lives without being preachy.

Howard’s Recommended MOVIES of 2015

4. “11Follows” (R) (Horror/Mystery/Thriller) Director: David Robert Mitchell.
5. “When Marnie Was There” (PG) (Animation) Director: Hiromasa Yonebayashi. (Japanese in English subtitles.)
6. “The Big Short” (R) (Biography/Drama) Director: Adam McKay.
7. “Mad Max: Fury Road” (R) Director: George Miller.
10. “Phoenix” (PG-13) Director: Christian Petzold. (German in English subtitles.)

FRI. evenings dancers celebrate cultures past and present and dancing to global music.

In April, Tapestry folkdance instructors Jan Morse (April 1) Gina Bonisgmore (April 8), Nairy Dugas. In April Terry McGibbon (April 29) will bring dances of Armenia and the Balkan countries.

Sat. 7:30 to 9 pm and a dance follows; cost is $8 , $6 Tapestry members, $5 students.

On April 8, Gina Bonisgmore, will teach Armenian, Eastern European and Middle Eastern folkdance at the Tula Yoga & Wellness Center at 99 Snelling Ave. N. in St. Paul. (Go to www.tulagowagness.com for time and cost of this special dance program.)

Dance Beginners Welcome

You do not need to be of Armenian or Balkan ancestry to learn and enjoy these dances. Teachers start the instruction with basic dances. Even if you don’t master them all, you’ll have fun.

What is Armenian Dance?

Armenian dance is performed either as group dances or as solo dances. It is an age-old activity best known to immigrant communities who fled to America from Armenia during the genocide of 1915-1917. In the Western village style distinguished by heavy footwork, stomping and clapping. While dancing in an open circle, hand and arm movements are as important as the footwork. The dances are robust and lively but accessible to people of all ages. Instructors will teach traditional circle dances, line dances and party dances.

Several Tapestry teachers have trained with well-known Armenian teachers and choreographers, and can offer insights into the culture, too.

May no need to pre-register; pay at the door. Info: www.tapestryfolkdance.org, or call 612-722-2914 3748 Minnehaha Ave S., Mpls.

Santo Rosario/Holy Rosary Church features a vertical “WaterSlide” ride as part of their Spring Festival Sunday April 3rd 10:30 to 3:30. Rides are $500, but worth every penny!
Author Robert Reich’s most recent book bears the title: Saving Capitalism - For the Many, Not the Few. Those of us born to black and white TV might remember Robert as the Secretary of Labor under Bill Clinton. Of interest currently, is the former secretary’s endorsement of Bernie Sanders. Certainly, the Sanders Campaign reflects a new mass consciousness, formed in the wake of the “Great Recession.” However, is this campaign merely an effort to save capitalism, or is it an aspect of a process towards a fundamental transformation (i.e., towards public ownership of financial institutions and the dominant means of production)?

In its March 2016 issue, Southside Pride published the article: “Socializing Capitalism – Creating a Market Economy with a Social Conscience.” The author, Kari Andrade, claims to be a capitalist! Oh, my… Perhaps she has read the book of Reich. However, Ms. Andrade begins by disparaging our emphasis on closing the income gap: “The failure of the former Soviet Union and China’s shift to state capitalism has proven that socialistic policies…” Is she one of us? I agree with many of Sanders’ solutions, among other things…

In her reasoning. Did we not just recently experience the ‘bubble’ with its associated hedge betting, bailouts, and bonuses? Clearly, capitalists have too much money to play with and we the people have not enough.

Next she offers a “feel good” comparison between us and the rest of the world. For example: “The poverty line in the U.S. is $11,880 and globally that makes you in the top 15% of the richest people on the planet.” Sweet. Really? Years ago poor Russia was able to rapidly develop its industry, in no small measure because university tuition was free, moreover, rents were set at 5% of income, health care was free and regular, etc. In other words, comparison by personal income paints a false picture.

The charade continues with an attack on Sanders’ opposition to the TPP and similar “trade agreements.” She states: “When we trade with other nations and invest in jobs overseas we are helping other economies grow and exporting our way of life and increasing their standard of living as well as our own.” Gosh. What is the actual history of imperialism? Think about war and blockades, torture and assassinations, among other things…

In its early phase, imperial policy sought to deform the develop-
LOOK! Just Half of the BACKYARD INITIATIVE Activities in March!!!

A partial sampling of the activities hosted by the leaders and members of the BYI Community Health Action Teams (CHATs). Watch for the activities from the other CHATs to be featured on the BYI Back Page in the May issue! There is so much happening, there was not room to list all of the exciting happenings!

A Partnership of Diabetics

PHILLIPS COMMUNITY CENTER - 2323 11th Avenue South

2. English Language A-Pod Weekly Meetup: Participants address personal pressing issues and develop empowerment protocols that enable them to more effectively manage their Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes, along with any other chronic health conditions and livability challenges faced by lack of insurance or low incomes. (Once a week.)

3. Monthly Diabetes Breakfast: Participants are treated to a chef prepared breakfast meal and a featured speaker of the month. (Once a month.)

Circle of Healing

CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER-West Phillips

1. Spring Solstice: This event is held to celebrate the change of the seasons. It is an acknowledgment of the forces that impact the lives of people on the planet.

Summary:

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All Backyard Initiative CHAT activities are organized around these four Health Priorities

1. Social Cohesion: The sense of community and belonging that community members have. Community members feel they live in a place where people trust and respect each other and have a sense of responsibility to take care of each other.

2. Social Support: The support that a community member receives from and gives to the community members around them, including emotional and spiritual support, help with daily needs and crises, and the sharing of advice, information, and feedback.

3. Health Education: The degree to which community members and their families have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic information and services needed to make appropriate decisions regarding their health. This includes information about what is essential to health (the importance of the family, community, spirituality, the environment, culture, food, sleep, and movement) as well as the medical information needed to address a specific health condition.

4. Health Empowerment: Community members are active participants in their self-care, and have the knowledge, skill, and confidence to manage their health and health care and collaborate with health practitioners.

For more information about the Backyard Initiative, visit the BYI Resource Center on south edge of the Midtown Global Market or call 612-353-6211