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First, is it the best interest of the Community regardless of the Community member?

Second, is it fair and not demeaning of another Community member?

Third, is it in the best interest of varied opinions? Fourth, what is its priority alongside of other material for a particular issue when space is limited by financial constraints?

Honor Water 150 Miles

The Chippewa River Water Walk

went on to describe the eighth and final prophecy, when people of all skin colors will live in harmony. He said that, on these walks, he has started to see this prophecy fulfilled. He has seen white people, Native people, and people of color working together to pray for the water and our future. He sees how, while we are praying for the healing of the water, the water seems to be healing us.

This is just one of the many beautiful lessons I had the privilege of learning while I participated in the Chippewa River Water Walk this past April. “The Nibi (Water) Walks are Indigenous-led, extended ceremonies to pray for the water. Every step is taken in prayer and gratitude for water, our life giving force.” (nibiwalk.org). Led by Ojibway elder Sharon Day and begun by a group of Ojibway grandmothers about a decade ago, these walks are both a spiritual practice of walking as a means of praying for the water and our relationship to it, and a political act of cultivating awareness among the continued violent exploitation and colonization of Turtle Island.

Our walk began at the beginning of the Chippewa River in New Post, WI. Here we held a

Chippewa River Walk

see page 7

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR SUPPORTING THE 2015 MIDTOWN GLOBAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Thank you to our sponsors for supporting the 2015 Midtown Global Music Festival.

By Harvey Winje, Senior Volunteer Editor and Outreach Coordinator

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Erickson, Camille Gage, Growing the Group, Crystal Trautnau Windschitl. Alley Communications, a 501C-3, institutions In Phillips and adjacent Donations are needed, welcome, Cathy Strobel-Paul’s Lutheran (on 15th Av) Youth Newspaper and may be chosen for More people are needed to deliver 160 businesses, places of worship, Ayres, President; Sue Hunter Weir; Board Meetings: 6:30 PM 3rd Wed. to Advertise: ads@alleynews.org. To Advertise Call Editor 612-990-4022. Circulation: 7,800 hard copies Printing by: Page 1 Printers. Friends of the Bargain hunters and book lovers Sunday, Aug 16, noon-4 pm. Used Book Sale take note: the Friends of the Library Sale of hundreds of adult and children’s fiction and nonfiction books in hardcover and paperback. Most books are withdrawn from the Hennepin County Library system or donated by the public. Funds raised will benefit the library. Somali Culture and History On view through Aug 31. View nomadic cultural artifacts, learn information about Somali history and see pictures of prominent Somali Minnesotans. Sponsored by Friends of the Franklin Library: Presented in collaboration with Somali Museum of Minnesota. Children & Family Programs Puzzlemania Thursdays, Aug 6 & 13, 2-3 pm. For families. Enjoy a variety of educational and fun puzzles and games! Family Storytime Fridays, Aug 7 & 14, 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. Kid’s Tech: 3D Printing Wed, Aug 19, 3-4:30 pm. For families. 3D printing lets you create plastic toys, models, tools, jewelry and more. Make your own with this cool new technology! Led by the library’s Teen Tech Squad. Franklin Teen Center Programs Urban 4-H Club Tuesdays, 5-7 pm. We do everything from urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater. Wednesday through Augs 26, 4:30-6 pm. Get creative and 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. Led by the library’s Teen Tech Squad. Young Achievers Thursdays, 3:30-5 pm. Do you want to be involved in your community? Then bring your friends and come for poetry, arts, games and more! Adult Programs Education Alternatives Discussion Group Mon, Aug 10, 1 pm. Join a monthly discussion of persistent problems in education and possible solutions centered around topics raised in Knwoln Dougherty’s blog: educationspersistentissues.wordpress.com. Memoir Writing Group Mon, Aug 17, 1 pm. Would you like to create a record of your personal history? Bring what you have written and are willing to read to the group for helpful comments and suggestions. Franklin Learning Center: 612-534-6934 Free, one-to-one tutoring for adults who are learning English and math, preparing for the GED and citizenship exams, and gaining life skills. We are always looking for community volunteers! No experience necessary – we provide training and materials. flc@hclib.org. Experience a world tour of tastes, arts and crafts at our public market. 3440 BLOOMINGTON AVE. POWDERHORN PARK MINNEAPOLIS M-F 6:30-6 SAT 7-5 SUN 7:30-5 729-3627 ORGANIC & FAIR TRADE COFFEE FREE Wireless Internet

August Issue Submission Deadline July 15

Give. And light a fire under inequality. www.changesbetter.com 651-647-0440

“At the end of the day people won’t remember what you said or did, they will remember how you made them feel.” – Maya Angelou

The Alley Newspaper • August 2015
There are 35 graves in Block 3 Row 1. Eleven of them are empty. There are two people buried in each of two graves for a total of 25 burials in all. All but one of the burials took place between late 1899 and 1901. The graves, which are located in the northwest corner of the cemetery, near the intersection of Cedar Avenue and 29th Street, cost $10 a piece, sometimes a little less if the grave was for a child. These are 25 people connected by the fact that they are buried on the same small strip of land in South Minneapolis. Even though most of them are not related to each other, they have quite a lot in common—enough to draw any major conclusions from but enough to create a picture of what was happening at a certain place at a particular time.

Twelve of the people have names that ended in “son,” a sure sign that they have some connection to one of the Scandinavian countries. Six more, although they were not “sons,” were born in Norway or Sweden. One man, August Sohlman, was born in Finland and Minnie Smith (probably Schmidt when she arrived) was born in Germany. Only four of the adults were born in the United States. Two children, Gilda Fregaard and John Jackson, were born in Minneapolis, and one baby, the son of Martin and Hannah Ulvestad, was stillborn here.

Amos Pierce was born in New York, relocated to Minneapolis, and died at the age of 74 after suffering a stroke. He is the only person in the row to have a headstone and his marker serves as a touchstone for finding everyone else in row 1. The three-link chain on his marker tells us that he was a member of lodge—the links stand for friendship, love and truth. But there is something wrong with his marker. It gives his death year as 1900 but he died on May 19, 1901. The reason why his stone was never corrected will likely never be known.

Most of the men in row 1 worked as unskilled laborers although August Sohlman found work as a tailor for one of the city’s larger department stores, and Adalaska Hough sold photographs at the Phonograph Parlor, a store owned by his brother. Most of the immigrants did not have a great deal of formal education but several indicated in census records that they had learned to read, write and speak English. A handful of others indicated that they could speak it but could not read or write it, at least not very well.

Nine of the people in Row 1 (36%) died from tuberculosis. Two died from strokes, two from intestinal problems and the others from a variety of diseases including gallstones, liver cancer and bronchitis. Two children died from diphtheria and one man was killed in an accident.

Eight of the adults died in hospitals at a time when most families cared for their sick family members at home. Those who died in hospitals were people who had never married or who were widows or widowers. Four of the eight were single, one was a widow, and two were widows. The marital status of the eighth is unknown but since his parents’ names, rather than a wife’s name, are listed on his death record it is most likely that he was single. If we could not find what was happening at a certain place at a particular time.

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Many of the people in Row 1—too much to fit in a single Tale from Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery. Look for more of their stories in an upcoming issue of The Alley Newspaper.
Biking in Minneapolis: Learn the Ropes.
By Carol Pass

Suddenly our streets are striped for biking and folks are discussing how to navigate all this and preserve the safety and sanity of everyone, bikers, walkers and drivers. First, here is some help to navigate the new rules, which are mystifying many and appear at first glance to be dangerously confusing. We hope, however, all will turn out to aid safety and facilitate bike travel, for which car travel is currently taking a bit of a “back seat”.

A very helpful video guiding you through this maze is found at the following web address: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ceDDYUjP4HU

It takes you on a ride through much of the varying biking terrain with explanations, rules and guides throughout. Great job, but needs multi-lingual translation.

Then there is another helpful video. This one is in English, Spanish, Hmong and Somali on the City’s “Bicycling in Minneapolis” webpage. Go to http://minneapolismn.gov/bicycles/index.htm and scroll down to the video.

There is a lot of other interesting information on this page for traveling as a pedestrian, about the City’s Master Biking Plan, about how Minneapolis ranks as a “Biking Friendly” city and more.

A final find is a fascinating discussion of how we really compare in the issue of total bike-friendliness with frequently Number One city, Portland. The web address is: bikeportland.org/2014/07/11/minneapolis-nice-city-biking-definitely-portland-108625

The article takes us down a peg, because while we make claims about very high numbers of bike commuters to work in Minneapolis, we are a much smaller city (55 square miles to Portland’s 133) and with only 50% of the population. Our much smaller size means commutes are much shorter, so it is easier to get to work. Even if we look at a comparable area, it looks like Portland still has us beat. Check it out.
Hosted by HYPEL and Malika Musa

- DJ Keezy on the 1s and 2s
- Crosswalk
- Kali Gerr
- Casual Confusion
- Wilkinson James
- Abdi Phenomenal
- Love At First Sound
- Mill City Collective
- Minnie Armstrong
- LNJAY
- Mike Dreams

Check the Stage Line-up Board at Open Streets Event for actual performance times!
The Phillips Aquatics Center is quietly funded by MPRB and on track for a 2017 opening!

BY DENNY BENNETT, PRESIDENT OF MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC RELATION COMMITTEE

Nate, my 16 year old son and I attended the July 15th Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board meeting to watch the final resolutions get passed that would approve the last $417,000 of a $5,422,500 budget that had been raised to restore and expand the aquatics facilities at the Phillips Community Center. Altogether, there would be three resolutions that would affect the renovated Phillips Pool that were up for review.

The first, under the Administration and Finance Committee, was resolution 2015-249: Resolution Accepting the Financial Support Offered by the Minneapolis Public Schools, which included the Phillips Community Pool Facility in the Amount of $1,750,000 Per Year of The MPS in Operating Funds and $1,750,000 in Capital Funds in FY 2016 Contingent on Mutual Agreement on the Six Expectations Listed in the June 18, 2015 Minneapolis Public School Resolution.

This passed unanimously.

Next, under the Recreation Committee, was resolution 2015-250: Resolution Affirming a Commitment to Create a Memorandum of Understanding with the Minneapolis Public Schools Related for Scheduling, Programming & Facilities. This passed unanimously.

Finally, in Unfinished Business, came resolution 2015-255: Resolution Authorizing Reallocation of $25,000 Capital Levy Funds by Delaying Planned Improvements at Lutxon Park and Matthews Park to support the Capital Funding Required for the Phillips Community Center Aquatic Facility.

This passed unanimously.

As such, there are obligations to Community organizations to make their announcements and promote them to the public. This is the reason why The Alley, as a community-owned and community-controlled publication, decided to post job announcements for future hire. By doing so, we will help others get hired in the community. We also have tasks for volunteers to bring us into the next 40 years.

Looking for Affordable Health Care Coverage?
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Thanks to support from the Allina Backyard Initiative, Portico Healthnet can:
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Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty—power is ever stealing from the many to the few…The hand entrusted with power is not to be trusted. Its duty is to watch the powers that be and to remind them that they are responsible to the people. If they do not heed the warnings of those who are watching, then they will be overthrown.

The Alley intends to avoid the temptation to report on topics because they are sensational, newsworthy, include name-dropping quotations to appear as though in depth consideration has been done, or take interviewed quotations out of context to reinforce the writer’s opinion.

For example, The Alley was interviewed by a StarTribune reporter for a story that ran Sunday, June 7th in which the reporter selectively chose a couple of quotes that mis-portrayed extensive information given to her about how Alley Communications is sharing its future. It would be easy for that reporter or readers to miss the nuances of Alley Communication’s implementation of its mission to “inform and engage” because it is contrary to what journalism has become.

Instead of following journalism’s lead, Alley Communications has chosen to shape its work as an art, stimulus to democracy-building, and to be inclusive to the Community’s needs.

The Alley intends to avoid pan-chroning of any kind that promotes itself or another organization or individual.

For example, decades ago but still poignant now, Twin Cities Business Monthly magazine freelance writer, Ann Bauer, wrote, “No legitimate business could exist in Phillips without Honeywell.” This was an obviously erroneous fact since there were hundreds of various-sized legitimate businesses in Phillips at the time. It has been decades since Honeywell’s international headquarters moved to New Jersey and hundreds of legitimate businesses are still here.

The entire TCBM article needed vetting for accuracy. The writer and magazine were doing the “bid- ding” of Honeywell Corporation as major media sources do often for interests outside of Phillips.

We need our own media presence to counter their misinformation and bias.

Having been founded 40 years ago to be another means by which people could communicate with one another, The Alley is now alongside newer means of communication. It embraces them for their many benefits while offering an added benefit of being “bound for future use” by neighbors, students and historians because they can see all past issues printed on book-quality paper and bound in hard-back volumes at the Franklin Community Library and the Hennepin County Central Downtown Library.

In October we will gather people to focus conversation on just how to continue this mission while growing with new social media and keeping our strength of having print media available to everyone. We will also begin plans for the 40th Anniversary.

Let us know if you are willing to meet and plan that future. Watch for further notice in the September issue.

In the meantime, remember The Alley is your Newspaper in which you may publish your opinion, poem, art work, announcement, or advertisement.

We also have tasks for volunteers to bring us into the next 40 years.

Wendell Phillips (1811-1884), namesake of Phillips Community, said, “When the great newspapers don’t say much, see what the little independent ones say.”

CanyOU HELP? You can if you knownamed names of artists. Who created the beautiful mosaic tile front walls of Center School? The Artists that cleaned and repaired this art recently want to add signage honoring the original artists. Please Contact Center School or The Alley with info about names.
My butternut squash plants have commenced to flower and set their early fruit. Like all cur-cubits (squash, melons, cucumbers, gourds, pumpkins) they are monocious, meaning the male and female aspects are embodied in one plant. However, the flowers themselves are not hermaphro-ditic. The male and female blooms are separate.

The males reveal in morning, only to fade before the day is done. By then bees will have gathered the pollen, and the sperm contained within. Nectar laden females flower the following day, blossoms adorning the miniature ovaries and eggs. Joyous bees appear positively ecstatic!

Peter Molenaar
Raise Your Voice

everyone in Minnesota has access to quality water.”

In her second letter Susan writes: “Given the states projected $1.9 billion surplus...The legislature was presented a great opportunity to build upon progress...Unfortunately, due to divided government, this positive momentum was stalled. Instead, the House of Representatives’ majority favored tax cuts for big corporations.”

“Perhaps the legislature’s biggest failure this year was in the area of environmental protection. The Omnibus Environmental Agricultural bill that was enacted...put corporate interests ahead of protecting our state’s natural resources...To effectively address these challenges we recognize that protecting corporate interests at the expense of individuals is simply not fair...”

Yes, Susan has my vote.

Have things improved from the days when only white men with property had the vote? The answer is: yes, somewhat maybe, and no: Truthfully, until the stooges of capitalism are expelled, all life forms are in jeopardy. Prepare your children to make the revolution, please, even as we support social-democratic reform in the here and now.

“Thank you for contacting me to share your support for Governor Dayton’s proposal for a minimum 50-foot buffer strip along [our] waterways...to help increase water quality in our lakes, rivers, and streams as well as create 125,000 acres of new wildlife habitat. This initiative is part of a larger strategy to reduce nutrient pollution from agricultural and industrial sources and ensure that the freedom to kill? When a local radio station plays Lynyrd Skynyrd, is that not the same as flying the confederate flag?

What a dumb idea the “Civil War” was, if the South would have “won,” we would be honoring The Confederates and caretakers of the water, only women could carry the water. Men were able to follow behind the women and carried a beautiful eagle staff. The staff and the eagle symbolize protection and a “car-rors and caretakers of the water...Because in the Midewiwin tradition women are typically the protectors and caretakers of the water...The core group of walkers who did the whole 150 miles of the Chippewa was mostly Ojibway people. There were three white men among our core group, of which I was one. For me the mos...
The Backyard Initiative is well represented at the Hue-MAN Parade and Festival

Members of the Backyard Initiative (BYI) were proud to actively participate in the Hue-MAN Parade and Festival which took place on Saturday, July 11th, 2015. The BYI and Hue-MAN Partnership Project were part of the Ole 4th Avenue South Day Parade and the Fourth Annual Boys To Men Community Health Fair in Green Central Park.

The BYI eagerly engaged with the Hue-Man Partnership Project because the work of the Backyard Initiative and the Cultural Wellness Center in its own partnership with Allina Health goes hand in hand with the work of the of Hue-MAN Partnership Project. Our collaborative efforts will further empower and equip men to make healthy choices for themselves, their families, and their communities – the motto of the Hue-MAN Partnership Project.

Members of several of the BYI’s 10 CHATs (Community Health Action Teams) gathered to participate in the Hue-MAN parade. The TEENS CHAT carried the Backyard Initiative promotional banner while skateboarding in the parade wearing TEENS Project T-shirts. Directly following the TEENS were members of the Anchor Family CHAT who formed the “care brigade”. The group then joined other community health organizations at Green Central Park and distributed health related information to passersby. The group connected with 402 festival attendees and over 286 pieces of information about the BYI were distributed to community residents who came to take part in the festivities.

The Backyard Initiative booth featured a variety of herb plants and demonstrated container gardening as a technique that works well in the city where soil may be depleted or contaminated. This educational display was coordinated by Growing the Backyard CHAT. Information about each of the 10 CHATs was displayed and available to people in attendance. BYI CHATs are addressing a range of health related topics including diabetes, environmentally friendly home cleaning products, access to healthy food, growing fresh vegetables, promoting intergenerational connections, and safe and healthy activities for LGBTQ persons of all cultures to reduce isolation and stress.

The Backyard Initiative booth and interactive, educational displays at the Boys to Men Community Health Fair

The BYI Definition of Health

• Health is a state of physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being; it is not only the absence of infirmity and disease.
• Health is a state of balance, harmony, and connectedness within and between many systems – the body, the family, the community, the environment, and culture. It cannot be seen only in an individual context.
• Health is an active state of being; people must be active participants to be healthy. It cannot be achieved by being passive.

The Backyard Initiative booth

The Backyard Initiative (BYI) is a partnership between the Community, the Cultural Wellness Center and Allina Health. The goal of this partnership is to improve the health of the 40,000-plus residents living in the “backyard” comprised by the neighborhoods of Powderhorn Park, East Phillips, Midtown Phillips, West Phillips, Ventura Village, Central, and Corcoran, (see map in upper right hand corner for area boundaries). There are 10 Community Health Action Teams (CHATs) focused on improving the health through a variety of cultural and community-connecting activities. For more information, call or visit the Backyard Initiative Information Center at the south entrance of the Midtown Global Market, 920 East Lake Street, 612.353.6211.

The Hue-MAN Partnership Project consists of health care, community engagement, and professional organizations seeking to address the health crisis among young and middle-age men, primarily men of color. The Hue-MAN Partnership Project continues to collaborate to reduce health disparities among men in the community. Moreover, the collaborative efforts have further empowered and equipped men to make healthy choices for themselves, their families and their communities. Hue-MAN has two specific focuses: Medical Health and Community Outreach. The Hue-MAN name refers to empowering men of all “hues” and “humanas.”

PARADE: The Ole 4th Avenue South Day Parade is a celebration of history, culture and community located in South Minneapolis. The First Annual, Fourth Avenue Parade was held in 1991. Cultural art, musical concerts, drama and historic displays from diverse ethnic groups were shared at this annual gathering. This year, the Ole 4th Avenue South Day Parade began at Minnehaha Creek by 48th Street and 4th Avenue and ended at Green Central at 34th Street and 4th Avenue in South Minneapolis. The Hue-MAN Partnership Project and the Backyard Initiative were part of this parade and festival.

FESTIVAL: After the Ole 4th Avenue South Day Parade, the Fourth Annual Boys to Men Community Health Fair in Green Central Park began. The overall purpose of this event was to engage the community by bringing men and community organizations together to participate in health and wellness activities and to discuss various educational topics related to overall health concerns.