The Phillips Aquatic Center is becoming a reality as money is doubled and enthusiasm tripled for equity use

The Phillips Aquatic Center Update

BY DERRICK BENNETT

It has been another whirlwind month of looking for money everywhere we can to deliver on our promise to bring EQUITY, ACCESS & the OPPORTUNITIES that swimming can bring to all in Minneapolis! Of course, our answer to this seemingly befuddling political riddle is not new committees, or task forces, but rather, to update and enhance the first PUBLIC, indoor pool right here, in the heart of the Phillips Community! The Phillips Aquatics Center is a reality! Swimming lessons in Minneapolis will no longer only be for the more affluent, we are leveling the playing field! Our focus will be on saving our children first, but we will have adult classes as well. Equity.

As you learned last month, our good friends at the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) kicked off the new phase of this Capital Campaign by giving us a $250,000 matching grant. We’ve had some generous individual donors, right from this community, start to donate to match against that, and then Wells Fargo for $25,000 & EPIC for $50,000.

Since then, more good news!

• The Margaret A. Cargill Foundation donated $50,000.
• The Rogue Foundation pledged $50,000 (through Minneapolis Foundation).
• Midtown Phillips Association will contribute $50,000, pending final January vote.
• Venture Village Housing & Land Use Committee voted to give $50,000 (NPP/NCR), which goes to membership for a vote in January.

We have much more in the works. I even had a meeting with a family foundation referred to us by the St. Paul Foundation! As a high enough dollar amount is reached and we estimate that we have realistically maximized the potential of capital campaign gifts, we simultaneously have to answer the question of which Optional Plan to recommend to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

In the most recent historical proposal from Minneapolis Swims (late 2013), three designs were put forth, “Option A” at a cost of $2.8M, “Option B” at a cost of $5.8M, and “Option C” at a cost of $8.2M. Option A is essentially restoring what is there now: a 6-lane pool with a shallow and a deep end, and no bleachers.

Option B would change the 6-lane pool into an 8-lane pool, restore the old bleachers, (eliminating upstairs offices, but replacing them downstairs), add a 4-lane warm water, shallow 25-yard lap pool, and add classrooms for meetings and instruction. Option C adds more space, and adds a 2 story diving well.

Coming up with the Minneapolis Swims Board recommendation for a proposed plan was not done lightly. To get another, un-biased opinion, I brought in Mortensen Construction, which was kind enough to donate its time to assist us. With them, we started from the assumption that if we only raise SX, SY or SZ, given the no access fee for people to use the facility. So the revenue, then, must necessarily come from sources like “lane rentals,” as an example. Hence, there will be certain hours of the day when lanes in the pool will be used by our boys and girls on the swim teams at South, Roosevelt and Washburn high schools, for which Minneapolis Public Schools will be paying $150,000 annually toward the pool’s operating costs.

With Option A, the 6-lane pool, this presents challenges, because even with our proposed 18-hour day, community access time starts getting chopped- possibly to an unacceptable level. Option C would have been a dream! But the numbers were just too far out of reach given our short fundraising window.

The existing six-lane pool built in 1972 is without water or swimmers today because it requires updating of safety improvements such as the drainage device. Implementing modified “Option B” would add two lanes to this pool and an additional four lane warm water specialty pool.

A modified “Option B” embellishment of Phillips Aquatic Center facilities would add more building onto the south side at a loss of some parking and green space but separating the pool’s entrance from the other uses and making a more visible and attractive approach from 24th Street.

Commentary

Ripple to Tidal Wave

BY HARVEY WINJE, EDITOR AND OUTREACH DIRECTOR

One ripple began by a neighbor instigated more until a tidal wave of support brought the Phillips Pool and Gym to fruition in 1972. The saga of the Phillips Pool has ebbed and flowed since it was added to Wendell Phillips Jr. High School.

The Community knew the need for a pool and a better gymnasium. They initiated the campaign for Model Cities money to build an addition to the original school built in 1926.

The school demolition was vehemently protested by the Community in 1984. Their protest saved the Pool and Gym even though it could not be used because of lack of heat. The boiler that heated the school and the addition was in the demolished building.

One ripple at a time caused a tidal wave that opened the building again. Time and again one drop, one ripple led to more so...
BY ERIN THOMASSON

Children & Family Programs
Family Storytime
Fridays at 10:30 am. For children of 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.

Childcare Group Storytime
Fri, Jan 9, 9:30–10 am. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format appropriate for the children in your care. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

Franklin Teen Center Programs
Urban 4-H Club
Tuesdays, 5–7 pm. WE do everything from urban gardening to digital photo/video theater.

Teen Tech Workshop
Wed, Jan 14 & 28, 4:30–6 pm Get creative and make music, videos, animation and other projects using both high- and low-tech tools, everything from iPads to LEGO®! Led by the library’s Teen Tech Squad.

Young Achievers
Thursdays, 4:30–6 pm. Do you want to be involved in your community? Then bring your friends and come for poetry, arts, games and more!

Adult Programs
55+ Nonfiction Book Club
Fri, Jan 9, 1–3 pm. Join our discussion of new and interesting nonfiction titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings. For additional information, call the library, 612-543-6921.

Writing Group
Thurs, Jan 15, 1–3 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

The Franklin Learning Center offers free, one-on-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. Contact us at 612-534-6934 or flc@hclib.org.

Fix-It Tech
A Community Technology Education Event
Proving Free Computer Hardware Repair, Education & Tech Support

Have a Computer Question or Issue?
If your computer or laptop is slow, not working, or seems to have a virus, bring it in for free tech support!
Our volunteers will teach valuable repair skills, answer questions, and give technical advice about your device.

Details & What to Bring:
First come, first served. Labor will be FREE.
Parts available to purchase.

Bring your laptop, and/or desktop tower and power cord.
Volunteers will help with smartphones and tablets based on capacity.

Free Workshops and Resources
Short sessions will cover basic computer maintenance and Internet safety. Pick up resources, learn about technology education programs and careers.

Saturday, November 22
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Li’l M Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC)
2001 Plymouth Ave N.
Minneapolis, 55411

Friday, January 30
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Takoda Institute – AIOIC
1845 East Franklin Ave
Minneapolis, 55404

Friday, February 27
3:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Oak Park Center – Pillsbury United Communities
1701 Oak Park Ave N.
Minneapolis, 55411

Saturday, March 28
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Waite House – Pillsbury United Communities
2323 13th Ave S.
Minneapolis, 55404
Clever about how any of the murderers buried in Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery were innocent of the ten murders, including two of the four of those committed in Minneapolis—four of the victims were women. In 1912, there were ten murders in 100 or so years ago. In other recent years but it is still much higher than the murder rate of 100 or so years ago. The murder rate of 100 or so years ago. In other recent years, there were 25% increase. If the murder rate for 2014 almost 4x more per capita and guns used over twice as often. In 1912 there were ten murders and guns. The four people buried in the cemetery are Alice Mathews, Frank Erickson, and Lydia Caros.

Alicia Mathews was strangled during a failed rape attempt on March 23, 1912. There were no obvious suspects although the police, who were under intense public and political pressure to solve the case, arrested at least half-a-dozen people and held them for varying lengths of time before concluding that they had no case against any of them. Over the next several years, one man, with a lengthy history of mental illness, repeatedly confessed to Alice’s murder. Police listened to him each time even though they knew that he couldn’t possibly have committed the murder. This self-confessed “killer” was determined to convince them otherwise but never succeeded.

Police believed that Fred Wentz was stabbed by Isabel Getzmann, better known by her stage name, “Scottie Maggie.” A witness had seen the two arguing in the back of the Rising Sun Café, which Getzmann owned and where Wentz was employed as a cook. The police arrested Getzmann but their case against her fell apart when their only witness disappeared.

The other two burials were for William Burke and Henry Carlson, both of whom died from skull fractures. Burke fought with a patron of the Cedar Avenue Saloon where both had been drinking. He was arrested and sentenced to five days in the workhouse, but he was sick and unable to work during his stay there. Two days after he was released his wife took him to the hospital where he died from an injury that he had received the night that he was arrested almost two weeks earlier.

Carlson died from a blow that he received from David Ploof. The two men had been at a party where they started to argue. Carlson used “vile language” about Ploof’s wife. The two men encountered each other in the street the next day and the fight continued. Ploof struck Carlson who fell and hit his head. Carlson made it home under his own power but died a few hours later.

Three of the ten murders committed in 1912 involved guns. Two of those cases were domestic homicides—husbands killing their wives. In both cases, the women had left their husbands. The third case was a shooting at a party where a man was killed because he refused to hand over the ten dollars that he owed to the man who killed him. Guns were involved in 30% of the murders in 1912. At the time there were 300,000 people living in Minneapolis, and it was the country’s 18th largest city. Today the city’s population is 400,000 (a 25% increase). If the murder rate had increased at the same rate as the population there would have been between 12 and 13 murders in 2010. Instead there were 40, 30 of which (75%) involved guns.

Alfred Mathews, Fred Wentz, William Burke and Henry Carlson are buried in unmarked graves in various locations throughout the cemetery.
Neighborhood Priority Plan's Community Meeting is Jan 20th

Ventura Village's residents and stakeholders are invited to attend a very special Neighborhood Priority Plan Community-wide Meeting to be held at the Phillips Community Center on Tuesday, January 20th at 7:00 PM in the upstairs Dining Room. Snacks and beverages will be provided for the event.

It is hoped that the meeting will focus on, and "identify, preserve, and build on the existing [Ventura Village] assets and positive qualities...or identify opportunities or problems to be addressed" by the neighborhood in this upcoming year.

Examples of other neighborhood plans will be made available, along with a presentation by each of the Ventura Village Committee Chairpersons. This is the greatest opportunity for all interested parties to weigh in on drafting the neighborhood's plan in the entire process.

The Priority Plan Process is different.

In previous years, each of the neighborhood committee's submitted an outline of desired activities, processes, and procedures and then requested funding in the upcoming annual budget for those activities and any supportive investments of equipment or contracts needed to achieve the expressed goals.

In this year's process, residents and stakeholders will be invited to meet in small groups to discuss the direction they want Ventura Village to go in and help determine what might be the key goals and strategies. In some cases, resident groups will submit lists of activities that they want to undertake or champion in the upcoming year. There will be due consideration given to how much money is currently available and constraints on how it can be spent. Those who have been charged with handling funds previously, will outline these constraints and the history surrounding them from the original NRP (Neighborhood Revitalization Plan) days to current NCR (Neighborhood Community Relations) funding processes and requirements from the City.

Looking at some other neighborhood plans, one could assume that this is largely much ado about nothing in that many are extremely vague and required very little forethought. On the other hand, some other more engaged neighborhoods have taken this process very seriously and provided considerable thought and attention to their planning. In order to get some "big" things done for Ventura Village, current Board members have expressed the desire to put considerable effort into ensuring that our residents and stakeholders are engaged at the very outset and deeply support the plan before it is submitted to the City for final approval and funding.

Parks and Swimming are major issues.

With a new board of directors for Minneapolis Swims has come a renewed effort to finally get the swimming pool at the Phillips Community Center revitalized and implemented. Proponents of the pool have already visited two of the Phillips neighborhoods and received strong support for providing matching funds to the current commitments and a challenge dollar match from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community for up to $250,000. Earlier commitments by Ventura Village were not accepted in a timely manner and now must be renewed. This will be one of the major discussion items expected at the January 20th Priority Plan meeting.

Other priorities that are expected include support for the Peavey Park Plan that has languished without a Park Board champion for nearly three years. This ongoing crime and safety issues are expected, but it is hoped that there will be something else to round out the plan to make sure it is encompassing, welcoming and relevant to residents of all ages and cultures.

"Action without vision is only passing time; vision without action is merely daydreaming, but vision with action can change the world."

Nelson Mandela

This Monthly Alley Newspaper Page was designed and paid for by Ventura Village.
What’s behind the name...In the Heart of the Beast?

In 1979, company member and poet Steven Linsner suggested the name ‘In the Heart of the Beast’ as a metaphor for our theatre. He wrote,

“To be puppeteers in the Heart of the Beast
...is to find ourselves in the great world Beast of families, races, ages, sexes, classes, corporations and nations, people, (and creatures?) all different, working out a way to live together.
...is to work puppets. To hold life in our hands, to sense how we are all like puppets—worked by instincts, voices, and forces above us and below us.
...is to carry and protect something very old like a heart within us, a secret, a promise. Like carrying a flickering candle through a dark place. Like carrying a family in a horse-drawn wagon.
...is to travel the roads of history and loss, in search of something like a new heart: new communities, new families, new work, new holidays.
...is to tell the story of people who live in the heart of the beast—as courageous and resourceful as they really are.”

Phillips Youth Director Partners - Julie Graves and Rachel Sell- Waite House, Frank Downwind- Little Earth, Kirsten Flaten- Collaborative Village

Respect and understanding of neighbors and place yield capacity for world view

*Further Intention- We live in an extremely wealthy community, rich in diversity of cultures. We also are an economically challenged community in Phillips. We want to build on, learn from and swap the wealth we have through the work and relationships in The Phillips Project. The many differences we have are a strength but dealing with the challenges of our culture and economy oftentimes weakens us and alienates us from our neighbors. Our hope is that we will start to build bridges between neighbors, cultures, and create deeper understanding and respect. The idea is if you can respect and understand your neighbor and the place you live, you can discover the capacity to respect the world, especially when the world is so uniquely well-represented in the Phillips community. As early leaders in the place-making movement, HOBT strongly believes place-discovering is the initial and an integral step in the place-making process.

*Helping the Phillips Project

Many community members ask how they can help this program. The main way is to tell people about it. The other main way is to donate to the program. We have recently lost a main source of funding and are looking for new sources. If you would like to help in any way with the Phillips Project, contact me at bbuch@hobt.org. Or, just give a smiley “Hi!” to your neighbors!

Phillips Youth from all groups joined in various parts of the Annual MayDay Parades each of the four years.

Phillips Stilt Club leads the 40th annual May Day Parade, 2014. Youth from Waite House, Collaborative Village Initiative and Little Earth ages 6-13 led In The Heart of The Beast Puppet Theatre’s

A giant butterfly spreads its wings at the 2014 Big Puppet Party celebration. Created by youth artists from Collaborative Village Initiative, with teaching artists Laurie Witzkowski and Nicole Amaris, the butterfly ushered in an energetic dance number. The annual Big Puppet Party showcases the artistic work of youth involved in The Phillips Project. Family and community members gathered for the event, sharing a meal donated by many local businesses and volunteers.

Opening Ceremony for The Big Puppet Party. 2014. Graceful deer welcome the audience before busting into their dance moves.

Original video footage shot by Phillips youth is projected on a giant cheetah puppet as part of the Big Puppet Party 2013

Bart Buch is Education Director and Staff Artist

In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre

HOBT Phillips’ Artist Team - Nicole Amaris, Amy Ballestad, Gustavo Boada, Julie Boada, Ramon Cordes, Seth Eberle, Alison Heimstead, Madeline Helling, Laurie Witzkowski

Phillips Youth Director Partners - Julie Graves and Rachel Sell- Waite House, Frank Downwind- Little Earth, Kirsten Flaten- Collaborative Village
This Alley Newspaper Page was paid for by the East Phillips Improvement Coalition

2014 Re Front

The Alley Online!
www.alleynews.org

The Alley is social!
@alleynewspaper

Put it in The Alley & it is bound for the future

HN Cty Library has reprinted The Alley 1976 thru 2007 and Bound in 13 volume set at Main Library and Franklin Library. This year they will reprint and bind 2008 thru 2011. THANK YOU.

The Alley Online!
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Does this display of 2014 Front Pages remind you of having enjoyed The Alley Newspaper last year? If so, will you please contribute to this community-owned non-profit paper to help support the 40th year of making it available free to you and your neighbors?

is bound for the future

library and Franklin Library. This year they will reprint and bind 2008 thru 2011. THANK YOU.
Where do you live? Participants of the 2014 Big Puppet Party mark their homes, schools and community centers on a map of the Phillips Community.

Phillips youth have a scavenger hunt from atop the Global Market, identifying neighborhood landmarks from above. In February of 2014, The Phillips Project focused on the history of the neighborhood. Youth worked with local historians and teaching artists to create The Phillips Museum Show, which they performed high in the tower at the Midtown Global Market.

A mild-mannered hand puppet stage transforms into the The Great Yeti of Phillips! Youth artists from Waite House, with teaching artists Seth Eberle and Amy Ballestad, created original hand puppet shows, built their own puppets and stage for The Big Puppet Party at In The Heart of The Beast Theater in December 2014.

A Rainbow Serpent, with a bellyful of masked performers takes the stage at The Big Puppet Party in December 2014. Created by youth from Little Earth, with teaching artists Alison Heimstead and Gustavo Borda, the serpent led a spirited dance and released a menagerie of animal characters.

Celebrating Four Years of Discovering and Creating guided by Mentor-Artists of In the Heart of the Beast Theatre called Phillips Project

When I first came to In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre (HOBT) in 1998, as an Americorps volunteer, I was inspired by and starting working with the out-of-school programming at HOBT. Under the direction of Beth Peterson and Paul Robinson, HOBT had two out-of-school programs, Lake Street Theatre Club and the Artbus. Lake Street Theatre Club worked with elementary school youth afterschool twice a week and Arbus was a seven-week summer youth employment program for youth 14-18. Both of these programs helped youth tell their stories using puppets, masks, poetry and music. They had major impacts on the youth and the communities. The youth in Lake Street Theatre Club, mostly from the neighborhood, were drawn to flexing the muscle of their imagination and fantasy. The Arbus youth drew from stories of their lives exploring topics like teen pregnancy, peer pressure and recent immigration experiences. The Arbus performances shared these youth’s stories by touring the shows around the Twin Cities. Both programs gave youth tools of expression, self-confidence and venues to share their voices. Arbus youth also mentored the Lake street Theatre Club’s Summer camp following their summer tour. Coming from a past as an elementary teacher, I had not seen this kind of authentic, poetic, funky and fun opening-up and valuing of youth voices. Daily, I see youth wearing appropriate “masks” for their parents, peers and teachers. I also see youth being manipulated and being taught appropriate voices to speak in the world. I was profoundly affected to see youth turning the tables, choosing their masks and manipulating puppets and messages they found important for the world to see and hear.

After Beth Peterson’s departure from HOBT in 2003 and many sources of funding for afterschool programs were terminated, HOBT had a hiatus from this work. In 2008, I came on board as Education Co-Director at HOBT and one of my missions was to re-start the out-of-school programming, with a redesign. Part of this work was starting the Puppet Youth Troupe, an out-of-school program during the school year for youth 9-18. Puppet Youth Troupe was extremely active from 2009-2013 as an immersive puppetry arts program where youth could explore puppetry with a long-term commitment. I also wanted to create a program doing this work with youth in our own back yard, in the Heart of the Beast, in the neighborhood, in Phillips. I started the Phillips Project in the Fall of 2010.

The Phillips Project

Many people ask why we call it The Phillips Project when technically the former Phillips neighborhood is now the Phillips community divided into different neighborhoods- East Phillips, Midtown Phillips, Ventura Village and East Phillips. One of the main goals of the program is to work towards uniting the Phillips community, its neighborhoods and individuals.

*Program partners and structure*

HOBT partners with United Tribes of Little Earth and their Youth Development Center, Pillsbury House United Communities’ Waite House, and Project for Pride in Living’s Collaborative Village Initiative. HOBT artists work with these partners bringing year-round arts activities to youth at each site almost every week. Programming is planned with a team of artists, partnering youth directors, site staff, youth interns, youth and myself. We have explored a variety of art forms and avenues of expression. Each season has a theme of programming and a culminating event in which all partners come together to celebrate and share. Winter programming: We study the cultural history of Phillips and come together for the Phillips History Museum as the culminating event. Spring programming: We create a section for the May Day Parade. Stilt-walking is the the most popular focus. Summer programming: We have been studying the natural environment and natural history of Phillips.
Recycling paint just got more convenient

There are now more than 140 stores in Minnesota that take back old paint, stain and varnish from residents and businesses year round, during regular store hours.

Find a PaintCare store

Visit our website or give us a call to find a store, then please call before bringing paint to ask if they can accept the type and amount of paint you would like to recycle and check store hours. All PaintCare stores accept 5 gallons of paint per visit. Leaking, unlabeled, and empty containers are not accepted.

Who is PaintCare?

We are a non-profit organization and the operator of the Paint Stewardship Program in Minnesota (and five other states). The program is funded by a fee on the sale of new paint that began on November 1, 2014.

The fee is 35 cents for pints or quarts, 75 cents for paint in 1 gallon cans, and $1.60 for paint in 5 gallon buckets. Even if your old paint is from before November, there is no charge when you drop off your old paint.
**Commentary continued from page 1**

Ripple to Tidal Wave

that a tidal wave shaped the dest-
iny of our planet. That much we
understand. But, more important,
each of us has an equal ability to
shape the destiny of the universe.
Ah, that you find more difficult
to believe. But I tell you it is so.
You do not have to be the leader
of a nation. You do not have to
be king or monarch or the head
of a clan to have a significant
impact on the world around you.
In the vastness of the ocean, is
drop of water greater than another?

In the vastness of the ocean, is
any drop of water greater than another?

In the end, we re-worked Option B, keeping all of the green,
highly energy-efficient components that
are expensive on the front end, but
will save the Minneapolis Park
and Recreation Board (MPRB)
tens of thousands of dollars over
the life of the pool. We trimmed out
any “drop” inefficiencies, accounted
for inflation in terms of construction
cost, and came up with an estimated cost of
$5,712,450. This number includes everything:
work to be done by MPRB, contingencies, etc.
This will give us an 8-lane competition pool with spectator
seating, plus a 4-lane, warm water shallow pool that will be wheel-
chair accessible, and Medicare compliant for therapy. With a total
of 12 swimlanes and a facility open 18 hours per day, this is the recommended design of
Minneapolis Swims. Financially, this gives the MPRB a model that will
generate enough revenue to sustain itself, and not be a burden
to taxpayers. Practically, this gives Minneapolis a community
pool that will always have lots of time for lap swimming,
family time, swim lessons, water play, etc. for
definitely all ages!

We are 59% of the way there. Of the $5,712,450, we have
$3,342,950 pledged or accounted for, and $2,369,500 to go. At this point, the MPRB has given us
until the end of February to raise as much money as we can, and, at
that point, their plan is to build the best pool possible with the funds
in hand. Given some exciting larger
grants that we are pursuing, we will likely be asking the MPRB
for an extension of that deadline. Either way, time is of the essence.
Our role is simply to raise the money, and turn it over to
the Park Board. It is their facility, and in the end, their decision to make.

Look for a community meeting, seeking input to be organized by
them sometime in January!

Once the Capital Campaign for the Phillips Aquatics Center
comes to a close, Minneapolis Swims will continue to raise
money for swimming scholarships. Already, we have started
the “Shah-kym Adams Learn-to-
Swim Scholarship Fund,” which
will help make sure that the cost of swimming lessons is not a bar-
errier to our children learning how
to swim. We also secured pledges for funding to support
swimmers who desire assistance with the cost of participating on
a competitive swim team. And someday, we hope to send
swimmers to college.

Watch our Facebook page for the latest updates, and please con-
tact me if you know of any individuals, foundations, or corpora-
tions that might have an interest in helping with this project.
Thanks!

Denny Bennett is President of
Minneapolis Swims Board of Directors. He may be contacted at
denny@dennybennett.com
facebook.com/mpsplitswim
www.minneapolisswims.org
Scholarship info on pg 11.

**New Phillips Literary Magazine to be Unveiled January 29**

“The Phoenix of Phillips,” a new literary magazine sponsored
by the Semilla Community Arts
program of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
will make its debut at the Midtown Global Market on
Thursday, January 29, with a pro-
gram at 6 pm. The annual youth
poetry contest, and writing by
community.

“New Phillips” originates from
the idea of a new literary magazine
that encompasses all aspects of
literature in the community.

“The Phoenix of Phillips”
includes the winners of the youth
poetry contest, and writing by
children, teens and adults, some of whom are established writers,
and some of whom are publishing their first work. Writers will read from
their work at the January 29 event.

This activity is made possible by
the voters of Minnesota through a
grant from the Metropolitan
Regional Arts Council, thanks to
a legislative appropriation from
legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.
Special thanks to Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Assn. Inc.
For more information, contact
Dr. Patrick Cabello Hernedo at St. Paul’s Lutheran,
2742 15th
Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN
55407. 612-724-2862, or e-mail:
stpaulscreate@gmail.com

**Floor plan showing the improvements and addition that would be made for “Modified Option B” Note the mid-drawing horizontal line that is the south wall location of the existing building. The features below and south of that line are new addition to the building and use of land**

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Fresh Springs And Flowing Streams

It was August 30, 2010 when John T. Williams, a 50-year-old Native American woodcarver, was shot four times by a Seattle police officer. He was simply crossing the street while holding a block of wood and a pocket knife.

What year was it when Julani, a Somali neighbor, was gunned down here? True, he brandished a machete, but he was warding off demons, not attacking people. They surrounded him and then...

Yes, the long list of victims dates back to slave cargo ships, the genocide, and the inception of “free-enterprise.” No, we will not get over it.

“The revolution begins now!”

But now fresh springs burst free from a saturated soil. Small streams combine to form rivers. “The revolution begins now!” And yes, there are countless meetings and public forums. 4200 Cedar Ave., December 15…

Communities United Against Police Brutality captioned their forum “Getting Away from Murder…!” Currently the CUAPB is petitioning a change in the Minneapolis Charter which would require officers to purchase liability insurance. “Think before you act” is the intent, along with eliminating the city’s exposure to brutality lawsuits.


“In a Dec. 21, 2014 article about the shooting, the Los Angeles Times referred to the New York City protests as “anti-police marches,” which is grossly inaccurate and illustrates the problem of perception the protesters are battling. The marches are meant to raise awareness of double standards, lack of adequate police candidate screening, and insufficient training that have resulted in unnecessary killings. Police are not under attack, institutionalized racism is. Trying to remove sexually abusive priests is not an attack on Catholicism, nor is removing ineffective teachers an attack on education. Bad apples, bad training, and bad officials who blindly protect them, are the enemy. And any institution worth saving should want to eliminate them, too.

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose.” This is the season and time when we should be resolved to continue seeking justice together and not let those with blind biases distract, diminish, or divide us. The way to honor those who defend our liberties with their lives—as did my father and grandfather—is not to curtail liberty, but to exercise it fully in pursuit of a just and peaceful society.”

Abdul-Jabbar is a six-time NBA champion and league Most Valuable Player. He is also a celebrated author, film-maker and education ambassador, Abdul-Jabbar is a six-time NBA champion and league Most Valuable Player. He is also a celebrated author, film-maker and education ambassador, and a six-time NBA champion and league Most Valuable Player. He is also a celebrated author, film-maker and education ambassador.

“Sha-kym Adams ‘Learn-to-Swim’ Scholarship Fund”

Phillips Community residents Kimberly Adams and Sharrod Rowe, parents of Sha-kym Adams, Mpls. South HS sophomore football player who drowned August 6th in Lake Nokomis, have started this scholarship fund to increase opportunities for youth swimming instruction in the Community. Contributions are encouraged and welcomed to the Fund in care of Mpls. Swims 2323 11th Ave. So., Mpls. MN 55404.

Some additional proposals include: 1.) more “cops of color” 2.) jail time for filing a false report 3.) body-cams. The image of police officers as heroic workers and public servants might one day be restored. As for “the revolution begins now,” this slogan has merit. But the rivers of outrage are not at flood stage. No, not yet.

Financial Support of The Alley Newspaper

Donations that are Tax Deductible because we are a 501 C3 non-profit corporation via: Direct by individuals to P.O. Box 7006, Mpls., MN 55407 Indirectly from Community Shares MN workplace giving program because we are one of 40 member groups. Indirectly pledged through Give MN.

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- Back Yard Initiative , East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Friends of the Cemetery, Hope Academy, Midtown Global Market, Midtown Greenway Coalition, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Improvement Association

- McKnight Foundation
- Minneapolis Swims
- Open Eye Theatre
- Phillips Clean Sweep
- Phillips Neighborhood Clinic
- Phillips West Neighborhood Association
- Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery
- Memorial Day Celebration
- Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association
- South Minneapolis Housing Fair
- Spokes
- St. Paul’s Church on Portland Ave.
- St. Paul’s Church on 15th Ave.
- Somali Artifact and Cultural Museum
- Waffle House Healthy Living Initiative

- See full article here @ ow.ly/ GIOp

Peter Molenaar
Raise Your Voice

Hennepin Count Franklin Library
Hennepin County Library—Special Collections
Hope Academy
In The Heart of the Beast Theatre
In The Heart of the Beast Phillips Project 1
International Institute of Minnesota
Local Food Resource Hubs
La Natividad
Maskikii
MayDay Community Meetings
Workshops, Parade, and Pageant
Midtown Global Market
Midtown Greenway Coalition
Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Improvement Association

McKnight Foundation
Minneapolis Swims
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NOTE: “Evaluation” is often considered to be something that is done AFTER a project or program has been completed. The BYI is evaluating as the work unfolds. This allows the teams doing the work of the BYI to tweak and improve in order to increase the impact of the health improvement efforts on residents of the BYI area.

Program Evaluation and the Backyard Initiative

As part of the Backyard Initiative’s evaluation, the Backyard Initiative (BYI) is seen as a community-building enterprise in which residents who live in proximity to each other have come together as a collective to act in their shared self-interest. The Initiative sees strengthening community as the means that will lead to better resident health. The Definition of Health created by residents defines health broadly, to include social, emotional, economic, spiritual, and physical conditions.

The lead agency for the Backyard Initiative is the Cultural Wellness Center (CWC), located in the heart of the seven Minneapolis neighborhoods defining the geographical region of the Backyard. From the beginning of the BYI, the Cultural Wellness Center created and supported an infrastructure, which consists of the Community Commission on Health (Commission), Citizen Health Action Teams (CHATs), and the Community Resource Body (CRB).

By organizing residents into Citizen Health Action Teams (CHATs), each with a focus on a component affecting health, the Initiative expects to build a community that activates every resident’s concern about his or her own health, as well as the health of his or her family, and the well-being of other people. Because community building is a consensual, long-term effort, one of the keys to the Initiative’s success is translating its concepts and principles into action with the promise of showing the community’s potential to contribute to the health of the residents in the Backyard.

This process is cultivating and sustaining CHAT leadership and operating capacity to both implement their strategies and to move closer to achieving these outcomes in Phase 4 it will result in involved residents becoming an upward trajectory toward improved health, as shown in Phase 5.

Potential of These Results for Health Care

The implications of these community-building results for improvement of health, health care, and cost care are significant. For instance, health improvement goals requiring modification of social determinants of health and of lifestyle and behavioral change may be more easily accomplished when interventions arise from within the person’s own social networks. These same social networks informed by community-based teams could be the health care provider’s most valuable ally when care quality is hampered by lack of patient engagement. A favorable cost-to-benefit index of community-based interventions offers the prospect of generating net savings in investment in health improvement, a needed but yet unattained feature of health care reform. These results show the first steps toward realizing the potential of community-building for health improvement.

Acknowledgements:
The BYI Evaluation is commissioned by Allina Health and guided by the 35-member BYI Community Commission on Health. The report is produced in collaboration with the Cultural Wellness Center, Allina Staff, BYI members and Assessment Team and written by consultants Anu Sharma, Janice Barbee and Jerry Evans.

The Backyard Initiative (BYI) is a partnership between the Community, Allina Health Systems and the Cultural Wellness Center. The goal of this partnership is to improve the health of the 45,000 residents living in the “backyard” comprised by the neighborhoods of Powderhorn Park, East Phillips, Midtown Phillips, West Phillips, Venture Village, Central, and Corcoran. There are eleven Community Health Action Teams (CHATs) that are focused on improving health through the variety of cultural and community-connecting activities.

For info on the BYI, please call the Cultural Wellness Center, 612-721-5745.