Standing Rock Massacre pg 6
Editor Retires! Alley? Pg 7

Standing Rock

Massacre pg 6

Editor Retires! Alley? Pg 7

Peace if possible, Justice at any rate!
– Wendell Phillips 1811-1884

Hand in Hand - A Protest Song for Today

VERSE 1
There’s my sister
Marching with me
There’s my brother
Marching with me
There’s my father
Marching with me
There’s my mother marching on
till the people are free

VERSE 2
Mr. Policeman
I can’t breathe
Mr. Policeman
I can’t breathe
Mr. Policeman
I can’t breathe
Lay down your weapons and your
baddies and listen to me

VERSE 3
Well President Obama
Are you marching with me?

Hand and hand with my family,
we will fill these streets

Well Mayor Hodges
Are you marching with me?

Hand and hand with everyone

珍贵的活生生的人类

OPEN LETTER TO COMMUNITY

We must safeguard precious human lives

BY MOHAMED FARAH

Dear friends, fellow neighbors, and community members,

I write to you today with a heavy heart to first send condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones in the recent tragic shooting in our neighborhood. It was only 24 hours prior to this incident when I was with residents at Stewart Park having lunch after a day of cleaning the neighborhood.

It is vital that we have a real conversation about violence in our neighborhood and ways to keep our children and loved ones safe. This past week I have been reflecting on how we can make our community safe and enriching.

A Great Life Remembered

BY LAURA WATERMAN WITTSTOCK

Roger and Priscilla Buffalohead came to Minneapolis with their young son in 1970. A Department of American Indian Studies was being created and the talent seekers wanted the young and gifted man from the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma to take the position of chair. It was a moment of pride for all of Indian Country and students came from several nations to study at the University of Minnesota.

Roger and Priscilla met at the University of Wisconsin where they were both graduate students and Roger and Priscilla’s brother were taking a class from Dr. David A. Baerreis, a professor known for his environmentally oriented research of human behavior. Priscilla’s brother introduced them and they were astonished to discover that they were next-door neighbors! They married in 1965 and the Wisconsin Alumnae noted the wedding. Their son Eric was born later

PHOENIX NUMBER III

BY PATRICK CABELO HANSEL

In this issue, you will find the 3rd edition of The Phoenix of Phillips: writings by your neighbors who tell their story and the story of our community. You will meet writers as young as 11 and writers who are well into their seventies. All of them have a hope for a loving and beautiful community. Here are some youth poems that didn’t make this edition, around the theme of “Stop!”

Stop the violence in the community
Stop the killing black people, police!
And you can trust some white and black police officers
Stop racism towards African-American males

Frank

Stop the killing
Stop the racism
Stop the violence
Stop the hate
Keep the peace with everyone
Let the people live their lives
Stop taking all of our beautiful young black people

James

Stop the police killing
Stop the drug selling in our community
Stop the littering in our community
Stop stealing bicycles
Stop all the shooting
Stop fighting
If we stop all the things I said
We can have a better community

Chris
BY JANA METGE AND BRAD PASS

On Saturday October 8th over 800 Phillips residents gathered to clean up their neighborhood. Phillips Clean Sweep is a Partnership of the East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Little Earth of the World, and Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Organization. New City Hall looked beautiful! Thanks to the partners for making the event happen. A huge thanks to the Community Clean-up Volunteers! We love you!

BY ERIN THOMASSON

Children & Family Programs
Family Storytime Fri’s 10:30 a.m. All ages and parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play. Share books, stories, nature, music and just have fun.

K-12 Homework Help: Tues, Wed & Thurs: 3-7:30 p.m. Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed. Info: www Ведьб.рф/homework.

Library for Kids: Chemistry in the Library, Wed, Nov. 2, 5-7 p.m.

Learn about the wonders and excitement of chemistry with easy-to-do activities led by this volunteer group of chemistry students, teachers, and professionals. Minnesota section of the American Chemical Society.

Franklin Teen Centers Programs
Urban 4-H Clubs: Tues, 5-7 p.m. Urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater. Presented in collaboration with Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Want to create a record of your personal history? Bring what you have written for helpful comments and suggestions. Presented in collaboration with Other Lifelong Learning Institute.

Hawenka Adunowka Women of the World: Sat, Nov. 26, 2-4 p.m. Share sisterhood and talk about cultural projects, jobs family, health and more. We are women empowering women! Women and their children are welcome to attend.

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. We are always looking for community volunteers! No experience necessary; we provide training and materials.

BY JAYNE SMITH

Building in the Center Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking is available in the rear of building off of Oakland Avenue. Free Jakceno’s Pizza Dinner will be served! If you would like more information or would like to get involved in the neighborhood please contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email her at pm2005@yahoo.com

Want to attend? The Alley Newspaper seeks a caller who wrote it down. If you called and are reading this plea, PLEASE CALL AGAIN. We are disappointed that her message and contact information disappeared before she inquired about the possibility of a subscription for having it mailed. So much so that she said she doesn’t want to risk always getting it because it is a Partnership of the East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Little Earth of United Tribes, Venture Village, and City of Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling. Pickup is Litter is second to the Community Building! Folks met for breakfast, picked up supplies, and met their neighbors at LSS 2400 Park Ave. or Welna Hardware on Bloomington Ave. 400 T-Shirts were given to volunteers who list the year’s donors and a new design by a T-Shirt Contest Winner Jennifer Gomez, East Phillips resident, De LaSalle student and Banyan Member. Trash Pick-Up Teams were assigned to every block. 6 Drivers and Garbage Trucks are hired to cover each neighborhood plus Specialty pick-ups. This is a service to the neighborhood, all free of charge!


Please call again! The Alley Newspaper seeks a caller.

A woman left a message on The Alley Newspaper voice mail last month raving about The Alley Newspaper and how much she enjoyed having it to read. She was so happy that she said she doesn’t want to risk always getting it because it is a Partnership of the East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Little Earth of United Tribes, Venture Village, and City of Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling. Pickup is Litter is second to the Community Building! Folks met for breakfast, picked up supplies, and met their neighbors at LSS 2400 Park Ave. or Welna Hardware on Bloomington Ave. 400 T-Shirts were given to volunteers who list the year’s donors and a new design by a T-Shirt Contest Winner Jennifer Gomez, East Phillips resident, De LaSalle student and Banyan Member. Trash Pick-Up Teams were assigned to every block. 6 Drivers and Garbage Trucks are hired to cover each neighborhood plus Specialty pick-ups. This is a service to the neighborhood, all free of charge!


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4,000 lbs, metal, 16 TV’s, 57 Tires. That’s a total of 41,460 lbs. of trash plus TV’s, appliances, and tires. 20 lbs of compost was collected from three food services from feeding 800 people twice!

At noon the volunteers gathered at Stewart Park for lunch. VJ Smith and Mad Dads broadcasted music and Bob-Que’d, Bethlehem Baptist provided sandwiches, chips, & bars and Banyan students served the lunch. Solid Waste & Recycling and Compost Initiative had Info Tables. Clean City Coordinator Michelle Howard and City Compost Champion Kellie Kish were there to answer all questions! The New American Youth Soccer Club was on hand to explain their activities.

The Phillips Clean Sweep Planning Team meets weekly from mid-August thru Clean Sweep. We are always looking for more planning team members, organizations to participate, and folks to come out for the morning litter pick up! The Team sought and managed $7,400. of cash donations totaling and In-Kind donations estimated at another $7,000 from our many generous sponsors.

This GREAT event could not occur but for our generous Sponsors who provide both cash and In-Kind Contributions – ALL of you, our Neighborhood Volunteers! Thank you ALL!!!

See you all next year 2nd Sat., October 14th, 2017!
Nels H. Nelson Russell died on November 2, 1898. His marker, a six-foot tall tree carved from sandstone, is one of the most distinctive in the cemetery. Stone ferns grow at the base of the tree and ivy is twined around its trunk. Carved into the side are the ends of the tree’s sawn-off branches. There is a cross made of interlocking branches near the top of the tree. A new one is suspended by a stone rope, a scroll that is carved with the birth and death dates of Mr. Russell and his wife, Christina.

Mr. Russell died on All Saints Day, a fact that is inscribed on his marker. His son, Nels J. Russell, was 48. He came with three of their children: Mathilda, born in 1895, Maria Nittila (born in 1883) and Nels (born in 1864). Census records indicate that the family had many children but that only those three survived. Apparently, the children who did not survive died before the family left Sweden.

It is difficult to trace the family during their early years in the United States. The family seems to have changed their last name from Nelson to Russell at some point, most likely because Nelson was such a common last name (there were 95 Nels Nelsons in Minneapolis in 1898). Christina’s name appears to have been Johanna, a name that is engraved on the marker and listed in cemetery records, but in all other records she is known as Christina.

The family was living in Illinois as early as 1890 and possibly earlier. Their daughter, married Reverend Olof Toffteen in Illinois on August 25, 1891. Within two or three years of their marriage the family, including Nels and Christina, moved to Minneapolis where Reverend Toffteen became the first rector of St. Ansgarius Church, the church that his brother in law helped to establish.

The church was founded in 1889 with 30 members but on Christmas Day 1889, 2,000 people attended services there. By June 1, 1895, the church had more than 700 registered members, not including children. Nels and Christina Russell lived with their daughter and son-in-law, and it was in their home that Nels died on All Saints Day in 1898. His death was attributed to old age; he was 81 years old.

Five years later Reverend Toffteen left St. Ansgarius. He was credited with the church’s remarkable success but the work had been arduous and had compromised his health. He and his wife returned to Chicago where he accepted a position as a professor of linguistics at Western Theological Seminary. Christina Russell returned to Chicago with them.

She died at their home from pneumonia on January 3, 1913; she was 91 years old. Their remains were sent to Minneapolis to be buried next to her husband.

Tree-shaped markers, with their sawn-off branches, are thought by some to symbolize life cut short. That was clearly not the case with Nels and Christina Russell who lived very long lives. Others believe that the tree represents the family and its sawn-off limbs symbolize the loss of a family member. We have no way of knowing what meaning the tree held for the Russell family; it is, and may simply have been the case that they loved the look of those unusual, intricately carved markers.

The reference to All Saints Day suggests that they were hoping to create a memorial that would lead others to pause and reflect on the lives of those who have died and that this marker serves that purpose well.

Nels and Christina Russell are buried in Lot 14, Block M of Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery.
The 2016 Phillips Clean Sweep
Was the Biggest & Best YET!

Over eight hundred neighborhood folks walked all four Phillips’ neighborhoods and collected a record 41,460 pounds of trash and metal, 26 TVs, 12 appliances and 77 tires on the second Saturday of Oct. These totals are even more than last year’s which were then the Biggest Yet.

So, a BIG THANKS to All!
The reward for this herculean effort is a free breakfast, free cleaning stuff, a free T-Shirt, free lunch & entertainment, neighborhood information tables AND walking the ‘hood with friends and neighbors while making a better place for us all.

Phillips Clean Sweep is an annual all volunteer effort of all four Phillips Neighborhoods and Little Earth. The budget is close to $10,000 and is raised by small & large contributions from donors like you, all of whom are recognized on the back of the 400 Clean Sweep T-shirts given away each year.

Save October 14th, 2017
Phillips Clean Sweep is an annual all volunteer effort of all four Phillips Neighborhoods and Little Earth. The budget is close to $10,000 and is raised by small & large contributions from donors like you, all of whom are recognized on the back of the 400 Clean Sweep T-shirts given away each year.

See the article in this issue
Save October 14th, 2017 for next year’s Phillips Clean Sweep Watch for the upcoming youth T-shirt Design Competition

For your Calendar: *

To get involved in EPIC and East Phillips, Join us at any or all of the meetings below.

The EPIC Board of Directors meet on the FIRST Saturday of the month – Next Meetings; Saturday, 11/5/2016 and 12/3/2016 at 10:00 AM.

The EPIC General Membership meets on the SECOND Thursday – Next Meetings; Thursday, 11/10/16 and 12/8/2016 at 6:30 PM

Agenda includes Neighborhood Industrial Pollution, Crime Initiatives, and EPIC project updates.

The East Phillips Park Programming Partnership meets on the LAST Tuesday – Next meetings; 11/29/16 and 12/27/17 at 11:30 AM. Lunch is served. There is no December meeting.

Updates on Partner Programming, Park Events & News.

Meeting Location: All the above meetings and events are held at the East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center located at 2307 17th Ave. S.
The Center is wheelchair accessible and all are welcome.

The East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Gardeners meet on the second Saturday of Each Month during the gardening season, normally from April through September. Next meetings are Next Year Saturday, 4/8/2017 & 5/13/2017 at 9:00 AM in the Community Center at 2307 17th Ave. S.

Subsequent meetings will be held in the Garden.

* East Phillips Residents wanting a 2017 Garden Plot, contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478

* Watch this space for additional or changed meeting information

Share your voice for a comprehensive plan for the year 2040

Minneapolis 2040 is the 20-year vision for the city’s natural, built and economic environment. The Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan provides guidance for: Designing policies and programs, reviewing site plans and land use applications, Reviewing and approving public land sales and purchases, Planning capital improvement projects, Determining priorities for public financing, and Developing and adopting other plans.

While the plan covers a wide range of topics, it is primarily focused on the physical, natural and economic development of the city and the infrastructure, systems and programs that support it.

The planning process for Minneapolis 2040 will take place over three years starting in 2016 and ending in 2018 when the final plan will be approved by the City Council. During this time, City staff will conduct an extensive, inclusive civic engagement process by combining traditional engagement methods with informal, in-person interactions and technological tools.

The interactive Minneapolis 2040 website provides additional background information on the comprehensive plan and the three-year engagement process, notice of upcoming events and activities, ways to participate, interactive engagement tools, and ways to contact City staff with questions, suggestions and feedback.

You can also follow @Mpls2040 on Twitter or share your ideas for the natural, built and economic environment of Minneapolis in the year 2040 at Minneapolis2040.com.

www.minneapolis2040.com

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You can also follow @Mpls2040 on Twitter or share your ideas for the natural, built and economic environment of Minneapolis in the year 2040 at Minneapolis2040.com.
Anishinabe Biil Giil Wiin recently celebrated its grand opening on October 8th as its most recent phase of housing targeted to Native people living in the Twin Cities. More than fifty residents and officials celebrated American Indian Community Development Corporation’s $11.4 million project, which provides 77 additional housing units directed toward those who’ve achieved sobriety and are now re-entering the work force. Connected to Anishinabe Wakajun, a permanent residence for chronically homeless alcoholic men and women, the complex provides a better continuum of care and support at a former homeless camp site. These new residential units are the first facility to welcome westbound visitors to the Native American Cultural Corridor and gateway to Ventura Village. —Robert Albee

“Soda-Woo!” - Welcome to the Somali Language!

Meet Mostafa Mohamed, Caron and Cody, they were the ones who signed up to learn some Greet on the Street words and phrases of the Somali Language that conveys a neighborly welcome. Spoken by non-Somalis is especially appreciated by many Somali elders who become delighted that other people are friendly and want to be engaging. This pilot program was funded by Ventura Village to help residents and friends reach out in a more creative way that celebrate all of the diversity that is widely cherished as a reflection of a neighborhood that cares! Each “class” consists of three 90 minute sessions with the final a deeper look into the culture itself. Participants enjoyed it so much that most who were in Mohamed’s class also joined Gloria’s Spanish group! These and some others will be developed and repeated if residents make a request to join! For more information, call Robert Albee at 612-812-2429

YOUR DECISION FOR OUR LIFETIME!

VENTURA BOARD ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

As 2016 begins drawing to a close and we begin focusing on family, friends and holiday celebrations, Ventura Village’s elected board members must decide to run again if their terms are completed, or help recruit new faces and new blood to our beloved neighborhood. Looking at the NextDoor Ventura Village web site, many new residents have now made Ventura Village their new home. Few have shown up to attend our monthly General Membership meetings always held on the second Wednesday of each month. Now is the time! Last month the loss of Knowles Dougherty was reported in the Alley News and his wife André moved into a more accessible apartment elsewhere in Minneapolis. Others whose strong minds and spirit are needed as more of us move on in our lives as we age. Being part of Ventura Village’s Board of Directors does not take extraordinary time commitments, but turning ideas into actions does take a greater commitment. Those who remember the days of bars and liquor stores turning into crack havens making our neighborhood into “…troubled Phillips…” know how much work it took to create new visions that put more than $150 million in investment along East Franklin alone. Now we have more buildings to welcome to our community with fresh plans to keep making this area one of the most exciting places in Minneapolis to live. Elections will be held in December with selection of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary & Treasurer in January, 2017. Reach out and recruit new friends and neighbors to Ventura Village and bring ’em aboard to make more exciting change happen! — Robert Albee

VENTURA VILLAGE MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Wednesdays</td>
<td>BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 6:00 PM</td>
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<td>1st Wednesdays</td>
<td>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 6:00 PM</td>
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<td>1st Tuesdays</td>
<td>WELLNESS, GARDENING &amp; GREENING: TBA: CALL 612-671-7973</td>
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<td>Last Thursdays</td>
<td>HOUSING &amp; LAND COMMITTEE: 5:30 PM</td>
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<td>CRIME &amp; SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6:30 PM</td>
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<td>PARKS COMMITTEE: TBA: CALL 612-671-7973</td>
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<td>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: TBA: CALL 612-599-1066</td>
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Ventura Village is located upstairs in the Phillips Community Center at 2323 - 11th Avenue South • Minneapolis • 612-874-9070
UN Permanent Forum Rebukes U.S. for Ignoring Standing Rock and Other Tribal Nations

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues has agreed with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and the nearly 200 other tribes that say the Dakota Access oil pipeline’s route was mapped out without adequate consultation.

“"The project was proposed and planned without any consultation with the Standing Rock Sioux or others that will be affected by this major project,”” said Chairman Alvaro Pop Ac, in a joint statement with Forum members Dalee Dorough and Chief Edward John.

The U.N. body went on to outline the $3.8 billion project’s parameters and the threat to security and drinking-water access for not only the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe but also for millions of people living downstream from the Missouri River, which the pipeline would cross.

“"Given these circumstances, we call on the government of the United States to comply with the provisions recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ensure the right of the Sioux to participate in decision-making, considering that the construction of this pipeline will affect their rights, lives and territory,”” the statement said, quoting Article 19 of the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. “States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.”

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Chairman David Archambault II and the International Indian Treaty Council issued an urgent appeal to the United Nations on August 18 asking for intervention on the grounds that their right to consultation as specified in the United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples had not been adhered to.

The tribe’s request coincided with a declaration of emergency across several counties by North Dakota Gov. Jack Dalrymple, as well as unsubstantiated claims by a local sheriff that pipe bombs, molotov cocktails and other potentially dangerous implements had been spotted. The Forum’s statement did not outright reference US authorities’ unfounded allegations of potential violence in the three prayer camps that have attracted a few thousand people over the past two weeks. But it did add another perspective to potential public perception about the camps.

“Actions such as these tend to occur in different parts of the world and are often misunderstood and described as rebellious, backward thinking and unilateral opposition to development,” the three said in their statement. “Therefore, we call on the United States government to establish and implement, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, a fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent process to respond to this serious issue and to avoid escalation into violence and further human rights abuses.”

Pop Ac, Dorough and John described the spiritual connection as well.

“"For Indigenous Peoples, the environment is a living entity that contains our life sources as well as our sacred sites and heritage,”” the statement said. “"The environment is an important part of our lives and any threats to it impacts our families, ancestors and future generations. It is therefore imperative that the United States respects the principles and recognizes the intrinsic, inter-related rights of Sioux and their spiritual traditions, history, philosophy, and especially their rights to their lands and territories. The world is watching what is happening in North Dakota.”


Commentary: Images of 1890 Wounded Knee Massacre Revisited

Peaceful Indigenous peoples at Standing Rock protecting their rights are attacked

Instead of Complying as admonished by the U.N. Permanent Forum, the local authorities, other law enforcement from across the United States (including our own Hennepin County Sheriff Deputies) are using military tactics with armored vehicles, riot gear and techniques of war to combat the peaceful Indigenous people protecting their rights at Standing Rock.

Major media is not covering this major, tragic development. Apparently, corporate, political and monetary forces prevent them from fulfilling the moral imperative of their profession and commitment.

Stories of the Massacre at Wounded Knee in 1890 are coming to life again; but increased with updated technology and weapons of war.
Our devoted Editor/Outreach Coordinator is getting very, very tired as you can see. In fact, so tired, he will RETIRE in September 2017!!!

Harvey Winje has been the volunteer/stipend-receiving Editor of The Alley Newspaper for the last 14 years. The Alley Newspaper is published by Alley Communications, a 41 year old nonprofit, community governed organization.

Oh, my!!! What will happen to The Alley Newspaper? Will it be retired, too? Or, will it continue and take on new faces, new ideas, new formats?

The answer to that question rests in YOUR hands!

You can help a small group of stakeholders who are examining this dilemma by answering these questions. Answer ONE or ALL of the following:

1. **YES or NO** - Do YOU read The Alley Newspaper? [The number of responses to this simple question will help Alley Communication stakeholders know whether it is time to end The Alley with a tremendous party or to work diligently to help launch it into its next stage......We could still have a party!!]

2. **WHY** do YOU read The Alley Newspaper?

3. **WHAT** should be kept the same? What should change?

4. **WILL you** join a conversation with a core group of Alley stakeholders to discuss how to keep The Alley going after September of 2017?

YOU can answer **ANY** or **ALL** of these questions by:

**Phone message:** 612-605-7532 (no human contact)

**Email:** editor@alleynews.org

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**Attend and “vote”:** at the Neighborhood Night at the American Swedish Institute, **Tuesday, Dec. 13**
What is this large, old house at 25th Street &18TH Avenue?

BY PATTI LAZARUS

This large, old building may seem a bit out of place in our community or even a bit unfriendly. However, if you listen closely when you walk by you might hear children giggling, or making music, or running around on those very old, sturdy wooden floors. You might see parents and grandparents walking inside for a meet or a family night – it happens all the time.

This is Southside Family

As a parent of two little ones, this recent shooting gave me nightmares and I have been reevaluating how safe my family is in our community. I have real concern for the safety of my children, other children, and my fellow community members in Ward 9.

As we all know human life is precious and we should do everything in our power to safeguard the lives of our neighbors and fellow community members.

I have no doubt that you are as concerned as I am about recent violent incidents. That is why I feel that we must set a new direction as a Ward when it comes to the safety of our community.

Safety has to be a top priority moving forward and we must stand up and take ownership of our issues. As a community we can do much and reach far if our voices are united.

For starters, I suggest we have an ongoing presence of police patrol, which will help deter crime, promote positive relationship between community members and police, and lastly it will help ease residents’ minds about safety. However, this should be just the beginning.

We need to find opportunities for our young people in order to deter them from joining negative activities, such as gangs. We have been facing gang violence for centuries as a nation. This is not something new.

We should be able to find and implement programs that can enhance the quality of life of our young people and provide them with enriching opportunities. As a community, we should have town hall meetings to analyze ways to come up with more preventive measures of safety on our streets and neighborhoods.

If any of you are interested in discussing this matter in person, I encourage you to start the conversation with family, friends, and fellow community members.

As President Obama said, “It is up to us, as parents and as neighbors and as teachers and as mentors, to make sure our young people don’t have that void inside them. It’s up to us to spend more time with them, to pay more attention to them, to show them more love so that they learn to love themselves, so that they learn to love one another, so that they grow up knowing what it is to walk a mile in somebody else’s shoes and to view the world through somebody else’s eyes.”

All of us matter and our voices, opinions, and ideas should matter. Let’s demand change and let’s not allow fear to keep us confined.

Sincerely,

MOHAMED Farah

MOHAMED Farah is a resident of Minneapolis and “a proud member of the Ward 9 community currently serving as the Executive Director of Ka Joog, one of the leading nonprofit organizations tailored towards enriching the lives of young people by utilizing positive elements of education, mentoring, employment, and the arts.” www.ka Joog.org

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that year. His English name came from his mother and his Ponca name came from his great-grandfather on his mother’s side. Both Priscilla and Roger were graduate students, working on their PhDs, and taking turns caring for their baby Eric. Then UCLAs California wanted Roger for a one-year special chair and from there it was on to Minnesota. Daughter Julie was born in Minneapolis, named again by Mom in English and for a great aunt of the Ponca Tribe.

Roger was never far from his family in Oklahoma, although. He had been at home with his family until he graduated from high school and went on to Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, a distance of only 40 miles by car, it was actually a 70 mile drive. As one of many young men of the times, he worked to earn his board and to pay for what scholarships would not cover. Then he got a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin and he was truly far away from his family. They never stopped asking him to come home. The pursuit of higher education was not as important as the bonds of family, in their eyes, and their Ponca spirit fed great pride in their learned son.

For the rest of his professional career, he could not take his family and visit his home in Oklahoma, he carried the stories of his youth into lessons and conversations with his students and friends. His Ponca identity became an asset and example of how to lean on. Everyone Roger went, he plunged himself into the lives of his students. During his time at the University of Minnesota, he went on to lift up their lives by joining students in the local bars to argue points of history and prod one or more individual students to press harder, always moving forward. There were graduate students who came back to him for advice and encouragement, which they got, and he and Priscilla would cook endless meals for these hungry and often homesick students. It was at the University of Minnesota that he and Priscilla, were unusual academics, who truly enjoyed the company of their Native students, giving them the best lesson of all: we are more than schools; we are a great people. Here is just one question Roger posed to his students:

There are several things we might consider as guidelines for future policy. Tribes have national and federal self-determination without economic self-determination, and the federal government does not have a duty to safeguard the idea of self-sufficiency has not been achieved and will not be achieved without massive support.

continued from page 1

A Great Life Remembered

BY ALONDRA CANO

On Sunday October 16th our community was impacted by a horrific shooting. No words can describe the painful loss of two lives, seven month old baby Jayden Roger Buffalohead and Shantye Christianson. Our Minneapolis Police Officers worked around the clock on this investigation and they are continuing to look for the 17 year old and a 20 year old who are in custody awaiting charges. I want to thank all the community and diligent work of the Minneapolis Police Department in finding the person responsible for this pain. I also want to thank all the community members who stepped up to provide witnesses accounts, help our officers to find the shooter.

I was able to join you for the community vigil that MADADS and the Ponca community along with many others were able to put together in order to honor the lives lost and raise awareness about the need to stop gun violence in our city. We were joined by the victims’ family, our neighbors, and many concerned residents. Thank you to all of you for coming together, I appreciated the opportunity for all of us to come together during this difficult time. In the meantime, as we garner more details of the circumstances of this incident, I ask that you keep the families and friends of the victims in your thoughts.

My deep condolences go out to all those who have been touched by this tragedy.

Even though the shooter has been caught, I am saddened by how deeply our young people are being impacted by such senseless violence.

I know that these acts are not isolated from the acts of institutional violence that many of our community members have had to contend with on a daily basis - whether it be deportations, the school to prison pipeline, or poverty wages. It is within that frame that I continue to work hard with you and for you to address the root causes of crime in our community.

As we are a community of people in our community, please never hesitate to reach out to me for help or support. We need your ideas, your brilliance, your hearts and energy to lift up our families, friends and neighbors. Help us protect our little ones, call us to action, hold me and others accountable.

I am committed to do much more to help reduce the gun violence in our community and to keep convening leaders across all levels of our government to ensure we’re making progress toward that.

Alondra Cano represents the Ninth Ward on the Minneapolis City Council.
“The Accountant” & “Moonlight”

“The Accountant” suffers from a poor script by Bill Dubuque.

“Moneytrain” in a bad script? It’s good Affleck did Christian’s activities draw the attention of Mr. Wolf, a department analyst, and his dad’s forcing him to be a fighter to make him “normal” just one of those plot points that’s lost in a bad script? It’s good Affleck and Kendrick have a passion for accounting; I have a dispassion for terrific indie gem.

“Moonlight” is a must see film about a young African American man’s difficulties within himself as well as those kids going out of their way to hurt him. Juan (Mahershala Ali) is growing up in one of the poorest neighborhoods in 1980s Miami.

Juan has a heavy load to deal with such as an absent father, a crack-head mother, school bullies taunt and beat him up because he’s different.

Juan goes through three nick-names: known as “Little” as a skinny boy; known as “Black” as a teenager; known as “Chiron” as a grown man with a muscular build.

Juan knows he’s different and struggles with his sexuality which is the principal reason director Barry Jenkins’ “Moonlight” shines and does the gamut of pain, agony, anger, joy, love, and settles in reconciliation and redemption.

The subject of black homosexuality is usually shunned and seldom explored in black cinema. “Pariah” (2011) by Dee Rees focuses on a young black lesbian in a dysfunctional family.

The story of “Moonlight” does the gamut of pain, agony, anger, joy, love, and settles in reconciliation and redemption. Heartwarming is an under-statement for terrific indie gem.

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The HBO drama follows a Somali-American family based in Minneapolis.

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The crew was set up, with large screens, lighting, props, Hi-tech equipment and many trucks and trailers including a faux car collision that, ironically, happens in reality at that intersection far too often on normal days.

Reportedly, 90 percent of the crew being used for the project are local people although a food catering truck was from California (with one staff from Powderhorn Neighborhood and one from Brainerd, MN). Similar scenes of film production are also occurring in other locations across the Twin Cities to be featured in the show; many in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood where there is opposition to the production as influencing discriminatory stereotypes.

Kathryn Bigelow is one of the producers behind the project. She is best known for “Zero Dark Thirty,” and “The Hurt Locker,” which won the Oscar for best picture in 2009.

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Our Hillary has accused the Donald of “taking hate mainstream.” Oh, quite right. It seems the little boy-man suffers all the symptoms of affluenza, the nauseating narcissism of every known chauvinism. Sadly, a serious mass seeks salvation in worship of the false idol.

However, the Great Barrier Reef of Australia, 25 million years old, is now dying before our eyes. So, cast your vote appropriately, please.

The size of Hillary’s victory will determine the kind of president she can be. Right? Will she tax the rich in order to rebuild our nation’s infrastructure? If so, every working person would benefit.

But, what? Hillary’s propensity to use nasty weapons is known. Indeed, over the past 15 years, US conflicts have cost perhaps a million lives, have resulted in many more millions of refugees, and have run up some $13 trillion in financial costs. So, prepare to resist another unjust war…please.

Even so, the “lesser of two evils” is for now a necessity, lest the “proto-fascist” prevail. Cast your vote appropriately. Please.
HARVEST TIME FOR GROWING THE BACKYARD

BY CANDIS MCKELVY, MEMBER OF GROWING THE BACKYARD COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTION TEAM

The original plan in 2010 for Growing the Backyard, a Community Healthy Action Team or CHAT involved since the early days of the Backyard Initiative, was to support local residents who wanted to grow their own produce and assist by helping them with the work. Farming is hard work. The original CHAT leaders of this team set out to work with families in the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood and provide them with fresh produce. There was also support for other neighborhoods to receive fresh produce.

The focus of this CHAT has continued to work to achieve this original goal though some of the activities have changed. Our activities for this year included reaching out to additional BYI community residents to grow food and join the farm stand at the Midtown Global Market. We also wanted to have youth sell produce they had grown and produce grown by Community Farmers.

Working with families in the Backyard includes communicating with local residents about the benefits of gardening and growing your own produce. These benefits include: increasing nutritional health, cutting down on the ingestion of pesticides, and helping to provide cost-effective items.

BYI AREA

PLANS FOR THE 2017 GROWING SEASON

Growing the Backyard CHAT leaders plan to reach out to the other BYI Community Health Action Teams about growing foods they can use to for cleaning and to increase the health of their CHAT members. For example: Some of the Anchor Family CHAT team members live in apartments. It might be possible to establish a garden on the land surrounding an apartment building where Anchor Family members live. However, Anchor Family members who live in the Midtown Exchange do not have access to land on which to garden. Our goal would be to help them find land for them to farm and promote farming, helping them to have access to fresh produce.

In the 2016 growing season, Growing the Backyard began a Farm Stand in the Midtown Global Market. This is a way to bring produce grown by community residents to those living in the MGM. We hope to be able to promote the Farm Stand more in 2017 and look forward to additional participation from the other BYI CHATS.

We also are planning strategies to increase our outreach to youth about the connection between food and health. We want the youth of our community to be the best at what they want to be.

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUTH TO PARTICIPATE

Youth are the future. They are also the future farmers, food producers, distributors and processors. We would like to improve the employment process of youth for our CHAT.

Youth are an asset to Growing The Backyard. Likewise, the adults involved in our CHAT can help them to grow their knowledge of gardening and farming. Without youth to help with the work during this gardening year, our CHAT would not be as vibrant and we would not have had as much produce.

One of the important goals for next year is for the Growing The Backyard CHAT to secure land for us to consistently use. This is also essential for us to have a place to teach and employ the youth. This year, we used several scattered plots: one at 12th Ave. & 26th Street across from Anderson school; one on 40th & 4th Ave. S.; and one on E. 34th St. & Chicago. This requires a lot of transportation of youth, equipment and materials between sites. Having one larger site would help us spend more efficient time producing food and working with the youth.