Offer Rejects City’s Water Works

Congestion – for now.

No New Pollution and Wellness: by Coalitions and Compromises

Their children thank and appreciate their large work force into our already and the personal vehicles of their finance trucks, many of them diesel, to interject more pollution and unwanted traffic to the already health and congestion challenged city’s plan (if carried out) could radically change the future of Phillips’ children, and bring about a major change in the whole character of East Phillips as by not adding to their burden of health challenges, thus ushering in a huge and welcome change in the future of Phillips’ children, and adding to their burden of health challenges, thus ushering in a huge and welcome change in the whole character of East Phillips as a more positive place for families and children.

Carol Ann Pass is a Phillips resident and President of East Phillips Improvement Coalition.

Mikwanedun Audisookon, a center for Art and Wellness

BY SHARON M. DAY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF IPTF

This will be the new home of the Indigenous Peoples Task Force (IPTF). It will be built on the property adjacent to the current home of IPTF and Minidowa adak Odema Housing Complex at 1335 East 23rd Street. This will not just be a building created of bricks and mortar. This will be a building built from dreams and inspiration. Over ten years ago, during a visioning session, the Board and Staff of IPTF drew up the designs for a building that would house our bodies and nurture our belief that we are the caretakers of this hemisphere. As caretakers, we need to take care of the land and the environment. This new building will be made of compressed earth blocks, it will host an array of solar panels and be heated and cooled by the sun via a geo thermal system. It will host a theater space for the Ikidowin Youth Theater Ensemble, one of the oldest ongoing Native theaters in the United States. It will host a healing room, where people can be joined in quiet meditation, and it will host clinical space for our work with individuals. This new space will have a commercial kitchen where we will feed people a good breakfast and healthy lunch made from foods we grow in the gardens just outside our doors. It will host an art lab where we can begin to teach our youth and adults traditional tribal carving, basketry, feather boxes and whatever they wish to learn. Our community center can be a place for visiting artists in residence and pottery! If you wish to see the plans or donate go to Indigenouspeoplestf.org.

Wellness: by Artists and Artisans

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TASK FORCE is a Native American provider of HIV education and direct services to the Native community in Minnesota. For over 26 years, IPTF has developed and implemented culturally appropriate programs to prevent further transmission of HIV, increase access to traditional and western medical services, and improve the quality of life for clients, families, and communities.

Wellness: by Coalitions and Compromises

No New Pollution and Congestion - for now.

Owner of Roof Depot Site Rejects City’s Water Works Offer

BY CAROL ANN PASS

Many East Phillips families and their children thank and appreciate the fact that the Owner of the Roof Depot Site said NO (at least for now) to the city’s plan to interject more pollution and unwanted traffic to the already health and congestion challenged East Phillips neighborhood.

The city plan was to move all the operations of the City’s water maintenance facility along with their fleet of 68 large maintenance trucks, many of them diesel, to a huge industrial building adjacent to the current home of the People of East Phillips Neighborhood.

The Better Plan for the Roof Depot Site:
The People of East Phillips are in the process of working on a plan and are exploring sources of financial support to turn this site into one of the largest Urban Agricultural sites in the State, a potential national model of cutting edge sustainable urban organic food production.

The roof could support one of the largest photovoltaic solar arrays in the State providing most, if not all, of the electrical energy required to supply organic produce year round to Twin City’s consumers, stores and restaurants. This plan could provide hundreds of quality jobs for the people of Phillips many of whom could walk or use public transportation to the site. The plan, if carried out, could radically reduce pollution, congestion and the ill will generated by the City’s plan, if carried out, could radically change the future of Phillips’ children, and bring about a major change in the whole character of East Phillips as a more positive place for families and children.

Carol Ann Pass is a Phillips resident and President of East Phillips Improvement Coalition.
BY ERIN THOMASSON
Children & Family Programs
Family Storytime
Fri 11:30 am
All ages and their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write & play together. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

Franklin Teen Program
Urban 4:30 Club
Tues 5-7 pm
Urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater. Teen Tech Workshop
Wed 4:30-6 pm
Get creative and make music, videos, animation and other projects using high- and low-tech tools, everything from iPads and 3D printers to synthesizers and sewing machines.

Young Achievers Thurs 4:30-6 pm
Want community involvement? Bring your friends for poetry, arts, games and more!

Stop Motion Animation Creation
Wed, Sept. 16, 4:30-6:30 pm
Grades 7-12. Work with other teens & animation artist John Ace to create and animate a ridiculous or mysterious short film. Your creation will debut on the Library’s video channel! Teens will work with the artist to collectively create one animated short film.

Adult Programs
Education Alternatives
Mon, Sept. 14, 1:00 pm
Join a monthly discussion of persistent problems in education and possible solutions, based on the writings in Knowles Dougherty’s blog: educationspersistentproblems@wordpress.com.

Memoir Writing Group
Thurs Sept. 17, 1:00 pm
Want to record of your personal history? Bring what you have written and are willing to tell to the group for helpful comments and suggestions.

Franklin Learning Center
612-534-6974
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.

**Phillis West Neighborhood Upcoming Events**

**programs at the Franklin Library**

1314 E. Franklin Avenue
Complete program list or online.

612-543-6925

**www.bclib.org**

Mon, Tues & Thurs 10-11 am
Wed, Thu & Thurs: 10-12 pm
Sun: 12-2 pm

Phillis West Neighborhood is a Member of the Community of Printers

**GIVE. AND. LIGHT. A. FIRE. UNDER. INEQUITY.**

**www.changesbetter.org**

651-647-0440

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**By Artists and Healers**

May 30, 1944 - June 9, 2015

**Anna Elizabeth Stanley**

Artist, Scholar, Civil Rights Worker, Agitator, Spiritualist, Humanitarian, and fiercely, loving Friend to hundreds of people

By Beth Peterson

Greatest of Thanks and Salutations to my friend Anna Elizabeth Stanley for her powerful work and great presence in the world and for her contribution to making masking, education, the fight for civil rights, justice, and perseverance of the spirit.

Recently at the South Los Angeles Power Fest, artist Al McKie of Newhood Order was printing 100 tee shirts free for the community with the message “I Feel Peace, I Have Justice.” These words embody the practice many saw in action through the life of Anna Stanley.

Born in Philadelphia, Anna grew up amidst many experiences, both great and terrible. Her Grandmother-soul was the strongest mentor and supporter and even moved to Minnesota when Anna began her years as a student activist at the University of Minnesota. She travelled to Mississippi to work for the passage of the voters rights acts and fought for justice at home as well, working with fellow students to make big changes that led, among other outcomes, to the formation of the African American Studies Department at the University of Minnesota.

Anna influenced generations through her love and care for children and respecting and nurturing their brilliance at a young age through her work at a preschool that brought together low income and high to moderate income children to learn together.

She was a scholar who loved art and theater and in midlife joined In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater to fulfill her vision of making puppets and masks to honor the Orishas and to uphold the connections between the human world, nature and the spirit world.

Anna traveled the state teaching residencies to create parades and pageants on the themes of cultural reclamation and peace and reconciliation with the Heart of the Beast, taught many summers of Lake Street Theater Club with local children and played the lead in a production at the cusp of the new millennium.

In 1992 in Bemidji, Minnesota, she collaborated on a racial reconciliation pageant and just happened to take place at the same time as the civil unrest due to the Rodney King verdict in Los Angeles. She noted that the experience made her remember being a freedom fighter during the civil rights movement.

Anna began her collaboration and partnership with Rafala Green through the Phillips South Los Angeles Power Fest Gateway project—“Touchstone Plaza” boldly enhancing the southwest corner at intersection of Chicago and Franklin. Rafala envisioned and led the creation of

Anna Stanley playfully “framing” Rafala Green as they interweave humor and intense social activism into artistic/lasting lives. They also interwove various art forms in their many endeavors. It would thrill them to see “Touchstone Plaza” used once as a “Amen Corner” venue straight out of James Bond fame and forerunner of a new name.

This monumental, multi-faced sculpture/artistic landscaping, and Anna as an artist envisioning the art work on the children’s bench.

The two went out to collaborate on an artist studio at the Lowestoft Lofts in St. Paul and finding an art center on site of an old school in Delavan, Minnesota.

Anna taught at an alternative school in St. Paul, became an Americore worker to teach reading and writing to immigrant children, led workshops and built a strong community of friends in Texas, and was represented by a gallery in New York City. There are no words to describe the wisdom, generosity of spirit, and knowledge that Anna Stanley shared with all of her students.

Anna found great joy in her spiritual practices. In her final five years, she created an incredible community among the residents and caregivers at Providence Place, 3720 23rd Ave S, Mpls, MN 55407 where she continued in full force while living those years with a diagnosis of stage 4 cancer. She crocheted blankets for the new babies born to the staff members.

Eighteen years ago, my own son was overdue and not moving forward being born. Anna talked to him and told him that it would be to be born that was a good place and people would be there for him. He was born by the next morning. This is just one of the many hundreds of lives who have been influenced by Anna Elizabeth Stanley’s fierce and loving spirit.

Beth Peterson is a puppet and mask artist/ community arts organizer, and teaching artist at LA Comnore, Inner City Arts, Music Center of L.A. County, and a course on Integrating Arts into the Curriculum at Antioch University LA. She worked for many years at In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre in Minneapolis.
**Wellness: By Stories and Ancestors**

"The Tribune and I Swat the Fly"

Dr. Peter Holl was a man of rock-solid opinions and an all-consuming commitment to improving public health. In addition to being one of the shakers and movers who helped save Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery in the 1920s, he served for a number of years as Minneapolis’ Health Commissioner where he supervised the city-wide vaccination of school children, people with smallpox in quarantine, monitored the municipal water supply, and tested the city’s lakes to make sure that they were safe to swim in. He wrote a daily column for the Minneapolis Tribune in which he answered questions from the public about their health concerns. He also maintained a private practice. He was a man of enormous energy and drive. He was also a bit of a showman.

In 1911, Dr. Holl teamed up with the Minneapolis Tribune to sponsor a contest aimed at turning Minneapolis into a “flyless” city. Flies were known to be carriers of the bacteria that caused typhoid fever and the thinking was that if the city could rid itself of flies, it would be well on its way to ridding itself of typhoid. If the idea of a fly-swatting contest sounds a little crazy, the goal of getting rid of typhoid was not. More than 820 people buried in the cemetery died from the disease.

The contest was always referred to in the paper as a “war” on flies, and, so, beginning at 10 a.m. on August 21, 1911, the Minneapolis Tribune, armed the city’s children, ages 16 and under, for battle. Boy Scouts, the Boys Club, Sunday School classes and individual children throughout the city enlisted in the war against flies.

Every day, between 10 to 11 a.m. and from 3 to 4 in the afternoon, children could pick up their fly-catching supplies (special collection boxes that were furnished by the Standard Paper Box Company and a button that read “The Tribune and I Swat the Fly”) at one of the city’s 13 drop-off sites. For children with greater ambitions than merely swatting flies, the Tribune printed photos of traps built and baited by Dr. Holl that demonstrated that flies preferred a diet of bread and milk over a diet of molasses or egg.

Children had to submit their entries before noon each day to the contest, which were later counted and credited to the children’s accounts. The paper never mentioned who had the unenviable task of counting all those flies. The contest ended at 11 a.m. on Saturday, September 2nd. The winner was a 13-year-old boy named George Knebel, he won a $50 prize for turning in 266,340 flies. Teddy Bedor won the second-place prize of $25 with 264,660 flies, and Henrietta Beck took third place and won $15 by collecting more than 186,000. In all, 3,028,578 flies were turned in. Sadly, no children living within Phillips’ borders placed in the top 10.

Did catching flies work in reducing typhoid? It’s really not possible to say because typhoid was spread through other means, as well. And, Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers was not necessarily representative of the entire city, but it is interesting that in 1910, one year before the contest, there were 15 burials for people who died from typhoid. In 1911, there were three cases, and there were three in 1912, as well. Coincidence? You’ll need to decide for yourselves. Meanwhile, we can be thankful to Dr. Holl for saving many lives in his role as Health Commissioner and physician and for saving our Cemetery.

**Wellness: by Events**

**Cinema at the Cemetery**

“Santo y Blue Demon Contra Los Monstruos”. So Bad it’s Good

Spider Baby, gave a stirring introduction, and a handful of diehard fans came wearing their Santo and Blue Demon masks which helped to get all of us into the spirit of the thing.

Superhero “Santo” and his best friend “The Blue Demon” had to battle the bad guys, and there were a lot of them: Frankenstein, a vampire, a mummy, a werewolf and the cheesiest-looking Cyclops ever to walk the earth. The bad guys messed up when they kidnapped our hero’s girlfriend (you have to picture Frankenstein driving a getaway car). And even though the bad guys had created an evil duplicate of the Blue Demon, it didn’t take long for Santo to sort out who his true friend was. (There is no need to issue any kind of a “spoiler alert” since the movie was long on action, incredibly short on plot). And what can we say about the Busby Berkeley-esque song and dance scenes that appeared out of nowhere? This is one where you really had to be there. And, who knows, if you missed it, you may get another chance—there are 51 more movies in the series and, not surprisingly, no one picked up the copyright.

**Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery**

Sue Hunter Weir

127th in a SERIES

Dr. Holl was born in New Ulm on August 13, 1862—on the very day that the Dakota Conflict came to New Ulm. His mother must have been in labor during the battle.

Newspapers always spelled his name Holl that people would know how to pronounce it and it made him sound a little more American.

Dr. Holl was voted out of his post by the city council in 1913 despite a letter of support signed by more than 100 doctors in the city. While in private practice for the next five years he wrote an informative daily column on health and medicine, “Health and Happiness,” for the Minneapolis Tribune.

In 1918 he accepted the post of superintendent of Minnesota’s Ah-Gwah-Ching Tuberculosis Sanitarium near Walker. He remained in that position until his death in 1928.

He was an amazing, if somewhat eccentric, man. He and Annie only had one daughter and she died in infancy—the baby is buried in Layman’s. Peter and Annie are at Hillside with other members of his family.

In 1911, there were three cases, and there were three in 1912, as well. Coincidence? You’ll need to decide for yourselves. Meanwhile, we can be thankful to Dr. Holl for saving many lives in his role as Health Commissioner and physician and for saving our Cemetery.

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**BY SUE HUNTER WEIR**

Wow! I think that everyone who attended “Santo y Blue Demon Contra Los Monstruos” would agree that their reaction was “Wow!” One thing’s for sure, you won’t see a movie like this one every day. It was quite possibly one of the worst and funniest movies ever made. Local wrestler,
Money to fix your East Phillips Home! Three Great deals! NO PAYMENTS!

1) EPIC Home Rehab Program
(All Administered by Greater Metro Housing Corporation (GMHC))

- Loan Amount: $1,000 to $8,000
- Interest Rate: 0%
- Loan Term: Due on Sale or Transfer
- Eligible Properties: 1-4 Unit owner-occupied properties in East Phillips
- Eligible Projects: Code violations and most improvements

2) EPIC Home Emergency Program

- Loan Amount: $1,000 to $5,000
- Interest Rate: 0%
- Loan Term: Due on Sale or Transfer

3) EPIC Home Buyer Program

- Loan Amount: $1,000 to $5,000
- Interest Rate: 0%
- Loan Closing Date: Simultaneous with purchase of property
- Loan Term: Due on Sale or Transfer
- Eligible Costs: Down payment, Closing cost, Necessary repairs & Purchase cost
- Program Limit: 1 EPIC Home Buyer Loan per lifetime
- Eligible Properties: 1-4 Unit Properties in East Phillips owner occupied, homestead and primary residence

For APPLICATIONS & INFORMATION, Contact:
Greater Metro Housing Corporation, GMHC
GMHC Housing Resource Center South
3749 Cedar Ave S
Denise E. Eloundou
Phone: 612-722-7141 Ext. 13

For your Calendar:

* The EPIC Board of Directors usually meets on the first Saturday of every month; Saturday, 9/12/2015 and 10/3/2015 At 10:00 AM.
* The EPIC General Membership usually meets on the second Thursday of each month; Thursday, 9/17/15 and 10/8/2015 At 6:30 PM

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

The East Phillips Park Programming Partnership meets on the LAST Tuesday of each month, Tuesday, 9/29/15 and 10/27/15 At 11:30 AM. Lunch is served.


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

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: Saturday, 9/12/15 at 9:00 AM in the Garden located at 2428 17th Ave S. NOTE: The October Garden meeting will be replaced with the Garden Fall Harvest Party on October 17th. See below.

SAVE THESE DATES:
Phillips Community Clean Sweep: October 10th 2015 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Garden Fall Harvest Party: October 17th 2015 from 4:00 PM until the fire goes out.

* The EPIC Board & General Membership meetings were pushed back 1 week due to the Labor Day weekend in September.
Phillips Community weighs in on PCC Pool Design

Minneapolis Park Board Commissioners Scott Vreeland and Meg Fournier hosted an August 24th public meeting to seek community input into the design of the new and renovated Phillips Aquatics Center. A somewhat disappointing turnout of 14 residents were presented with the project boards that were created two years ago and were used as a “jumping off” point for new discussion and considerations before architects Steve Wohlford and Linda McCracken-Hunt of STUDIO FIVE began to develop new renderings. Presenters reminded the attendees that the community input is vital at this point before there is time committed to develop new drawings for the proposed pools.

One of the major concerns voiced by two speakers was the difficulties posed by the plans to ensure that Muslim women use the facility with the same comfort as men. To do this, design of the women’s and men’s locker rooms should change from the previous plans because women would have to walk through one pool area to get to their destination. The issue of windows and privacy come to mind with architects pointing out that new window technologies can electronically turn transparent glass into translucent windows. Parking, building entry, pool use issues, accessibility were all discussed with points made that a hot tub is especially important for seniors who need to treat muscles and joints with self-therapy. A true therapy pool such as at Summit Place in Eden Prairie brings in significant revenue for the other pool serving residents and should be a consideration for long-term viability of this aquatics center. This could offset the fears that the revenue needs would end up with pool rentals putting significant pool time for residents and low-income users. The removal of PCC meeting rooms used almost daily to include spectator seating for a very few scheduled swim meets was met with a recommendation that the bearing wall between the pools could be a platform for spectators that will save the current meeting rooms for continued use. The plan to add a second pool will also force the removal of the playground that is located on the far west side of the PCC. It was suggested that this could be re-located to the northern end of the building in a way that can coincide with planned development of that space by Venture Village and Watley House. However, costs for the redevelopment should be also accommodated by the Park Board. A second community meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14th at 6:30 PM in the PCC Dining Room. The agenda will be focused on the proposed design for the aquatics facility and give the community an opportunity to see what STUDIO FIVE and the Park Board did with the community’s recommendations. Contact Dana Murdock, Project Manager with the MPBRB at dmurdoch@minneapolisparks.org. Her phone number is 612-230-6446.
The 19th Annual PWNO NNO event was on Tuesday August 4th from 5 to 8 p.m. along 27th Street from Portland to Columbus Avenues. Over 1500 neighbors came out to celebrate and promote neighborhood unity! The event included a food tent sponsored by Abbott Northwestern Hospital that provided hot dogs, corn on the cob, watermelon, chips and water for 1500 people.

- McDonald’s provided lemonade, apples & Ronald McDonald.
- Ebenezer provided ice cream cups & popcorn for 750!
- Minneapolis Mad Dads hosted a dance/rap contest!
- Children’s Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota provided a children’s safety station with giveaways and brought their mascot Star!
- There were 3 clowns doing balloon animals & Mickey Mouse!
- Rene’ Studio Salsa Dancers performed.
- Mariachi mi Tierra Mariachi Band played.
- Peter Thompson’s Art Sign Workshop was there.
- The MN Adult & Teen Challenge Choir entertained the crowd.
- City Farmer’s Market was present.
- A Bounce House and a Blow-up Slide.
- The American Swedish Institute did a workshop.
- Several dozen informational resource tables!

The weather was great and everything at the event was FREE for all who attended. The Minneapolis Police Reserves and Allina provided first-response services and security although no mishaps occurred. The night was a great success thank you to everyone who participated!
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 Cesaracan, (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, 612.335.6211.

The gardens are helping the Health Program at OSH to grow too. The produce is used in cooking classes. Plus, it’s a way for the residents to manage stress. According to Gardening Matters, simply viewing plants has been shown to reduce fear, anger, blood pressure, and muscle tension.

These gardens are the result of a collaborative effort from the residents of the transitional houses and permanent supportive housing. They are planting roots, quite literally, in a community where so many people call home.

To donate supplies and for more information and/or questions call Terri McGinley, Transitional Housing Case Manager at 612-872-4021 ext. 1 or email terri@oshousing.org.
The Sabathani Community Garden

Sabathani Community Center hosts 118 plots that are 20 ft. x 10 ft. Plots are tended by individuals and families from the community. Cost is $20/season/plot. We are committed to south central Minneapolis community. At Sabathani, gardeners may speak Spanish, Somali, Hmong, or English at home. When they are out at Sabathani, we all speak garden. The garden is managed by the gardeners themselves. We have communal workdays and teams to look after specific tasks like composting, tools and equipment and communication. The garden has a free peripheral watering system and provides basic tools for the members.

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featuring some of the community gardens in the area of the BYI

Photo credits: Brad Pass

East Phillips Community Garden
2428 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404

In the mid ’90s, when three neighboring houses on the 2400 block of 17th Ave. S. were torched and burnt to the ground in a gang war, the neighbors came together to retrieve the vacant lots for a much needed positive opportunity of community building. They fenced the lots and turned them into a “Guerrilla” Garden, preventing the use of the land as an alley-to-street escape route for drug dealers fleeing the police and a refuge for shooting-up and prostitution.

When rumors surfaced that the city-owned land might be taken and repurposed to high density housing, the East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC) pooled the community and received overwhelming support for purchasing the property using some of their Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funds. An analysis of the garden topsoil revealed lead and arsenic contamination. Incredibly, the City of Minneapolis paid over $25,000.00 to remediate the garden by replacing the top 18 inches with new, farm-fresh black dirt.

With soil replacement complete, the East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Garden was purchased. A conservation easement was placed on the land guaranteeing its ongoing use as a community garden. Gardeners are permitted with a sage smudge, a prayer, a song, and continued with the packaging of dried herbs from the garden for personal use and to exchange. The discussion revolved around ways of using the herbs for medicine. One example is to put about 1 cup of dried St John’s Wort into a quart jar and fill it with oil and leave it in a sunny spot for 2-3 weeks to infuse the oil with the flavor and properties of the herb. After infusing the herb can be strained and the oil can be used as usual. St John’s Wort is purported to have anti-depressant properties.

The Little Earth Garden is a great example of people coming together around growing and sharing knowledge to the benefit of all.

500 and 800 year old sacred heirloom tobacco seed are grown here along with other crops.

COMMUNITY GARDENS IN THE AREA OF THE BYI

Community Garden Day, Saturday, Sept. 19!

Tour, learn, eat, and celebrate!

- Home to over 419 community gardens and urban agriculture projects, gardeners in the Twin Cities are committed to providing quality, local food for families and neighborhoods. In the Twin Cities and across the country, community gardens transform lives and rejuvenate neighborhoods.
- On September 19th, thirty-seven community gardens invite their communities to join them in celebration of these vibrant green spaces.
- This year’s garden tours highlight older and new gardens and introduce the dedicated people who make gardens a success. Learn firsthand about the achievements of the Twin Cities’ vigorous urban agriculture scene.
- TOUR the gardens, visiting a pit greenhouse, hydroponic salad table, bee hive, community orchard, and MORE! Some gardens in the BYI area will be participating, too!
- LEARN about Native American food and agriculture, pollinator-friendly plants, and seed-saving.
- EAT herbed mustard, homemade ice cream, garden-inspired desserts, fresh salsa, mint tea, or food from the Gandhi Mahal food truck!
- CELEBRATE with the Picnic Opertetta, the Mixed Blood Theater club and Teen Voice, scavenger hunts, painted T-shirts, fairy garden houses, and community potluck.
- Each garden has its own unique celebration. Your biggest dilemma will be picking which gardens to visit! Find all the garden celebration times, addresses, and complete descriptions on our website www.gardeningmatters.org, where you can download and print a map and brochure of gardens.

WHEN: Saturday, September 19th, 2015

WHERE: Garden locations include North Minneapolis, Northeast Minneapolis, Southeast Minneapolis, South Minneapolis, the North and South Metro, St. Paul, and Greater MN.

T I M E S and LOCATIONS of garden celebrations available at www.gardeningmatters.org/community-garden-day

Home Garden at East 21st St. and 5th Ave South

Bicycling past on 5th Avenue, we were taken by the sight of a fenced yard packed with garden vegetables! Elizabeth Garcia, who happened to be in the yard with her daughter, explained that it is her mother Maria Garcia’s garden. They are growing corn, tomatoes, tomatillos, cilantro, papalo (which is used like cilantro), peppers including the hot ones like habanero, and pumpkins which will be used to make pumpkin quesadillas. Elizabeth provided us with a simple recipe: RECIPE ALERT!

We use a tortilla, put mozzarella cheese and a pumpkin slice inside and that’s how we eat it. And it can go together with Pico De Gallo; chopped onions, chopped tomatoes, chopped jalepenos, chopped cilantro, and for donations of supplies from Welna Ace Hardware, which is a great local source for garden tools!

Photo credits: Brad Pass

CUHCC (Community University Health Care Center) Garden
Bloomington Avenue and East Franklin Avenue

According to Peter Dinh and Melissa Flores, who came to the Wellness Center Garden to pick up a tomato plant donation, the goal of this garden site is to promote healthy eating and physical activity by practicing mindful gardening in a group setting in order to promote symptom management of mental health conditions. The 7300 square foot garden aims to pick up a tomato plant donation, the goal of this garden site is to promote healthy eating and physical activity by practicing mindful gardening in a group setting in order to promote symptom management of mental health conditions. The 7300 square foot garden area will be participating, too!

Photo credits: Cherry Flowers

EAT herbed mustard, homemade ice cream, garden-inspired desserts, fresh salsa, mint tea, or food from the Gandhi Mahal food truck!

Photo credits: Cherry Flowers

Tour the gardens, visiting a pit greenhouse, hydroponic salad table, bee hive, community orchard, and MORE! Some gardens in the BYI area will be participating, too!

Photo credits: Cherry Flowers

LEARN about Native American food and agriculture, pollinator-friendly plants, and seed-saving.

Photo credits: Cherry Flowers

EAT herbed mustard, homemade ice cream, garden-inspired desserts, fresh salsa, mint tea, or food from the Gandhi Mahal food truck!
COMMUNITY GARDENS IN THE BYI continued...

Midsummer, we ran into Sven Glader at the East Phillips Community garden where we were invited to try ripe cherries from a group of trees as we toured this beautiful garden oasis. Sven showed us his garden plot including a planting of Malabar spinach. After our tour of the East Phillips garden, Sven led us to his backyard where we were impressed by this novel reuse of a box spring turned garden bed!

The Growing Good MN program of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum works with Step Up youth to help maintain a number of food bearing garden sites in the Backyard neighborhoods during the summer. Waite House, American Swedish Institute, Pillsbury House, as well as sites in North Minneapolis.

Midtown Farmers Market—Fresh Local Flavor For All.
midtownfarmersmarket.org
Enjoy freshly prepared food while you fill your bag with produce, meats and cheeses from local farms, browse the wares of local artists, and enjoy the entertainment. Join us every Tuesday, 3 to 7 pm and Saturday, 8 to 1 pm throughout the season at the most accessible market in the Twin Cities. Whether you’re coming by car, bus, or bike, we’d love to see you at the market! Confused about the market’s location? Don’t be! We’ve just 300 feet east of where we used to be near the Lake Street LRT station parking lot. Have a question? Ask on Facebook or Twitter, or send an email toinfo@midtownfarmersmarket.org

Mishkii Gitigan Karma Market - Mondays, early afternoon to 7:30pm from May to October we offer pay-what-you-can Karma Markets, free “Grow Your Own” classes Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7:30, and gardening advice from our full-time farmer-educator.

CityKid Farm/Urban Ventures Farmers and Mobile Market - 2832 5th Ave S, Minneapolis Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 4-6 pm

Four Sisters Farmers Market
Corner of Franklin and Bloomington on Sundays 11:00AM to 3:00PM from August 16th – October 4th., 2001 Bloomington Ave S.
Four Sisters Farmers Market is an Indigenous-centered farmers market on Franklin and Bloomington in the Phillips Community of Minneapolis. A collaboration between Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI), Land Stewardship Project (LSP), and Hope Community Inc. (Hope), the market seeks to be a farmer-driven space that is part of building a community-based food system in the Phillips Community. Hope and LSP see the market as an opportunity to build multi-sector community networks that support moving individuals from passive consumers to active producers in a more fair, healthy, and just community food system.

Little Free Farmers Market: Every Saturday starting July 11th till September 12th volunteers meet at Sabathani Community Garden, were we have a plot dedicated to this project. We harvest from it, as well as two more gardens, and fill up the Little Free Farmers Market. They start this route at 8:30am and by 10am, the market is open at the corner of Columbus and 33rd St. People that stop by get to choose and take home a variety of organic produce for FREE. We like to share recipes, and encourage people to try new things. Contact us if you want to volunteer.

Markets in the BYI

Racing Heart Farm
Racing Heart is a small farm using sustainable and organic practices to grow local food for year-round eating. Much of the year in Minnesota, the produce found in the grocery store is being trucked or shipped from thousands of miles away. This comes at a cost to the environment and the local economy. At Racing Heart we are committed to changing that by providing fresh vegetables grown within 60 miles of the Twin Cities. By harvesting the fall abundance and keeping fresh food through proper storage techniques, our members can enjoy local veggies all year long! Les Macare and Els Ot/Clock are the team behind this operation. They live in the backyard in Phillips and grow outside of the city. They offer a winter CSA made up of stored vegetables and late summer produce you can preserve to enjoy locally grown food all year long. www.facebook.com/racingheartfarm

CANDO Central Area Neighborhood Organization
Fernanda Sequeiros, Sustainability and Food Access Coordinator fernanda@thecentralneighborhood.com 612-824-1333
www.facebook.com/PlantGrowShareatCentral

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Grow Share at Central
PLANT: Families that participate in the project are provided with the materials needed to grow their own organic raised-bed gardens. Families are also paired with a mentor. The relationship that grows between mentors and mentees provides support throughout the gardening season.
GROW: Through a series of workshops and gardening classes, participants gain confidence and gardening knowledge while getting to know fellow community members. Relationships, food, and skills are grown throughout the program.
SHARE: As the season progresses and the vegetables have ripened, families can contribute produce to the Little Free Farmers Market. This pop-up food cart will be biked around by volunteers every Saturday morning to share the harvest of this project with the community.
fernanda@thecentralneighborhood.com or 612-824-1333
Wellness: Meetings and Coalitions

Ninety minutes of good engagement

August 24th, on short public notice, Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board (MPRB) conducted the first of two scheduled Community Engagement meetings regarding the design of the Phillips Aquatics Center. Originally scheduled at the Phillips Community Center’s Conference Room A, the attendance warranted a last-minute change to the larger space in the cafeteria.

Representing the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board was Claire Swenson, Director, Design & Project Management and Dana Murdoch, Design Project Management, as well as Commissioners Scott Vreeland and Meg Forney.

The architect/design firm selected by the MPRB to come up with a final design is Studio Five architects, with Linda McCracken-Hunt from STUDIO FIVE Architects listening to opinions about the Aquatic Center and explaining the process.

BY DENNY BENNETT

Minneapolis Swims is a 501(c)3 charitable organization managed by an all-volunteer board of directors, and has no paid staff.

Minneapolis Swims mission is to bring equity, access and the opportunities that swimming can bring to all of the citizens of Minneapolis. It has decided that building the Phillips Aquatics Center is the most immediate path toward achieving these goals in Minneapolis.

In 2011, the Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board (MPRB) entered into a fundraising agreement with Minneapolis Swims. This was superseded by a more detailed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2013 which defined in greater detail Minneapolis Swims responsibilities in raising additional funds to build a larger facility, and the resulting relationship as the long-term lease holder and operating entity of the project if those milestones were achieved.

MPRB Resolution 2014-250 was passed. We also brought in an additional 200 thousand dollars in private funds during this time.

Moving forward, as we will continue to raise capital for the project as the actual designs are drawn up, and final costs come in. Additionally, we plan to meet with MPRB staff to begin discussions about what our role will look like once the facility opens.

Steve Wohlford and Linda McCracken-Hunt from STUDIO FIVE Architects listening to opinions about the Aquatic Center and explaining the process.

It is safe to say that, the interests of the following groups were discussed: East Phillips, Midtown, Ventura Village, Hispanic, Somali, Native American, Waite House, neighborhood children, school children, seniors, disabled, transgender, large families, early risers, nighttime swimmers, people against using the pool as a revenue source, solar energy advocates, open swim proponents, pro-windows, pro-concession stand, pro-common entrance, pro-replace meeting rooms and more!

The proud folks of Minneapolis are not known for timid participation, and tonight was no exception! The MPRB and Studio Five got a lot of feedback tonight. It will be really interesting to see how that manifests itself in the building’s final design.

From my perspective, representing Minneapolis Swims and the interests of many donors, it sounds like the basic concept of the 6 lane/4 lane pool’s 25 yard each configuration is safe, and that we can count on 10 lanes to always have available to ensure community access, consistent learn-to-swim programming, and enough revenue generation -- through lane sharing with MPS, the YWCA or Augsburg College -- that the Center can not only be equitable and accessible, but also sustainable so that our children and grandchildren can enjoy the legacy we are creating today.

This is a very important and exciting time in the shaping of the form and function of this facility. I encourage all who wish to see first-hand how the plans are developing, or to have their voices heard, to attend the next and final Community Engagement meeting on September 14th at 6:30 PM, 2nd floor at the Phillips Community Center.

Deney Bennett is President of Minneapolis Swims

Although the reporting deadline has long since passed, we have continued to collaborate with staff. Following the April 1st passage of MPRB Resolution 2015-165, where the MPRB chose the 10-lane option, our meetings with MPS staff and board members continued until their resolution of $1,750,000 in capital support was passed. We also brought in New Design Documents have begun.

It is important to note that the renderings, elevations, and plans shown here are conceptual images developed in the last five years in previous meetings and negotiations. Final design documents will now be prepared by the new design team Studio Five Architects including their conceptual images using previous images as history to date, added to information from the two Community Engagement Meetings—August 24th & September 14th—, and coupled with their own expertise.
Wellness: by Cultures and Compromise

OPINION

Stop the Expansion, Support Livability for Residents & Better Conditions for Mallgoers

BY COALITION OF RESIDENTS THAT OPPOSE OPPOSE THE SABRI MARKET EXPANSION

September 21, City Planning Commission to Vote on Expansion of Sabri 24th St Mall

Eagle Management – Omar Sabri – manager of the 24th Street Village Mall, wants to expand retail & commercial space by 8,800 square feet on top of a 10th Avenue parking lot on 10th Avenue & 24th street. In 2001, this site was approved for a 37-stall farmers market, but it has actually turned into a shopping mall with a place of worship and over 100 stores. As a result, the Sabri property places a SERIOUS burden on a neighborhood that is already asked to bear more environmental and economic burdens than most neighborhoods. The entire community needs relief to address safety issues and crime, reduces parking congestion and litter, and respects the needs of all residents and business owners in the community.

This is a request to community members to OPPOSE the Sabri expansion. Neighbors have a petition going – please sign & write a personal comment at: http://11thaveblockclub.com.cofeeecp.com/forms/SVM_Petition/

Visit the mall. It’s time to work on a solution that respects the dignity of immigrant communities and provides a decent place for people to congregate & work.

Safety is a serious issue for residents and mall goers, due to increased traffic and density in a residential neighborhood. For example, just during the month of June, a neighbor on 11th Avenue witnessed a head-on collision of two cars outside his house; the next week his own parked car was hit and totaled, and the following week a Mall goer’s car was hit head on. Unbelievably, there have been almost 4,000 parking & traffic violations thus far in 2015 (Jan-July 31) within just 1,500 feet of the property – representing 52% of all citations in the three surrounding neighborhoods. The proposed expansion increases the size of the mall by 10% and DECREASES the amount of off-street parking by 5%.

The owner of this property should not be rewarded with an expansion to increase business when he has not addressed the long-term problems at this site that already exist. The business owners at the Mall and neighbors deserve better.

On September 21, the City Planning Commission will vote on the Sabri expansion. City Officials Need to Hear From You NOW. Come to the City Planning Commission meeting and make your voice heard! Monday, September 21, 4:30 pm in City Hall, Room 317, 350 South 5th Street, Mpls.

Email or call key officials and tell them your opinion;

• City staff assigned to this project are required to log your emails and include them in their report to the City Planning Commission: email: hilary.dvorak@minneapolis.gov, and lisa.kuzen@minneapolis.gov.
• Rebecca Gagnon, City Planning Commission & School Board member: 612.382.1386 or email: Rebecca.Gagnon@mpls.ks12.mn.us.
• City Planning Commission & Councilmember Lisa Bender (612) 673-2210 or email: Lisa.Bender@minneapolis.gov.
• Meg Forney, City Planning Commission and Park Board member, 612-230-6443, Ext. 8 and email: megf@minneapolis.org.
• Still on the fence? Have a look at these crime statistics from the MPD Crime Analysis Unit as of August 6, 2015 – with over 900 police calls logged just in 2015 (see https://gallery.mailchimp.com/fe3d4dcd10ce42ca863d7bb91/files/VillageMarket-CrimeReport_Statistics_MPD.pdf). The Village Market Area appears to be a “center of activity” and “top frequent address” for both violent and non-violent crime.
• “The Village Market Area appears with second highest density within the City” for both violent and non-violent crime. “44% of reported crime was VIOLENT in 2015” as compared to 8% citywide.

For more information about the proposed expansion, see the application at: http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-147187.pdf

Immigration, Growth, Change and Community Maturity

BY HARVEY WINJE

The large old bakery building on 24th Street between Elliot and 10th Avenues has been converted into a “Mall” for retailing of about 100 small businesses. The need for such space apparently outweighs the availability and so too the need for parking to accommodate customers. The Mall owners have proposed expansion and some parking changes. It has become a very controversial issue as it affects the lives of residents and visitors to other community places. Ours is a community of immigration, innovation and change. Coincidentally two old buildings in Phillips were bakeries owned eventually by the same company, Emrich Bakery, that grew including the buying of other family owned businesses, like Egekvist (founded by two Danish brothers) and McGlynn (founded by an Irish immigrant). One is at 2603 through 2619 Bloomington by an Irish immigrant. The other is at 920 East 24th Street-owned by brother to Basim, Omar Sabri.

Today those two buildings have been converted from bakeries to retail and service centers with one having had a newspaper office and press, bee hive company, casket storage, housing contractor, county satellite probation office, and cabinet shop in intervening years.

The business office of one of the bakeries was in the house with its livery stable in the building behind for the horses that pulled the wagons of BAMBY Bakery

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“Diseases of the soul are always more dangerous and numerous than those of the body.” ~ Cicero

The Alley Newspaper • September 2015

The Alley Newspaper • September 2015
In the June 2014 Alley News on page 4, we posted photos of some of the “hotspot” areas related to the 24th Street Market (Souk) that is the focus of opposition, primarily from Midtown Phillips residents. Along with the photos and the request for neighborhood participation came the result in which Ventura Village voted affirmatively with contingencies while Midtown Phillips voted against the mall expansion. Issues at hand from each neighborhood are essentially the same. However, as the photo shows, a large percentage of the residents voting in Ventura Village are Somali, many of whose family members are shopkeepers or stakeholders in the property where they have their businesses. Listening to the interpreters at Ventura Village’s August 2015 General Membership meeting, residents have deep concerns not only with the crime, parking, street-crossings and traffic, but also inside where ADA compliance issues, bathrooms, and emergency exiting from the upstairs mosque were addressed.

Alley editor Harvey Winje penned a great essay called “Immigration, Growth, Change and Community Maturity” in that June 2015 issue of Alley News that bears re-reading.

It is clear that although each neighborhood voted differently from each other in 2014 and 2015, both are seeking the same outcomes. On September 21, the requested expansion issue will once again come before the City Planning Commission where the expansion request was turned down in 2014. As I wrote to a member of the Midtown Phillips group that is opposed to the expansion, I don’t think either of us want the mall to go away. It is an incredible cultural and economic resource for many of the newer Americans and more recent immigrants. But it will still take many months and even years before we can expect this to settle down. We residents most affected must join in designing the solution and setting expectations that the work that the City of Minneapolis needs to do with police, fire, licensing and regulations help us return this part of the Phillips Community to more livable neighborhoods.

— Robert Albee
Workshop: Researching the History of Your Home

Starting in September, Special Collections will be offering house history workshops on the first Saturday of each month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. We’ll guide you through the use of the Minneapolis History Collection (both print and digitized materials) to help you discover the history of your home, the people who lived there, the history of your neighborhood, and more.

Stay after the formal instruction to continue researching the history of your own home. If you live outside the city of Minneapolis, check with your local municipality for house history resources.

Want to get a head start? Learn more about house history on our website. Upcoming Workshops

Minneapolis Central Library, Special Collections, 4th Floor Saturday, October 3, 2015, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Register online (preferred, but not required): http://apps.hclib.org/events/index.cfm?ID=33208

Help Plan the Future of Minneapolis Parks at City-wide Meetings

Several large projects will help shape our award-winning park system for the next 20 years – and beyond!

Minneapolis Parks are undergoing what may be the most comprehensive planning effort in its history. Minneapolis residents are encouraged to get involved and share their opinions about these three distinct, yet deeply intertwined projects: RecQuest, Service Area Master Plans, and Closing the Gap: Investing in our Neighborhood Parks.

RecQuest and Service Master Plans focus on what Minneapolis residents want in parks over the next 25 to 30 years. Closing the Gap is about funding these needs.

Want to Know More?

Find more information about all three projects and subscribe to receive timely email updates at www.minneapolisparks.org/closingthegap.
Magic Stone

Apart from the smooth “water stones” deposited by the last glacier was a jagged chunk of glassy black obsidian fused to a layer of gray-grained brown basalt. Evidently, some billion years ago, there had been a torrential rain in conjunction with volcanic activity. It is the southeast path of Portland Avenue which leads ultimately to Pond Dakota Mission Park, and the high ground overlooking the Minnesota River Valley. From this vantage, herds of woolly mammoths once pondered the trees towering eastward from Lake Agassiz.

Then came the ancient people who paused at the spring fed streams, springs which are familiar to me. Later, the Iowa-Oto people occupied and mingled before they too were displaced (and mingled) by the Dakota.

Does the GREAT SPIRIT animate all things? Electrons spin (and mingled) by the Dakota… before they too were displaced. The City is not fooling anyone. We know at whom the “No Trespassing” signs. How did they lose their title to the land? Trespassing” signs on Lake Street and Hiawatha are directed. How dare the White Man be so cold and arrogant; who’s land is it? To the survival of our species, the modest place the universe is passed down. Inheritance wealth is passed down. Nothing. Just how is this? Does the GREAT SPIRIT animate all things? The kind hearted Liberals who run Minneapolis should be disgusted with themselves. I am so completely glad that Natives pitch camp under the Lake Street-Hiawatha Avenue overpass next to the “No Trespassing” signs. It is actually non-Natives who are the true violators. Load your guns and go vote White Man.

They’re not unemployed, they’re doing their job—making you uncomfortable. They’re not going away. Blessed are the true forgotten souls of this land. Inheritance wealth is passed down. Natives inherit nothing. Just how does that work? How did they lose title to the land?

Get your sorry self to work, drive by them in your fancy car, corral the true violators. It is actually non-Natives who are the true forgotten souls of this land.

Frank Reflections

BY FRANK ERICKSON

A retired U.S. official said, “The reality is, we may just have to live with ISIL; they look to be difficult to defeat.” Now, we know what Native Americans had to accept and that which they had to do.

Is “war” work, if you can’t “win” you learn to co-exist with your enemy? Why not just avoid the “war” and coexist? “War” still decides the pecking order. What primitives we are. Here is our society’s cold and corrupt use of the true Native souls of this land who have the police chase them up Lake Street, put up “No Trespassing” signs under the Lake Street-Hiawatha overpass and force them off Target’s property on Lake Street. 

The City is not fooling anyone. We know at whom the “No Trespassing” signs at Lake Street and Hiawatha are directed. How dare the White Man be so cold and arrogant; who’s land is it?

The kind hearted Liberals who run Minneapolis should be disgusted with themselves. I am so completely glad that Natives pitch camp under the Lake Street-Hiawatha Avenue overpass next to the “No Trespassing” signs. It is actually non-Natives who are the true violators. Load your guns and go vote White Man.

They’re not unemployed, they’re doing their job—making you uncomfortable. They’re not going away. Blessed are the true forgotten souls of this land. Inheritance wealth is passed down. Natives inherit nothing. Just how does that work? How did they lose title to the land?

Get your sorry self to work, drive by them in your fancy car, corral the true violators. It is actually non-Natives who are the true forgotten souls of this land.
The work of the Growing the Backyard CHAT has taken us from garden to garden collecting stories, making connections, sharing resources, lending a hand and arranging events. We worked with Patsy Parker to organize a compost bin building project at Paradise Garden. Working with Janet Court, Penny Arcos and her son from Paradise Garden, we helped families to construct ladybug houses at the Midtown Global Market. We worked with staff from Lutheran Social Services (LSS) to facilitate a seed starting project with children in the after-school program. We also assisted LSS and neighbors Siama Matsuungidi and Dallas Johnson, to organize a garden-side event at 24th and Portland featuring music, face painting, tea sampling, ice cream, and garden tours. Working with Reclaiming Community/ Communities of Light CHAT and TeENS CHAT, we represented the Backyard Initiative at the MayDay Festival at Powderhorn Park. Recently, we assisted in representing the BYI at the Hue-Man event and at Open Streets on East Lake Street and Franklin Avenue. Other activities of the Growing the Backyard CHAT include:

- Spoke at the monthly APOD (A Partnership of Diabetics) meeting to share information about growing healthy food.
- Established a permanent display featuring herb plants that can be used to make medicinal tea at the Backyard Initiative’s Resource Center in the Midtown Global Market. Part of this display includes an aquaponics system.
- Hosted six, Garden-In-a-Box raised beds from the MN Horticultural Society.
- Organized a community conversation on season extension techniques including aquaponics, hydroponics, hoop houses, and more.
- Collaborated with various organizations including Hope Communities, Urban Ventures, Lutheran Social Services, and the Community-University Health Care Center (CUHCC).

BYI Farmers Market at Cup Foods, 38th and Chicago with Teen CHAT member Carl Lubyey every Monday 3-6PM. In short, it has been a busy year so far, but we are not done yet! The Growing the Backyard CHAT is also involved in other important aspects of food justice such as food distribution, preparation and marketing with the essential guidance of two other CHAT team leaders, Collie Graddick and Candis McKelvy. None of the work of this industrious CHAT team, however, could have begun without the inspiration of BYI area resident, Hashep Seka.

As part of the Backyard Initiative, this site is organized by Tim Page, project lead of Growing the Backyard CHAT and co-owner of Page & Flowers/ Holistic Health Farms. It is designed to demonstrate produce container gardening for people who may have limited access to the land needed for an “in-ground” garden or for places where the soil is poor or contaminated. We have also found that it is possible to grow more food in less space by arranging the planters in a block without walkways because you can always move them if you need to. This also saves water since you can water just the plants and not the walkways!

Veggies are planted in individual pots or raised beds including a number of Garden-In-A-Box containers donated by Minnesota Green of the Minnesota Horticultural Society. Some of the boxes are assigned to various neighbors. There is a focus on growing the herbs used for making herbal teas as part of a Youthprise product development project. The Wellness Center Garden is also home to a composting project implemented by Patsy Parker, the incredible committed founder of Compostadores. At many locations around the Twin Cities, Patsy has helped to implement compost bin building projects and she works tirelessly to make sure the bins are filled with food waste quickly so they can begin a year long process of transforming into compost. The compost is then used to amend the soil in the garden where it is located.

Even more Gardens of the Backyard featured starting on page 7

Back Yard Initiative Back Page
The BYI Back Page is produced each month as a collabora- tion venture between the BYI Communications CHAT & Alley Communications, Inc., publisher of The Alley Newspaper. The Communications CHAT works with BYI CHAT (Community Health Action Teams) each month as a “resource CHAT” – helping to get the news and activities of the BYI out to the broader community.