Phillips Aquatics Center: A dream come true! IS OPEN!

Phillips Aquatics Center Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (at entrance to the 6-Lane Pool) These 25 adults represent the Partners for the Center’s Construction and Expansion whose support and dedication was a wide range of individuals and organizations in Phillips and the broader community. This includes generous funding support from the Mpls. Park and Recreation Board, the State of MN, Mpls. Public Schools and Hennepin County Youth Sports Grants Program, as well as donations from these Phillips Neighborhoods and Minneapolis/Swims. Support coordinated through Mpls. Swims includes funding from the Minneapolis Foundation, MdeWakantoon Sioux Community, the Piper Family Fund, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Margaret A. Cargill Foundation, Washington Foundation, Midtown Phillips Improvement Association, and Wells Fargo. The three children pictured here are a reminder of the focus of hundreds of people who spent innumerable hours of conversations, negotiations, planning sessions, and deliberation on scope, fund-raising, protocols, and policies.

The following remarks are five of the many dozens of heartfelt thank yous given at the Grand Opening Ceremony of this tremendous success story.

Nine years ago

BY BRAD PASS

We found an OLD Letter, dating back to 2009. It is from the Park Board’s Director of Community Recreation Services. It talks about the state of this building 9 years ago.

“I’ll read a few sentences:

“After reviewing the present condition of the Phillips Community Center, I have reluctantly recommended to the General Manager and the Superintendent that the building be closed and ‘mothballed’ no later than October 15, 2009. In light of our present financial position and the lack of responsible options, they have agreed.

“The boiler and HVAC systems were in disrepair, the swimming pool mechanics inoperable, the pool deck supports crumbling, bath-

rooms and plumbing non- usable, gym floor and carpeting beyond cleaning, some electrical systems non-functional... a total mess.

“So, faced with the probability that this wonderful but challenged building would be torn down or sold as a warehouse to the local hospitals, friends, neighbors and communities stepped up, spoke up and ponied up—the people of East Phillips voted to donate $75,000 which acted as a partial match to the very large Native American donation through the MdeWakantoon Sioux and many more large donations started flowing in—and nine years later, here we stand, celebrating the Grand Opening of this fan-
tastic facility. This is a tribute to what the people can do.

Phillips Aquatics Center
Continued on page 2

March for immigrant and workers’ rights!

BY LINDSEY FENNER

On Tuesday, May 1, International Workers’ Day, a broad coalition of community, immigrant, and labor organizations will be marching through South Minneapolis for immigrant workers’ rights. Organized by the Minnesota Immigrant Rights Action Committee (MIRAC), neighbors will be show-
ing up for a platform that protects all workers, ‘¡el pueblo unido, jamás será vencido’!

TUESDAY, MAY 1, 3:30 PM
Lake Street & Nicollet Avenue
No attacks on immigrants, refugees & Muslims
No more deportations
Legalization for all
Clean DREAM Act Now
Restore Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for Salvadorans & Haitians
Adopt the Sanctuary Platform
Make Minnesota a Sanctuary State
Expand union rights in Minnesota
Stop all ‘right to work’ (for less) attacks
Living wage for all
Medicare for all
End to police brutality!
Community control of the police!
Climate justice
Peace

MARTES 1 DE MAYO, 3:30 PM
Calle Lake y Avenida Nicollet
Apto la fecha para salir a la calle para la marcha este año por los derechos de los inmigrantes y los trabajadores en el Día Internacional de los Trabajadores.

Virgil Welna 1929-2019

Vast legacy by quintessential storekeeper and community elder

Virgil Welna has heard the last bell signaling another person to meet and serve

BY JENN WELNA

Born on March 24th, 1929 in Holdingford, MN to Alphonse (Al) and Anna, Virgil (Virg) Welna was cherished. He was in 8th grade, his family moved from their large house in the small town to a two-bedroom apartment in the Phillips neighborhood to ensure that each of their children could find a job and go to college. Upon his arrival, Virgil lost his childhood and worked two jobs to pay his tuition to DelaSalle High School: in the fruit department at the local grocer and and a lunch counter where his father was the manager.

In his senior year, he met his beloved wife of nearly 67 years, Patricia (Pat) Farkell. Family lore tells how, once, when they first began seeing each other, Virg put his arm around Pat, to which she exclaimed “she wasn’t that kind of girl.” She fervently regretted that statement during their four years of courtship as Virg, disciplined in all things, didn’t even hold her hand again until they were married. However, you ask any of the Welna family today, they would tell you that whether on their lunch break at the hardware store (where both Pat and Virg worked up until his death) or watching their grandchildren play at a family gathering, you would often see Pat and Virg sitting together in companion-
able silence, holding hands. His love for his wife was quiet, unwar-
ning, and profound. Her bright, sociable nature and her ability to talk to anyone perfectly captured his point to Virg’s self-contained calm.

After graduating from DelaSalle in 1947, Virg was accepted at the University of St. Thomas. To save money, he lived at home with his parents and paid his way through school by working at John A. Dalsin and Son Roofing Company. During

Virgil Welna 1929-2019
Continued on page 6

Our DAD, Virgil Welna

BY MURPHY BYRNA

He unlocked the door and crawled down the awning. Then turns on the lights. A day is dawning. It’s eight o’clock sharp, all merchandise in its’ place. For the next 10 hours he’ll have to keep a steady pace. Serving the needs of the young and the old. And hearing with his heart, I have been told.

Down craky stairs, he heads for the basement. To a child’s eyes, it is a place of amazement. Wood beams on the ceiling and limestone for walls. And wheels of machine oil I do recall.

He cracks round and round and to cut pipes. The sweat on his brow he wipe to wipe. Threads of metal, litter aprons and floor. No need to sweep for there soon will be more.

He hear the buzz signal, he’s needed upstairs. The store’s humming with customers and his ability to weave.

Signaling customers as they enter and the back of the store, a merry bell rings above the door.

All through the day at the front of the store, a merry bell rings above the door. Signaling customers as they enter and leave. Their lives creating a beautiful weave.

At the end of the day, the floors are all swept, aprons are hung where they are kept. He climbs up the awning and out the lights. And turns the key, it’s quite a sight.

Correction: With great chagrin, The Alley Editor apologizes for having Annie Young’s birthdate incorrect when it should have been 1944 in the April issue. In light of this, The Alley Editor apologizes for having Annie Young’s birthdate incorrect when it should have been 1944 in the April issue.

May 6th MayDay Celebration: Parade & festival
3 pm

Of, By, and For its Readers Since 1976

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thealley

That’s Fit to Print

alleynews.org
Phillips West Neighborhood Events: www.phillipswest.info

May 19th Sat. 9-11am
Phillips West Spring Clean Up!
Join your neighbors & Partners for a block by block litter pick up starting at 9:30am but after FREE breakfast from 9 to 9:30am. LSS-2400 Park Avenue.
Free bags, gloves and maps for all volunteers! Perfect volunteer opportunity for large groups, family & youth! Free parking off Oakland Ave. Info: Crystal at 612-879-5833 or pwno2005@yahoo.com

Augsburg Fairview School
Now Enrolling Grades 9-12
Learning Connected to Life
Health & Wellness Focus
Indian Education Program
Work Based Learning
Credit Recovery
Special Education Program
Social Work Department
Small Class Size
PSHE & Scholarships
MetroTransit Go-To Card

Metro Transit
How about FREE public transit as a great alternative in blizzards?

BY JOHN CHARLES WILSON

Our weather hasn’t behaved itself so far this year: March went in like a lamb and out like a lion, and the April showers that are sup-
posed to bring May flowers came as frozen forms.

In adverse weather, public tran-
sit shines as an alternative to getting in your car and risking an accident. Of course, the best thing to do is stay home during a blizzard, but when you absolutely positively have to get somewhere, there’s weather to consider. Another way to manage your bad weather is to use public transportation. The cost of gas is prohibitory for those on a fixed income, and as such, public transportation is quite affordable. Of course, the best thing to do is stay home during a blizzard, but when you absolutely positively have to get somewhere, there’s weather to consider.

As such, Metro Transit should advertise itself as the back- up transportation system for people who ordinarily enjoy the luxury of driving their own cars, but understand that in snowy and icy condi-
tions, a larger vehicle with a pro-
dfessional driver is less likely to get

One less accident waiting to hap-
pen. Another update to this is some people might try the service for the first time and realize that it could be useful for their regular commute, even if they’d have to pay a fare.

As to troublemakers and joy-
riders abusing the system, as hap-
pens in some communities, we should advertise it as the back-up transportation system for people who ordinarily enjoy the luxury of driving their own cars, but understand that in snowy and icy conditions, a larger vehicle with a professional driver is less likely to get

How about FREE public transit as a great alternative in blizzards?

Phillips Aquatics Center
Continued on page 7
The origins of Memorial Day in Minneapolis and the G.A.R. Lot at Layman’s Cemetery

Martin L. Nicks, the first burial in the G.A.R. Lot

May 28, 2018, will be the 150th anniversary of the first Memorial Day as it was originally called Decoration Day. It was on May 5, 1868, that General John A. Logan, Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, issued General Order No. 11, which called for “The 30th day of May, 1868, [to be] designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of our country during the late rebellion... with the hope that it will be kept up from year to year...” The late date of the order made any organized celebration in Minneapolis unlikely, and although there were no documented celebrations, it’s still quite possible that the local members of the G.A.R. made a visit to the city cemetery (Layman’s cemetery) and paid their respects to their fallen comrades. By the following year, 1869, it was quite a different story. The Minneapolis Tribune reported: “A large concourse of our citizens met at the cemetery and at 3½ pm formed in procession and proceeded to the graves of our soldiers...” The Rev. F. A. Connell, read a few appropriate verses from the Scriptures and Capt. J.C. Whitney followed with some well-timed remarks upon the occasion...” The paper also listed the names of the 20 known veterans buried there.

As May 30, 1870 approached, the city of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Post 3 of the G.A.R. were well prepared to outside the previous year’s celebration. As reported in the Minneapolis Tribune; “The head of the column started from the corner of Minnetonka Street [First Avenue] and Washington Avenue, following the splendid band of the Twentieth Infantry [from] Fort Snelling... The procession, which was more than two miles long marched up Helen Street [Second Avenue], to Seventh, down Seventh, leaving it for the old cemetery road.” A speaker’s platform had been erected just outside the cemetery entrance and was soon surrounded by the many hundreds of people and carriages making the scene “a magnificent appearance.”

As the ceremony began, the Fort Band played a “beautiful audare followed by a dirge from the ‘Turners band’”. General orders from the G.A.R. were read, prayers were given, and The Harmonia Singing Society sang, after which, Capt. J.C. Whitney Addressed the crowd. The court of known veterans in the cemetery was now at 27.

A Resolution.

During the ceremony of decoration of graves, the G.A.R. found the grave of Martin L. Nicks in an obscure place in the cemetery, among the paupers, of whom, probably, he had been one, buried by the county. At the suggestion of Capt. Whitney, H.G. Hicks moved that the remains be removed to a more appropriate spot, which being put in due form by Post commander E.M. Marshall, was unanimously carried. In 1871, it was announced that the newly named, George N. Morgan, Post No. 3 of the Grand Army of the Republic, had followed through on their resolution from the previous year. Having purchased a Lot just inside the gates on Lake Street, the remains of Martin L. Nicks had been moved from the Potters Field to the new Grand Army of the Republic Lot at Layman’s Cemetery.

But who was Martin L. Nicks? That “Tale” will be in next month’s Tales from Pioneer and Soldier’s Memorial Cemetery column.

The tombstone of Martin Luther Nicks is a comparison as it usually looks (left) and how it looks when the sun light hits it at the correct angle (right).

Roland Wells: 30 of 45 years of ministry at Portland Av. St. Paul’s Lutheran

By St. Paul’s Congregation

For thirty years, Pastor Roland Wells has been pastor of St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran at 1901 Portland. That will come to an end on April 30, as he retires, to continue his local and national work in cross-cultural ministry. He came to St. Paul’s as our neighborhood was descending into the crack wars, which hit their peak in 1995-97. With open-air crack markets on their steps and bullet holes in the building, St. Paul’s set about to help change things by training people to do holistic ministry through the School of Urban Ministry, now renamed “MissionShift Institute.” Since then, over a thousand people have attended the course in Minneapolis, Brooklyn Center, Houston, St. Louis and Kansas City.

Rev. Wells also mentored over 100 seminary students from Luther Seminary and others. The congregation has hosted and mentored about a dozen church plants and non-profit organizations. A year-long celebration, “Global Worship” brings churches from many cultures together to worship together and share their traditions. Wells served as a delegate to the global “Cape Town 2010” church gathering, and continues to teach and write about cross-cultural urban ministry.

Wells’ predecessor, Rev. Carroll Satter also served the congregation for 30 years, so the church has only had two senior pastors in over 60 years! Long-term staff commitment is a hallmark of the supportive congregation. Its Music Director, Lois Bodurtha has served for 42 years, and their Secretary, Miraz Adoga for 15.

A Sunday of celebration of Wells’ 45 years of church ministry will be held at 9:15 worship service on Sunday, May 20, and by a special celebration of remembering at 3:00 pm, at 1901 Portland. The community is invited. Details: www.StPaulsChurch.info

A new world needs new people

By Patrick Cabello Hansel

St. Paul’s Lutheran and its Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts are committed to transforming the neighborhood, and building stronger, healthier and (even) wiser minds. These are just some of the activities this spring & summer:

• Sat. May 12, 10 AM to 1 PM: Pollinates Phillips: planting green, sharing art
• June 11-15: Creativity Camp for children ages 3-12
• June 24: 15th Ave S—look for the art and the green!
FINALLY IT’S SPRING!

& Garden Plots are still available

in the

East Phillips Community
17th Ave. Garden
2428 17th Ave. S.

If you live in the East Phillips neighborhood, Contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478. Don’t Wait!

Plots cost $30.00 Per season plus a $5.00 Key Fee

For Your Calendar:

The EPIC Community Meetings are on the SECOND Thursday – Next Meetings; Thursday, 5/10/2018 and 6/14/2018 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; Tuesday 5/29/18 and 6/26/18 at 11:30 AM. Lunch is served. Updates on Partner Programming, Park Events, SummerFest 2018 & News.

Meeting Locations: The above meetings and events are held at the fully accessible East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center located at 2307 17th Ave. S.

The EPIC Board of Directors meet on the FIRST Saturday of the month – Next Meetings; 5/5/2018 and 6/2/2018 at 10:00 AM.

The East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Gardeners meeton the second Saturday of Each Month the next meetings are 5/12/2018 in the Community Center and 6/9/2018 in the GARDEN.

East Phillips Residents wanting a 2018 Garden Plot, contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478.

East Phillips Park SummerFest – Sunday, June 24th starting at 1:00 to 5:00 PM in the Park.
VENTURA VILLAGE NEWS
MAY 2018

MAY 9TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING @ 7:00 PM

MASHKIKII GITIGAN - 24th STREET URBAN FARM

"The 2018 growing season, weather permitting, is just around the corner! The 24th Street Urban Farm Coalition is excited for this year at the Mashkikii Gitigan, Chicago Ave and Hoop House sites. We'll be bringing on youth agricultural educators with ties to Phillips and gardening experience who will work with partners in the neighborhood to ensure a successful growing season at all three sites. We look forward to strengthening Native American leadership on the coalition and on staff this year! We are revamping the staffing structure to encourage more community engagement from the first seeds planted all the way to the Grow Your Own workshops.

Michele Manske is the lead Mashkikii Gitigan Gardner. Several youth who learned gardening skills and previously worked with "Dream of Wild Health" last year will receive stipends to assist in the Mashkikii Gitigan gardens. Members of the 24th Street Urban Farm coalition members include: White House, Ventura Village, Indian Health Board, Native American Community Clinic, NACDI, Women’s Environmental Institute, Dream of Wild Health, SNAP Education (University of Minnesota). New this year is the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood. Throughout the growing season, watch for new educational workshops and opportunities.

Programming this year will focus on gardening basics, DIY herbal remedies, and other topics yet to be named, especially from a variety of Native American and Indigenous traditions. We look forward to greater community engagement and the exciting possibilities our Youth Agricultural Educators will create along with our neighborhood partners. Stay tuned for more updates and a schedule of events, and we hope to see you out in the gardens!"

Ventura Village’s Green Thumbs Unite!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR VENTURA VILLAGE RESIDENTS

Flowers on Franklin - Saturday, May 19th will be the day in which Ventura Village volunteers will be planting annuals in the large flower pots up and down Franklin Avenue. We will be meeting at the Trinity First parking lot at 13th Avenue & East Franklin at 10:00 AM. Everybody is welcome and invited to participate! The more volunteers, the faster the work gets done! If you have a wagon, small gardening tools and gloves, please bring them!

Seed Exchange & Workshop - On Saturday, May 19th, Dream of Wild Health will be hosting a free seed exchange and workshop, starting at 10:00 AM until noon, in the Mashkikii Gitigan Garden. Located across the street from the Indian Health Board at East 24th Street and 13th Avenue. This should help you get a great start on your own garden!

Looking for Gardening Space? If you want to garden, but don’t have a place, you can contact Ethan at ethan@phillsburyunited.org for a site at one of our existing neighborhood gardens.

Advice from Master Gardeners - If you’re having problems or are anticipating new ones, get advice from a Minnesota Master Gardener by contacting ethan@phillsburyunited.org.

Gardening at Minneapolis public housing high rises. - This will be the year that we hope to begin gardening at the public housing high rises in our neighborhood. Stay tuned for future announcements of our plans and locations.

Phillips Pool Dedicated!


UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE MONTHLY & COMMITTEE MEETINGS
• WEDNESDAY, MAY 10TH: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 6:00 PM
• WEDNESDAY, MAY 10TH: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 7:00 PM
• TO BE ANNOUNCED: WELLNESS, GARDENING & GREENING MEETING
• TUESDAY, MAY 22nd: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 6:00 PM
• THURSDAY MAY 24TH: HOUSING & LAND COMMITTEE: 5:30 PM
• THURSDAY MAY 24TH: CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6:30 PM

Ventura Village Meetings are upstairs in the Phillips Community Center at 2323 - 11th Avenue South • Minneapolis • 612-874-9070
reelection sending all the dogs to a mayor of Megasaki, is up for scourge and exiled to Trash Island. “Moonrise Kingdom” (2012). “Grand Budapest Hotel” (2014), and The last film Anderson did is “The likely to appreciate “Isle of Dogs.” Anderson and love dogs are very ooooo Fox Searchlight Pictures Action/Comedy (2018) Animation/Adventure/(

Those who are fans of Wes Anderson and love dogs are very likely to appreciate “Isle of Dogs.” The last film Anderson did is “The Grand Budapest Hotel” (2014), and “Moonrise Kingdom” (2012). A flu epidemic has broken out in make believe town Meganski, Japan, the dogs are blamed for the scourge and exiled to Trash Island. Kobayas (Kenichi Nomura), the mayor of Meganski, is up for reelection sending all the dogs to a landfill where food (most of it rotten and radioactive) is scarce and survival is dire.

Atari (Koya Rankin), a 12-year-old boy, whose uncle is the mayor, crash lands on Trash Island in search of his beloved watchdog Spots (Liev Schreiber). When Chief (Bryan Cranston) comes into the picture as the alpha dog he bands together Rex (Edward Norton), Boss (Bill Murray), Duke (Jeff Goldblum) and King (Bob Balaban) to help Atari find his pooch. Chief is a stray dog who knows how to stand adverse conditions. When Rex laments by saying, “I don’t think I can stomach anymore of this garbage.” Chief responds, “Nobody’s giving up around here...we’re scary, indestructable alpha dogs.”

The real plan is to band as many dogs together along with Atari to fight against the corrupt regime of Kobayashi. Those dogs are determined to get home and away from death on Trash Island.

Cast: Bryan Cranston (as Chief), Liev Schreiber (as Spots), Edward Norton (as Rex), Scarlett Johansson (as Ntunng), Koya Rankin (as Atari), Bob Balaban (as King), Akira Ito (as Professor), Bill Murray (as Boss), Tilda Swinton (as Oracle). Director: Wes Anderson. (PG-13) Running time: 101 minutes.

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II
oldschoolmovies.wordpress.com
howardmcquitter68@gmail.com

THE MINNEAPOLIS
MINIMUM WAGE IS INCREASING

What is the U of M’s Wages Study about?

The minimum wage is scheduled to rise to $15 an hour in Minneapolis over the next 5 years. The Wages Study, funded by the National Institutes of Health, will evaluate the effects of this increase on the health of low-wage Minneapolis workers. The study will look at a number of health-related measures including food purchases. The aim is to enroll 450 low-wage workers in Minneapolis (earning $11.50/hour or less). Low-wage workers will also be enrolled in Raleigh, North Carolina for comparison because that State has passed a law preventing municipalities from raising the minimum wage.

Health effects of the Minneapolis Wage Ordinance are being studied for several reasons: Minimum wage is a social determinant of health; minimum wage is a potential policy lever to address health equity; health effects of wages need to be studied more fully; and, the stated purpose of the Minneapolis Wage Ordinance is to “maintain worker’s health, efficacy, and general well-being.

Eligible participants will be compensated for their participation.

Daily hardware business was his quiet ministry

holiday breaks, Virg would invite the Austrian foreign exchange students at St. Thomas to stay with his family. The relationships he formed with those students eventually led him to spend a semester abroad in Vienna, Austria, at their behest. His semester in Vienna served him well as the service when he worked in Berlin during the Korean War. In some ways, it was also his semester spent abroad that led him to open Welna Hardware with his father in 1954. He returned from Berlin intending to become a teacher, however, due to his study abroad program being the first of its kind in Minnesota, the licensing board would not accept the college credits earned in Austria and he needed an additional semester of school to qualify for his teaching license.

When his father approached him with the idea of buying out Russell Dalsin and starting Welna Hardware as a father-son venture, Virg’s pragmatism and foresight led him to agree. He eventually went on to run the business with his youngest son, Mark. The Welna family now operates three hardware stores in the Minneapolis area. Virg could not have predicted the ways in which that one decision would connect his family, not only to the communities they serve, but to one another.

The daily business of the hardware store was his quiet ministry. Each interaction with a customer was an opportunity to affirm every person’s right to human dignity, respect and love. He was a man of deep faith who, through his selflessness and dedication to service, taught his children and grandchildren that we have a responsibility to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable among us.

In his 70s, Virg was diagnosed with Parkinson’s Disease. He met each progressive decline in his health and ability with the same courage and humility that defined every part of his life. He passed away at home on April 8th, 2018 due to complications from a recently diagnosed aggressive cancer. He is preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Jerry and Bill. He is survived by his wife, Pat; three children, Jim (Sue) Welna, Virginia (Joseph) Magner, and Mark (Cathy) Welna; seven grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brother Donald (Harriet) Welna; sisters Lois (Joe) Mayou and Jane (Stan) Lins; as well as many other relatives and friends.

Virgil Welna 1929-2018 From page 1
Raise Your Voice
Seven Generations

By PETER MOLENAAR

The “7th generation” principle, taught by our Native American neighbors, says that in every decision we make, we must consider how it will affect our descendents seven generations into the future. This approach seems to have worked well for a people who have demonstrated 10,000 years of staying power. As for me, I look back to the great and powerful Dakota who lived here for many generations.

Meanwhile…

While pondering the Dakota fracking fields, Mother Earth wonders how much global warming methane seeps to her atmosphere under a “Clean Power Plan” which, soon enough, will exhaust this supply of natural gas in electrical power plants.

Meanwhile…

We suffer a ruling class which appears more confused than ever—firing away at numerous false flags, as the rate of profit in globalized manufacturing begins to decline.

…and what else?

Sinclair Broadcasting is gobbling up local news stations and is forcing local news reporters to read propaganda pieces written by Trump-friendly overlords, even as limbless wounded warriors say to us: “I would do it all again for freedom!”

This is why little papers like The Alley are important to us all.

Help Fill Our Bowl
A “Free” Paper that is Not FREE!

Here is what it costs to produce 8 pages of The Alley Newspaper each month:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordination/Production</td>
<td>$1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>$673</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delivery</td>
<td>$615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>$30</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,268.00</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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We only can count on about two-thirds of these costs each month from ads and page sponsors. If this vital community-owned newspaper is to continue, we need you to help us fill our BOWL!

If you want to read The Alley each month, please write a check TODAY:

Alley Communications, P.O. Box 7006, Mpls., MN 55407

Add a little to cover the cost for a friend or neighbor, too! Questions? Call 612-990-4022

If you would like to volunteer your time and expertise to help make The Alley more sustainable, please JOIN our Transition Team! Email editor@alleynews.org

We are healthier than when we come to use the pool, we say in Washington State, each day we come to use the pool, we are healthier than when we were the day before. This is what this pool has to be about for the entire community becoming healthier each day.

That’s why we have come together today, to make this happen! Thank you very much!

Many cultures and partnerships enrich this gathering place.

BY SIAD ALI

Siad talked passionately about how many cultures came together and formed partnerships that made this great project and others possible. She gave heartfelt appreciation to all of the elected officials who helped neighborhood people find the funding and political means to make this pool happen.

All of the many speakers expressed admiration for the collaboration of so neighbors, organizations, funding sources, bureaucracies, and officials to bring this project to an amazing facility and success.

Wendell Phillips said, “Common sense doesn’t ask for an impossible chessboard; it takes the one before it and plays the game.” Hundreds of people did just that to revive this facility, that seemed like an impossible task, into THE PHILLIPS AQUATIC CENTER!

Center has his name who said “...play the game!”

1. Phillips Aquatics Center
2. Help Fill Our Bowl
3. Raise Your Voice
4. Seven Generations
5. Help Fill Our Bowl
6. A “Free” Paper that is Not FREE!
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How does the work of the BACKYARD INITIATIVE align with the overall health status?

The Backyard Initiative (BYI) is a 10-year partnership between community residents in South Minneapolis and Allina Health. The Cultural Wellness Center, as the lead agency, assists in facilitating the partnership and the community engagement process. This community organization has a long history developing social enterprises by engaging community residents to improve health through self-study, surfacing and producing knowledge, cross-cultural knowledge exchange and relationship building.

The Cultural Wellness Center’s Theory of Sickness was birthed of out their years of research showing that social conditions—including isolation and a lack of social support—have a profound impact on our health. Yet, as portrayed in the graph (in orange), 88 percent of our health care dollars (in 2011) was spent on health care access and not on the factors most influencing our health.

By partnering the expertise and resources of the Cultural Wellness Center with health care institutions and the wisdom and expertise of residents, The Backyard Initiative was established upon a proven and solid infrastructure. It has provided a host of activities that move beyond medical care to improve health. Over the last 10 years, the Backyard’s essential work has been to strengthen the capacity of residents to draw on their own knowledge, skills, and cultural values toward establishing a system of wellness. In doing so, the Backyard Initiative is addressing the largest factors that influence our health status, lifestyle and behavior. (See the green portion of the graph above).

This remarkable partnership began in 2008 with a commitment between the partners to sustain this unique initiative for 10 years, funded by the financial contributions of Allina put alongside of the cultural and social capital of the residents. Now it is time for the work of Backyard Initiative to become self-sustaining. This is not about “funding ending” or the partnership disbanding. Instead, the resident leaders involved in the Backyard Initiative need to fully embrace their success in developing strategies that effectively address the community’s health status. This success moves beyond remaining just as an “initiative” and one that needs to consistently seek funding to exist and do its good work. The new vision being currently developed transforms the Backyard into the Community Caregiving Health Cooperative. Active planning and training work is underway in 2018 to accomplish this transition to fully occur in 2019.

The Community Caregiving Health Cooperative will become a direct service provider in addressing lifestyle and behavior, the major factors influencing the health status of members of our community.