Time is running out for The Alley!

New leadership, new expertise is NEEDED NOW...maybe even a new direction?

Timeline for Alley Transition

October 2018
ONE BIG PARTY! ...to celebrate the END of The Alley Newspaper or its transformation!

June 2018
Finalize the development of Transition Team; finalize a draft of a Transition Plan.

May 23, 2018
Another Stakeholders meeting to procure more opinions from readers about the future of The Alley; More ways of keeping in touch with the community about the Transition were put into action.

April 4, 2018
Meeting of The Alley writers as the core stakeholders; invitation to form a Transition Team is made public.

March 2018
Board reviews the Stakeholders Analysis of the Humphrey students and begins to develop a Transition Team.

February 2018
Prepare and help to conduct a Humphrey Institute Public Affairs class; students conducted an analysis with 13 stakeholders; a survey was developed to further investigate the opinions of Alley readers.

November 2017
Board lays out a plan of action for 2018 to either transfer the leadership of The Alley or to end it with one huge party!

December 2016
Initial stakeholders meeting identifies all that “The Alley Is” so that it might more fully communicate its purpose to others.

2012-2013
Phillips citizen participation groups begin to prepare their own content and pay for that monthly space in the paper; The BYI Back Page is produced and funded through the Backyard Initiative.

2009
The current Editor announces to the Board it is time to turn over the reins and make a succession plan.

YOU can help us stop the clock and keep The Alley moving forward!

1. Show up Wednesday, June 13, 8:30-8:00 pm, East Phillips Cultural Community Center (2307-17th Avenue South, Mpls., 55404) with your ideas or to lend your expertise!

2. Email Cathy: cstrobel114@gmail.com with your comments on whether The Alley should continue or not? Why?

3. Call Harvey 612-990-4022 or send us a message on Facebook.

4. Buy ad space to promote your business or organization!

5. Make a donation of $5 or more to help provide the time and space for us to imagine our future! Send checks to: Alley Communications, PO Box 7006, Minneapolis, MN 55407
Metro Transit
By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

One of the sad things about writing for a monthly paper is that even when you have early access to inside information, you rarely get the “scoop” because it’s publicly available before your publication hits the stands...

That said, this month’s big transit news is the quarterly service change, which was originally planned for June 16, but was moved up to the 9th in order to coincide with construction on I-35W.

There is no direct effect on Phillips, but residents will notice anyway. The most obvious change is that bases which normally go down I-35W are being detoured off the freeway between downtown Minneapolis and 31st St. Routes 135, 154, 407, 532, 553, 554, and 558 will be using the Portland/Parkway one-way pair without stopping, and Routes 135, 146, 535, 578, and 597 will be using the Main Street/10th Ave. S. one-way pair stopping only at Lake St.

The second big change is that Route 353, a limited stop route to Richfield and Bloomington, will be running seven days a week instead of just Monday through Friday.

A third change, less relevant to Phillips per se but exciting to me, is that Route 54, a limited stop change from the Mall of America to downtown Saint Paul, is being extended to Maplewood Mall. As someone who goes to Maplewood about once a month, I look forward to having a faster, more direct way to go than the 64, the bus that stops every block from downtown Saint Paul to Maplewood Mall.

To what do we owe this disruption? Interstate 35W is being rebuilt south of downtown Minneapolis, in part to accommodate the planned Orange Line, a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line that is planned to start in 2020 and run from downtown Minneapolis to Burnsville via the current route of the Orange Line, stopping along the freeway at Lake St. (in a new station like the current one in the middle of I-35W at 46th St.) and 46th, 60th, 70th, 86th, 98th St., American Blvd., and 98th St.

Will it be worth it? If past transit projects are any indication, then yes. Can you imagine life without the Blue and Green line rail lines? Yet, people complained about the disruption caused during construction. A few businesses even closed due to the loss of customers. But when all was said and done, things bounced back remarkably. Maybe it will be ever so much more so now!
Martin L. Nicks, in MN via TB, died, was 1st burial GAR Lot

Civil War often set family vs. family, brother vs. brother

Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

By TIMOTHY MCCALL

Martin Luther Nicks has been something of an enigma, an unknown. Even his marker, which was placed nearly 140 years ago, simply lists him as “U.S. Soldier.” There has been a consistent rumor that he was actually a veteran of the Confederate Army who had been mistakenly buried in the G.A.R. lot. While I’m not certain of the origin of this rumor, I wouldn’t be surprised if it was because he was from Tennessee, had lived in Minnesota less than a year before his death and that there were no known records of his service. With the few facts available, it seemed likely that Martin could have fought for the Confederacy. However, as more information has become available, it appears that Martin chose conscience over family and state.

Martin was born in Hickman County, Tennessee in 1839, the eldest son of nine children. His father Perry Nicks, was born in Hickman County in 1816, and his Grandfather, Absalom Doak Nicks had served in the 1st Regiment Mounted Gannmen of the Tennessee Volunteers in the War of 1812, so the families roots in Tennessee were deep. As the reality of war approached, the pressure to choose sides must have weighed heavily on Martin, and like many accounts of brother vs. brother during the Civil War, Martin chose to go North, while his three younger brothers remained in the South and joined Tennessee units in the Confederate Army.

At the outbreak of war, Martin enlisted in the 1st Missouri Light Artillery for a period of three months. He saw action early on at the Battle of Boonville (a Union victory) and the Battle of Wilsons Creek (a Union loss), which was the first major battle fought in the Western Theater. Perhaps it was about this time, according to Nick family lore, that they received the only letter from Martin since he had left home. In the letter, he advised people not to go to war. His family never heard from him again and assumed that he had died in the war.

At the expiration of his three-month enlistment, he reenlisted in the 1st Missouri Infantry which was soon reorganized into the 1st Missouri Light Artillery. Unfortunately, due to poor health, he was relegated to hospital work at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, until he received a medical discharge on May 25, 1863. His diagnosis was Phthisis Pulmonalis or Tuberculosis. Unwilling or more likely unable to return to his southern home, he headed further north to Minnesota. It was a common misconception of the time that the clean, brisk air of Minnesota held curative powers for Tuberculosis, but this of course was not true. Less than 10 months after being discharged from the army, on March 14, 1864, at the age of 26 years, Martin Nicks died from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Minneapolis and was buried in the Potter’s Field at Layman’s cemetery, likely at the county’s expense.

How, in 1869, the G.A.R. was notified of Martins service in the Union Army is not known. Perhaps he was wearing his uniform when he arrived in Minneapolis and someone remembered this, we may never know. His heavily worn marker, placed about 1879 is still standing in the Grand Army of the Republic lot, Lot 63, Block M in the Northwest corner. It’s barely legible, but if you look at it at the right time of day, when the sun hits it at just the right angle, you can still just make out: “Martin Nicks, U.S. Soldier.”

Memorial Day observance

By TIMOTHY MCCALL

This Fife and Drum duo signaled the 150th Memorial Day observance at Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery May 28, 2018 at Lake and Cedar Avenues. Fifes, an ancient instrument have been in use by armies (in its modern form) since the 16th century. Fifes originated accompanied companies of men providing music on the march, usually songs from home. Drums have always had a military role going back to the earliest times when drummers and fifers signaled preparatory alerts and execution signals as well as times of days for the troops; when to rise in the morning and retire at night, when to eat, when to assemble, and to sound an alarm. It became customary for each company of 100 or so men to be assigned 2 fifers and 2 drummers to sound signals, hours and alarms, as well as play popular music on the march. This pattern was also practiced in the U.S. services from the Revolutionary War up until the late 19th Century. The fife and drums were part of two dozen Union Army 1st Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Re-Enactors on Monday May 28. In historic appropriateness they were joined by the Seward Community Band to set the cadence and mood of the event’s speeches and patriotic traditions in remembrance of military personnel who “gave their last full measure of devotion” for their country.

Cinema in the Cemetery

By TIMOTHY MCCALL

The 1st Cemetery Cinema audience of 2018, Sat. May 25th watching the older genius of Buster Keaton in “The General” with the newer, never creative genius of Dreamland Faces led by Karen Majewicz and Andy McCormick who both compose, record, and record music for silent films. Their repertoire includes original instrumental pieces, modern classical music, and many art songs by composers such as Hanns Eisler.

Karen focuses on composing and conducting full scores for silent films employing her ethnomusicology academic training and performs on a Siwa & Figli converter (free bass and stradella) accordion. Andy plays multiple instruments and composes music for movies, theater, with lyricists, and for friends; is a proud musical saw player, ardent supporter of new music, and lifelong bookstore worker having worked recorded original instrumental music. He seeks modern programs, such as dance or radio, which could be accompanied by dissonant or experimental music.
Why Celebrate?

Did you know that the East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center is the only Minneapolis Park Building that was funded and designed almost entirely through the efforts of the neighborhood organization and the people of the community?

At the June 2005 EPIC meeting, Linda Leonard, after searching unsuccessfully for facilities for youth programs, suggested that we imagine all we could do if we had a Community Center in “Cockroach Park” (former slang for East Phillips Park). After laughing at the notion that the Park Board, the City or anyone else would build anything for the 7,000 youth in this challenged neighborhood, the meeting attendees started a list of possible uses. Interest grew, then excitement and finally a commitment to work to get a Community Center in East Phillips Park.

The first dollars are the hardest to come by in big dreams like this. The community voted to use East Phillips NRP money that was saved by thwarting an attempted take-over of EPIC by the troubled Board President at the time. His followers pulled EPIC’s 501(c)3 and resigned, leaving the few remaining Board members with a demoralizing mess. The thought of a new Community Center helped pull them together. They reconstituted the EPIC board and pressed on. With neighborhood support, they saved $180,000 and thousands of volunteer hours of lobbying, letter writing and battling some of the powers of that day, they leveraged a total of $5.5 million, laying the financial groundwork for what is now one of the busiest and best parks in the system.

It is filled with people enjoying soccer, baseball and basketball, pottery, dance, Zumba, the computer labs and many more activities and programs. It is a total hub of activity. Should we celebrate and honor all who helped and still do? Of Course – it’s a No Brainer! Come join us to remember and celebrate—this community triumph, this beautiful spring and this indomitable neighborhood!

East Phillips SummerFest

It’s time to CELEBRATE in East Phillips Park

Sunday, June 24th

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Minneapolis Park and Recreation

in Partnership with

The East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC) and Neighborhood artists, vendors & friends invite you and your family to a PARTY in the PARK

For Your Calendar:

- EPIC’s East Phillips Community 17th Ave Gardener meet Saturday June 9th & July 14th at 9:00 AM in the Garden at 2428 17th Ave. S.
- EPIC Board of Directors meets: Saturday, June 9th & July 14th at 10:00 AM at 2433 Bloomington Ave
- EPIC General Membership meets: Thursday, June 14th & July 12th at 6:30 PM At the Community Center
- East Phillips Park Programming Partnership: meet Tuesday, June 26th & July 31st at 11:30 AM Lunch is served.
- The East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center is located at 2407 17th Ave. S., Mpls. 55404

Don’t forget SummerFest starting at 1:00 PM Sunday, June 24th – See you THERE!

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MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.
www.middowntownphillips.org | 612.232.0018 | middowntownphilips@gmail.com

Meet your neighbors at these monthly Midtown Phillips Gatherings!

All are welcome.

Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 12
6:30-8:00, Stewart Park (Arts & Crafts Room)

AGENDA
1. Introductions
2. Review and Approve Minutes
3. Affirm MOU's
4. Review of MNPFL Funding Contracts
5. Midtown Festival Overview
6. Community Announcements and Public Comment

Presentation of Midtown Phillips Home Repair Program
Tuesday, June 26
6:30-8:00, Abubakar As-Saddique Islamic Center
2824 13th Ave S, Minneapolis

Midtown Phillips residents—Need to make improvements to your house? Our Home Repair Program is designed just for you! This loan program offers loans for minor exterior home improvements with a 0% interest rate. The maximum loan amount is $7,500. Join us to learn more.

Walking Tour of Community Gardens
Tuesday, August 28
Meet at 6:30pm outside Stewart Park
2700 12th Ave S, Minneapolis
Meet the Gardeners and learn how you too can garden.

This Monthly Alley Newspaper Half Page was paid for by Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Inc.

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MIDTOWN PHILLIPS FESTIVAL
@ Lake+Hawathana OPEN STREETS

Sunday, July 22, 2018 • 11-5 pm
Visit us at Open Streets on Lake Street and 15th Ave
- Entertainment by Dallas & Siama, Sarah Geser, One Ukulele, The Walling Loons, Red Ponte Band and more!
- WildRide Woodden Mobile Pizza Bakery
- Soccer Exhibition by New Americans Youth Soccer Club
- Puppet Theater at Heart of the Beast Puppet & Mask Theater
- Youth activities and more!

For more information on the Midtown Festival: middowntownphilips@gmail.com

Explore your neighborhood and local businesses as you bike, walk, or roll on Lake Street closed to vehicle traffic and opened up to community! Now in its seventh year, Open Streets Minneapolis is a City of Minneapolis event hosted by the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition and presented by the Center for Prevention at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota (Blue Cross).

See www.openstreetsmpls.org for more info.
Happenings at the Waite House Gardens

Peaceful grounds: On site at the Waite House, we have started planting! If you’re looking to volunteer please check out the farm calendar next to the front desk; the weekly tasks will be posted there.

Beginning June 5th: How to start your own food business with Emily Lund! Director of Neighborhood Roots, an organization that runs three farmers markets in Minneapolis. Every Tuesday from 10-11 we will be gathering for a series of workshops that will focus on creating a business plan, learning market skills, preparing your produce, financing and much more. Each month, a guest speaker will share their hard earned knowledge with the group. This workshop series will run through the summer and is free and open to the public!

ABOUT MASHKIIKII GITIGAN: The Medicine Garden

All people are welcome and encouraged to participate in activities at Mashkiikii Gitigan. We are located across from the Indian Health Board at 1316 E 24th Street, Minneapolis.

The mission of the 24th Street Urban Farm Coalition is to create and nurture the culture and practice of local organic food production, healthy eating, healthy living and related activities along the 24th Street Wellness Corridor and throughout the Phillips Community. We incorporate Native American values and cultural practices in our farming, land stewardship, and seed keeping.

We are a project of the 24th Street Urban Farm Coalition. Coalition members include staff from Dream of Wild Health, Indigenous Peoples’ Task Force, Indian Health Board, Native American Community Clinic, Ventura Village, Waite House and Women’s Environmental Institute.

Need help with your garden of lawn as our summer growing season begins? Ventura Village and the 24th Street Urban Farm have tools and advice to help you get your project done. We can loan you tree pullers, a sod kicker, a string trimmer, wheel barrows, shovels and rakes. We also have free wood mulch. Contact Mary Watson at 612-871-7973 for more information.

Phillips Aquatic Center Dedication

Grand Opening Day!
Welcome to the Friends & Family Launch

VENTURA VILLAGE JUNE 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2nd Wednesdays: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 6:00 PM</th>
<th>2nd Wednesdays: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 7:00 PM</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Last Tuesdays: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 6:00 PM</td>
<td>Last Thursdays: CRIME &amp; SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Tuesdays: WELLNESS, GARDENING &amp; GREENING: 6:30 PM</td>
<td>PARKS COMMITTEE: Call 612-871-7973 for next meeting time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Thursdays: HOUSING &amp; LAND COMMITTEE: 5:30 PM</td>
<td>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Call 612-599-1066 for next meeting time</td>
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Ventura Village is located upstairs in the Phillips Community Center at 2323 - 11th Avenue South • Minneapolis • 612-874-9070
The movie opens up on Day 89, the family is seeking medical supplies in an abandoned pharmacy in silence, speaking only in sign language. Every move must be noiseless or they will arouse the creatures which can prove deadly.

Nothing is normal; discipline is mandatory. At home the children are home schooled, newspapers are plastered on the walls as soundproofing, and a series of lights are scattered around the farm with red signaling danger. Even when the family plays monopoly they roll the dice on a blanket. Adding to the drama, Evelyn is pregnant in a place with only a minimal amount of medical supplies. Like what fathers should be, Lee (John Krasinski) goes beyond the call of duty to provide and protect his family from the creatures too close for comfort. Yet again, maybe Regan has the secret nobody else has in dealing with the awful scourge amongst them.

Director John Krasinski, along with co-writers Bryan Woods and Scott Beck, brilliantly use tone, timing and atmosphere for “A Quiet Place”. “A Quiet Place” stands heads and shoulders above most horror movies in the last two decades or so. Krasinski (also an actor in the movie) creates pure terror, tension, and is enough to grab your seat. Director: John Krasinski. Cast: John Krasinski (Lee), Emily Blunt (Evelyn), Millicent Simmonds (Regan), Noah Jupe (Marcus) and Cade Woodward (Beau). Running time: 90 minutes.

Clyde Bellecourt’s Retirement

Clyde Bellecourt’s retirement this year, as he begins his 82nd year of life, from the Legal Rights Center board of directors of which he was a founder 48 years ago to provide criminal defense for low income people and particularly people of color was the specific reason for celebration May 3rd at the American Indian Movement Interpretive Center, 1113 E. Franklin Av. As with most Native American gatherings and celebrations the over-arching focus is on honoring the ancestors and the Women and the Children. Clyde is pictured here being congratulated by U. S. Representative Keith Ellison who is a past Executive Director of the Native American Indian Movement Interpretive Center. Clyde was honored with tributes and gifts including this Star Quilt. Pictured with Clyde and the quit are Angela Hall-Slaughter and Sandy White Hawk.
It is the contradiction between the highly socialized mode of production, on the one hand, and the private appropriation of production, on the other. “The whole bloody world capitalist order is destined to collapse,” I declared. The big fellows nodded and made eye contact as we gently bumped fists.

Meanwhile… My Teamsters union is supporting the Workplace Democracy Act (S. 2810/H.R. 5728) which would make it easier to form unions. This measure would further uphold democracy by repealing “right to work” laws which allow scab workers to avoid paying union dues. But… The money power has usurped almost every democratic institution, high and low.

Come the revolution… Our people’s government will not function apart from vigorous consultations with elected councils of industrial workers. Then in due time with the exploiters removed, these councils will evolve as the “rule of the whole people”. Such is the nature of the second prophecy. Workers and Oppressed People United! Equally so, our future’s government will consult the elected councils of historically oppressed peoples. Such is the nature of our two prophecies combined.
After nearly 18 years of dedicated service to The Alley Newspaper and its readers, our Co-Editor and Designer, Jonathan Miller, has "retired" – he supported the Alley for almost half of its 42 year history! His most recent, but longtime role, has been doing the Graphic Design and Layout for the monthly issues, along with managing The Alley's webpage. Over the years, Jonathan experienced and contributed to the many facets of publishing a community-owned and operated media source. Jonathan was a joy to work with and his loyalty and hard work were marked by excellence and creativity. He will be sorely missed. Only 38 years old, Jonathan will now be able to focus more on his fulltime job with Center for Urban and Regional Affairs-CURA at the University of Minnesota and family responsibilities with Amy, his wife, and Betty and Bobby, their two young children.

It started Jonathan’s junior year at Carleton College, Northfield. It was Summer 2000 when students in the liberal arts were feeling in some crisis about getting jobs – and colleges were responding by encouraging internships where students could gain practical learning, too. Jonathan flipped through a large book of internship opportunities. The one for The Alley Newspaper stood out. Wow, it involved working for a newspaper – Jonathan was an editor of "Car" the arts and culture insert in the Carletonian weekly newspaper. And yes, it was in the city. He had lived in cities before, so this would allow him to experience diversity again, unlike the college town of Northfield. After meeting and talking with David Dietz, Susan Gust, and Harvey Winje, Jonathan thought the position was a great fit, as did The Alley. He spent his internship that summer primarily at Andersen School, in the Community Education program mentored by Leon Oman. Anderson Community Education Coordinator and an Alley Board member. There, Jonathan laid the foundation for increased youth involvement in The Alley. He was introduced to the numerous youth-serving organizations in Phillips and taught newspaper writing to Anderson students. All of this led to the establishment of an Alley Youth Page, which Jonathan continued to work on during his final year in college.

After graduation, Jonathan was hired to take over general editing of The Alley Newspaper in August of 2001. The first issue was done from his Minneapolis apartment. With help from his friend and fellow college newspaper editor, Jonathan built a template for The Alley. Though tweaked over the years, its essence is still present with each issue of The Alley hard copy and online. As time went on, Jonathan did it all, especially the editing and layout. He also "beat the bushes" for stories from community writers, as well as doing a little writing himself. Photography was part of it, too. Jonathan even tried to sell ads, though he admits this was not in his natural skill set. Jonathan served during a time when The Alley was required by a founder to have a physical, staffed office space – which resulted in being housed at a time at the Green Institute building. It was not in a real high-traffic location and eventually, The Alley realized it wasn’t necessary. This was largely because Jonathan was able to show that with technology, the job of The Alley could be done by telecommuting, a more efficient model and less expensive way to operate. Jonathan’s passion for new ideas and innovation continued and led to his founding and managing The Alley’s Twitter and Facebook accounts – as well as building and maintaining The Alley’s website. They have become critical tools expanding the capacity of The Alley. Graphic design became a particular passion and Jonathan especially loved the monthly opportunities with The Alley’s cover page – his favorite, the post-election December 2016 issue (see below and online). Jonathan says, “The Alley was like a playground – to test out new things all the time – and invaluable for learning new skills.”

The culmination of Jonathan’s significant, monthly work on over 180 issues is not the total of his impact. One of The Alley Newspaper’s greatest assets is its archives that keep the news and views of the neighborhood available for decades to come as a touchstone to memories and as a neighborhood source of documentation of the past. Jonathan’s work, over 18 years, is available in bound, hard copy volumes at Hennepin County Libraries on Franklin Av. and Downtown. Complete archives are also available on The Alley website. It has been said that a person’s legacy is complete if “things got better when that person was there and continued to get better after that person departed. This is true for Jonathan. The Alley got better while he was here and will continue to get better because of what he put in place.

Postscript by Harvey Winje, Senior Editor (senior being 77 years of age)

To Amy, you can be very proud of your Daddy! To Betty and Bobby, you can be very proud of your Daddy! To any of our readers, if you would like to try your hand at having a role in The Alley to hone your skills and help us to be sustainable, we would appreciate hearing from you! Contact Board Member Cathy Strobel: cstrobel11@gmail.com.