‘This is our Rondo - we just don’t know it yet’

Historians Denise Pike (far left) and Greg Donofrio (far right) of the University of Minnesota lead a walking tour of Interstate 35W, traveling on both sides of the freeway to talk about how the interstate cut through a neighborhood. They are working to collect stories of people displaced by the interstate construction. Email donofrio@umn.edu or pike063@umn.edu. Public meeting on history set for Oct. 10 at Hope Community.

Historians collecting stories from people who lived in path of I-35W in South Minneapolis

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Does Minneapolis have its own Rondo?

Some believe that the more they dig into how Interstate 35W was planned and built through South Minneapolis that they will discover a missing neighborhood, similar to the one destroyed when Interstate 94 cut through St. Paul’s Rondo neighborhood. "This is our Rondo," said Shawn Lewis who grew up in South Minneapolis. "We just don’t know it yet."

The questions come as Interstate 35W undergoes major construction once again in South Minneapolis. What was it like when the freeway was first built in the 1960s and how did it affect the lives of the people who lived in its path?

TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

Franklin Library closing Oct. 20

Library will be closed about 3 months for renovations, get items on hold from East Lake


The library is scheduled to reopen after about three months.

The renovation will address immediate needs while a more comprehensive long-term plan is developed. Funds for the capital projects come from bonding.

During the closure, patrons are encouraged to visit other Hennepin County libraries nearby:

• East Lake Library, 2727 E. Lake St., Minneapolis
• Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall

All library materials on hold will be sent to East Lake Library. To change to another location, ask staff. The Franklin Library book return will also be closed during this time.

Franklin Learning Center will also be closed during the library renovation.

Hennepin County Library Capital Projects and Operations Administrative Supervisor Amber Lee answered some questions about the project for Alley readers.

What are the specific needs of the work being done?

The project will address immediate needs:

• Restrooms - ADA accessibility and safety improvements.
• Replacement of floor that is at the end of its useful lifespan.
• Improving sightlines to the public areas.
• Replacement of worn furniture and equipment.

These improvements are needed to support continued library operations and services while a more comprehensive long-term plan for the library is developed.

What are the challenges the library has faced that this project will resolve?

It was important to understand the challenges and how this project would

GROUNDBREAKING ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Healing with COMMUNITY

Jessica entered DAP Advocate Makenzie’s office looking for healing after a long, exhausting journey. She was finally ready to ask for support from someone.

Thirty years was how long Jessica was abused by her partner. Thirty years trying for a few months at a time to leave, but ultimately having to go back.

Financial control kept her from gaining stability on her own and for her children. Her partner would cut off access to her money.

Faced with overwhelming hurdles, Jessica didn’t know where to start: shelter, employment, childcare, safety, basic needs?

Staying seemed easier.

She could endure the abuse for the sake of her children.

When things were good, her abuser would build her up, give her an allowance, and provide luxuries that would otherwise be impossible – but within two weeks, the relationship always shifted.

Drugs and alcohol started being used as a means for power and control over Jessica’s physical autonomy, and gaslighting was used to control her mind.

Jessica was stuck.

Years later, once all five adult-children moved out of their family home and at the time that was right, DAP’s Little Earth advocate and other on-site community resources were available to assist Jessica as she successfully exited her abusive relationship.

She left the relationship feeling broken and full of self-doubt.

Continued on page 2

Continued on page 8

Continued on page 3
Volunteers of this issue but not lim- ited to: Hayley Wang, Sae Hunter White, Meredith McGaffigan, Katio Saur, Dave Moore, Rand Raftertjohn, John Charles Wilson, Susan Gust, Backyard Community Health, Roberts Barnes, Rose Metro Arts, Card Feas, MPWA, Ventura Village, PWNO, Crystal Windham, Hennepin County, Goldfinch Library & Staff, Erin Thomasson, Patrick Calkins, Victoria Naliby, Heart of the Beast, Abusive, Project, MNHC.

Delivery: To every Phillips house by Matson Delivery; to 170 businesses, places of worship, institutions in Phillips and adjacent neighborhoods by Peter Molenaar


Editorial Leadership Committee: Tesha M. Christensen, Harvey Yi, Nikki Torgensen, Tesha M. Christensen

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Of, by and for its readers since 1976

Tesha M. Christensen, for the Third

IN THE COMMUNITY

Dream of wild health

Meet St. Croix Ojibwe member Nedly M. Snyder, who works as the executive director at Dream of Wild Health.

How did you get involved in Dream of Wild Health?

Snyder: I’ve always been a huge fan of Dream of Wild Health. I have volunteered at the farm, and I was always impressed with the youth leaders doing good work in the community. It is my passion to work toward building stronger, healthier Native communities.

What is this organization important?

Dream of Wild Health works to restore health and well-being in the Native community by recovering knowledge of and access to healthy, Indigenous foods, medicines and lifeways. This is important to our community because health inequities in Native American communities are the result of intentional efforts to displace Native people and their land-based, inter-Indigenous and community-based livelihoods. This has greatly impacted the physical, mental, and spiritual health of Native people for generations. Dream of Wild Health is restoring health in the community by: Creating culturally-based opportunities for youth employment, entrepreneurship and leadership; Increasing access to Indigenous foods through farm production, sales and distribution; and Community outreach and education around reclaiming cultural traditions, healthy Indigenous food, cooking skills, and nutrition.

Why are gardening and foraging cooking valuable skills?

We know that food is medicine. Dream of Wild Health is building mechanisms to improve the health and future of Native people. The creativity, innovation and vision of the Native American community is resulting in changes that are being

In what ways are you making a difference in the lives of the youth participants?

Dream of Wild Health’s Native Youth Education and Leadership Programs provide culturally based lessons for youth, ages 8-18, most of whom come from low-income inner-city families. The farm provides a safe and creative learning environment where they learn about gardening, healthy foods, and Native traditions while gaining employment and leadership skills. Staff also provide community outreach and education opportunities to youth and families of all ages.

What are participants most surprised about when they go through this program?

Our younger youth are often afraid to join our program. That is, until they arrive at the farm for programming. The farm provides a safe and creative learning environment where they learn about gardening, healthy foods, and Native traditions while gaining employment and leadership skills. They are often surprised at how happy weeding the garden makes them feel. Dream of Wild Health promotes continuation of programming for youth through their tenure years providing additional support and educational opportunities, including internships at the farm.

Save the date for the Third Annual Indigenous Food Tasting, hosted in partnership with the Indigenous Food Network (IFN), is an event rooted in community, bringing Indigenous chefs, food entrepreneurs, and youth together for a night of tasting our Indigenous foods. Join us on Indigenous People’s Day, Monday, Oct. 14 from 5-7 p.m. at the Minneapolis American Indian Center for evening honors prepared by The Sioux Chef team, Wildberries Catering (Elena Terry), inclusive Food (Julie Baker and Chea White), and more Indigenous chefs to come.

Learn more at dreamofwildhealth.org

Compiled by Tesha M. Christensen

Franklin Library closing

Continued from front page

Franklin Library has not seen any major remodeling or refurbish- ments since 2005 and was built in 1914, adding to some of the chal- lenges. We wanted to ensure we were able to do as much as we can to extend the life of the building but also to bring it up to modern times and be usable by patrons and staff. Some of this includes, reconfigur- ing furniture and replacing existing worn furniture, improving sight- lines and addressing safety con- cerns, and improving ADA acces- sibility to the restroom.

What is exciting about this project?

It is exciting to address the major remodeling needs of the building. This library location is heavily used and it’s important to expand the buildings lifespan while also providing improved services for modern day use to support patrons and library operations and pro- gramming.

What is the plan for staff members during this project?

Staff will relocate to other library locations during the clo- sure for the Southside Pride readership. The D Line will provide a faster equivalent to Route 21 along Chicago Ave. While Route 5 stops every block, the D Line will only stop at Franklin Ave., 24th St., 26th St. and Lake St. in the Phillips neighborhood, with similarly limited stops along the rest of the route. This new service is expected to start in 2024. The B Line will provide service to the Phillips neighborhood

Franklin Ave. Library will be closed for three months beginning Oct. 20.

Patron Experience Supervisors and Co-Supervisors include, Abdirizak Dahir and Jessica Shaykett.

Get updates On site informational updates will be provided throughout the closure for the community. Updates will be posted on Hennepin County’s Library’s website.

Compiled by Tesha M. Christensen

alleynews.org • October 2019
Healing with COMMUNITY

Continued from front page

When she met with Makenzie, she began her healing journey through strengths-based and holistic services. Makenzie went with her to court; helped her connect to DAP’s other programs; and supported her to regain the autonomy stolen from her.

After meeting for a few weeks Makenzie did an activity with Jessica called the “Marvelous Marble Activity,” where she hands a small stone to the client and asks them to name the things they love about themselves, and to name their strengths. Together they named attributes like: strong woman, strong mother, kind, courageous, patient, and forgiving. Till today Jessica keeps it as a symbol and reminder of her many strengths.

A few weeks later they checked in and talked about the stone. Jessica said that she made a rattles and included the rock in her rattle so whenever she uses her rattle in ceremony she has that reminder.

Because of DAP, Jessica was able to find safety and stability. She could be her full authentic self. She could heal.

DAP OFFICE AT LITTLE EARTH
DAP’s Little Earth Advocacy Satellite Office serves residents of the Little Earth of United Tribes, a 212-unit HUD-subsidized housing complex, and the local surrounding community. DAP’s advocacy services are often requested on a walk-in basis and through community referrals.

Little Earth Advocacy Office, 2495 18th Ave S., Minneapolis, 612-590-7866; dap@mndap.org.

ADVOCATE AFTER 911 CALL
When Ashley opened her door to see a Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) officer in uniform she felt her shoulders tense up, initially not noticing a DAP advocate standing opposite him. After Ashley glanced at the advocate, longer, she remembered seeing the advocate in the community previously, and immediately breathed easier.

The advocate and the MPD officer arrived at Ashley’s home simply in the hopes of offering her family more resources regarding domestic violence.

A day earlier a domestic 911 call had been made from Ashley’s home and as part of the South Minneapolis Hot Spots program, the DAP advocate and the MPD officer were standing at Ashley’s door. Because of this simple follow up, the advocate was able to inform Ashley of the domestic violence resources in her community and assist her in writing an Order for Protection against her ex-husband.

DAP advocate splits a work week between DAP headquarters, the Little Earth Community in South Minneapolis, and Hot Spots home visits. With an officer, a DAP advocate visits homes where 911 calls have been made but no police report has been filed, as in Ashley’s case. The advocate hopes to act as a bridge between the Little Earth community and the MPD.

~ Information from Domestic Abuse Project

DOMESTIC ABUSE PROJECT

Women have to live violence-free lives

The Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center (MIWRC) is a non-profit community organization that provides social services and education to American Indian women and their families. Established in 1984 by three local Native women and one male Native ally, its mission is to empower American Indian women and families to exercise their cultural values and integrity, and to achieve sustainable life ways, while advocating for justice and equity.

MIWRC programs provide support, advocacy, and activities that utilize traditional teachings and other cultural strengths to encourage healing, build resilience, and counter the normalization of violence.

Departments collaborate to:

- Empower Native American women to live violence-free lives
- Provide a safe place for women to explore life options
- Challenge systems that disenfranchise Native American women
- Create a more just environment for all women and their families

Safe Harbor Youth Program
The Safe Harbor Youth Program at the Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center (MIWRC) is a supportive service program for youth ages 24 and under who have experienced sexual exploitation or are at risk of sexual exploitation.

Some examples of these services include:

- Basic needs assistance (food, shelter, etc.)
- Transportation assistance
- Job search assistance

MIWRC programs provide support, advocacy, and activities that utilize traditional teachings and other cultural strengths to encourage healing, build resilience, and counter the normalization of violence.

~ Information from Domestic Abuse Project

DOMESTIC ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

If you are in an abusive relationship, remember: 1. You are not alone. 2. It is not your fault. 3. Help is available.

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

Healing Journey
One of MIWRC’s longest continuously-funded direct service programs, Healing Journey is a peer-led support program for adult Americans Indian women aged 22 and older who are challenged by chronic mental health, substance abuse, and trauma histories. The Healing Journey program utilizes harm reduction strategies and the Ojibwe teaching “zhoow-way-nah-dig” (“talking care of each other”) to provide safe space and time for women to walk their own healing path at their own pace.

This model operator from cultural teachings that prioritize the process of working toward a life “in balance” over linear markers of success, such as total abstinence from substance use, while connecting women with a support system of staff and peers who view them as vital, contributing community members regardless of their past or current struggles.


~ Information from Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center.
Although half of the National Rifle Association’s members report that they own guns to protect their families, the organization’s name is not supported by facts. A study conducted by the Center for Disease Control found that only 16% of women are killed by strangers—more than half are killed by their husbands, lovers, ex-husbands or former boyfriends. Fifty-four percent of those women were shot. Where there was a gun in the house, a woman was five times more likely to be killed by her current or ex-partner than when there was not.

There is nothing new about domestic violence that ends with a woman’s death and almost as often, the death by suicide of the person who shot her. In fact, there is a certain sameness to these stories. A couple fights (alcohol may be involved, though not always); the man shoots and kills (or tries to) the woman, and often, the death by suicide of a women’s death and almost as domestic violence that ends with the mother of four, was shot and killed by her current or ex-partner than when there was not. Mothers of a six-year-old child. Margarita, presumably her lover, in his room in the Gateway Hotel on Oct. 26, 1914. Hazel was the mother of a six-year-old child. She and her husband had been separated for five years, and she was living with her brother who disapproved of Zamuda, and had threatened to tie Hazel to a chair to prevent her from meeting up with him. Hazel slipped out and joined Zamuda at the Gateway Hotel. Other residents of the hotel heard the couple arguing but could not tell what it was that they argued about. Shortly after they heard two gunshots. The police arrived about 10 minutes later and broke down the door. They found Hazel lying on the floor close to the door, apparently shot as she tried to escape. Zamuda’s body was found by the bed.

MARGARET BOWEN
Margaret Bowen had only been married one month when her husband, Joseph Bowen, shot and killed her on March 12, 1917. She was staying with her parents after having left her husband for the second time. The first time that she left him was only one week after they had married. Her mother persuaded her to go back to her husband but three weeks later Margaret left again. Joseph tracked her to her parents’ home where he kicked in the door, and dragged Margaret out into the street and shot her. He escaped and the police organized a manhunt. Bowen was arrested after he was caught breaking into a railroad car. He committed suicide in his jail cell in Glenswood, Minn.

EFFECTS ON OTHERS
The stories make no mention of what effect or consequences these murder/suicides had on others. At least four children lost both of their parents. Several parents lost their adult children. Siblings lost siblings, and, undoubtedly, friends lost friends.

These three women were by no means the only casualties of domestic violence in the cemetery. There are undoubtedly many others. Of the three, only Flora Engle has a marker. She is buried in Lot 72, Block P, in the seventh row from the north. Police officer Nels C. Anderson is buried in Lakewood.

The three women historians know died from intimate partner violence and are buried at the Pioneers Cemetery, only one, Flora E. Engle, has a marker.
CALL FOR ARTISTS

Midtown Phillips is looking for partners to assist with 2020 outreach & participation, event involvement and outreach. You must be a registered business or registered non-profit to apply. Applications are due by November 1st, 2019. If interested, email info@midtownphillips.com or call 763-310-4760.

COMING UP...

PHILLIPS CLEAN SWEEP
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Check in at either of these locations:
• Welna Ace Hardware Parking Lot - 2438 Bloomington Ave S
• Lutheran Social Services – 2400 Park Ave S (Enter on 24th St)

Enjoy a meal with other volunteers, learn about local neighborhood resources and information, and get free health screenings and health education.

FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS:
• Blood pressure
• Blood sugar for diabetes
• Cholesterol screening
• Flu shot administration

Bring out your trash!
The Phillips neighborhoods have raised funds to provide free pick up for residents during Clean Sweep. They will pick up extra household trash, old furniture, carpet, household construction and tires. All items for garbage pick up should be placed out by your pick up location the night before.

Call for utility box artists

Announcing an Open Call for Visual Artists to work with Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association’s community outreach partners to create public art on utility boxes in Midtown Phillips neighborhood. The community outreach partners involved in this project are St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, KRSM Radio, Somali TV, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, and New Americans Youth Soccer Club.

Four professional artists will be chosen and paired with each of the four community partners that serve youth to design and create the art for the utility boxes with the youth. The artist will take direction in designing the process from the youth and staff of the paired MPNAI community outreach partner organization, drawing from the specific work of the organization and communities that the organization serves.

The theme of this public art project is to hold up images in our neighborhood of physical and cultural health through connections, Healthy Connections. Health and connection could look very different things for different people and we want to portray, validate, empower, and respect all the different healthy ways of being and connecting in this neighborhood. The artists and paired organizations will be assigned a utility box that is in close proximity to their work and is also on heavily trafficked streets of the neighborhood so many residents and commuters can experience the art.

Please apply by sending a cover letter, resume, work samples of art work, (preferably public art work) and work sample descriptions by October 25. Up to 5 images are allowed. Artists chosen will receive $1000 for working on the project with the community partners. Please state in the cover letter which partner organization you are interested in applying to work with. Send applications to midtownphillips.outreach@gmail.com.

interested in being a partner organization with mpnai?

Midtown Phillips is looking for partners to assist with 2020 outreach & participation, event involvement and outreach. You must be a registered business or registered non-profit to apply. Applications are due by November 1st, 2019. If interested, email info@midtownphillips.com or call 763-310-4760.
Celebrate 45 Years of The Alley
Friday, November 8th, 2019
6-8:30 pm
Center for Changing Lives
2400 Park Avenue S., Mpls.

YOU’RE INVITED!
Come and support The Alley Newspaper and its work!
Raffle & refreshments!
Pay what you can (or not)—$10 would go a long way!

MUSIC:
Bringing feel-good congo sounds from the Heart of Africa, Phillips neighbors husband and wife team, Siama Matuzungidi and Dallas Johnson, share happy music with the young and young-at-heart.

PHOTOS TELL A STORY:
Enjoy select photographs featuring folks who are part of the Peace House Community and learn more about the partnership with The Alley Newspaper.

EXPLORE PHILLIPS on the Phillips Finder (www.phillipsfinder.com)
Meet its creator, Josie Adkins

GET TO KNOW THE PHILO SAYS
Work will begin immediately to assemble a MayDay Council made up of BIPOC artists and community members who will be tasked with designing a new MayDay process that is truly collaborative, community-owned, and equitable.

WHAT’S NEXT
Here’s how you can support MayDay in Metamorphosis:
Nominate individuals to serve on the MayDay Council.
Over a two-year term, this team will be tasked with designing a collaborative MayDay model and will represent a wide range of the communities present in our neighborhoods—childcare, transportation, education, health care, travel expenses, accessible meeting spaces, and food will be provided. This group will meet twice a month at most, with a day-long kick-off retreat in November. Read more about the MayDay Council here.

Support the work of transforming HOBT’s MayDay through financial support. By giving monthly, your gift builds HOBT’s financial stability.

To become a monthly donor:
- Become a monthly donor.
- Day will go a long way.

The Phillips Finder

THE PHILLIPS FINDER SOCIETY
A JOURNEY TO EXPLORE THE HISTORY OF THE PAST

MEET AND GREET
Teshia Christensen, Alley Newspaper Coordinator and our regular column writers!

CITRQUE
the chapter about the Phillips Community in a new textbook! AND MORE!

For more info: Susan 612-414-6623

MAYDAY IN METAMORPHOSIS
HOBT’s MayDay is taking a year off: Save the date for May 2, 2021

Dear MayDay supporters and friends,

We give deep thanks for the ways each of you have supported HOBT’s MayDay Celebration. Your support over these 45 years, especially your outpouring of support this year, means a great deal.

Over the last four months, we, the HOBT Leadership Team, have heard from more than 500 community members and artists about their dreams for the future of HOBT’s MayDay. Themes drawn from this feedback support what we have known for years but have only now documented: MayDay in its current form is not only unsustainable financially and logistically, the creation process systematically marginalizes and appropriates the work of artists of color. This cannot be allowed to continue.

The HOBT Leadership Team has decided that taking a year off from producing MayDay to pause and redesign MayDay in the best way to come back with a stronger, more equitable MayDay in 2021.

We know that for some, this is difficult news to hear. We did not come to this decision lightly. In the coming year, HOBT can choose either to produce the MayDay celebration that South Minneapolis has grown to know and love, or to invest our time and resources in rebuilding that celebration to equitably and resiliently continue as a valuable institution for future generations. We cannot do both.

In the interest of the long-term value of this MayDay celebration, we choose to rebuild. We choose to live into a new kind of working and creating art together: one that is truly collaborative and opens up new opportunities for transformation by placing our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion at the center and giving power to artists and leaders of color.

In many ways, HOBT’s MayDay 2019 was a wild success. Attendance, fundraising, and community passion for the event surpassed all expectations. The support and generosity of the MayDay community put HOBT in the position where we now have the opportunity to ensure we are both more sustainable, and a more deeply community rooted organization moving forward. Thank you for your generosity and the gift of this opportunity to take a year off to address serious structural problems.

We are calling this a year of MayDay in Metamorphosis. We are placing all of our energy, time, resources, and hope into a process to transform MayDay, taking all we have learned over the last 45 years to recreate a new process and structure for MayDay that is more deeply with our mission to foster creativity, empathy, and interconnectedness.

Work will begin immediately to assemble a MayDay Council made up of BIPOC artists and community members who will be tasked with using what HOBT learned from four months of community engagement to shape a new MayDay process that is truly collaborative, community-owned, and equitable. We ask and hope that you will support this decision. We have chosen to rebuild because we truly believe it gives us the best chance at continuing the MayDay Celebration for generations to come.

Metamorphosis moment will require the time and talents of the thousands of people who make this celebration possible: artists, staff, volunteers, donors, vendors, and participants. In its cocoon, the butterfly dissolves its former self to become something entirely new. This is not a period of rest. This is a period of radical reinvention.

Onward,
The HOBT Leadership Team:
Site Director Steve Ackerman,
General Manager Naomi Campion,
Communications Director Claire Currin,
Finance Director Linnea House, and
Executive Director Corrie Zoll
allocated sexual violence, stalking, and psychological aggression. The key to Intimate Partner Violence prevention through a community lens is to question in the clinic environment to encourage reporting of domestic, or intimate partner, violence. It is also important that information about resources and services for victims and/or at-risk couples is widely known.

If you are concerned for your own or a friend’s safety in an intimate partnership, start here:

To that end, here are some resources, both national and local.

Do you feel safe in your home environment?

The 24th Street Coalition will be hosting a Pizza Fundraiser at the Our Savior’s pizza oven on 24th and Chicago Ave. Friday October 11th from 5-7pm. A $25 RSVP event link will be on Facebook. This event will be the first of it’s kind in our community, providing a farm-to-table experience using hyper-local produce from our 24th St. Farms! Chef April Smith will be creating a menu using these items! RSVP’s are limited to 50, cash or charge will be accepted at the event for those not on social media. All proceeds will go to support the 24th Street Urban Farms Coalition.

For more information about community events or opportunities to volunteer at one of our sites, please reach out to:

Mel Anderson
24th Street Urban Farms Coalition Coordinator
Four Sisters Farmer’s Market Manager
E: Mel413threefabs@gmail.com

You have heard of the 24th Street Urban Farms Coalition? You may be surprised to know you’ve most likely walked past one of our sites in the neighborhood! The 24th St. Coalition consists of the management and care of three urban farms in the community: Mashikiki Gilgan, which has medicinal plants and produce, is located on 24th Street, directly across from the Indian Health Board. Hoop House, which is down just a half block from the Hill, holds a resident plot, a U of MN research plot, and a general community plot. Finally, our Chicago Ave. site, just off 24th and Chicago, is home to more medicinals, more research plots with the U of MN, and general harvesting produce for the community.

I’ve been working to navigate these neighbor relationships, which is why investing time in building connections, prioritizing neighbor connectedness, mutual trust, and willingness to intervene for the common good is so important. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Division of Violence Prevention. I understand the instinct to ‘mind my own business’ when deciding if intervention is needed. It can be difficult to navigate these neighbor relationships, which is why investing time in building community is so important. It is also important that information about resources and services for victims and/or at-risk couples of Intimate Partner Violence be highly accessible in the community. Read more at: https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/index.html.

To that end, here are some resources, both national and local. If you are concerned for your own or a friend’s safety in an intimate partnership, start here:


UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE MEETINGS:

- Thursday, October 31st: Crime & Safety Committee: 6:30 pm

ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE: VISITORS WELCOME TO ATTEND!

Ventura Village is located upstairs in the Phillips Community Center at 2323-11th Avenue South

Prepared for and paid by Ventura Village

FARM UPDATE FROM MICHAEL MANSEE

This year for Pillsbury United Farms has been exciting, full of hard work and beautiful produce. We started the season with a free seed and plant giveaway targeted toward community members so they could grow along with us. This season our focus was on production farming in order to provide delicious vegetables to our community café, CSA boxes, and to our newest client, My North Market. We have also begun working with Full Cycle, an enterprise that employs homeless youth, to deliver our produce via bicycle!

As we take a look at the food systems around us, we’re working together to close gaps through innovation and partnerships, and this season brought us some valuable collaborations. We’re continuing to partner with the University of Minnesota to look at ecosystem services of urban agriculture and two pollinator projects; the city of Minneapolis for biochar and lead research; St. Thomas for student opportunities; and the Minneapolis Department of Agriculture for perennial crop research.

Now that it’s fall, we’ll be asking the community for their leaves again. These leaves will add important organic matter to the soil, which supports the millions of micro-organisms that provide the plants with nutrients.

Please donate your leaves:

Contact: MicheleM@pillsburyunited.org.

A huge thank you to our partners and volunteers that make this all happen!

Ventura Village is looking to contract various administrative services for approximately 26 hours monthly from somebody who preferably lives and/or works in the neighborhood. Familiarity with Ventura Village and how our neighborhood organization operates is a strong qualification and preference. Experience handling administrative duties is a must, with skills in taking minutes of meetings and preparing mailings, agendas, fliers and handling public address equipment are desired. Training will be provided as needed to fill in any skills that are not fully available.

If you are interested in applying for this position, you may submit your letter of interest and a resume to Ventura Village, 2323 11th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404. Any questions can be submitted to Thormary@hotmail.com.

OUTER LIMITS OF VENTURA VILLAGE

Ventura Village, 2323-11th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404. Any questions can be submitted to Thormary@hotmail.com.
This is our Rondo - we just don't know it yet'

Continued from front page

Thus far researchers with the University of Minnesota have delved into the historical record, scouring newspapers and Department of Transportation records at the Minnesota Historical Society. Next, they are looking for stories from the people who were directly affected by construction of I-35W in South Minneapolis. Email Greg Donofrio at donofrio@umn.educ Denise Pike at pike403@umn.edu.

Residents can also connect during a Public History of I-35W event on Thursday, Oct. 10, 6-8 p.m., at Hope Community-Children’s Village Center (611 E. Franklin Ave.).

“The only way we can make this a community-based project is with the community,” observed Donofrio.

WALKING TOUR WITH SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF CONSTRUCTION

A walking tour on Saturday, Sept. 7 led about 30 people through one section of the construction area to give them perspective into the noise and dust generated during a road project of this magnitude.

Organized through the Hennepin History Museum, the walk was led by historians Denise Pike and Greg Donofrio, with help from Aaron Tag of the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Pike pointed out that most of what people experience of the freeway is driving down it.

But how was it planned? How was it built? How were communities affected by it then and how are they affected now?

The tour began at the Hennepin History Museum at 2303 3rd Ave. S. in Minneapolis, headed north to S. 5th Ave., crossed the interstate S. in Minneapolis, headed north to the History Museum at 2303 3rd Ave. S.

They affected now?

Way is driving down it.

of Transportation.

Donofrio, with help from Aaron Tag, pointed out that most of the freeway project, pointed out Pike, and it was one early in the process. In 1968, federal policy changed to require two public hearings. Today, things are very different, pointed out Tag, who observed that today the public is engaged prior to the start of design, in the middle and at the end. With the current project, two pieces of property were displaced to provide access onto Lake St.

Researchers haven’t found much yet about what the planners presented, but there is an original sketch showing a lovely tree-lined stretch of roadway with two lanes in either direction. There isn’t much record of opposition to the freeway, either, said Pike, although they dug up a petition sent to the Governor that was signed by 600 South Minneapolis residents concerned that they were being paid market value not replacement value.

There were no real unified neighborhood groups in this part of South Minneapolis at the time, and they have not found any groups that opposed the freeway coming through this particular section.

When the freeway was expanded because it had already reached capacity in 20 years, there is a record of more resistance by community members.

“When they heard the bulldozers,” said Pike.

The path of the freeway cut an unnatural swath through South Minneapolis, and residents weren’t happy with the distance created by the interstate. People of color also paid a higher cost in the amount of air pollution and the health effects it caused.

“In our neighborhood, the community came together, devised a plan, and lobbied tirelessly,” according to an article from the Alley in March 2011. “Their persistence finally paid off in 1971 when the city agreed to install a pedestrian bridge and again in 1974 when the sound barrier walls were built.”

The pedestrian bridge at 24th is currently being reconstructed. The new one will be 20 feet lower than the old one and wider, and will connect a bit further south.

BLACK RESIDENTS AFFECTED MORE

Why does the freeway cut through certain parts of Minneapolis is being studied by the Mapping Prejudice project through the University of Minnesota. Through a combination of writing directly in the dead that a person of color couldn’t buy a piece of property and mortgage red-lining certain areas, people of color were limited in their options.

Shawn Lewis is now a member of the Northside Environmental Justice Coordinating Council, but our Rondo Continued on page 9

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COLLECTION

Some call they didn’t know the freeway was being constructed until they heard the bulldozers,” said Denise Pike of the University of Minnesota.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, MN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COLLECTION

This original sketch was presented to the public showing what the freeway would look like in South Minneapolis.

CONSTRUCTION

SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF

WALKING TOUR WITH
Owning Up: Racism and Housing in Minneapolis

Since the 1950s, Minneapolis has envisioned itself as a "model metropolis." The city is lauded for offering the right mix of amenities and affordability. Boosters brag about the parks, lakes, efficient government, and the city’s vibrant arts scene. They are adamant that their city, as the New York Times once observed, has "all of the answers."

However, this myth hides an uncomfortable reality. Minnesota has some of the highest racial disparities in the United States. People of color in Minneapolis are more likely than white residents to live in poverty, experience violence, and suffer chronic illness. They are less likely to graduate from high school or own their own home. We believe housing is the foundation of building futures.

Owning Up explores the history of racial housing discrimination in Minneapolis through the stories of three black families. Their experiences are displayed alongside the city’s vibrant arts scene. They are adamant that their city, as the New York Times once observed, has "all of the answers."

Owning Up: Racism and Housing in Minneapolis

Researchers Greg and Denise Pike would like to talk to people about their experiences. Email donofrio@umn.edu or pikex063@umn.edu

A Public History of 35W

Hosted by the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Hennepin History Museum

Thursday, October 10, 6-8 p.m.

Hope Community-Children’s Village Center (611 E. Franklin Ave.)

The pedestrian bridge at 24th is being reconstructed. The original one was built following a push by residents to reconnect the two sides of the freeway in the 1970s. They also pushed for sound barriers to help ease the noise and air pollution.

For more information, please visit: alleynews.org

Questions? Contact Jordan Wulf at jwulf@stdavidscenter.org or 952-548-8708.

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Submit your items to copydesk@alleynews.org. Join our board and editorial leadership committee.
**Movie corner**

‘It’ returns with roller-coaster ride that thrills

**By HOWARD MCQUITTER II**

oldschoolmovies.wordpress.com
howardmcquitter68@gmail.com

“It Chapter Two” was a big hit in the box office in 2019. The movie was directed by Andy Muschietti and starred the same cast as the first movie, including Bill Skarsgård as Pennywise and James McAvoy as Mike Hanlon. The movie was highly anticipated and was expected to be a success.

However, the movie did not meet the expectations of the audience. The movie was criticized for its slow pace and lack of character development. The story line was also criticized for being too predictable and not offering any new twists.

In contrast, the first movie was praised for its strong characters and engaging storyline. The movie was also praised for its visual effects, which were a major highlight of the movie.

Overall, the movie was a disappointment for fans of the first movie and for those who were looking for a thrilling roller-coaster ride.

**Hobbies in the House**

Men abuse women because they can

**By D Wright Hobbes**

You can find all kinds of think- tank rationalization as to why men beat women. You can, as well, find study upon as study as to why men abuse women because they can. You can, as well, find study upon as study as to why men abuse women because they can. Men abuse women because they can.

Importantly, you can find respected professionals who come up with such causes for men beating their wives and girlfriends. I went looking on the Internet and almost immedi- ately came across an article in that highly regarded monthly magazine Ebony. The article by Marchelle Renée Barber reads, “Dr. Nathan Hare, a clinical psychologist and sociologist in private practice in San Francisco, sees common traits among men who batter women. He says while abusive men are found in all races and socioeco- nomic groups, most Black male abusers are jealous, insecure and ignorant. They are attempting to imitate the classic ‘street pimp’ playing a ‘mind game’ with the women by showing a loving and warm side to sustain interest – then inflicting pain. Other abusive men are imitating their fathers or their mothers’ boyfriends and convince themselves that women expect abuse. These men see their manhood as their ability to control women who are out of control’ says Dr. Hare, who adds that many male abusers have been victimized themselves.” In that same article the statement, “Due to alcoholism, low self-esteem, a lack of ethnic pride and a sense of helplessness in supporting their families, Black men have been reported as being more likely to be abusive toward Black women, says psychiatrist Dr. Carl Bell.”

I’m not trying to pick on Marchelle Renée Barber. I’m not trying to ridicule her. There are plenty of journalists and plenty of publications citing similar circum- stances.

None of which hold very much water. There comes a point in time at which you have to go with what Dr. So-and-So pontificates, with what Dr. So-and-So pontificates. It is a social malady. Men beat women because they can.

Men beat women because they can get away with it and you don’t have to be a clinician with a string of letters after your name to figure that out. I can prove it to you with a very basic line of reasoning:

Men beat women because they can get away with it and you don’t have to be a clinician with a string of letters after your name to figure that out. I can prove it to you with a very basic line of reasoning:

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OPINION & COMMENTARY

Raise Your Voice

Changing horizons

By Peter Molenaar

Those of us who have been connected over the years with All My Relations, Backyard Arts and Two Rivers Galleries were privileged to receive invitations to the recent opening receptions. These “Changing Horizons” events commemorated the 100th birthday of George Morrison, the Ojibwe artist who graduated from the local Minneapolis College of Art and Design, before viewing much of the world through the eyes of an abstract impressionist. To which I will add: Neighbors, these art openings offer a splendid opportunity to mingle with bright young faces who have significant lives awaiting.

Some questions:

Did Morrison violate his heritage, as some have suggested, by immersing himself in the abstract artist movement? (Conversely, did some “modernists” violate the past when they took inspiration from Navajo sand paintings?)
Moreover, how does Marxism resolve the dialectical tension between “formalism” and “realism” in relation to aesthetics and the question of artistic freedom?

Regarding the first question, in principle, Native Americans have the absolute right to walk where water is cleaner than tap water, and I think that is not your intention.

I believe that Water is the foundation of health and I think that is not your intention.

Letter to the community

CORRECTED Minneapolis water facts

To all Concerned:

I commend the STEP-UP interns who worked with the Backyard Community Health Hub this past summer and for your in-depth study of water this summer (“Water is life Drinking and live,” Sept. 2019 issue). I believe that Water is the foundation of all being. Sincerely, I am very grateful that you brought forward many ways of Water’s importance to the functioning of our bodies. I also like that you made a strong case against the preposterous populism of bottled Water sold in plastic bottles.

Thank you so much for this good work you have done.

Unfortunately, there is a mistake in the blue box of “Additional water Facts & Sources” that might lead readers to think that bottled water is cleaner than tap water, and I think that is not your intention. In this box of facts, you have this: “How often does tap water get tested?” The answer in your box says simply: “Tap water is tested roughly every year in the Twin Cities.”

In truth, our Minneapolis Public Water Works performs approx. 300 tests each day on tap water …500 chemical, physical, and bacteriological tests, each and every day!! (http://www.minneapolisparkandrec.org/publicworks/water/water_waterfacts)

This is vastly more than the test-

Change of horizon

ever the roxy cheek ones walk, because they are indigenous to the land. Conversely, do the rest of us have such absolute right? No, we do not. Special spaces are reserved for the first peoples.

As for the Marxist attitude, for example, in the aftermath of the Russian Revolution, Marxism–Leninism persuaded the vanguard to embrace ‘realism’ for the purpose of elevating the masses, who, at the time, were largely illiterate. (Note: The patronage of capitalists had ceased.) Anyone doubting the beauty and purposefulness of this period should visit the Museum of Russian Art at the not so very far away 5500 Stevens Ave. location. However, I believe the “ism” in our country certainly upheld some relatively ‘formalistic’ expressions, which were part and parcel to the “Harlem Renaissance” of the 1930s. So, evidently, a liberal attitude towards formalistic expression eventually will prevail in this country, with some emphasis on meaningful content. Okay.

In the meantime, this community is asked to celebrate the artistic expressions of the historically oppressed peoples among us, who in their combination in the not so distant future, will assume major status and leadership. We certainly will all do better when the day beyond the changing horizon arrives.

Who own homeless misplaced during Glow?

By Rand Retterath

On July 27, 2019 large portions of the Midtown Greenway were cleared for an event.

Care to know what it was? It was the Midtown Greenway Coalition Glow 2019.

Through registration, ticket and alcohol sales, pledges and more they raised nearly $23,000. They say it is for the “Greenway.” PLEASE do not be confused! The money goes directly to the Greenway Coalition EXCLUSIVELY.

Care to know what was cleared? People were cleared, homeless people as well as their possessions.

I have a problem with that.

Many years ago, the Executive Director looked me in the eye and said, “Unlike some, we do not think homelessness is a crime.” Apparently, that is true only as long as they are not seen.

One week later, the Powderhorn 24 took place. They found an ability to co-exist over the course of the Glow event and set up clean up periods.

Local residents grudgingly find ways to deal with trash, theft, traf, sex, needles, assault and much more on a daily basis and over months and years.

For a week, all the MANY people calling the Greenway home were asked to relocate to protect the delicate sensitivities of Coalition members for a single afternoon event. Their possessions littered my life.

Along the Greenway, I found Coalition-branded drink tickets. It is illegal to drink and bike, yet the Coalition encouraged it, through branded drink tickets.

The Greenway is overwhelmed with homelessness, feces, urine, drugs, sex and sex workers and alcohol in staggering quantities, creating a myriad of social and environmental problems. Yet there the Coalition was, apparently above the law. Their drunken revellers are apparently ok. Privileged white elitism if ever there was such a thing.

According to the Coalition’s most recently available Form 990, the salary expense for the Coalition is $124,820 against revenue of $119,690 down from $206,063 the previous year. Overall, they lost over $7,000.

Further, with this shortfall, all of this money goes to salaries, NOT the Greenway, more elitism or perhaps more correctly protectionism, nationalism, isolationism or dare I say: Trumplism.

Somehow, participants of the Powderhorn 24 were able to co-exist with everyone. Over the years, Powderhorn 24 organizers have worked diligently to mitigate the concerns of the community. To show solidarity with community and homeless alike they discourage alcohol. They clean up after themselves within hours. They manage the noise, keep the trail reasonably clean and share it with other cyclists, runners, families and homeless folks. I have even seen them sharing water and food resources with people other than themselves.

The differences could not be more profound. Homelessness is a complicated issue. It is a tragedy! Hiding people from public view for an event is WRONG, IMMORAL, TRAGIC, DISRESPECTFUL and reflects a sense of decency that I want no part of.

Thankfully, they won’t exist much longer for lack of support and respect.

REMEMBER THE ATLANTA OLYMPICS!***

Your Voice Matters

We want to hear your opinions on what’s happening in the neighborhood and the world!

Email copydesk@alleynews.org

November 2019
BACKYARD COMMUNITY HEALTH HUB
Midtown Global Market, 920 E. Lake St., Minneapolis MN 55407
BackyardHealthHub@culturalwellnesscenter.org
612-353-6211 | www.culturalwellnesscenter.org
Call Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for more info and to find out how to get involved!

Backyard Community Health Hub
CREATING WELLNESS

I also want to thank you for showing me how to
about self, through self-study.
our goals. I have gained so much knowledge
then provide us with things we need to achieve
give us this map for us to plot our direction and
support and the check-ins tells us you care. You
need to continue this journey to wellness. The
people and place an emphasis on what we
I love that the Health Hub is listening to the
vated.
to wellness, the small personalized groups,
to further engage me and keep me moti-
vation
I think it is a wonderful thing that you have this
type of program, dedicated to improving the
health of the residents. The Cultural Wellness
Center and Allina did some great work through
the Backyard Initiative, but there is still so
much work yet to be done.
I love the overall approach to wellness and the
personal touches that have been added. I think
the self-health/wellness assessment, the map
to wellness, the small personalized groups,
help to further engage me and keep me moti-
vated.
I love that the Health Hub is listening to the
people and place an emphasis on what we
need to continue this journey to wellness.
The support and the check-ins tells us you care. You
give us this map for us to plot our direction and
then provide us with things we need to achieve
our goals. I have gained so much knowledge
about self, through self-study.

I also want to thank you for showing me how to
look at money differently through cultural fi-
nancial literacy. Poor management of finances
was my biggest cause for stress and contribut-
ed to already high blood pressure and depres-
sion. It is very depressing when you can't pay
your bills, especially when your children are
counting on you, your housing is at risk, utili-
ties are about to get cut off, and you are just
a few dollars over the guidelines to receive any
type of assistance. I truly am getting a better
grasp on my finances.

Jeanine S.

Stepping Into Wellness
Stepping and Line Dancing is one of the most fun
ways a person could get healthy. When I was diag-
nosed with high blood pressure, high cholesterol,
and was overweight, the doctor told me I had to exercise
and change my diet. The last two words I wanted to
hear were "diet and exercise".
My friend attended the Health Hub activities and told
me “they make getting healthy fun, and they are in it
with you”. I thought, “right”, I know how these fit-
ness people are, they are these little bugs contort-
ing their bodies in ways that people like me couldn’t
even dream of doing.” She dragged me to one of
their Community Gatherings. They had this woman
standing up there giving step by step instructions
to young, old, big, and little. We danced multiple
times, and by the end of the two-hour gathering, I
was laughing and line dancing.
I attend the monthly gathering, not just for the food.
As they say, "the motion that creates emotion". I come
for the knowledge shared on how to make the chang-
es I need to achieve health and wellness and make
better life choices. I am moving daily, a miracle itself,
and attending Backyard activities throughout the
week.
Now I understand that diet and exercise doesn’t mean
I have to eat things that I despise or contort my body
to get healthy. I can create my own map to wellness
and be supported. My blood pressure has improved,
my cholesterol is almost back in the normal range
without the aid of medication, and I have lost twenty
pounds. I am proud of me and grateful for this oppor-
tunity that I wouldn’t be able to afford financially.

A.J.

The power of
food served
at Backyard
activities with
wellness in
mind.

Breathe, A Sacred
Journey Within
I was stressed to the point that my blood pres-
sure medication wasn’t working for me any-
more. As an African-American, I never consid-
ered meditation, it seemed like it was going
against everything within me, even. It sacrie-
gious.
I stumbled upon it the day of your launching of
the Health Hub when I was visiting the market.
I observed the meditation and sound therapy
and watched the expressions on the people’s
faces—showing an inner peace.
My girlfriend, who is just as stressed, engaged
with them, and said she felt the weights that
she carried being lifted and ushered into her
own sacred place. I remembered that,
and when I saw it was being offered Monday,
Wednesday, and Saturday I decided to give it
a try. I tried so many other things that didn’t
work, I might as well give this a try.

Once the skeptic, I am now meditating daily,
finding that place sacred space within that
helps me shed the weights that kept me so
stressed and tightened mentally and physi-
cally.
I am also enjoying Craniosacral, but it was
meditation and sound therapy that opened
me up to believe in alternative methods of
healing and achieving wellness.

Derah P.