Volunteers of this issue
but not limited to:
American Swedish Institute,
BackVard Health Hub,
Roberta Barnes, Bart Buch,
Patricia Cabellero Hansel, Gary Cox,
Cultural Wellness Center,
Dream for Wild Health,
Kelly Drummer, Frank Erickson,
EPIC, Lindsay Fanning,
J. Marie Fieger, First Person Producing,
Susan Gert, Linnea Hadaway,
Lee Leichentritt, Rose Lobley,
Marti Maltby, Emily Maisen,
Timothy McCall, Dwight Hobben,
Michelle Howard, Sue Hunter Weir,
Indigenous Food Network,
Lee Leichentritt, Rosie Lobley,
Mary Malby, Emily Maisen,
Timothy McCall, Howard McDuffiter,
Binished Moons, Jana Metge,
Midtown Global Market, MPNIA,
Migay, Jonathan Miller,
Peter Molenar, Dave Moore,
Lauren Fleenor, Karen Nelson,
Leen Oman, Brad Pass,
Carol Pass, Tyra Payer, Peace House Community, PWMN.
Rand Rettharad, Julie Robinson,
Sunny Sevigny, V. J. Smith,
Nealy Snyder, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church on 15th Ave.
Luke Longstreet Sullivan,
John Charles Wilson,
Crystal Windschilt

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

Interim Board of Directors:
Cathy Strobel-Ayres, Pres.;
Leon Oman, Treas.;
Thorbjorn Adam, Steve Dreyer,
Lee Leichentritt,
Frances Mendenhall,
Gabriel Pass, Steve Sandberg

Monthly Board: 6:30 pm
1st Thursday at Ventura Village Meeting Room.

Correspondence to Alley Communications and/or its Ed.
become the property of AC, Inc.
Volunteer to work on Alley Newspaper and may be published.

Publication Coordinators:
Web & hard copy graphics: Melissa Schmitz
Julie Robinson, VVN News pg 4; Brad Pass, EPIC News pg 8;
Sunny Sevigny, MPNIA News pg 8;
Susan Ann Gust, BYHH pg 12;
Pages 1,2,3,5,6,7,9,10,11;

By: Crystal Windschilt

Phillips West Neighborhood
Events: www.phillipswest.info

BY CRYSTAL WINDSCHILT
Thursday, November 7th, 6-7 pm
Phillips West Monthly Community Meeting!
Join your neighbors and other Community Partners for updates from Local City Government and Minneapolis Police! Meeting will take place at the Center for Changing Lives Building in Centrum Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking is available in the rear of building off of Oakland Avenue. Free Jakeeno’s Pizza Dinner will be provided! If you would like more information or would like to get involved in the neighborhood please contact Crystal at 622-879-5383 or email her at pwv2005@yahoo.com

The Alley Newspaper is a Member of

Join the Minneapolis Health Department for a
Community Update & Training: Safe Needle Disposal
Saturday, November 2nd
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Sahabani Community Center Gym – 310 E 38th St.

Attended this community event to learn what the City of Minneapolis is doing in response to the opioid epidemic, specifically addressing the syringe litter. This event will include updates from the Minneapolis Health Department and a training provided by Industrial Hygiene Services Corporation (IHSC) on safe needle disposal.

10:00 a.m.
Welcome from elected officials
10:30 a.m.
Overview from the Health Department
10:50 a.m.
Training on Safe Needle Collection from IHSC
11:30 a.m.
Closing and Next Steps from the Health Department.

By Crystal Windschilt

By John Charles Wilson

If you go to the Mall of America by bus or light rail, you either know or soon will know that the new Mall of America Transit Center is now open. A Grand Opening celebration will be held in November 2019. Check https://www.metrotransit.org for more details.

In other news, Metro Transit is holding public forums to discuss plans for connecting bus service by the Metropolitan Council in the mid-1990s.) The Metro Council itself has two full meetings per month, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 4:00 pm. The Transportation Committee, which is the most direct overseer of Metro Transit, also meets twice per month, on the 2nd and 4th Mondays, also at 4:00 pm.

Please consider coming to one of these forums if you have the time and interest.

A friend of mine recently asked if Metro Transit has regular public meetings. The answer is complex. Metro Transit itself is a service provided by the Metropolitan Council; it is not in and of itself a political entity. Historically, it was, when it was called the Metropolitan Transit Commission, but it was absorbed

Dec /Jan Deadline December 1st
Mary Briggs was only 21 days old when she died from diphtheria on February 13, 1916. As tiny as she was, her death had long-lasting consequences for the City of Minneapolis, especially for babies born to mothers living in poverty.

Mary died at 3614 Grand Avenue in what was known as a “baby farm,” a privately owned boardinghouse for unmarried women and their babies. In addition to providing homes for “erring mothers” and “uncertifiable girls” who were waiting to give birth, some baby farms served as adoption agencies. One woman advertised her business as a “private home for ladies before and through confinement.” She also advertised babies who were available for adoption—“Two pretty baby girls and a boy.” A few farms cared for children whose parents (usually mothers) had no one to care for their child while they worked.

The city had a number of ordinances that were intended to ensure the quality of care that the babies received but provided little in the way of resources, so inspections were rare and enforcement of existing laws was virtually nonexistent.

75+ Baby Farm babies buried at Lake & Cedar Cemetery

Mary was one of more than 75 babies interred in the cemetery who died at addresses that were known to be baby farms. The first child who can be identified from cemetery records was May Coffin who died on February 26, 1895, more than 20 years before Mary Briggs. And Mary was only one of 31 children who died at the baby farm located at 1432 5th Street Northeast. The owner was Hannah Lund who was well known to police and social services in Minneapolis but who nevertheless managed to stay in business. No matter how appalling the care provided by the baby farms, the need for the services that they provided was great, especially by young women with little money and nowhere else to go.

Mary’s death is catalyst for modest reform

Two days after Mary’s death, the Humane Society (the city’s department of social services) announced that Miss Caroline Forster, one of their staff, was being assigned to the City Health Department to monitor the conditions in what the city estimated to be 20 baby farms. Each newly admitted or recently born child would need to be registered and given a physical. Adoptions and transfers had to be recorded. Although inspections were rare, owners sometimes got word that an inspector was on his way and this comprehensive system of record keeping was intended to prevent the owners of baby farms from shifting babies around “whenever trouble [seemed] to be in the air.”

“...The need would not go away!” Miss Forster absolved everyone involved in Mary’s care with any responsibility for her death. The Health Department, City Hospital officials, and Miss Kaufmann, the proprietor of the baby farm, were not to be blamed. Miss Forster said: “As baby farms go, Miss Kaufmann’s place is as good as the rest.” She admitted, however, that Kaufmann’s business should not have been granted a license because “...it is not adequately equipped to cope with such an emergency as the one now existing.” Forster added that it was unlikely that any of the baby farms in the city were adequately prepared to take care of seriously ill children but that if the city pulled all of their licenses, “wildcat farms,” operating under even worse conditions, would open for business. The need would not go away.

Change did not occur immediately following Mary’s death but before the year was out 300 babies were being cared for in 13 licensed facilities. There were seven private maternity hospitals, where women could receive pre- and postnatal care, that were subject to the same regulations as other hospitals. The Humane Society opened a new department, the Children’s Protection Society, which focused specifically on the needs of the city’s children. In the month of November 1916 the department’s staff made 30 inspections.

Although Miss Kaufmann was initially absolved of any responsibility for Mary’s death, it wasn’t long before Miss Kaufmann’s name was in the news again. On May 10th, Kaufmann was denied a license to operate a second baby farm at 3108 17th Avenue South, an address where seven infants had died earlier. The reason given for denying Kaufmann’s license was her careless handling of a number of diphtheria cases at 3614 Grand. One of those cases was baby Mary Briggs.

Unregulated, ill-equipped, unfunded “Baby Farms” filled a void for poor women

Mary died at 3614 Grand in what was known as a “baby farm,” a privately owned boardinghouse for unmarried women and their babies. In addition to providing homes for “erring mothers” and “uncertifiable girls” who were waiting to give birth, some baby farms served as adoption agencies. One woman advertised her business as a “private home for ladies before and through confinement.” She also advertised babies who were available for adoption—“Two pretty baby girls and a boy.” A few farms cared for children whose parents (usually mothers) had no one to care for their child while they worked.

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Book Review
Thirty Rooms to Hide In: Insanity, Addiction and Rock ‘n’ Roll in the Shadow of the Mayo Clinic

BY DWIGHT HOBBES

Luke Longstreet Sullivan’s memoir, Thirty Rooms to Hide In: Insanity, Addiction and Rock ‘n’ Roll in the Shadow of the Mayo Clinic (University of Minnesota Press), brilliantly written, does not make for particularly pleasant reading. In fact, it’s the kind of the experience, especially being a true story, that, beyond depressing, can make you get up on a grey, drizzling morning, look out the window think about slitting your throat. Sullivan, in this wholly engrossingly, inerrant, cynically bittersweet account of tragic trials and tribulations, recounts how helplessly he, his five brothers and their mom suffered through years of being ruthlessly abused by dad and husband, a raging drunk whose binges eventually, one might say thankfully, saw him out of their lives and into his grave.

Proof positive that money can’t buy happiness, the family trans- scends a threadbare existence to buy happiness, the family transform- ing, degenerating into a monster who scares them half to death. The opening strikes one as oddly matter of fact for the depic- tion of a funeral. “We six surviv- ing sons of the doctor have been seated in the pew… The people sitting the row behind us can see our shoulders heaving in sobs. … They hear our sniffing, yes, but at least one… has figured out that our runny noses and shaking shoulders are actually the result of an attack of wild but stifled laughter.” [Our mother] sits. She is gazing up through her black mantilla at the stained glass windows. Her lips are moving. Perhaps they think she is praying, but she is not.” By the time you get to the end of the book, you understand the boys’ behavior, fathom their mindset. And wonder what Mya was thinking and feeling. It hits hard, at the end of that chapter, when Sullivan solemnly shares, “As the coffin rolls past, we understand there’s a problem to their beloved head of the family trans- forming, degenerating into a monster who scares them half to death.”

“Living it again” needn’t happen; but it is “lived again”

“Living it again” is forced on Indigenous peoples by constant “reminders” of the tragedies of the colonization of the Americas. Protests of this continued inhumanity are also repeated and the occasion pictured here was at U.S. Bank Stadium October 24, 2019 as the Minnesota Vikings’ football team played the Washington D.C. football team. It’s a fascinating read. Richly fascinating. And pain- fully sad.

Also written by Luke Longstreet Sullivan

Hey Whipple, Squeeze This!

This classic (and very irreverent) bestselling guide to creating great advertising, Hey Whipple, Squeeze This, has inspired a generation of ad students, copywriters, and young creatives to make their mark in the industry. Students today need new guidance to ply their craft in the digital world and this updated fifth edition explains how to bring brand stories online, in addition to traditional media like television, radio, print, and outdoor. Now in seven languages and used in colleges worldwide, Whipple will help sharpen your writing chops, unleash your creativity, and raise the level of your work whether you’re new to the business or a practicing professional.

EDITOR’S NOTE: An Introduction to Luke Longstreet Sullivan and “Thirty Rooms to Hide In”

For about a year, Luke Longstreet Sullivan was the second Editor of The Alley beginning in 1977, after graduating from St. Olaf College. He paralyzed the pas- sion for advertising that he discovered at the “small neighborhood newspaper”, The Alley Newspaper, into jobs with small and large advertising agencies and eventually to his current position as Chair of the Advertising Department at Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia.

In Luke’s words from his book “I majored in psychology. But after college I couldn’t find any businesses on Lake Street in Minneapolis that were hiring skinny chain-smokers who could explain the relative virtues of scheduled versus random reinforcement in behaviorist theory. I joined a construction crew.” “When the opportunity to be an editor/typesetter/ad salesperson for a small neighborhood newspaper came along, I took it at a salary of $80 every two weeks. [Thinking back, I believe I deserved $85?] But the idea of sitting at a desk and using words as a career was intoxicating. Of all my duties at the little newspaper, I found that selling ads and putting them together were the most interesting.”

Luke Longstreet Sullivan is one of hundreds of people who have collect- ed, told, assembled, and passed on stories and information in the pages of The Alley Newspaper. They all had unique abilities to hear, to sense, to repeat stories and information.

His book, “Hey Whipple, Squeeze This: The Classic Guide to Creating Ads,” is about much more than advertising as it describes and advises the creative process in any endeavor. It gives ample evidence of the merits of being able to know what any audience wants to hear and how they will be most receptive to hearing any message. Older readers will recall the source of the book’s title and fictional supermarket manager featured in TV, radio and print ads for Charmin toilet paper in U.S. and Canada for 21 years with various scenarios but typically Whipple would scold customers, “please, don’t squeeze the Charmin” while hypocritically entertaining such actions himself when he thinks no one will notice.


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Mass killings of Indigenous inhabitants of the Continent totaled thousands in every Territory. One, of many reasons, was that Territories wanting statehood had to reduce the number of amounts of Indigenous people to meet the required ratio of Europeans and Indigenous people. Of course, there needed to be proof of death and scalps did that.
VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

NOVEMBER '19 NEWS

work with us!

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.

November Update from Crime Prevention Specialist Kalli Plejog:

I cursed the weather as I dropped my toddler off at daycare this morning. It’s early October and there are already snowflakes flying around; temperatures will peak today below 40 degrees. I may not like cold temperatures and snow, but those elements will not be a threat to my physical health or survival. What’s striking to me in this season, is that Winter is merely an inconvenience for me but is an actual life-or-death crisis for the unhoused residents in my (our) community.

In the 5 months that I’ve been a Crime Prevention Specialist serving the Phillips neighborhoods, the topic of homelessness has dominated both my attention and energy. In South Minneapolis, especially East Phillips and Midtown Phillips, residents have impressed me with the ability to hold the tension between concerns for community health and safety, and a compassionate response to neighbors experiencing homelessness. As the Summer suddenly morphs into Winter (what happened to Fall?), we are faced with the urgent concern for community members who are unhoused.

How will they survive the winter?

Through research, I’ve learned that Hennepin County will guarantee shelter for families with minors, and single adult shelter capacity will expand by 50 beds to 967 shelter beds available every night. St. Stephen’s Outreach Team, Minneapolis Police Department’s Homeless and Vulnerable Population Unit, and other non-profit partners will continue to connect people with shelter, warming centers, and services, as well as distribute cold weather gear (clothing, blankets, etc.). Long range, Hennepin County is also committed to continue the expansion of supportive housing programs.

How to be a helper:

• Volunteer with St. Stephen’s Human Services, Simpson Housing, Catholic Charities, or another local non-profit or church that offers programs to support our neighbors in need.

• https://gis.hennepin.us/waypoint/ This website is an interactive map that helps users navigate systems and find where specific services are offered. Use it as a resource for yourself if needed, or for another who has a need and isn’t sure where to go.

• Know this address: 2215 E Lake St, Minneapolis. Monday through Friday, 8am-4:30pm, people can walk in and apply for emergency services here.

Work together

I always preach that a strong foundation for crime prevention is having a robust network of neighbor relationships. Now is a prime time to come together as neighbors to help those out who are needing shelter and protection from the cold.

Indigenous Peoples’ Day Celebration:

On October 14th, Dream of Wild Health and the Indigenous Food Network celebrated Indigenous People’s Day with the Indigenous Food Tasting at the Minneapolis American Indian Center. The event highlighted six indigenous chefs and entertainment from several local artists. Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan were present and proclaimed October 14, 2019 as Indigenous People’s Day in Minnesota. Over 700 people were served at the event.

The Indigenous Food Network (IFN) is a groundswell movement to reclaim indigenous foods and lifeways and promote food sovereignty within the urban Native American community. They are comprised of partner organizations in the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis working together to eliminate health disparities and advance racial equity by creating a culturally based network to provide access to healthy, indigenous foods, especially for their youth.

The mission of Dream of Wild Health is to restore health and well-being in the Native community by recovering knowledge of and access to healthy indigenous foods, medicines and lifeways. Last year they grew over 15,000 pounds of produce that was distributed into the Twin Cities Native American community through youth programs, Indigenous Food shares (CSA model), and farmers markets. Dream of Wild Health also stewards indigenous seeds from a variety of tribal nations, a few of which were featured at this event.

Youthline programs in your community:

Every week activities are offered at Phillips Community Center and Peavay Park for youth ages 12-17 through the Youthline program. There are opportunities for youth to play in 5 on 5 Basketball tournaments, receive homework help, learn to cook, swim at Phillips Pool, try stem activities, go on field trips, and more! The activities and programs are weekly and open to drop-in and registered participants.

Weekly programs for October-December (The teen lounge is open daily from 3:50pm-6pm for Homework help and games)

• Monday: 5:00 Hoop Group - 5 on 5 Basketball Tournaments at Phillips

• Tuesday: 5:00 Teen Art and Creative Cooking at Peavay

• Wednesday: 5:00 Teen Lounge activity of the day and Fitness Fun at Phillips

• Thursday: 4:30-8:00 Youthline Adventures Group at Peavay

• Friday: 4:30-6:00 Pool Fun Friday’s at Phillips Pool

ANNUAL HARVEST DINNER 11/21 YOU’RE INVITED!

Join Waite House Community Center for their annual Harvest Dinner on Thursday, November 21st from 5-7 pm. As always, this is a time to connect with your neighbors and celebrate this diverse, resilient, and vibrant South Minneapolis community. Enjoy a free meal, cultural performances, kids activities, a photo booth, and more. Waite House is located at 2323 11th Ave. South Minneapolis. Contact us if you have questions: 612-455-0388/meghan@pillsburyunited.org. Hope to see you there!

UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE MEETINGS:

• Wednesday, November 6th: Board of Directors Meeting: 6 pm

• Tuesday, November 26th: Community Engagement Committee: 6 pm

• Thursday, November 28th: Housing & Land Committee: 5:30 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 • Minneapolis • 612-874-9070
An Indigenous Food Tasting event presented by the Indigenous Food Network and hosted by Dream of Wild Health celebrated Indigenous People’s Day at the Minneapolis American Indian Center, 1530 East Franklin Av. The event highlighted six Indigenous chefs and entertainment from several local artists. Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan were present and proclaimed October 14, 2019 as Indigenous People’s Day in Minnesota. Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan read the Proclamation to the cheering crowd. Over 700 people were served at the event.  

See the program of the event on this page for a detailed overview of the day.

Event photographs (on this page) are by Emily Matson courtesy of Dream of Wild Health and First Person Productions of Migizi Communications.

Read more about the event and Dream for Wild Health on Ventura Village News on Page 6.

Core Values

The work at Dream of Wild Health is guided by these values:

- We value the personal character traits of honesty, integrity, generosity, humility, courage and fortitude.
- We value and respect individual and group spiritual beliefs that our families, stakeholders and constituents may hold.
- We value the belief and practice of kinship and reciprocity in our relationships with all people and with the natural world.
- We value the practice of respect in all our dealings and relationships with one another.

MIGIZI

MIGIZI acts as a circle of support that nurtures the development of Native American youth in order to unleash their creativity and dreams — to benefit themselves, their families and community. MIGIZI puts youth first, supporting youth-driven activities that fully engage youth in a self-directed path to holistic wellness and to success in education and employment.

MIGIZI means “bald eagle” in the Ojibwe language.

MIGIZI was founded in 1977 as Migizi Communications, Inc., with a goal of countering the misrepresentations and inaccuracies about Native people in the media. MIGIZI’s first weekly radio production, The Native American Program, set the stage for First Person Radio and its nationally distributed programming. Today, First Person Productions is a multimedia training effort for Native youth aimed at providing state-of-the-art storytelling skills, enhancing self-esteem and improving academic performance. Additional MIGIZI efforts address youth needs in jobs, culture, leadership and more.

MIGIZI envisions Native American communities as self-sustainable culturally, socially and economically; and Native youth honored as full contributors who provide new ideas, energy and passion that are essential to continuous community improvement and well-being.

Locally grown and raised foods and natural wellness products since 1972.

2823 E. Franklin Ave. www.seward.coop
This November copy of The Alley Newspaper is one month away from the end of its 44th year of hard copy existence. There was a time, before the first issue, January 1976, that the “seed” was planted and the “germination” of an idea began its growth toward fruition. It became more obvious in December 1975 when the following notice was delivered to each Phillips Community house and business. Following is what was written by Gary Cox, The Alley’s first “editor” in the first flyer.

What’s your story?
A Phillips Neighborhood Newspaper
Coming Soon
1975 Alley

[The words from that very first flyer!]

“The Alley is about us and our neighborhood. It will look very much like this and it will come to your door once a month. The articles will be written by the people who live here—not by professional newspaper people. You will see over and over again, articles written by your neighbors and yourselves. And if you don’t like to write, just call us up. We’ll get together for awhile and write it later. The kind of story is up to you. They are all important because we know that it is the opinions of private citizens that really count. What we should do is to try to get to know each other better. Start with the past: What was the neighborhood like a long time ago? What was life like for your parents and grandparents? Or the present: What’s it like working in a factory, living on the reservation or teaching school in the community? What are your opinions on what’s going on in the neighborhood? Or the future: How can things be improved? Who can do it? What do you imagine this area will look like in ten years? Do you plan to be here then?

A newspaper made of stories like this is not just a nice idea. The quality of life in the next few years depends on our ability to get to know each other and, together, find ways to get along. We are not used to being asked what should be done to improve our neighborhood. Most often we’re told about it after the plan is finished and the work has started. That’s a funny thing because we’re as smart as anybody else. Heck of a lot smarter than the downtowners who come up with all these high-flying ideas. It’s funny because we know that it doesn’t make any difference how much of an expert a person is, if he or she doesn’t live in the neighborhood, he doesn’t know what we need. Nobody needs to tell us we have some problems in Phillips Neighborhood. We know because we live in the middle of them. It’s because we live here that we are real experts on what our neighborhood needs. It’s because we see things first hand. We learn from what we see. We need to let our neighbors and the people downtown know what we have learned. We need to hash out our problems amongst ourselves and come up with solutions we all live with. When we think about making our neighborhood a better place to live, we must realize that we have an incredible advantage over other neighborhoods who want to do the same things. The advantage is the great number of different kinds of people in Phillips Neighborhood. There are old, middle aged, and young people. There are Indian, White, and Black people...people of Native, European, African, Asian, and South American ancestry. Put all that together and there is little we do not know.

We don’t need to be told that different kinds of people together cause conflicts. Yet we should keep in mind that these differences offer the possibility of a better place to live and work. The conflicts, as damaging as they are to our state-of-mind and our physical property, create the energy we need to make Phillips Neighborhood a safer and friendlier community.

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The Kind of Story is up to you. They are all important because we know that it is the opinions of private citizens that really count. What we should do is to try to get to know each other better. Start with the past: What was the neighborhood like a long time ago? What was life like for your parents and grandparents? Or the present: What’s it like working in a factory, living on the reservation or teaching school in the community? What are your opinions on what’s going on in the neighborhood? Or the future: How can things be improved? Who can do it? What do you imagine this area will look like in ten years? Do you plan to be here then?

A newspaper made of stories like this is not just a nice idea. The quality of life in the next few years depends on our ability to get to know each other and, together, find ways to get along. We are not used to being asked what should be done to improve our neighborhood. Most often we’re told about it after the plan is finished and the work has started. That’s a funny thing because we’re as smart as anybody else. Heck of a lot smarter than the downtowners who come up with all these high-flying ideas. It’s funny because we know that it doesn’t make any difference how much of an expert a person is, if he or she doesn’t live in the neighborhood, he doesn’t know what we need.

Nobody needs to tell us we have some problems in Phillips Neighborhood. We know because we live in the middle of them. It’s because we live here that we are real experts on what our neighborhood needs. It’s because we see things first hand. We learn from what we see. We need to let our neighbors and the people downtown know what we have learned. We need to hash out our problems amongst ourselves and come up with solutions we all live with.

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CASH AND CHECKS ONLY!!!!!!!

An evening of fun and fundraising to support The Alley Newspaper!!

RAFFLE! • REFRESHMENTS! • AND MORE!
Pay what you can (or not), $10 would go a long way!

BE INSPIRED

Guest Speaker
Tom O’Connell,
a retired Professor from Metro State, has spent over 40 years learning and teaching about issues ranging from worker’s rights to affordable housing, global social movements to racial and social equity. He is the author of It’s Up To Us: A Brief Guide To Community Leadership and is currently working on a documentary film on Minnesota’s Farmer-Labor Party.

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.

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.

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

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF CONNECTON
with the Cultural Wellness Center’s Backyard Community Health Hub

WENDELL PHILLIPS SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE POWER OF THE PAST
The chapter about the Phillips Community in a new textbook!

For more info: Susan 612-414-6623

RAFFLE!
For only $1 a ticket come and take your chances on some great prizes
Gift cards to favorite community spots, custom greeting cards, music CD by Siama and Dallas, Lowry Meat Market gift certificates, books, bird suet cage and MORE!

CASH AND CHECKS ONLY!!!

1 FREE TICKET FOR ATTENDING
Even the cold, rain, and snow did not stop our Annual Phillips Clean Sweep from going on! Saturday, October 12th Phillips residents came out to clean up their neighborhood. Bethlehem Baptist brought over a tent to protect the free T-Shirts for each participant. Beth Hart and her grandson, Joe Golish and John Richard volunteered to serve breakfast donated by Allina. A little snow and cold didn’t stop them!

Residents and other volunteers cleaned up areas where trash was dumped and cleaned out basements and garages of broken or unneeded household construction items, tires, metal, appliances, furniture, and mattresses. This one time a year event allows residents to put out everything at no charge! The four Phillips Community neighborhoods: Ventura Village across the top from 35W to Hiawatha & north of 24th St. to E-94), Phillips West (35-W to Chicago Av. 24th St. to Lake Street), Midtown Phillips (Chicago Av. to Bloomington Av. 24th St. to Lake St.), and East Phillips (Bloomington Av. to Hiawatha & 24th St. to Lake St.) raise funds to hire city garbage trucks and provide this service for free. A Clean Sweep Planning Team meets for 9 weeks prior to the event organizing all of the details, raising money and donations! A huge thanks to the Planning Team and all who volunteered and participated with the 2019 Phillips Clean Sweep!

Lunch followed the litter pickup at noon in Stewart Park provided by Bethlehem Baptist, Minneapolis Mad Dads, and Banyan Community. U of M Medical students set up a Free Health Fair as a part of this year’s event. They provided blood pressure testing, diabetes screening and information. A neighborhood Resource Fair also filled the Park Building. Neighborhood partners and organizations, including employment opportunities at Panera Bread located at Abbott hospital were set up, staffed, and on display. We learned from our Census Table that $20/hr jobs are now being offered to assist with the Census count! Many thanks to all of the participants.

Many thanks to Michelle Howard, Minneapolis Clean City Coordinator, staff at Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling and Alliance for Sustainability/Litter Be Gone. Other funds in addition to the 4 Phillips Neighborhoods were: DJR Architects, Wellington, Thrivent Financial, Watson Forsberg, Wells Fargo, Litter Be Gone, and LHB Architects. Somali TV produced a video on this Clean Sweep available on their Facebook Page.

17th Annual Phillips Clean Sweep another success!

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<tr>
<td>Phillips Ventura: 7,840 lbs</td>
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<td>Phillips West: 5,780 lbs</td>
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<td>Phillips Midtown: 10,800 lbs</td>
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<td>Truck 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>200 lbs metal, 15 tires, 6 appliances, 10 TVs</td>
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<td>Truck 2</td>
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<td>1,500 lbs metal, 20 tires, 10 appliances, 6 mattresses, 20 TVs</td>
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<td>100 lbs metal, 30 tires, 6 appliances, 20 mattresses, 15 TVs</td>
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<td>Truck 2</td>
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<td>300 lbs metal, 60 tires, 6 appliances, 3 mattresses, 30 TVs</td>
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<th>PHILLIPS VENTURA</th>
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<td>2500 lbs metal, 13 tires, 2 appliances, 9 TVs</td>
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Jana Metge—Phillips’ Good Neighbor and Advocate

Extraordinary day for an extraordinary quilt, for an extraordinary neighbor

BY CLEAN SWEEP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jana Metge, the Clean Sweep Event and Community Organizer Extraordinaire, was honored with a very symbolic gift of a quilt at the Stewart Park Clean Sweep Luncheon (held inside this year due to the early wintry chill). It couldn’t have been more appropriate to the weather and acknowledgment of Jana’s colorfulness, her connection with so many organizations, and the warmth she brings to every event, generally, and greeting of people individually.

Beth Hart is another good neighbor great at making connections. She “connected” a recent experience of having a family quilt made to the idea of it being a way to acknowledge the incredible work Jana has done for decades for not only the Clean Sweep event but in constant advocacy with and for the Phillips Community.

Besides providing warmth for the day and offering important symbolism with the 16 T-shirts naming many Phillips organizations with whom Jana keeps connected, Project Repat, the business who assembled the T-shirts, Beth Hart collected through the years, is on a mission benefitting Clean Sweep Day itself. Project Repat states: “The average American trashes 65 pounds of clothing per year. We’re keeping T-shirts out of landfills and upcycling them into something new!”

Repat’s motto is “Social & Environmental Impact: How much good can a T-shirt quilt do?”

Well, if we reflect on Jana and her quilt as an example, a pretty high bar for the rest of us!
Have an idea for a story that you would like to write and want to share your idea, learn about recommended number of words, the process, etc.? Email copydesk@alleynews.org

BOARD MEETING
Held every second Tuesday
Tuesday, November 12
6:30-8pm
Stewart Park (Arts & Crafts Room)
2700 12th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Lory Matsumoto of the City of Minneapolis’ Public Works Dept will give an overview of the upcoming 2020 resurfacing project affecting 10th Ave to 18th Ave from Lake St to 26th St.

See our website www.midtownphillips.org for more information

Peace Day Procession evening “Projections of Light and Color” on St. Paul’s Lutheran Church at 15th Av So. At 28th Street September 21st.
BY J. MARIE FIEGER

The Midtown Global Market partnered with Amol Dixit and his team at Hot Indian to host a multi-layered, family-friendly event in celebration of the Hindu holiday, Diwali, Saturday, October 12th.

Diwali, also known as the Hindu Festival of Lights, is the largest and most widely celebrated Hindu festival. Originating in India, this holiday is an expression of happiness and the victory of light over darkness and good over evil.

The Diwali - Celebration of Lights event included a free kids’ paper lantern creation craft, and a very popular selfie station. Traditional flowers and tea lights added warmth throughout the central Market area, along with modern and traditional music. The large crowd enjoyed heart-touching performances by two Twin Cities area dance troupes: Mudra, a non-profit, community kids dance group that celebrates cultural diversity through dance, performing arts, and related Indian cultural traditions, and the well-known dance troupe, Ragamala, who shared a series of traditional Indian dances.

The Story of Diwali was read aloud, followed by a fun game of Diwali Bingo. The highlight of the evening was when more than 300 kids and adults activated colored light sticks in the darkened central area. A henna tattoo artist created one-of-a-kind henna art on dozens of attendees, and free kid-friendly temporary bindi and henna tattoo station completed the fun.

Other MGM Events

The team at the Midtown Global Market produces dozens of free celebrations annually. On Saturday, October 26, the Market host the annual fall Chili Cook-Off, where a requested $5 donation to Doing Good Together will provide guests with tastes of more than eight original chilis created by a variety of the Market’s chefs.

Every Thursday night is Neighborhood Night, and the Heart of the Beast is on-stage for several upcoming shows and craft sessions. Check out opportunities to learn to salsa dance, perform yoga, attend wellness seminars, and enjoy live, local music.

Wee Wednesday celebrations over the lunch hours provide educational and fun activities for preschoolers and their parents/caregivers. Santa will be at the Market this holiday season, and Rituals will help create a meaningful celebration of Kwanzaa on Saturday, December 28. Don’t miss the Do It Green! Gift Fair on Saturday, November 23 and No Coast Craft-A-Rama on December 6 and 7, 2019.

Diwali Festival of Lights Event at Midtown Global Market

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It’s Gotham City, circa 1981, but it’s mood is somber, melancholy. Todd Phillips’ vision of trash and super rats running in and out of fifth, while crime is nearly everywhere. Then, thugs steal purses and wallets; to start the film rolling, Arthur Fleck, an amara


teur clown by day, is beaten and robbed by roaming bands of thugs. Gotham City really is the future. Actually, what is at play here is a series of snapshots of today’s American cities’ disparities balled into one, like in Gotham City, and rancidity rising near boiling point between the wealthy and the poor.

Arthur Fleck (Joaquin Phoenix), a.k.a. “Joker,” lives with Penny Fleck (Frances Conroy) in what is one of those apartments with drab hallways and worn-out interiors (that with a little ambition can be made presentable). Arthur suffers from mental illness spending much time in an asylum. One of his most chilling antics is laughing hysterically at almost anything. Arthur aspires to be a stand-up comedian and with his elderly mother (who tried to burn him alive as a child) religiously watch Murray Franklin (Robert De Niro), a Johnny Carson-esque nightly TV talk show.

Arthur’s uncontrollable laugh is because of a brain injury that prevents him from getting a decent job. Make no mistake, Arthur is not some harmless nutcase he’s a psycho-path. When he’s fired for carrying a loaded gun while entertaining children at a children’s hospital, he starts to really spiral downhill. He’s dealing with the business of money, murdered a boss, and goes after wealthy Thomas Wayne (Brett Cullen), running for mayor includ-ing promising to “clean up” the city. Writer-director Todd Phillips’ “Joker” is a case study. I suggest sociologists and people in the mental care fields go and see this film. It is beautifully acted by Joaquin Phoenix (he should be nominated for best actor) and his cinematic mother Penny, played by Frances Conroy who does a fine performance here.

Todd Phillips is known for comedies such as “The Hangover” trilogy (2009, 2011, 2013, respectively), “Starrky & Hutch” (2004), “Old School” (2003) and “School for Scoundrels” (2006) has switched to a suspenseful, adventure, drama, mystery “Joker,” by far his most controversial film. As for my conclusion on “Joker”, the film has beautiful cinematography by Lawrence Sher and sombre music by Hildur Gudnadottir. However, the film is highly disturbing, highly energetic, highly complex and I have heard stories (I cannot confirm them) that some people have walked out of “Joker.”

Mr. Phillips certainly has a brush of Martin Scorsese’s Taxi Driver (1976) and “The King of Comedy” (1982) in this brittle version of the “Joker,” the principal nemesis to “Batman.” If there is ever a comparison to “Joker,” it can be found in Stanley Kubrick’s 1971 “A Clockwork Orange,” a crime thriller faced in deeply disturbing scenes. Arthur Fleck’s dance scenes are graceful and in their weird undertones, convey some sort of relief, perhaps even vengeance or vile satisfaction. (Bette Davis in “What Ever Happened To Baby Jane” (1962) falls into delusional episodes by dancing before and after she physically and mentally abuses her invalid sister.)

She continued her resurrected career with “A Different World,” Robert Townsend’s “The Five Heartbeats” and with a standout supporting turn in Kasi Lemmons’ hugely successful directing-screenwriting debut “Eve’s Bayou,” starring Samuel L. Jackson. Carroll played Ezra, a flinty dispossessed voodoo sorceress scaring the wits out of then-child actor Jurnee Smollett. Her final outings, in 2006, were television films “Livan For Love: The Natalie Cole Story” and “Sally Hemings: An American Scandal.”

Cast: Joaquin Phoenix (Arthur Fleck/Joker), Zazie Beetz (Sophie Dumond), Robert De Niro (Murray Franklin), Frances Conroy (Penny Fleck), Brett Cullen (Thomas Wayne), Glenn Flessher (Randall), Leigh Gill (Gary), Dougold Hodge (Alfred Pennyworth), Sharon Washington (Social Worker), Dante Pereira-Olson (Bruce Wayne). Director: Todd Phillips: Writers: Todd Phillips, Scott Silver: Cinematography: Lawrence Sher: Music by Hildur Guonadottir. Running time: 122 minutes. (R)
Frank Reflections

Are rent increases based on costs, demand, or greed?

By Frank Erickson

It was fun to watch the pow- ers that be quickly scramble to mount an attack against rent con- trol after Senator Bernie Sanders said he would implement a 3% national cap on all rent increases if he is elected.

Within days of saying it, the Star Tribune and the Pioneer Press ran anti-rent control editorials. The “experts” that are quoted in those editorials have only one thing in their “tool boxes” to justify capitalism as a way to provide housing—“Hang in there, renters, as we build more hous- ing, rents will stabilize.” This is nonsense. New York is proof; where rents have been high and continue to get higher in New York City and this has been going on for fifty years there. Is not 30 years enough time to build enough housing to stabilize rents?

The only way capitalism works for providing housing is to pur- posely not build enough housing and then charge more and more for housing which then stimu- lates construction. Capitalism purposely never catches up with enough housing. How can China, a country of 1.25 billion people provide enough housing and the U.S. with only 330 million citi- zens cannot?

Now that the new tenant screening ordinance has passed, Minneapolis landlords are threat- ening to raise rents even more, to cover the costs of taking on “risky” tenants. But how can that be trusted, since over the past five years they have been raising rents on tenants who were not risky.

Stop playing games landlords. Everyone knows that rents do not go up based on landlord expens- es. If rents went up with land- lord expenses, then you would have to conclude that landlords are purposefully not build enough housing for providing housing is to pur- posefully never catches up with enough housing.

We are told that the Amazon jungle stands between humanity and an uninhabitable planet. It now burns, for the sake of surplus soy- beans, even as oxygen remains the choice for life’s breath. Indigenous peoples of the forest resist, while the revolution festers deep within Labor of every hue. We are tasked with saving our Mother Earth, and with rendering Columbus’ day its long last due.

The Taíno were an Arawak people who were the indigenous people of the Caribbean and Florida. At the time of European contact in the late 15th century, they were the prin- cipal inhabitants of most of Cuba, Jamaica, Hispaniola (the Dominican Republic and Haiti), and Puerto Rico.

Raise Your Voice

Indigenous Day Dialectics (Negation of the Negation)

This created a number of “teaching moments” for the one who does The Alley bulk distribution (me).

For example, to a young man behind the counter in the Matthews Park building, I remarked: “Dialectical means that all things are self-contradictory (i.e., all mate- rial formations embody a unity of opposing forces) and therefore exist in motion and are subject to change.” A blank stare then ensued, to which I responded: “Hey, if this is not true, everything would forever remain the same.” He got it!

Later on, over a plate of biscuits and vegan gravy at the Seward Park building, I remarked: “When analyzing a contradiction, it is normal to observe that one aspect is dominant over the other. However, as contextual conditions might determine, the relationship of dominance can reverse.” Invoking the classic example: “When adding more and more heat to water, the forces of adhesion are overcome by…. “The forces of expansion!” she exclaimed.

So evidently, most of us are capable of outthinking the “wise men” who perceive only the “sens” which suit their interests. Real estate moguls might take D. Trump’s proposal to purchase Greenland as a visionary hedge for their grandchildren. However, the rest of us also exist.

Consider the following extrap- olation from the locally produced Land Stewardship Letter’s splen- did review of The Uninhabitable Earth: Life after Warming:

“The Uninhabitable Earth is like staring at a beautiful painting of an execution. You are both compelled by artistry to look, yet repulsed by what you see.”

Eternal expansion is systemati- cally essential to capitalism… just ask the ruling class. However, our planet is finite, and the contra- diction between labor and capital remains. (External factors are the conditions of change, internal con- tradictions on the basis of change.) What conclusions should we draw?

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The Taíno were an Arawak people who were the indigenous people of the Caribbean and Florida. At the time of European contact in the late 15th century, they were the prin- cipal inhabitants of most of Cuba, Jamaica, Hispaniola (the Dominican Republic and Haiti), and Puerto Rico.
I am enjoying the self-empowerment and skill development through my learning how to grow vegetables organically. I get to create something that is healthy. It’s a benefit to others and me. Farming has turned out to be therapy for me. I plant, weed, water, watch it grow—which is creation. While I am doing all of that, I laugh, sing, meditate, and pray. This has done well for my isolation and depression because I have met some wonderful people. I also feel good about what I am doing because not only am I gaining from the Health Hub, I am giving back through my work by assisting in growing organic vegetables for my community. The goal of the Health’s Hub Farm Fresh to the Table project is that we, the growers, gain the needed knowledge and skill while increasing access to low-cost vegetables through the Farmer’s Market hosted by the Health Hub.” – Donna F.

“I was feeling angry, lost, alone when I stopped in the office of the Backyard Community Health Hub. What I felt wasn’t anything like I had experienced for a long time—warmth and peace. I talked to the two women there and they invited me to their Dinner Dialogue on Cardiovascular Health. I attended and this doctor was there with the most comforting voice. I had my blood pressure checked and I couldn’t believe how high it was. I knew I was experiencing the symptoms she described. I had felt all those things and ignored them, thinking the headache, ringing in my ear, frequent blurred vision, and numbness in my left arm was a result of my blood pressure being high. I knew I was experiencing the symptoms she described. I had felt all those things and ignored them, thinking the headache, ringing in my ear, frequent blurred vision, and numbness in my left arm was a result of my blood pressure being high. I knew I was experiencing the symptoms she described. I had felt all those things and ignored them, thinking the headache, ringing in my ear, frequent blurred vision, and numbness in my left arm was a result of my blood pressure being high. I knew I was experiencing the symptoms she described. I had felt all those things and ignored them, thinking the headache, ringing in my ear, frequent blurred vision, and numbness in my left arm was a result of my blood pressure being high. I knew I was experiencing the symptoms she described. I had felt all those things and ignored them, thinking the headache, ringing in my ear, frequent blurred vision, and numbness in my left arm was a result of my blood pressure being high. I knew I was experiencing the symptoms she described. I had felt all those things and ignored them. They are igniting the spark within me. They say I have everything within me to heal myself. I am starting to believe it, too.

I decided that I would take it slow, but I found myself so excited about the progress I am making that now I am walking. Stepping into Wellness, doing Zumba, and I wouldn’t consider missing one of the Community Gatherings. They remind me of family, and as I prepare myself to attend, what plays in my mind every time is that song about family reunions. I look forward to seeing all the regulars, laughing and talking with them about what we are doing on this journey.

With everything they do, what I think puts the icing on the cake is knowing I have two champions supporting me on my map to wellness every step of the way. They call, we get excited about my progress, and even when I fall short, they don’t beat me down. They give me that hand up with information and encouragement, all wrapped in tons of love and compassion. This is a touch that many so-called ‘helping’ organizations could learn from, that personal touch, building relationships with the people they serve.” – Shirley F.

“I used to eat whenever I felt myself slumping into a state of depression, mostly foods that are high in carbohydrates, fat, and sodium. I would spend most of my SNAP allowance on ice cream, potato chips, cookies, pop, processed foods that were fast and quick to cook. I would eat and eat and sleep to not face the feelings of failure. I had so many dreams but none of them came true for me.

This changed when I got a flyer to attend the Dinner Dialogue on Diabetes. I’ve made a lot of changes, but they didn’t happen all overnight. The truth is, there are still times that I struggle, but I am not in the struggle alone. I have a community who is in the fight for health and wellness with me. I am seeing it as a dream delayed, not denied.

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