Physical Distance While Still Connecting
Adapting to (COVID-19)

By HARRY LEE, Phillips Neighborhood Clinic

A policy of “social distancing” has been implemented by schools, universities, businesses, and the state. Social Distancing, however, is a poor term; we need Physical Distancing. Viruses and bacteria can travel in droplets, particles that can move through the air up to 6 feet or (sometimes) even farther. Scientists talk about a “chain” of infection. Any break in the “chain” can keep disease from spreading. That is why people are asked to avoid touching their faces and to stay away from others when feeling sick. In other words, maintain good hygiene and keep at arm’s length from other people when reasonably possible.

We do not want this to end our social lives, however. We talk about too little about the role of mental health in relation to physical health. Stress hurts your immune system, which is the heavy hitter when it comes to defense against disease. It may seem hard not to be stressed by a situation in which you find yourself, but you can try to think of relaxation as something you can actively do to boost your health. Think of relaxation and positive thoughts as a kind of medicine that can reinforce your physical wellbeing. Meditate, call a friend for a good laugh, or smile. It can reinforce your physical wellbeing. Meditation has been shown to reduce blood pressure, heart rate, and the production of stress hormones. It can also reduce feelings of anxiety, depression, and anger. It can improve sleep and increase energy levels. It can improve memory and concentration, and it can even help you think more creatively. It can also help you feel more connected to others, which is important for our overall well-being. But it can also be hard to find time for relaxation, especially when you are busy and stressed.

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You are COUNTED Upon
CENSUS 2020
You COUNT
Be COUNTED

All Hennepin County Libraries closed on March 17 and are tentatively scheduled to reopen to the public on April 6. Please check the library website at www.hclib.org for updates, as the reopening date may change. Availability of listed services below may change.

Starting March 20, ALL library staff are working from home. Hennepin County library workers fought hard to close library buildings down and keep library workers at home. This was a heartbreaking action to take, as we all know important public libraries are to the community. But frontline workers knew that it was impossible to keep libraries open or have workers in the buildings, and still keep workers and vulnerable community members safe. It was also heartbreaking because Franklin Library was scheduled to reopen on March 17 after a long renovation. Thank you to all of the community members who have advocated on behalf of library workers and patrons! We are still here (just working from home).

Can you recall a library reference or account question?
Chat with, or email a library worker https://www.hclib.org/contact Text 'hclib' to 612-400-7722

As of 3/20/2020, you are unable to reach library staff at 612-543-KNOW (5669) or library building phone numbers. We are working to have staff available to answer phones, if possible.

Physical Materials:
All Due Dates Have Been Extended
All Holds Have Been Extended

E-Books and Audiobooks:
Libby: The Libby app is available for iOS and Android devices and is a streamlined way to access downloadable ebooks and audiobooks from OverDrive. You can check out and access audiobooks right in the app. You can also read ebooks in the app or send them to your Kindle.

Cloud Library:
Find downloadable ebooks for readers of all ages. A reader app is also available for Apple, Android and other devices.

Library Events:
All Library events have been canceled through April 30

Meeting Rooms:
All Library Meeting room reservations have been canceled through April 30

Community Resources:
Internet Access: Free Wireless Access in Minneapolis

USB:
USB opened their WiFi network in Minneapolis for those who may need temporary internet access

Library:
Look for the “City of Minneapolis Public WiFi” or “USE WiFi” networks on your mobile device and you will be connected. The process is similar to using Wi-Fi at a coffee shop or the airport.

Community Emergency Service
1900 11th Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404
612-876-1125

Division of Indian Work
1801 East Lake Street
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407
Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays from 12-3pm

Food will be distributed through the garage near the main entrance. As always elders 60+ are our priority and will be served first and foremost! Bring your own bags!! This is a requirement. We are not responsible for food outdoors.

Delivering Newspapers to every home by Jeff Phillips Publishing and to 170 businesses, places of worship, institutions in Phillips and adjacent neighborhoods.

Delivering Board meetings monthly:
6:00pm 3rd Thursday in Ventura Village Meeting Room or Phillips Aquatic Center at 2323 11th Ave.

m Stadtenten.: You’re not the only one who reads the newspaper and cares not who reads the religion and the news."
— Wendell Phillips 1811-1884

You can not get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make!— Jane Goodall

Subject to MN State Mandates after March 22nd
An Oasis by Streets and Industry

Values beyond money
At a time when the value of most things is measured in dollars and cents, there are some who question whether cemeteries are sustainable. They question whether there is a business model for land that is purchased once but occupied forever. Cemeteries, especially inactive ones, are not moneymakers but they serve a number of valuable purposes. Not least of these is their value as urban green spaces.

22 Acres between pollution sources and Lake Street

Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery is the only green space of any significant size on Lake Street. It’s not large—only 22 square acres. In comparison, St. Mary’s Cemetery is 65 square acres, Hillside is 124, Lakewood is 250, and Fort Snelling National Cemetery is 436 square acres. Pioneers and Soldiers take up only a very small percentage of the city’s land—only 7/100,000. The exact number of trees is not known, but if there are only 300, and there may well be double that, those trees remove eight tons of carbon dioxide from one of the city’s busiest intersections every year.

Cemetery is “Cool”

Trees also have a significant effect on local temperatures. In 2019, the National Academy of Sciences published a study that said that the right amount of tree cover (about 40%) can reduce air temperature by as much as 10 degrees. The cooling effect is very localized—it can be 10 degrees hotter across the street or only one block away.

Gifted trees keep giving

Over the years there have been several tree planting events in the cemetery. In September 1939, five local veteran organizations presented the City of Minneapolis with twelve evergreen trees as a memorial to the veterans buried in the cemetery. In 2003, the cemetery was Hennepin County’s Regional Arbor Day planting site. Volunteers planted 150 trees, one for each year that the cemetery had been in existence. There were large shade trees, such as Autumn Blaze and Green Mountain Sugar Maples. There were medium-sized trees like Ohio Buckeyes, Amur Chokecherries and Showy Mountain Ash. Twenty-seven specimen and evergreen trees were planted throughout the cemetery to provide species diversity and to create habitat for wildlife.

Trees can reduce air temperature by as much as 10 degrees within a block radius. If Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery had only 100 trees, eight tons of carbon monoxide from one of the city’s busiest intersections every year. Over the Cemetery’s 162 years there have been many tree planting events. The next one is April 18th—Earth Day 2020.

Enjoy heat relief in summer

When things heat up this summer and your air conditioning is making you feel claustrophobic, grab a lawn chair or a blanket and head out to your local cemetery. Bring a book, a sketchpad, a picnic lunch, or nothing at all. Hang out and enjoy the wildlife on Lake Street.

We’re Closed—But Just a Little! Curbside Pick-up and Online

Ingebretsen’s retail locations are now closed to the public temporarily. Our Mail Order department will remain open during this time, and our specialty foods and meat market can fill orders for local curbside pickup.

We’ll answer phone inquiries between 10-3 pm CST, Mon thru Fri. Local customers can call 612-729-9333 for any inquiries and to arrange Curbside pick up. Please leave a message if we can’t answer! Contact us toll free at 1-800-279-9333 and you can always email info@ingebretsen.com.

Please visit our Facebook page for updates. We appreciate your patience as we prioritize the health and well-being of our staff and customers. Please take care of yourselves and each other. Hope to hear from you soon.

Love—all of us at Ingebretsen’s

Subject to MN State Mandates after March 22nd

Alley Oops!
The March issue of The Alley, incorrectly stated “Council Member Abdi Warsame resigns from City Council to lead Mpls.

Housing Authority.” Council Member Warsame sets the matter correctly with the following statement:

Council Member Warsame’s approval will be before the City Council on Friday, March 27th. Due to Covid-19 concerns, the format of that meeting may be conducted remotely. If he is approved by the City Council, he will have the option to resign his Council seat and accept the Executive Director position with MPHA. A special election cannot take place within 90-days of his resignation. The Elections Committee and the City Clerk will work to determine the best date for a special election in Ward 6.

Earth Day Cemetery Clean-Up

Please join us starting at 9 a.m. on April 18, 2020, for a cemetery clean-up in honor of Earth Day. If you can, bring a rake and work gloves. We have plenty of bags. Light refreshments will be provided. If you can’t make it at 9, come later. We’ll continue working until it’s done.
I recently attended an all-day seminar put on by a couple of colleagues from North Dakota. Their organization, Ministry on the Margins, has a similar mission to Peace House Community, although their activities are more diverse than ours. Among other things, they provide toys to children. Sister Kathleen, who runs the agency, shared many stories, but one struck me because of a personal experience I have had.

Sister Kathleen, like many ministry directors, wants to provide her clients with good quality items. She said that one day she was horrified to see that a seven year old boy had received a stuffed dinosaur that was missing an eye. To her, the toy was defective and shouldn’t have been offered to the child. She didn’t want him to feel like he was unworthy of a good toy just because his family was poor. However, when she approached him, he showed that he had already developed an attachment to the toy.

“You see his eye,” the boy asked Sister Kathleen. “Yes,” she replied, but before she could say more he continued. “I chose him because he’s been through a lot. So have I. We’ll get through it together.”

The story resonated with me because of my daughter’s stuffed unicorn Brockie. She loved Brockie, but a few years ago our dog, which had never touched any of our kids’ toys, started chewing on Brockie’s head. By the time we rescued Brockie, the dog had opened up two large tears on Brockie’s face, and Amber was understandably distraught. I have some basic sewing skills and told Amber I could heal Brockie. By my own standards, the repairs were really good. The stitches were almost invisible and her head was almost back to its original shape. But, of course, Amber could see the difference. “She doesn’t look the same,” she said, and she wouldn’t play with Brockie as she had before. I was pained that I hadn’t been able to restore Amber’s joy in her unicorn, but that changed some months later when Amber fell sick.

Suddenly, she insisted on keeping Brockie with her in bed. “She knows what it is to feel bad,” she said. Since then, anytime anyone in our family is sick, Amber makes sure Brockie stays in bed with them to help them get better.

I’m finally old enough to understand that my life has been different from the lives of most of the people with whom I interact. I’ve had more material security and haven’t experienced the discrimination and challenges that others have. While I’m thankful for the advantages I’ve had, I sometimes think I’m a poorer person for it. I’ve seen people who have much less than me be far more generous, because they understand the need for people to help each other in times of need. I’ve watched people go through traumatic experiences without any idea what to say or do to help them, despite having a Master’s Degree in Christian Ministry. By contrast, individuals with severe mental health problems and no resources have jumped into action, making sure their friends know they aren’t alone in their times of darkness. These days I still feel clumsy and inadequate when I try to help people, but I have at least learned that being present and going through things together is the place to start.

Peace House Community—A Place to Belong

We’ll Get Through It Together

By MARTI MALTEBY

Earlier this year, Minnesota approved the Lawns to Legumes program which provides funding to help residents convert their lawns to natural habitat for pollinators. Learn how you can bee involved!

• Demonstration Neighborhood Project for Phillips and Corcoran neighborhoods—grant provides funding for residents to install pollinator-friendly, native plantings in yards for little to no cost. Contact Lilah to be involved in this project: lilah@metroblooms.org or (612) 203-4027.

• Lawns to Legumes: Resilient Yards Workshop (3 hours) Learn about the four planting types Lawns to Legumes supports: pocket plantings, pollinator-beneficial trees and shrubs, pollinator lawns, and pollinator meadows, and the funding offered to Phillips and Corcoran neighbors.

Date & Time: Thursday, May 14th, @ 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Location: Phillips Community Center (2nd floor dining room) 2323 11th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404

After the presentation all attendees will receive workshop is free to residents of Corcoran + Phillips neighborhoods – just check the box! Visit bluesthumb.org/events to register.
Takoda

Takoda is located in the Seward Neighborhood, on the corner of Franklin and Cedar Avenues at 1845 East Franklin Ave. While short-term classes are taking place on a monthly basis, the spring quarter for Long Term classes start April 13th.

nations that will help gain students employment after graduation. Among its long-term programs, Takoda offers a Computer Support Specialist program and Patient Services Specialist Program. Both of these long-term programs are designed to earn students a career in a high-demand field.

Some of the short-term programs include Customer Service & Sales Training, Warehouse and Equipment Operator programs, and a wide range of IT and Computer Literacy classes. Each program offers transferrable college credits upon completion.

Takoda is the first generation to feel the sting of climate change, and we are the last generation that can do something about it.”
— Jay Inslee
Greenway in our own East Phillips Neighborhood. In addition, the plan would create 28 much needed affordable 2-bedroom apartments. All of this is fully supported in the language of the Minneapolis City Council’s Green Zone Resolution which reads in part, “Be it further resolved that Green Zone efforts and initiatives that are innovative, creative, courageous, flexible and adaptive.”

Little Earth of United Tribes, with its 1,500 residents representing 34 Tribes and a waiting list of over 500, represents about 1/3 of the East Phillips Neighborhood residents. They suffer heavily from health disparities of asthma and other health issues that are correlated with the overburden of poverty and pollution, and along with Somali and Latinx residents, have been strong and hardworking supporters of the Community plan. The City’s Public Works Expansion ignores these disparities as enumerated in the 2017 Neighborhood Health Impact Assessment, and also ignores the language and legislative intent of the 2008 Clark/Hergen Environmental Justice Law. The authors have said as much and are ready to testify to their goals in passing this law.

The City of Minneapolis staff are in their desire to expand their maintenance facility in East Phillips has managed to keep open discussion and present their perspectives to the city for future use of the land.

A Phillips Community created and operated “indoor urban farm” with aquaponics, green jobs and job training, cultural markets, a bicycle shop, a youth-led cafe and more is being DENIED by Mpls. City Council and Water Department. Members of the community have done their part. They have been working diligently to design a plan to create a community-run “indoor urban farm” with aquaponics, green jobs and job training, cultural markets, a bicycle shop, a youth-led cafe and more — on a corner within the huge and empty former Sears warehouse building called the “Roof Depot.” But the city is not interested in the community’s proposal.

The City Council has repeatedly voted to overturn the neighborhood’s proposal and instead turn this prime community development site into the largest urban utility storage facility in the state, with 480 spaces for employee parking, a new loading ramp, plus space for 494 commercial vehicles that together will make nearly 2,900 additional trips within this residential neighborhood. Additionally, this site is right across the street from Little Earth of United Tribes Housing, where approximately 1,000 residents, mostly children, reside.

Residents of East Phillips are working hard to organize, educate and fight against the determinants that contribute to the racial, health, economic, social and environmental disparities that are damaging and even killing their children. They have experienced firsthand the deaths of children who suffer from asthma and lead poisoning, but they need residents of other areas of the city to pressure their City Council members and the mayor to reject this harmful proposal to build a storage yard in this space and instead adopt the community proposal — which is actually good for the community and all of Minneapolis.

Environmental Justice, Equity, City’s Engagement Policies DENIED by Mpls. City Council and Water Department. The city of Minneapolis needs to “walk the talk” when it comes to “environmental justice and equity.” The city’s broad map toward reducing greenhouse-gas emissions may show a small reduction over time, but the increased concentrations of toxic pollutants in poor areas of the city is blantly racist and unconscionable.

We cannot accept this quietly.

**City Denies Neighborhood Initiative** Continued from page 1

The station will host the Orange Line, a 17-mile planned highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line that will connect Minneapolis, Richfield, Bloomington, and Burnsville along I-35W, which will provide frequent, all-day service in both directions, seven days a week; every 10-minutes during rush-hour and every 15 minutes during non-rush hour.

The project includes a space called The Green Crescent, which is a one-block stretch of green-space that will include bike paths and walking paths to connect the Midtown Greenway to the new Lake Street Transit Station; providing direct bicycle and pedestrian access from the new transit station to the Midtown Greenway.

Good things come to those who wait. Thank you for your patience. For more information, visit: www.rnkdnt.gov/35W94
“Returning”

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

Author’s note: this story picks up years after the saga of Searching, serialized in 34 issues of The Alley in the early 2010’s. In that story, we met Luz and Angel, two 19 year olds running from their past and searching for their future, along with a score of beautiful and strange neighbors.

Patrick Cabello Hansel, is a Phillips Community resident, poet, pastor, and the author of the serial novel “Searching” that has appeared with a new chapter each month the last three years. What does Patrick have in common with Charles Dickens, Henry James, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Herman Melville, and Rudyard Kipling, Gustave Falubert, Leo Tolstoy, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Wilkie Collins, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Bole-

slaw Prus, Tom Wolfe, Michael Chabon, Stephen King, Michel Faber, Orson Scott Card, Laura Hickman, and Lawrence Watt-

Evans? See more about serial stories below.

Alley Communications has been honored and pleased to have been able to publish this novel by Patrick Cabello Hansel in The Alley Newspaper, chapter by chapter, each chapter for nearly three years. It has been a first for The Alley and for any local community paper as far as we know. We have been reminded by Jane Thomson, one of our beloveds. It is easy to speculate, and hard to know. It is easy to speculate on what will become of Angel and Luz, and winners, that it is part of the way the world is made, taught that this is true, that there always must be winners and losers, that it is part of the way the world is made, that the “invisible hand” directs the fortunes of everyone, and that as one rises, another must fall. But what if by searching and finding, or even by searching and not find-

ing, we are more connected to our fellow human beings? What if our search, our healing and our wisdom multiplies unto others, so that as one of us is found, we all are? Is it easy to speculate on what will become of Angel and Luz, our beloveds. It is easy to speculate, and hard to know. They have found each other, and they are willing to go to any length to keep that treasure that is their love. But we know that love untested is not real love, and that is in trail that we often find our true strength. Luz and Angel will now walk together, and discover together, what their search will show them. Perhaps we will catch up to them a few years down the line: perhaps with babies, perhaps with degrees, most certainly with life’s troubles big and small, and with life’s joys, small and bigger than we can imagine. But what if, by searching and finding, or even by searching and not find-

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“Searching”

A Serial Novelle

Chapter 1

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

EDITOR’S NOTE Regarding “SEARCHING” Alley Communications has been honored and pleased to have been able to publish this novella by Patrick Cabello Hansel in The Alley Newspaper – a first for The Alley and for any local community paper as far as we know. Many noteworthy writers published novels in a serial format in newspapers or other periodicals; for example Charles Dickens published chapters at regular intervals and if they became popular he would publish the chapters as a book. Some writers sought and even depended upon reader comments and suggestions as they developed their novels. All 34 Chapters are at: www.alleynews.org/category/searching

Angel swore it was an owl. It was calling from a tree hidden deep behind the locked cemetery gates. He remembered that an owl calling meant death, but for whom? Himself? One in his family? A friend who had a death wish? He tried to see the owl through the fog that was beginning to creep in from Cedar Avenue, but he could not. It continued to call, lonely, vigilant, demanding.

Angel tried to laugh about it: of course there’d be an owl in the cemetery. Nothing but dead people there! But he didn’t know anyone in that cemetery. They didn’t bury Latinos there. They didn’t bury anyone there anymore. Mr. Bussey, in his 4th hour history class at Roosevelt, had talked about the Civil War veterans buried there, the heroes of the Underground Railroad, the first murderers and their victims. It was the old dead who laid there, the ones who had grown tired of being restless and wander-

ing, the dead who had settled in for the long millennium’s wait for the final trumpet.

No, this owl was calling for someone outside. Some-

one still living, who didn’t know their number was up. That was a fact: death was on the prowl in the neighbor-

hood. Death had an appointment, and death was never tardy. Angel shuddered for a second at that fact. Then he began to shake as he realized something else: he had been chosen to hear the owl calling. He had been called to be the messenger. The one who might be killed for bringing bad news. He, Angel Augusto Cruz Rojas, the first born of seven, was the one who must tell the story. Angel pulled his hoodie over his ears and started walk-

ing. He was intending to go see Sammy and some of his friends downtown, but he turned around, walked quickly passed the bus stop, made a sharp right across the street, and headed west on Lake. The sky over the Global Market ten blocks away bore the faintest trace of pink from the sun that had set nearly an hour before, and the wind was straight in his face. When he stopped two blocks away to light a cigarette, it took him several tries to keep the flame lit. Even from that distance, he could swear he heard it. The owl was calling him. But to do what? To tell whom? Angel needed to find out.

Patrick Cabello Hansel and his wife, Luisa are pastors of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church at 28th Street and 15th Avenue in Midtown Phillips. He is also a writer of poetry and short fiction.

“Searching”

Chapter 34 Epilog

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

“One person’s found is another person’s lost.” We are taught that this is true, that there always must be winners and losers, that it is part of the way the world is made, that the “invisible hand” directs the fortunes of everyone, and that as one rises, another must fall. But what if by searching and finding, or even by searching and not find-

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hidden in old, old songs? It would be foolish of me to try and speculate where Mother Light may shine, and fool-

ish to speculate where evil—be it the scarred cheek, the minions of La Migrá, the sneering smile of the cowards who rape and steal and torture—may cast their shadow. It would be foolish to speculate, but it is never foolish to imagine. It is our spirits that lead us to dream, and it is our dreams that lead us to hope. And so, we do not say “Adios” to those with whom we have walked these thirty-

four moons, we do not even say “see you later”. We say, “Vaya con Dios”—“Go with God”—and we imagine and hope and believe that their going, and our going—though difficult and bitter and wounded as it may be—we lead us onward to the spring that bubbled up in the swale so many years ago, that raises the thirst of the desert cross-

ers today, that refreshes all who welcome and all who are welcomed. Laten hemen komma til mig—Let the children come unto me—Dejen que los niños venga a mi.

“We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.” — Native American Proverb

7
TREATMENT OF CARCINOGENIC CERAMIC POWDER IN HUMAN CELLS

ABSTRACT

This study evaluated the effects of treatment with the carcinogenic ceramic powder on human lung fibroblast cells from a rat. The results indicated that the powder caused significant cellular damage and led to increased mutation rates.

RESULTS

The powder caused a significant decrease in cell viability and an increase in mutation rates in the lung fibroblast cells.

CONCLUSIONS

The results suggest that the carcinogenic ceramic powder may have adverse effects on human cells, warranting further investigation into its potential health impacts.

KEYWORDS

Carcinogenic, ceramic powder, human cells, lung fibroblasts, mutation rates.
UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE MEETINGS:

- **Wednesday, April 8th:** Board of Directors Meeting: 6 pm
- **Thursday, April 9th:** Community Engagement Committee: 7:00 pm
- **Thursday, April 9th:** Housing & Land Committee: 7:30 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

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**I n t r o d u c t i o n t o F r a n k l i n  A v e n u e  B u s i n e s s A s s o c i a t i o n**

One of the “behind the scenes” organizations in Ventura Village is the Franklin Area Business Association (FABA). This organization has been active for more than 30 years helping Franklin Avenue.

FABA meetings this past year have connected local business owners to city, county, state and police officials working in our community and also have been a great source of information sharing for members to highlight what is happening in the area.

In addition to bi-monthly meetings, FABA has:
- assisted with planning designs for Franklin Avenue,
- helped with beautification projects like choosing banners and flower planting along Franklin Avenue,
- administered grant programs,
- helped with graffiti removal, and
- been instrumental in bringing Open Streets’ events to Franklin Avenue.

Membership in FABA is simple, inexpensive, and full of benefits. Membership meetings are a great opportunity to connect to other businesses, stay current on what’s happening in the area, and find out about helpful local resources.

For additional information about FABA, you can contact Board Chair Will Delaney at wdelaney@hope-community.org.

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**A f t e r  S c h o o l  S t u d e n t s  B u s y  a t  t h e  P C C**

Established in 1958, Waite House is a long-standing staple of the Phillips Neighborhood, and one of their key programs has been to work with youth. Students gather after school to do their homework, fundraise, and establish goals for themselves. Waite House staff, such as Ivonne Hernandez and Julie Graves help students get set up with internships through programs such as Roots for the Home Team, Growing Goods, Youth at Work Food Systems, and Step-Up.

The students come in after school to work on their internships. Anessa and Eva, both in high school, work with food systems. While working, they distribute and keep track of meals provided for Waite House youth and other community members. Leandra, an eighth grader, will be starting her internship with Roots for the Home Team this summer. Roots for the Home Team makes salads with produce from their community gardens and sells them at Twins games; the program helps students learn entrepreneurial skills like keeping track of costs and revenue. These internships help students build their resume, while giving them ample learning experiences.

Waite House is constantly looking to grow and reach as many members of the Phillips Community and Neighborhood as possible. Currently Waite House is partnering with Ventura Village to build out a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) room to expand learning for 6th-12th graders in Phillips.

Topics in the STEAM room include hydroponics, food science/culinary arts, urban agriculture, seed sharing and more. If you are interested in joining or volunteering, please contact the Youth Program Department at the Waite House site located at 3324 11th Ave. S or by reaching out to the Youth Program Director, Julie Graves at 612-455-0365.

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**311 or 911: which do you call?**

- **311** is for Non Emergency Information, Services, & Reporting: 311 Calls are answered between 7 am and 7 pm, Monday through Friday. Get information on licensing, permits, garbage pickup, parking, etc.
- **Police** required situations include domestic abuse, robbery, assault, home invasion, someone on your property, drug dealing, loud music or a party disturbing the peace after 10pm, sounds of shots fired, people on the street or in vehicles exhibiting suspicious behavior, etc.
- **911** is for Emergencies & Suspicious or Illegal Behavior in progress:
  - Emergency medical situations requiring Emergency Medical Services, Police or Fire Department.
  - Police required situations can include domestic abuse, robbery, assault, home invasion, someone on your property, drug dealing, loud music or a party disturbing the peace after 10pm, sounds of shots fired, people on the street or in vehicles exhibiting suspicious behavior, etc.
  - Suspicious or illegal behavior in progress.
  - Report vandalism, harassment, and suspicious behavior that is not in progress at the time.

**Download the Minneapolis 311 app for your devices through all common app stores**
Onward (2020) Animation/Adventure/Action

Pixar Pictures
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ - 3.5 of 5


Ian (Tom Holland) looks on his bedroom wall to see pictures of his father who passed away while he was a toddler. He misses him dearly and so does his older brother Barley (Chris Pratt). Ian is quite shy and Barley is brash and a bit immature.

On Ian’s 16th birthday, the boy’s mother, Laurel Lightfoot (Julia Louis-Dreyfus), gives a gift to him and to his brother from his father—a wizard staff that has the power to bring back their father for 24 hours.

While Ian is experimenting with the magic stick something goes wrong conjuring up only the bottom half of their father and the gem on top of the staff disappears. The top half is in a far off land. Barley, Ian, and the bottom half of dad jump into Barley’s old van taking off on a quest to rejoin the top half of their father having only 24 hours to do so. “Onward” becomes a road movie twisting and turning on highways, country roads, and running into dead ends with run-ins with bike gang fanatics at a gas station and stop at a mystical restaurant owned by The Manticore (Octavia Spencer).

This entire wild, winding quest is fun to see with all kinds of creatures—Cyclops, elves, centaurs, manticores, unicorns on screen. Pixar is very adept at turning goofball action into lively adventures. Come to think of it, “Onward” has a bit of Harry Potter up it’s sleeves and maybe a slight touch of E.T. Extra-Terrestrial. (Pixar’s first film without any involvement from John Lasseter, following his departure as CEO of Disney’s Animation Areas.) “Onward” is about family—the microcosm of any society. To have a father missing is a serious gap in any family.

Cast: Tom Holland (Ian Lightfoot), Chris Pratt (Barley Lightfoot), Julia Louis-Dreyfus (Dreaft), Lauret Lightfoot, Octavia Spencer (The Manticore), Mel Rodriguez (Coe Bronco), Kyle Bornheimer (Wilden Lightfoot), Lena Wainwright, (Officer Spencer), Ally Wong (Officer Gore), Grey Griffin (Dewdrop), Tracey Ullman (Gr Johner Ualderrama (Gaxton), George Psarras (Officer Avel), John Raitzenber (Construction Worker).

Director: Dan Scanlon. Running time:114 minutes. (PG)

Famers of mystery novelist Angela Henry’s Kendra Clayton series, rejoice. Delightfully irrepressible, crime-solving sleuth Clayton is back, flying by the seat of her pants and as usual, two steps ahead of police detectives on the trail of a murderer. Also par for the course, the closer she gets to figuring things out, the more her own life is in danger. On top of everything, Kendra would just as soon be left in peace, minding her own business, which is exactly what she’s doing when circumstance hurls her headlong, up to her neck in someone else’s troubles.

Far from formulaic, this time around Henry has come up with yet another way for Kendra to stumble into difficulty that she’d rather have nothing to do with but can’t see herself avoiding.

“In Doing It to Death” (Boulevard West Press), Dibb Bentley, about as unsavory a woman you can easily relate. Importantly, the narrative flow is seamless.

Outsiders, reading: “Lewis Watts stood in the doorway of Pinky’s Bootleg Joint and surveyed the crowd. He recognized everyone in the room because he’d just been drinking with most of them at The Spot less than an hour ago.

“Where The Spot closed at two in the morning, everyone who wasn’t ready to go home and still had money in their pockets headed for Pinky’s, an after-hours bootleg joint. Leroy ‘Pinky’ Buford was an ex-bookie who let people party at his house when the bars closed.

“He sold watered down drinks and crap games that everyone swore were rigged and let scandalous couples who wanted to hook up behind their significant other’s backs use the three bedrooms upstairs, all for a fee, of course.”

Tailor made for television, particularly, say, Lifetime or BET with an audience already in place thanks to prior Kendra Clayton successes (“The Company You Keep,” “Tangled Roots,” “Diva’s Last Curtain Call,” “name just a few), Angela Henry’s deftly entertaining “Doing It to Death” is, hands-down, another winner. For more info on the works of Angela Henry, visit www.angelahenry.com or connect her on Twitter @MystNoir.

The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts at St. Paul’s believes that creating art together can be a way of healing for individuals and communities. Semilla will host an “Art Block Party” for Block Club, where artists will create art with your neighbors—art that will beautify your street and send a message of unity. Interested? semilla center@gmail.com

Welcome to Semilla benefit “Art for All” on Saturday, May 16 from 5 to 9 pm, at the Center for Changing Lives, 2400 Park Avenue. Live music, food, hands-on art making, a silent auction, youth photography show and more. $20 suggested donation—discount tickets for volunteers. Would you count it? Would you be counted? Would you be counted upon?

Movie Corner

By HOWARD MQCUITTER II
oldschoolmovies.wordpress.com
howardmqcuitter@gmail.com

Onward (2020) Animation/Adventure/Action

Pixar Pictures
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ - 3.5 of 5


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Unfortunately, there is no significant transit news in the Phillips neighborhood, or even in the Twin Cities, for me to report this month. Therefore, I am going to digress from my usual local focus and talk about changes coming to the transit system in Rochester as of the 12th of July.

The last time I wrote about Rochester Public Transit in the Alley was about three years ago when I first started this column. RPT was in the midst of a major service improvement from six days a week to seven. That’s right: until a few years ago, buses didn’t even run on Sundays in the Med City. Now, RPT is rectifying another shortcoming of their system: the complexity of routes. Most weekday routes don’t run the same at night or on weekends: for example, to go to Apache Mall on week-days, Routes 7 and 7A are the way there. At night it is route 7N, and on the weekends it is Routes 23 and 24. The minor variations between them are a lot to remember.

The new system unifies the daytime, night, and weekend service so the same route number will always go to the same places. That simple policy is something we in the Twin Cities take for granted. This will be accomplished, in part, by going from one- and two-digit route numbers to three digits.

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Art For All

By PATRICK CABELO HALSÉN, Semilla Center

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Book Review

Angela Henry Offers Another Thriller, “Doing It to Death”

By DAWTIE HOBBS

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Raise Your Voice
The Elders Have Spoken

By PETER HOLDEN

Little Earth, Phillips Community Center, Ebenezer Towers on Portland and Park Avenues, and Anderson Community School – for the Phillips Neighborhood, these were the Primary Vote polling places. Thanks to the volunteers who made it happen, those who had navigated the information overload were privileged to exercise their right. It can now be said with certainty: the elders have spoken.

To his credit, Joe Biden shook many hands in South Carolina. African Americans, especially the elders, bore witness to his message. He played second fiddle to President Obama, and trust him not to play a treacherous game with mass bigotry. Moreover, many believe Biden to be the likely candidate to defeat Donald Trump. (We are not in a revolutionary situation at this time!)

From the standpoint of our “Popular Front”, looking back, many were immediately drawn to the candidacy of Elizabeth Warren. Elizabeth was recognized as perhaps the first person to wrap a mind around the 2008 financial crisis. She formulated and implemented a policy to reign in the criminal elements of the financial sector. Power to her. Right? Truthfully, when Bernie Sanders entered the race, many of us were conflicted.

To be sure, Bernie is our best agitator. Free college education? That was implemented by the first socialist country about a century ago. Medicare for all? Let’s catch up with Europe and save a lot of money (Elizabeth agrees). Cut the bloated military budget? Please. Green New Deal? We can’t live without it.

Break up the big banks? Well, personally… I suggest we nationalize and socialize our entire financial infrastructure (hey, nobody is perfect). Nonetheless, I was proud to attend the Labor for Bernie Rally at the CWA 7200 Union Hall, down on 3521 E. Lake Street.

However, once again: the Elders have spoken. Despite every grievance and criticism, we have to unite. But, do not doubt for one moment that the youthful social democratic spirit will continue to develop, evolve, and ultimately prevail.

Something I Said
Dark girls deserve better

By DWIGHT HOBBES

Black was only so beautiful when the phrase hit in the 60s. Sure, we were at the tumultuous crest of a movement to throw off society’s shackles and, in the process, bolster self-esteem. Superficiality, though, runs deep. While we were exultant, reveling in social revolt, it didn’t displace an entrenched ideal. It didn’t cure a psychological infection. Folk with African features were no more attractive than they had been since the advent of that age old ditty, “If you’re white, just right. Yellow is mellow. Brown can stick around. If y’ black, get back.” However, times have changed, this has stayed the same.

Hence, “Dark Girls”, a documentary by the Association of Black Psychologists, is credited with providing, “an opportunity to take a soul-searching look at the effects of racism affect on the self-image of black women personally and collectively, particularly as it relates to complexion, so that where healing is needed, we can heal.” Among several salient aspects tackled in the film, the powerful impact of America’s insidious media is given a good, insightful look-see. Ironically, candid comment comes from, all sources, white hip-hop journalist, Soren Baker, who observes, “I’ve always found it hypocritical that rappers [claim to have] black pride, then... have [predominantly] light-skinned women or women who aren’t black in their videos, especially as the love interest.”

CJ Walker, the first black millionaire, made and sold hair straightener, pre-dating such idiocy as is noted in the film. Including skin-bleaching (remember, Michael Jackson’s?) a multi-billion dollar business in which people ascribe to the faith that being lighter brings a better life. Beauty being in the eye of the beholder, they actually have a point. Worse than grown women who play head-games with themselves, desperate to look white as possible, it’s heartbreaking to watch, for instance, the open scene in which an innocent child states, “I don’t want to be called black.” The also film reports on a new version of the 1940s experiment by Kenneth and Mamie Clark, in which children clearly exhibited self-hatred, favoring light hued dolls over dark ones.

Noted actor-director Bill Duke, who, with D. Channsin Berry, produced and directed “Dark Girls,” was asked, “Why are you airing our dirty laundry?” His reply: “It’s stinkin’ up the house.” Like Chris Rock’s documentary, “Good Hair,” another no punches pulled examination of black folks’ folly; “Dark Girls” holds a mirror up for the color-struck among us to see folks’ folly; “Dark Girls” holds a mirror up for the color-struck among us to see...
Stay well, stay connected!

The Backyard Community Health Hub is available through email, phone, and social media where many of our classes and other services are being Live Streamed.

Fill in the empty circles with your or your family's ideas for wellness!

Tear off this Backyard Back Page and hang it up!

Dance alone! Dance with your kids!

Call and check-in on a neighbor

Offer grace to yourself and to others

Make something you never made before!

Stop and take 3 deep breaths

Write a letter to someone you love

Make music! Play music!

Move your body!

What are you grateful for today?

Who are the people you will try to connect with each day?

What expectations of "normal" can you let go of?

What are you grateful for today?

Move your body!

Be watchful for the buds on trees and bushes

Reflect on all your strengths and the strengths of others

If you can, spend a bit of time outside!

Cultivate, create or invite beauty into your space every day

If you are a singer, SING! If you aren’t a singer, SING!

Be extra kind to yourself and others

Stare out the window and try to look for something different that you didn’t see yesterday

Stay well, stay connected!
The Phoenix of Phillips
Literary works and photography from the Phillips neighborhood

Volume VI: Hope
Free in Phillips. $1 suggested donation

Inside this issue:
- Poetry contest for youth
- News about our publishing arm!
- May 16: "Art for All"

All photos credit: Youth Photography Project of the Semilla Center @ St. Paul’s Lutheran
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CONTRIBUTORS

PETER BREEN is a musician and poet living in South Minneapolis. He recently published a booklet of poetry “Everything is a Container” available at peterbreenwrites.com. His main musical project is Still Unstill, a genre-bending songwriting focused rock band.

PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL has published in over 60 journals. His novella “Searching” was serialized in 34 issues of The Alley. His poetry collection The Devouring Land is available through Main Street Rag Press. He and his wife Luisa pastor St. Paul’s Lutheran Church.

DAVE MOORE moved to Phillips 35 years ago because of The Alley newspaper, where his monthly cartoons amuse and challenge. One of his heroes is Wendell Phillips, the man the neighborhood is named for.

JOHN RICHARD lives in Midtown Phillips, and works at East Side Neighborhood Services as the Director of Employment Services. When not at work, he enjoys gardening, biking and, of course, reading and writing. John was elected to the Board of Directors of the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Assn. and is excited for the opportunity to connect with neighbors through a new venue.

DAVID ROJAS MARTÍNEZ has lived in-out-and-in-between the U.S.A. and Mexico for the past twenty years and loves the power of storytelling. As a consecrated deacon of the Lutheran Diaconal Association, he is passionate about serving humanity from a faith perspective.

PAT WILLIS VINCENT is one of Semilla Center’s mosaic artists and a prolific poet. Her chapbook will be out this spring.
SAFE

(Two group poems by middle school youth, from Young Leader writing workshops at St. Paul’s Lutheran on 15th Avenue)

Feed my child
Give them a name
Running away
I would buy them food
A little girl
Mother is wearing a dress
Respect the poor

She is holding seeds
Her need is calm
I will give them shelter
I will take them free
Lily plants, mother and child
I will pay attention
I will protect

Save us from post-trauma
Save us from going to hunger
Save the people who think being different is wrong
There is still slavery in the air
Save us—no killing
Save us—no chemicals in the water
Save us—no drugs
Why do people, why do people?
Save the people who get blamed for things they didn’t do
Save the people who...

I want you to heal the lakes, the ocean, the water
I want you to heal my mom into no pain
I want you to keep us from hurting
I want you to begin

I am
Water to clinch your thirst
I am the world
You swim in
Lake water
Clean water
I wash your body
Your face, your hair.
I am the water inside you
I am the water
That pours down at night

Yo soy la luz
Y les tengo que decir
Que no todo lo que es mal
Será malo para siempre

Itzel, Esmeralda, Kimberly, Emiliano,
Ashley, Paulina, Makyla

I AM

I am the first dragonfly you see in the spring.
The one that makes you smile,
because of my bright blue body.
The one who reminds you that even insects can be beautiful.

I am the first dragonfly you see in the spring.
The one you run around to try and catch
The blue you see land in all your greens.
My eyes stare at the frogs coming out at night.

I am the first dragonfly you see in the spring.
The one that landed on your fishing pole
for a place to rest.

I am the first dragonfly you see in the spring.

Terrance, 12

I am the light
I feel the cold
I make people see
I make people safe
I walk on sacred land
I eat ice cream under the sun.
It feels good,
Melting on my tongue

Yo camino en la tierra sagrada
Se siente fresca
Se ve de colores
Se siente libertadora

POETRY CONTEST FOR YOUTH!
Cash Prizes!
Two levels: Ages 6-12 & 13-18
Send your poems on the theme of “Struggle” to semillacent@gmail.com

Volume VI: Hope 3
PSALM FOR AN OCTOBER MORNING

Creator of cleansing winds and restless imagination,
Painter of the bold blues and golds
Of the dying year,
May the clear light of your beauty dancing
On my sleep-seeded eyes
Rise like incense before you.
Accept the mute pleasure of the cup
warming my hand
As a morning song worthy of the offering.

In your great wisdom,
In your great love.

Great God of the moist greening of the spring
Call to us now in the time of drying.
May the reds and yellows that flash in the trees
Stir our thoughts with the still peace of endings,
And the hope of new beginnings.

And in the autumn of our days
May we fall with the grace of leaves,
To bejewel the cold earth
Like embers on the altar of sacrifice.

In your great wisdom
In your great love.

John Richard

HOPE IS AN ANCHOR

Because we never really know the sea
And it is strong beyond our dreaming.
Sometimes you must hold steady
to watch and wait.

And when you learn when to set anchor,
When you learn when to haul it up,
You dare to travel into unknown waters.

Because when you work the windlass with your mates
A good song keeps the rhythm
And a certain joy glows in the sweat.

Because Faith and Love arc towards heaven
Like two graceful arrows.
A good strong center
Grounds them here on earth.

John Richard

CREATION

God fashioned the treetops
With tissue paper –
green and wispy thin,
like mosquito wings,
and sprinkled them with rainwater.
She made the trunks
out of brown corrugated cardboard.
(Her scissors, paste and snippets put away)
She took the sun and
lit the trees like birthday candles,
humming to herself.

Pat Willis Vincent

THE SEASON OF DARKNESS

I find a mailbox in the darkness-
last card, last package.
Wise men see the Star.
My soul knows
some place close
is lit with candles.
People gather,
surrounding a fire.

Pat Willis Vincent
PRIMOGENITOR AGING POEM

I probe my mind to find
The word for
numbered flower petals.
Leonardo knew
natures order,
the way water flows with
gravity’s pull.
I remember
his miniscule drawings.
The word is on the tip of my tongue,
a prime number-
Then I decide to listen to the ocean.

Pat Willis Vincent

ICE AGE MOMENT

Today the wind whistles
between high rise windows.
Snow falls at a near horizontal slant.
Instead of seeing Joe’s
VW bus warming itself
in the corner parking lot,
I look down and see
a mastodon stopped
in its tracks –
Brown fur and tusks,
Weighed down by snow
I could grab a spear and
eat good meat
until late spring.
It’s only April.

Pat Willis Vincent

CURTAIN CALL

A sheet of snow
swaddles South Minneapolis,
a few more weeks
before the Spring season starts –
Still some preliminary
dusting can be done,
the playbills sent out.
A few choice words
said to the right people
about the opening
can do wonders.
Just picture
lilacs sighing purple
with rounded fragrance.
Crocuses peek out from
clumps of forgotten snow,
very close to curtain call.

Pat Willis Vincent

EVERYTHING IS JUST A CONTAINER

this envelope for this paper
this paper for these sentences
these sentences for these words
and I can’t say what words contain
but I know how they expand
and contract as we stare at them
how the meanings shift day to day
think of the world inside the word love

Peter Breen

I TAKE A BREATH LASTING A WHOLE DAY

the inhale, the sun rises, birds
chatter at the dawn, everyone
runs their daily courses, the heat
builds and I hold
for a moment in the afternoon
the exhale, the sun sinks, growing
dark against the purpling horizon, birds
go quiet and lovers meet
in secluded places, I hold again
in the stillness of the night

Peter Breen
ONE MEXICAN’S PRAYER

Ojalá, God willing, my mother whispered and I hated her for it. Because God has willed that my home vomit me soaked in blood.

Ojalá the States will allow you to bloom so I hid beneath my bed. When it arrived, I remember falling asleep to Mexican night songs.

Ojalá, I wish that, I could remember that night because I was a happy child. Certain of my place in the world, dragged awake as an unwanted foreigner.

Ojalá I could recall the ways that summer days never ended poolside. The feeling of the sun’s rays kissing my brown skin I once loved.

Ojalá, if only, I had been born a full-grown tree with roots too deep to tear. And then I would have watched the years pass grounded in a loving soil.

Ojalá I had not fallen in love with this new land that now, too, wants to vomit. And so I am left with nothing but prayers and tears Ojalá. God willing, Dios quiera.

David Rojas Martínez

The modern Spanish/Castilian word comes from from the Old Spanish/Castilian word oxalá, which itself is a phrase that comes from a variant of Arabic مَلَإِ عَشَوْ (wasá Allāh, meaning “and may God will it”). It is often used as and adverb or an interjection, with a variety of meanings depending on its use. It is comparable to Modern Arabic’s مَلَإِ عَشَوْ (In shā’ Allāh, meaning “if God wills” and is interchangeable with the same Modern Spanish/Castilian’s “Si Dios quiere.”

UNDERSTANDING HOPE

Understanding hope – here’s the thing – you think it can’t get worse, and it does, and it does, and you feel just like a dope, but you’re only beginning to know the depths of desolation, hanging on to that fraying rope. You’re just beginning to be understanding hope.

Prayers are where it starts and pleas are where it ends. The colors you are seeing can be no different. You’re clawing at the cliff edge as you go sliding down the slope. Oh, you are just beginning to be understanding hope.

Snatching numbers from the air, rolling dice may live again. Rolling eyes in twitching bodies, tongue-kissing the ring of the Pope. Abasement in the basement, help is just around the corner. While you’re waiting for backup, you’re getting painfully closer to understanding hope.

Just this side of ecstasy, you feel another shade of fear. You couldn’t help but wet yourself, you might still get out of here. This goes primal beyond rut, blue skies and happy endings, the words for which you grope, the sweaty panic rush of understanding hope.

You find yourself still breathing. Well, at least that’s something. They’ll surely pin a medal on the vision glowing from the shrine of best intentions that miraculously came true. Every crisis will work out for you. You were so worried, was it worth it. Suddenly you so clearly know God’s in his heaven wherever that is, and you, you’re at the very edge of getting your first glimmer of understanding hope.

Dave Moore
UNDERSTANDING HOPE

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The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts
mosaics and murals:
and workshops in photography, creative writing,
on the neighborhood art blocks, youth programs
and artistic place holders in Phillips and beyond. Semilla
means “seed” in Spanish, and it is our passion to plant
seeds of hope, justice and beauty in our community. We
do so, conscious of the challenges facing us, but more
conscious of the great hope we have.

The Phillips area is comprised of four neighborhoods:
Ventura Village, Phillips West, Midtown Phillips and East
Phillips. The boundaries of the Phillips community are
Interstate 94 to the north, Hiawatha Avenue to the east,
Lake Street to the south, and Interstate 35W to the west.

This activity is made possible by
the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional
Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and
cultural heritage fund.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
on the neighborhood art blocks, youth programs
and workshops in photography, creative writing,
mosaics and murals:
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ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU!
¡La Iglesia Luterana San Pablo te invita!
• English worship 10am
• Misas en español, 12pm
• Last Sunday of the month, 11 am bilingual, with pot luck
Activities for children, youth and adults.
Actividades para niños, jóvenes y adultos.

YOU CAN BE INVOLVED WITH SEMILLA!
• Teach a class: puppetry, creative writing, movement,
visual arts, or other!
• Attend a class
• Volunteer at one of our events
• Host a visit from Young Leaders at your workplace
• Serve on our board
• Donate

THE PHOENIX OF PHILLIPS VOLUME VII
The next issue of The Phoenix will be out in Fall 2020. Submit to semillacenter@gmail.com or by mail to: 2742 15th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55407
Help make The Phoenix Of Phillips a fire of literary beauty by supporting the next issue financially.

Donations may be made out to:
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• Half page: $500
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• Heart of the Beast, 1500 East Lake
• Quatrefoil Library, 1220 East Lake
• The Loft, 1011 Washington Ave S.
• Midtown Global Market, Elliot and Lake
• Our Saviour’s Lutheran, 24th & Chicago
• Franklin Library, 1314 E. Franklin
• Pow Wow Grounds, 1414 E. Franklin
• Messiah Lutheran, 2400 Park Avenue S.
• Mpls. Area Synod, 122 W. Franklin, Suite 600
ART FOR ALL
A night of music, art, food and friendship
Help us continue to provide quality arts for all kinds of people!

Saturday, May 16, 5-9 pm
Center for Changing Lives
2400 Park Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404
$20—discounts for families and volunteers! Live music, hands-on art, delicious food, silent auction, surprises!

“Phillips: God’s Backyard” — Our youth photography show travels!
If you want to host at your business, school or religious organization, contact semillacenter@gmail.com!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

As I write this, more cases of coronavirus are reported in our city, in our country, in our world. Millions of people are at danger of starvation in Yemen’s civil war. Hundreds of thousands of refugees are trying to flee the war in Syria. Where is hope to be found? It would be easy to despair of hope in these times. But where would we be without hope?

Hope is a radical stance to take. All the great reformers and revolutionaries were people of hope, who envisioned a different world in the midst of oppression and fear. The writers in this issue have that same vision. They won’t give up on the world, because the world is too beautiful. Their eyes, their words see something new bursting from the old.

This issue is smaller than previous ones. Let’s not let that happen again, writers! Exciting things are happening with your literary magazine, the only one by and for our neighborhood. Our first chapbook and broadsides will be out this year. Submit your work for the next issue on “Struggle”, and please choose to support our work financially. Thank you!

NOTA DEL EDITOR:

Mientras escribo esto, se informan de más casos de coronavirus en nuestra ciudad, en nuestro país, en nuestro mundo. Millones de personas corren peligro de morir de hambre en la guerra civil de Yemen. Cientos de miles de refugiados tratan de huir de la guerra en Siria. ¿Dónde se encuentra la esperanza? Sería fácil desesperarse de la esperanza en estos tiempos. ¿Pero dónde estaríamos sin esperanza?

La esperanza es una postura radical. Todos los grandes reformadores y revolucionarios fueron personas de esperanza, que imaginaron un mundo nuevo en medio de la opresión y el miedo. Los escritores en esta edición tienen la misma visión. No pueden renunciar al mundo, porque el mundo es demasiado hermoso. Sus ojos, sus palabras ven algo nuevo que brota de lo viejo.

Esta edición de El Fénix de Phillips es más pequeña que los anteriores. ¡No permitamos que eso vuelva a pasar, escritores! Están sucediendo cosas emocionantes con su revista literaria, la única de y para nuestro vecindario. Nuestro primer libro y pósteres de poesía llegarán este año. Envíen sus palabras para la próxima edición “Lucha” y apoyen nuestro trabajo financieramente. ¡Gracias!