



Wed. May 13th 5-8 PM 10th & 11th Ave by Midtown **Greenway** SEE pnn.org/cepro; alleynews.org/ pg. 3, 6 & 7

# the **NEWSPAPER NEWS & VIEWS OF PHILLIPS SINCE 1976** MAY 2015 · VOLUME 40, NUMBER 5

The Alley Online! www.alleynews.org



@alleynewspaper

# **Velkommen to Phillips** Norway House in Indigo



"Color it Indigo," said Dewey Thorbeck, NH Architect, to portray water's mutual significance and beauty in Norway's fjords and Minnesota's deepest lakes. The vivid, eye-catching use of Indigo also recalls the strong cultural affinity of Norway and Minnesota. Welcome to Franklin Ave. and Ventura Village NH.

to humanity, integrity, sincerity, intuition, and perception---are fitting with the NH "Peace Initiative" and hope to enhance conversation culture, and contemplation. Indigo's deep midnight blue also suggests concentration and meditation.

The opening of another cultural center on Franklin Avenue, being adjacent to Mindekirken—the Norwegian Memorial Lutheran Church at the west end of the American Indian Cultural Corridor, enhances this area as a "go to" location for the richest of cultural traditions, insights and

The Phillips Aquatic Center

## A Jewel of equity and collaboration

BY STATE SENATE DEPUTY MAJORITY health benefits that can come with JEFF HAYDEN, MINNEAPOLIS; STATE REP. KAREN CLARK, DFL-MINNEAPOLIS; MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS ABDI WARSAME AND ALONDRA CANO; MINNEAPOLIS PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEMBERS BRAD BOURN, JOHN ERWIN, MEG FORNEY, AND SCOTT VREELAND; EVAN HALL, MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD CHAIR; CAROL PASS, EAST PHILLIPS IMPROVEMENT COALITION BOARD CHAIR, AND DENNY BENNETT, MINNEAPOLIS SWIMS BOARD PRESIDENT.

Minneapolis, the City of Lakes, has a dirty little secret. With one of the highest state drowning rates for children of color in the nation, Minneapolis has no public, community-accessible indoor pools offering year-round swimming instruction. Unfortunately, in Minneapolis, the opportunities to learn to swim, and reap the many

swimming regularly, are too often reserved for those with means.

On Wednesday, April 1, 2015 six of our nine Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) Commissioners voted to move forward with restoring and expanding a MPRB-owned pool in the Phillips Community Center. With the opening of the Phillips Aquatics Center, close to public transportation, these Commissioners made a huge contribution to the equity picture in Minneapolis.

The best part of all this is that 57% of the capital required for this project has already been raised by outside sources, and the money continues to come in!

Additionally, outside revenue

**Aquatic Center** see page 2

**Dream Come True** 

## **New National Center for Norway** in America

HOUSE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS AND COMMUNICATIONS

What started as a dream more than a decade ago is now a reality. After years of imagining, planning and building, the Norway House Education Center will open its doors on May 12, 2015 with its first gallery exhibition, "Red, White & Blue | Norwegian Constitution, American Inspiration." Inspired by a shared love of Norway and its heritage, volunteers and donors have worked tirelessly, giving their time and resources to build a bridge that connects America to modern day Norway.

Norway House is the new national center for Norway in America. This ambitious endeavor was inspired by the hundreds of thousands of Norwegian-Americans living in the Midwest. Norway House was built by many individu-

BY ELIZABETH PLAETZ LORI, NORWAY als. families and businesses who based nonprofit organization share a dream and support the mission to promote a common interest and community for Norway.

Norway House provides a place for many to call "home." It has spaces for families and organizations to gather and celebrate. The Gavebutikk and Kaffebar by Also Ingebretsens (a longstanding neighborhood treasure) offers Norwegian gifts, specialties, coffee, and culinary favorites. Children have a place to come to learn new languages and folk songs. Corporations and business partners from Norway will now have a base to build opportunities and partnerships in a new environment. With the opening of the Education Center and plans continuing for the second phase of the project, the Event Center, it is an exciting time for Norway House.

Norway House is a Minnesota-

dedicated to providing a link for present and future generations of the Norwegian-American community in the Upper Midwest to the heritage and culture of Norway. Norway House partners with individuals, organizations and businesses in the Norwegian-American community to promote an appreciation for and understanding of the American Norwegian experience and its relationship to modern Norway and the world. The Norway House oversees programs, including The Edvard Grieg Society, the Norway House Peace Initiative and the "Going Viking" award, which recognizes the accomplishments of notable Norwegian-American leaders.

**Hours & details** www.norwayhouse.org See 17th of May Celebration and VV NEWS Pg. 5



The Alley
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Alley Communications, a 501C-3, Not-for-Profit Corp. publishes The Alley Newspaper influenced by these words by Ann Greene Phillips and Wendell Phillips:

"We came into this world to give truth a little jog onward and to help our neighbor's rights."

Donations are needed, welcome, and Tax Deductible.

Volunteers who had a part in making the issue: Miski Abdulle, Robert Albee, A-POD, Augsburg College, BackYard Initiative CHATS, Brad Bourn, Banyan Community, Denny Bennett, Alondra Cano, Karen Clark, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, John Erwin, Meg Forney, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Evan Hall, Hennepin County Franklin Library and Staff, Hennepin County Publick Works, Jeff Hayden, Del Holmes, Sue Hunter Weir, Soren Jensen, Sarah Larsson, Jana Metge, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Tim McCall, Lisa Middag, Jonathan Miller, Peter Molenaar, Jeff Moeller, Dave Moore, Norway House, Out in the BackYard, Brad Pass, Carol Pass, Jodi Petrich, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Elizabeth Plaetz Lori, Rand Retterrath, Sunny Sevigny, Erin Thomasson,

Sunny Sevigny, Erin Thomasson, Dewey Thorbeck, Ventura Village, Scott Vreeland, Abdi Warsame,, Crystal Trautnau Winschitl. **Delivery:** to 213 Apartments,

**Delivery:** to 213 Apartments, Businesses, Worship places, and Organizations by Lyle James Delivery to many homes and meetings by these volunteers

Beverly, Brad, Carol, Patrick, Cathy, Dave, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Jana, Heidi, Marjorie, Midtown Phillips, Paul, Phillips West N Org., Simmons Family, Stephanie, Sue, Tara, Ventura Village within blocks of these neighborhoods: Ventura Village, Phillips West, Midtown Phillips, East Phillips, Central, Powderhorn Park, and Corcoran; and a few places in Longfellow, Cooper, Cedar-Riverside, Elliott Park, Whittier, and Lyndale.

## Circulation: 8,600 hard copies and online.

**Printing by:** Page 1 Printers More people are needed to deliver papers to neighbors and/or meetings and events.

Call Harvey 612-990-4022 **Board of Directors:** Cathy Strobel,

President; Sue Hunter Weir; Joan

Hautman

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> June Issue Submission Deadline May 15

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#### Aquatic Center

from page 1

sources covering the bulk of core operating expenses have been identified and have committed to providing funding for the first five years of operation, with no indication that these commitments could not continue beyond that time period. Finally, a detailed business plan was developed showing how, with enough lanes, the pool could be used to generate revenue to help offset the cost of operation, while always providing access to the citizens of Minneapolis 16 hours per day.

Given that all of this was organized by a group of unpaid volunteers, the MPRB Commissioners

 The article fails to mention that Minneapolis Swims has also secured \$275,000 in annual operating commitments from Minneapolis Public Schools, YWCA Otters Swim Team and Augsburg College for the first five years totaling \$1,375,000.
 Additionally, another \$20,000 annually for five years has been committed toward scholarships.

 The article states, "the sixthyear operating deficit would be \$336,000." Wow! Scary sounding for sure, but with five-year commitments, MPRB would have plenty of time to find replacement funding, which would only be needed if the



felt comfortable that their professional staff, working in conjunction with these volunteers, could make the project a success.

It was disturbing, however, to read an article on this decision published by The Star Tribune online April 2, then in print on April 4 entitled "Minneapolis parks to spend big on Phillips pool". Below are a few of the items of concern to us that we would appreciate readers of The Alley Newspaper being made aware of also.

- The board did *not* choose the most expensive option. The most expensive option was an eight-lane competition pool, with a four-lane teaching pool and expanded community resources. The cost estimate for this option had been estimated by MPRB at up to \$7.9 million. What the Commissioners chose is a never-before-proposed, mid-range compromise at a cost of \$5.42 million.
- Reference to the "project's backers" refers to Minneapolis Swims, which has, in fact, raised \$2,830,000 in firm commitments, pledges or cash as of the MPRB meeting on April 1. Additionally, another \$250,000 of likely funding in the form of a Capstone Grant has been identified by a local foundation.

three anchors don't renew. If replacements aren't found, that would just be poor management. This also seems to discount all the other revenue streams the MPRB consultant identified. Regardless, stating that the pool will lose \$336,000 in the sixth year is just reckless.

• MPRB is also blamed for "plunging ahead" with a decision rather than discussing alternatives. In fact, it was exactly the opposite. Commissioners tried, on numerous occasions, to suggest the vote be delayed. The administration, not the Commissioners, insisted that the vote needed to take place at the April 1 meeting.

We are the City of Lakes, in the Land of 10,000 Lakes, and water really is a part of our recreation culture here. It only makes sense that our world-class park system would provide a year-round facility that ensures everyone can enjoy our natural resources safely, regardless of economic status. This facility will be another jewel in our system, not just for the equity it provides, but for the collaboration of people, neighborhoods, levels of government, foundations and corporations that have all come together to make it

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# BY ERIN THOMASSON Children & Family Programs Childcare Group Storytime Fri, May 1, 9:30 am. Talk,

sing, read, write and play. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement

#### <u>Paint It Green: Rube Goldberg</u> <u>Marble Machine</u>

Sat, May 9, 3-4:30 pm. K-grade 6. Design and make your own marble machine using a variety of tubes, papers, unusual scraps, tape, glue and wire. Then add a few marbles and watch the good times roll! Materials provided.

#### **Family Storytime**

Fri through May 22, 10:30 am. All ages &parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play together. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

# Franklin Teen Center Programs Urban 4-H Club

**Tues, 5–7 pm.** Everything from urban gardening to digital photo/ video to theater.

# Teen Tech Workshop Wed, May 13 & 27, 4:30-6 pm. Get creative & make music,

videos, animation & other projects using both high- & low-tech tools, everything from iPads to LEGOS<sup>®</sup>.

#### Young Achievers

Thurs. 4:30-6 pm. Want involvement in your community? Then bring your friends and come for poetry, arts, games & more!

Adult Programs
Education Alternatives
Discussion Group

## Phillips West Neighborhood Upcoming Events

www.phillipswest.info

May 7<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. – Phillips West Community Meeting!

Join your neighbors and other Community Partners for updates from Local City Government, Business Partners & Minneapolis Solid Waste. This meeting will take place at the Center for Changing Lives in the Centrum Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking is available in the rear of building off Oakland Avenue. Free Jakeeno's Pizza & Beverages will be provided! If you would like more information or would like to get involved with the neighborhood please contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com

# Programs at the Franklin Library 1314 E. Franklin Avenue Complete program list or info 612- 543-6925 www.hclib.org Mon, Fri & Sat: 9am-5pm Tue, Wed & Thurs: 9am -8pm Sun: 12-5pm

Mon, May 11, 1-2 pm. Join a monthly discussion of persistent problems in education & possible solutions centered around topics raised in Knowles Dougherty's blog: educationspersistentproblems. wordpress.com.

Memoir Writing Group
Thurs, May 21, 1–3 pm. Would
you like to create a record of
your personal history? Bring
what you have written for helpful
comments and suggestions.

## Franklin Learning Center: 612-534-6934

Free, one-to-one tutoring for adults who are learning English and math, preparing for the GED and citizenship exams, and gaining life skills. We are always looking for community volunteers! No experience necessary; we provide training and materials. or flc@hclib.org.



May 9<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.-

Phillips West Spring Clean *Up!* Join your neighbors & other Community Partners for a block by block litter pick up starting at 9:30 a.m. but first join us for a free breakfast from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. at the Center for Changing Lives in the Centrum Room located at 2400 Park Avenue. After breakfast we will provide free bags, gloves and maps for all volunteers! Perfect volunteer opportunity for large groups, family & youth! There is free parking in the rear of building off of Oakland. For more information call Crystal at 612/879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com.



The Alley Newspaper • May 2015

See \$1,000. House on 15th Ave.

# Phineas Phelps built houses after Civil War service

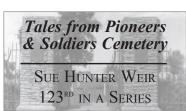
One hundred and fifty years ago, on April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant and our four-year Civil War was over. By the time that the war ended an estimated 630,000 to 750,000 men had been killed and another 1,000,000 injured. It seems like that war happened so long ago but if you know where to look there still are some small reminders in the Phillips Community of the men who fought it.

Phineas Phelps was born in Canada on December 2, 1831. He enlisted as a private in Company F of the 25<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Infantry on September 24, 1861. A little over three years later, on October 25, 1864, he was discharged for disability. He headed west and was living in Minneapolis in 1865 where he initially found work as a teamster and later as a carpenter. He married the wonderfullynamed daughter of another car-

penter—her name was Francavilla Fogg and she was 13 years younger than her husband. They were married on July 4, 1871.

Their first child, a boy, died on July 2, 1874, when he was two days old, and he was buried in what at that time was called Layman's Cemetery. Their second son, Harry E. Phelps was born in June 1876 and survived to adulthood.

Despite the fact that Phelps was awarded a small pension for his disability, he was able to work as a carpenter. On June 5, 1886, he filed for a permit to build a wooden barn at 2800 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. The barn cost \$400, a significant sum of money back then. A few days later, he filed for a permit to build a wooden house at a cost of \$1,000. Less than a year after that, he filed for a permit to make some alterations to the house and to build an addition. He spent another \$100 on



wood for the barn. Phelps did not build the house for himself and the original owner's name is not on the permit. It was probably one of many houses that he worked on in Minneapolis but it is one that has endured. The barn was demolished some time ago but one hundred and twenty-nine years later the house that Phineas Phelps built still stands on the southwest corner of 15th Avenue and 28th Street (across the street and just south of St. Paul's Church).

Phineas Phelps died from heart disease in Britton, South Dakota on October 7, 1904; he was 73 years old. It is likely that he and Francavilla moved to South Dakota to be with their son. Phineas was brought back



far from his infant son who died in 1874. Phineas Phelps' grave is marked with a military marker.

Join us in honoring Phineas Phelps and all of our other veterans on Memorial Day, Monday,

May 25, 2015, at Minneapolis

Phelps and all of our other veterans on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, 2015, at Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery at 10 a.m. The Seward Concert Community Band will provide the music. And the next time you walk, ride or drive down 28th Street, tip your hat to the house that Phineas Phelps built so many years ago.

Thank You, Maria
Thank You, Maria, for advertising your Cafe at 1113 East
Franklin for many years in
The Alley Newspaper. Your
Cafe with great hospitality,
good food and fine service has
become a Phillips Community,
Ventura Village Neighborhood
icon. Your support has been
appreciated by our readers.



Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery at 10 a.m.



FOURTH ANNUAL

#### PLACEMAKING RESIDENCY May 11-15, 2015

Moving the Twin Cities to Better Health

During the week of May 11-15, individuals, organizations, and institutions throughout the Greater Minneapolis Saint Paul region will explore the intersection between urban design and population health with the aid of internationally renowned experts, Dr. Richard Jackson, Dr. Anthony Iton, and Gehl Studio during the 4th Annual Placemaking Residency. The residency engages communities in presentations, workshops, walking and biking tours, and hands-on activities applying the newest thinking in city design.

Join the conversation by attending one of many events throughout the week and connect with us online at RiverfrontCorporation.com

Produced by SAINT PAUL RIVERFRONT CORPORATION



















## The EPIC Report – May

#### Other EPIC Funded Projects Worth Celebrating



The 16th Anniversary Celebration of EPIC

The Annual meeting on Saturday April 25th celebrated sixteen years of EPIC's existence with another free community breakfast prepared by former EPIC Board member Sherzad Kordian, the number 2 chef of the Guthrie Theater.

The gala event was held in the \$5.5 million East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center, which was a 5 ½ year project of EPIC and the broader community with initial funding provided by \$180,000 EPIC NRP dollars.





#### **Phillips Aquatic Center**

Epic has invested \$75,000 of its NRP dollars to renovate and enlarge the Phillips Community Center swimming pool



#### Franklin Station Town Homes

This \$6 million development, leveraged by \$250,000 of EPIC NRP dollars, provides affordable home ownership for 28 families on E 24th Street in East **Phillips** 



#### **Greenway Heights Apartments**

EPIC invested \$185,000 NRP dollars to provide the only affordable rental housing on the Greenway for 46 families in this \$7 million dollar project

#### For your Calendar:

#### **East Phillips SummerFest 2015**

Sunday, June 21st starts at 1:00 PM and goes all day. Wonderful local entertainment, Great Food vendors and fun for everyone.

**EPIC Board of Directors** meets

Saturday, 5/2/15 & 6/6/15 At 10:00 AM

**EPIC General Membership** meets

Thursday, 5/14/15 & 6/11/15 At 6:30 PM

Agenda includes Neighborhood Industrial Pollution Crime Initiatives, and updates on EPIC projects

**East Phillips Park Programming Partnership** meets

Tuesday, 5/26/15 & 6/30/15 At 11:30 AM. Lunch is served

Agenda includes Planning & Wrap-up of East Phillips SummerFest 2015, updates on EPIC's Free Financial & Computer Literacy Classes & Programming Partner Events & News.

#### All the above meetings and events are at the:

East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center located at 2307 17th Ave. S.

The Center is wheelchair accessible

East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Garden meets

Saturday, 5/9 & 6/13 at 9:00 AM in the Garden located at 2428 17th Ave. S.

Designed and Paid for by East Phillips Improvement Coalition

## MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC

www.midtownphillips.org | 612-232-0018 | midtownphillips@gmail.com

#### **AGENDAS:**

#### MAY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday May 12, 6:30-8pm.

#### Stewart Park (Arts & Crafts Room) 2700 12th Ave S, Minneapolis

- Approve minutes of 4/28 community meeting (5 min)
- Amy's staff report (10 min)
- How to read a financial statement by Barry Rogers, MPNAI accountant. (20 min)
- Orientation on auditing and the expectations for MPNAI per our management response by Robert Thompson, NCR (20 min)
- Review board priorities for 2015 with Council member Alondra Cano to align efforts. (30 min)
- Public comments (5 min)

#### MAY COMMUNITY MEETING

Public attendance encouraged for community discussion/awareness of local issues.

Tuesday May 26, 6:30-8pm.

#### Stewart Park (Multi-purpose Room) 2700 12th Ave S, Minneapolis

- Approve minutes of 5/12 board meeting (5 min)
- The Lake Street Energy Challenge (15 min)
- Developer introductions, including PRG, PPL and others, who are interested in building in the Phillips neighborhoods. (35 min)
- Review Banyon 2015 partnership proposal (30 min)
- Public comments (5 min)



#### 4TH ANNUAL PLACEMAKING RESIDENCY

During the week of May 11-15, individuals, organizations, and institutions throughout the Greater Minneapolis Saint Paul region will explore the intersection between urban design and population health with the aid of internationally renowned experts, Dr. Richard Jackson, Dr. Anthony Iton, and Gehl Studio during the 4th Annual Placemaking Residency.

For more information, http://www.riverfrontcorporation.com/ placemaking-residency/



# THE ARBOR DAY CEREMONY

Please join students, parents, and local dignitaries in celebrating trees!

## Thursday, May 14, 2015 1-1:45 pm: Ceremony

Stewart Park, 2700 S 12th Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55407

### Tree Planting

In the morning, MPRB Arborists will teach approximately 1300 students from Andersen United Community School how to plant over 150 trees. Following the afternoon ceremony, neighborhood afterschool youth will also be instructed in tree planting.

The diverse mix of trees planted on Arbor Day will be from 14 botanical families, 29 genera, and 50 different species or cultivars. None of the trees are susceptible to Asian Longhorned Beetle, Emerald Ash Borer, or Dutch Elm

#### Ceremony

Students and parents will celebrate trees during a large ceremony including a choir performance from 150 fourth graders. In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre



In addition to being our annual Minneapolis Arbor Day Celebration, this is also the official

#### **About Arbor Day**

Arbor Day is celebrated each spring to remind the public about the importance of urban forestry, trees and tree care. The event also maintains Minneapolis' status as a Tree City

Founded by J. Sterling Morton in 1872, the first Arbor Day was celebrated in Nebraska in response to a state proclamation urging settlers and homesteaders to plant trees that would provide shade, shelter, fruit, fuel and beauty for residents of the largely treeless





# VENTURA VILLAGE NEWS NEIGHBORHOODNEWS



# ANNUAL MINDEKIRKKEN PARADE SET FOR MAY 17

Mindekirken (The Norwegian Lutheran Memorial Church) 924 East 21st Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404 (612) 874-0716 www.mindekirken.org

#### 10:30 a.m. Prelude Concert

Featuring the Norwegian Glee Club of Minneapolis

#### I I:00 a.m. Syttende Mai Festival Service

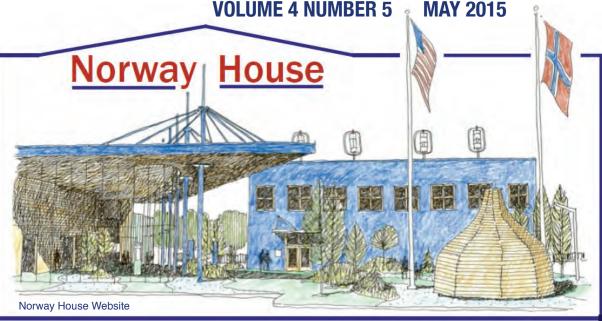
(Norwegian and English service) Rev. Kristin Sundt, The Mindekirken Choir, Trumpets - Official Greeting from the Palace brought by Knut Brakstad, Private Secretary to His Majesty King Harald V of Norway

#### Parade Approximately 12:15-12:45 pm)

Starting at Mindekirken, the parade will meander through the neighborhood and will return to the church.

#### 1:00 p.m. Celebration of Heritage

Picnic lunch available; children's games; Concordia Language Village activity for children; Twin Cities Hardingfelelag; Dassel Leikarring; Det Norske Folkedanslaget; & Fjell og Fjord Norwegian Youth Dancers – on the church grounds

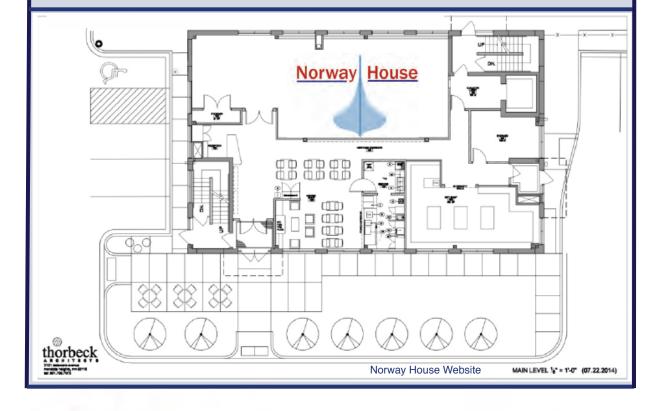


# IMAGINE a place in Minnesota where all things Norwegian are located, embraced and cultivated!

Come to the **Annual Mindekirkken Parade** on **Sunday, May 17th** and stay around to get aquainted and step into the first phase of the **Norway House** project. According to the the project leaders, "As an office and conference/event facility, Norway House will:

- Provide space appropriate for meetings, performances, casual gatherings, dining, lectures, exhibits, learning, and ceremonies
- Provide Space for programming in the areas of art, music, design, business, science, technology, education, peace relations, environment, culture, and heritage
- Be located in Minneapolis, in an easily accessible location
- Be a 'green facility'
- Be of distinctive contemporary architectural design

Let's join our neighbors and see what their first phase of the project will provide!





**Ventura Village is located upstairs in the Phillips Community Center at 2323 - 11th Avenue South • Minneapolis • 612-874-9070** 

1500 E. Lake Street 2:00 pm :: free

**Cinema in the Cemetery** 

returns with Buster Keaton's, "The Navigator", Memorial Day Weekend to **Benefit the Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery Fence Restoration Project** 

Film score to be played live by local music group Dreamland Faces



WHAT: On Saturday, May 23, at approximately • 8:30 p.m., the Friends of the Cemetery in part-• nership with The Trylon Microcinema will show a special screening of Buster Keaton's film "The Navigator" accompanied with a live score by local • music group Dreamland Faces at Minneapolis • Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery located • at 2925 Cedar Avenue, Minneapolis. The proceeds from the Memorial Day weekend event will help support the Friends of the Cemetery's efforts to • restore the limestone pier fence that serves as • the border of the cemetery along Lake Street and Cedar Avenue.

Gates will open at 7:00 p.m. on May 23; moviegoers arriving early will have the opportunity to • experience the historic cemetery and participate • in a smart phone history hunt. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs. Taco Taxi will be there with their wonderful food available for purchase.

Tickets can be purchased online at Brown Paper Tickets (http://www.brownpapertickets. com/event/1423311) or at the gate the evening of the event (cash only). Tickets purchased on or before May 15 are \$5. Tickets purchased after May 15 are \$10; kids under 12 are free.

p.m.; the film will begin approximately 8:30 p.m. Saturday, May 30 has been set as an alternative date for inclement weather

**WHERE:** Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers **Memorial Cemetery** 

2925 Cedar Avenue South, Minneapolis

On-street parking is available; no parking multiple bike routes.



3440 BLOOMINGTON AVE. POWDERHORN PARK MINNEAPOLIS M-F 6:30-6 SAT 7-5 • SUN 7:30-5 729-5627

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Rachel LaViola, Nila Bala, Sarah Larsson, with Guest Sara Pajunen. The Nightingale Trio, performances in Minneapolis and St. Paul

WHEN: Saturday, May 23, gates open at 7:00

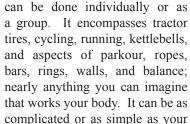
allowed in the cemetery. Using public transportation or biking to get to the event is encouraged as the Lake Street light rail stop is a short walk from • the cemetery and it is also easily accessible from •



from page 7

Since then, the sport has grown and expanded and become one of the single most popular fitness regimens in America.

It was been the subject of a CBS segment focusing on the clubs in Chicago. CBS said "CrossFit is growing nearly as quickly as MMA (mixed martial arts) did when it first hit the fitness circuit. The idea of a 'hardcore' workout that is adaptable to any individual regardless of age or current fitness level has led droves of former couch potatoes to the gym, or 'box' as crossfit gyms are called. The boxes are usually no-frills



Saturday, May 16th @ 2:00 PM

In the Heart of the Beast Theater

warehouse or garage-type loca-

tions and the workouts are report-

edly grueling and addicting." It

Headlining show with guest Sara Pajunen

1500 East Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55407

With Ethnic Dance Theater in "Mountain Memories"

bars, rings, walls, and balance; nearly anything you can imagine that works your body. It can be as complicated or as simple as your imagination can make it. Given the CEPRO sites close

proximity to the Greenway and the health conscious users of trail as well as its proximity to the Midtown YWCA it seems like a match made in heaven. Already, sponsors have collected e-mail addresses for nearly 100 people who not only support the concept, but are eager to use it. There are 2 amateur rugby teams interested, a soccer team, and a weekend cross-fit group. Likewise, the U of M Parkour Team has expressed excitement about the possibility. West Phillips and the Nokomis neighborhood organization as well as the Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition expressed a desire to

be kept in the loop as the idea progresses.

The space is large enough to not only include the Cross-fit gym, but also Tai Chi, yoga and much more.

This is a great opportunity to make a destination site in the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood. A site that takes a tragedy and turns it into spectacular win. We hope you will agree. The city, county and neighborhood association are going to move the CEPRO through the normal process. That could result in anything, or nothing. For that reason, we are looking for people to help move this idea through the process, attend meetings, make the "Fitness for CEPRO" voices heard.

If you would like to be added to the e-mail list and are willing to be a part of this project or simply support it, please e-mail retterr@ me.com. We get so excited when we think of this. It would be new, unique, destination oriented asset to Midtown Phillips that would be unique to the city!

\*Abbreviated for space.

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## **Levels of Consciousness**

Let us recall that the realm of philosophy is divided into two camps. 'Philosophical Materialism' asserts that the universe existed prior to consciousness, whereas "idealists" believe the universe was created from consciousness.

Curiously, the Buddhists among us avoid the mind-body question, choosing instead to seek liberation via introspective meditation. (Note: some degree of ascetic detachment is recommended.) "Complete enlightenment for the benefit of all sentient beings" is the noble goal of the Mahayana. However, more than two thousand years of this practice hasn't achieved very much.

So, we must agree with the Marxists that there is a material basis for human liberation...which is not to say that the "subjective factor" does not matter. When acted upon, ideas do become a material force.

On the subject of "levels of consciousness," Lenin had much to say. In ascending order he elaborated: 1.) trade union consciousness 2.) class consciousness 3.) socialist consciousness.

As for this writer, he endured 35 years of hard labor within the gassy bowels of Smith Foundry. Yet privileged memories remain from the periodic convening of our bargaining unit. Our 'trade union consciousness' would then



Peter Molenaar

Raise Your Voice

ascend, under the watchful eye of our Ojibwe (union) business agent.

Note: Under Wisconsin's "right to work" law, a worker is allowed to accept wages without paying union dues... thereby lowering his or her self to the level of bourgeois morality.

But 'class consciousness' reflects a deeper understanding than mere trade union consciousness. For example, striking fast food workers beamed with pride when told: LIFTING UP LOW WAGE WORKERS ELEVATES ALL WORKERS. We should appreciate, as well, the Teamsters sign which reads: STOP THE WAR ON WORKERS.

Yet, according to Lenin, a fully developed class consciousness views the world through the eyes **Counterpoint Commentary** 

## "Fitness for CEPRO"\*

BY RAND RETTERATH

The CEPRO property is the site of the former grain elevators along the Greenway between 10th and 11th Ave and 28th and 29th St. A lot of discussion went into that property [since demolition in March 2004 including a series of 3 Neighborhood Workshops Oct 27th Oct 27th , Nov 17th 2004, and Jan 19th 2005 plus arts initiatives]. It's disposition affected the Midtown Block Club in a major way. The block club lost neighbors who had spent a

of all social classes. Thus, we gain the capacity to make a class analysis of national and world events with class struggle in mind.

Note: Let's all commend the Communications Workers (CWA) who have been leafleting Twins fans outside Target stadium... Labor stands opposed to the pending TPP trade agreement.

As for 'socialist consciousness,' envision public ownership of the main means of production and an end to private profit as the principle economic force. Yes, it is entirely possible to live without capitalists, but totally impossible to live without workers.

I see the sun has come out again. It is time for some meditation...perhaps for the benefit of all sentient beings!

lifetime in their home, others who had been in their homes over 50 years, a husband and wife who did major work with First Nation's both in town and among area reservations, the block club lost a much needed for-profit business that supported the community and it lost a charter school.

The members of Midtown Block Club were and to some extent still are a close knit community, formed and coalesced by a couple of formidable women who gathered to protest against prostitution, crimes against women and quality of life issues.

As a block club, they recognized that no one wanted responsibility for the CEPRO site. No one had the resources. The Greenway Coalition wanted it entirely green, but no willingness to manage it and no financial resources to support it. Hennepin County did not have resources to manage a park, although they own the site. The Minneapolis Park Board wanted nothing to do with it. Minneapolis Police and Park Police had no interest in nor resources to patrol it. Midtown Block Club agreed in principle with greenspace, but not without some anchor, or ownership. The members of the club offered numerous suggestions such as small retail strip along 10th Ave or a small row housing development similar to or perhaps even in partnership with the PPL condos built directly across 29th St, to augment and anchor the greenspace, thereby giving it a "sense of place". However, particular individuals and the then sitting Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association Board were able to circumvent the concerns of the immediately adjacent residents.

The room was able to be packed for Midtown meeting the night of the vote with people who had, up to that point, never been seen before. They were legally residents and qualified to vote but ill or non-informed about the property and the concerns of the immediately adjacent residents and it became yet another manifestation of a single person's vision and the process existing at the time was effectively used to accomplish that vision however misguided.

It has been discovered that a project manager entered into contracts with city and county, whereby the county retained ownership, Midtown Neighborhood Association Homeowners assumed control of and responsibility for the space, and the city supported it thru the NRP process. A couple of years later and a bit over \$160,000 of Midtown's NRP funds, the community has the current iteration of CEPRO. It has been planted twice with flowers, wild grass and other plants by Applied Ecological Service, Inc. (Some advocate for litigation concerning these funds since the contract entered into in good faith has been violated and not complied with). This firm is located in Broadhead WI. It is interesting to note, that Stephen Kung of Urban2Oasis, Inc; at the time not only submitted proposals, but lived in the VERY immediate vicinity to the CEPRO property (Next Door).

Since its completion, it has become a site for drugs, for the consumption of alcohol, random sex acts, dumping of garbage and still no one to cares for it. It can even boast a murder.

Beginning roughly six months ago, some residents of the Midtown Block Club had enough and began agitating for change. Had this not happened, nothing would have been done. No one knew to do it! Apparently, everyone assumed it was someone else's responsibility. Only those people living around it even had a clue that it was the problem it is.

After some lengthy discussion and email exchanges, an idea was vetted for an outdoor cross-fit gym. For those who do not know, CrossFit itself is defined as that which optimizes fitness (constantly varied functional movements performed at relatively high intensity). CrossFit is also the community that spontaneously arises when people do these workouts together. The outdoor public gyms began in Santa Cruz, CA in 1996 by a man named Greg Glassman.

S ROADWAYS, SMITH FOUNDRY, AND NOW CONTROL YARD. POWER DIFFERENTIAL-ED UP WITH REGULATIONS - FOUR LITURE TILL DRESS YOU UP WITH LATE TO BOND AGE,
SOCIAL RESTRAINTS POSAT NO ITS A LANG-TERM
+ SAFETY FISH NETS RELATIONS. RELATIONSHIP Think of me as FIRST. YOUR GAMPFATHER! YOU WERE A SAFE WORDS RAILROADED THAT'S WHERE I KEEPNY -NOW MONEY YOU'RE PULLING A. FEELS! HONEY TRAIN! TINGLY I'M BI WHEN 'S APD TAVE YOU TRIED BRCATHF! ARE THRILL You CAN YOU HAVE CHILDREN? OH YES INTO WATER? AND PRUGS? ARSEMIC'S GOT A KICK rou WON'T HERE ENEMA of the PEOPLE IF NOT ME, LET ME THINK THEN REGULAR CHECKUPS TRUCK YOU PALLI ONE OF MY Till You CAN'T MAY BE RESPECTABLE CATCH TEACH ASSOCIATES NECESSARY YOUR Will HAVE A GO : You! BREATH You'll BE EXPERIENCED-AT YOU I'll STILL BE RICH AND LOOKING FOR MY NEXT ... ON THE OBSCENE ?U THINK THIS BORDERS

**CEPRO** see page 6



# **BACKYARD INITIATIVE BACK PAGE**



## **BYI AREA**

# Miski Abdulle named Courageous Woman by Augsburg College!



Miski Abdulle resident of Phillips West Neighborhood has been named the 2015 Courageous Woman by **Augsburg College!** 

Miski Abdulle's dedicated ser- current status as Program vice to immigrant women and the greater community was brought to center stage with the awarding of the 2015 Courageous Woman Award, an annual honor presented through the Augsburg College Women's Resource Center.

The Courageous Woman Awards acknowledge and recognize women who see injustice or need, act on it, take risks in order to do the right thing, and raise their voices to champion women. Throughout her 17 years of service to Pillsbury United Communities, Abdulle has done all of that and more in various roles within the agency and her Manager at the Immigrant Women Advocacy Program at the Brian Coyle Community Center.

"Miski is a visible leader with great passion, high integrity, and empathy," commented Amano Dube, Brian Coyle Community Center Director. "She has deep understanding of the communities we serve and the issues that are at stake," added Dube.

Abdulle has led efforts to assist women with a wide range of services and resources that include housing, daycare, employment support, food support, legal advocacy, issues of domestic abuse and crisis intervention. A highlight of the program is the annual Cedar Riverside Women's Night Out event that attracts over 350 women and their children for dinner, music, a fashion show and more.

The award was presented in conjunction with Augsburg College's annual Koryene Horbel Lecture held in the Hoversten Chapel on Tuesday, March 3. The keynote address was delivered by nationally recognized author and thought leader on Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies Janell Hobson, PhD, an associate professor at University of Albany, State University of New York. The event attracted an estimated 150 scholars, students and community leaders.

Founded in 2011 by Friends of the Anne Pederson Women's Resource Center at Augsburg College, the Courageous Woman Awards program recognizes women who courageously strive for social justice and peace on the Augsburg campus or in the wider community and whose efforts, be they are small or large, make a difference to women. Augsburg College student Dua Saleh, who serves President of the Augsburg Pan-Afrikan Student Union was also recognized with the award.

Miski Abdulle, is a resident of Phillips West Neighborhood and leader in the Backvard Initiative. As a leader in the BYI, Miski serves as a vital member of the Project S.E.L.F. Community Health Action Team or CHAT and as a Commissioner on the Backyard Initiative's Community Commission on Health.

The Backyard Initiative (BYI) is a partnership between the Community, Allina Health Systems and the Cultural Wellness Center. The goal of this partnership is to improve the health of the 45,000 residents living in the "backyard" comprised by the neighborhoods of Powderhorn Park, East Phillips, Midtown Phillips, West Phillips, Ventura Village, Central, and Corcoran. There are eleven Community Health Action Teams (CHATs) focused on improving the health through a variety of cultural and community-connecting activities. For info on the BYI, please call the Cultural Wellness Center, 612-721-5745.

Facebook	$\mathcal{O}_{t}$	it in t	he L	Back	yard	MAY	2015	
facebookcom/outinthebackyard  Out in the Backyard helps lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people (LGBTQ) to counter isolation by connecting to each other and community resources. Join us for FREE fitness classes! *part of The Backyard Initiative*  All classes are FREE!  *Powderhom Park- 3400 15th Ave. S. MPLS	Sunday Monday		Tuesday Wednesday		Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1	2 Yoga-10:30am Powderhorn	
	Pilates-10am CANDO	4 Zumba-6:30pm Powderhom Qi Gong-7:00pm The Exchange	5 Yoga-6:30pm East Phillips	Zumba-630pm Powderhom	7 HipHop-6:30pm Powderhom Yoga-6:30pm CANDO	8	9 Yoga-1030am Powderhom	
	Pilates-10am CANDO	11 Zumba-6:30pm Powderhom OjGong-7:00pm The Exchange	12 Yoga-6:30pm East Phillips	2umba-6:30pm Powderhom	14 Hip Hop-6:30pm Powderhom Yoga-6:30pm CANDO	15 Empowerment Self-Defense-6:30 pm The Exchange	16 Yoga-10:30am Powderhom ::: Holi Party-4pm ::: Powderhom	
	17 Pilates-10am CANDO	2 Zumba-630pm Powderhom	19 Yoga-6:30pm East Phillips	Zumba-6:30pm Powderhom	21 Hip Hop-6:30pm Powderhom Yoga-6:30pm CANDO	22	Yoga-10:30am Powderhom	
*CANDO- 3756 Chicago Ave. S. MPLS *East Phillips- 2307 17th Ave. S. MPLS	Pilates-10am CANDO	Zumba-630pm Powderhom	26 Yoga-6:30pm East Phillips	27 Zumba-6:30pm Powderhom	28 HipHop-6:30pm Powderhom Yoga-6:30pm CANDO	29	30 Yoga-10:30am Powderhom	
*The Evrhance	31 Pilates-10am	Pilates-10am *Thursday, 5/14-Community Potluck Dinner, *Thursday, 5/21 - ALL Chat meeting, 5-7pm						

7pm@3233 Columbus Ave. S., MPLS



3405 Chicago Ave. S. MPLS

CANDO

# **MAY 2015 CALENDAR**

@ PPL, East Franklin Avenue, MPLS

<b>◄</b> Apr 2015	Jun 2015 ▶								
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
A-POD PROUDLY SERVES AS A CITIZEN HEALTH ACTION TEAM (CHAT) MEMBER OF THE BACKYARD									
YOU may never know what results come from your action. But if you do nothing, there will be no result.	7:00 PM ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEET-UP	5 1:30 PM Somali Language Meet-UP	13	7 10:00 AM ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEET-UP	8	located @ Mpls Park Bldg.: Phillips Community Center • Upstairs			
— Mohandus Gandhi	7:00 PM ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEET-UP	1:30 PM Somali Language Meet-Up		10:00 AM ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEET-UP		Our Address is 2323 11TH AVE. S. Minneapolis, MN 55404			
OMMUNITY MEMBERS	7:00 PM ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEET-UP	19 1:30 PM Somali Language Meet-UP	20	21 10:00 AM English Language Meet-up	22	Call us at 612.812.2429 EMAIL: ralbee4045@aol.com			
Allina Health % BACKYARD INITIATIVE	7:00 PM ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEET-UP	26 1:30 PM SOMALI LANGUAGE MEET-UP	27	MONTHLY DIABETES BREAKFAST 8:30 AM @ POC DINING ROOM ENGLISH LANGUAGE MEET-UP @ 10:00 PCC • NEXT DOOR	MAY 28T  JOIN OUR MONTHLY DIRECTION COMMUNITY BREAK	BREAKFAST FUNDING			