

10 Pages

Good Info & News

+

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NRP \$ Commentary

“Rich<Richer/

Poor>Poorer”

the Alley

NEWSPAPER

NEWS & VIEWS OF PHILLIPS SINCE 1976
APRIL 2011 • VOLUME 36, NUMBER 4

The Alley Online!

www.alleynews.org



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One seed = many fruits Many pieces = one beauty

BY PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

Out of one seed comes many fruits. Out of many broken pieces comes one unique beauty. That is the hope of the “Semilla” Community Arts Program at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Phillips. The idea for Semilla—which means “seed” in Spanish—came from St. Paul’s work in the arts and community organizing over the past several years. This work has included numerous murals, arts camps for youth and productions with In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater. Working with Greta McLain, an

accomplished muralist and mosaic artist, the church began this project last year as a way to teach mosaic skills and create beautiful art for the community.

“Mosaic is a wonderful way to bring people together across all sorts of divides: language, culture, neighborhood,” Greta says. “People of all ages and artistic abilities can work together to create beautiful art for their community. There is real healing in taking broken bits of tiles and even

One Seed
see page 2

Less Ads More News

The Alley Newspaper has less advertising than any other newspaper! That means there is more news and information. It also means we need your financial support.

Please send a contribution to
P.O. Box 7006,
Mpls., MN 55407
Or online at
www.alleynews.org.

April Artisans Bring MAY DAY Pageant *details below*



photo by Alina Campana

“Oh Sacred, World, Now Wounded We Pledge...We Plant..”*

* “Oh sacred World, now wounded, we pledge to make you Free of War, of Hate, of Selfish Cruelty, in this small corner, we plant a tiny seed, may it grow in Beauty, may it grow in Peace.” This modified hymn-folk song by Pete Seeger is lettered above the entry doors into In the Heart of the Beast foyer as a reminder to those that enter, gathering in that

corner, being united by the year’s themes, that they, too, are planting a seed in that small corner of 1500 East Lake Street, and a month later, in Phillips and Powderhorn, when the May Day Festival is on the streets. So too, in this “small corner” of The Alley Newspaper, articles tell of “tiny seeds.” May they all grow in beauty, may they all grow in peace.

Phillips and The Alley Go to Harvard

BY SUSAN GUST, AMY AUSIÉIRITHE

The Alley Newspaper and its editor, Harvey Winje, have been invited to be a part of The Wendell Phillips Bicentennial Symposium at the Harvard Law School Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice, June 2 – 4. This exciting invitation was extended to The Alley because the Symposium’s scholarly planning committee was enthused to discover a vibrant community with Wendell Phillips as its namesake. They were even more pleased to learn that the Phillips Community has embraced Wendell’s spirit of discord and discourse as its means to seek justice in the same way that Mr. Phillips did some 200 years ago. Harvey Winje and The Alley Newspaper were invited to attend this symposium and present how the life and legacy of Wendell Phillips inspires our work individually and in the community. Dave Moore and Linnea Hadaway’s poignant Spirit of Phillips cartoons will be also be featured at this symposium as a provocative way to popularize history and to exemplify issues that span generations.

Harvey Winje and Dave Moore are honored to travel to Boston in June to attend this symposium and to represent the work of so many in the Phillips Community and in the pages of The Alley Newspaper. Cartoons that have appeared in the pages of The Alley

Newspaper will appear as part of the power point presentation given by Wendell Phillips scholar and Macalester College professor, James Stewart, as part of his keynote address at the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice, Harvard Law School. Additional cartoons and graphics depicting Wendell’s words and their relevance in our community will be on display at the symposium.

One of the ideas this invitation has spawned is to produce greeting cards featuring Dave and Linnea’s cartoons that use the words (sometimes loosely) of Wendell Phillips. These greeting cards will be sold at the Symposium to help fund the trip to Boston and to raise money for The Alley Newspaper. In the May issue of The Alley, we will highlight some of these greeting cards and let you know how you may purchase them locally. You can help The Alley Newspaper get to Harvard and do well by the Phillips Community! Contact editor@alleynews.org with any questions about this unique opportunity.

About Wendell Phillips and the June Symposium:

Public historians and interpreters, community activists for social justice, and academic historians

Alley goes to Harvard
see page 4

Global Poverty Summit

The Global Poverty Summit: stimulating, fast-moving, thought-provoking and educational, interactive hands-on activities, e.g. over-sized “Development” board game..

Key-speaker: David Beckmann, Bread for the World, President, winner of the World Food Prize in 2010. See pg. 5 for a bio of David.

Immigration and Poverty, the Millennium Challenge Goals, Key Reforms for U.S. foreign assistance, presented by experts from many nations and cultures.

Convened by Bread for the World, national faith-based organization advocating for poor and hungry people in U.S. and the world.

All are welcome!. Freewill offering to help cover the cost. However, if you cannot afford to give come anyway. It is free to you. If you are an activist in the anti-hunger movement, a college or grad student, a mature teen, an immigrant, a person of faith or just want to find out more about it, Bread for the World would love to see you there.

Christ Church International, 3015 13th Ave. S. April 2nd from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Pack a lunch or bring \$5 to pay for a simple meal at the event.

BY HARVEY WINJE, IN THE HEART OF THE BEAST

The Annual May Day Parade and Festival is a harbinger and highlight of Spring exceeded only by the gatherings of all ages during April that produce this special pageant. You’ve heard “April showers bring May flowers.” Well, April artisans will bring another May Day pageant. It is truly a “Miracle at The Avalon,” In the Heart of the Beast’s Theatre at 1500 East Lake Street, where it is the first year for some people and for others, their 37th year. Folks of all ages will mold clay into shapes that layers of paper mache will change into life-like masks. It is truly a miracle of community building that uses imagination and transforms dumpster finds into magic dances of life. It is making the common things of life sacred. Join in one of the following times:

**37th Annual MayDay Parade
Workshops Begin April 2**

Public MayDay Workshops

1500 Lake St E, Minneapolis

April 2 – 28

Saturdays: 9:00 am – 11:00 am and
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Tuesdays: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Thursdays: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

MayDay Parade and Festival

Sunday, May 1

1:00 pm: Parade begins at intersection of Bloomington Ave. and 26th St.

3:30 pm (approx.): Tree of Life

Ceremony in Powderhorn Park

1:00 – 7:00 pm: Festival in

Powderhorn Park

Website: www.hobt.org

In the Heart of the Beast Theatre will celebrate the 37th anniversary

off the annual MayDay Parade and Festival on Sunday, May 1. Every year, thousands of people gather together to welcome the return of spring to Minnesota at this event. In preparation, during the month of April, our theatre will be transformed into a giant community art studio and opened to the public for the building of the parade.

Workshop participants will be given an overview of the Parade theme and then invited to choose which section of the Parade they would like to work on. Participants can come to as many or as few workshops as they want, and their creation will be theirs to keep after the Parade.

Workshops are free and open to everyone; no reservations or experience necessary. Children are welcome but must be supervised by adults at all times. Please wear clothes and shoes that are appropriate for painting.

In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre (HOBt) is a singular theater company recognized internationally for both its artistry and its service to the community. Through performance, ceremony, and teaching, HOBt explores and celebrates the human experience and the wonders of the world’s natural and cultural richness. The work of HOBt is strongly grounded in the concerns of its home neighborhood as they relate to regional and global issues. Through its artistry, the theatre brings people together in the hands-on creation of and participation in community-wide puppet and mask events.



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"We came into this world to give truth a little jog onward and to help our neighbors rights"

Ann Greene Phillips (18__-1885)
Wendell Phillips (1811-1884)

"The bigger the information media, the less courage and freedom they allow. Bigness means weakness."

Eric Sevareid, "The Press and the People," television program, 1959

Board of Directors: Cathy Strobel, President; Leon Oman, Treasurer; Sue Hunter Weir; Jane Thomson; Jana Metge; Joan Hautman; Dimpho Orion; Harvey Winje
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May Alley Deadline: April 15

The Alley Newspaper is a Member of



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www.changeisbetter.com
651-647-0440

April Phillips What Where



April Phillips What Where

The winner in February was Joan Nyman.

April Phillips What Where

Guess What and Where this is and get a chance to be in a drawing for \$10. Gift Certificate to Welna Hardware on Bloomington Avenue.

This billboard announces something new. What is it? Where is it? HINT: A competitor two blocks away has responded with 10% off discount.

Eve MacLeish, Jean Morrow, Pamela Rivera, Garry Staesnick, and Chiffon Williams all got the place correct for the March PWW, but no one has been able to say who made the sculptures or describe their significance. We'll run the same PWW for April with the names already entered going in the drawing but any who enter with a description as well as the place having their name entered three times in the drawing.

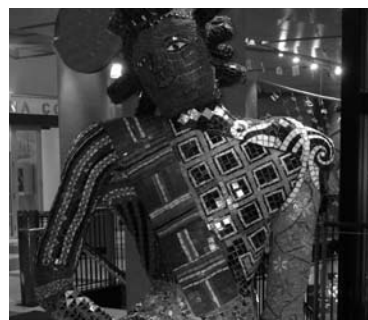
Garry and family also knew that the mosaic sculpture and the others, too at Midtown Global Market west entryway were made by Lori Greene. Here Lori tells a bit of her own story. About Me,

Lori Greene

"My personal work draws inspiration from both African and traditional Native American culture. Both reflect my ethnic heritage. My art school training is in textiles and I continue to incorporate patterns and texture in my work. It is deeply personal, spiritual and process based. I create images that are about strength, power and memory.

I have a BFA in textile arts from the California College of Arts and Crafts and a MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art. My work has been shown through out the United States. stories from work and life

In my work, I come across so many amazing people, their work and their stories."



March Phillips What Where



April 7th (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Phillips West Community Meeting! Agenda Items include; an update from the Midtown Global Market, Minneapolis Police Update, Approval of a Neighborhood Dog Park off of 5th Avenue between 25th & 26th Street, Minneapolis Police Department Domestic Abuse Advocate Emily Harrington Community Introduction, Information about Community Garden Resources available for Residents, and a Proposed Expansion of Teen Challenge they are seeking to add 50 supportive beds. Meeting will be held at Lutheran Social Service in the Centrum Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking available in rear off Oakland Avenue.

May 7th (Saturday) 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Phillips West Annual Spring Neighborhood Clean Up! Meet at the Center for Changing Lives "front yard" on the corner of Park Avenue & 24th Street at 9:00

to 9:30 a.m. for free Breakfast & Refreshments. Then join your Friends & Neighbors for a Block by Block Litter Pick Up. Then join us back at the Center for Changing Lives at 11:30 a.m. for a Free Volunteers' Pizza Lunch! Bags & Gloves will be provided. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer please call Crystal at 612/879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com



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Minneapolis

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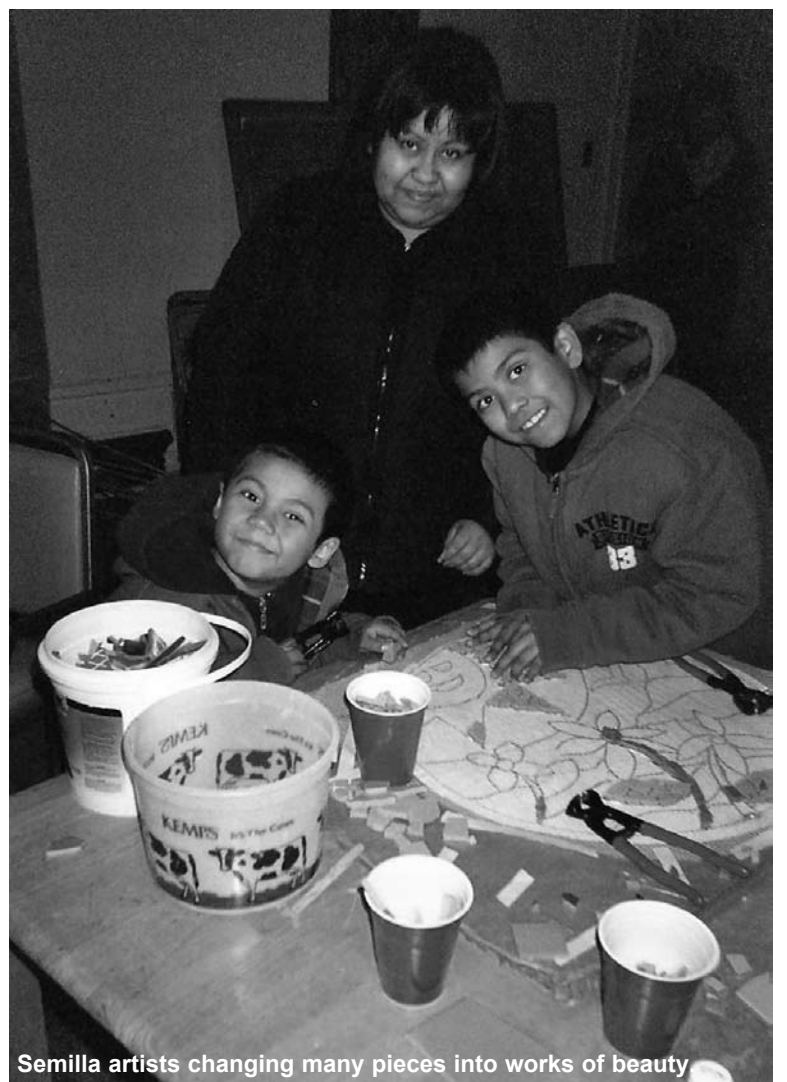
8^{AM} to 3^{PM} Sun.

612.870.9842

www.mariascfe.com



Elena Nelson and daughter Hayley



Semilla artists changing many pieces into works of beauty

One Seed from page 1

broken cups and plates to create something new."

Mosaic workshops are held every Wednesday night, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at St. Paul's, 2742 15th Ave S. Workshop participants of all ages learn basic design and color selection, how to use tile nippers, and both direct and indirect mosaic technique. The training emphasizes learning skills that can then be shared with block clubs, community and other groups.

Greta and the community arts teachers she has trained have led workshops at St. Paul's Church and St. Paul's Apartments, a low-income housing project for seniors, and El Colegio Charter School. They will begin working with students and parents at Andersen School in April, and on Lake Street in late spring.

Phase one of the project will

create beautiful mosaic flower planters throughout the community. Phase two will continue to create planters, while expanding to create murals that combine both painting and mosaic. Included will be a new gateway into Andersen School.

A Community Arts Camp for youth ages 12-18 will be held at St. Paul's the week of June 12. Youth will be trained in mosaic and mural arts, as well as learn how to organize their communities using the arts.

Funding for the project has been provided in part by a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, through an appropriation by the Minnesota State Legislature, a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts and private funders.

For more information, call St. Paul's at 612-624-3862 or e-mail: stpaulscreate@aol.com

April Programs at the Franklin Library

BY ERIN THOMASSON

Children's Programs

Family Storytime Wed. thru May 25, 10:30-11 a.m. Age 2 and up. Share books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement with your children.

Sheeko Caruur Af-Soomaali ah/ World Language Storytime: Somali Tues. thru May 31, 6-7 p.m. La wadaag bugagga, sheekoyinka, jaan-gooyada maansada iyo muusikada Soomaalida. *Mashruucaan waxaa lagu maalgaliyey lacag ka timid** For children age 2 and up. Experience the world in other languages.*

Kids Book Club Fri. Apr. 22, 4-5 p.m. Grades 4-6. Join other kids to talk about a great book! No pre-reading required. We will read a book and discuss.

Celebremos El día de los niños/ El día de los libros: ¡Conoce a un búho, un aguililla y un halcón! Celebrate Children's Day/Book Day: Meet an Owl, a Hawk and a Falcon! Fri. Apr. 29, 4 p.m. Grade 1 and up. Para niños del primer grado en adelante. Explora el mundo de las aves rapaces de Minnesota con un educador especialista del Raptor Center. Conoce a un búho, un aguililla y un halcón y aprende que los hace diferentes. Tendremos plumas, alas, cráneos, patas y mucho más. *Este proyecto ha sido financiado con dinero del** Explore the world of Minnesota raptors with an educational specialist from the Raptor Center. See an owl, hawk and falcon, and learn what makes them different. Hands-on teaching tools include feathers, wings, skulls and feet.*

Teen Programs

Intermedia Arts: It's Your Voice, Use It! Spoken Word Workshop Thur. Apr 7, 5 p.m. Grade 7 and up. Discover the art of spoken word: what it sounds like, how it's used, local opportunities for spoken word poets and, most importantly, the creative tools and fundamental skills you will need to create your own work.* *Presented in collaboration with the Intermedia Arts.*

Intermedia Arts: B-Girl Be Presents Hip Hop History, Culture and Creation Tues. Apr 12, 5 p.m. Registration required. Register online or call 952.847.2925. Grade 7 and up. Guys and girls: discover the power of authentic hip hop! Learn the history of hip-hop as a form of social commentary, community engagement and protest, learn to analyze lyrics, form and content, and create your own work. **Presented in collaboration with the Intermedia Arts.*

Career Club Tues. thru May 31, 5-7 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Meet medical, arts and teaching professionals from your community! Learn why they chose their paths and explore your own career choices!

Game On! Gaming Tuesdays Tues. thru May 31, 4-5 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours.

Game On! Gaming Wednesdays Wed. thru May 25, 4-5 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!*

Reading Club Wed thru May 25, 5-6 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Come explore the literary worlds of fact, fiction and adventures! Share your ideas and creativity along the way.

Urban Farming Thurs. thru May 26, 4-6 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Know where your food comes from! Learn about farming history and the methods for sustainable agriculture. Plant and maintain the Franklin Teen Center urban garden. Then bring home the fruits of your labor!

Game On! Gaming Thursdays Thurs. thru May 26, 6-8 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!***

Down Time Every Sat. 2-6 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Looking for a quiet and comfortable space? Take advantage of "down time" at Franklin Teen Center! Work on the topic of the week or use our computers, board games and other self-directed activities.

Adult Programs

Seniors Play Reading Group Fri. Apr 8, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Join us for a stimulating morning of reading and discussion of some of the great plays of our heritage.****


Reading Nonfiction for Elder Learners Fri. Apr 8, 1-3 p.m. Join us as we read and discuss the works of significant nonfiction writers.****

Phillips Technology Center Register online and more at www.hclib.org or 952-847-2925

Microsoft Publisher: Basics Fri. Apr 1, 10a.m.-noon. Learn to use the menus and toolbars to create and publish your own fliers, brochures and greeting cards.

Computer Basics Workshop Thur Apr 28, noon-2 p.m. and Fri. Apr 29, 1-3 p.m. Learn and bring questions about basic mouse and keyboarding skills, creating an e-mail account, using the Internet and scanning (where available).

Social Networking: Basics Thu April 28, 6-8 p.m. Learn how to navigate the new gen-



Franklin Community Library
1314 E. Franklin Avenue
New #: 952-847-2925
www.mplib.org
Tues & Thurs: 12 - 8 pm
Wed, Fri & Sat: 10 am – 6 pm
Complete program calendar, visit, call, or www.hclib.org/pub/info/newsroom/

eration of social media websites including Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook.

Microsoft Excel: Creating and Managing Lists Fri. Apr 29, 10a.m.-noon. Learn to create lists for inventory, contacts or collections, sort data and print using Microsoft Excel. Prerequisite: Microsoft Excel Basics or familiarity with spreadsheets is highly recommended.

Franklin Learning Center: 952-847-2934

The Franklin Learning Center offers 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. Contact us at 952-847-2934.

** This project is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.*

*** Made possible by the Library Foundation of Hennepin County through a grant from The McKnight Foundation*

****Made possible by the Library Foundation of Hennepin County through a grant from The McKnight Foundation.*

***** Presented in collaboration with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute*

The 7th Annual Community Garden Spring Resource Fair

Learn about community gardens and urban agriculture, meet other community gardeners, and have a good time!

Sabathani Community Center
310 E. 38th St, Minneapolis (near 23, 18, and 11 bus lines)
Saturday, April 2, 2011
9am-4pm (doors open at 8:30 am)

More information, complete schedule, and pre-registration online at www.gardeningmatters.org

As food prices rise, communities and families are looking for options to assist with their household budget. Community gardens are neighborhood educational centers for growing your own food, deepening roots in the community, & beautifying the neighborhood. Community gardens are a hands-in, feet-on green space bridging



generations & cultures.

Presenting Sponsor: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota

Event Sponsors: Edible Twin Cities, JobCorps, Linden Hills Co-op, Sabathani Community Center, Specialized Environmental Technologies, Inc., Valley Natural Foods

Grassroots Sponsors: Barrette, Bryant Lake Bowl, Egg/Plant Urban Farm Supply, MN Institute of Sustainable Agriculture, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum – Education Department, MN-NRC-SARE, MN State Horticultural Society, Mother Earth Gardens, Red Stag Supperclub, Seward Cooperative Grocery and Deli, University of Minnesota Extension.

East Phillips Improvement Corp. Report

EPIC General Membership Meetings:

Note: Change of meeting schedule

Lake St. Bloomington Ave. East 24th St. + East Phillips Park

Hiawatha Ave (Hwy. 55) SECOND Thursday of each month

APRIL EPIC Community Meeting:

April 14th Thurs. at 6:30 PM

at East Phillips Park – 2307 17th Ave. S.

Residents, business and property owners and employees in area welcome and encouraged to participate in activities and decision-making.

EPIC/NRP Phase I Survey: EPIC is conducting a **major opinion survey:** Someone may knock at your door and ask you to fill this out. A First! EPIC businesses have all been surveyed and informed of the work of EPIC.

EPIC ANNUAL MEETING: Election of new board members and a major review to vote on recommendations for **NRP Phase II.** For planning meetings & focus groups, call Carol Pass, 612-280-8418

When? Saturday, April 30th

Time? 10:00 AM to Noon

Where? East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center

The Community Center is OPEN!

Initial Hours:


Monday through Friday - 1:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Saturday - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sunday - Closed

Schedules at Center or on-line. Google mprb and go to "Activities" or "Active Net Registration"

East Phillips Park Partnership: Seeking organiza-



tions to help provide programs, activities and/or services at EPPCCC. Please join with 21 programming partners. Contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478 or bpas@usinternet.com.

Phillips Community Center 11th Ave. S. and E. 24th St. The Park Board will sign leases with several neighborhood organizations to provide service and programming to the PCC. This and Park Board programming will bring this great facility to serve the Phillips Community.

Phillips Community Swimming Pool Hannah Lieder of Minneapolis Swims, EPIC, three other Phillips Neighborhoods, Waite House and others are working to Save the Swimming Pool. <http://www.mplswwims.org/> info and opportunity to help finance this effort.

FIRE - Support for the Bloomington Lake Clinic This wonderful Clinic has served and supported this community for 80 years. It is now time for us to support them. EPIC and other neighborhood organizations along with institutions and individuals are coming together in support of this great institution. We are looking for space for them to locate until they can rebuild and we are raising money for the doctors and nurses to replace stethoscopes and other personal equipment. Contact EPIC, below, to **Contribute and Help.**

Problem Developments and Problem Properties and Crime: Info: EPIC Bd. President, Carol Pass at 612-280-8418 or cpass@runbox.com

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• Free ABE/GED Class • Financial Aid if You Qualify

Start on June 1 for:

- Administrative Medical Assistant (9 mos.)
- Small Business Ownership (6 mos.)
- Administrative Assistant (9 mos.)
- Health Occupations (6 or 9 mos.)
- Human Services Technician (6 mos.)
- Customer Service Representative (6 mos.)
- Or Nursing Assistant or Home Health Aide or Trained Medication Aide or Acute Care Nursing Assistant or First Aid/CPR or EMT (Call ext. 171 for start dates)
- NEW-Anatomy and Physiology courses (Call Now)

Call Margaret at 612-341-3358 ext. 148 ABE/GED ext. 151 At Cedar and Franklin and at Sabathani Center www.aioic.org



Did you know that The Alley has a website?

www.alleynews.org

Even hipper, you can follow us on

Twitter: @alleynewspaper



Geneology Second only to Gardening

BY SUSAN HUNTER WEIR

Genealogy is the second most popular hobby in America (gardening is first). Genealogy is like solving puzzles—finding that one clue that leads you to the maiden name of your great-great-grandmother or locating the name of the town where she was born. Millions of people spend their leisure time searching the internet, digging through trunks in attics and reading obituaries looking for information about long-lost relatives.

The cemetery office has records on all of the 21,000 people buried there. The amount and type of information varies a little bit and tends not to be as complete for the earliest burials (the 1850s and 60s) as it is for later ones. Every person has a burial card, and most cards contain information about that person’s age, place of death and cause of death. Some contain birthdates and birth locations. For those who died after 1876 there are burial permits as well.

Grave locations are recorded in a large plat book. The original plat book was created during the Depression, a project of the Works Progress Administration. It is drawn with India ink on vel-

Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery

SUE HUNTER WEIR
79th in a Series

lum and individual graves are hand tinted. Occupied graves are colored green except for veterans’ graves which are red; empty graves are brown. A few years ago, after someone broke into and vandalized the cemetery office, the original plat book was removed to the archives in City Hall. The cemetery has a full-sized, color digitized copy of the original.

Given the age of the cemetery, the records are amazingly complete. The Layman family kept detailed records of all burials. Despite their best efforts, the information is not always accurate.

In Block E, Lot 20, there are two almost-identical markers. The names on the markers are for Lars G. Anderson and Lars G. Nelson. According to the markers, the two men, who were brothers, both died on February 11, 1914. Their burial cards give their names as Lars and Louis Stublien and their date of death as January 10, 1909. So, which is it?

There’s an obituary for Louis



How does geneology become accurate when almost identical markers with common date of death, February 11, 1914, for brothers Lars G. Anderson and Lars G. Nelson is juxtaposed with the “burial cards” with names as Lars and Louis Stublien including death on January 10, 1909. Markers are at Block E, Lot 20 of Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery and records are in Cemetery office amongst those of the other 20,000 +people buried there.

Stublien in the 1909 newspaper (Stublien was the name of the family farm), but none for Lars. Louis’ 1909 death certificate gives his name as Lars Peterson Stublien. There is a death certificate for Lars G. Anderson dated February 11, 1914. Still with me? Louis Stublien (obituary), Lars Peterson Stublien (death certificate) and Lars G. Nelson (grave marker with wrong date of death) are the same

person. Lars Stublien (burial card with wrong date of death) is the same person as Lars G. Anderson (1911 death certificate and grave marker with the correct date of death).

It’s not too hard to see why the person who carved their grave markers got a little confused. If family members noticed the mistake on the marker back in 1911, it didn’t seem to bother them enough

to have it corrected.

Both markers have the same inscription written in Norwegian. Roughly translated, they read: “Sleep dear brother, and rest. God has called you and He knows best.”

If you are looking for Lars or Louis Anderson/Nelson/Stublien, we can show you right where they are.

Searching – A Serial Novelle Chapter 25: “Something Special for Someone Special”

BY PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

Sometimes you have to stop searching, and let the search find you. Sometimes you have to let go in order to hold onto what you really love. Ana and Luz had confronted their pasts, now it was time to discern where the past was going. And as they walked out into the still swirling snow, they realized they had to do this part of the search alone.

“Luz”, Angel said, timidly. “I think I need to go talk to my mom and dad some more. I want to make sure that you’re OK. I don’t want to leave you alone when...” His voice broke off, and he held his head up to the sky, as if in desperate prayer.

Luz took his arm with her hand. “I’ll be all right, mi amor. I need to see about some things myself. I’ll be OK.”

“I don’t want you to be afraid,” he told her.

“Angel, it’s one thing to be afraid. It’s another to live in fear. Do you know the difference?”

“I think so,” he said. “For most of my life, I thought I had to fight my way through every trouble. If I was afraid, I got tougher. If I didn’t know how to do something, I worked harder. I think maybe I have to learn something different now.”

Then the two embraced. It was an embrace of two people who know that they may never see each other again. Fear, longing, love, hope intertwined in their hug. It was the hug of brothers or sisters who cross oceans or deserts to find a new life in a new land. Children taken from their parents arms by the brutal hand of the conquistadors. Grandchildren saying goodbye to the grandparents at

the nursing home. Luz and Angel held on, not so much for dear life, but to remember, in their muscles, the love they would never give away. Even if they lost.

Luz brushed away the tears off Angel’s cheek, and Angel performed the same rite for his beloved. Luz walked towards the transit station, Angel north along Chicago Avenue.

As he crossed the bridge, he decided to cross the street. He had always avoided the west side of Chicago, the side of Sunny’s, the gun shop, the bookstore with the eerie raven. But now he was drawn to a soft light just over the bridge. Without knowing why, he walked into the little flower shop, and immediately breathed in the joyful mix: humidity, pollen, nectar, oxygen. The shop was full of Christmas greens, flowers, ribbons and most of all, warmth.

It seemed to him that the shop was empty, but after a minute, a small, elderly woman stepped out, with a big smile.

“Good evening, young man”, she said. “Are you looking for something special for someone special?”

Angel could not remember the last time he had been called a young man. He laughed to himself, I feel like I’ve aged ten years these past few weeks, but I’m still not yet 20!

“I’m looking for something for my parents,” he said, just realizing that was what he came in for. “Something for Christmas, I think”.

“Well, would they like a plant, or flowers, or some greens for the door?”

Angel had to search his mind for memories of Christmas at his

house. Mostly he remembered big parties with all the cousins and aunts and uncles: tamales, pozole, lots of candy. There was always a Christmas tree, of course, but it had impressed Angel as mostly being scrawny. Then he remembered a Christmas when he was very little, at his grandmother’s house in Mexico. It was warm, there were processions every night. And flowers everywhere: Flores de Noche Buena.

“I think I would like a flower they call “Noche Buena” in Mexico”, he said. “I’m not sure what you call it.”

“Oh, that’s a poinsettia”, she said.

“How did you know that Noche Buena is the name for poinsettia?” he asked her.

“Oh, you’d be surprised what I know”, she said with a little wink. “Now, young man, how do you plan to get this home in this terrible weather?”

“Um...I was hoping maybe you had a plastic bag I could wrap it in, and then I’d put it under my coat...”

She looked at Angel for a second. “I have a better idea. I’ll see if the young man who works for me can give you a ride.”

Little did Angel know exactly how young the “young man” was, and where the ride would take him

Alley goes to Harvard from page 1

will mark the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Wendell Phillips—native Bostonian, abolitionist, orator, and activist. He was a national celebrity during the Civil War who believed and often declared that Boston and Massachusetts must serve as models of liberty and justice not only for the rest of the country but for the wider world as well. Though a graduate of its college and law school, Harvard University banned him from campus for his uncompromising defense of equal rights and his unwillingness to be intimidated by anti-abolitionist mobs.

In a diverse and vibrant abolitionist movement, Phillips stands out primarily for the longevity of his commitment to equal rights for black Americans (extending beyond formal abolition), and the variety of groups whose rights he championed (women, Indians, Irish nationalists, workers). Phillips prompts us to consider the larger questions of what happens to a movement as its goal nears fulfillment (or: what did abolitionists do during and after abolition?), and whether and how forms of oppression are related, and are best battled separately or all together.

WHAT, WHERE, WHEN: PROGRAM, LOCATIONS, DATES

The project currently has several parts, some of which will be held at the Harvard Law School, and some in downtown Boston.

The parts include:

- Keynote address by James Brewer Stewart, the James Wallace Professor of History Emeritus at Macalester College, and Phillips biographer. Through his role as the founder of Historians Against Slavery, an organization fighting human trafficking, Jim has a highly developed sense of the

connections between past and present regarding slavery and abolition. He speaks all over the country on what slavery and abolition in Phillips’ time has to teach us about slavery and its abolition in ours.

- A professional development workshop for K-12 teachers
- An exhibition of Phillips-related material at the Houghton Library (which holds the largest collection of Phillips’ papers, as well as material on his relationship with Harvard University), and a reception to celebrate its opening
- A symposium on Wendell Phillips’ Life and Legacy
- A walking tour, to result in a permanent brochure; the walking tour will be offered twice during the bicentennial weekend
- Two plenary discussions on interracial activism past and present - one at the end of the symposium, and another to be held at Old South Meeting House.

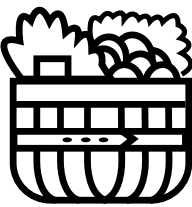
MISSION

Every part of the project will be an honest, open dialogue, about not only what was heroic in this white abolitionist’s story but also some of the limits and less sunny parts of the story. The biracial anti-slavery organizations remained primarily white-controlled; black abolitionists who harmoniously worked with white colleagues usually also pursued their goals in separate, all-black organizations at the same time. The costs to abolitionists of speaking out often fell harder and heavier on the black members than on the whites. Occurring in the first year of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, the Phillips bicentennial connects not only to the wide popular interest in emancipation and the Civil War, but also to the fate of civil rights in the aftermath and the state of interracial activism in the present.

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FOOD OBSESSION: WHAT DID I TELL YOU?



BY JANE THOMSON

I said to read the whole recipe before making the dish. Here are a couple of recipes that are easy to make if certain very specific instructions are followed. They are in caps here, but such details don't always hit you in the eye when you give a recipe the once-over.

BEER BREAD – this quick bread goes with anything and is good toasted. I got the recipe from Mary Gardner, who lives upstairs in my building. She is a frequent host; also an author and teacher at the Loft Literary Center. Among other books, she has written *Outlaw Biker – My Life at Full Throttle* with her friend, Deadeye Hayes.

Turn oven to 350 degrees. Grease an average-size bread pan very well.

12 oz. beer AT ROOM TEMPERATURE

¼ cup sugar

3 cups of “SELF-RISING” flour: no substitutions; no mixtures

Mix sugar with flour, mix in beer, pour mixture into bread pan. Bake for 45 minutes; cool on rack, turning out of pan after about 15 minutes.

TEA EGGS – As served (along with many other goodies) at the 2010 Alley Annual Meeting.

These eggs are easier to prepare and lower in calories than devilled eggs.

6 eggs NOT VERY FRESH, SO THEY WILL SHELL EASILY, otherwise the whole thing will be a mess. Use eggs that have been in your fridge two or three weeks after you got them from the store.

1 tbsp. black tea, or 2 tea bags

1 star anise

1 cinnamon stick

1 ½ tbsp. soy sauce

1 ½ tsp. salt

1 tsp. sugar

soy sauce for dipping

Put the eggs in a saucepan with cold water to cover, bring to a boil slowly and then simmer for about 15 minutes. Remove the eggs from the water and cool them. Tap each egg all over with the back of a spoon until it is covered with hairline cracks. Put the eggs in the saucepan again with the tea, star anise, cinnamon stick, salt, sugar and soy sauce. Cover with water. Bring to a boil and simmer FOR ABOUT 2 HOURS. Cool the eggs; refrigerate them. Shell them just before serving. The original recipe (from the S'trib) says to cut most of the eggs into quarters, but I left them whole. They will have interesting crackly patterns on them from the spice mixture, which also gives them an interesting taste, enhanced by dipping them in soy sauce. Kind of an adult Easter egg.

Lake Street Council Annual Awards

The Lake Street Council (LSC) announced 2011 Annual Awards during 43rd Annual Meeting at Safari Restaurant and Banquet Hall, 3010 4th Avenue South March 15th.

“Each of these businesses has shown exemplary innovation and community responsibility,” Joyce Wisdom, LSC Executive Director, said. “They are committed to the betterment and economic vitality of Lake Street.”

Best New Lake Street Business Start Up

Lake Wine & Cheese, Binh and Christina Le

Binh and Christina took the former G & L Furniture store, which had been looking a little shabby, and extensively remodeled it for Lake Wine & Cheese. The Le family has a background in food/beverage retail and restaurants, operating the Arby's and Ben and Jerry's outposts at MSP Airport and the Metro Liquor Warehouse in St. Paul, along with a few other businesses around the country. They bring a focus on customer service to this business.

Lake Wine and Cheese is a stylish concept, combining the liquor store with cheese shop/deli/gourmet foodstuff retail, operated by Ken Liss. Lake Wine and Cheese feels like a cozy, European-style market.

Best New Business Owner of Established Lake Street Business

Laura & David Hoenack, Hymie's Vintage Records

Dave and Laura Hoenack, bought the iconic Hymie's Records in 2009 when it was located in the unworkable Lake Street location it had called home for 23 years, with water leakage a constant problem. They found a new Lake Street location just a few blocks away at 39th Avenue. They made the move on Record Store Day 2010, but this year they will out-do themselves. For Record Store Day 2011, they're putting up a stage



BY CHRIS OIEN & JOYCE WISDOM

and there will be a music festival. They've booked a really great collection of Minneapolis artists, plus puppet shows, jugglers and more.

The every day operation at Hymie's is meticulous, thanks to Dave and Laura. This is also literally a “mom & pop” shop, as kids Nova and Gus and shopdog Irene are often around. (If you aren't aware, this is one of the highlights of many Lake Street businesses: you can meet the whole family!) They live just 10 blocks from the store.

Best Business Investment on Lake Street

Sheraton Minneapolis Midtown Hotel

The Sheraton Minneapolis Midtown has been a part of the Lake Street community for the past five years. This 136 room, full service, hotel is connected by skyway to the Midtown Exchange and Global Market as well as Abbott Northwestern and Children's Hospital.

The hotel mainly employs individuals from the surrounding neighborhood. All employees are trained in their specific job classifications as well as excellent cus-

tomers service training where they learn to spot the key customer service interactions they take part in every day.

The Sheraton Midtown encourages participation in the betterment of our neighborhood. They are currently partners with not only Lake Street Council, but Nice Ride Minnesota, Minnesota Bicycle Summit, Midtown Business Association, Starwood Sustainability, Allina Frequent Fitness Program, Midtown Greenway Coalition, Cristo Rey, Rotary and Meet Minneapolis.

Annual Meeting Feature Event

The guest speaker was Patrick Cardon, CEO of Museum in the Streets™. Mr. Cardon described Lake Street's Museum in the Streets™ project which will kick-off in 2011 with the first of over 60 permanent installations recognizing the history of Lake Street in a self-guided tour.

For more information about LSC's 43rd Annual Meeting or to just learn more about LSC and Lake Street, visit www.lakestreetcouncil.org or www.visitlakestreet.com, both websites of the Lake Street Council.



Biography of David Beckmann, President Bread for the World He is speaking at the Global Poverty Summit. Details on pg. 1

World Food Prize laureate David Beckmann is one of the foremost U.S. advocates for hungry and poor people. He has been president of Bread for the World since 1991, leading large-scale and successful campaigns to strengthen U.S. political commitment to overcome hunger and poverty in the country and globally.

Beckmann is also president of Bread for the World Institute, which provides policy analysis on hunger and strategies to end it. He

founded and serves as president of the Alliance to End Hunger, which engages diverse U.S. institutions—Muslim and Jewish groups, corporations, unions, and universities—in building the political will to end hunger.

Currently Beckmann is co-chair of the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network. He has served as a board member of InterAction, the Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa, the ONE Campaign, the National Anti-

Hunger Organizations, and the U.N. Millennium Hunger Task Force.

Prior to joining Bread, Beckmann worked at the World Bank for 15 years, overseeing large development projects and driving innovations to make the bank more effective in reducing poverty.

Under his leadership, Bread for the World has garnered an impressive record of achievements. Due in part to the persistent, bipartisan advocacy of Bread members, the U.S. government has tripled funding for effective programs to help developing countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Bread has also helped double funding for U.S. nutrition programs, assisting millions of families in the United States who struggle to feed their children. Recently, Bread for the World initiated a campaign to press Congress to reform U.S. foreign aid to make it more effective in reducing hunger and poverty, and

another to protect and strengthen tax credits for low-income working families.

Since 2000, Beckmann has been asked to testify in Congress 18 times, appearing before such committees as the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives.

Beckmann has appeared on Bill Moyer's Journal, PBS's Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly, CNN Español, and C-Span, and in radio interviews with NPR's Morning Edition, and The Diane Rehm Show. He has written many books and articles, including *Transforming the Politics of Hunger and Grace at the Table: Ending Hunger in God's World*. His latest book, *Exodus from Hunger: We Are Called to Change the Politics of Hunger*, will be published by Westminster John Knox Press in October 2010.

Beckmann earned degrees from

Yale University, Christ Seminary, and the London School of Economics. Six universities have awarded him honorary doctorates. In 2010, he was named a laureate of the World Food Prize. He is a Lutheran pastor as well as an economist. Beckmann has lived in Bangladesh and Ghana, overseen projects in Bolivia and Ecuador, and visited more than 70 countries. He speaks Spanish.

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. Bread for the World members meet with and write personal letters and emails to their members of Congress. It is one of the largest 50 F Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20001 organizations in the world dedicated to building the political will to end hunger.

1-800-82-BREAD www.bread.org

Take Me Home Tonight



Take Me Home Tonight

★☆☆☆☆

Theiopolis Cinema

*"TakeMeHomeTonight"(2010)

Comedy. Cast: Topher Grace (Matt Frank), Dan Fogler (Barry Nathan), Teiesa Palmer (Tori Frederking), Anna Faris (Wendy Franklin). (R)95 minutes. Director: Michael Dowse.

Actor-co producer Topher Grace and actor Dan Fogler showed up for questions and answers after their movie "Take Me Home Tonight" was over. I wasn't really interested in staying around for a movie I didn't care about. I'm happy these young men are enjoying some success but their movie, to be blunt, is so generic so as to be ad nauseam.

Nothing in Michael Dowse's comedy distinguishes itself from umpteen comedies about white teens and twentysomethings partying, drinking beer and looking for that girl with whom he missed a chance to have sex. To Dowse's credit, most of the scurilous language and gross behavior is missing from this comedy set in the 1980s--Ronald Reagan, Cultural Club ,award-winning movie"Gandhi", tax cuts (for the wealthy), punk hairdos.

One problem Topher Grace, at age 32,can't pass for a 22-year old. Another problem maybe Dan Fogler, as Barry Nathan,and Anna



HOWARD MCQUITTER II
Movie Corner

Howardsmoviecorner.com
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Faris, as Wendy Franklin, do not fit the age either. All three characters, especially Barry and Matt, seem to be aimless in their lives, acting out in hedonistic fashion as in drinking, snorting cocaine and one character lies by saying he works at Goldman Sachs when he actually works at a video store just to impress a girl from his high school. He should have told the truth and who knows what would have happened.

I like nostalgia in movies if they are worth their salt "Take Me Home Tonight" doesn't begin to fit the bill either for nostalgia or comedy. I think I hear a little voice in my head: "Don't worry 'Take me Home' will be a fossil just like most of today's 'comedies'".

Julie Johnson & The No-Accounts:

A celebration concert of the new CD The Banks of the Little Auplaine

Julie Johnson & The No-Accounts (Johnson on flute & bass flute, Doug Otto on vocals & guitar, and Drew Druckrey on vocals, guitar, & resonator guitar) bring Johnson's distinctive flute sound to an original song cycle that delves into threads of Minnesota history through folk music.

Friday & Saturday, April 1 & 2, 8pm; Sunday, April 3, 7pm

More info Photography by Deborah Sussex of Ely in the Gallery (opening reception Mar 31, 6-8pm)

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612-874-6338



Julie Johnson

HOWARD MCQUITTER II *Movie Coffin*

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HowardMcQuitterii@yahoo.com

BY HOWARD MCQUITTER II

Jane Russell, 1921-2011

Actress Jane Russell, 89, died the day after the 83rd Academy Awards--February 28--one of the most popular beauties of the silver screen in the 1940s in San Maria, California.

She got her first role in the film "Outlaw" (1943) by director Howard Hughes, a movie the censors criticized for its provocative scenes of Russell's low-cut blouse. The movie barely got by the censors two years later in limited showings. "Outlaw" wasn't a particularly good movie, but the stunning beauty attracted male

moviegoers by the millions.

Jane starred in other movies "Young Widow"(1946),"Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" (1953), "Gentlemen Marry Brunettes" (1955) "His Kind of Woman"(1951), "The Las Vegas Story" (1951), "Mamie Stoyer" (1956) and "The Fuzzy Pink Nightgown"(1957), a big flop.

Her roles past "Nightgown" nearly disappeared. For a short time she worked in television and then returned to the film "Fate is the Hunter" (1964). She did the film "The Born Losers" (1967). Her last film was "Darker Than Amber"(1970).

If only Jane Russell has been a better placed actress beyond in more telluric roles, she was a better actress beyond her beautiful



face and body.

Jane was born in Bemidji, Minnesota, but moved to Canada and then to California. She was a life-long Republican and believed in pro-life causes. Russell didn't much care for some of the liberal actors and actresses in Hollywood.

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Beyond Wisconsin

March 13, 2011...
There were pleasant greetings between the handful of neighborhood folk who attended the most recent rally in Hudson. David Bicking was there. His handmade sign read: "Labor Creates All Wealth". In jest, I pondered out loud, "Oh, I thought ownership of the means of production created wealth." And then, yet another great semi-truck roared beneath our occupied overpass. Honk. Honk. Honnkkk...

Are public workers being unjustly scape-goated?
Well, for starters, millions of good paying American jobs have been shipped overseas. And then came huge tax breaks for super-wealthy people in a time of war. To which we must add some wildly irresponsible Wall Street speculations and sub-prime mortgage schemes which culminated in a \$700 billion bailout. You be the judge.
My own handmade sign read simply: "Tax the rich". Some long ago training as a draftsman found a nice expression. Requests for photo poses were many. Smile.
In today's world, just 400 Americans have more wealth than half of all Americans combined—more loot than the combined assets of 155 million people. Or, to slice it in a different way, 20% of America owns 85% of the country's wealth. Clearly, public workers are in the category of "the



PETER MOLENAAR
Raise Your Voice

people"—the 80% which owns a mere 15% . Therefore, the attacks against these workers are an absolute disgrace.
Note: Wisconsin teachers average about \$46,000 a year—top hedge fun managers "earn" \$48,000 per hour.
March 12, 2011...
With more than 100,000 protesting in Madison, others were privileged to attend a forum at walker Community Church. At this event, hosted by state Sen. Linda Berglin and Reps. Jeff Hayden and Karen Clark, I managed to register an observation regarding our governor's proposed new 4th income tax bracket.
As the good governor would have it, starting at the level \$85,000 income per year for a single filer, the rate of taxation would be bumped up to 10.95% of total income [10.95%?!]. Yes, this is

some odd math calculated merely to address the deficit. How then do we establish a healthy reserve fund? How then do we commence with necessary construction without floating more bonds? For that matter, how then do we expand programs which serve people and protect nature?
In fact, the governor's formula obscures an important truth. How might he explain that three tax brackets should cover the lower end with only one bracket to embrace an income spread presumably in the \$Millions? The Democrats gathered at Walker Church seemed willing to commit some creative thinking to this subject.
Hint: at designated high levels of income, any income above said levels (but not the total) should be taxed a significantly higher rate.
Meanwhile...
Talk of a "general strike" in Wisconsin has receded in favor of the call to recall offensive politicians. This movement is well under way--the revolution must wait.

Fire Destroyed Bloomington Lake Clinic except for records

The Bloomington Lake Clinic (BLC) on Bloomington Avenue near Lake Street was destroyed by a fire on Wednesday, March 9. It is an 80-year-old medical clinic serving more than 50,000 patients in greater Minneapolis. The clinic's second site is still in full operation at 79th Street and Xerxes Avenue in Bloomington, Minnesota and has taken on all of the staff from their Bloomington Avenue. Here is the Bloomington Lake Clinic's update.
BLC ROAD TO RECOVERY – UPDATE 1
• All physicians and staff from the Lake Street clinic have relocated to and are serving patients from the Xerxes Ave. location.
• All critical clinical and business systems continue to be operational due to medical records and business systems being hosted off-site. Loss to medical and other records was minimized.
• Phone services for physicians

and staff from the Lake Street clinic have resumed -- all phone numbers are operational and voicemail is expected to be restored soon.
• Email service was hosted off-site and was unaffected by the fire; however, computers and laptops were lost. Laptops have been restored for critical employees. All other employees are able to access Web mail and computers are being replaced as quickly as possible.
"Thank you to everyone in the community who has reached out to us," said Bob Vogel, administrator of Bloomington Lake Clinic. "We appreciate the outpouring of support during this difficult time. We are committed to providing quality care to patients in this community and are working as quickly as possible to put together a plan of action."

"Most important, we are pleased to report that we are operational from the Xerxes Ave. clinic and our physicians are seeing all patients from this location. Patients can rest assured that we are able to provide the same level of care to them from our Xerxes Ave. location, and that they will be able to reach us," said Vogel. "We will continue to release additional updates and communicate with patients and others with whom we do business on the progress of our recovery efforts in the form of news releases, updates on our Web site and other appropriate means."

HOW TO CONTACT BLOOMINGTON LAKE CLINIC
All patients may contact Bloomington Lake Clinic at the Xerxes Ave. location:
Bloomington Lake Clinic
7901 Xerxes Avenue South, Suite 116
Bloomington, MN 55431
Phone: 952-888-2024

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Spread Mouse Death

Impact the life of a child: Become a literacy tutor in the Phillips neighborhood with RSVP!

RSVP of the Greater Twin Cities is accepting applications from people 55 and over interested in tutoring youth with various after school programs in and around the Phillips neighborhood. RSVP places people volunteers 55+ in positions with local organizations covering a variety of focus areas. As an RSVP literacy tutor, you can make a difference in a child's life for as little as one hour a week.
The RSVP program, sponsored locally by Volunteers of America of Minnesota, provides benefits and support to people 55 and over. For more information call Mary Jane Horton, RSVP Literacy Coordinator, at 952-945-4163 or mhorton@voamn.org.

Update on the Backyard Initiative

BYI Citizen Health Action Teams Update



BY JANICE BARBEE, CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER

Every month at the Cultural Wellness Center, members from the Backyard Initiative Citizen Health Action Teams, or CHATs, come together to update each other on their activities and talk about common principles and problems in their community building work. Last month, on February 17, CHAT members discussed what it takes to work together and accomplish what they set out to do.

The Backyard Initiative was started two years ago as a community partnership between Allina Hospitals and Clinics and the residents of Phillips, Powderhorn Park, Central, and Corcoran with the goal of improving the health of the community. Most of the work of the Backyard Initiative is carried out within Citizen Health Action Teams, where community members on each team have developed a strategy for improving health and are now in the process of implementing that strategy.

CHAT Leadership in the Community

Elder Atum Azzahir from the Cultural Wellness Center, the facilitator of the meeting, explained to the CHAT members that the Commission on Health, a body of primarily community members from each CHAT, will be looking at the work of each CHAT this year in terms of how the work contributes to the health of the whole community and involves people from the community. She told the members, "The Commission is going to be asking 'Is the CHAT growing in its connection to other people?' How are you adding to your list of people in the Backyard? Are they connecting to what you are doing, becoming part of what

you're doing?

She then asked the CHAT members to think about their leadership skills and what skills they need to develop to be effective leaders. The CHAT members identified building relationships, identifying resources, strategic planning, and influencing, directing, and organizing people as the set of skills that are needed to do the work. Elder Atum told the group that last year the CHAT members were more focused on envisioning their projects and planning; now new skills are needed for implementing them. Some CHATs may not be able to last throughout the year if they don't develop these skills. Elder Atum stated that the Cultural Wellness Center staff will teach some of these skills throughout the year. "One of the most important is the skill of self-study, of reflecting on what you are learning about yourself. If you cannot self-study and correct yourself, you're not going to be able to get anything done."

A member of the Dakota Language Revitalization CHAT, which is building a child care center where children can be immersed in the Dakota language, said, "I never wanted to be a leader, I didn't see myself in this situation. But something I have to do is be a model, not just for the children but for the parents." She said she is trying to learn the Dakota language as she supports others to learn.

Evaluation of the CHAT Work

The CHATs are all engaged now in developing their evaluation plans. These plans will include collecting information that is relevant to each CHAT as well as information that all the CHATs consider important to the entire Backyard community. The BYI definition of health reveals some core values

that community residents said they hold: being actively engaged and being connected. So the BYI evaluation will show whether the CHATs are helping people to be actively engaged and more connected, and whether being actively engaged and more connected (as well as other CHAT strategies) are effective ways to improve health.

In the assessment, the top four personal conditions of ill health in the community were: stress (51%), depression (21%), high blood pressure (21%), and chronic pain (20%). Mental health has been discussed as one possible indicator of health for the CHATs to track because it encompasses the top two conditions.

At the end of the meeting, the CHAT members thanked Paula Fynboh, for all her excellent work as the Director of the Backyard Initiative. She is moving to Bogata, Columbia to join her husband who was offered a position with the United Nations. On behalf of the group, Elder Atum wished Ms. Fynboh well and told her how much everyone appreciated her and that she will be missed.

The Backyard Definition of Health

- Health is a state of physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being. Health is not only the absence of infirmity and disease.
- Health is the state of balance, harmony, and connectedness within and among many systems – the body, the family, the community, the environment, and culture. Health cannot be seen only in an individual context.
- Health is an active state of being; people must be active participants to be healthy. Health cannot be achieved by being passive.

What is TRANSITION TOWN PHILLIPS? Here, in a nutshell

BY CORRINE BRUNING

The transition towns concept hails from England, is that peak

oil and climate change are challenges that are real and will start having major effects on our oil based society. We look to become resilient and create an Energy Action Descent Plan that moves us toward a localized clean energy future. This also means learning how to grow and preserve food, utilizing all the unused land in the neighborhood to grow food, or to be a better rain catchment system. It means really advocating for transportation change and equality, by making personal choices, and persuading policymakers to make good transportation policy choices. But most importantly, it means getting to know your neighbors and establishing bonds that will help us muster together through these hardships, and not as enemies.

The beginnings of the group formed at a "Local Resilience" event held by Alliance for Sustainability on November 13.

Since, then we've come together to discuss what we want our neighborhood to look like (bicycles, mosaics, gardens, murals, dog parks, waving and smiling neighbors), and what skills we'd be willing to share and learn. Also, as this team has grown, we've had discussions around energy and food, and really would like to make strong relationships with our neighbors, neighborhood groups, and businesses. Our ideas range anywhere from insulation bulk buys for the neighborhood to a street dance with local artists, musicians, and chefs. If anyone would like to find out more about Transition Towns Phillips, please visit our website at: <http://transitionphillips.groupsie.com>, or email: corrine.bruning@gmail.com

So, that's Transition Town Phillips in a nutshell.

Youth Gather and Grow Solutions in Phillips

BY RUBY LEVINE

In July 2010, the unemployment rate for people ages 16-24 reached 19.1% nationally - it's worse in low-income and minority communities. In response, young people here in the Twin Cities are working with the broader community to create solutions.

The Summer of Solutions (SoS) is a two-month summer program building capacity for projects that address social and environmental injustice in Phillips and the Twin Cities as a whole. Last summer, 25 full- and part-time SoS participants gathered in Phillips to work on energy efficiency, bike access, green manufacturing, and urban farming. The initial influx of capacity provided by SoS has led to sustained work throughout the year in the Phillips community and all around the Twin Cities and the program is gearing up for another jolt of energy this summer.

The program this summer will continue work on these four focus areas. The urban farming project will help develop the emerging Concrete Beet Farm on the vacant lot on 15th Avenue near 28th Street and will provide fresh produce for the neighborhood. Participants will learn bike skills and expand bike access in partnership with Sibley Bike Depot of St Paul and create green industry centers with the Alliance to ReIndustrialize for a Sustainable Economy (ARISE) all across the Twin Cities. SoS will work with the Our Power campaign to bring residents of South Minneapolis together to

build an affordable, reliable energy system that is environmentally sustainable and creates local jobs. All are welcome to join in the community energy planning meetings held every other Friday (including 3/11 and 3/25) through May in the basement conference room of the US Bank Building on 10th and Lake.

In addition to launching and sustaining community transformation projects, SoS serves as a leadership development experience for its participants. The program begins with a weeklong training in skills such as facilitation and fundraising, and the models of social entrepreneurship and green economy development. Throughout the summer, participants build job skills in farming, bike maintenance, and weatherization.

Young people ages 14-30 who are interested building a just, sustainable economy right here in Phillips can now apply for the 2011 program. Applications for participants are available at <http://grandaspirations.org/apply2sos>. The priority deadline is March 13; the final deadline is April 24. The Summer of Solutions is free to all participants and provides need-based financial support to allow young people from all backgrounds to participate. Please visit www.grandaspirations.org for more information, and call 651-300-4360 or email contact@grandaspirations.org to get involved as a participant, community partner, or volunteer.

"Bridging Minneapolis" Wins FEAST FUNDING



'Bridging Minneapolis,' the community-arts' project on both ends of the 24th Street Pedestrian Bridge [see March The Alley, Page 1] recently won the public vote at FEAST, a city-wide arts funding competition. The \$1,000 proceeds are being used to move the

project forward. Watch The Alley as it unfolds! (Contact Dallas Johnson for information and to share your ideas: dallicious@gmail.com)."

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