

Open Streets:
East Lake Street
Aug 2, pg 2 & 3
East Franklin Aug 16, pg 5

National Night Out Aug 4,
pg 2

Cemetery Cinema Aug 29 pg 3

Phillips Aquatic Center
Open 2017? pg 6

the Alley

NEWSPAPER

NEWS & VIEWS OF PHILLIPS SINCE 1976
AUGUST 2015 • VOLUME 40, NUMBER 8

The Alley Online!
www.alleynews.org



@alleynewspaper



“All the news?” Never!

BY HARVEY WINJE, SENIOR VOLUNTEER
EDITOR AND OUTREACH COORDINATOR

The Alley Newspaper received an e-mail with these questions from a reader:

“Does The Alley Newspaper fact check submitted articles?”

“Let me make the newspaper and I care not who makes the religion and the laws.” – Wendell Phillips 1811-1884

“Does The Alley Newspaper do the ‘malicious bidding’ for some neighborhood leaders?”

These important questions reminded us that we don’t take space often enough to explain how we serve our mission to “inform and engage”.

This month, we are taking time to describe how the content within each Alley Newspaper is determined with the hope of giving a voice to all members of the community. To set the context, we’ll start at the beginning in 1976.

When and how did The Alley

Newspaper decide what news to publish?

40 years ago, two people were talking about the benefits of people having more in-depth conversations about community affairs. They noted every day encounters

and community meetings especially did not provide enough time for substantial conversation. One of them had seen a magazine in which the content was a dialogue between writers; in fact, that was its name.

From that conversation, The Alley Newspaper was founded to be another means by which neighbors could converse with one another in addition to across backyard fences, at the store, and by telephone.

To accomplish that goal, The Alley invites community resi-

dents, employees, businesses, organizations or students within the community, to have their announcements, opinions, and organizing efforts included in the newspaper.

Question: Does The Alley fact

check articles when they are submitted?

Yes, articles are vetted for outright discrepancies, lies, defamation, and blatant inaccuracies. No, if the submission is an opinion. In this case, we depend more on the process of dialogue over time to correct, counter, or compromise. Submissions to The Alley intended to be published are evaluated, however, as follows:

First, is its authorship from within the Community?

Second, is it fair and not demeaning of another Community



Photo Credit: Harvey Winje

Chuck Michener (l) and Kurt Bullert (r) were inaugurated with newly released “The Alley” T-Shirts and to the Midtown Phillips Festival July 25th by inveterate Neighborhood activist Joseph Spangler at Stewart Park.

member?

Third, is it in the best interest of the Community regardless of being only one viewpoint on an issue of varied opinions?

Fourth, what is its priority

alongside of other material for a particular issue when space is limited by financial constraints?

All the News?

see page 6



Photo Credit: Courtesy of Camille Gage

BY JOE KRUSE

In the Midewiwin belief system, the indigenous spiritual practice of the Ojibway people, there are eight prophecies that have come and are coming to pass. The prophecies take into account the

migration of the Ojibway people from the east to the upper Midwest where food (manoomin/wild rice) grows on water, the invasion of the light-skinned race, and the struggle for survival among and resistance to that colonization.

Bode, a long-time water walker, and I sat in a minivan watching other walkers hike along a beautiful stretch of a rural county road as he explained this part of his spirituality to me. The rain was lightly misting our windshield. He

Honoring Water 150 Miles

The Chippewa River Water Walk

went on to describe the eighth and final prophecy, when people of all skin colors will live in harmony. He said that, on these walks, he has started to see this prophecy fulfilled. He has seen white people, Native people, and people of color work together to pray for the water and our future. He sees how, while we are praying for the healing of the water, the water seems to be healing us.

This is just one of the many beautiful lessons I had the privilege of learning while I participated in the Chippewa River Water Walk this past April. “The Nibi (Water) Walks are Indigenous-led, extended ceremonies to pray for

the water. Every step is taken in prayer and gratitude for water, our life giving force” (nibiwalk.org). Led by Ojibway elder Sharon Day and began by a group of Ojibway grandmothers about a decade ago, these walks are both a spiritual practice of walking as a means of praying for the water and our relationship to it, and a political act of cultivating awareness around the continued violent exploitation and colonization of Turtle Island.

Our walk began at the beginning of the Chippewa River in New Post, WI. Here we held a

Chippewa River Walk

see page 7



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS FOR SUPPORTING THE 2015 MIDTOWN GLOBAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

Allina Health

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THIS ACTIVITY IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE VOTERS OF MINNESOTA THROUGH GRANTS FROM THE MINNESOTA STATE ARTS BOARD AND THE METROPOLITAN REGIONAL ARTS COUNCIL, THANKS TO A LEGISLATIVE APPROPRIATION FROM THE ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND.



The Alley
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Follow us on twitter.com/alleynewspaper

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: Robert Albee, Anthony, A-POD, BackYard Initiative CHATS, Denny Bennett, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Edwin, Frank Erickson, Camille Gage, Growing the BackYard CHAT, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Evan Hall, Hennepin County Franklin Library and Staff, Sue Hunter Weir, Jose, Joe Kruse, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Tim McCall, Jonathan Miller, Minneapolis Swims, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Out in the BackYard, Brad Pass, Carol Pass, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Ventura Village Neighborhood, Oliver Wes, St. Paul's Lutheran (on 15th Av) Youth Group, Crystal Trautnau Windschitl.
Delivery: To every Phillips Community residence, every Powderhorn Park Neighborhood, 160 businesses, places of worship, institutions in Phillips and adjacent neighborhoods by Sara Nelson Delivery. Many Phillips homes delivered by volunteers, Beverly, Marjorie, Tara, and Andrew.

Circulation: 7,800 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-Ayres, President; Sue Hunter Weir; Joan Hautman
Monthly Alley Communication Board Meetings: 6:30 PM 3rd Wed. Call for Location.

Letters and e-mails to Alley Communications and/or its Editor become the property of Alley Communications dba The Alley Newspaper and may be chosen for publication.

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612-990-4022

**August Issue
Submission
Deadline
July 15**

The Alley Newspaper
is a Member of



Give. And light a fire under inequality.
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651-647-0440

BY ERIN THOMASSON
Used Book Sale

Sunday, Aug 16, noon-4 pm.
Bargain hunters and book lovers take note: the **Friends of the Library Sale** of hundreds of adult and children's fiction and nonfiction books in hardcover and paperback. Most books are withdrawn from the Hennepin County Library system or donated by the public. Funds raised will benefit the library.
Somali Culture and History
On view through Aug 31.

View nomadic cultural artifacts, learn information about Somali history and see pictures of prominent Somali Minnesotans. *Sponsored by Friends of the Franklin Library; Presented in collaboration with Somali Museum of Minnesota.*

Children & Family Programs
Puzzlemania!

Thursdays, Aug 6 & 13, 2-3 pm. For families. Enjoy a variety of educational and fun puzzles and games!

Family Storytime

Fridays, Aug 7 & 14, 10:30 am. All ages and their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format appropriate for young children. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

Kid's Tech: 3D Printing

Wed, Aug 19, 3-4:30 pm. For families. 3D printing lets you create plastic toys, models, tools, jewelry and more. Make your own with this cool new technology! Led by the library's Teen Tech Squad.

Franklin Teen Center Programs
Urban 4-H Club

Tuesdays, 5-7 pm. We do everything from urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater.

Teen Tech Workshop

Wednesdays through Aug 26, 4:30-6 pm. Get creative and make music, videos, animation and other projects using both high- and low-tech tools, everything from iPads and 3D

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

printers to synthesizers and sewing machines. Led by the library's Teen Tech Squad.

Young Achievers

Thursdays, 3:30-5 pm. Do you want to be involved in your community? Then bring your friends and come for poetry, arts, games and more!

Adult Programs

Education Alternatives

Discussion Group

Mon, Aug 10, 1 pm. Join a monthly discussion of persistent problems in education and possible solutions centered around topics raised in Knowles Dougherty's blog: educationspersistentproblems.wordpress.com.

Memoir Writing Group

Mon, Aug 17, 1 pm. Would you like to create a record of your personal history? Bring what you have written and are willing to read to the group 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. flc@hclib.org.

Phillips West Neighborhood Upcoming Events

www.phillipswest.info

August 6th (Thursday) 6:00

to 7:30 p.m. – Phillips West

Monthly Community Meeting

(Note No August Meeting because of National Night Out)

August 4th (Tuesday) 5:00 to

8:00 p.m.

Phillips West Neighborhood 19th Annual National Night Out Celebration!

Please join hundreds of Community Partners & Residents for the biggest National Night Out Celebration in Minneapolis! **EVENT AND EVERYTHING AT IT IS FREE FOR THE PUBLIC!!!!** Event will be held along 27th Street between Columbus and Portland Avenues! A variety of FREE Picnic Food including Snow Cones, Popcorn, Hot Dogs, Watermelon, Cookies & Ice Cream! There will also

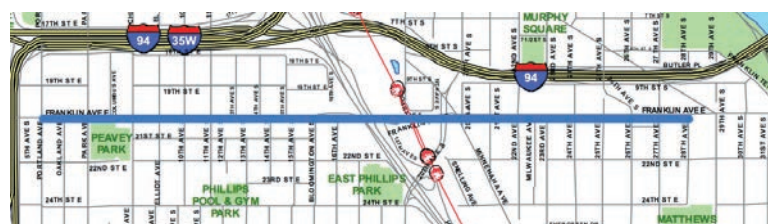


be a variety of Entertainment including a Mariachi Band, an Open Mic Rap Contest with opportunity to win Grand Prizes, Salsa Dancers, 3 Clowns, 2 Bounce Houses, a Puppet show, Face painters, Fish Pond, Children's Games, McGruff the Crime Dog, twinkle the Mascot, Mickey Mouse, and a Giant Inflated Slide! Information on dozens of Community Resources will be available! If you would like to get involved contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email pwno2005@yahoo.com
This Announcement designed and paid for by Phillips West Neighborhood Organization

East Lake
Street
Sunday,
August 2,
11am-5pm



Franklin Ave
Sunday,
August 16,
11am-5pm



3440 BLOOMINGTON AVE.
POWDERHORN PARK
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Location, Location tells many “Tales”

There are 35 graves in Block 3 Row 1. Eleven of them are empty. There are two people buried in each of two graves for a total of 25 burials in all. All but one of the burials took place between late 1899 and 1901. The graves, which are located in the northwest corner of the cemetery, near the intersec-

tion of Cedar Avenue and 29th Street, cost \$10 a piece, sometimes a little less if the grave was for a child. These are 25 people connected by the fact that they are buried on the same small strip of land in South Minneapolis. Even though most of them are not related to each other, they have quite

Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery

SUE HUNTER WEIR

126TH IN A SERIES

a lot in common—not enough to draw any major conclusions from but enough to create a picture of what was happening at a certain place at a particular time.

Twelve of the people have names that ended in “son,” a sure sign that they have some connection to one of the Scandinavian countries. Six more, although they were not “sons,” were born in Norway or Sweden. One man, August Sohlman, was born in Finland and Minnie Smith (probably Schmidt when she arrived) was born in Germany. Only four of the adults were born in the United States. Two children, Gilda Fregaard and John Jackson, were born in Minneapolis, and one baby, the son of Martin and Hannah Ulvestad, was stillborn here.

Amos Pierce was born in New York, relocated to Minneapolis, and died at the age of 74 after suffering a stroke. He is the only person in the row to have a headstone and his marker serves as a touchstone for finding everyone else in row 1. The three-link chain on his marker tells us that he was a member of lodge—the links stand for friendship, love and truth. But there is something wrong with his marker. It gives his death year as 1900 but he died on May 19, 1901. The reason why his stone was never corrected will likely never be known.

Most of the men in row 1 worked as unskilled laborers although August Sohlman found work as a tailor for one of the city’s larger department stores, and Adalaska Hough sold phonographs at the Phonograph Parlor, a store owned by his brother. Most of the immigrants did not have a great deal of formal education but several indicated in census records that they had learned to read, write and speak English. A handful of others indicated that they could speak it but could not read or write it, and at least one, Charles Lenning, only spoke Swedish.

Nine of the people in Row 1 (36%) died from tuberculosis. Two died from strokes, two from intestinal problems and the others from a variety of diseases including gallstones, liver cancer and bronchitis. Two children died from diphtheria and one man was killed in an accident.

Eight of the adults died in hospitals at a time when most families cared for their sick family members at home. Those who died in hospitals were people who had never married or who were widows or widowers. Four of the eight were single, one was a widower, and two were widows. The marital status of the eighth is unknown but since his parents’ names, rather than a wife’s name, are listed on his death record it is likely that he was single.

Several of the people in row 1 have family members, usually children or spouses, buried in the



Amos Pierce is the only person of those in the 35 graves in Block 3 Row 1 to have a headstone. His marker serves as a touchstone for finding everyone else in Row 1. The three-link chain on his marker tells us that he was a member of IOOF the International Order of Odd Fellows lodge—the links stand for their motto friendship, love and truth. But there is something wrong with his marker. It gives his death year as 1900 but he died on May 19, 1901. The reason why his stone was never corrected will likely never be known.

cemetery. The fact that they are not buried next to each other suggests that the families could only afford to purchase one grave at a time. For many families \$10 was a lot of money and the fact that there is only one marker for 25 people speaks volumes about how

little money most of them had. There is much more to be said about the people in Section 3 Row 1—too much to fit in a single Tale from Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery. Look for more of their stories in an upcoming issue of The Alley Newspaper.

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CINEMA IN THE CEMETERY

PIONEERS AND SOLDIERS CEMETERY (ON THE CORNER OF LAKE ST. AND CEDAR AVE.)

*** AUGUST 29 ***
SANTO Y BLUE DEMON CONTRA LOS MONSTRUOS

*** SEPTEMBER 12 ***
THE HAUNTING (1963)

*** SEPTEMBER 26 ***
POLTERGEIST (1982)

*** OCTOBER 3 ***
HAXAN: WITCHCRAFT THROUGH THE AGES (WITH RATS OF THE PEOPLE MOTION PICTURE ORCHESTRA)

*TICKETS FOR HAXAN WILL BE \$10

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OPEN STREET EAST LAKE STREET

“A SPECIAL SUNDAY

IN THE VERY SPECIAL PIONEERS AND SOLDIERS CEMETERY”

Sunday August 2 11am to 5pm

At Lake Street & Cedar Avenue

Join us on August 2nd between 11 and 5 for some old-fashioned fun, cemetery style. We’ll have:

- a smartphone history hunt,
- a self-guided, no-technology-required tour,
- make-and-take board games and
- old-timey sidewalk games for the kiddos.

• Between 1 and 3 some very special visitors from the past will show us what kids did for fun before they had electricity.

Come into this very special Cemetery, sit in the shade made by canopies of scores of beautiful trees, enjoy the birdsong, tour the National Historic Registry Caretaker’s Cottage, or just wander around. You always, always meant to stop in—now’s the perfect time.

Biking in Minneapolis: Learn the Ropes.

By Carol Pass

Suddenly our streets are striped for biking and folks are discussing how to navigate all this and preserve the safety and sanity of everyone, bikers, walkers and drivers. First, here is some help to navigate the new rules, which are mystifying many and appear at first glance to be dangerously confusing. We hope, however, all will turn out to aid safety and facilitate bike travel, for which car travel is currently taking a bit of a ‘back seat’.

A very helpful video guiding you through this maze is found at the following web address:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eeDDYfUP4BU>

It takes you on a ride through much of the varying biking terrain with explanations, rules and guides throughout. Great job, but needs multi-lingual translation.

Then there is another helpful video. This one is in English, Spanish, Hmong and Somali on the City’s “Bicycling in Minneapolis” web page. Go to

<http://minneapolismn.gov/bicycles/index.htm> and scroll down to the video.

There is a lot of other interesting information on this page for traveling as a pedestrian, about the City’s Master Biking Plan, about how Minneapolis ranks as a ‘Biking Friendly’ city and more.

A final find is a fascinating discussion of how we really compare in the issue of total bike-friendliness with frequently Number One city, Portland. The web address is:

<http://bikeportland.org/2014/07/11/minneapolis-nice-city-biking-definitely-portland-108625>

The article takes us down a peg, because while we make claims about very high numbers of bike commutes to work in Minneapolis, we are a much smaller city (55 square miles to Portland’s 133) and with only 50% of the population. Our much smaller size means commutes are much shorter, so it is easier to get to work. Even if we look at a comparable area, it looks like Portland still has us beat. Check it out.

Little Free Library & Community Bulletin Board

EPIC’s East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Garden brings the first Little Free Library to the ‘hood. It’s located outside the Garden at 2428 17th Ave. S. and free to all. Take a book- leave a book .

It was designed & built by Brad Pass and installed by Brad, Nobin Suk Dahal, Kailash Acharya, Sujan Motey, Sven Glader and Kevin Chavis (not pictured) under the watchful supervision of Carol Pass.

Enjoy!



For your Calendar:

The EPIC Board of Directors meets on the First Saturday of every month; Saturday, 8/1/15 and 9/5/2015 At 10:00 AM.

The EPIC General Membership meets on the Second Thursday of each month; Thursday, 8/13/15 and 9/10/15 At 6:30 PM
Agenda includes Neighborhood Industrial Pollution, Crime Initiatives, and updates on EPIC projects

The East Phillips Park Programming Partnership meets on the LAST Tuesday of each month; Tuesday, 8/25/15 and 9/29/15 At 11:30 AM. Lunch is served
Updates on EPIC’s Computer Give-Away program and Free Financial & Computer Literacy Classes, and Programming Partner Events & News.

Meeting Location: 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

The East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Gardeners meet on the second Saturday of Each Month during the gardening season, normally from April through September. The next meetings are: Saturday, 8/8/15 & 9/12/15 at 9:00 AM in the Garden located at 2428 17th Ave. S.

SAVE THESE DATES:

Phillips Community Clean Sweep: October 10th 2015 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Garden Fall Harvest Party: October 17th 2015 from 4:00 PM until the fire goes out.

Designed and Paid for by East Phillips Improvement Coalition



MIDTOWN PHILLIPS

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.

midtownphillips.org
612.232.0018

August 11 2015 Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 11 2015, 6:30 - 8:00PM

Stewart Park (Arts and Crafts Room), 2700 12th Avenue S, Minneapolis

- Approve July Board Meeting Minutes (5)
- Summarize Festival activities and ongoing business (5)
- Discuss application for Higher Density Corridor Housing Program (HDCHP) initiative by CPED and how a plan could be implemented in Midtown Phillips (10)
- Financial Update (20)
 - a. Confirm funds available for spending remaining in 2015
 - b. What can funding be spent on?
 - c. What are our time restrictions?
- Discussing overall neighborhood goals/big-picture topics (20)
 - a. Gauging interest in who wants to do what and forming committees or workgroups (housing and/or land use included)
 - b. Clarifying processes for how our business as a board gets done and how we work the most effectively with the community
- Upcoming Audit Review overview, announcements and preparation (20)
- Letter of Engagement review
- Review 990 and State form. Motion: That MPNAI accept and receive the IRS 990 and AG Charities Division Annual Report (10)
- New Business, announcements, and community comments (5)

August 25 2015 Community Meeting Agenda

Public participation encouraged for community input and discussion on local issues

Tuesday, August 25th 2015, 6:30PM - 8:00PM

Stewart Park (Multi-Purpose Room), 2700 12th Avenue S, Minneapolis

- Approve June Community Meeting Minutes (5)
- Village Market: Discuss updated TDMP and floor plans of proposed 8,500SF proposed expansion. (30)
- Review Updated proposal from Jama of Construction Consultant Minneapolis Metro, Inc., with more information for CPED plots proposed development. City of Minneapolis also invited. Block club input will also be presented at this meeting on individual sites (20)
- Finance Report (20)

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VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 8 • AUGUST 2015

NEWS

MONTHLY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AUGUST 12TH: Please Join Us!

Sunday, August 16th

11:00 to 5:00 pm

East Franklin Avenue
@ Peavey Park's North End



OPEN STREETS MPLS



Ventura Village's Musical Stage Line-up

Hosted by HYPEL and Malika Musa

- DJ Keezy on the 1s and 2s
- Crosswalk
- Kali Gerr
- Casual Confusion
- Wilkinson James
- Abdi Phenomenal
- Love At First Sound
- Mill City Collective
- Minnie Armstrong
- LNJAY
- Mike Dreams

Check the Stage Line-up
Board at Open Streets Event
for actual performance times!



Look for Mpls. Park's Showmobile along Franklin Avenue!

DON'T MISS OUR VENTURA VILLAGE BICYCLE RODEO!

VENTURA VILLAGE TENTS & TABLES WILL
BE ALONG EAST FRANKLIN BETWEEN PARK
AVENUE & CHICAGO AVENUE!

HOPE WE SEE YOU THERE!



Ventura Village has been promoting Bocce Ball as a sport that can be played by those between the ages of 4 and 100 and they can all play each other at the same time! This easy to learn and score game is considered by many to be the oldest game in history. Here the games were played July 4th at Currie Park behind the Brian Coyle Center.



VENTURA VILLAGE MONTHLY MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IN AUGUST AS FOLLOWS:

2nd Wednesdays: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 6:00 PM

2nd Wednesdays: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 7:00 PM

1st Wednesdays: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 6:00 PM

Last Thursdays: CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6:30 PM

1st Tuesdays: WELLNESS, GARDENING & GREENING: 6:30 PM

PARKS COMMITTEE: Call 612-871-7973 for next meeting time

Last Thursdays: HOUSING & LAND COMMITTEE: 5:30 PM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Call 612-599-1066 for next meeting time

The Phillips Aquatics Center is quietly funded by MPRB and on track for a 2017 opening!

BY DENNY BENNETT, PRESIDENT OF MINNEAPOLIS SWIMS

Nate, my 16 year old son and I attended the July 15th Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board meeting to watch the final resolutions get passed that would approve the last \$417,000 of a \$5,422,500 budget that has been raised to restore and expand the aquatics facilities at the Phillips Community Center. Altogether, there would be three resolutions that would affect the renovated Phillips Pool that were up for review.

The first, under the Administration and Finance Committee, was resolution 2015-249: Resolution Accepting the Financial Support Offered by the Minneapolis Public Schools for the Phillips Community Center Pool Facility in the Amount of \$150,000 Per Year, through 2020, in Operating Funds and \$1,750,000 in Capital Funds in FY 2016 Contingent on Mutual Agreement on the Six Expectations Listed in the June 18, 2015 Minneapolis Public School Resolution.

This passed unanimously.

Next, under the Recreation Committee, was resolution 2015-250: Resolution Affirming a Commitment to Create a Memorandum of Understanding with Minneapolis Public Schools Related for Scheduling, Programming & Facilities.

This passed unanimously.

Finally, in Unfinished Business, came resolution 2015-255: Resolution Authorizing Reallocation of 2016 Capital Levy Funds by Delaying Planned Improvements at Luxton Park and Matthews Park to support the Capital Funding Required for the Phillips Community Center Aquatic Facility.

This passed unanimously.

And, just like that, the Phillips Aquatic Center was fully funded. It was an odd moment for me as I looked around at the nearly empty room being the only person at the meeting of the many people who have been involved over the last five years. I was not called on to answer a single question, nor even acknowledged. There was no debate on any of these resolutions.



Photo Credit: JF Architecture

It was just different. Our facility is no longer a "what if" to be debated; it is finally a given.

At the next MPRB meeting, a recommendation from staff will be brought to the board for approval on a consultant team that will lead the design. Expect community engagement meetings in August, with follow-up meetings in September with the neighborhoods. Armed with this information, the design team hopes to have the design phase complete

and to the board for approval by late Fall.

The project would then be bid over the winter, putting the MPRB in a position, hopefully, to award a construction contract by next Spring. This should put them in a position to be breaking ground no later than June 2016, with a finished facility by year-end 2017.

After years of struggle, uncertainty, contributions and hard work by countless people, without whom we would not be here

today, we had finally made it!

While it was a quiet, personal celebration last night, in the nearly empty MPRB board room, it was particularly special for me as I wasn't personally alone. I was there with my son. It was almost two years ago that Nate dove into Lake Harriet and saved a boy who didn't know how to swim from drowning, and it was that event that lead me to this cause and involvement with Minneapolis Swims.

All the News? from page 1

Fifth, if necessary to limit its size, can that be done without detracting from its message and intent?

Once those decisions are made and choices published, it may appear that The Alley is taking a partisan position because of publishing a certain point of view. Admittedly, The Alley tends to favor the Community's interests above blatant outside interests or specific, local self-interests. But the views expressed are not necessarily the opinion of The Alley Newspaper, its Board, or advertisers. The Alley intends to always be available to opposing opinions.

In final evaluation and selection of material to be published, The Alley does not pretend to be objective. The Alley does not agree that journalism can be objective. Choices are always being made by any newspaper and there are always stories that escape consideration.

Question Does The Alley print all of the news?

The Alley never prints all of the news. There are so many stories to share within our Community that it will always be a challenge. The

intrinsic value of Community stories being immeasurable compels us to keep striving to be able to tell more of them.

No newspaper, not even The New York Times that declares its motto on every front page-- "All the news that's fit to print"—can be totally objective. Within the 25-30 pages of the NY Times and a Sunday edition of 3+ pounds, some articles are chosen for the front page, some for the last page, and large amounts are not printed. Those are not "objective," decisions and the result does not include "all the news that's fit to print."

The Alley never prints "all the news that's fit to print." It does encourage neighbors to tell their own stories which are the richest of news. This is your Invitation: Tell us your story and/or opinion.

Question: Does The Alley do the bidding of some individuals or organizations?

Alley Communications, the parent corporation of The Alley Newspaper, is a community-governed, 501 C-3 Minnesota non-profit corporation that is an almost completely volunteer operation. As such, there are obligations to be available to the entire community. Yes, The Alley Newspaper,

does do "bidding;" but for the entire community.

It is always important knowing authorship. That is why The Alley identifies articles with a byline beneath the headline, a title, or this statement "This Page is written, designed and paid by" when a section of the newspaper has been provided by an organization, politician, or anyone else; for example, A recent change is the purchasing and design of space by Community organizations to make their announcements and promote their programs, campaigns, and group opinions.

Thus, some announcements, half pages and full pages are currently produced by the Franklin Community Library, Friends of the Cemetery, Ventura Village, Phillips West, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Improvement Association, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, and the BackYard Initiative. The cost is sometimes bartered and always discounted from usual advertising rates as The Alley's good faith contribution to Community affairs.

Additional Guidelines

The Alley intends to avoid the temptation to report on topics because they are sensational, newsworthy, include name-dropping quotations to appear as though in depth consideration has been done, or take interviewed quotations out of context to reinforce the writer's opinion.

For example, The Alley was interviewed by a StarTribune

reporter for a story that ran Sunday, June 7th in which the reporter selectively chose a couple of quotes that mis-portrayed extensive information given to her about how Alley Communications is shaping its future. It would be easy for that reporter or readers to miss the nuances of Alley Communication's implementation of its mission to "inform and engage" because it is contrary to what journalism has become. Instead of following journalism's lead, Alley Communications has chosen to shape its work as an art, stimulus to democracy-building, and to be responsive to the Community's needs.

The Alley intends to avoid pandering of any kind that promotes itself or another organization or individual.

For example, decades ago but more poignant now, Twin Cities Business Monthly magazine freelance writer, Ann Bauer, wrote, **"Probably, no legitimate business could exist in Phillips without Honeywell."** This was an obviously erroneous fact since there were hundreds of various-sized legitimate businesses in Phillips at the time. It has been decades since Honeywell's international headquarters moved to New Jersey and hundreds of legitimate businesses are still here.

The entire TCBM article needed vetting for accuracy. The writer and magazine were doing the "bidding" of Honeywell Corporation as major media sources do often for interests outside of Phillips.

We need our own media presence to counter their misinformation and bias.

Having been founded 40 years ago to be another means by which neighbors could converse with one another, The Alley is now alongside newer means of communication. It embraces them for their many benefits while offering an added benefit of being "bound

Looking for Affordable Health Care Coverage?

Portico Healthnet Can Help!

Thanks to support from the Allina Backyard Initiative, Portico Healthnet can:

- Help you apply for Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare
- Enroll you in Portico's Primary and Preventive Health Care Program if eligible



Call us at 651-489-CARE for more information

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CAN YOU HELP?

You can if you know names of artists.

Who created the beautiful mosaic tile front walls of Center School? The Artists that cleaned and repaired this art recently want to add signage honoring the original artists.

Please Contact Center School or The Alley with info about names.

“Democracy” and Bees

My butternut squash plants have commenced to flower and set their early fruit. Like all cucurbits (squash, melons, cucumbers, gourds, pumpkins) they are monecious, meaning the male and female aspects are embodied in one plant. However, the flowers themselves are not hermaphroditic. The male and female blooms are separate.

The males reveal in morning, only to fade before the day is done. By then bees will have gathered the pollen, and the sperm contained within. Nectar laden females flower the following day, blossoms adorning the miniature fruits with their ovaries and eggs. Joyous bees appear positively ecstatic!

But what?

Market forces, the profit motive, and corporate domination are killing off our bees.

I have in hand two letters from Susan Allen, my state representative. She writes:

“Thank you for contacting me to share your support for Governor Dayton’s proposal for a minimum 50-foot buffer strip along [our] waterways...to help increase water quality in our lakes, rivers, and streams as well as create 125,000 acres of new wildlife habitat. This initiative is part of a larger strategy to reduce nutrient pollution from agricultural and industrial sources and ensure that



PETER MOLENAAR
Raise Your Voice

everyone in Minnesota has access to quality water.”

In her second letter Susan writes:

“Given the states projected \$1.9 billion surplus...The legislature was presented a great opportunity to build upon progress... Unfortunately, due to divided government, this positive momentum was stalled. Instead, the House of Representatives’ majority favored tax cuts for big corporations.”

“Perhaps the legislature’s biggest failure this year was in the area of environmental protection. The Omnibus Environmental/Agricultural bill that was enacted...put corporate interests ahead of protecting our state’s natural resources...To effectively address these challenges we recognize that protecting corporate interests at

Frank Reflections

BY FRANK ERICKSON

If Americans want Mexicans to respect U.S. borders, why have Americans never respected Iraqi borders; are not Americans in Iraq “illegal?”

Chris Rock said, “Only Brian Williams didn’t even kill anyone, just lied about what helicopter he was in, a real troublemaker.

If you think “war’s” evidence for existence is rooted in self-defense, how could Iraq’s right to defend itself in 2003 give the U.S.

Chippewa River Walk
from page 1

pipe ceremony and filled a copper pail with water from the beginning of river. That water would be transported downstream by the walkers until we arrived in Wabasha, MN a week later, at the end of Chippewa River. Then, amidst several beautiful ceremo-

the expense of individuals is simply not fair...”

Yes, Susan has my vote.

Have things improved from the days when only white men with property had the vote? The answer is: yes, somewhat maybe, and no. Truthfully, until the stooges of capitalism are expelled, all life forms are in jeopardy. Prepare your children to make the revolution, please, even as we support social-democratic reform in the here and now.

the freedom to kill?

When a local radio station plays Lynyrd Skynyrd, is that not the same as flying the confederate flag?

What a dumb idea the “Civil War” was, if the South would have “won,” we would be honoring The Confederate Flag before Twin’s games and slavery would be the law of the land.

Donald Trump should be grateful that Mexicans cannot come to America via attack helicopters and battleships. Mexicans should be

nies, the water is poured back into its source. The walk was organized like a kind of relay. The pail of water was passed to a new walker about every mile. Because in the Midewiwin tradition women are typically the protectors and caretakers of the water, only women could carry the water. Men were able to follow behind the women and carried a beautiful eagle staff. The staff and the eagle symbolize protection and a “caring for,” in this case, the walker and the water. Women were also able to carry the eagle staff if no men were present or walking, or the women with the water could carry both the staff and the pail.

The core group of walkers who did the whole 150 miles of the Chippewa was mostly Ojibway people. There were three white people among our core group, of which I was one. For me the

welcomed for one reason alone, they don’t come as “war.”

U.S. soldiers participated in an illegal corrupt invasion of Iraq, but none of them went to jail for it—who blames the soldiers for “wars”... why are local Somali-Americans in jail for trying to fight in an illegal corrupt “war,” when no U.S. soldiers are in jail. You can’t conveniently decide which soldiers are responsible for “war”—this is a racist attack on the Somali Community.

most stirring and heart-rending part of the walk was being so lovingly welcomed into a ceremony and tradition that were not only not my own, but that come from a people’s spirituality my ancestors worked hard to exterminate and forcibly Christianize. However, it was clear that I was being welcomed and invited into participating in another group’s distinct spiritual tradition and was definitely not Midewiwin for the week (nor could I ever be, because I am white). Sharon and the other Ojibway leaders and elders on our walk struck a beautiful balance between welcoming white walkers into the space while simultaneously acknowledging important historical and cultural differences. It was so powerful to be around Native people who concurrently acknowledged and critiqued the history and systems that create and maintain my white privilege, while also allowing me to play important roles in their cultural ceremonies.

I was a daily recipient of ongoing, compassionate, and unconditional inclusion and love. It was demonstrated to me so beautifully what should be the absolute most important facet of my Christian faith. This experience of hospitality and embrace is something I will never forget, and has become for me a way in which the water has helped to heal my soul.

Violence like parasite; also treatable

BY ST. PAUL’S YOUTH GROUP

Violence is like a parasite; **infectious, dangerous**, unbiased, and yet also treatable.

Fortunately, the steps in treating both are also very similar, and like all parasites we will eventually find a cure.

According to cureviolence.org the essential elements of curing violence coincide with the treatment of a disease: 1) interrupting transmission of the disease, 2) reducing the risk of the highest risk, and 3) changing community norms.

“I heard guns firing so I couldn’t sleep until 2:05 AM. I was scared and I can’t sleep now.”...Anthony

“People have come into my house and robbed our money and my dad has to work harder.”...Edwin

You all can make a difference, and we want to remind you who you are setting an example for.

“We can make small changes that can become big impacts in our neighborhood.”...Jose





BACKYARD INITIATIVE BACK PAGE



The Backyard Initiative is well represented at the Hue-MAN Parade and Festival

Members of the Backyard Initiative (BYI) were proud to actively participate in the Hue-MAN Parade and Festival which took place on Saturday, July 11th, 2015. The BYI and Hue-MAN Partnership Project were part of the Ole 4th Avenue South Day Parade and the Fourth Annual Boys To Men Community Health Fair in Green Central Park.

The BYI eagerly engaged with the Hue-Man Partnership Project because the work of the Backyard Initiative and the Cultural Wellness Center in its own partnership with Allina Health goes hand in hand with the work of the of Hue-MAN Partnership Project. Our collaborative efforts will further empower and equip men to make healthy choices for themselves, their families, and their communi-

ties—the motto of the Hue-MAN Partnership Project.

Members of several of the BYI’s 10 CHATs (Community Health Action Teams) gathered to participate in the Hue-MAN parade. The TEENS CHAT carried the Backyard Initiative promotional banner while skateboarding in the parade wearing TEENS Project T-shirts. Directly following the TEENS were members of the Anchor Family CHAT who formed the “care brigade”. The group then joined other community health organizations at Green Central Park and distributed health related information to passersby. The group connected with 402 festival attendees and over 286 pieces of information about the BYI were distributed to community residents who came to

take part in the festivities. .

The Backyard Initiative booth featured a variety of herb plants and demonstrated container gardening as a technique that works well in the city where soil may be depleted or contaminated. This educational display was coordinated by Growing the Backyard CHAT. Information about each of the 10 CHATs was displayed and available to people in attendance.

BYI CHATs are addressing a range of health related topics including diabetes, environmentally friendly home cleaning products, access to healthy food, growing fresh vegetables, promoting intergenerational connections and safe and healthy activities for LGBTQ persons of all cultures to reduce isolation and stress.



CHAT members who spent their day promoting community health and talking about the BYI.

Hue-MAN Partnership Project: Healthy Men, Healthy Families, Healthy Communities



The Hue-MAN Partnership Project consists of health care, community engagement, and professional organizations seeking to address the health crisis among young and middle-age men, primarily men of color. The Hue-MAN Partnership Project continues to collaborate to reduce health disparities among men in the community. Moreover, the collaborative efforts have further empowered and equipped men to make healthy choices for themselves, their families and their communities. Hue-MAN has two specific focuses: Medical Health and Community Outreach. The Hue-MAN name refers to empowering men of all “hues” and “humans.”

PARADE: The Ole 4th Avenue South Day Parade is a celebration of history, culture and community located in South Minneapolis. The First Annual, Fourth Avenue Parade was held in 1991. Cultural art, musical concerts, drama and historic displays from diverse ethnic groups were shared at this annual gathering. This year, the Ole 4th Avenue South Day Parade began at Minnehaha Creek by 48th Street and 4th Avenue and ended at Green Central at 34th Street and 4th Avenue in South Minneapolis. The Hue-MAN Partnership Project and the Backyard Initiative were part of this parade and festival.

BYI Definition of Health

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



BYI booth and interactive, educational displays at the Boys to Men Community Health Fair



Rose Gbdamassi, Circle of Healing CHAT member



TEENS Project CHAT members carrying the BYI banner.

The Backyard Initiative (BYI) is a partnership between the Community, the Cultural Wellness Center and Allina Health. The goal of this partnership is to improve the health of the 40,000-plus residents living in the “backyard” comprised by the neighborhoods of Powderhorn Park, East Phillips, Midtown Phillips, West Phillips, Ventura Village, Central, and Corcoran. (see map in upper right hand corner for area boundaries). There are 10 Community Health Action Teams(CHATS) focused on improving the health through a variety of cultural and community-connecting activities. **For more information, call or visit the Backyard Initiative Information Center at the south entrance of the Midtown Global Market, 920 East Lake Street, 612.353.6211.**

Back Yard Initiative Back Page

The BYI Back Page is produced each month as a collaborative venture between the BYI Communications CHAT & Alley Communications, Inc., publisher of The Alley Newspaper. The Communications CHAT works with BYI CHAT (Community Health Action Teams) each month as a “resource CHAT” – helping to get the news and activities of the BYI out to the broader community.