

Virtual Alley starts MGM hours pg2
City repays \$ to Neighborhoods pg 8
“Topless Widow of Herkimer” Review:
pg 9
Remarkable “Migration, Belonging
and Identity” at ASI FREE on
Wednesdays pg 9



“[Will] any adequate remedy be found for this incoming flood of Incorporated Wealth?” – Wendell Phillips see “Spirit of Phillips” page 11

Larry Levanthal April 28, 1941- January 17, 2017
**The Cosmos has Grown by
One More Star**

BY LAURA WATERMAN WITTSTOCK

Larry Leventhal died on January 17, 2017 following a long battle with pancreatic cancer. He was a well-known attorney who represented people who had been wronged in some way, and he also wrote wills and in the case of my family, represented us in juvenile court as we undertook the adoption of our great grandchild. In contrast to this kind of work, he took on some of the most formidable opponents imaginable, including the United States government.

During his 50-year career in the practice of law, he focused much of his time on the legal affairs of tribal nations and American Indian nonprofit organizations.

During the course of the history of the Indian Education Act, passed in 1972 and released for grantmaking in 1973, Larry represented and assisted numerous schools and tribal nations. Although both Heart of the Earth Survival School and the Red School House are no longer operating, he assisted both with research on changes in the regulations affecting funding opportunities and each year he created

Larry Levanthal
see page 9

**The Next Four Years,
More or Less**

BY LAURA WATERMAN WITTSTOCK

Donald Trump’s campaign for president has taken the lion’s share of newsprint and media time, for 15 months, from the time of his splashy announcement from the Trump Tower in New York City. There was a crowded Republican field of 16 candidates, five of whom dropped out before the Iowa caucuses in February, 2016, and another nine who dropped out later in February and March. The final two: Ted Cruz and John Kasich dropped out in May, following bruising primary fights filled with personal insults and innuendo. This left Donald Trump alone to face the Democratic candidates: Secretary Hillary Clinton and Senator Bernie Sanders who were themselves locked in an intense fight in the primaries. Once Sanders conceded, Clinton had little time left to fully prepare for her adversary and his street fighter’s style of campaigning. Unafraid to cast insults and state falsehoods, Trump whipped the crowds who came to see him into chanting, “lock her up, lock her up!” as he smiled and held thumbs up to them. He called her a liar

Four Years
see page 3

**Irreconcilable
Differences?**

BY MISHEHARU P. DAWKINS

What does the election of Donald Trump say about us as a nation and us as individuals? First I am going to try and explain what it means to me, and then I am going to try and explain what I believe it means for us as a country. As I watched on Election Day with my family as each state rolled in and Hillary Clinton kept losing state after state, I would not allow myself to believe that Donald Trump would become the 45th president of this country. I want to make it clear that I was no fan of Hillary but if the good people of this nation were watching what I was watching, there was no way Trump would win. That is the heart of the disappointment for me. What I thought we were, who I thought we were becoming had suddenly eroded significantly in one night. Don’t get me wrong, I suffer from no illusions that somehow race doesn’t matter. When former President Obama won there were people from all walks of life, colors and cultures supporting a man and his family who ran for the office of the President of the United States and that

Irreconcilable
see page 11



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Alley Communications, a 501C-3, Not-for-Profit Corp. publishes The Alley Newspaper and other media.

"When the great newspapers don't say much, see what the little independent ones say." – Wendell Phillips

Donations are needed, welcome, and Tax Deductible.

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612-990-4022

"Let me make the newspaper and I care not who makes the religion and

Deadline for March issue is Feb. 15

BY ERIN THOMASSON
Children's Program Family Storytime
Wed & Frid 10:30 am. All ages and parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write and play together; share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

K-12 Homework Help
Tues, Wed & Thurs, 3:30-7:30 pm. Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed. Info: www.hclib.org/homework.

Franklin Teen Center Programs Urban 4-H Club
Tues 5-7 pm. We do everything from urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater. Partner: University of Minnesota.

Teen Tech Workshop
Wed 4:30-6 pm. Get creative and make music, videos, animation and other projects using both high- and low-tech tools; from iPads and 3D printers to synthesizers and sewing machines. Led by the library's Teen Tech Squad.
Dhalinta Horumar sare rabta / Young Achievers

Thurs 4:30-6 pm. U dabaaldag Dhaqanka Soomalida, sameyso saaxiibo cusub iyo in aad isticmaasho hab nololeed cafimaad leh. Celebrate Somali culture, make new friends and practice healthy lifestyles. Partner: WellShare International.

Adult programs Memoir Writing Group
Thurs Feb. 16, 1-3 pm. Would you like to create a record of your personal history? Bring what you have written and are

Phillips West Neighborhood Upcoming Events

www.phillipswest.info

February 2nd (Thursday) –
Note there will be no February Community Meeting

March 2nd (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. – Phillips West Community Meeting!

Join your neighbors and other Community Partners for updates from Local City Government & 3rd Precinct Police. We will also vote on some neighborhood reallocation of funding for the Midtown Safety Center and Community Building Events.

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

willing to read to the group for helpful comments and suggestions. Collaborator: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.
Haweenka Aduunka: Women of the World
Sat Feb. 25, 2-4 pm. Share sisterhood and talk about leadership, jobs, family, health and more. We are women empowering women! Women and their children are welcome to attend.

Franklin Learning Center:
612-543-6934
flc@hclib.org.

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.



This meeting will take place at the Center for Changing Lives in the Centrum Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking is available in the rear of building off Oakland Avenue. Free Delivery Pizza & Beverages will be provided! If you would like more information or would like to get involved with the neighborhood please contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com



Experience a world tour of tastes, arts and crafts at our public market.

Lake Street and 10th Ave S | Minneapolis

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'Know Your Rights' forum

BY MAGGIE MARON

'Know Your Rights' Forum On Sunday, January 15, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association (MPNAI), in partnership with St. Paul's Lutheran Church, MIRAC (Minnesota Immigrant Rights Action Committee) and the Mexican Consulate hosted a 'Know Your Rights' forum. This event informed the Latino community located in the Midtown Phillips neighborhood about various resources available to them

within the Minneapolis and St. Paul area. Speakers on the forum spoke about a variety of issues, ranging from how to deal with immigrant officials coming to your home to getting your green card and visa. Both MIRAC and the Mexican Consulate provided valuable insight into the course of action that we, as a community, must take in order to protect our residents. Thanks to St. Paul's ELCA for offering up their space and providing refreshments!

Virtual Community News Adds "Market Hours"

www.alleynews.org

@alleynews



Some ask, "Why is a newspaper called The Alley? Part of the answer lies in the idea that we still need conversations that happen over the neighbor's fence, by the garage, shooting baskets, or fixing a bike. Things happen in the backyards along the alleys. Alleys are the place where straight talk happens without pretense.

Others ask, "Where is The Alley Newspaper office"? The Alley Newspaper was named 41 years ago when it began. It has a virtual office and operates more or less as a virtual organization. The dictionary says: "A virtual office is one where the work force includes a significant proportion of workers using technology to perform their work at home. "A virtual company uses computers and telecommunications technologies to extend its capabilities by working routinely with people throughout the neighborhood, city, and world to accomplish mutually beneficial goals."

Twenty to forty individuals and organizations contribute information articles, art, and opinions that are combined within the pages of

The Alley Newspaper and website each month. There is no one office, but there are many places where people write, draw, use computers and talk to get each issue completed.

The Alley will begin to add another place for direct conversations with the newspaper. We will have "Market Hours" from

4 PM to 6 PM the first Monday of each month, beginning **Monday, February 6**. You can find us at the Midtown Global Market adjacent to the Backyard Initiative's Resource Center near the Lake Street main entrance.

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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



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for more information

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651-647-0440

Descendants of Mayflower’s John and Priscilla Alden

Illness and poverty plagued Anna and Fred Clark centuries later

On January 8, 2017, Friends of the Cemetery lost one of its earliest friends when Bob Clark passed away. Bob was the great-grandson of Fred and Anna Clark who are buried in Lot 101, Block A. I met Bob in the cemetery many years ago when he and his cousin were visiting Fred and Anna’s graves.

Anna was one of the first people buried in the cemetery whose story caught my attention. It wasn’t hard. Anna committed suicide in the cemetery on September 15, 1909, at the age of 53. She shot herself on Fred’s grave. Three suicide notes were found in her purse. Parts of two notes and the circumstances of Anna’s life were printed in the Minneapolis Tribune the day after Anna died.

The first note, written to her daughter Cora, begins: “I am tired of life, dear Cora, and need a rest.” Anna continued by expressing her love and concern for her grandchildren.

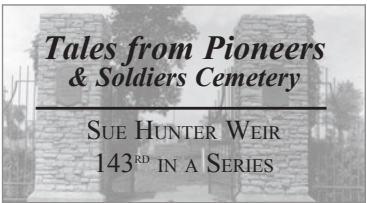
The second letter, addressed to her daughter Caroline, was even more heartbreaking: “Do not blame anyone for this I do. I am tired and the sorrow and agony in my heart is too great to bear. Bury me beside papa, if you think I am worthy of it. Good-bye. God bless you, Mama.”

“Papa” was Anna’s husband.

Four Years from page 1

and a criminal, but all he offered in terms of foreign or domestic policy was to build a wall on the Mexican border, kick out Muslims, and cozy up to Vladimir Putin, president of Russia.

Now Trump has been sworn in as president and his administration begins. It is clear from his continued use of informal language expression and inability to keep to the truth, that this will be a time of weirdness for the American public and the world. It does not take a crystal ball to see the rough days ahead. In American history, when a weak president gets elected, Congress fills in the gaps with a stronger voice, and legislation that can go too far in setting policy for the United States. Then the U.S. Supreme Court may be called to judge questions of constitutionality. The fear is, a rightist court could swing challenges out of the way and even regression could take place. That seems to be one strong hint coming out of the Trump campaign with its slogan of “Make America Great Again.” The slogan is now a dot gov web site and on it four areas named for greatness are defense and national security, Constitutional rights, energy independence, and transportation and infrastructure. One example from the four under Constitutional rights is [to name] “Supreme Court Justices who are committed to interpreting the Constitution and laws according to their original public meaning.” It will be up to Constitutional law professors to interpret what this means, but law repeal does not



Fred Clark had died four years earlier, on July 25, 1905, from progressive spinal atrophy, a neuromuscular disease characterized by muscle weakening and loss of mobility. He was undoubtedly ill for some time before he died.

Bob also told me that Anna had been pregnant sixteen times but that only eight of those babies survived.

Based on the content of the notes that she left behind, the Tribune reporter attributed Anna’s suicide to “despondency.” And she had certainly endured an enormous amount of loss in her life for which there were few resources available to help her. There was no medication or therapy to help her in 1909.

She appears to have been poor. As a 53-year-old widow who most likely had not worked outside of her home while raising eight children, there were was no financial support for her. If the Tribune’s story was correct, she used her last nickel for streetcar fare to travel from her home in North Minneapolis to the cemetery.

Anna got off of the streetcar at Cedar Avenue and Lake Street and

seem out of the question.

It is reported that Las Vegas betting firm Ladbrokes is taking bets on impeachment or resignation with odds of three to one. The bookmaker cut those odds twice, but they remain at nine to four, largely due to the opinions of law professors who are speaking out about Trump’s Washington, D.C. hotel, which is leased from the federal government or Trump University. However, the size of the Republican representation in Congress makes impeachment unlikely. A majority of the House is needed for the impeachment to go forward in the Senate, where a two-thirds majority must vote for conviction.

Over two million people in the United States alone marched on the day after Trump’s inauguration and, according to the Washington Post, 673 marches were staged in cities throughout the world. The marchers sent messages supporting women’s rights, and wearing pink, pointy-eared “pussy hats,” to mock the president.

What this portends for the next four years is hard to say, but certainly Trump’s administration will not be an easy one. When the federal budget comes out, we will have information on what the tax-reform driven agenda of the Trump administration will take to Congress. The effect on State and local government will also become clear, where cuts are also expected.



Bob Clark, Anna and Fred Clark’s great grandson, became a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants and Founders of Patriots of America. He and his cousin Wally purchased grave markers for Anna and Fred eight decades later.

was seen walking into the cemetery about 9 p.m. Passersby heard two gunshots but didn’t think anything of it. Her body was discovered about 6 a.m. the following morning. She was still holding the gun and her purse containing her three suicide notes was next to her. The coroner decided that no inquest was necessary.

Her family decided that she was indeed worthy of being bur-

ied next to her husband and her funeral was held two days after she died.

Anna and Fred’s graves remained unmarked until sometime in the 1990s when Bob Clark and his cousin Wally, purchased markers for them. Bob was an Air Force veteran, a retired plumber and an avid genealogist, a fact that was mentioned in his obituary. One of Bob’s proudest accom-

plishments was being admitted to the Society of Mayflower Descendants and Founders of Patriots of America. It turns out that Anna and Fred (who were first cousins) were descendants of John and Priscilla Alden, who arrived in what would become the United States in 1620 and were among those who founded the Plymouth Colony.

“Migration, Identity and Belonging Exhibition” WELCOME Neighbors! FREE Wednesdays in February

The American Swedish Institute (ASI) announces it is offering **FREE** admission on four **Wednesdays** throughout February from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., starting February 1 and continuing February 8, 15 and 22, 2017.

Five exhibits explore the year-long theme of *Migration, Identity and Belonging*, at The American Swedish Institute fulfilling its mission to be a gathering place for all people to share experiences culture, migration, the environment and the arts.

Where the Children Sleep is a collection of photographs by Magnus Wennman, who encountered refugees in numerous camps in the Middle East and on their journeys through Europe. His images and stories depict Syrian children who were forced out of their homes by the ongoing war, losing everything.

Swede Hollow, a display based on Ola Larsmo’s best-selling Swedish novel that imagines immigrant life at Swede Hollow in St. Paul, MN.

The Stories They Told animates the narrative of flat plane figure wood carving.

Green Card Voices shares contemporary Nordic immigrant stories.

Cows Can Dream, our Family Gallery exhibition inspired by Sam the cow in Maria Bajt and Jason Diakité’s children’s book, encourages creativity and discovery.

Bruce Karstadt, ASI President/CEO, commented,

“As we enter 2017 in a world of changing political and social conditions, I wish to reaffirm the vision that inspires the American Swedish Institute today and historically, which is to be a gathering place for all people to connect their pasts to a shared future and to understand their heritage in relationship to others. The founders of our museum came to this country

as Swedish immigrants. Nearly every person I know has an immigrant story as part of their family narrative. Through exhibitions and programs linked to our 2017 theme of *Migration, Identity and Belonging*, we provide a place for conversations and dialogue which fuse our past with today’s local and global context.”

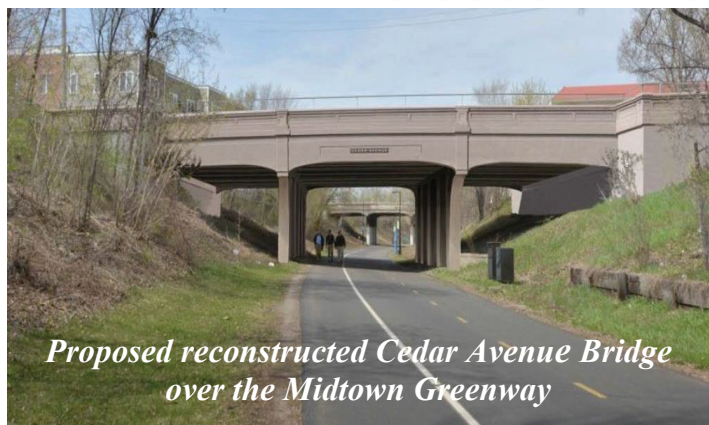
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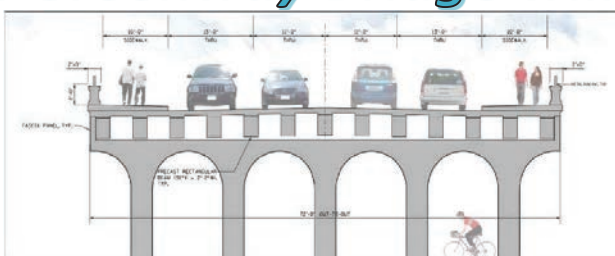
2201 East Franklin
2438 Bloomington

612-332-4393
612-729-3526

The Cedar Ave. Greenway Bridge will be Rebuilt



Proposed reconstructed Cedar Avenue Bridge over the Midtown Greenway



Road detour

Cedar Avenue closed between 28th Street and Lake Street

Closed bridge

Detour route



The New Bridge (see above) will be 12' wider, providing wider traffic lanes & sidewalks.

The existing Bridge is 100 years old and must be updated for safety & structural reasons.

The bridge's historic look will be maintained.

Construction will begin in early Spring and will close Cedar Ave. for much of 2017.

Detours are proposed to reroute auto & truck traffic on Hiawatha Ave. & bikes on 18th Ave.

Spring & Warm Weather bring Road Construction Season:

Cedar Ave. from 28th St. to Lake St. will be closed, as well as the Midtown Greenway under Cedar Ave. for the reconstruction of the Cedar Avenue - Greenway Bridge. The Portland Avenue - Greenway bridge will be closed for reconstruction at the same time.

While a new wider bridge will be welcomed, residents have questions about the project. Hennepin County staff will be attending the February 9th EPIC Meeting to answer them. Some important questions are:

- Will the new bridge design accommodate the proposed street cars on the Greenway?
- How will the widened bridge safely connect with the narrower existing Cedar Ave on either end??
- Whose tax money is paying for the new bridge? Are our residents being uniquely assessed?

Please attend the 2/9/2017 EPIC General Membership meeting to have your questions answered. The meeting starts at 6:30 PM and is at the East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center located at 2307 17th Ave. S.

For Your Calendar: *

The EPIC Board of Directors meet on the FIRST Saturday of the month – Next Meetings; Saturday, 3/4/2017 and 4/1/2017 at 10:00 AM.

The EPIC General Membership meets on the SECOND Thursday – Next Meetings; Thursday, 2/9/17 and 3/9/2017 and 4/13/2017 at 6:30 PM
Agenda includes Neighborhood Industrial Pollution, Crime Initiatives, and EPIC project updates.

The East Phillips Park Programming Partnership meets on the LAST Tuesday – Next meetings; 2/28/17 and 3/28/2017 at 11:30 AM. Lunch is served.
Updates on Partner Programming, Park Events & News.

Meeting Location: All the above meetings and events are held at the East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center located at 2307 17th Ave. S.
The Center is wheelchair accessible and all are welcome.

The East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Gardeners meet on the second Saturday of Each Month during the gardening season, normally from April through September. Next meetings are: Saturday, 4/8/2017 & 5/13/2017 at 9:00 AM in the Community Center at 2307 17th Ave. S.
Subsequent meetings will be held in the Garden.

* *East Phillips Residents wanting a 2017 Garden Plot, contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478*

* *To get involved in EPIC & help move the East Phillips Neighborhood in a positive direction, join us at any EPIC General Membership meeting (see dates above). All are welcome.*

Designed and Paid for by East Phillips Improvement Coalition



MIDTOWN PHILLIPS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.

www.midtownphillips.org | 612.232.0018 | midtownphillips@gmail.com

COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 6:30-8PM.

Stewart Park (Community Room), 2700 12th Ave S, Minneapolis

- I. Introductions (5 minutes)
- II. Approve January Minutes (5 minutes)
- III. Coordinator Report (10 Minutes)
- V. Annual Meeting Planning/Overview and Summary of Event (20 Minutes)
- VI. Introduction of Plans for Greenway Market (2833 13th Avenue) (35 minutes)
- VII. Community Announcements and Public Comment (15 Minutes)

ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28, 6:30-8PM.

Andersen Community School (cafeteria), 1098 Andersen Lane, Minneapolis

5:30-6:15pm: Social Hour and Dinner

—Food, Resource & Info Booths, Music and Spoken Word

6:15-7:10pm: Annual Meeting Program

—Overview of the year's activities, financial reports, contracts and partnership updates
—Speakers: Max Holdhusen & Metro Transit's Better Bus Stops Program;
Adam Arvidson, from MPRB on Phillips Pool; Councilmember Alondra Cano;
Inspector Catherine Johnson, 3rd Precinct and others

7:10-7:30 Neighborhood Board Elections

- Midtown Phillips Board President (One-year term, 2017-2018)
- At Large Representative (Two-year term, 2017-2019)
- At Large Representative (Two-year term, 2017-2019)
- District 1: 24th-26th & Chicago to 12th Avenue (Two-year term, 2017-2019)
- District 3: 26th -28th & Chicago to 12th Avenue (Two-year term, 2017-2019)
- District 4: 26th -28th & 12th Avenue to Bloomington (One-year replacement term, 2017-2018)
- District 5: 28th-Lake & Chicago to 12th Avenue (Two-year term, 2017-2019)

SUBSCRIBE TO MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEWSLETTER!

Enter your info online at www.midtownphillips.org or contact us at midtownphillips@gmail.com, (612)-232-0018.



This Monthly Alley Newspaper Half Page was paid for by Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Please join us for our COMMUNITY DINNER AND ANNUAL MEETING Tuesday, February 28, 5:30-7:30pm

**Andersen Community School cafeteria
1098 Andersen Lane, Minneapolis**

ALL ARE WELCOME!

*Learn more about what's going on in your community,
the resources it offers, and how you can be more involved.*

**Social hour and dinner 5:30-6:15pm
Program 6:15-7:30pm**

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PROJECTS AND
EVENTS IN THE
COMMUNITY

HEAR
NEIGHBORHOOD
AND
SAFETY REPORTS

Meet your
neighbors
& MORE!

**JOIN THE
BOARD!**

Elections for Board Chair,
(2) At Large Reps,
and Reps for Districts
1, 3, 4 and 5



VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

FEBRUARY 2017



VOLUME 6
NUMBER 2

FEB. 8TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING @ 7:00 PM

The Police Activities League has developed a major Phillips youth outreach initiative



AK Hassan elected as 2017 Chairman of Ventura Village



Third Precinct Inspector Catherine Johnson brought a team of police officers to Ventura Village's monthly General Membership meeting to introduce her Police Activities League (PAL) organizers.

In a meet-and-greet presentation, the PAL team spoke about how the new south-side initiative, now underway in the Greater Phillips area, is successfully integrating youth with police officers to produce very positive interactions and trust-building.

According to their website, the Police Activities League is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created to reduce crime and violence among youth by engaging Police Officers in mentorship roles.

PAL's mission is to recognize that kids deserve a safe place to play, and opportunities to engage in positive, character building activities to enhance their lives.

Cops Coaching Kids. Watching Police Officers helping kids put on their football helmets, showing kids how to perform a jump shot, coaching a kid in volleyball practice, or handing a kid a hot dog during a cook-out, are just a few examples of the positive ways PAL interacts with kids.

PAL has a variety of athletic and non-athletic activities available to youth. Football, basketball, wrestling, soccer, volleyball, sailing classes, *Brain & Body Summer Camp*, and *Shop with a Cop*, are just a few examples of the types of programming we offer. In coming months we are planning to add more youth camp programming and additional fitness programming to our program.



PAL programming is paid for by grants and donations. The services that PAL delivers to kids are free. Officers' time in organizing and participating in the activities is already covered by the salaries and functional expenses that are needed to get Police to sites to work, but the cost of the activities to help youth attend and cover materials and equipment for each activity is an expense needing community partners. For many years, Ventura Village has put its resources to work in partnership with police in terms of purchasing ladders and saws-alls to help board houses, mounted cameras for general surveillance work, mobile cameras for in-unit work and other investments. These have paid off in terms of much improved crime statistics for Ventura Village and adjacent neighborhoods. It was with this history that Sergeant Rena Dudgeon - PAL's Program Director and Officer Marshall Collier spoke to and presented information about the program and the need for our financial investment and moral support for PAL. As an Alley reader, you too can help by visiting PAL at given.org - Minneapolis Police Activities League. Your tax deductible

Taking over the office from Sadik Warfa, Abdikadir (AK) Hassan was unanimously elected to assume Ventura Village's chairmanship. Also elected to serve in the executive positions within the neighborhood were X as Vice-Chair; Thor Adam will again serve as Secretary and Ray Peterson as Treasurer.



Last summer, Third Precinct Police hosted a cook-out in Peavey Park that attracted hundreds of residents. This event coincided with widespread police protests related to various shootings of civilians. Non-resident protestors attending this event accused police of *only wanting to provide hot dogs and hamburgers instead of active engagement*. Several community members responded citing actual experiences of a long-term successful engagement!



UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE MONTHLY MEETINGS:

FEBRUARY 8TH: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 6:00 PM

FEBRUARY 8TH: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 7:00 PM

FEBRUARY 23RD: HOUSING & LAND COMMITTEE: 5:30 PM

FEBRUARY 23RD: CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6:30 PM

MARCH 1ST: WELLNESS, GARDENING & GREENING: 6:30 PM

MARCH 1ST: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 6:00 PM

The Minneapolis Police Activities League - PAL, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, that provides free sports and activity programs to all kids.

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



11

ABUBAKAR AS-SADIQUE
PRESENTS

Hope, Fear, and Faith

IN THE COMING YEARS

HOW CAN WE AS, PHILLIPS
COMMUNITY, DEAL WITH
PREJUDICE AND RACISM?

FOR QUESTIONS & INQUIRIES:
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Community Gatherings January 2017

Our Community has scores of gatherings every year of many kinds. January 2017 began with even more than usual here, nationally, and around the world in response to a turbulent time when there is a sense that a **RESET** is necessary.

Some of those gatherings are pictured here beginning on the Front Page and continuing on pages 6 and 7.

Gatherings varied; spontaneous, local, world-wide, regularly scheduled, coalesced, and all inviting engagement, unity, and resolution to care for our Community and each other.

Front Page

1 #NoDak March support of Native Protection of water and land and protest of gov’t violence at the North Dakota Pipeline Site as it closed the East Lake Street Bridge Jan. 27, 2017; pictured within the letters **RESET**.

2 A Community Festival, “Love, Resistance, Revolution: A Community Festival” held on Inauguration Day to bring together hundreds of neighbors to share a meal, make art, enjoy music, and make their own commitments for social justice for the next four years hosted by Waite House, MN Neighborhoods Organizing for Change (NOC), Our Revolution MN, Isuroon, KRSM The Southside Media Project, Navigate MN, NAACP MPLS, Mesa Latina, TakeAction Minnesota, Native Lives Matter, ISALAH, MN350: Building a Climate Movement in Minnesota, GoodSpace Murals, Living Proof Print Collective, and In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater.

3 Women’s March at Minnesota State Capitol looking from high atop State Capitol Jan. 21, 2017.

4 Mpls. Police Sgt. Dubuc visits with neighbors at Phillips West 20th Annual Winter Social Jan. 30, 2017^h at Changing Life’s Center with over 300 people attending.

5 Protest at Mpls.-St.P. Airport against recent Presidential Muslim Travel Ban Executive order Jan. 29, 2017; one of hundreds of such protests worldwide.

6 Hope, Fear, and Faith evening of conversation at Abubakar As-Sadique Mosque about “How can we, as Phillips Community deal with prejudice and racism?” Jan. 26, 2017.

Page 6

7 “Hope, Fear, and Faith” evening of conversation at Abubakar As-Sadique Mosque about “How can we, as Phillips Community deal with prejudice and racism?” Jan. 26, 2017; the evening’s scheduled Speakers. Ardo Mohamed, Mohamed Rashaad, Aisha Abdirashid, Organizers

Brother Abdirashid Abi, Board of Education at Abubakar Islamic Center, Moderator

Abdul, Abubakar Khalif and Coach Speakers

Mohamed Amin, (reciter) Zainab Mohamed (Translator) Student Reciters of Memorized portion of the Quran

Sh Abdiaziz Sugulle, Opening statement from Abubakar Islamic Center Board of Trustees

Abdi Warsame, Mpls. Ward 6 Councilmember

John Fruetel Mpls. Chief of Fire Dept.

Hassan Dhooye, Pres. IANA Islamic Association of North America President

Alondra Cano, Mpls. Ward 9 Councilmember

Peter Eichten, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Co-Pres.

Officer Mohamed Farah, Somali Police Bar Association

Harvey Winje, The Alley Newspaper, Editor)

Asad Zaman, Muslim American Society of Minnesota

Dan Strack, Calvary Church, Member Food served by Afro Deli

8 “Love, Resistance, Revolution: A Community Festival” held on Inauguration Day in doors and outside of Las Mojarras Restaurant 1507 East Lake Street with entertainment and speeches; Avalon Theatre marquee in background.

9 Minnesota Senators respond to Presidential Executive Order on Immigration on January 30th; U.S. Sens. Al Franken and Amy Klobuchar speak at a press conference in St. Paul. Muwatib and Mumtaz Dahir, in jackets, are Somali refugees whose younger sister may be stranded in Uganda as a result of the order. Locally, on January 25th, State Representatives, Ilhan Omar, Ray Dehn, Karen Clark, and Carlos Mariani; and City Councilmember Alondra Cano teamed up to lead a unified and strong community response with other elected officials, immigrant rights groups, and organizers against Federal Administration attacks on the immigrant and refugee community saying, “Not in Our State!”

10 Women’s March to the MN State Capitol on Jan. 21, 2017.

11 Hope, Fear, and Faith Event Announcement

12 The “Collective Woman” Puppet by In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre “Representing and Healing the World in her arms” near the MN State Capitol Women’s March January 21, 2017.

13 Kalpulli Ketzal Coatlicue Dancers lead The “Collective Woman” Puppet by In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre at USA, MN State Capitol Women’s March January 21, 2017.

14 Demonstrators coalescing, listening and advocating at USA, MN State Capitol Women’s March January 21, 2017.

15 McGruff “the Crime Dog, visits and poses with neighborhood kids at Phillips West 20th Annual Dinner for over 300 people January 26, 2017.

16 Legislator’s Forum with Rep. Clark, Rep. Allen, and Sen. Hayden at East Phillips Cultural Community Center Jan. 28, 2017 updating neighbors on current legislative issues and discussing priorities for the current session.

17 American Swedish Institute Exhibit “Migration, Belonging, and Identity” Panel discussion January 20, 2017; left to right - PBS’s Fred de Sam Lazaro, Larry Yungk from UNHCR, Tea Rozman-Clark from Green Card Voices, authors Kau Kalua Yang, and Ola Larsmo, author of “Swede’s Hollow.”

“How can you buy or sell the sky, the warmth of the land? The idea is strange to us. If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them? Every part of the earth is sacred to my people.”

– Chief Seattle, 1780-1866.

Tamron Hall interviews Standing Rock Sioux Chairman David Archambault II on MSNBC on January 25, 2017, about the Dakota Access Pipeline and President Donald Trump's memorandum about the project.

Chairman Archambault on MSNBC: 'President Is Circumventing Federal Law'

Standing Rock Sioux Chairman David Archambault II was surprised that Trump acted so quickly, but not by his actions

ICMN Staff • January 25, 2017
Standing Rock Sioux Chairman David Archambault II was more surprised at the rapidity with which Donald Trump signed presidential memoranda purporting to speed up the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) and reinstate the Keystone XL pipeline than he was by the act itself.

"We were prepared for President Trump take a run at everything we have accomplished in the last two years," Archambault told Tamron Hall on MSNBC on Wednesday January 25, the day after Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum attempting to move

DAPL along. "This nation better start bracing itself for what's to come if in the first four days we're witnessing him using an executive order to circumvent federal laws. It's not right, and it's something we better get ready for. I was disappointed that it came this soon, because we had worked so hard for the last two years."

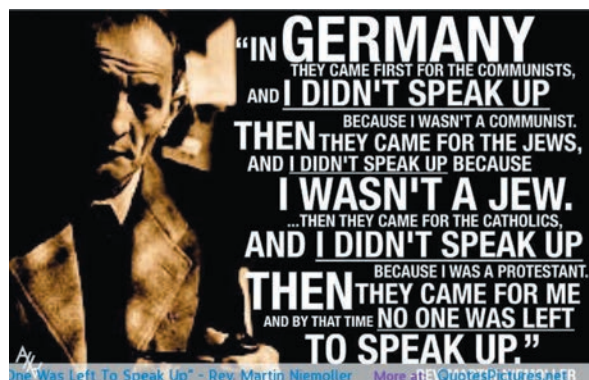
The tribe wants closer study of the pipeline's potential effects on water supply, sacred sites and treaty rights, he said, and Trump is trying to do an end run around such statutes as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Doctrine, we have NEPA."

Trump's Presidential memorandum—not an executive order, as was first reported—urging the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to move ahead with the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) cannot supersede the existing law, but it directs the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to try and expedite the process.

"We're going to continue to look at the validity of this action, and we're going to continue to talk to anyone that would be willing to listen to us in the administration," Archambault said. "We're going to try and get support from Congress, from those who are not fed by the industry. We want to open America's eyes about what's happening here. If EPA is given a gag order and told not to put anything out on media, not to discuss this issue, this is a scary time for America."

See the full interview below, and watch the entire news story at *MSNBC Live With Tamron Hall*.



"The troubling thing is that this president is circumventing federal law," Archambault said. "We have Treaty rights, we have water rights with our Winter's

Minneapolis City Council returns borrowed Neighborhood Funding

BY JANA METGE

Minneapolis City Council President Barb Johnson, Councilmember Cam Gordon, and Councilmember Kevin Reich are superstars to Minneapolis neighborhoods. Working diligently and quietly, they found a way to return once approved Neighborhood Revitalization dollars to the Minneapolis Neighborhoods that had been borrowed from individual neighborhoods in 2010 during the transition between the NRP (Neighborhood Revitalization Program) and NCR (Neighborhood Community Relations Dept.) Transition.

For Midtown Phillips this means an additional \$73,000 for neighborhood Revitalization projects! Cedar Riverside neighborhood will see \$211,000. The Downtown Neighborhoods will see \$273,000. For the Loring Park Neighborhood, at a time when gunfire is at an all-time high on Nicollet Ave., it brings in an additional \$150,000 to help with Revitalization and Neighborhood Safety. Lowry Hill will see their \$134,000 of revitalization dollars. For the East Phillips Neighborhood it is \$146,000. These funds could continue revitalization work which has turned around parts of Bloomington Ave and the Neighborhood. Standish-Ericsson will see \$196,000. Monday, January 30th this City Council Committee action was passed, and then followed by City Council approval.

Neighborhoods who had just begun their Neighborhood Revitalization Phase II Implementation and had funds approved by the City Council, had these funds borrowed to support neighborhoods who had spent down their NRP funds in December 2010. This occurred during the transition of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program to what we now know as the Neighborhood Community Relations Department and Community Participation funding.

Thanks to these three (3) Councilmembers never

forgetting about a promise to repay Neighborhoods. Neighborhoods will now be able to contract their once allocated NRP Phase II money and implement many projects envisioned within their 10-year NRP Phase II plan.

Neighborhood revitalization funds have been used these past 20 years for new housing construction (Check out Bloomington Ave. So. from 24th Street to Lake Street), homeownership down-payment grants, Housing Rehab loans (both rental & ownership housing), Commercial Corridor Revitalization (check out Mercado Centrale, Plaza Verde on Bloomington/Lake & Midtown Exchange on Chicago/Lake, the Midtown Greenway, Commercial Facade Improvements (check out Eat Street), New Park Buildings (check out Phelps Park in the Bryant neighborhood), Park Improvements (check out Loring Park), Public Realm Improvements (check out 4th Ave & Lake Street), Pedestrian Lighting, Tree Plantings in Neighborhoods, Neighborhood Signage, Bike Paths & Bridges, and Library Improvements.

Many thanks to Council President Barb Johnson, Councilmember Kevin Reich, Council Committee Chair Cam Gordon and to all of the Councilmembers supporting this action and returning these neighborhood funds!!

Thank you Minneapolis City Council!

Contact CLPC at loveloring@gmail.com if you would like a copy of neighborhood investments over these 25 years utilizing the Neighborhood Revitalization funding. There are many, many fabulous examples of revitalization projects in each and every neighborhood!

Become involved in your neighborhood!

If you want it Resolved, Get Involved!

Pull up Minneapolis Neighborhoods and you will find a map outlining which neighborhood you live in!

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Book review of “The Topless Widow of Herkimer Street”

Poignant and Delightful Short Stories by Jacob M Appel

BY CLAUDIA P. SLOVACEK

It’s been a few months since I put down this collection of short stories by Jacob Appel, but some of them remain embedded in my sub-conscience. Appel has been added to my “must read more by this author” list. Unfortunately, since I’m in two book clubs and the last quarter of the year tends to be my busiest at work, I haven’t had a lot of additional free time to pick up other volumes by this author. I will though, and I recommend you do so as well.

Appel has an amazing way of painting various portraits of the human condition in all its pain, joy, banality and splendor of our interactions with others who inhabit our shared space. Sometimes this is quite literally as in the story of “The Current Occupant”. This tale finds us with a couple whose pre-

fabricated house has been delivered and installed at the wrong address. That it now ensconces the husband’s former college sweetheart adds to the dilemma of how they might go about rectifying this delivery error. Past indiscretions impact current and future relationships, sometimes for a reason, but more often, only because we fear those indiscretions are perceived as worse than they really were.

My favorite story was of course the title story, “The Topless Widow of Herkimer Street”. As a naturist, I’ve never understood all of the hullabaloo about naked bodies. This tale finds us with the problem Quincy Marder faces as he tries to persuade Ilene, his elderly mother, who has taken to nude sunbathing in her yard, to put on some clothes. As Appel draws the picture of the son and

mother’s relationship, we see the futility of Quincy’s attempt to rectify the situation:

“Quincy drew a deep breath. Reasoning with his mother, he’d discovered soon after he learned to form his first sentences, was like straining the Sahara Desert through a sieve. ‘Lance Otten rang me up this afternoon,’ he said. ‘He’s concerned that you’re – well – he’s upset about you sitting out here topless.’

‘That’s what you’re worked up about?’ Ilene brushed away his complaint with the back of her hand. ‘You had me worried it was something serious.’

“Rendezvous in Wikitenrity” feels a bit surreal as two lost souls attempt to disconnect or connect as the case may be, through entries in Wikipedia. This online knowledge base has some quirky

side effects which occur because anyone can edit the entries to suit their reality. Safeguards are put into place to keep the general tenor of the entries as close to the truth as possible. This tale takes us through an esoteric mating ritual of two strangers feinting and parrying online. Appel masterfully melds current technology with the thousands year old story of how two humans falteringly step down the path toward getting to know each other.

I recommend this latest collection of eight stories from Jacob Appel as it makes some fine winter reading, and allows us a delightful AND poignant peak into what makes us tick as humans.

The author of the Topless Widow of Herkimer Street is Jacob M. Appel, a physician, attorney, and bioethicist with

multiple degrees, collects literary prizes the way some other authors collect rejection slips, and for good reason. This latest collection again offers well-constructed stories that sharply but compassionately observe people trying to make sense of life’s disruptions. Uncontrollable forces (including the absurd, the magical, and the tragic) upset carefully ordered lives in this short story collection that won the 2016 Howling Bird Press fiction prize. In the title story, for example an elderly woman’s nonchalance is revealed to be no stunt but rather a radically self-affirming gesture. Phillips resident Claudia Slovacek reviews this book by Augsburg College’s Howling Bird Press released in November 2016

Prejudice prevailed as bureaucratic chicanery trumped and self-interest was hailed the building got dumped. Burma Shave

2019 East Lake Made an Empty lot

On this spot

in olden times

they made shaving cream

and funny signs.

Burma Shave

They were fooled

by white vinyl siding

behind those walls

was history hiding.

Burma Shave

Clean shave

no stubble

building trashed

tainted rubble.



Photo Credit Thomas Manley

The original Post and Beam, infrastructure, Vine Church built at Hiawatha and Lake St., moved to 2019 E. Lake before additions were made making the building's shape less obvious are revealed in this photo during demolition for the land fill without any salvaging of materials! City required spraying with water during demolition to control contaminants, including lead, was not done by the Contractor or enforced by the Mpls. Schools Facilities Dept! The site is surrounding by a shopping center, YWCA, South High School and Athletic Field, and Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery.

Larry Leventhal
from page 1



Larry Leventhal speaking at a national conference (c.1985) that well represents his large legacy of advocating and defending civil rights and especially of Native Americans nationwide.

instructional documents on changes and emphasis areas. He was an integral part of winning millions of dollars in funding for both of the schools, and including innovative programs such as adult education for men and women in Minnesota prisons, a national law and education conference in California, unique cultural and language programs in the schools, community adult education, pre-school education, and a school within the school program for students in need of small group education. He was also part of the team that created the Circle of Life School on the White Earth Reservation

and he assisted Red School House in becoming one of a handful of special focus schools in the United States. He represented Heart of the Earth in the award of funds that had been misjudged ineligible for a funding award and he taught free classes in Indian education at Red School House and NAES College in Minneapolis.

Among his tribal cases were restoration of tribal sovereignty for the Delaware Indians and negotiations of Tribal/State Class III Gaming Compacts in North Dakota and Wisconsin. He also represented Little Earth of United Tribes in its case to gain inde-

pendent operation and he wrote Articles of Incorporation and By Laws for numerous Indian non-profits in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

One of his most notable criminal cases was working on the defense team representing Dennis Banks and Russell Means on numerous charges arising out of the 1973 siege at Wounded Knee. The trial took place in St. Paul in Federal District Court with Chief Judge Fred J. Nichols presiding. These were the early days of copier technology. Each night the volunteer legal assistants meticulously copied all of the documents of the day, including all of those entered as evidence by the FBI for the prosecution. This meticulousness led to discovery that the FBI changed its testimony and the defense had the documents to prove it. Chief counsels Ken Tilsen and William Kuntsler had Larry’s formidable memory, attention to detail, research ability, and focus to rely on as the trial proceeded.

The Center for Constitutional Rights, where Kuntsler worked, described the trial this way: “During the course of the trial,

Judge Nichols found, among other things, that the FBI had altered or suppressed key documents, committed illegal electronic surveillance, and had probably persuaded law enforcement officials in River Falls, Wisconsin, to drop rape and sodomy charges proffered against the government’s star witness. Moreover, he stated from the bench that the special agent in charge of the Minnesota Division of the FBI (which covers three states, including South Dakota) had perjured himself on the witness stand. At one point the judge took the unprecedented step of impounding all FBI files when it was discovered that many important documents crucial to the defense had been suppressed and altered versions had instead been submitted to the Court.”

After nine months, the case against Dennis Banks and Russell Means was dismissed because of government misconduct.

Larry is survived by son-in-law, Lance Sanders; beloved grandsons, Landen & Logan Sanders; sister and brother-in-law, Paula and Bob Maisel; nieces, Lisa (Paul) Gendler, Julie Maisel, and Debbie (Dan) Levin; grandnieces

and grandnephews, Joely, Parker, Elliott, and Sara; and a host of wonderfully supportive cousins. Also mourning Larry’s loss is his longtime devoted and loving significant other, Vicki Schrabner. And he is remembered with love by the thousands of people throughout

Larry Leventhal, wearing his authentic Stan Laurel suit. Larry was Vice Sheik of the Block Heads Tent (Laurel and Hardy Club) in Minneapolis with others having a connoisseur-like affection for Laurel & Hardy, and being discriminating in that affection, with fun as their goal and operative guide.



Top Ten Movies of 2016



1. "Moonlight" (R) Running time: 111 minutes. Director: Barry Jenkins. A young African American goes from childhood and adulthood in Miami with many struggles including his sexuality. Drama.
2. "Manchester by the Sea" (R) Running time: 137 minutes. Director: Kenneth Lonergan. A working class handyman suffering from depression has to face the tragedy in his past after his brother dies and leaves him sole guardian of his nephew. Drama.
3. "Fences" (PG-13) Running time: 139 minutes. Director: Denzil Washington. The late African American playwright August Wilson's "Fences" is transferred to silver screen by Denzil Washington. A working class African American father raising a family in Pittsburgh in the 1950s.
4. "Hidden Figures" (PG) Running time: 127 minutes. Director: Theodore Melfi. Based on a true story and one of many denials of black Americans great achievements. This film depicts a team of college educated African American women's mathematical genius that leads to NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) to launch the first successful space missions. Drama/History.
5. "Loving" (PG-13) Running time: 123 minutes. Director: Jeff Nichols. The story of Richard and Mildred Loving, an interracial couple, married in Washington D.C., but are arrested when they move back to Virginia, a state with anti-miscegenation laws. Drama/Romance/Biography.
6. "Arrival" (PG-13) Running time: 116 minutes. Director: Dennis Villeneuve. Without warning, 12 mysterious space-



HOWARD MCQUITTER II
Movie Corner
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- craft land in various parts of the worlds or aliens with a friendly mission? Three principal experts move to interpret the aliens' language. Sci-Fi/Mystery/Drama.
7. "Green Room" (R) Running time: 95 minutes. Director: Jeremy Saulnier. A desperate punk rock band finds themselves fighting for their lives after witnessing a murder at a neo-Nazi skinhead compound. Crime/Thriller.
 8. "Hell or High Water" (R) Running time: 102 minutes. In order to save their family's ranch two brothers rob banks in southern Texas. Crime/Drama.
 9. "American Honey" (R) Running time: 163 minutes. Director: Andrea Arnold. A teenage girl join a traveling team of young people selling magazines in the Midwest. Lots of partying and some dishonesty on the way. Drama/Road.
 10. "Deadpool" (R) Running time: 103 minutes. Director: Tim Miller. This comic book movie is one of few comic book movies to be R rated. The satire goes deep and is worth putting on this list of best pictures for 2016.

MayDay Workshops, Parade, and Pageant 2017



Save the Dates! MayDay Community Meetings

The process of creating the MayDay Parade, Ceremony, and Festival begins in February and March with community meetings. We invite you to join with neighbors and MayDay artists in a conversation about where we are as a community right now: our hopes, concerns, and images that resonate and inspire as we look towards this new year.

Tuesday, February 7, 7-9:30 pm
Tuesday, March 21, 7-9:30 pm

Mayday schedule and Community Meeting notice

COMMUNITY MEETINGS!

It is time to gather to envision the theme for MayDay! All are welcome to two community meetings to brainstorm the theme for the 43rd MayDay Festival:

The FIRST meeting, on February 7th from 7-9:30pm, is

a brainstorm inviting attendees to speak of the concerns and the joys of this current time, with ideas of how we as a community and as individuals participate in these issues.

For the SECOND meeting, on March 21 from 7-9:30pm, the MayDay staff presents their ideas for a theme garnered from the ideas shared at the first community meeting. Meeting participants then give feedback—asking questions, offering ideas, and helping network possibilities for furthering the theme.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Both meetings are held at In the Heart of the Beast Theatre's home base, the Avalon theatre: 1500 E Lake St, Mpls, Mn 55407

Phone: 612-721-2535
info@hobt.org

2017 MAYDAY SCHEDULE of Public meetings and Workshops:

Tuesday February 7, 7:00—9:30pm First MayDay Community Meeting

Tuesday, March 21, 7-9:30 pm, Second MayDay Community Meeting

For the entire month of April, Community workshops to build Mayday are held at In the Heart of the Beast Theatre's home space at 1500 E Lake St, Mpls Mn 55407

Beginning April 8, Workshops are held every: Saturdays from 9-11am and 1-3pm

Tuesdays from 7-9pm

Thursdays from 7-9 pm

All workshops are open to the public. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Workshops are funded by free will donations.

The 43rd MAYDAY is SUNDAY MAY 7, 2017

Attend Community Open House February 8 to help with the Cedar Avenue Field Park Master Plan!

Public Meeting
Date: Feb. 8, 2017
Time: 6-8 pm
Location: Southside Family Nurturing Center
Address: 2448 18th Ave. S

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-Saturdays - 11am-1pm
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ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sunday nights
4pm Bible study
*6pm Chapel
7pm Meal, men's clothes

Tuesday nights
5pm Set Free (12 Step)
*7pm Chapel
8pm Meal, women's clothes

Friday nights
3pm Christian movies
5pm Bible study
*7pm Chapel
8pm Meal, men's clothes

Thursday afternoons
12pm Quilt & layette sign-ups
Christian movie
Child care for those in attendance

*1pm Ladies' Day Chapel
2pm Meal, women's, infants' & Children's clothing
(* Guests must arrive by time noted)

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The Resistance Has Begun

It is now farewell to President Obama. Naturally, as a leader of the capitalist world, he was bound to disappoint us to some degree. However, from day one, the panderers of racism were determined to sabotage his presidency. One can only begin to fathom the fortitude of the man.

No, there will be no redemption for a president who promotes, from the fringes, avowed white supremacists to the high inner circle. What nation might evolve should this turn prevail? None!

But, are we in a revolutionary situation? No, not yet. The system has not collapsed, the working-class is divided; we lack a viable vanguard party of our own.

So, where to begin?

For now, as members of a multi-racial/multi-ethnic community, we are asked to elevate the spiritual content of our social interactions via courtesy, love and respect. It is an immense responsibility.

Note: As a distributor of this humble paper, I tell everyone along the way that we do not endorse the idea of white supremacy.

January 13, Alley delivery...



PETER MOLENAAR
Raise Your Voice

At 2315 Chicago Avenue, the sign reads "We Welcome Our Muslim Neighbors." Enter Our Savior's Lutheran Church, engage the basement hallway labyrinth to discover the inner sanctum of the "English Learning Center," peer through the doorway glass...you might see, as I did, the young Somali women teaching their white Christian counterparts to dance (and giggle).

Yes, the resistance has begun!



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Irreconcilable from page 1

family just so happened to be Black. It was an inspiring and unifying moment. I was not suffering from any illusions that all policy differences would vanish and racial animosity would be forgotten, no, I was not delusional. I was optimistic. I saw this country

up the gun lobby, saying the President wanted to take away law-abiding citizen's guns and let the criminals run rampant. Are you following me?

Next we have the "Beer Summit" with the police officer arrested Professor Henry Louis Gates at his own home. Some folks started to see their healthcare costs rising and it

trail of tears that cannot be so easily cleaned up by just saying "move on". And that is precisely the problem. We have just been moving on, creating wonders in technology, medicine and industry.

When you have generation after generation of trauma you are left with a nation whose collective psyche is damaged.

Acknowledging our shared history... to debate to understand each other's perspectives will allow us as a country to finally heal and reconcile our past without forgetting to stand up for what we believe in as individuals.

moving forward. Then our old habits began to show up.

First, the Republican Congress with their absolute opposition to anything the former President Obama wanted to do. This poison was fed to a specific constituency that would be willing to believe that our 44th President was not born in this country, that he was a "secret Muslim" who was trying to create Death Panels. This gave us the Tea Party. Next, we had the former State Representative Gabrielle Gifford's shooting which shed a spotlight on gun laws like a laser because now it was one of their own. There was no way they could sweep that one under the rug, so time to gear

validated some people's suspicions that the ACA was somehow not on the up and up. Then, as more mass shootings occurred, gun owners became paranoid, and more young black and brown men and women seemingly being killed unjustly portrayed in the news widened the racial divide. I am not trying to rehash old news for the sake of argument but rather to ask a question. Why are we as a nation so fragile? Throughout our nation's history, a young history, compared to other countries, we have been traumatized over and over. All throughout the Revolution, Slavery, the Genocide of Native Americans and constant wars have left a

We have never had true reconciliation amongst one another. Our history suggests we must be adversaries. When I see a young black man shot and killed or beaten, I am not only viewing this through the lens of history, but my own experiences. I read about the brutality of police during the Civil Right movement and I see some of what is going on now in comparison and fair or not it may validate a common view that there is still not equal protection under the law.

Because of our seemingly irreconcilable differences, every time there is a questionable police shooting we go to our corners ready to fight the 'good fight' as we see it. If I may quote the cartoon villain The Joker: "My experiences dictate my reasoning". So suburban or white Americans, who like to hunt, hear the stereotypes about crime in the inner cities and they hear talk about the new gun laws and background checks. The Powers that Be within our government (on both sides) understand that division is the name of the game. If the people began to see through the propaganda and shake off the irrational fear and understand that our history is intertwined, the divide will lessen. We began on separate paths which may lead to us coming to different conclusions on very important issues. Acknowledging our *shared* history and not relying on history to shut down debate but to debate to understand each other's perspectives will allow us as a country to finally heal and reconcile our past without forgetting to stand up for what we believe in as individuals. If not, we the people are going to keep getting manipulated into these corners where the only choices are to choose the lesser evil. Politicians are master manipulators and we must guard ourselves from being used to enrich and empower those who do not deserve it. This can only happen when we began to heal the collective psyche of our nation. The question now is; can we replace ego with dignity, anger with purpose and complacency with action? I say, yes we can.

SPRIT & PHILLIPS

*** 4 DAVE MOORE 2017 ***

Wendell Phillips
(1811-1884)
Our
Neighborhood
Namesake

Where's the hen house?

"The only FEAR I have in regard to Republican institutions is whether any Adequate Remedy will be found for this coming Flood of the Power of Incorporated Wealth."

Wendell Phillips
(1871)



BACKYARD INITIATIVE BACK PAGE



BYI AREA

Shining Light on the Backyard Initiative's 2016 Evaluation

Community Ownership of the Process

The Backyard Initiative's (BYI) evaluation process has been informed, driven, and owned by the community in which a survey was administered in 2016. The level of community empowerment the BYI has achieved has been eight years in the making; but it was this level of empowerment that was required in order to successfully complete the survey.

This process challenged many of the ways conventional evaluation is usually thought about and implemented. Community members spoke forcefully about not wanting outsiders to evaluate the project to "prove" that it was successful. Community members wanted this evaluation to uncover what they valued in the BYI, to "make the invisible, visible."

Self-evaluation is a critical aspect of the process that has allowed for the BYI's community and institution

partnership to stay together and progressively build on the community's capacity to take ownership of its own health. It was also the only way the evaluation of the BYI was able to achieve a high level of participation and engagement from community members.

The Team

The BYI Assessment Team (composed of many of the members of the Community Health Action Teams or CHATs plus Cultural Wellness Center (CWC) and Allina staff) approved the evaluation goals and design

for 2016, and an evaluation team composed of CHAT leaders, CWC and Allina Health staff was created to carry out the evaluation goals. Early in the year, the team created and implemented a method for documenting all activities of the BYI. Activities are documented around the four Health Priority Areas. (see shaded box)

The 2016 Evaluation Findings: The summary of the Backyard Initiative's 2016 evaluation findings has been compiled into a report. BYI's Community Commission on Health is developing a plan that will include events to circulate the report in the community. To find out more about the evaluation process, findings or when community events will occur where the report is shared, please visit the BYI Resource Center in the Midtown Global Market or call them at 612-353-6211.

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The Four Health Priority Areas of the BYI

Social Cohesion: *The sense of community and belonging that community members have. Community members feel they live in a place where people trust and respect each other and have a sense of responsibility to take care of each other.*

Social Support: *The support that a community member receives from and gives to the community members around them, including emotional and spiritual support, help with daily needs and crises, and the sharing of advice, information, and feedback.*

Health Education: *The degree to which community members and their families have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic information and services needed to make appropriate decisions regarding their health. This includes information about what is essential to health (the importance of the family, community, spirituality, the environment, culture, food, sleep, and movement) as well as the medical information needed to address a specific health condition.*

Health Empowerment: *Community members are active participants in their self-care, and have the knowledge, skill, and confidence to manage their health and health care and collaborate with health practitioners.*

