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NEWSPAPER

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JULY 2014 • VOLUME 39, NUMBER 6

The Alley Online!

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BRAVO! BRAVO! BRAVISSIMO!

Sandy Spieler receives the McKnight Distinguished Artist Award

BY THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

June 20, 2014

The McKnight Foundation has named Minnesota visual artist, performer, designer, director, and teacher Sandy Spieler as the 2014 McKnight Distinguished Artist, in recognition of artistic excellence spanning four decades. Now in its 17th year, the annual honor includes a \$50,000 cash award and recognizes individual Minnesota artists who have made significant contributions to the quality of the state's cultural life.

"Sandy Spieler understands the power of art in context," said Kate Wolford, president of The McKnight Foundation. "Even as her sculptures and performances transcend place, lifting us to realms of fantasy and imagination, she never loses touch with the earth below. An artist of true distinction, Sandy's pieces are an enhanced reflection of the reality around her, and around all of us — our joys and challenges as members and caretakers of our communities and the greater world."

Spieler is well known for her leadership of In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater (HOBT), a Minneapolis company she has directed since 1976. Originally named the Powderhorn Puppet Theater for its neighborhood home in Minneapolis, the theater was renamed in 1979. In 1988 the company relocated to the old Avalon Theater, a building that started in the 1930s as a family-oriented movie house but later became an X-rated theater. (At the time, HOBT noted the transition on its new marquee with "Bye Bye Porn, Hello Puppets.") Embracing its rich, culturally diverse surroundings in south Minneapolis, HOBT continues to draw on local and regional perspectives to inform its work. The theater



HOBT



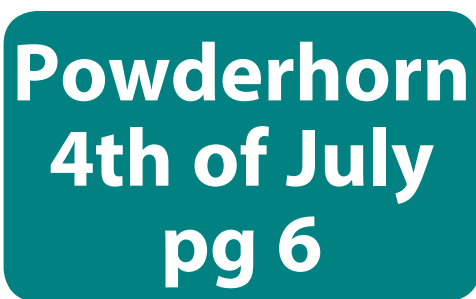
Clarasophia Gust

performs locally, but also travels nationally and internationally, playing to audiences that include schools, community groups, and churches.

Spieler's interests in puppetry as an art form date back to her early studies with Vermont's Bread and Puppet Theater. Last year she told Minnesota Public Radio that was when she first recognized the discipline's power as "a way of telling stories and images that was visual, that was movement, that was musical, and that brought people together."

Within and beyond the walls of HOBT, Spieler's extensive artistic résumé includes everything from puppet shows performed in a suitcase to community collaborations, performance installations, public art commissions, and streetscape designs — all driven to engage and lift up the broader community. Minneapolis' annual May Day Celebration includes a parade and ceremony "midwived" by Spieler, as well as a related festival, and draws an estimated 50,000 people down Bloomington Avenue and into Powderhorn Park. A glorious testament to organized chaos, the parade is an exercise in leading without dictating one singular, prescribed artistic approach or aesthetic. In addition to the procession, the May Day Parade provides workshops and other opportunities for community volunteers of varying skill levels to roll up their sleeves and create elaborate puppets and costumes.

Spieler also teaches regularly at traveling workshops in Bemidji, Ely, Winona, Fargo-Moorhead, and other cities statewide about how to do puppet theater. Central to her work for over 30 years, a focus on water is at the heart of many workshops. Her "Invigorate" **Sandy Spieler** see page 6



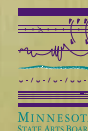
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Alley Communications, a 501C-3, Not-for-Profit Corp. publishes The Alley Newspaper influenced by these words by Ann Greene Phillips and Wendell Phillips:

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

Donations are needed, welcome, and Tax Deductible.

Volunteers who had a part in making the July issue:

Robert Albee, Osman Ali, BackYard Initiative CHATS, City of Mpls., Lauren Cook, Eli Eggen, Clarasophia Gust, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Hennepin County Franklin Library, Sue Hunter Weir, In the Heart of the Beast Theatre, Soren Jensen, Andrew Magill, Sheldon Mains, McKnight Foundation, Midtown Global Market, Midtown Greenway Coalition, Jonathan Miller, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Laney Ohmans, Brad Pass, Carol Pass, PWNQ, Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association, Cassandra Skoog, Somali Artifact and Cultural Museum, Sonny Sevigny, Spokes, Erin Thomasson, Crystal Trautnau Winschitl, Amged Yusef

Delivery: to 250 Apartments, Businesses, Places of Worship, and Organizations by Lyle James Delivery and to many homes and meetings by these volunteers Beverly, Brad, Carol, Patrick, Cathy, Dave, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Jacy, Jana, Heidi, Howard, Marjorie, Midtown Phillips, Paul, Phillips West N Org., Simmons Family, Raymond, Stephanie, Sue, Tara, Ventura Village within blocks of these neighborhoods: Ventura Village, Phillips West, Midtown Phillips, East Phillips, Central, Powderhorn Park, and Corcoran; and a few places in Longfellow, Cooper, Cedar-Riverside, Elliott Park, Whittier, and Lyndale.

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BY ERIN THOMASSON

Children & Family Programs
Art Out of the Box: Eye Wonder

Mon. Jy 7, 2–3 pm. Reg. Online or 612-543-6925. Grades 2-5. Discover artists' secrets & illusions looking at art from the Mpls. Institute of Arts <http://new.artsmia.org/>). Make art hiding your secret messages. Materials provided.

Library Lab for Kids:
Fantastical Photoshop

Mon. Jy 21, 1–3 pm. Reg. online or 612-543-6925. Grades 4-6. Will summer photos show you riding a dragon, visiting Mars or high-fiving your favorite actor? This workshop can using a green screen and Photoshop.

Camp Bookawocky

Mon.thru Fri. 1–5 pm. Families & Grades 1-4. Keep up reading at Camp Bookawocky; one-on-one reading tutoring or creative games & projects.

Family Storytime

Every Wed, 10:30 am. All ages & their parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write & play together. Share books, stories, rhymes, music & movement.

Game On! Puzzlemania

Every Wed, 2 pm. For families. Variety of fun & challenging puzzles & games! Different every week.

Teen Programs at Franklin Teen Center

Teen Tech Workshop

Wed, Jy 9 & 23, 4–6 pm Make music, videos, animation & other projects using both high- & low-tech tools, from iPads to LEGOS® to wooden dowels.

Bling Your Bike

Wed, Jy 16, 4–6 pm. Paint, decorate & create art for your bike. Learn how to fix it up & keep it rolling. Don't forget your bicycle - you've got to bring it to bling it! Materials provided.

4-H Mentoring Club

Tues, 5–7 pm. Urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater.

O.P.E.N. Time

Tues, 3-5 pm; Wed 3-4 pm & 6-7 pm. Options for Play and Enrichment Now; choose from computers, magazines, board games, video games, brain teasers, conversation with friends.

Game Time!

Wed, 4-6 pm. Each week--a new or retro gaming system for tournament action. Compare with peers when you're playing 8-bit style!

Movies for Teens

Thurs, 4 pm. Movie titles by teens to ensure viewing pleasure!

Young Achievers

Thurs, 4–5:30 pm. Community involvement? Bring friends & come for poetry, arts, games.

Adult Programs

Seniors Play-Reading Group

Fri, Jy 11, 11 am–12:30 pm. Stimulating reading & discussion of some of the great plays of our heritage.

55+ Nonfiction Book Club

Fri, Jy 11, 1–3 pm. Discussion of new & interesting nonfiction titles. Bring recommendations for future meetings. Info: 612-543-6925.

Memoir Writing Group

Programs at the Franklin Library

1314 E. Franklin Avenue
Complete program list or info

612- 543-6925
www.hclib.org
www.hclib.org/pub/info/newsroom/
Mon, Fri & Sat: 9am–5pm
Tue, Wed & Thurs: 9am –8pm
Sun: 12-5pm

Thurs, Jy 17, 1–3 pm. Create a record of your personal history. Bring what you have written for helpful comments and suggestions.

Phillips Technology Center
Register www.hclib.org
or 612-543-6933

Microsoft PowerPoint: Basics

Mon, Jy 7, noon–1:30 pm. Learn to create presentations & use the ribbon to create a basic slide show.

Microsoft Excel: Basics

Wed, Jy 9, 10–11:30 am. Learn the basics of working with an Excel spreadsheet: navigation, entering data & using formulas.

Microsoft Publisher: Basics

Thurs, Jy 10, 10–11:30 am. Learn to use the menus and toolbars to create and publish your own fliers, brochures & greeting cards.

Microsoft Excel: Charts and Graphs

Thurs, Jy 10, 12–1:30 pm. Learn to create and integrate graphs & charts into your Excel spreadsheets.

Franklin Learning Center:
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Free, one-to-one tutoring for adults who are learning English & math, preparing for the GED & citizenship exams, & gaining life skills. We are always looking for community volunteers! No experience necessary; we provide training & materials.



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Phillips West Neighborhood Upcoming Events

www.phillipswest.info

July 3rd (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30

p.m. – Phillips West Monthly Community Meeting (Note No July Meeting due to proximity to 4th of July Holiday)

August 6th (Tuesday) 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Phillips West Neighborhood 18th 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 an information table or would like to get involved contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email pwno2005@yahoo.com

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BIKE PARADE 11AM – 12PM
REVIVALATION 12PM – 5PM



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From Greek Φιλανδρος (Philandros) “friend of man”; Philander Prescott

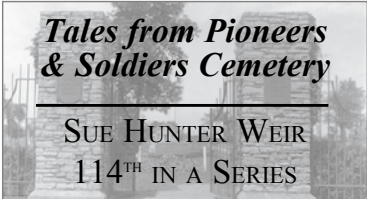
For the first hundred years of the Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery’s history, Philander Prescott was the cemetery’s most written about pioneer. In more modern times he is remembered by those with a keen interest in the Dakota Conflict of 1862, otherwise he is mostly forgotten. Prescott arrived at Fort Snelling in 1819 and lived in what later became Minnesota until his death. Over the course of the years he, like many pioneers, did many jobs in order to survive. He was a sutler (i.e., ran the store at Fort Snelling), trapper, fur trader, translator, Bureau of Indian Affairs agent and farmer. He married Spirit of the Moon (also known as Mary), the daughter of Man Who Flies, one of the elders of the Lake Calhoun band of Dakota. They were married almost 40 years and had ten children. He was one of the casualties of the Dakota Conflict of 1862.

By all accounts, Prescott was modest and unassuming. Although he was the first white man to visit Pipestone quarry and wrote about it as early as 1832, the reddish-brown stone was named not after him but was named catlinite after George Catlin, another, rather more flamboyant explorer. Frank Mayer, a New York artist who visited Minnesota in 1851, spent some time with the Prescott family and described Philander as a “pursey little man,” presumably

meaning a “prissy” man. Mayer complained that Prescott was “non-communicative,” a quality that Mayer attributed to Prescott’s long association with Native American people. What Mayer couldn’t fathom is that after thirty years in the “Northwest,” Prescott had little in common with visitors from the East. His family, his work and his life were here.

In his own reminiscences Prescott comes across as a man with a sense of humor who was something of a practical joker. He was an adventurer, someone who was used to living under adverse circumstances. As difficult as his and Mary’s lives were at times, there is nothing in his writing that suggested that he regretted the choices that he had made.

Prescott’s work for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and his religious conversion in the 1830s are occasionally offered as evidence that he was exploiting his relationship with the Dakota people. There is no question that Prescott was a religious man and that he supported the missionaries who worked to convert the Dakota to Christianity. He was one of the founding members and financial supporters of the First Presbyterian Church. After fifteen years of living together and raising several children together, Prescott and Mary were married in a Christian ceremony on the shore of Lake Calhoun. Gideon Pond and



Steven Riggs, early missionaries to the Dakota people, performed the ceremony.

Prescott was also employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to teach Dakota men to farm, an effort that many today view as the government’s attempt to destroy traditional Dakota values and culture. His memoirs hint at a different, more personal, motive: he was concerned that as the herds of buffalo and deer diminished, people would not have enough to eat, something that he had experienced first hand.

One thing that is clear from various ledgers and account books is that Prescott didn’t exploit the tribes financially. Many other traders attempted to cheat the tribes by submitting huge, and questionable, claims. Those traders received cents on the dollar, but Prescott’s claims were treated as honest accounts of what he was owed and paid in full.

As early as 1856, Prescott warned the Bureau of Indian Affairs about tribal members’ discontent about their treatment by the government. He warned the agency that unless their treatment of the tribes changed, there would be trouble. It is not clear from the



Prescott, killed in 1862 at the Dakota Conflict after warning U.S. 6 years earlier of inevitable trouble without changes, was buried on the prairie and reinterred later at Layman’s Cemetery when Mary died in 1867. His tombstone was encased ca. 1938 by the Hennepin History Museum in order to preserve it longer.



letter he wrote whether he intended to resign or whether he was fired as a consequence of his outspokenness. In either case, it ended his career as government farmer.

Prescott’s warning to the BIA went unheeded and six years later, his predictions came true. What he had not predicted is that he would be one of the casualties. Philander and Mary Prescott were at the Lower Sioux Agency on August 18, 1862, when the Dakota Conflict broke out. He was advised

to hide and was initially spared. For reasons that are not entirely clear, he later attempted to reach Fort Ridgely. He was killed on the way. Mary was taken prisoner but escaped and made her way to Shakopee where she lived until her death in 1867. Prescott had been buried on the prairie but when Mary died, he was disinterred and brought back to Minneapolis. They are buried in Lot 4, Block A.

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Give Get Sistet
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FESTIVAL DE PHILLIPS DE MIDTOWN
26 DE JULIO 2014
Sábado, mediodía a 8 pm
Parque de Stewart, cuadra de 2700 de 12 Ave. Sur

AUGUST Midtown Phillips Board Meeting:
August 12, 6:30-8pm. Stewart Park—2700 12th Ave S, Minneapolis
– Barry Rogers has been selected as the Midtown Phillips accountant. He will introduce himself, talk about his firm, his new role with the Neighborhood Community Relations office and provide to the Board a tutorial on how to read a Financial report. (30 min.)
– HOUSING: Action to create a Housing Committee. (15 min.)
– NEW BUSINESS. (30 min.)

• AUGUST Midtown Phillips Community Meeting:
August 26, 6:30-8pm. Stewart Park—2700 12th Ave S, Minneapolis
– Discuss traffic calming on 26th and 28th. (60 min.)
• How do you feel about 28th & 26th Street?
• Do we need to slow or reduce traffic on 26th & 28th?
• Do we need bike lanes on 26th & 28th?
• Do we need these streets to move traffic through the neighborhood quickly?
• Please come with any ideas and thoughts
– NEW BUSINESS. (25 min.)

A Traditional Somali Hut, Aqal Soomaali, erected on Lake Street



Ancient, iconic style Somali hut being built on Lake Street View westward on June 21st of Somali Independence Day Celebration attended by thousands

A traditional Somali hut was donated by a community in Xingalool, Puntland, transported to Mpls., temporarily erected on Lake Street near Blaisdell Avenue during Somali Independence Day June 21 displaying its iconic nomadic heritage.

The Somali Artifact and Cultural Museum that opened at Plaza Verde 15th and Lake Street last year facilitated the gift and will display it at its new location beginning July 11th. The Museum is committed to providing opportunities for cross-cultural education and thus is partnering with the Hennepin Theater Trust to co-curate a gallery by animating vacant city spaces with art.

The Somali Museum's **Made Here gallery at 319 1st Avenue**

North, Mpls. 55401 opens July 11.

Traditional arts are endangered due to upheaval, migration, and the increasing urbanization of Somali society. The Somali Museum's collection of over 700 artifacts offers hope that the tradition will continue and is the only center dedicated to preserving and promoting Somali arts and folklore anywhere in the world. Also fostering connections between community organizations, advocates, and artists like at the Festival on Lake Street. The Museum is currently seeking volunteers to assist with greeting gallery visitors and cataloguing the collection. Please call (612) 234-1625 to volunteer. All levels of weekly commitment are welcome.



East Phillips SummerFest 2014

A Roaring Success!!!



Top to bottom: a few of the thousands that attended the first East Phillips Summer Fest on June 22nd; Minnesota's own award winning, iconic legendary Blues R/B singer, Willie Murphy musician, an East Phillips resident, entertained along with many other local artists from several musical cultures; soccer games and a clinic also captivated many visitors.

BY BRAD PASS

The East Phillips Community held its First Annual SummerFest Sunday, June 22nd in the extraordinary East Phillips Park. The festival honored the diversity of the community with foods and entertainment from many of the cultures who call East Phillips home and the festival celebrated the 5 ½ year struggle, against all odds, to raise the money and redesign what used to be called "Cockroach Park" into the vibrant community center and park home for the community that it is today with its wonderful soccer fields, basketball courts and baseball diamond. The East Phillips Improvement

Coalition (EPIC) and Minneapolis Park and Recreation sponsored the Festival.

The mantra of success for this community as stated by neighborhood advisor Arthur Himelmann many years ago was and still is:

"If you want to go Fast, go alone."

If you want to go Far, go together"

The community choice has always been to go Far Together.

The community came out in huge numbers to celebrate the vast distance it has traversed (far) since those days of "Cockroach Park." Once again, many organizations and individuals from this community came together to create a fantastic SummerFest.

Entertainers included Inti Samay, Bhalta, Kuisisa, The Little Thundebirds, Holy Rosary Youth, Willie Murphy (who named an album "CockRoach Park"), and Chinelos. They provide 7 hours of non-stop music and dance from Minneapolis Park's Showmobile.

Fabulous food was provided by Holy Rosary, Taco Taxi and Mariana Robles.



The Minneapolis Police brought their huge Bomb Squad truck and their mounted patrol with three beautiful horses galloping across the park. Many neighborhood service organizations provided the attendees with information on their programs and mission. The Minneapolis Park Board provided two large inflatable slides and bouncers for the kids.

This was truly a community effort – Even the weather cooperated – Thanks to all for a Remarkable Sunday. We're looking forward to many more!

The Second Annual East Phillips Summer Fest is already being planned for June 21st 2015!



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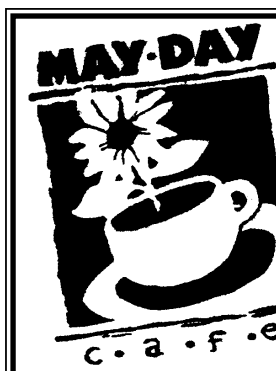
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SPOKES Bike Walk Connect

Spokes, a community biking and walking center with a goal to get more people biking and walking at 1915 East 22nd Street Minneapolis. (one block west of Minnehaha Avenue on 22nd Street. 22nd Street is one block south of Franklin Avenue) gathered bikers on June 22nd to bike to Somali Independence Day at Lake Street and Blaisdell Avenue. Spokes also repairs, teaches and promotes walking and biking always connecting people at the same time.



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VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

VENTURA MEANS HAPPINESS & GOOD LUCK TO YOU! BUENA VENTURA!

Community Engagement: What does this really mean for Ventura Village in 2014?



We are “engaged” when many residents and stakeholders attend our monthly meeting to discuss and debate issues that can either divide us or bring us together in common interest and mutual respect. But is this enough? Pictured above in the May 2014 Ventura Village General Membership monthly meeting. Participants also joined us from Midtown and East Phillips to discuss the 24th Street Village Market.

What is Community Engagement? Is this what we really practice or simply what we preach about to others we want to impress?

By co-chairing Ventura Village’s Community Engagement Committee, I should be very well versed in just what community engagement really means. According to Wikipedia’s entry, “community engagement refers to the process by which community benefit organizations* and individuals build ongoing, permanent relationships for the purpose of applying a collective vision for the benefit of a community. While community organizing involves the process of building a grassroots movement that involves communities, community engagement primarily deals with the practice of moving said communities towards change, usually from a stalled or otherwise similarly suspended position.”

* 6 Reasons to Use the Term “Community Benefit Organization”
Posted on October 12, 2009 by Hildy at: <http://hildygottlieb.com/2009/10/12/6-reasons-to-use-the-term-community-benefit-organization/>

Core Principles of Community Engagement

The City of Minneapolis defines the primary purpose of community engagement as the empowerment of people to influence City government decisions that shape their city and their lives. Of course, community building, outreach and education activities are also important to the City.

1. *Right to be involved* – Public participation is based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
2. *Contribution will be thoughtfully considered* – Public participation includes the promise that the public’s contribution will be thoughtfully considered.
3. *Recognize the needs of all* – Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by recognizing and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision-makers.
4. *Seek out involvement* – Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
5. *Participants design participation* – Public participation seeks input from participants in designing how they participate.
6. *Adequate information* – Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
7. *Known effect of participation* – Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.

Adopted by Minneapolis City Council - Dec. 2009

SEATTLE’S THREE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Enhance Relationships & Engagement: There is a greater likelihood of engagement from underserved communities when organizations take steps to enhance their relationships with those populations. Creating trusting relationships, increasing accessibility to facilities and services, and providing diverse opportunities to become involved, are key actions that reflect on organizational attitudes and values about developing equitable and sustainable engagement.

Enrich Knowledge Gathering: Strengthening connections with communities through knowledge gathering allows those constituents to play a key role in determining relevance and appropriateness of organizational programming. We must look beyond surveys as a means of gathering crucial data and feedback to—wards more personalized modes and means of this important task. In essence, exchanging information, rather than collecting it, provides an incentive for engaging in conversations and collaborations, as well as a greater sense of ownership in the outcome.

Embrace Organizational Change: In order for community engagement to flourish, organizations (and individuals that represent those organizations) must be open to organizational changes that are responsive to community insight and allow for shared power between communities and the organizations that serve them. The process and results of increased community engagement must go beyond activities to involve more community members, but rather become a prominent organizational value that drives everyday decision-making processes.

It’s time for our neighborhoods to gather together and decide for ourselves the best directions to go that truly reflect best examples of Community Engagement!

2014 Community Engagement Projects

With our mission in mind and our going on our third year of successful projects, co-chairs Abdikadir Hassan and Robert Albee announced the following activities and projects for Ventura Village’s 2014 efforts:

- Somali Independence Day Celebration
- New language learning classes in Somali, Oromo, Spanish, Dakota & Ojibwe/Anishinabe
- “Top 100 Words to Learn” Project
- Neighborhood Navigators Program
- Elder Crafts Project Classes & Groups
- Annual Peavey Park Celebration

And On the Drawing Board:

- Cooking Classes - *Training Our Old Tastebuds for New Adventures!*
- I have an Idea! Seed \$ for Start-ups

Community Engagement Guide for Sustainable Communities

Take a look at PolicyLink’s language that reflects a culturally-based and less divisive dialogue regarding engaged neighborhoods that should be initiated:

“Community engagement encompasses a more comprehensive approach, creating practices and institutionalized mechanisms that share power and vest decision-making control in marginalized communities. When utilized for the purpose of increasing community power and agency for problem solving, community engagement is guided by a few key principles:

- Honor the wisdom, voice, and experience of residents.
- Treat participants with integrity and respect.
- Be transparent about motives and power dynamics.
- Share decision-making and initiative leadership.
- Engage in continuous reflection and willingness to change course. “

— PolicyLink

The Mission of the Ventura Village’s Community Engagement Committee is simple: Until our community meetings, activities and events more fully embrace our residents and those people served by agencies and organizations in our neighborhood, our challenges must continue to welcome more people into participating on as many levels as they wish to.



Places to Watch Fireworks

- 1. Stone Arch Bridge:** This is the absolute best place to see the skies. Watching fireworks on the Stone Arch Bridge is like watching history, as the bridge is a link to the rich past of Minneapolis. You'll be right above the Mississippi River and right below the action. Get here early, though; as this is the best spot, it fills up quick.
- 2. Gold Medal Park:** One of the most underrated spots in downtown Minneapolis, Gold Medal Park offers a more traditional viewing experience. Throw a blanket on the grass, throw a ball around and gaze up at the fireworks while you lie down and relax.
- 3. Powderhorn Park:** Powderhorn Park shoots off their own fireworks on the 4th, so this is a great alternative for people who'd like to be close to the action but away from the crowds. Like Gold Medal Park,

Powderhorn provides the opportunity to throw down a blanket and share some ground with that special someone. Plus, the park will have a complete lineup of musicians playing until the fireworks go off.
INSIDER TIP: *"Parking can be a challenge because the lots at the park fill up fast. So, you should get there at 7pm and park along one of the streets to the south and walk in."*

4. Mill City Museum: Watching fireworks from the Mill City Museum Observation Deck is as close to a VIP setting as you'll get. Only 50 people get access, and you have to pay (\$35), but the view is absolutely worth the cost. As an added bonus, you get admission into the museum beforehand.
INSIDER TIP: *"If you're reading this, then you need to stop what*

you're doing and order tickets NOW! These tickets go very quickly and the view is sublime."

- 5. Guthrie Endless Bridge:** A more unconventional place to watch fireworks, true, but it has that same VIP feel that the Mill City Museum Observation Deck has. You'll be off the ground and closer to the action, and you'll have a completely unobstructed view of the fireworks.
- 6. Restaurant Rooftops:** A lot of people don't generally think of restaurants as prime places to watch fireworks, but we say, "Why not?!" You're up in the air, you'll have a great view AND there are people that will serve you food and alcohol.
- 7. Lake Calhoun:** Parks are great, and buildings are very cool places to get closer to the fireworks. But, if you want the most authentic 4th of July "I LOVE AMERICA" experience, Lake Calhoun is where you want to be. Grill out, play some volleyball, kayak/paddle on the lake and chill on the beach while you get a great view of the downtown fireworks.
- 8. Commons Park - Excelsior:** If you are in the west metro enjoy the only public 4th of July fireworks event on the shores of Lake Minnetonka can experienced at Commons Park in downtown Excelsior.

Powderhorn Park 4th of July

For 123 years, Minneapolis has celebrated the Fourth of July at Powderhorn Park. Over the decades the event has reinvented itself to reflect the changes in our community and 2014 marks another transformation.

Working with our longtime partner, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, PPNA's Board of Directors voted in March to continue to co-host a daytime event on the Fourth of July at Powderhorn Park. Although the nature of the event has changed, as there will not be a fireworks display, the pride and joy inherent to the spirit of the Fourth of July remains unchanged. PPNA and the MPRB are committed to reimagining this event for future generations in a way which best fits our dynamic and ever-changing community.

Celebrating Our Independence will feature a day-long lineup of extraordinary local talent, family-friendly activities and delicious food vendors. Our programming will run from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm on the Fourth and park visitors are welcome to stay in the park well after the program to celebrate with family and friends. At the park you will find canoeing, badminton, croquet, bocce ball, children arts and crafts, face painting and a bouncy castle.

Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association 821 E 35th Street Minneapolis, MN 55407 (612) 722-4817 info@ppna.org

"I'm still using my torch!... I'll be glad to light your torch!"

In Mpls. 2 years ago, Dr. Dorothy Cotton, former Associate to Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke to a gathering and said, "There's been a lot of talk today about elders passing on the torch to the youth."

"I'm here to tell you God gave my torch to me and I am still using it!"

"I'll be glad to light your torch so that together we may light the way and fight the fight!"

Dr Cotton, 84, was the



Education Director for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) from 1960 to 1968. Under the Carter Administration, Dr. Cotton served as the Southeastern Regional Director of ACTION, the Federal Government's agency for volunteer programs from 1978 to 1981. She has been president of a university and many other influential positions as well as her own consulting organization in which she is active today.

Sandy Spieler from page 1

the Common Well" educational program built awareness about water use and quality, including exploration of who owns and controls access to healthy water and whether our use of water is a right or a privilege. Three decades ago, Spieler first explored the theme of water resources in her art, culminating in "The Circle of Water Circus" which involved 25 adults, 5 children, and 2 dogs traveling all the way down the Mississippi River from Brainerd to New Orleans.

During a 2003 sabbatical in England with an intentional focus on water resources, Spieler became acquainted with the term "the commons," meaning "belonging equally to all." In a 2007 Minnesota Department of Health newsletter, Spieler said the term "entered into me... If water is essential to all of life, then access to healthy water is essential for all life, a 'commons' for all to share." In a rededication to the importance of public water systems, and a rejection of the privatization of water, Spieler emphasizes drinking fountains over plastic water bottles and has helped to initiate fountain renewal projects throughout Minneapolis.

Thematically, Spieler's work tends toward such issues that weave together both humanity and the environment. Spieler has said that her work is ultimately about the interconnection of all things, and about recognizing human potential for change. "I think it's about looking at each person as responsible, as culpable, but also having great power." (MinnPost, May 2013)

In addition to her work in Minnesota, Spieler has directed "epic performances" in South Korea, Los Angeles, and the Dominican Republic, and led residencies throughout the region. Spieler has an MA of Cultural Performance from Bristol University, England, studied Balinese masked dance at New York University, and is part of the International ECOARTS



Sandy Spieler, musical symbol in hand, experiences the vision of a performance coming to fruition from the "wings" of the Powderhorn Park lakeside Amphi-Theater stage.

network. She has been honored previously through Bush Foundation's Leadership and Artist Fellowships, the Minnesota State Arts Board Fellowships, the Jerome Foundation, and the McKnight Artist Fellowships. Spieler has received two UNIMA-USA Citations of Excellence in the Art of Puppetry Award, and fields requests for commissioned work from organizations and arts patrons worldwide.

ABOUT THE MCKNIGHT DISTINGUISHED ARTIST AWARD. The McKnight Distinguished Artist Award recognizes individuals who help lay the foundation for Minnesota's rich cultural life. Despite opportunities to work elsewhere, they chose to stay — and by staying, they have made a difference. Previous recipients are composer Dominick Argento (1998), ceramic artist Warren MacKenzie (1999), writer Robert Bly (2000), choral conductor Dale Warland (2001), publisher Emilie Buchwald (2002), painter Mike Lynch (2003), orchestra conductor Stanislaw Skrowaczewski (2004), sculptor Judy Onofrio (2005), theater artist Lou Bellamy (2006), sculptor Kinji Akagawa (2007), writer Bill Holm (2008), theater artist Bain Boehlke (2009), sculptor Siah Armajani (2010), dance artist Ranees Ramaswamy (2011), poet John Caddy (2012), and theater artist Wendy Lehr (2013). McKnight will honor Spieler at a private reception later this year.



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Beyond The Great Bdote

For the Dakota, a ‘bdote’ was most frequently the convergence of two rivers (a place where two waters come together). In today’s world, “great bdote” refers to the ongoing meltdown of the polar ice caps.

Unfortunately, close to 100 million people in Bangladesh stand to be inundated. How many millions of our own people might be reduced to refugee status? Moreover, in what spirit will those with power and guns respond?

Is catastrophe inevitable? Actually, some sectors of the ruling class are behaving accordingly. Yet there is a glimmer which suggests that solar energy will ascend to displace coal via market forces. However, these “forces” tend to be finicky.

Meanwhile, we dare not sleep before the dawn “beyond coal.” To put it mildly, carbon dioxide emissions must be suppressed immediately. It’s like putting a man on the moon...only infinitely more important.

So...
Contact your nation and demand that it concentrate resources in the Department of Energy, with instructions that it develop and put in place the necessary technology. It should not require a thorough revolution to remold and redirect this department.

Coming soon to a motion pic-



PETER MOLENAAR

Raise Your Voice

ture screen near you...

In “Beyond the Great Bdote” enclaves of the old ruling class emerge from their Antarctic bunkers. Alone with nobody left to exploit, they suffer a collective epiphany: Wasn’t it two centuries ago that some fellow predicted the inevitability of communism?

So it was that the most vile creatures of humanity were transformed into the most beautiful.

Frank Reflections

War’s definition and justification plague individuals and institutions alike

BY FRANK ERICKSON

The Catholic Church did a very good thing during the “Gulf War”...from the New Dictionary of the History of Ideas – “The Catholic Church responded to the Gulf War in a statement that put the very idea of a just war in peril. The theory of just war, they said, “was indefensible and has been abandoned. In reality—with the sole exception of a purely defensive war against acts of aggression, we can say that there are no ‘just wars’ and there is no ‘right’ to wage war.”

Beautiful, without even realizing it, the Catholic Church is moving into a realm of seeing “war’s” non-existence—they touch on it, but then contradict themselves... and I get it, I see why it happens, how the human mind works and how our fear works.

How else can it be approached, that when you say “there are no ‘just wars’ and there is no ‘right’ to wage war,” you are flat out saying there is no way to create “war”—but the backdoor is left open for a “purely defensive war – people have a right to defend themselves.

Okay, understood, but this is how the aggressors get themselves “in,” the aggressors know this. That all they need is for it to be defined as “war” regardless of just or unjust. When those being attacked are free to kill because they are fighting a “purely defensive war,” the aggressors are “in” the same “war” and have the freedom to kill.

The Church doesn’t understand

–it can’t exist both ways—that is, if you are going to say that “war” can only exist in a “purely defensive war,” then what you are saying is that “war” is the freedom to kill, if in a “purely defensive” mode.

So then how is it “war” with acts of aggression that have no justification, aggression that has no right to be waged?

The Church puts out a good effort, but they mistakenly reinforce the same old belief, that “war” alone is the justification, the right.

If “war” to the Catholic Church only exists in a “purely defensive” mode, how can “waging war” exist through acts of aggression?

ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN

Block Party – Fiesta de la Calle

July 19, 11 am to 3 pm.

2742 15th Ave South

Call 612-724-3862 for more info

“Alley’s ‘Shoestring’ budget needs some shoes!”

Alley Communications is the community governed, non-profit media source that publishes The Alley Newspaper, alleynews.org website and other informing and engaging to empower. Alley Communications depends on a few sources of income:

- Advertising
- Workplace giving through Community Shares Minnesota
- Individual donations

Those sources of income have all dropped in recent years. The good news is we have survived through tenacity, “tightening our belt” and remaking our operation. The result is we have no staff, no office or rent to pay, and no debt. We operate on a “shoestring” budget offering cost effective service. All written and graphic content is produced by volunteers! Nonetheless, we need cash to pay for other necessities; graphic production, web maintenance, printing, bulk delivery, postage, post office box, printer ink and office paper. Being more efficient and cost-effective is a good thing. Being unable to grow and portray more news and stories is a negative for our community. We need to become a more sustainable organization. Your help is needed in whatever amount is possible. Small amounts help us to know that we are reaching a broad base . Help keep this vital, local media source alive and growing. Our Annual Gathering at the Fall Equinox is our usual one-time special occasion for fundraising. We are adding this time at the Summer Solstice to also ask for your help. Please contribute:

- Mail a check to P.O. Box 7006, Mpls., MN 55407
- Donate online through GiveMN.org
- Designated giving through Community Shares MN .
- Advertise! Call 612-990-4022 or ads@alleynews.org
- Find out how to become a sponsor- call 612-990-4022 or editor@alleynews.org





BACKYARD INITIATIVE BACK PAGE



BYI AREA

Celebrating US Through the Midtown Global Market Music Festival!

Sat., July 19 • 2 to 8 pm

Learn more about the BYI!!!

3 to 5 pm, INSIDE, near the BYI
Resource Center

Interactive displays and activities
led by BYI CHAT teams such as:



dee henry williams

Learn about self-sufficiency
through Solar Lantern Making with
members of Communities of Light-
Rebirthing Community CHAT



Janet Dahlem

Zumba from 2:30 to 3:00 pm on
the Indoor Stage with members of
the Out In The Backyard CHAT and
Bernice Arias.



Learn from your neighbors about
managing your diabetes through
diet, support and cultural connec-
tion from A Partnership of Diabetics
CHAT (A-POD)!



Collie Graddock

Meet members of the Growing the
Backyard CHAT and sample some of
their amazing vegetables!



For more than 150 years, the area now known as “Midtown” in Minneapolis, has been a gateway to Minnesota, and sometimes, the USA, for people arriving and resettling from around the world—Asia, Africa, Europe and the Caribbean. Indigenous people from seven Nations also reside in Midtown making it the cultural crossroads of the Twin Cities.

Aiding in that continued celebration and preservation of Midtown Minneapolis’s cultural heritage is the Midtown Global Market (MGM), on the border between the Powderhorn and Phillips Communities. The Market provides a venue for these many cultural groups to observe their unique, individual roots and celebrate their legacy through music, food, and shared experiences while adding to rich vitality, history and strong community spirit of the area.

MGM is a perfect representation of the surrounding area and shares in the desire to deliver opportunity to all cultural communities with more than 40 vendors from around the world under one roof. In addition to serving as an incubator for fledgling small businesses and restaurants, MGM aims to provide an under-served community with free public access to the arts and has done so with over 1,600 free arts-based events. Throughout the year, MGM regularly offers live music, dance performances, cooking classes, children’s crafts, art exhibits and holiday celebrations from its vendors’ native cultures.

Four years ago, MGM sought to combine this array of cultural experiences into a free, one-day event and the **Midtown Global Music Festival** was born. This year, the festival will take place from **2-8 p.m. on Saturday, July 19**, both inside MGM’s central plaza and outside in the western parking lot.

The festival will feature three separate stages with performers as varied as Midtown’s cultural makeup and reflect the richly diverse heritage of its surrounding population. The day will begin with Native American drumming outside, followed by Chinese dancers on the Indoor Stage. From there, performances will range from Ecuadorian pan flutes, Aztec dancers, American country music, West African drumming and dancing, a jazz duo, belly dancing, American folk music and, to cap it all off, the night will end with some big-band salsa.

As part of its mission to maintain strong community ties, many of these Midtown Music Festival acts will be performed by local artists. In addition to these on-stage performances, the music festival will offer interactive activities with the **Backyard Initiative CHAT groups**, activities and crafts for kids and, of course, access to its multicultural shops and restaurants.

More than 9,000 people attended last year’s festival and this year promises to be even better. With such a diverse collection of performers and an even more varied audience, Midtown Global Market is truly offering its visitors an opportunity to see where cultures meet in Minneapolis. With just a few hours on a single day, any pre-existing perceptions can be replaced with a sense of inclusiveness, engagement and understanding regarding the populations that make up the great Midtown community.



Music Lineup (partial listing)

Main Outdoor Stage
2:00-2:30 Hoka Hey Singers (Native American Drumming)
3:00-3:45 Brian Nielsen band, featuring Blues singer, Barbara LeShoure
4:30-5:30 2/3rds MN (Country)
6:00-6:30 Rene Thompson (Salsa Dance Lessons)
6:30-8:00 Q-band (Salsa)

Elliot Avenue Outdoor Stage
2:30-3:00 Kalpulli Ketzalcoatlicue (Aztec Dancers)
4:00-4:30 Duniya Drum and Dance (W. African Drummers)
5:30-6:00 Jawaahir Dancers (Belly Dancers)

Indoor Stage
2:00-2:30 Chinese Dancers
2:30-3:00 Zumba Dance Lessons
3:00-4:00 Charmin Michelle/Joel Shapira (Jazz)
4:00-5:00 Ross Sutter (Scandinavian Folk)
5:00-6:00 Michael Johnson (American Pop and Folk)

NOTE: Acts and time subject to change



Dimphe Orizon

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

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.