

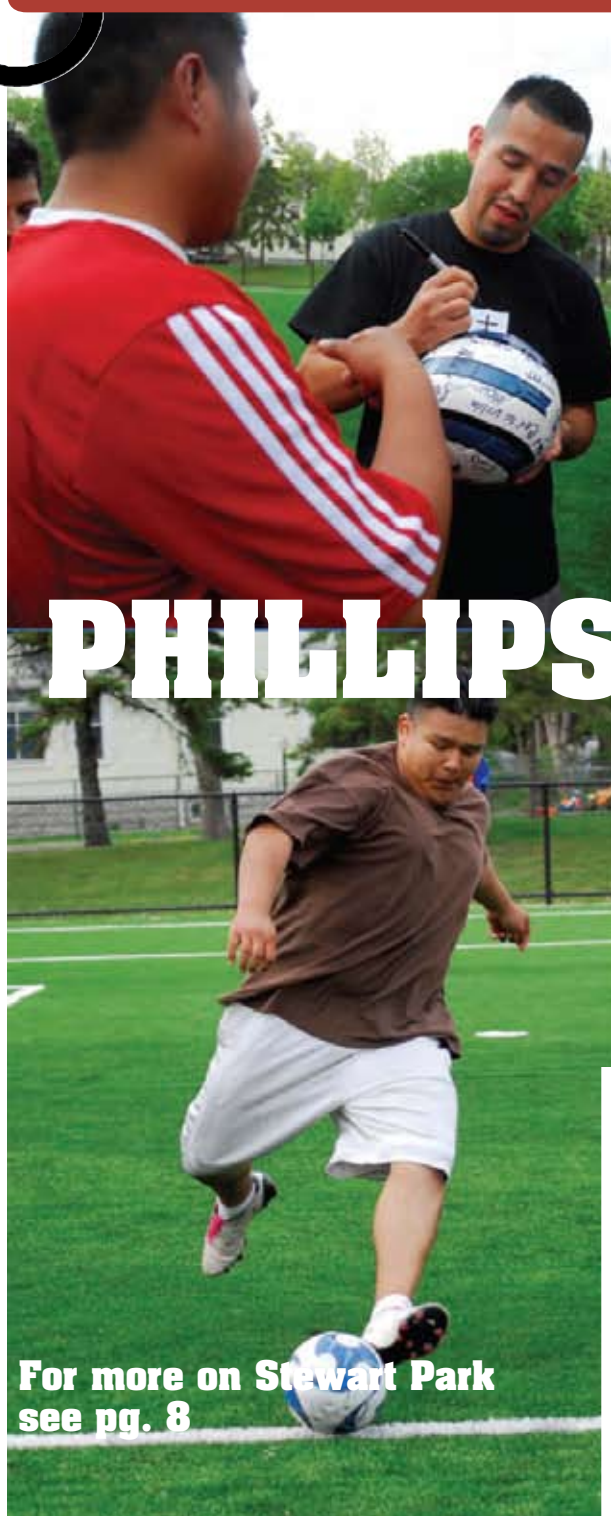
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Alley

goes
to
See pg. 6

NEWS & VIEWS OF PHILLIPS SINCE 1976
JUNE 2011 • VOLUME 36, NUMBER 6

Harvard
University



For more on Stewart Park
see pg. 8



photo by Angela Schneider



MayDay Parade

photo by Nikki Miller

www.minneapolisparcs.org



photo by Bob Albee

For more on Seeding see pg. 2



photo by John Smoley

For more on Pioneer's Cemetery see pg. 4



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

Ann Greene Phillips (18__-1885)

Wendell Phillips (1811-1884)

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

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

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Bulk Delivery: Lyle James Delivery

250 Apartments, Businesses, Places of Worship, and Organizations; this issue is having volunteers delivering many blocks of these neighborhoods Ventura Village, Phillips West, Midtown Phillips, East Phillips, Central, Powderhorn Park, and Corcoran; and the usual spots in Longfellow, Cooper, Cedar-Riverside, Elliott Park, Whittier, and Lyndale.

Circulation: 10,500 hard copies and online.

**July Alley
Deadline:
June 15**

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June Phillips What Where



Absolutely no one even had a guess at the May Phillips What Where so here's a Hint. There were two photos of it in the May issue and there are two in this issue.

Guess What and Where this is and get a chance to be in a draw-

ing for \$10. Gift Certificate to Welna Hardware on Bloomington Avenue.

Send an email to editor@alleynews.org, call 612-709-4022 or DM us @alleynewspaper on twitter.

Where is the Painting of Wendell Phillips?



This stone with Wendell Phillips Junior High School was set in place above the front entrance when the building was built in 1926. It is now set in the earth near the west entrance to the Phillips Community Center. The building was demolished in 1984 in spite of great protest by residents of Phillips Community. Four blocks away and four years later the School Board purchased Mt. Sinai hospital that required huge amounts of money to convert into a school.

There was a large painting of Wendell Phillips hanging on the wall across from the main entrance of Wendell Phillips Junior High School. Where did it go when the building was closed and demolished in 1984? We'd like to learn of its location before Dave and Harvey go to Harvard in June for the Wendell Phillips Bicentennial Symposium. People will be asking where it is when they explain that Phillips Community was named after the school. Please call or e-mail with any information about it to; 612-990-4022 or editor@alleynews.org



Phillips West Annual Meeting!

June 2nd (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.:

- Join your neighbors and Community Partners.
- FREE Famous Dave's Catered Dinner.
- Door Prizes Drawing
- State of the City Update by City Council V.P. Robert Lillgren
- At Center for Changing Lives (2400 Park Avenue).

Free parking in the rear off Oakland Avenue!

2 Open Seats on the Phillips West Board of Director - Time Commitment per month is roughly 2 hours including PW monthly Community Meeting (1st Thursday) and the P W monthly Board Meeting (4th Monday). People 18 and older living or working within WP may be members including Board membership. Phillips West is between Lake and 22nd Streets and I-35W and Chicago Ave. Interested? Please contact Crystal Trutnau at 612-879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com

Ventura Village News Briefs

BY ROBERT ALBEE

Gardeners Gain Ground & Goodies. More than 200 persons showed up at the Phillips Community Center parking lot on Saturday, May 7 to join the **Phillips Food Resource Hub's Seeding the Hub** event. Joiners who paid \$10 for individual or \$30 for a community garden received a wide variety of seeds and seedlings to begin planting season in 20 community gardens and 61 individual plots. Food and beverages were served to those huddling under two pop-up canopies by the side of 24th Street. Live music performed by a three-piece ensemble lightened spirits while a master gardener perched in the back of a van provided professional advice.

Seeding the Hub II was repeated two weeks later accompanied by even more rain on Saturday, May 21. This time the atrium of the PCC was opened up to gardeners picking up tomatoes, peppers, tomatillos, and okra seedlings that briefly covered part of the gym floor. A member gardener also donated pea vines.

Number crunchers report that 3,640 new seedlings are being planted in the Phillips area by more than a hundred gardeners. Nineteen percent are new gardeners; another 34% for just a few years and more than 30% have been digging dirt for 20+ years. Ages of our planters range from young folks in their 20's to elders in their 60's who speak at least five different languages. Although the Phillips Food Resource Hub is the newest of three programs covering Minneapolis, it is growing rapidly.

Phillips Community Center Occupancy to begin. With preliminary leases signed by Ventura Village and the Somali American Center, these tenants can proceed with their office finishing and furnishings and will begin by June 1. The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community just announced a \$50,000 grant to the Indian Health Board for funds to build out their lease space for the **Running Wolf Fitness Center**, which will be jointly operated with the Native American Community Clinic. Completion of the fitness center build out is expected by the end

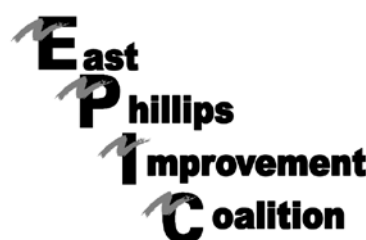
of June.

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board will begin their work of replacing the PCC's flooring, ceiling tiles, painting and replacement of a north window wall by mid-June. There is additional work currently underway to redevelop the security and entry systems to accommodate a variety of tenants and park users. Waite House, the PCC's largest tenant, will begin their space build-out in June and are expected to complete their work and be moved in by the end of September.

Minneapolis Swims is the Phillips Community's tenant seeking restoration of the PCC swimming pool. They recently signed a separate agreement with the Park Board that provides for completion of development within two years. Volunteers and board members have worked tirelessly at the Minnesota Legislature, seeking inclusion into a bonding bill that provides construction funds to restore the current pool while adding an additional pool for swim lessons and warm water therapy uses. As this goes to press, news awaits the completion of the Legislative Session to learn if funds will be awarded this year.

Minneapolis Swims has three goals: to provide free swimming lessons for all neighborhood children, to offer swim and dive team access to interested neighborhood youth, and once children can swim and are safe around water to offer them more outdoor adventures. Learning to swim saves lives. Drowning is a leading cause of death in children ages 1-14 and minority children drown at three times the rate of white children.

Swimming can help transform the lives of at-risk youth by offering opportunities to demonstrate courage by taking calculated risks and to build self-esteem by overcoming a natural fear of the water. It is a foundational skill for a life-long healthy lifestyle and it opens access to the world of water-oriented outdoor activities. This is especially important in Minneapolis and greater Minnesota where we have been blessed with an abundance of lakes and rivers. Log in the website at www.mplswws.org.



EPIC General Membership Meetings:

Every SECOND Thursday
East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center
June 9th, 2011, 6:30 P.M.
2307 17th Ave. S.

East Phillips is between:

Lake & East 24th Sts. + East Phillips Park

Bloomington & Hiawatha Aves.

Welcome: all who live, work, or own property in EP to participate in the activities and decision-making in the neighborhood by attending EPIC meetings.

EPIC Issues:

NRP money grab by City:

Xcel Hi-Voltage power lines:

Crime in the Hood:

Get in touch with a Block Club:

The Community Center is OPEN!

Phillips Community Center & Swimming Pool

And MUCH More:

Hope to see you June 9th at 6:30 P.M.

Information? Contact Bd. President, Carol Pass: 612-280-8418; cpass@runbox.com

**Pentecost Picnic at
Peavey Park
Sunday, June 12
2-5pm
651-206-3222**

June Programs at the Franklin Library

BY ERIN THOMASSON

Children’s Programs

Family Storytime
Weds. June, 10:30–11 a.m.
age 2 and up. Share books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement with your children.

Puzzlemania!
Thurs. thru Aug. 25, 2–3 p.m.
Entering grade 2 and up. Enjoy a variety of educational and fun puzzles and games!

Sheeko Caruur Af-Soomaali ah/ World Language Storytime: Somali **Tues, June 7–28, 6–7 p.m.**
La wadaag buugta, sheek-ooyinka, jaan-gooyada maansada iyo muusikada Soomaalida. *Mashruucaan waxaa lagu maal-galiyey lacag ka timid Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.* Age 2 and up. Experience the world in other languages. ¹

Open Eye Figure Theatre Presents! **Wed. June 22, 10:30 a.m.** Entering kindergarten and up. Puppets in the neighborhood! Join us for a magical interactive puppet show adventure on the Franklin Library lawn. ²

Kids Book Club
Fri. June 24, 4–5 p.m.
Entering grades 4–6. Join other kids to talk about a great book! No pre-reading required. We will share a book and discuss. Pick up a copy of the book at the children’s information desk.

Celebrate African Heritage: Tales of Trickery and Wit
Sat. June 25, 2–3 p.m.
Entering kindergarten and up. Nothando Zulu recreates colorful African and African-American folktales. Learn a Swahili greeting song, hear a West African trickster tale and participate in call-and-response stories.¹

Art Out of the Box: Samurai Style **Thurs. June 30, 2–3 p.m.**
Registration required, begins Jun 2. Register online or call 612.543.6925. Entering grades 2–5. See what the noble warriors of Japan wore and be dazzled by details found in authentic samurai armor at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Get a taste of samurai fashion in an art workshop inspired by ancient Japanese armor.^{i ii 6}

Teen Programs

Game On! Gaming Wednesdays
Weds. June 1–Aug. 31, 2–4 p.m.
Grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!⁷

Reading Club
Wed.s June 1–Aug. 31, 4–5 p.m.
Entering grade 6 and up. Come explore the literary worlds of fact, fiction and adventures! Share your ideas and creativity along the way. ^{iv}.

Game On! Gaming Thursdays
Thurs. June 2–Aug. 25, 2–5 p.m.
Entering grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!

Teen Center Writing Workshop
Thurs. June 2–Aug. 25, 5–7 p.m.
Entering grade 6 and up. On paper or online, words are our most valuable tool for self expression. You will have the opportunity to complete and share a planned writing activity or bring your own writing to work on. Then you will explore

possibilities for publication.^{iv}

Photography Fridays
Fris June 3–Aug. 26, 3–5 p.m.
Entering grade 6 and up. Explore and photograph our community. Visit local neighborhood galleries, organizations and other destinations. Please pick up parental permission forms for field trips beforehand. Cameras provided.

Game On! Gaming Tuesdays
Tues.s June 7–Aug. 30, 2–5 p.m.
Entering grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!^{iv}

4-H Mentoring Club
Tue.s June 7–Aug. 23, 5–7 p.m.
Entering grade 6 and up. Learn about urban ecology, health and nutrition, sustainable agriculture and related careers in food science from adults and peer mentors. You also will maintain a community garden and visit local food enterprises.^{iv}

Celebrate African Heritage: Spoken Word Live!
Sat. June 25, 4–5 p.m.
Entering grade 6 and up. Frank Sentwali uses poetry and live music to promote morality, self-reliance and accountability. Learn how spoken word and hip-hop culture evolved and influenced American society and politics. ¹

Adult Programs

Reading Nonfiction for Elder Learners **Fri. June 10, 1–3 p.m.**
Join us as we read and discuss the works of significant nonfiction writers.¹²

Memoir Writing Group
Thurs. June 16, 1–2:30 p.m.
Would you like to create a record of your personal history? Bring what you have written and are willing to read to the group for helpful comments and suggestions. ^v

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

Microsoft Word: Basics
Thurs, June 2 & 30, 6–8 p.m.
Learn how to use the ribbon, enter and delete text, basic formatting, cut, copy and paste; and when to use ‘save’ and ‘save as.’

Microsoft Publisher: Basics
Fri. June 3, 10:30a.m.–12:30 p.m. Learn to use the menus and toolbars to create and publish your own fliers, brochures and greeting cards.

Computer Basics Workshop
Fri. June 3, 1–3 p.m.; Thursdays, June 23 & 30, noon–2 p.m. Learn and bring questions about basic mouse and keyboarding skills, creating an email account, using the Internet and scanning (where available).

Senior Surf Day
Wed. June 15, 10:30 a.m. –



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

12:30 p.m. Learn computer basics, how to navigate and search the Internet and how to access websites of interest to seniors. Get hands-on computer experience with help from representatives of the Senior LinkAge Line®. *Presented in collaboration with the Minnesota Board on Aging; Presented in collaboration with the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging.*

OpenOffice: Basics
Fri. June 24, 10:30a.m. – 12:30 p.m. OpenOffice is a free, multiplatform office suite that can be used to create documents, spreadsheets and presentations. Learn how to use Open Office in the library and how to download and install the program at home or work.

Franklin Learning Center: 952-847-2934

The Franklin Learning Center offers free, one-to-one tutoring for adults who are learning English and math, preparing for the GED and citizenship exams, and gaining life skills. We are always looking for community volunteers! No experience necessary; we provide training and materials. Contact us at 952-847-2934.

(Endnotes)

1 Funding and Partnerships *Mashruucaan waxaa lagu maal-galiyey lacag ka timid MN Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.*

2 Library Fdn Henn. Cty.

6 Partnership with the Mpls. Institute of Arts.

7 Library Fdn. of Henn. Cty through a grant from The McKnight Foundation.

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

Alley opps...we forgot...

In the May 2011 Alley Newspaper we forgot to give credit to Marck Rusch and Seward Co-op Grocery and Deli for giving permission to reprint the article, **Get Zapped When You Bike to the Co-op** originally from their own publication, Sprout. It was about registering your bike for possible award of \$100. in food. **...did you remember to register?**

This spring, Seward Co-op is partnering with local business Dero Bike Rack Company to promote healthy travel to and from the co-op for members. We’re calling it “ZAP,” and it’s a great way to see how biking to the co-op reduces your impact on the environment.

...you could win \$100.00 of groceries or deli food.

Dero installed a solar-powered “ZAP” station. Using radio frequencies, the station detects plas-

tic ZAP tags (in our case, attached to members’ bikes registered in the program) passing within a 20-foot radius. Each time a bicycle equipped with a tag travels within this radius, the ZAP station registers the trip and adds it to that member’s tally. Each bike trip to the co-op equals one ZAP Point. At the end of every month, all members with at least one ZAP Point are entered into a drawing for a \$100 Seward Co-op gift voucher.

All Seward Co-op members are eligible to register in ZAP. Just ride your bike to Seward Co-op and ask at the Customer Service desk to register.

The first ZAP tag is free of charge. Additional tags for other cyclists who use your membership (your member number) and/or for additional bicycles may be purchased at the Customer Service desk for \$4.

Enjoy Soup and Bread at Empty Bowls Event for a Donation Open Arms and Parks Partner for Good Food, Cash, Gift Bowls June 4th, 2011 from 1pm to 4pm.

BY JENNIFER BERGNER

Asking for a \$10-\$15 donation per bowl, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. The donation includes a handmade bowl, made by staff and students in the ceramics program at Stewart Park, and some soup and bread, made by Open Arms of Minnesota.

All of proceeds go towards the summer meal program at East Phillips Park Community and Cultural Center. EPPCCC and Open Arms of MN are partnering to bring homemade, healthy, unique, and culturally specific meals to youth in the Phillips Community.

SPORTSTALK interview with Lindsay Whalen of the Minnesota Lynx

By Ray Jay & Young Dex

Lindsay Whalen talked with The Alley, and when asked about her return home, she said, “It’s been good. Having another year, this is the second year. I feel a lot more comfortable with everything and you know, it is home for me and I just want to do my best, for Minneapolis, St Paul and the whole state and bring a lot of success to the team this season.”

[See the whole interview on www.alleynews.org]

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"Hats Off" as Honors are Given

May 19, 2011, marked the perfect ending to a perfect week for Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery—the kind of week that comes around once every 83 years. It was a week in which we celebrated the history of Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial (formerly Layman's) Cemetery while making a little history of our own. May is National Preservation Month, a time when preservationists and their supporters call attention to efforts to save the nation's historic treasures. One of those national treasures is right here in Phillips Community.

Grand Opening of the Restored Main Gate "Hinges" on contributions

On Tuesday, May 17th, about 60 people attended the unveiling of Phase I of the restoration of the cemetery's gates and the 13 sections of the fence that were in the worst condition. The weather was glorious, the tulips were in full bloom, and even the dandelions looked festive. A lime-green dune buggy buzzed around one of the vacant lots across from the Lake Street gates where guests gathered to listen to speakers. A gentleman walking down Lake Street removed his hat and held it over his heart as he passed by the cemetery gates. Council Member Gary Schiff made the opening remarks. He was followed by Winnie Layman Fernstrom, great-great-granddaughter of the cemetery's original owners; Britta Bloomberg from the State Historic Preservation Office; Chad Larsen, Chair of the Heritage Preservation Commission; Joyce Wisdom, Executive Director of the Lake Street Business Council; and me, as

Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery

SUE HUNTER WEIR
81st in a Series

Chair of Friends of the Cemetery. The message was clear: this project wouldn't have been possible without the hard work and generous support of many individuals and agencies. The State Historic Preservation Office and the City of Minneapolis have provided the lion's share of funding, but the value of contributions from those who have adopted pickets can not be overstated. Funders want to know, and rightly so, that the projects that they fund have broad public support; they want to know that a project matters.

Council Member Schiff and Winnie Layman Fernstrom did the honors of opening the Lake Street gates. Winnie noted that it was a day of which her Great-Great-Grandparents Martin and Elizabeth Layman, the cemetery's original owners and among the city's finest early residents, would have been proud. Tim McCall, cemetery archivist, recorded the event for posterity: 100 years from now (or even sooner), a historian will be able to look back and see that something historic happened on Lake Street in the Phillips neighborhood on May 17, 2011.

Award Highlights exemplified cooperation and preservation

On Thursday, May 20th, all of the partners involved in this restoration project received an award at the 20th annual Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Awards ceremony. The award was for a project that "exemplifies a land-



A crowd witnesses the Grand Opening of the Renovated Main Cemetery Gate on Lake St. The first burial within the Cemetery was in 1853. Coincidentally, the Lake St. and Cedar Ave. sides of the Cemetery with ornate fencing and stone columns is 1853 long.

scape that is being returned to its original character in a manner that is respectful to the property's historic past." And, what a past that is. The first burial took place in 1853 five years before Minnesota became a state. (Interestingly, the Lake Street and Cedar Avenue portions of the fence are 1,853 feet long). Today, more people walk or drive by the cemetery than lived in the entire city during the cemetery's early decades. The cemetery is the largest green space on Lake Street between the Mississippi River eastward and the lakes at the west edge of Minneapolis. The award winners included Miller Dunwiddie Architects, staff from the City of Minneapolis' Community Planning and Economic Development and Public Works Department, Terra Contracting, and Friends of the Cemetery.

The restoration is not over. Phase II of the restoration which will restore another 33 sections of the fence is funded. Funding for

Phase III is still needed.

Prints-for-Pickets

Photojournalist Wing Young Huie, who is himself one of Minnesota's great treasures, has generously offered to donate part of the proceeds from the sale of prints from his Lake Street U.S.A. project to the fence fund. By buying one of his prints, you can support two great causes: historic preservation and the arts. The images and an order form can be found at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/docs/Lake_Street_USA_Order_Form.pdf.

Adopt-A-Picket

If you have not adopted a picket or would like to add more pickets to your collection, you can make a donation at Friends of the Cemetery, P. O. Box 7345, Minneapolis, MN 55407 or online at www.friendsofthecemetery.org. To all of you who have helped in this effort, thank you for making history in Phillips.

142nd Memorial Day Celebration

The perfect week in the middle of the month was a wonderful preface culminating with the 142nd Memorial Day Celebration with music, flowers, speeches, and military honors. That whole story will appear in the July Alley.

"A gentleman walking down Lake Street removed his hat and held it over his heart as he passed by the cemetery gates." And now may we all make whatever similar salute we choose to the memory of those buried here and also to the vigilant work of hundreds of "friends of the cemetery" who continue to enhance this place and all of the history enclosed herein. Especially, "hats off" to Sue Hunter Weir for her diligence in raising the awareness of this sacred place and its stories for us and generations to follow. Editor]

Alley oops!...Last month's photo of Asa Clark Brown was reprinted courtesy Geoff Rasmussen, a relative.

Searching – A Serial Novelle Chapter 27: "Komma"

BY PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

While Angel was having the ride of his life, Luz was trying to get back from the deep darkness that had crept—no, roared back—into hers. She had never forgotten the pain and humiliation of her adolescence, in fact on some days she could almost taste what the boys had done to her and said to her, and what the

girls whispered around her. But she had tried to stuff it down so far into herself that she felt her body always heavy and tired. And now, one of those who had hurt her had come back. He wore a new scar on his face, courtesy of the man she loved.

"I'm glad Angel cut him," she said out loud, "I wish he would have killed him!" And immedi-

ately begin to sob.

Luz had been taught the way of forgiveness. Not just by words at her church, but by the loving actions of her uncle and aunt who had raised her. After her assault, when she had become by turns withdrawn and openly hostile, they had hung in there with her. Even when she ran away, when she came home drunk, when she cursed at them, they still loved her. There were consequences, but there was always more than enough love. When she began to cut herself, they got her help. They never gave up even when she did. She had survived because of that, she had grown. Deep in herself, she felt she should forgive. Deeper still, she didn't think she could.

For this was something else. This was something meant to kill her soul. The wounding that began in junior high became the wounding that she carried forever. The wounding that made her despise others, and despise herself more. For years, she had blamed herself for what happened. Today, she had been face to face with the wound itself. Who or what could unwind a wounding that deep?

She walked and walked. Cried and cried. She tried to get it out

of herself, but no one can do that alone. But where to go? The Migra was watching her uncle's house. Angel's house wasn't safe either. She kept walking and walking as the snow stopped and the city took on an almost heavenly hue. For a moment, she didn't know where she was. She stopped and looked around at the world gone white. The rage and hatred and shame in her had subsided, and she felt an eerie kind of peace. But where am I, she wondered.

What she didn't know was that she was back in the swale. The place where Mateo Kelly Hidalgo was born in 1868; the place where his ghost was said to roam. Mateo Kelly Hidalgo, a relative of both her and Angel, perhaps even a direct ancestor.

Luz was standing on 16th Avenue near the Greenway, about a block from the bakery her uncle had owned, a little less than a block from where Angel had been beaten and left for dead. Then someone spoke. She was sure of it. She looked around, up and down the Avenue and up and down 29th. It spoke again. A soft, soothing voice that seemed to be speaking to her. Or maybe it's speaking in me, she thought. She could feel some word forming inside of her,

but it wasn't her word. Who was talking to her, talking in her? She shivered, and then heard clearly, "komma".

It was coming from the second house from the corner. A small blue house with white trim, and just a touch of gold on the window frames. There were candles in all the windows, and the sidewalk and steps had been shoveled clean. She walked up to the steps and was about to ring the bell, when an old woman, older than any she had ever seen, opened the door. Her skin was leathery and her hair stone white, but Luz saw in her eyes a light that she had never seen.

"Komma," the woman said, smiling. "Komma till mi". And she waved Luz into the living room, where a fire burned in the fireplace, a tea service and ginger cookies sat on a little table, and a small wrinkled man—if he indeed was a man—played on his violin the sweetest song Luz had ever heard.

Keep citizen journalism alive in the Phillips Community! Donate online at www.alleynews.org

Summer Bridge



to Success

of our students' summers. Summer Bridge to Success runs for five weeks, June 21st-July 28th, excluding the week of July 4th. It is Tuesday-Thursday each week from 9:30-3pm.

Open to students entering 1st grade through 8th grade. The fee is \$50 per student, this price includes: meals, t-shirt, weekly field trips and all educational materials.

If you are interested in attending please contact our Summer Bridge to Success Director, Carrie Butcher 612-871-2353 ex. 25 or butcher.tfl@gmail.com
Trinity First Lutheran School
1115 East 19th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55404

ATTENTION FAMILIES!

Please join us at Trinity First Lutheran School this summer for our Summer Bridge to Success program! This program is a mixture of VBS and summer school and is the highlight

CCC: “Snack Attack”

a Cuisine Commentary by Courtney

Ecuadorian “Countryman’s” platter delights at Guayaquil

BY COURTNEY ALGEO

Although I tend to eat a lot of Mexican and Mexican-inspired foodstuffs, I recently realized that I’ve never intentionally sought out other types of Latin American delicacies. Rather than sitting around all day trying to figure out why this is, I immediately decided to remedy this issue, and at the suggestion of a friend, dined at Guayaquil at Lake St. and Bloomington Ave.

A simple Ecuadorian restaurant of modest decoration and awesome (I suspect) weekend karaoke offerings after 9 p.m., Guayaquil is almost hidden by all of the hubbub and bright colored buildings

the items which included tripe. I wanted something new, that would knock my socks off and burn the name Guayaquil, and a map of South America, onto my belly. Under the menu heading “Especialidades de la Casa” one item caused for me the room to grow quiet, and my vision to tunnel: Bandeja Paisa. A dish that hails typically from Columbia, Bandeja Paisa is described in the Guayaquil menu as a “countryman’s platter of fried pork, fried egg, fried sweet plantain, an arepa (corn cake) and avocado with beans and rice.” Though not a countryman, I am pretty much always interested in



Guayaquil
1526 E Lake St
Minneapolis, MN 55407
612.722.2344

fried pork and avocados. I feel that typically \$13 is a lot to spend on a dish that is mainly beans and rice, but the amount of food that filled my plate was definitely in proportion to the price. Despite being hungry, and a hearty eater, I found myself unable to finish the meal. This was actually a good thing; I was able to relive parts of the meal later, while rummaging through my fridge for a late-night snack. Pro tip: Always, always take home your leftovers.

The fried pork served was actually two different cuts of pork. One cut was more like a pork strip, while the other was literally just a slab of fried fat and was unbelievably delicious. The fried egg was neither too drippy, nor rubbery and added to the richness of the fried meat. While the rice and beans were pretty standard, the arepa was a nice addition to the typical starches, and the fruits offered a break from the heaviness of the rest of the dish.

In fact, the meal was so rich and filling that I am pretty sure that a lazybones like me probably doesn’t deserve (as far as caloric intake goes) such a rich, delicious meal of fats and starches. Of course, that’s never stopped me before.

Lake Street Oral History

50’s emigrants found romance, jobs, home, and business ownership Right on Lake Street

BY CAROL BLAIR AS TOLD TO CHRIS OIEN

Carol and her husband were involved with Soderberg’s Floral at 3305 E. Lake St. for almost 50 years, and owned it for 30 of them. She remembers how they got started there and what it was like. To see the full interview, go to www.youtube.com/visit-lakestreet

My name is Carol Blair, my husband is Lyle Eugene Blair, sometimes call him Gene. My husband started working at Soderberg’s in 1957, and we got married in 1959. He graduated from high school in 1956 from Huntley, Minnesota. He stayed on the farm and helped his dad, and got a chauffeur’s license so he could take grain or cattle to market. He worked for one year and came up in the fall of 1957 to go to North Central Bible College. He was looking for work for about a week, and they had a bulletin board at the school where they listed job opportunities. So his roommate came in and said, could I have a ride to Soderberg’s Floral, they’re looking for a driver. Both of them ended up going in and talking to the Soderbergs. After a little discussion, the Soderbergs told them, one of you guys come back, we don’t care which one. On the way back to the school, they discussed the situation that my husband had a car and his roommate didn’t, and he had a chauffeur’s license, so it fell to my husband to start working there.

In 1958, I graduated from high school in Menomonie, WI and came to the city to go to North Central Bible College, and met my husband. The first time he asked me for a date, I was over in the lounge with a bunch of other students. He came in and made an announcement. “I have a delivery to make out by Excelsior, anybody like to go?” And I thought, yeah I’d kind of like to go, but I’d rather be asked personally, so I just sat there and didn’t say anything. He turned and left the

BY CHRIS OIEN & JOYCE WISDOM

Right On Lake Street



Video of Chris Oien’s interview with Carol Blair is online at <http://youtu.be/La5zNYQz84g>

room, then came back and said to me, Duane and his girlfriend will go too, would you like to go with me? So our first date was delivering flowers.

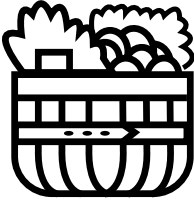
In December 1964, Mr. Soderberg passed away, so Gene and another one of the fellows in the store more or less co-managed the place. Mrs. Soderberg at that time sold the store to her son Jerry, her oldest of three kids. He didn’t have any interest in the business, he was a lawyer downtown. I think my husband said in the next six years, he came in the store twice. During this time, 1971 or 1972, my husband worked for a year and a half at a machine shop, and it was very different. It was: bell rang you went to work, bell rang you stopped and ate a sandwich, bell rang and you went

back to work. He was more of a people person, so he went back to Soderberg’s in 1972. In 1976, they asked him if he’d be interested in buying the business. My husband and I talked about it, and said if we sell our house, because in 1967 we had bought a house a block away, then we could buy the business. The next morning, the son Jerry’s wife called and said, don’t worry about selling the house, we’ll take it as down payment on the property here, so that’s how we ended up buying the flower shop.

If I had life to do over again, and tried to choose a job, I couldn’t think of a better place, because we enjoyed it. You never knew what would happen. Some people say their jobs are boring, and on holidays we’d get tired, but we were never bored.

FOOD OBSESSION:

YOU’RE HAVING WHAT FOR LUNCH?



BY JANE THOMSON

Beside startling names, what these two recipes have in common is that they can help use up odds and ends of uninteresting foods, and do it simply.

EGGS IN PURGATORY -

Adapted from “Dash”, the food advertising glossy supplement found monthly in the Pioneer Press and S’Trib.

For four eggs:
1 to 2 cups of marinara sauce (or ketchup, or chili sauce , or cocktail sauce, or steak sauce, or any savory red condiment; or even spaghetti sauce)
½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
4 eggs or 1 cup egg substitute
1 to 2 cups of Parmesan cheese
black pepper

Simmer sauce with red pepper flakes in skillet. Crack eggs, or pour egg substitute into sauce. Cook until set as desired. Top with Parmesan and black pepper.

Am I alone in thinking that some of the prettiest strawberries often taste “blah”?

SAUTEED STRAWBERRIES WITH CINNAMON AND FRESH

LIME - From the Pioneer Press
2 tablespoons of brown sugar
1 tablespoon of butter (I used less)
1 tablespoon lime juice (bottled is fine; I used more to make up for butter)
¼ teaspoon cinnamon

1 pint of strawberries, washed, hulled and halved or quartered depending on size (about 2 cups)

In medium skillet over medium-low heat, stir together brown sugar, butter, lime juice and cinnamon. Cook until bubbling. Add berries. Toss for 2 minutes. Remove from heat.

The recipe says to serve immediately; but I found the sauce kept for several days in the fridge. It is would be good on ice cream, yoghurt, pancakes, waffles, hot cereal, etc.

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"The Alley" Goes to Harvard Law School, Cambridge & Old South Hall, Boston

"Spirit of Phillips" to be experienced by its Cartoonist and Editor from Phillips

BY HARVEY WINJE, EDITOR, THE ALLEY NEWSPAPER

Fifty-nine years ago, as a young boy growing up in Phillips, my parents enrolled me at Wendell Phillips Junior High School on 13th Avenue and East 24th Street where housing stands now north of the Phillips Community Center Pool and Gym. To the best of my recollection, no one ever told us who Wendell Phillips was or why the school was named from him when it was built in 1926. The only reference to Wendell Phillips that I can remember is that a picture of him hung in the front lobby of the school.

Forty years ago, I spotted a book titled Prophet of Liberty: the Life and Times of Wendell Phillips by Oscar Sherwin in a used book store where

a dollar and a half bought me the explanation not given at our junior high school. The life of Wendell Phillips opened a whole new endeavor of study for me of mid-19th century history. By learning about the namesake of our community, I was also able to link our community's current struggles for human rights and social justice with people like Wendell Phillips who were willing to speak up and passionately debate and agitate for the rights of women, immigrants, slaves, and all other disenfranchised in the 1800's. Learning about the life of Wendell Phillips has not only inspired me but has helped to ground me in my own pursuit of social justice for the Phillips Community in my work with The Alley Newspaper.

Twenty-Five years ago some Phillips friends gave a gift of Wendell Phillips Liberty's Hero by James Brewer Stewart to me. Fascinated by his captivating writing in updating the biography of Wendell Phillips and Ann Greene Phillips, I sought out Professor Stewart of Macalaster College in 1999 which led to Phillips TV students interviewing him on camera. Brewer will be the keynote speaker at the June Bicentennial Symposium at Harvard Law Schools Charles Houston Hamilton Institute for Race and Justice. Some sessions are at Old South Hall in Boston where issues have been debated since Revolutionary Days of the United States.

Dave Moore, Spirit of Phillips

cartoonist for The Alley, and I will soon be on the streets of Boston and Cambridge participating at the Wendell Phillips Symposium which will celebrate Wendell's 200th birthday. Touring the streets and sites where Wendell Phillips and his contemporaries walked, talked and agitated will be thrilling. Phillips was banned from the Harvard campus even though a graduate of the University and the Law School because of his stands for peace and justice. To be able to listen to old and new insights of scholars about that time of civil unrest and Wendell Phillips and comparing its relevance today in a year of enormous agitation and unrest to injustice will be more than I could have imagined.

Even more unbelievable is that

these same scholars want to hear about this community in the Midwest called "Phillips" that continues with or without an understanding of its namesake to speak out and seek what is right for the common good of all. Dave Moore and I will be proud to represent this dynamic community and to bring back what we have learned so that we can continue to inspire each other to action. Stay tuned for our "report back to the community" event and Alley Communications, Inc.'s own Wendell Phillips 200 Year Birthday Celebration happening sometime this fall.

For further info: wendellphillips.org and historiansagainstslavery.org

Two Films from the 2011 Twin Cities International Film Festival "Dossier K" (2009)



Two Films from the 2011 Twin Cities International Film Festival Eyeworks Films Best of the Fest "Best of the Fest" (2009) "Dossier K" (2009)

★★★★☆

Crime Cast: Koen De Bouw (Eric Vincke), Werner De Smedt (Freddy Verstuyft), Blerim Destani (Nazim Tahir), Hilde De Baerderemaker (Linda de Leenheer), Marieke Dilles (Naomi) Greg Timmerman (Wm Cassiers), John van Assche (Commissioner Francois Vanporys), Naksuti Vildan (Ukay Taahir), Flip Peeters (Majoor De Keyster), Katelijne Verbeke (Moeder Naomi), Fatos Kryeziu (De Magere), Sven De Ridder (Balieman), R. Kan Albay (Prek Shehu). **Running time:** 100 minutes. **Country:** Belgium. **Language:** Dutch/Albanian. **Director:** Jan Verbeyen. **Screenwriter:** Jeff Geeraerts.

When Blerim Destani (Nazim Tahir) finds out his father has been murdered in Antwerp by a rival Gaba clan he sets out to avenge his father's death. But before he goes on his quest he stops in Antwerp to consult with his godfather, Prek Shehu (R. Kan Albay), leader of the family mafia clan.

Police officer Vincke (Koen De Bouw) and Detective Verstuyft (Werner De Smedt) move to get to the bottom of the murder and fight head on the Albanian mob taking Antwerp by storm.

From the onset, Nazim must eliminate his opponents, be elusive from the law and the mob, then disappear. Can one man be so adapt and cunning as to beat the odds?



HOWARD MCQUITTER II
Movie Corner
Howardsmoviecorner.com
HowardMcQuitterii@yahoo.com

"In Another Lifetime" (2010)

★★★★☆

Drama

Cast: Peter Vegh (Lou Gandolf), Thomas Franzel (Raphael Glasberg), Ildiko Dobos (Hannah Konig), Kobiciska Kalman (Jokbo Konig). **Running time:** 90 minutes. **Language:** German. **Country:** Austria/Hungary/Germany. **Director:** Elisabeth Scharang.

Twenty Hungarian Jews en route to a concentration camp temporarily are held up on a farm in an Austrian village in the last days of World War II. Responding to their horrible plight, a captive from Budapest, Lou Gandolf (Peter Vegh), an opera singer with a tenor voice, decides to organize the handful of Jews for an operetta. The wife and daughter on the farm enter the barn with food and water which is forbidden by the Nazis. The husband, a Nazi himself, initially disapproves but softens when music is in the air lending to him getting his accordion out and playing along with the group.

Jackie Cooper dies at 88 after childhood to adult film career

HOWARD MCQUITTER II
Movie Coffin

Howardsmoviecorner.com
HowardMcQuitterii@yahoo.com

Jackie Cooper (R.I.P.): September 15, 1922-May 3, 2011. Cooper is the first child actor to receive an Academy Award nomination. He is nine, nominated in the Best Actor in a Leading Role for "Skippy" (1931). Cooper is the youngest nominee in any category at age eight for "Kramer vs. Kramer" (1979).

Besides a star in "Our Gang," Cooper's early silver screen appearances in "The Champ" (1931), with Wallace Beery, "The Bowery" (1933), "Treasure Island" (1934),

"The Devil Is a Sissy" (1936) "Boy of the Streets" (1937), "Streets of New York" (1939), "Seventeen" (1940), "The Return of Frank James" (1940) made a household name.

Jackie Cooper played Perry White in "Superman: The Movie" (1978), "Superman II" (1980), "Superman III" (1983), "Superman IV: The Quest for Peace" (1987).

Cooper was married three times: June Home (1 Child), Hildy Parks and Barbara Rae Kraus



Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery is one of nine Heritage Preservation Awards



The 2011 Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Awards were presented by Preserve Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission, and the Minneapolis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects recognizing projects, individuals, and community organizations that celebrate and enhance the heritage and historic character of Minneapolis.

Submissions were judged on attention to the quality of design, architecture, workmanship, and materials as well as the positive impact on the surrounding neighborhood and community by a panel of three members from each organization.

Winning projects demonstrate high standards of sensitivity for returning an existing building or landscape to its original character;

reinterpreting or transforming the property in a way that is respectful of, but different from, the past. Organizations and people that have made an overall contribution to preservation in

Minneapolis are also honored.

Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery: Fence Restoration – Phase I exemplifies a landscape that is being returned to its original character in a manner that is respectful to the property's historic past. Cedar Ave and Lake Street in Phillips Community. Project Team: Friends of the Cemetery, City of Minneapolis, Miller Dunwiddie, Terra General Contractor, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office.

The Other Award Winners:

Pence Automobile Building 800 Hennepin Ave

Hangar, Ackerman Hall 110 Union Street SE.

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church (phased) Renovation One Lourdes Place.

Elliott family Sunroom restora-

tion 2720 Ewing Avenue South

Gale Mansion's discreet and thoughtful addition 2115 Stevens Ave. S

The Old Highland Neighborhood Association in Near North worked with residents to collect neighborhood history and to collaboratively document 96 neighborhood properties updating and expand the existing self-guided Walking Tour Guide of significant properties in this neighborhood.

Preservation protection and rehabilitation efforts for the 2008 Pillsbury Avenue South home by the local preservation community, Whittier neighborhood, City of Minneapolis Department of Community Planning and Economic Development, and Bell Mortgage is acknowledged. 2008 Pillsbury Ave. S.

Jim Litsheim has displayed leadership, courage, and dedication to heritage preservation in Minneapolis and at the University of Minnesota over the course of his career. The Steve Murray Award is considered the top individual honor for preservation in Minneapolis.

Neighborhood Talk

As of the month of May 2011, the total Public Debt Outstanding of the United States of America bumped the \$14.3 trillion debt ceiling set by Congress. This is not good. Come August, Lord knows what will happen should Congress fail to lift the ceiling.

So, what's going on?

Our country's gross debt has increased over \$500 billion each year since 2003. Why? Because G.W. bush gave a tax cut gift to the super rich which erased roughly \$2 trillion in revenue. Then, of course, there were a couple of Wars which have cost us \$1.1 trillion. To which we must add a financial melt-down which necessitated a bail-out and stimulus even as revenue streams went dry.

Note 1.): A former chief U.N. nuclear inspector is now pressing the World Court to pass judgment as to the degree of criminality in the "grotesque distortions" (i.e. weapons of mass destruction, etc.) which facilitated a war with Iraq and the consequent death of hundreds of thousands of innocent people.

Note 2.): To learn more about the "melt-down" culprits, go get the DVD "Inside Job" to find greed, immorality and power fueled by cocaine and prostitution.

So, what?

So, presently, the Federal government can't pay its bills with-



PETER MOLENAAR

Raise Your Voice

out deficit spending. However, if Congress fails to raise the debt ceiling, deficit spending will become illegal. Which is to say: the Obama administration would then have to pick and choose which bills to pay.

What choices? Social Security, Medicare, the military, and the servicing of the national debt (i.e. interest on government bonds held by rich people, etc.) - these are the choices.

Congressional Republicans have threatened to block any raising of the debt ceiling without massive spending cuts up front. Which choices? Sadly, President Obama has advised his Democrats: "Don't draw any lines in the sand". OMG!

Mr. President, dear man, listen, please. The Republicans know full well that cuts to Social Security and Medicare would induce

Open Letter about Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery and Sue Hunter Weir

As I have gotten to know Sue over the years, I can not even begin to describe how impressed I am with what a great historian, member of our community, and friend Sue is. Sue has such a passion for the cemetery. It may seem like a very niche interest, but Sue has a talent for researching the lives of those Minneapolitans who have come before us and translating them into stories that we may "get to know" these great people in a way that is not communicated through granite. It is inspirational to know someone who "gets it" that life is about putting your energies toward that which you are passionate about.

One of my great self indulgences (when I can find time

to be by myself) is to go to the Midtown Global Market, grab a bite to eat, grab an Alley newspaper, and loose myself in one of Sue's articles about someone who lived in our city 100+ years ago. In particular, Sue brings attention to those who lived rather common, or sometimes even unconventional lives.

These are people who do not have buildings and streets named for them. I'm certain these people would never imagine that 100+ years later there would be this lady putting their life story into print. I love that the organization which cares for the cemetery is named "Friends of the Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery" because if ever a cemetery could have a

"friend," Sue Hunter Weir would be this cemetery's "best" friend.

Brian Finstad

I grew up not too far from this cemetery and rode past it hundreds of times on the bus to downtown not knowing anything about it. It is an interesting example of how poorly history, even local history, is taught to children by our schools.

David Frenkel

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Open Letter

Phillips' youth petition helped create the new Stewart Park Soccer Field

In 2009 the Park Board held a public meeting at Stewart Park to gain input from the community on possible athletic field improvements at the park. The East/Midtown Phillips Youth Soccer teams attended in force. They came prepared with nearly 800

signatures on petitions requesting a new soccer field in the park. With funding help from the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant program and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, that dream became reality.

On May 19th, 2011 a beautiful, state of the art soccer field with artificial turf and field lighting was dedicated with the first Barbeque of the season. The celebration included face painting by Park Staff, Juggling and Balloon magic by William Bradshaw of Fun Time Functions and comments by Park Board Commissioner Scott Vreeland and Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin.

Two youth who were at the 2009 public meeting presented McLaughlin and Vreeland soccer balls signed by many of the young petitioners. The highlight of the day after enjoying the luxurious turf of the new field was watching two of the youngest soccer aficionados score on both commissioners who were totally ineffective as goal tenders.

Brad Pass



Update on the Backyard Initiative

Focus on Mental Health in the Backyard



BY JANICE BARBEE, CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER

Community residents participating in the Backyard Initiative have identified “mental health” as one focus for their work to improve the health of all residents. At their past few monthly meetings, members of the Community Commission on Health and Citizen Health Action Teams (CHATs) of the Backyard Initiative (BYI) have been discussing which health condition all the CHATs would work on together. Community members have named many different aspects of mental health, such as stress, depression, and chemical dependency as having a significant impact on overall health. In the community health assessment conducted in 2009, the top health conditions that residents reported experiencing in the last five years were stress (51%), depression (21%), and high blood pressure (21%).

The BYI is a partnership between Allina Health Systems and the community surrounding Allina headquarters (the four neighborhoods of Phillips, Central, Powderhorn Park, and Corcoran) to develop ways to improve the health of the community. Resident-run CHATs are now implementing their health strategies and are accountable to the Community’s Commission on Health, a group of primarily community residents who are also members of a CHAT.

Mental Health = Healthy Community

At the end of April the CHAT members discussed how each of their projects is addressing mental health and what mental health means to them. People listed the indicators of not being mentally healthy as stress, anxiety, anger, lack of trust, sadness, apathy, hopelessness, helplessness, fear, grief, sense of loss, and feeling isolated.

The Wisdom of the Community

After discussing in small groups how their projects are impacting mental health, the CHAT members reported to each other what their conclusions were. What emerged from the discussion was a picture of a healthy community, because everyone affirmed that a healthy community is what it takes for people to be mentally healthy. The most frequent word linked to mental health was connection – people need connection to each other, to their heritage and culture, to something bigger than themselves.

- “We’re trying to get people to be connected and trust each other because that’s the biggest thing that will affect people’s state of mental health.”
- “Connectedness helps people find purpose in their life — they get plugged in and connect and that gives them the energy for their health.”
- “It seems like people care more about themselves because people care about them.”
- “Connecting, communication is health.”

• “Being able to connect with community, with neighbors, with your old cultural heritage because then you can know what’s inside you, where you come from, your roots, and you are self-aware — that’s mental health.”

• “Acceptance of who you are and where you are is important.”

• “If I was going to summarize mental health, I [would quote] e.e. cummings: ‘I am through you so I.’ That’s the closest way I can think of how we’re connected ...”

• “We [need to] reach across... boundaries and dialogue together more than just when something bad happens.

• “I think we’re rebirthing our community here – showing people how to cook, how to be connected, how to be a community again.”

• “If one of us is in trouble, we all are in trouble, if one of us is stuck, we all are stuck, if one of us is in despair, we are all in despair and we need to work on it.”

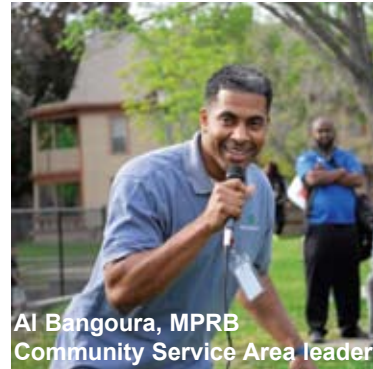
What Mental Health and a Healthy Community Looks Like

CHAT members painted the following picture of mental health, which also describes what the CHATs are helping to make happen through their projects: When people are mentally healthy, they are:

- Connected to each other
- Connected to their culture
- Taking care of themselves
- Feeling supported
- Feeling heard
- Sharing culture, experiences
- Showing others they care
- Trusting each other
- Full of energy and purpose
- Working together
- Making music together
- Expressing themselves, their spirit
- Feeling they are a part of something greater than themselves
- Able to resolve conflict; nothing is allowed to fester
- Feeling balanced overall – through the ups and downs of life
- Understanding perfection is not possible
- Accepting themselves
- Teaching, mentoring each other
- Connecting across generations, through time
- Talking to each other
- Doing things together
- Doing things for each other

All community residents are invited to the first BYI community forum on Friday, June 24th, from 8 – 10 AM at the Cultural Wellness Center. The topic will be health care policy. All Backyard residents are also welcome to come to the community meetings on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 5 PM. The Cultural Wellness Center is located at 1527 East Lake Street in the Franklin Bank Building. Call the Cultural Wellness Center at 621-721-5745 for more information.

Stewart Soccer Field “Kickoff” Grand Opening Highlights Vast Field and Program Improvements



BY MPRB AND HARVEY WINJE

Phillips Community soccer playing youth and adults, Hennepin County, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) celebrated the completion of work on Stewart Field with a Grand Opening celebration, complete with music, balloon artists and face painters, Thursday, May 19.

In the culturally diverse Phillips Community of south Minneapolis with more than 7,000 youth*, the availability of a durable and high quality soccer field is essential. Stewart Park at 2700 12th Avenue was hard and worn from overuse. In the Fall of 2010 it was totally renovated including synthetic turf that will improve safety, reduce potential injuries and withstand high volumes of repetitive use with funding from a Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant.

*[See “Phillips’ Youth petition helped create the new Stewart Park Soccer Field” Alley Newspaper, June 2011, page 7]

“Through community involvement, the importance of having a

good-quality soccer field in this neighborhood became extremely evident. Soccer is a very popular activity among children and adults in this neighborhood and there were far too few safe places to play soccer outdoors,” said Scott Vreeland, District 3 MPRB Commissioner. “The Hennepin County Youth Sports Grants made it possible for us to meet the community needs and provide a superior field for the neighborhood to share.”

Neighborhood youth gathered on the new field for a soccer camp, kicked off by Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin after enthusiastically contagious words from Vreeland, McLaughlin and Al Bangoura, MPRB Community Service Area leader.

“Young people in this part of town need a high quality soccer field that can be used even after wet weather. The County is proud to partner with the Community, the parents and the Park Board to make this new facility a reality,” McLaughlin said.

Stewart Park received \$225,000 from the Hennepin County Youth Sports Grant program, plus \$75,000 from the MPRB. The Hennepin County Youth Sports Grants allow municipalities, park districts or school districts to create, expand or improve sport or recreational facilities to enhance opportunities for athletics and recreation.



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