

May 4 MayDay
Parade 12:00 PM
pg 8

May 14 Arbor Day 9:00 pg 5

May 24 Cinema
@Cemetery 7:00 PM pg3

May 26 Memorial Day
10:00 AM pg 3

the Alley NEWSPAPER

NEWS & VIEWS OF PHILLIPS SINCE 1976
MAY 2014 • VOLUME 39, NUMBER 4

The Alley Online!
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Peace Among the People



Melissa Thomas

Hope Academy Students

Painting a story of Peace, Equality, and Teamwork with Tenacity on 48' canvas

BY CATHERINE TONG

Students from Hope Academy are sharing a story, but this story will contain few written words. It is the story of a Wangari Maathai, a Kenyan woman and is told with paint on a 48' long stretch of canvases. It is the story of a woman who planted hope for her people, and it's told by 60 students who are beginning to paint their own life stories. Listen in.

Wangari's story: Wangari Maathai was born in Kenya in 1940. After attending university in the U.S., Wangari returned to Kenya only to find her homeland ravaged by deforestation and her people suffering the consequences. One seedling at a time, Wangari began a movement of tree

planting, known as The Greenbelt Movement, in her village, surrounding cities, and eventually across Kenya. Although she faced much opposition, Wangari persevered in order to help her people provide themselves with firewood, clean drinking water, balanced diets, shelter, and income. While she led the way, Maathai said, "I'm very conscious of the fact that you can't do it alone. It's teamwork. When you do it alone, you run the risk that when you are no longer there nobody else will do it." Wangari was awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004.

The story of creating the mural: After reading the book, *Wangari's Trees of Peace* by Jeanette Winter, students from

the 4th grade, 6th grade, and 11th/12th grade art classes at Hope Academy collaborated to design a large mural to retell Wangari's story. Each of the groups began brainstorming ideas for their piece of the mural. Under the direction of art teachers Tasha Irving, Catherine Tong, and Elisa Fonseca, students helped sketch out a plan. After one month, meeting once to two times weekly, the mural was completed. The most challenging part, according to 4th grader, Caeden C., was "trying to work around each other with paint and agreeing on who should paint which parts". But the payoff

Hope Academy Students
see page 5

"Selecting my work for the Nobel Peace Prize challenged the world to broaden the understanding of peace: There can be no peace without equitable development; and there can be no development without sustainable management of the environment in a democratic and peaceful space."

Wangari Muta Maathai

Born: April 1, 1940; Nyeri, Kenya

Died: Sept. 25, 2011; Nairobi, Kenya

Wangari Maathai was a Kenyan political and environmental and women's right's activist and her country's assistant minister of environment, natural resources and wildlife.

"Throughout my life, I have never stopped to strategize my next steps. I often just kept walking along, through whichever doors open."

—Wangari Maathai

In 1971, Wangari Maathai received a Ph.D., effectively becoming the first woman in either East or Central Africa to earn a doctorate. She was elected to Kenya's National Assembly in 2002 and has written several books and scholarly articles. She won the Nobel Peace Prize for her "holistic approach to sustainable development that embraces democracy, human rights, and women's rights in particular." Maathai died of cancer.

Wangari Maathai grew up in a small village. Her father supported the family working as a tenant farmer. At this time, Kenya was still a British colony. Maathai's family decided to send her to school, which was uncommon for girls to be educated at this time. She started at a local primary school when she was 8 years old.

An excellent student, Maathai was able to continue her education at the Loreto Girls' High School. She won a scholarship in 1960 to go to college in the United States. Maathai attended Mount St. Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas, where she earned a bachelor's degree in biology in 1964. Two years later, she completed a master's degree in biological sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. Maathai would later draw inspiration by the civil rights and anti-Vietnam War movements in the United States.

Returning to Kenya, Maathai studied veterinary anatomy at the University of Nairobi. She made



history in 1971, becoming the first woman in East Africa to earn a doctorate degree. Maathai joined the university's faculty and became the first woman to chair a university department in the region in 1976.

Green Belt Movement

Maathai sought to end the devastation of Kenya's forests and lands caused by development and remedy the negative impact that this development had on the country's environment. In 1977, she launched the Green Belt Movement to reforest her beloved country while helping the nation's women. "Women needed income and they needed resources because theirs were being depleted," Maathai explained to *People* magazine. "So we decided to solve both problems together."

Proving to be very successful, the movement is responsible for the planting of more than 30 million trees in Kenya and providing roughly 30,000 women with new skills and opportunities. Maathai also challenged the government on its development plans and its handling of the country's land. An outspoken critic of dictator Daniel arap Moi, she was beaten and arrested numerous times. One of her most famous actions was in 1989. Maathai and her organization staged a protest in Nairobi's Uhuru Park to prevent the construction of a skyscraper. Her campaign drew international attention, and the

Maathai
see page 5

Gabriel García Márquez 1928–2014

Father of "Magical Realism" has died having given an incredible literary legacy

Colombian novelist and Nobel laureate Gabriel García Márquez died April 17th. He wrote some of the most beautiful words ever put to paper in Spanish or English.

Two of his greatest literary works were "Love in the Time of Cholera" and "One Hundred Years of Solitude."

Considered the father of magical realism and the most important Spanish-language author since Miguel de Cervantes in the 17th century, García Márquez' powerful impact on the literary world will not be soon forgotten.

"What matters in life is not what happens to you but what you remember and how you remember it."

"If I knew that today would be the last time I'd see you, I would hug you tight and pray the Lord be the keeper of your soul. If I knew that this would be the last time you pass through this door, I'd embrace you, kiss you, and call you back for one more. If I knew that this would be the last time I would hear



your voice, I'd take hold of each word to be able to hear it over and over again. If I knew this is the last time I see you, I'd tell you I love you, and would not just assume foolishly you know it already." Gabriel García Márquez March 6, 1928-April 17, 2014; *One Hundred Years of Solitude*



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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 (181-1885)
Wendell Phillips (1811-1884)

Alley Communications reporters, columnists, and artists are neighbors and friends who contribute their time and work. This issue includes but is not limited to the following:

Robert Albee, Jilian Clearman, Mili Dutti, Elisa Fonseca, Clarasophia Gust, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Hennepin County Franklin Library, Russ Gregg, Hope Academy, Sue Hunter Weir, In the Heart of the Beast Theatre, Jacy Hildrith, International Institute of Minnesota, Tasha Irving, Jackson, Jana Metge, Jonathan Miller, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Jan Nye, Laney Ohmans, Brad Pass, Carol Pass, PWNO, Jim and Roni Robischon, Dale Rott, Eric Schiltz, Sonny Sevigny, Ashley Sibri, Sandy Spieler, Melissa Thomas, Erin Thomasson, Catherine Tong, Crystal Trautnau Winschil

Door to Door Delivery: Youth group from Calvary Church, Donna Neste, Bob, Brad, Brad, Carol, Patrick, Cathy, Dave, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Jacy, Jana, Heidi, Howard, Joyce, Marjorie, Midtown Phillips, Paul, Phillips West N Org., Simmons Family, Raymond, Stephanie, Tara, Ventura Village, Will you deliver a block or two or your apartment? Call Harvey 612-990-4022

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.

Board of Directors: Cathy Strobel, President; Leon Oman, Treasurer; Sue Hunter Weir; Joan Hautman.

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**May Alley
Deadline:
May 15**

BY ERIN THOMASSON

Children & Family Programs

Homework Help

Tues, Wed & Thurs, 3:30-7:30 pm Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up.

Family Storytime

Wed, 10:30 am Children of all ages & parent or caregiver. Talk, sing, read, write & play together in a format appropriate for young children. Share books, stories, rhymes, music & movement.

Teen Programs at Franklin Teen Center

4-H Mentoring Club

Tues, 5-7 pm From urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater.

O.P.E.N. Time

Tues, 7-8 pm Options for Play & Enrichment Now At Teen Center; choose from computers, magazines, board games, video games, brain teasers, conversation.

Movies for Teens

Wed, 6-8 pm. Movie titles chosen by teens.

GameTime!

Wed, May 7 & 21, 4:30-5:30 pm. A new or retro gaming system. Compare with peers when you're playing 8-bit style!

Teen Tech Workshop

Wed, May 14 & 28, 4:30-6 pm Get creative & make music, videos, animation & other projects using both high- & low-tech tools, everything from iPads to LEGOS® to wooden dowels.

Young Achievers

Thurs, 4-5:30 pm Want involvement in your community? Bring friends & come for poetry, arts, games & more!

Teen Job Workshop

Thurs, May 1 & 15, 6:00 pm Looking for a job? Drop in during these informal workshops to get help creating your resumé, searching & applying for jobs online, practicing interview skills.

ArtVentures

Thurs, May 8, 22 & 29, 6-7:15 pm. Explore your creativity while learning about the vibrant arts scene right in our community! Vists from local artists and trips to see working artists in action.

Adult Programs

Seniors Play-Reading Group

Fri, May 9, 11 am-Noon Stimulating morning of reading & discussion of some of the great plays of our heritage.

55+ Nonfiction Book Club

Fri, May 9, 1-3 pm Discussion

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

of new & interesting nonfiction titles. Bring along your recommendations for future meetings.

Memoir Writing Group

Thurs, May 15, 1-3 pm Want to create a record of personal history? Bring what you have written & are willing to read to the group for helpful comments and suggestions.

Phillips Technology Center

Register www.hclib.org or 612.543.6925

Microsoft Excel: Basics

Fri, May 16, 10-11:30 am Learn the basics of working with an Excel spreadsheet: navigation, entering data & using formulas.

Microsoft Excel: Charts and Graphs

Fri, May 16, noon-1:30 pm Learn to create & integrate graphs and charts into your Excel spreadsheets.

Microsoft Word: Basics

Sat, May 17, 10-11:30 am Learn how to use the ribbon, enter and delete text, basic formatting, cut, copy and paste; & when to use 'save' & 'save as.'

Computer Skills Workshop

Sat, May 17, 12-1:30 pm Work on projects and practice skills from using the mouse and keyboarding to using email and Microsoft Office with our software instructors & volunteer assistants.

Franklin Learning Center: 952-847-2934

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

May 1st (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. – *Phillips West Community Meeting!*

Join your neighbors and other Community Partners for updates from Local City Government, Business Partners, Residents, and Minneapolis Police. This meeting will take place at the Center for Changing Lives in the Centrum Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking is available in the rear of building off Oakland Avenue. Free Pizza & Beverages will be provided! If you would like more information or would like to get involved with the neighborhood please contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com



May 3rd (Saturday) 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.-

Phillips West Spring Clean Up! Join your neighbors & other Community Partners for a block by block litter pick up starting at 9:30 a.m. but first join us for a free breakfast from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. at the Center for Changing Lives in the Centrum Room located at 2400 Park Avenue. After breakfast we will provide free bags, gloves and maps for all volunteers! Perfect volunteer opportunity for large groups, family & youth! There is free parking in the rear of building off of Oakland. For more information call Crystal at 612/879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com



BY SUNNY SEVIGNY

MAY Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association Board meeting:

May 13, 6:30-8pm. Stewart Park (Arts & Crafts Room), 2700 12th Ave S, Minneapolis

AGENDA:

- Review our current NRP Phase II plan in addition to highlighting our board's key initiatives started by the previous board (30 min.)
- Review budget, bylaws, policies and procedures specific to Midtown Phillips (30 min.)
- Action to change budget to allow for translation/child care expenses (10 min.)
- Form a subcommittee for the development of the website, newsletter and updating our graphic look/logo. (10 min.)
- Action to nominate Housing Chair. Mary Matze has volunteered for this role. (10 min.)

MAY Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association Community Meeting:

May 27, 6:30-8pm. Stewart Park (Multi-purpose Room), 2700 12th Ave S, Minneapolis

AGENDA:

- Discuss traffic calming on 26th and 28th. Alondra Cano, Ninth Ward Minneapolis City Council Member, to come and discuss (20 min.)
- Resources for homeowners with disabilities and pest removal, Sustainable Resource Center to offer prevention and pest removal tips. (15 min.)
- Housing program update (GMMHC), Housing Loan vendor to speak (20 min.)
- Rental property care, Renter Advocacy Group to speak (15 min.)
- Presentation of 2014 Community Engagement and Outreach to be conducted by HOTB and St Paul's in partnership with Midtown Phillips, as funded by the 2014 CPP grant. (Community Participation Program). (20 min.)



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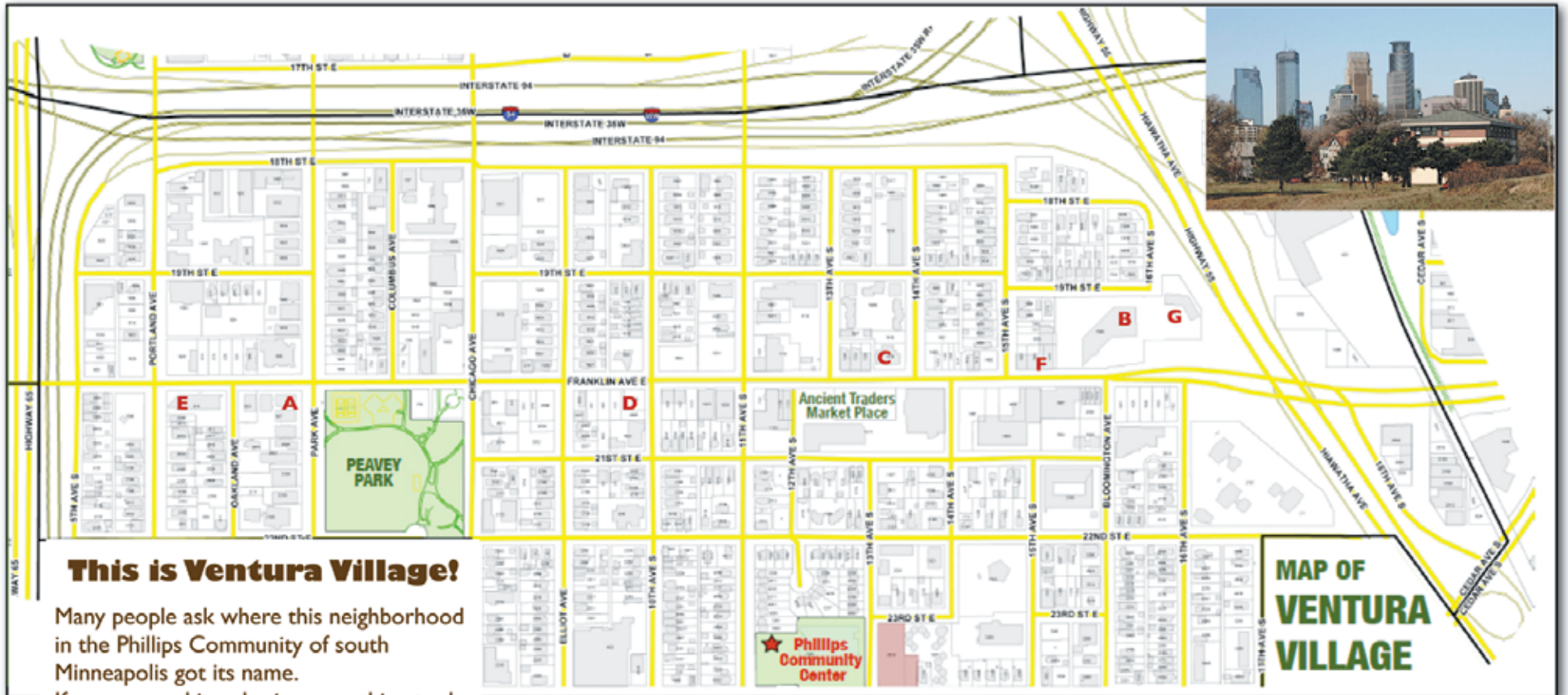
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VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

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

NEWS



This is Ventura Village!

Many people ask where this neighborhood in the Phillips Community of south Minneapolis got its name.

If you guessed it as having something to do with former Governor Jesse Ventura, you'd be guessing right! Unfortunately, it was a joke that sort of stuck, when a group of north Phillips residents got together trying to figure out a new name, since under the previous People of Phillips (POP), it was simply called D-2 or District Two of the Phillips Neighborhood.

When the neighborhood was broken into four different legal entities along the boundaries of the previous POP districts, some residents wanted the new name to be "North Phillips" or the "Franklin Neighborhood". When it came to an impasse, I sarcastically said, "Why not just call it Ventura Village?"

The name stuck! To cover up the aroma of that decision, another person added the "Ventura means Happiness and Good Luck to You! Buena Ventura!" That stuck too so now we have this name and we are doing everything we can to make it a place of "happiness and good luck" for our residents and stakeholders. — R. R. Albee

Founded in 2002

Although this area has always been part of Phillips, the neighborhood was only recognized by the City of Minneapolis in 2002. That means that the neighborhood association is vested by the City as the official organization to legally represent the interests and concerns of residents and property owners located there.

Old and New Architecture graces Ventura Village



Buildings sketched here are located along East Franklin Avenue. L to R: A) Mark Orfield's Apartments; B) Minneapolis American Indian Center; C) Franklin Library; D) Franklin Artworks & Project For Pride in Living; E) Children's Village; F) Many Rivers East Apartments; G) Anishinabe Wakiagun

Many of the original buildings constructed along the East Franklin Avenue thoroughway have been torn down and replaced with newer purposed commercial and residential structures. Yet unlike parts of the downtown area, some truly beautiful buildings remain. The 1914 Carnegie-funded Franklin Community Library has "been a gathering place for new immigrants and lifelong learners" since it opened. It truly anchors the block in which it stands and informs the design of adjacent buildings, such as Many Rivers East and West and the Anishinabe Wakiagun residential building a bit east along Franklin Avenue.

Mark Orfield's classic apartments along Franklin and Park Avenue have graced Phillips for decades and show how timeless design must be preserved at all costs. The Franklin Artworks was transformed from a Porno Palace and soon will add a new vitality to the area. Children's Village at Franklin and Portland was the

first of four new buildings to anchor the western part of Ventura Village. This is part of the vision of Hope Community's to transform areas of decay and depression into a vibrant community that ensures lower income people that they will not be replaced by gentrification strategies.

These and many other newer buildings are part of an effort that began in the early 1990's that has brought more than \$130 million of new investment into the Ventura Village part of the Phillips Community. The fourth corner of Franklin and Portland will see new construction in 2014, along with Trinity First Lutheran's building on Franklin and 13th Street. In addition to these projects, Norway House will be replacing Wings Financial on Franklin and Tenth and will be constructing new structures on that block. The American Indian Community Development Corporation has been working on a project further east near Highway 55 and may receive the green light this year. Native American Community Development Institute is already underway in an arts-related boulevard strip project between Highway 55 (Hiawatha Avenue) and the Metro Light Rail's Franklin Station. All of this means that Ventura Village is chocked full of exciting projects and artworks that transform the landscape. — R.R. Albee

VENTURA VILLAGE'S MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

- 2nd Wednesdays: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS: 6:00 PM
- 2nd Wednesdays: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: 7:00 PM
- 1st Tuesdays: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 5:30 PM
- 1st Tuesdays: WELLNESS, GREENING & GARDENING COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 6:30 PM
- 3rd Thursdays: BI-MONTHLY BUSINESS COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 6:00 PM
- Last Thursdays: HOUSING & LAND USE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 5:30 PM
- Last Thursdays: CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETINGS: 6:30 PM
- PARKS COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Call for next meeting time.
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Call for next meeting time.



A mural and sculpture is part of the American Indian Corridor.



Philippine Insurrection Veteran

John A. Robischon, died 1909 at 30 honored with grave marker in 2014

John A. Robischon is one of our recently discovered veterans. In April 2013, Jim and Roni Robischon contacted the cemetery because they were planning a trip to Minneapolis and wanted to visit the graves of their relatives who are buried in the cemetery. John Robischon was Jim's great uncle. Peter Robischon, one of John's children, is also buried in the cemetery close, but not next to, his father. In one of the e-mails that we exchanged, Roni mentioned that John Robischon was a veteran. His military records show that he served in what was called at the time the Philippine Insurrection.

He enlisted at Sauk Center, Minnesota on August 9, 1899, as a private in Company B of the 34th U.S. Infantry. Although he was

20 years old at the time he was considered a minor and needed his father's consent in order to enlist. His military papers provide a detailed physical description of him so that we know that he was 5'6" tall and weighed 122 pounds. He had a slight astigmatism in his right eye but in his left eye his vision was 20/20. He had two noticeable scars, one on his right temple and the other on his right foot. Like so many veterans of the Philippine-American War he was sick much of the time that he was in the service. He suffered from malaria, gastritis, and from injuries due to an accident.

When he got out of the service he married Hulda Erickson. They had three children: John (1903), Lilliane (1905) and Peter Earl

Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery

SUE HUNTER WEIR
111TH IN A SERIES

(1906). Peter died from iliocolitis in 1907 at the age of one year, 3 months and 10 days. A little less than two years later, on July 11, 1909, John Robischon died from stomach cancer; he was 30 years old.

After over one hundred years his grave will finally have a marker. With the permission of his family and the documentation that they provided, John Robischon has a beautiful, upright, marble marker. We hope that we will be able to get it set before Memorial Day.



Spanish-American War from Apr. 25, 1898 to Dec. 10, 1898. U.S. received Philippines by Treaty from Spain. Revolutionary leaders of Philippines had Spain as a common enemy during the Sp-Am War but after didn't want one colonial power to replace another. The Philippine Insurrection began Feb. 4, 1899 lasting until July 4th, 1902 during which 125,000 troops served costing \$400 M, 4,200 Americans died & 2,900 wounded. John Robischon was one of those wounded and died soon after the peace.

COMING SOON! TO A CEMETERY NEAR YOU



"THE GENERAL"

Starring BUSTER KEATON

With music by DREAMLAND FACES

Cinema in the Cemetery kicks off the season on May 24, 2014, with an outdoor screening of Buster Keaton's 1924 comic masterpiece, THE GENERAL. Local musicians DREAMLAND FACES will play an original score during the screening. The gates will open at 7 p.m. and the film will start at sundown, approximately 8:30. Come early and go on a history hunt. Bring a blanket or lawn chair to sit on.

This event is sponsored by Friends of the Cemetery, in conjunction with Take-Up Productions, The Trylon Microcinema and allstarvideo.org.

Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the gate. Take-Up punch cards are accepted. Proceeds go to the Cemetery's Fence Restoration Fund.

Pioneer and Soldiers Cemetery 146th Memorial Day Ceremony

May 26 at 10 AM

This year's Memorial Day observance, the 146th at Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery, will take place on Monday, May 26th at 10 a.m. Please join us in remembering John Robischon and almost 200 other veterans along with a Color Guard, Band, Speakers, and Military Volley with Taps.

At 1:00 in the afternoon there will be a history talk (seated) followed by an optional walking tour. All events are free and everyone is welcome to attend.



MIDTOWN GLOBAL MARKET



GLOBAL SALSA COOK-OFF
SATURDAY, MAY 3, 12 - 2PM

Come taste a variety of samples from across the globe created by Midtown Global Chefs

Proceeds support El Colegio

\$3 requested donation

What's Happening in East Phillips Park?

A lot! Everything from - Open Gym for tots and their parents to Basketball and Soccer - Pottery and ceramics for youth and adults to Creative Arts - Girl Power Leadership Development to Youth and Adult Computer Labs - and Much, Much MORE.

Outdoor Soccer, baseball and softball have already started. When school is out, the wading pool will open. Movies in the Center will give way to Movies in the Park when weather permits - Check all the Activities, Classes, & Schedules in the link below.

Follow this link to see Spring 2014 Programs and events in:

East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center (pages 6 to 26), Elliot, Peavey, Phillips Community Center and Stewart Parks pages (pages 27 to 54) <http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/documents/recCtrs/ServiceArea/UpperSouth/PartBUpperSouthWinterProgram.pdf>

(NOTE: Winter 2014 is included so check the available dates.)

For more information contact the East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center at 612-370-4888

Spring Hours:

Monday - Friday, 3:00 - 9:00 pm

Saturday - 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 pm



Hope Academy Students *Headline is theme of the Festival of Nations, May 1-4

Painting: Peace, Equality, and Teamwork with Tenacity on 48' canvas



was great, not only in the finished project but in the learning that took place in the process. 4th grader, Javier T., loved accomplishing something together that none of them could have done on their own. Wangari's message was sinking in.

The stories of the children: Students at Hope Academy come from a wide range of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, truly reflecting the Phillips neighborhood, where Hope Academy started out nearly 15 years ago. No matter where their stories have taken them thus far, Hope's mission for them is this: "To foster hope in God within the inner-city neighborhoods of Minneapolis by providing youth with an outstanding, Christ-centered education." The students at Hope are excelling in all areas, not only academics. One parent comments about her son, "My friends say he has a level of honor and respect that is different." Students are taught they can and should make a difference in their families, neighborhoods, and

world. While creating the mural, 6th grade student Olanta G. commented about Wangari, "She planted trees. It inspired people to be who they wanted to be and make a difference in the world."

The mural will be display at the 82nd annual "Festival of Nations" which will be held May 1-4 at the St. Paul RiverCentre. The festival is Minnesota's largest and longest standing festival celebrating cultural diversity. Representatives from 90 ethnic groups will bring music, demonstrations, ethnic foods, exhibits,

and dance. The theme for this year, "Peace Among the People", will highlight a Peace Path leading to a Peace Garden in the exhibition area. Hope's mural will be a major part of the Peace Path. Come walk the path and be inspired by both the story of Wangari and of the youth of our neighborhood. For more info visit festivalofnations.com and hopeschool.org. (Mural measures 4'x48' stretched across six canvases)

Catherine Tong, is Hope Academy Lower School Art Teacher

Volunteer for Arbor Day Planting on the Midtown Greenway!

**Midtown Community Works 14th Annual Arbor Day Event
Saturday, May 3, Rain or Shine Kickoff at 9:00 a.m. Begin planting at 9:30 a.m.**

Volunteers will plant trees and shrubs west of the Sabo Bridge between Cedar Avenue and Hiawatha Avenue.

Tree & shrub planting & care training will be provided. Coffee, water and shovels will be provided. Don't forget your gloves!

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Rebecca Harnik at 612-879-0106 or Rebecca@midtowngreenway.org.



Maathai

from page 1

project was eventually dropped. The place in the park where she demonstrated became known as "Freedom Corner."

The following year, Maathai was beaten and badly injured at another protest in "Freedom Corner." She was calling for the release of political prisoners. What had started out as an environmental movement quickly became a political effort as well. "Nobody would have bothered me if all I did was to encourage women to plant trees," she later said, according to *The Economist*. But I started seeing the linkages between the problems that we were dealing with and the root causes of environmental degradation. And one of those root causes was misgovernance."

Internationally Acclaimed Activist

Maathai remained a vocal opponent of the Kenyan government until Moi's political party lost control in 2002. After several failed attempts, she finally earned a seat in the country's parliament that same year. Maathai soon was appointed assistant minister of environment, natural resources and wildlife. In 2004, she received a remarkable honor. Maathai was given the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize for "her contribution to sustain-

able development, democracy and peace," according to the Nobel Foundation website.

In her Nobel speech, Maathai said that picking her for the renowned peace prize "challenged the world to broaden the understanding of peace: There can be no peace without equitable development; and there can be no development without sustainable management of the environment in a democratic and peaceful space." She also called for the release of fellow activist Aung San Suu Kyi in her talk.

Later Years

Maathai shared her amazing life story with the world in the 2006 memoir *Unbowed*. Maathai was survived by her three children: Waweru, Wanjira and Muta.

Former U.S. vice president and fellow environmentalist Al Gore was among those who offered remembrances of Maathai. "Wangari overcame incredible obstacles to devote her life to service—service to her children, to her constituents, to the women, and indeed all the people of Kenya—and to the world as a whole," according to *The New York Times*. She remains a potent example of how one person can be a force for change. As Maathai once wrote in her memoir, "What people see as fearlessness is really persistence."

T-SHIRT Design Competition Invitation

Deadline for Design Submittal: Sunday, Aug. 17th, 2014

**To Phillips YOUTH
for
2014 Phillips Community
Clean Sweep Event
Saturday, October 11th 2014**

DESIGN DETAILS:

- Eye catching front design
- One color is preferred; two colors acceptable.
- Must include:
 - 2014
 - Phillips Community Clean Sweep
 - Green Sweep
 - East Phillips, Midtown Phillips, Phillips West, Ventura Village and Little Earth
- T-Shirt color and contrasting ink colors suggestion

ALL SUBMISSIONS become the property of the Selection Committee
THE WINNING DESIGN will be edited and finalized for printing
THE WINNER will receive \$55.00, two T-Shirts, Set of 26 "Spirit of Phillips" greeting cards by Dave Moore and Linnea Hadaway (\$45. Value) and recognition as the Winning Designer and Featured in The Alley Newspaper.

SUBMIT DESIGNS TO:

Brad Pass, bpas@usinternet.com or 2536 18th Ave. S., Mpls., MN 55404 – Phone 612-916-8478 – Fax 612-722-5509

Running Wolf Facility now Phillips Fitness Center by Park Board

BY AL BANGOURA

Unfortunately, Running Wolf was no longer able to operate the fitness center at the Phillips Community Center. We would like to thank staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the fitness center a success and for all their efforts and care that was provided for the community who used the fitness center every day. We also want to thank Connie Norman for her leadership and dedication to Running Wolf and the community. Thank you Connie!

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, recognizing the value of the fitness center to the community and its role in providing services to its residents, entered into an agreement with Indian Health Board and the Native American Community Clinic to take over operation of the fitness center starting in January 2014.

To help make this transition as fluid as possible, The MPRB is working to ensure as little change as possible to the fitness center users, for example:

- Operating hours will remain the same, 10am-7pm Monday – Thursday, and Saturdays 10am-2pm. Phillips Fitness Center is now open 10am-7pm Mon-Fri and Sat 10am-2pm
- Monthly dues will remain at

\$10.00 per month

- Members can re-register with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board at the fitness center and will be issued a membership card.
 - There will still be personal trainers and group fitness classes available at the center, instructors will be scheduled over the next few weeks.
- The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board thanks all of the users for their patience and understanding during this time of transition, and look forward to providing the best service possible promoting healthy living at Phillips Community Center. Again, MPRB's purpose is to continue the essential services that was provided for our community and continue to provide for the health and well-being of our community which we serve every day. If you have any question please contact Anthony Papa at 612-370-4946 and he will be more than happy to give further detail and information.

Al Bangoura, CPRP Former Director of Recreation Centers and Programs. Al has moved out of state because of new employment in his family.

- Phillips Fitness Center has a certified personal trainer on site to help members reach their fitness goals.

- The Fitness Center is now open Mon.-Sat. (6 days a week instead of 5). Mon.-Fri. 10am-7pm and Sat. 10am-2pm
- The Fitness Center now has 249 members.
- The MPRB have partnerships with Native American Community Clinic, Indian Health Board, Minneapolis American Indian Center, Nawayee Center School, Kateri Residence, Eastside Neighborhood Services, and Health Partners/Children's Hospital (Vida Sana).
- Group fitness programs are available Mon.-Fri. for all members. Please see attached schedule. (ie. Self-Defense, Step Class, Cardio-Kick box, Yoga, and Zumba-Vida Sana)
- All group fitness instructors are VOLUNTEERS!

Waite House Healthy Living Initiative

BY JILIAN CLEARMAN, INITIATIVE COORDINATOR

There are some fun new ways to get active in Phillips this spring and summer. As part of its mission to make the healthy choice the easy choice for everyone in the neighborhood, the Waite House Phillips Community Healthy Living Initiative is proud to support the following activities through its Active Living Micro-Grant Program. Do you have an idea for a new fitness activity, or know of an existing activity that could use more support? Another round of grants is planned for later this year. Visit phillipscommunity.org and sign up for the quarterly newsletter to be notified when proposals will be accepted for the next round of Active Living Micro-Grant funding.

Bike and Eat

Adults and families are invited to join Hope Community for these monthly rides to different places for good food, bike support, and

fun. Planned destinations include nearby farmers markets and the SPOKES Bike/Walk Center. Each ride will include a picnic lunch. Registration starts in April and the rides will take place on the first Saturday of every month from May to October.

Contact: Betsy Sohn, 612-435-1672, bsohn@hope-community.org
Kwe.Strong Triathlon

Now in its third year, Kwe.Strong recruits Native American women and girls of all ages to bike, walk/run, and canoe at Lake Calhoun on August 23rd, building health, confidence and connections between participants as well as inspiring them as change-makers. Weekly group practices start soon. Contact: Lisa Skjefte, 612-423-3044, lisa.skjefte@gmail.com

Homegrown Lacrosse

This youth sports program focuses on the Native American origins of lacrosse as well as teaching participants the fundamentals of the game. The program is open to all boys and girls from 2nd to 8th grade. The upcoming session runs April 21st through June 4th. Contact: Shane Thompson, 612-708-0699, shane@homegrownlacrosse.org

Self Defense for Girls

This program teaches all aspects of self defense using the Five Fingers technique of Mind, Voice, Escape, Fight, and Tell. Learn simple defensive moves that any woman can use as well as the confidence and mental habits to avoid freezing in a dangerous situation. Class runs May 5th through the 20th and is open to girls age 10-16 and their mothers, sisters, or other important adult women in their lives. Contact: Sonia Nunez-Gibbs, 612-408-9181, learning.in.conversation@gmail.com

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Diabetes

Tai Chi is a simple, low-stress form of exercise, but it can have enormous health benefits. This class is geared toward elders, but anyone living with arthritis or diabetes is welcome to attend. Each 45-60 minute class is followed by 45 minutes of tea time and socializing with classmates and instructors. Tai Chi for Diabetes starts April 24th and Tai Chi for Arthritis starts June 19th.

Contact: Tracy Kiebler, 952-215-7052, tracy@apparentplan.org



Out In The Backyard MAY Fitness Class Schedule

a BYI-BackYard Initiative Community Health Action
See www.outinthebackyard.org for other activities.

Yoga Sat. 10:00 am at Powderhorn Park

Yoga Sat. 1:30 pm at CANDO

Yoga Tues. 6:30 pm at East Phillips Community Center

Zumba Mon. 6:30 pm at Powderhorn Park

Zumba Wed. 6.30 pm at Powderhorn Park

Hip-Hop

Brazilian Samba 6:30 Fri. at Powderhorn Park

Powderhorn Park Community Center at 3400 15th Ave. So.

CANDO* Community Space 3736 Chicago Ave. So.

East Phillips Cultural Community Center 2703 17th Ave. So.

*CANDO is Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization

Don't Miss Our Spring Sale! May 3-10

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Midtown Phillips homeowners can apply for a 2% interest loan to repair or improve their home:

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Native Sons

What happens to people who drive west on Franklin Avenue to the point where it ceases to exist? It is likely they will turn south on Penn Avenue and discover Birchbark Books one block away. That's what happened to me.

Birchbark is locally our best store of Native American Indian literature. I did purchase one of Louise Erdrich's fourteen novels while there.

But it was by chance that I perused a geography book which revealed a park named after our state's second governor. There exists within this park, on a tributary of the Minnesota River, a lovely waterfall now called Ramsey Falls... another Dakota sacred site named in honor of a shameless conqueror.

Is the true name lost? What happens to people who drive southeast for eight hours? They will find the land where wild garlic once grew in great abundance. "Shikaakwa" was the Illiniwek word for this medicine plant. From the tongues of early French explorers, the word became "Checagou." Today we call the place "Chicago."

Owing to the mean spirit of the Indian Relocation Act, the Chicago area is now home to some 40,000 Native Americans from more than 50 tribes. The unintended result of relocation has been the creation of a multi-tribal community with a common identity. Since 1953, the



PETER MOLENAAR
Raise Your Voice

American Indian center of Chicago has nurtured the development of this new nationality.

Chicago is also a place which radiates a rich history of Labor struggles, including the activities of Communists. About a year ago I paid a visit and had the pleasure of meeting a comrade of Dakota descent there.

This young man was all about class-consciousness. His analysis flowed from the vantage of all social classes in the course of their dynamic inter-relation... in the fashion of a Marxist-Leninist working class partisan. I "pushed back" gently with the suggestion that he would do well to deepen the examination of his own heritage. He might, for example, make a study of the power of women in the traditional Dakota village.

It happened then that two Minnesotans became brothers in the "land of wild garlic."

Frank Reflections

Iraqi Judge "brushes off" Bush lawsuit against Iraqis for George's death

BY FRANK ERICKSON

An Iraqi judge has dismissed a lawsuit brought against certain individuals in the Iraqi government who killed George Bush with a drone strike in 2005—the lawsuit was filed by Bush family members.

Allowing a lawsuit against individuals "would hinder their ability in the future to act decisively in defense of Iraq interests" said the Iraqi judge.

I can understand the outrage that people here in America are experiencing right now. That a foreign judge would so easily dismiss something not based on it being right or wrong, but I based on keeping the door open so people from the judge's country are free to kill more with drone strikes. They seem to carry out justice only when it is convenient for them and in their best interest.

Look at what these creepy foreign invaders and their drones have done to our psyches over the years...you can't even go outside without the fear and panic, wondering if you will be next, if they are watching you, following you. No one should have to live this way, children should not have to live this way.

"The fact that George Bush was an active and exceedingly danger-

ous enemy of the Iraqi people, irrespective of his distance, location and citizenship. As evidenced by his participation in the 'shock and awe' attack, Bush was able to persuade, direct and wage war against Iraq from his location in Washington, without being present on an official battlefield," said the Iraqi judge.

The judge also said, "the Iraqi government moved against George Bush as authorized by the defendants and officials acted in accordance with the 'Authorization for Use of Military Force' enacted by the Iraqi government after the 'shock and awe' attack in 2003." Well, there ya go-I guess that might makes it right.

V.J. District Judge Rosemary Collyer, gave the Obama clan a good scolding before dismissing the case against certain individuals who killed three U.S. citizens in Yemen in 2011 with a drone strike. Also included in the lawsuit was the killing of Hamza Dahman, a boy killed in 2012 by a V.J. drone strike.

Judge Collyer said, "the executive is not an effective check of the executive"—very good, the judge showed why she is also so ineffective—the United States is not an effective check on the United States.

One month after killing Anwar al-Awlaki, the U.S. killed his son Abdulrahman, 16-year old, why the hell did they do that? The parents of Anwar lost their son and then a month later lost their grandson and Collyer dismisses their lawsuit.

Just how did the U.S. acquire this right that they believe they have to "decisively and without hesitation in defense of U.S. interests" kill men and young boys like Abdulrahman al-Awlaki and Hamza Dahman...they appear to have acquired it from killing Native American men and boys 200 years ago.

Help End Police Brutality

BY ERIC SCHILTZ

Now that spring has arrived, the Committee for Professional Policing (CfPP) is looking for community-minded people to help us in our project to increase accountability for Minneapolis police. Our plan would require all officers to carry professional liability insurance. The base premium could be paid for by the city but any additional premiums resulting from an officer's actions would be that officer's responsibility. Just as bad drivers see their insurance rates increase and sometimes they become uninsurable, this plan would hold problem officers directly accountable for their misconduct. By law, an officer unable to purchase insurance would not be able to work for the city of Minneapolis. Not only would the community benefit from this kind of accountability, but the police department would be a better place to work for those officers who sincerely want to serve and protect the community.

CfPP must collect 10,000 signatures of registered Minneapolis voters to get this measure on the ballot. We feel certain that far more than 10,000 voters support this new accountability mechanism but we need lots of help gathering these signatures on our petition. This is true grassroots democracy because we are achieving this goal through the actions of the community, without the help of the politicians downtown. If you want to help make Minneapolis safer for everyone, you can volunteer and learn more about the project online at cfppmpls.wordpress.com. Please also see our ad in this issue of the Alley for paid canvassers.

Eric Schiltz is Project Manager of Committee for Professional Policing (CfPP)

HELP WANTED - SOCIAL JUSTICE

Canvassers needed to collect signatures to put police accountability measure on the ballot. Flexible hours, some evenings and weekends. Get paid to help stop police brutality. Contact 612-715-8784 or cfppmpls@yahoo.com.



WONDER? WONDER!



years of MAY DAY!

Thank you, Heart of the Beast Theatre



SILENCED SPRING

Words of inspiration and photos of this year's Workshops

"The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction."
- Rachel Carson

BYI Rebirthing Community CHAT and Communities of Light Coop member, Raymond Jackson, rose at the first May Day community brainstorming meeting and said, "What do we want?---SOLAR POWER!" That led to wonder-ful, joyful thinking about "SOUL-ER POWER". A combination of Sun Energy and Heart Energy. Next came the idea of Soul Train!

with all your senses – your eyes, ears, hearts, minds – The tiny bees are telling us that something is amiss. Their illness is an indication of a much bigger problem.

The ear is associated with the spiral, the whorled shell and the sun... the seat of memory, receptivity, inquisitiveness, and awakening.

The University of Michigan Symbolism Project

"Only within the 20th century has biological thought been focused on ecology, or the relation of the living creature to its environment. Awareness of ecological relationships is- or should be – the basis of modern conservation programs, for it is useless to attempt to preserve a living species unless the kind of land of water it requires is also preserved. So delicately interwoven are the relationships that when we disturb one thread of the community fabric we alter it all – perhaps almost imperceptibly, perhaps so drastically that destruction follows."

-Rachel Carson Essay on the Biological Sciences, in Good Reading (1958)

**1,000,000
SMALL
THINGS**



WONDER SHUFFLE



TURN TO SOUL-ER POWER

GET ON BOARD THE WONDER-FILLED SOLAR SOUL TRAIN!
EVERYONE WELCOME HERE!

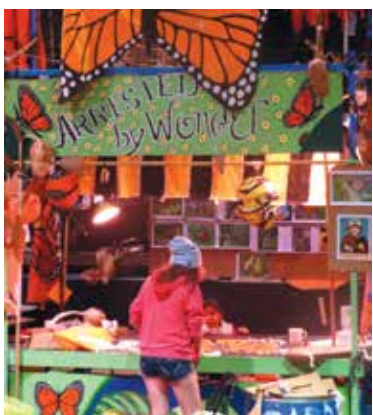
This train features the solar lantern and community weaving work of Communities of Light and ushers in the turning of heart energy and action toward the health of all, just as the great wheel of Sun turns our days into years.

A SOUL-er Train dances in joyful defiance against the dangers posed by then Oil Trains rolling through Minnesota these days. An Oil Spill wreaks havoc with all kin in the ecosystem for decades. But, a Solar Spill results in everyone saying, "WHAT A BEAUTIFUL DAY!"

Hop on board of this Soul Train! Everyone welcome here.

If we "listen into" the Silenced Spring, what might we discover? Open your perception

ARRESTED BY WONDER



BEE KEEPERS OF SWEET WONDER

Mayday Parade, Sunday May 4th at NOON!

The BYI Back Page will return next month. Many Backyard Initiative members have enjoyed working in this year's workshop.

Photos and Back Page design and layout assistance by Clarasophia Gust, Junior, South High School