

Visit  
[www.givemn.org/alley-ally](http://www.givemn.org/alley-ally)  
to donate now and  
become an Alley Ally



**INSIDE: MayDay  
Coverage on  
pg. 6,7 & 10**

# the Alley NEWSPAPER

NEWS & VIEWS OF PHILLIPS SINCE 1976  
MAY 2012 • VOLUME 37, NUMBER 5

The Alley Online!  
[www.alleynews.org](http://www.alleynews.org)



The Alley  
on Twitter  
[www.twitter.com/alleynewspaper](http://www.twitter.com/alleynewspaper)



**"Peace is possible, NOW! That now is gone. That now is**



Augustana Lutheran Church 11th Av. at 7th St.  
in Elliot Park Neighborhood pg 5



Little Earth of United Tribe's  
Mother's Day Pow Wow at Cedar Field pg 12



"Oh the Places You'll Go!" see pg 4.

## SPECTACULAR MAY

BY HARVEY WINJE

In the Heart of the Beast's MayDay Parade and Festival, hallmarks a new Spring season and the month of May which is full of other wonderful events all month surrounding in the neighborhoods surrounding Powderhorn Park, the destination of the Parade and the site of the Festival of Life that will draw tens of thousands of people on Sunday May 6th.

The Parade and Festival, originated to help unite the neighborhoods surrounding Powderhorn Park, has now,

in its 38th year, broadened to become a unifier of individuals, groups, and organizations city-wide, an icon of the City of Minneapolis nationally, and, this year, also embellished by including the local "Transition Town" movement as an "umbrella" theme that advocates for a more sustainable, oil-independent place to live in South Minneapolis and across the globe.

The hundreds of people creating the 38th Parade and Festival have gathered under the HOBT "Avalon" Lobby Story Board and auditorium/workshop work-

bench banners spelling out the Parade's Title and Parade Scene Themes. As workshop participants have already been invigorated, so, too, will Parade participants and Parade watchers be transfixed and transformed by MayDay 2012.

In any other part of town the MayDay Parade and Festival would eclipse other activities through the month. In the BackYard Neighborhoods of Central, Corcoran, East Phillips, Little Earth, Midtown Phillips, Phillips West, Powderhorn Park, and Ventura Village

the vitality and height of celebration and activities continues throughout the month invigorated by this "Kick-Off" to Spring and catalyst for community in our community.

See Pages 6 and 7 for an "Abridged" Guide to the 2012, 38th Annual MayDay Parade and Festival of Life. The Parade's Title and Scene Themes are quickly listed and explained in this issue's centerfold. Bring it and the announcement of other events with you all month long. Have a great month of May!



Clay shaped by hands, covered with  
paper maché, and figures "come to life" pgs 6-7

### **Parades, processions, celebrations, & community gatherings.**

- Occupy May 1 pg 5
- American Indian Wellness Fair pg 8
- Cinco de Mayo: 4th & Lake 27th, Bloomington & Lake, 27th & Lake pg 5
- Grand Re-Opening: Phillips CC pg 12
- Mother's Day, the bringers of all life: LE Pow- Wow pg 12
- Graduation commencements: All schools
- Season Return: Midtown & Midtown Exchange Farmer's Markets
- Memorial Day: Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery celebration pg 3
- Theatre: El Taller; "Theatre of the Oppressed Forum style" pg 10
- And MORE!



Amanda Spencer captures lives' pulses in  
East Phillips Neighborhood of the South Side pg 10



**gone. That now is gone. Peace is possible, NOW!" – Roy McBride, 1943-2011**

**gone. That now is gone. Peace is possible, NOW!" – Roy McBride, 1943-2011**

**"Peace is possible, NOW! That now is gone. That now is**



the

Alley

NEWSPAPER

P.O. Box 7006  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
Editor's Cell Phone 612-990-4022  
editor@alleynews.org  
www.alleynews.org

Follow us twitter.com/alleynewspaper

"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)**  
**Board of Directors:** Cathy Strobel, President; Leon Oman, Treasurer; Sue Hunter Weir, Joan Hautman, Dimpho Orion

**Senior Editor:** Harvey Winje, editor@alleynews.org; 612-990-4022

**Co-Editor and Designer:** Jonathan Miller  
jmiller@alleynews.org

**To Advertise:**  
ads@alleynews.org  
612-990-4022

Alley Communications, a 501C-3, Not-for-Profit Corp. publishes The Alley. Donations are needed, welcome, and Tax Deductible

**Contributors to this issue:**  
Robert Albee, A-Pod, Eric Altenberg, Augustana Lutheran Church, Janice Barbee, Patrick Cabello Hansel, Cultural Wellness Center, Frank Erickson, Friends of the Cemetery, City of Mpls. El Taller Theatre, Stephanie Graves, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Hennepin County Franklin Library, Timophy Den-Herder Thomas, Shirley Heyer, Sue Hunter Weir, In the Heart of the Beast Theatre, Soren Jensen, Brie Joanna, Deborah Jopp, Elise Kylo, Lake Street Council, Little Earth of United Tribes, Main Street, Howard McQuitter II, Metro Blooms, Midtown Farmer's Market, Midtown Greenway Coalition, Jonathan Miller, MSP International Fim Society Mpls. American Indian Center, Mpls. Park and Rec, MN Literacy Society, Danielle Mkali, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, OccupyMay1, Ruth Olkon, Brad Pass, Carol Pass,Ruth Olkon, Samantha "Sami" Pfeffer, Pillsbury-Waite, Sue Redmond, Becky Rice, Running Wolf Fitness Center, St. Paul's Church on 15th, Bruce Silcox, Amanda Spencer, Sandy Spieler,David Spong, Erin Thomasson, Lauretta Dawolo Towns, Crystal Trautnau Windschitl, Dan Wilder.

**Printing:** Finance and Commerce Printing

**Door to Door Delivery:** Youth groups from Calvary Church, Donna Neste, Andrew, Beverly, Brad, Brad, Carol, Christine, Patrick, Leon, Cathy, Dave, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Jacy, Jana, Heidi, Howard, Joyce, Lynne, Marjorie, Midtown Farmer's Market, Nathan Matter, Midtown Phillips, Muriel, Paul, Phillips West, Raymond, Stephanie, Tara, Vi. 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.

**Circulation: 10,000 hard copies and online.**

June Alley

Deadline:

May 15

The Alley Newspaper

is a Member of

Give. And light a fire

under inequality.

www.changeisbetter.com

651-647-0440

May Programs at the Franklin Library

BY ERIN THOMASSON

**Children’s Programs**  
**ECFE: Reading Fun**  
**Fri. May 4, 18 & 25, 10:30–11:30 a.m.** Register Online or 612-543-6925. Infants-Preschool. Parents, bring infants and preschoolers! Enjoy Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) fun, interactive activities for home with child to build literacy skills.  
**Read Book, See Movie - for Kids**  
**Fri May 4, 3:30 p.m.** Grades 3-6. Many books become movies! See movie and chat about differences; book/movie. Call for title!  
**Kids Book Club**  
**Fri May 25, 4–5 p.m.** Grades 4-6. Join others, talk about a great book! No pre-reading req. Share a book and discuss.  
**Family Storytime**  
**Wed 10:30–11 a.m.** Age 2 and up. Share books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement with your child.  
**Teen Programs**  
**Hip-Hop Workshop: Lyricist Legends**  
**Thurs May 3-24, 6–7:30 p.m.** Register Online or 612-543-6925. Grades 7-12. Deep reads of key hip-hop lyricists and explore influences with Rhymesayer Toki Wright. The focus will be on Rakim, Nas, Jay-Z and Eminem.  
**Movies for Teens**  
**Sat May 5, 3 p.m.** Grades 6-12. Movie titles chosen by teens. Big-screen cinema feeling & comfy couches.  
**Game On! Gaming Tuesdays**  
**Tues -thru May 29, 4–5 p.m.** Grades 6-12. Play PS2 or Wii games. Bring a friend& favorite games, or play ours!  
**4-H Mentoring Club**  
**Tues thru May 29, 5–7 p.m.** Grades 6-12. Learn urban ecology, health and nutrition, sustainable agriculture and related careers in food science from adults and peer mentors. Maintain a community garden and visit local food enterprises.  
**Chess Club**  
**Wed thru May 30, 4–6 p.m.** Grades 6-12. Want community involvement? Concerned about your health and lifestyle? Bring friends and come for poetry, arts, games and more!  
**Down Time**  
**Sat May 12, 19 & 26, 2–6 p.m.** Grades 6-12.? Quiet and comfortable space at Franklin Teen Center “down time”. Topic of the week or use computers, board games and other self-directed activities.  
**Adult Programs**  
**Seniors Play-Reading Group**  
**Fri May 11, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.** Stimulating morning of reading and discussion of some of the great plays.  
**Nonfiction Book Discussions for Elder Learners**  
**Fri May 11, 1–3 p.m.** Stimulating discussion of nonfiction books. Info: 612-543-5475.  
**Memoir Writing Group**  
**Thurs May 17, 1–3 p.m.** Create a record of your history. Bring your writing & read to the



**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/**

group for helpful comments and suggestions.

**Phillips Technology Center Computer Skills Workshop**  
**Thurs, May 10 & 17, noon–2 p.m. and Friday, May 18, 1-3 p.m.** Work on skills: mouse and keyboarding to email and Microsoft Office with our software instructors and volunteer assistants.  
**Microsoft Excel: Basics**  
**Thurs May 10, 6–8 p.m.** Learn the basics of Excel spreadsheet: navigation, entering data and using formulas.  
**Microsoft Excel: Charts and Graphs**  
**Fri May 11, 10 a.m. – noon.** Learn to create and integrate graphs and charts into your Excel spreadsheets.  
**Senior Surf Day**  
**Wed May 16, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.** Learn computer basics, navigation and search the Internet and access websites. Hands-on computer experience with help from Senior LinkAge Line®  
**Cloud Computing: Microsoft Office Web Apps and Google Docs**  
**Thurs May 17, 6–8 p.m.** Learn about Google Docs and Microsoft Web Apps, free Web-based applications for documents, spreadsheets, and more. (Familiarity with Internet and email use required)  
**Microsoft Word: Basics**  
**Fri May 18, 10 a.m. – noon.** Learn how to use the ribbon, enter and delete text, basic formatting, cut, copy and paste; and when to use ‘save’ and ‘save as.’  
**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. Community volunteers needed, too! No experience necessary; we provide training & materials. Contact us at 952-847-2934.

Alley Crosswords by Samantha “Sami” Pfeffer

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18					19				
20				21					22					
23								24				25	26	27
			28				29				30			
31	32	33				34					35			
36						37				38				
39					40					41				
42				43					44					
45				46				47				48	49	50
			51				52							
53	54	55				56					57			
58						59					60			
61						62					63			

- Famous Mothers!

**Across:**

1. “Jumpin’ Jack Flash, it’s \_\_\_\_\_” (2 words)

5. Noodle dish in Hong Kong

10. Low’s partner

14. Korean vodka

15. Owls, in Copenhagen

16. Rapper \_\_\_\_ Trice

17. Dowager Queen \_\_\_\_ of Jordan

18. Celebration of the starred clues

20. World of Warcraft?

22. Nope.

\*23. Blue Ivy

24. Regulating org.

25. Photo file

28. After stops

29. Ghosts’ pianos?

31. Aladdin bad guy

34. \_\_\_\_ and response

\*35. Jesus

36. Pontificate

37. Dedication

38. White seabrim

39. Poaching liquor

40. Grooves

41. Radiohead hit

42. An opaque projector

44. Guitar annotation

45. Winner of the 1998 Nobel Price in Economics

46. Fake it

\*47. Persephone

51. 4.0

52. What an open-minded warden does?

53. Thrifty

\*57. Twins Lava and Susha

58. \_\_\_\_ sci.

59. Prongs

60. German carmaker

\*61. Buddha

62. Landform of arid regions

63. Cheers cheer
- Down:**

1. Cold shoulder

\*2. Nursery Rhymes

3. Kangaroo’s baby

4. Temporary mothers

5. Temperate trees

6. Spartan education for boys

7. Utah skiing

8. Federal arts funding

9. Beowulf foe

10. Party giver

11. Intestinal illness, for short

12. Model Carangi

13. “Hello.”

19. The Secret of \_\_\_\_ Inish

21. To sleep loudly?

24. Documents

25. Blast

\*26. Bart, Lisa, Maggie

27. Mental warfare tactical missions

\*29. Luke and Leia

30. Actor Miller, CSI: MIAMI

\*31. Industrial Workers of the World

32. “\_\_ \_\_\_\_ of the Lock”

33. Oliver Twist bad guy?

34. Cause to adhere

38. “You’re a winner!”

\*40. Oedipus, Antigone, Eteocles, Polynices, Ismene

43. Cartoonist behind Li'l Abner

\*44. Missionaries of Charity

47. Dried figs

48. Sont \_\_\_\_, Star Wars vigilante leader

49. “Abandon all hope, ye who \_\_\_\_ here”

50. Kingdom

\*51. Everyone

52. Plague

53. In advertising, every 1000 views

54. Snooty neighborhood org.

55. Up north

56. \_\_\_\_ Kardashian

April Answers

F	L	A	T		P	A	L	K		A	B	A	S	E
L	E	N	A		H	L	E	B		R	O	L	O	S
O	A	T	S		Y	A	D	A		C	O	O	P	S
W	H	I	T	E	S	T	A	R	L	I	N	E	S	
			E	D	I	T			O	N	E			
A	A	A		I	C	E	B	E	R	G		F	B	I
C	R	O	O	N			L	I	E		A	R	O	N
H	E	R	M	A	I	D	E	N	V	O	Y	A	G	E
E	T	T	A		N	I	A			R	E	T	E	E
S	E	A		A	N	D	R	E	W	S		S	Y	S
			E	N	E			C	H	E	M			
	G	R	A	N	D	S	T	A	I	R	C	A	S	E
H	A	I	K	U		H	A	R	T		I	D	E	A
O	N	E	L	A		O	L	D	E		N	E	A	R
V	I	N	Y	L		T	E	S	S		G	N	U	S



A Memorial Tribute

Walter and John Carpenter, War of 1812; Edwin Barnum, Civil War; and to all men and women who ‘gave the last full measure of devotion’ in service to America

On May 28, 2012, Americans will pause to pay tribute to the men and women who have died in war. It is a tradition that goes back to 1868 when General Logan issued his General Order #11 which set aside one day a year for remembrance.

At Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, we have other reasons to be grateful to the veterans and their families and friends. They are the people who, more than any others, are the reason that the cemetery exists today.

After the City Council voted to close the cemetery to future burials in 1919, the remains of approximately 6,000 to 7,000 people, including many veterans, were moved to other cemeteries. But there were some families who refused to have their loved ones moved, and families of veterans were among the most vocal in their opposition.

One such family was the family of Edwin Barnum. During the Civil War, Mr. Barnum served in Company L of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment U.S. Veteran Engineers; he died in 1911 at the age of 73 and was buried next to his infant daughter, Ella Loretta Barnum, who

had died in 1867. Mr. Barnum’s brother, George, also a Civil War veteran, served in Company F, 3<sup>rd</sup> Minnesota Infantry, and is buried in the family plot next to their mother, Hannah Barnum.

Edwin Barnum’s widow, Mary, was asked to remove the remains of her husband and daughter in 1922. By the time that she received that notification, she had remarried and was living in Blue Lake, California. Since she was elderly and in poor health, she referred the matter to her step-daughter, Caroline Clemens, daughter of Edwin Barnum. Mrs. Clemens’ response to the cemetery’s superintendent was swift and unambiguous. She wrote: “Under no circumstances will I permit the moving of my father’s body...You have no legal right to remove a single body until the cemetery has been [regularly] condemned as cemetery property by the City of Minneapolis.” In her response, Mrs. Clemens hit upon an important distinction, one that was central to preserving the cemetery. The City Council had not “condemned” the cemetery but had only “closed it to future burials.” She went on to say: “I forbid you to touch the bodies,”

Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery

SUE HUNTER WEIR

92<sup>nd</sup> in a Series

and forwarded a copy of her letter to a Hennepin County District Judge. As it turned out, she did not need to take legal action--the City of Minneapolis purchased the rights of the Layman Land Company and assumed responsibility for maintaining the cemetery in 1927.

Edwin and George Barnum are just two of the veterans who will be honored on Memorial Day. At 9 a.m., in honor of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the War of 1812, the Minnesota Chapter of the U.S. Daughters of 1812, will pay tribute to Walter and John Carpenter, brothers, who served in the War of 1812. At 10 a.m., a traditional Memorial Day observance, the 144th in the cemetery’s history, will take place. At 1 p.m., there will be a talk about the cemetery’s history followed by an optional walking tour. Please join us. All events are free and open to the all.

Tombstone of Edwin Barnum, Civil War veteran from Company L of the 1st Regiment U.S. Veteran Engineers; died in 1911, age of 73 and buried next to his infant daughter, Ella Loretta Barnum, who had died in 1867. Mr. Barnum’s brother, George, Civil War veteran, Company F, 3rd Minnesota Infantry, buried in the family plot next to their mother, Hannah Barnum.



Upcoming Pioneer and Soldier’s Cemetery Events:

Monday, May 28th, Memorial Day

- 9 a.m. – Ceremony to honor War of 1812 veterans
- 10. a.m.—Traditional Memorial Day Observance
- 1 p.m.—History talk followed by optional walking tour

All events are free and open to the public

Saturday, June 9th, 2nd Annual Benefit Concert

- Performers: Low with Special Guest Zoo Animal
- 4:30 p.m.
- Tickets available at friendsofthecemetery.org, Electric Fetus, Hymie’s Records and Treehouse Records, \$16.00 in advance, \$20.00 at the gate; kids under 12 admitted free.

Insights from Running Wolf Fitness Center

Marine Vet Gets back in shape at 52

BY CONNIE NORMAN

We want to continue to share the great success stories from our Running Wolf members. So here is Sal’s story!

Salvador Pacheco lives and works in the Phillips neighborhood and said that he heard we were re-opening the Running Wolf Fitness Center in the neighborhood. So in September he went to NACC and got his fitness exam for the free 6 month membership. He discovered through that he had high total cholesterol of 236. He was determined to set goals to improve that through dietary changes like not using butter and eating high fiber oatmeal and the toughest of all quitting a steady diet of Pepsi. He wanted to improve his overall health so after changing his diet and working with the NACC Dietician-Shannon and lowered his cholesterol by a whopping 100 points in about 6 -8 weeks!

He also started his membership at Running Wolf Fitness Center November 1st. Sal came every morning right at 10am when Running Wolf opened and set goals with the trainer-Q and when he started he stated that he could only do about 5 minutes tops on the Nustep (Recumbent bike). However, he was determined and starting working out on the other machines, treadmills and bike and then tried the Elliptical and felt because he had both knees replaced- one in 2004 and the other in 2007 that the Elliptical was less stress on his knees and yet let him get a good cardio workout. He worked with balancing the workouts with the

food he was eating. He stated that he is frustrated with his idea he calls “conspiracy theory” to keep people unhealthy by making the healthy food more expensive and bad food cheap and easy to get. But he is eating healthier and truly seeing the benefit!

Page2- Sal continues to work on cardio and weight training to maintain muscle while losing weight. He now does a routine that he calls the “Conan” It is working at the highest setting on the Elliptical and does increments of 20 minutes or goes about 1 hour and also does the weight training. He burns about 1300 calories in that workout!

Today as we re-evaluated his baseline fitness numbers. We are excited to report that:

Sal’s weight at the beginning was 235 and is now 183- total weight loss is 52 pounds since November 1st!

Body fat was 35.1 and now is 21.5

BMI was 31.5 and now is 28.8

Waist circumference was 43 and now is 32

Blood pressure was in the hypertensive range at 152/77 and now runs about 130/68. He also reports his resting heart rate is now 51.

Sal also reports his cholesterol is better from the 236 to 185.

He says that it is important for him to set measurable and realistic goals. Such as his first goal was first weight loss from 235 to 208 and then by new years to be at 200 and final goal is to be 175 –his Marine Corp boot camp weight. He is at 183 only 8 pounds away



YOUR PUBLIC MARKET

MIDTOWN GLOBAL MARKET

Lake Street & 10th Avenue S

MIDTOWNGLOBALMARKET.ORG

Right On Lake Street

E Lake St

Return to Street Cars?

BY JOYCE WISDOM

Meetings about street cars in Mpls. are happening at various levels of policy making. [See pg 12; “Make Places.Visioning Streetcar Station Workshop].

The Twin City Rapid Transit Company opened the Lake Street Station in 1910. It was one of six car-houses for the Mpls/StP. system. In 1920 TCRT had 530 miles of track, 1,021 streetcars & 238 million riders. Lake Street Station housed 180 streetcars and 500 employees: motormen and conductors,, mechanics and cleaners and a few office workers. The station ran 24/7. Twice a day the number of streetcars doubled for rush hours. The system was dismantled in 1954 in favor of buses. The Lake Street Station was demolished. The land was redeveloped as Hi-Lake Shopping Center.

Good news: Before and After photos & history at 62 such Historic places on Lake Street beginning late June 2012; Watch for Lake Street Council’s “Museum in the Streets.” It will be very exciting and informative.



180 parked streetcars of TCRT’s 1021 in 1920



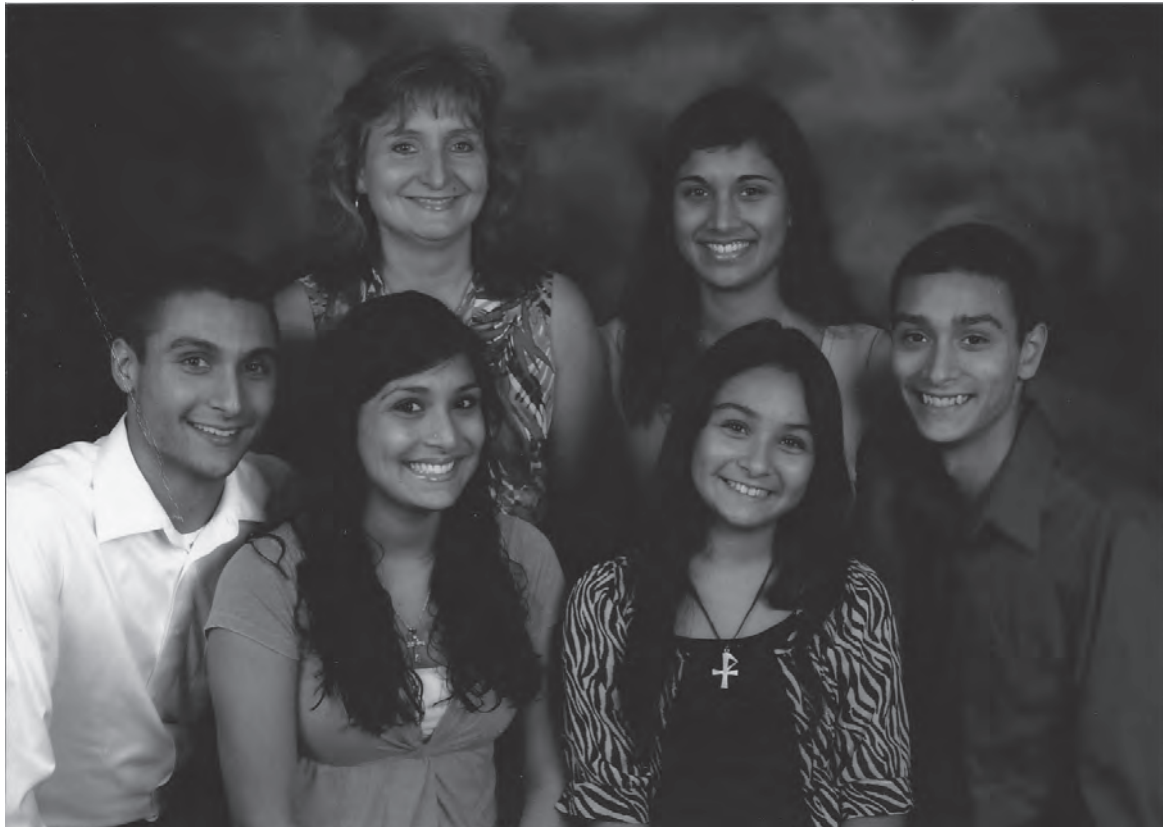
Hi-Lake TCRT streetcar “barn” employing 500 in 1920



Same location 92 years later as Hi-Lake Shopping Center



## Sticking with It: Persistence pays off



### “Oh the Places You’ll Go!”

With Spring comes Graduation-Commencement Processions. Commencement for this family, this Spring is best described in Dr. Seuss’s book, “Oh, the Places You’ll Go!”

Naomi Mohammed, mother, student, and Welna Hardware “Locksmith,” fosters a sense of worth and validation in her 5 children. Together they parlay that into spiritual, academic, and worldly success. All of the women of the family graduate this Spring from their respective schools. Pictured left to right: backrow, Naomi and Emelie (St. Kate’s University, StP.); front row, Nathan, Abby (DeLaSalle), Marissa (Hope Academy, Mpls.), and Andrew.

BY LAURETTA DAWOLO TOWNS, BANYAN COMMUNITY COORDINATOR

In some ways, theirs is an unlikely story from East Phillips. In other ways, the story represents what many Phillips families experience everyday – socioeconomic hardship. Naomi Mohammed, the beloved keymaker at Welna ACE Hardware, is a single mother of five fantastic children. Five out of six people in the Mohammed household, including Naomi, are graduating – they have truly beaten the odds.

Naomi grew up in the Phillips neighborhood of the 1950’s and 60’s along with three sisters and two brothers at 25th St. and 17th Ave. “Everybody knew everybody in this neighborhood,” she reminisced. She attended Holy Rosary

Grade School, now Little Earth Neighborhood Early Learning Center, and then attended Regina High School, an all girls Catholic School where PICA Headstart currently resides at 42nd St. and 4th Ave. Naomi started working at age 16 in the renowned Sears Roebuck building at Chicago Ave. and Lake Street, the current site of the Midtown Exchange.

At age 23, Naomi entered a non-traditional field for a woman: carpentry. “I liked working with my hands, getting a tangible result...I could see what I did,” she said. Naomi’s parents didn’t expect her to go to college. Instead, she was expected to get married and have children. And that’s what she did. She got married at age 25, and one year later she had her oldest son

Nathan.

Naomi tried to do things differently in her own marriage: “I expected more of a partnership. Instead, it was stressful, awkward and one-sided.” She didn’t want to be the kind of wife her mother was: shy, quiet, and impartial. “My mother was religious, strict, never communicated her problems...She didn’t question anything. Then I came along...asking ‘why’...and ‘let’s change things’.” In high school, she began to embrace my outspokenness and admire it. I became the voice,” she explained.

Eighteen years and five children later, Naomi divorced her husband. “I kept thinking, I’m a doer, not a quitter. But I could no longer do all the giving while someone else was doing all the taking,” she said. At the time, her kids ranged in age from 4 – 17. Naomi’s ex-husband left town, leaving her all of the responsibility for the children and there was limited support from extended family. Nonetheless, her parenting philosophy was simple: participation and trust. “Everyone had to participate...if there was grief, we had a family meeting...retaliation wasn’t allowed. We also trusted each other. I told them they can trust me to provide and I trusted them to reciprocate,” said Naomi.

She taught them to tell the truth up front, to be responsible to each other, and direct cause and effect. “If the dishes aren’t done, then I don’t cook dinner,” she said rather practically. “You have to foster in them a sense of worth. I was open enough in conversation that they knew where I stood,” she added.

Throughout the years, Naomi has kept her family anchored in the neighborhood. She is a devoted parishioner at Holy Rosary Catholic Church and has served for many years at the annual Spring Festival. She is also a familiar face at Welna Hardware store on Bloomington Avenue, where she has been employed since the late 80’s. “I love my customers...it’s like a community, a small town within a big city. We know each other’s business...like Cheers, only Hardware,” she said with a smile.

The diversity of the area is a big reason why Naomi stayed here to raise her family. Phillips is traditionally home to many Native American, African American, and Latino families. “I love this neighborhood. It’s a balanced assortment of people, like a bag of jelly beans...the languages...the foods... [My children] have an ability to communicate well with a variety of people. They converse comfortably because they are comfortable with themselves,” she explained.

College after high school was always encouraged in the Mohammed household and at another community institution, the Banyan Community. “The benefits of being part of the Banyan were close proximity, consistency, and career exploration. I had back up, assistance, and reinforcement other than me,” said Naomi. “I met Naomi at Welna Hardware in the Fall of 1990 when we moved into the neighborhood. I was getting some hardware for my ‘new-old house’. Over the years, we have maintained our friendship while getting keys cut at Welna, and raising our children as they attended school and Banyan events together,” recalls Joani Essenburg, Executive Director of the Banyan Community. Where Naomi planted the seeds, the Banyan watered them. It was there that the Mohammed’s got the academic assistance they needed, as well as family-oriented activities, and mostly importantly, the opportunity to attend college preparatory high schools like Holy Angels for Nathan and DeLaSalle High School for the other four children.

“When Nathan graduated from high school, we started college at the same time,” Naomi recalled.

“He went to the University of St. Thomas to study business and I started with one class at the Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC). I really didn’t think I could handle any more than that.” Naomi didn’t know what class to take; she just started. “I think it was a math class,” she said. Naomi received her Associate’s degree in 2009 in Liberal Arts from MCTC, and then transferred to St. Kate’s. Nathan wanted to contribute financially to the household so he applied for an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) position at the fire department. He didn’t get the position but it did peak his interest in medicine. Soon, Nathan transferred to Inver Hills Community College for the paramedic program, and then graduated from Century College at the top of his class. He is now the Health Education Coordinator at Health East in St. Paul.

“I admire [my mother] for all the hard work and effort she put into raising us...and I’m proud of her not being on [financial] support...some people abuse the system. She did without it,” said Naomi’s middle daughter, Abby. Hard work, persistence and vision have turned into five graduates from a family who knows about struggle, adversity and difficulty. But they also know about perseverance and resilience. “This is a huge relief, a big deal, and the kids are proud of all of us... [especially] me for sticking with it,” said Naomi. “I admire Naomi’s determination for her children and for herself as she completes her college degree. Congratulations Naomi! The entire Banyan Community is proud of your accomplishments,” adds Essenburg. “I think she’s amazing. She’s a heroine designated to save our family,” says Naomi’s youngest daughter, Marissa.

#### 5 GRADS:

- Nathan graduated from Century College
- Andrew Mohammed received a massage therapy license in December 2011;
- Abby Mohammed is graduating from DeLaSalle High School and plans to attend St. Kate’s in Fall 2012;
- Marissa Mohammed, the youngest, is graduating from 8th grade at Hope Academy (2300 Chicago Avenue) and will attend DeLaSalle in Fall 2012;
- Emelie Mohammed will receive a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Latin from St. Catherine’s University
- Naomi will graduate with the same class on May 20th at St. Catherine’s University with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Women’s Studies.

## WELNA HARDWARE



- KEYS MADE
- LOCKS RE-KEYED
- 5 GALLON PAINT
- EXCELLENT PRICES
- RUG DOCTOR RENTAL
- EXPERT WINDOW/SCREEN REPAIR
- TRAILERS FOR RENT—  
OPEN AND ONE ENCLOSED

2201 East Franklin  
2438 Bloomington

612-332-4393  
612-729-3526

**Seward Co-op**  
GROCERY & DELI

EVERYONE WELCOME

- Fresh local produce and meats
- Deli with sandwiches, hot food, baked goods and family-size meals
- Classroom with kitchen
- Community seating area with free WiFi

Open 8 a.m.–10 p.m. daily • 2823 E Franklin Ave • Minneapolis • 612.338.2465 • [seward.coop](http://seward.coop)



Lake St E & 22nd  
Ave S  
Open Hours  
Saturdays  
8:00 a.m. to  
1:00p.m.  
May–October  
Tuesdays  
3:00 p.m. to 7:00  
p.m.  
June–October



# Augustana Lutheran Church is Relocating

“...Now, it’s a new day.”

BY REV. DAVID SPONG\*  
A “pillar”... for 146 years

Augustana Lutheran Church, a pillar in the Swedish and Lutheran community for 146 years, is relocating to 1900 11th Ave. South. Church-members and friends will process to their new location on Sunday, May 6, where they will have their initial worship. Augustana will make this their new home in what has been the base for Community Emergency Services, a food pantry, shelter, and office for community outreach.

C.E.S. is a ministry Augustana Lutheran Church initiated 41 years ago to minister to the needs of feeding the hungry and caring for people in this neighborhood. It was in 1971 that Minneapolis businessman, Russell Lund came to Augustana Church and approached Pastor Berg saying in effect, “I’d like to give some money to help low income people in crisis situations.” In 1978 Augustana Church contributed \$50,000 matched by Russell Lund to buy the Emmanuel Methodist Church on 11th Ave.

Pastor Mark Peterson, director of C.E.S., stated, “We had worship space in this former Methodist Church that was underutilized. We are primarily a service center. We have space that will accommodate worship and fellowship for Augustana Church.”

“Set Your Hands to Unfinished Tasks.” Says, Pastor Berg, in his 102nd year

The final worship service for Augustana at the 7th St. and 11th Ave. will be on Sunday, April 29, with Pastor William Berg preaching. Rev. Berg, who was pastor at Augustana from 1965-1980, will address the congregation on the theme of, “Set Your Hands to Unfinished Tasks.” Pastor Berg says, “There is still much work to

do in this community. There are still people who are concerned. God’s amazing grace is needed in our day especially.”

Ann Carlson, a member of Augustana, commented that Community Emergency Services is the child of Augustana. Now the parents are moving in with their child. C.E.S. is near to our hearts. Our space is too big for us. This has been an important part of our ministry. Augustana has been a servant church for 146 years and this provides a new opportunity for both of us. C.E.S. has been providing ‘bread for the body.’ Together we can provide the ‘bread of life.’”

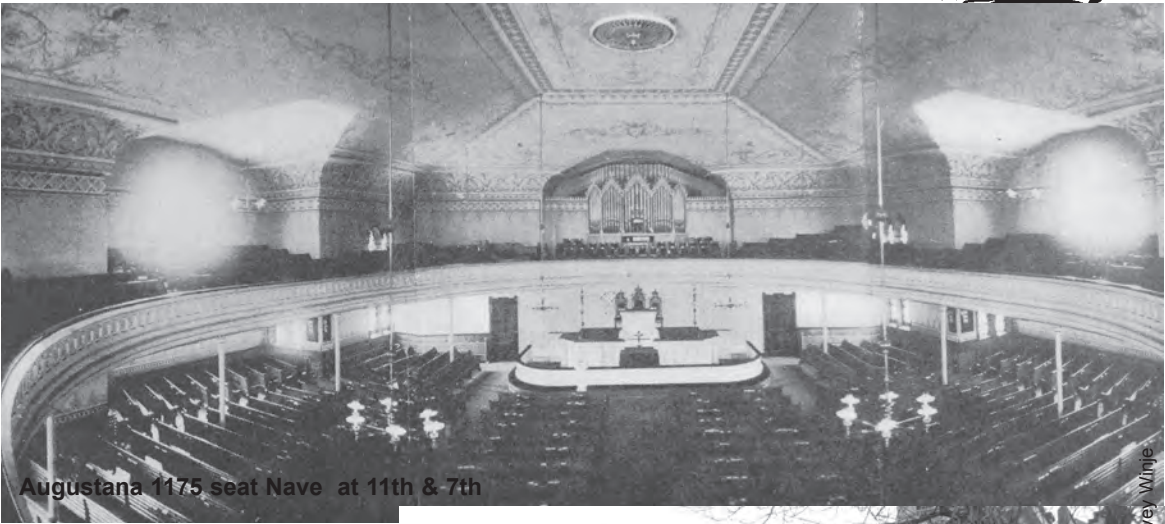
“Hope Community Church has bought our old building and we are excited for them to be the new owners. We feel good about their ministry in that place. Now it is a new day for us.”

Life for 130 Year Old Religious Edifice goes on.

In a history of Augustana, Doris Spong wrote these words: “It was in 1882 that Augustana Church built their sanctuary at 7th and 11th Avenue. It was possible to build this great edifice which seated 1175 persons at the amazingly low figure of \$23,219.75, due to generous cooperation and volunteer labor. The architecture of the building was affected by the American influence. The characteristics of the Augustana sanctuary which is a copy of the Blasieholm Church in Stockholm, Sweden, are similar not only to such early Augustana Synod churches erected in Denver and New York, but also to such churches as Marble Collegiate in New York City. The organ was located behind and above the pulpit and altar. The balcony surrounded the entire nave. This pro-

vided a clear and unobstructed view of altar, pulpit, and choir.”

“Stability and extension of the spiritual ministry were direct results of the building of this church. Augustana became the meeting place for synodical conventions, conferences, and other occasions, such as evangelism meetings, memorial services and other church gatherings. Augustana has served as host to



Augustana 1175 seat Nave at 11th & 7th

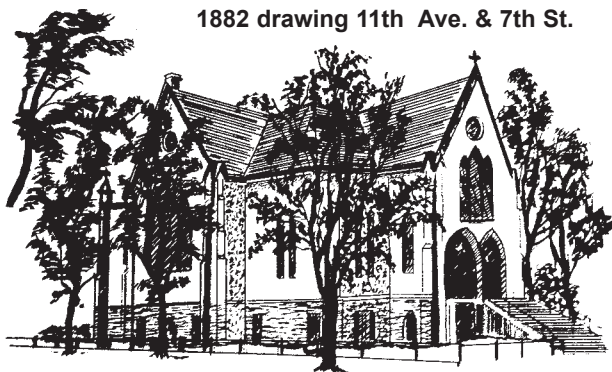


Remodeled Augustana entry at 11th & 7th

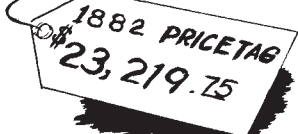
Swedish Archbishops and royalty. Thus Augustana played a vital role in the work of the church at large.”

“Now, it’s a new day.” “...On a journey...and we have hope...”

Pr. Berg went on with his comments as he was thinking about the future, “Who would have dreamed this relocation would ever be happening? Now, it’s a new day.” Dr. Berg seemed undaunted that



It was possible to build this great edifice, which seated one thousand one hundred and seventy-five, at the amazingly low figure of twenty three thousand, two hundred and nineteen dollars and seventy-four cents, due to generous cooperation and volunteer labor.



New entry & elevator at “NEW” Augustana & CES at 1900 11th Ave.

courtesy Augustana Church except the btm right which is Harvey Wine

Augustana would be a strong force in serving this community well into the future.

Questions still abound for this congregation in this time of transition as Ann Carlson asks, “How well will this relocation work? We really don’t know. But we are on

a journey and we have hope and we believe God is calling us to a new day.”

\*Rev. David Spong is a Lutheran Pastor whose father, Rev. Bernard Spong, was pastor of Augustana Church from 1957 to 1965.

## “Blooming Town” at MayDay Festival – Powderhorn Park - May 6

BY “BLOOMING TOWN” TOWN COUNCIL

As this year’s MayDay Parade flows into Powderhorn Park culminating its trek since 1 PM along Bloomington Avenue from 26th Street to 34th Street; “Blooming Town” will miraculously emerge on the ball fields at the end of the Parade in Powderhorn Park. “Blooming Town” created by Southside residents and supported by In the Heart of the Beast Theater, is a hands-on space for learning, action, and community collaboration around moving our community beyond dependency on dirty energy. Join us for:

- Activities on growing food, energy solutions, and sustainable transit
  - Get support taking action yourself
  - Dialogue with neighbors on ways to create solutions locally
  - Join teams who are taking action in the neighborhood
- Blooming Town is part of the

broader MayDay theme of the transition beyond fossil fuels.

Today’s economy relies on abundant fossil fuels – oil, coal and natural gas – to produce our food, clothes, homes, medicine, transportation and more. We are using more fossil energy and finding less. What remains is lower quality, harder to get, more expensive, dirtier, and more dangerous. Dirty energy hurts the health of our community, drains our financial resources, and threatens the local and global environment. Transitioning away from fossil fuels means learning to live well while using less energy, developing renewable energy sources like solar and wind, and making our communities more self-sufficient and adaptable. This transition is being led by local communities across the world.

In summer 2011, local transition town groups and individuals, with In the Heart of the Beast Theatre, proposed that MayDay

2012 be a grand unleashing of local transition. Transition town was named as the Festival theme and community volunteers created teams to share ways to join the transition movement with MayDay friends. These teams are working on energy, food and compost, and transportation. Please join us in the build process of the parade, through Blooming Town, and after the parade by as we enact the future imagined at this year’s May Day.

## Fiesta! Cinco de Mayo in Minneapolis

CINCO DE MAYO\* CELEBRATIONS many places including:

- El Nuevo Rodeo at 27th and Lake “On May 5 and May 6, community to share 5th Annual..
- Mercado Central Bloomington and Lake Street May 5th
- Fiesta along East Lake Street, in between Second Avenue and Portland Avenue, on May 9 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

\* Cinco de Mayo is the official



date of the defeat of French forces in the town of Puebla, 1862. Celebrated regionally in Mexico, and more broadly in the United States as a celebration of all Americans of Mexican ancestry

## OCCUPYMAY1TC.ORG

May 1st is coming! This year, people across the United States are organizing for a huge day of action against the 1%. Here in the Twin Cities, we are planning a whole day of awesome actions for the 99% and our interests. Along with Occupy Wall Street and dozens of other Occupy groups, we are calling for a boycott of work, school and shopping to show those in power that we, the regular people, have the power ourselves!

Starts at 10AM on May 1 at Loring Park in Mpls. Visit [occupymay1tc.org](http://occupymay1tc.org) for more details.



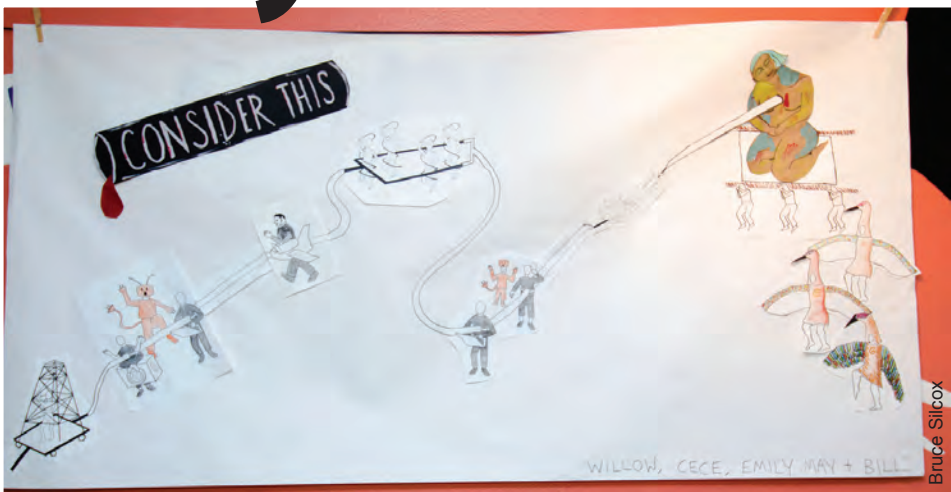
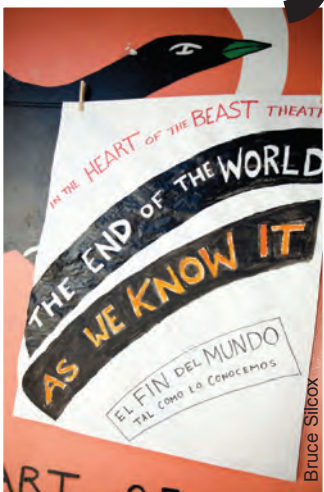
small corner, we plant a tiny seed, And it shall grow to beauty, to shame the face of greed.”\*

“Oh sacred world now wounded, we pledge to make you fr

6

The Alley Newspaper • May 2012

# MayDay 2012: The End of



**Parade Title: The End of the World as We Know It** – This year’s theme is inspired by the “transition town” movement and upholds many local initiatives working to build a healthy world. The Parade and Festival celebrate the local and international groundswell of people turning away from entanglement with fossil fuel dependent system towards healthy communities with sustainable visions of the future.

**Parade Scene 1 – CONSIDER THIS:** We are entangled in a vast network of manufacturing and consumption that provides convenience at the cost of depleting our limited fossil fuels resources.

**Parade Scene 2 – BREAK THE SPELL:** Break the spell that from each other and let your heart open to embrace chan



Sandy Spieler, HOB T Artistic Director portrays the “soul” of the Parade to workshop artists



Elise Kylo paints a blue bird's "poetry"



Drummers and artisans rehearsing the beat and shaping the to 34th & Bloomington Ave and into Powderhorn Park (at 3:3

ree, Of hate, war, hunger, and selfish cruelty. And here in our



# f the World as We Know It

**small corner, we plant a tiny seed, And it shall grow to beauty, to shame the face of greed."**<sup>3</sup>



divides us  
ge.

ge.

**Parade Scene 3 – MAKE DO:** Celebrate the work being done to change our communities. Change requires a combination of old and new ideas, and reaching out to neighbors.

**Parade Scene 4 – SURROUND OF LIGHT:** We are surrounded by light, which embraces us all as we journey around the sun through the seasons.



\* Adapted by Pete Seeger, 1919  
...Original Lyrics by Bernard of Clairvaux, 1153  
Composed by Hans Leo Hassler, 1601

“Oh sacred world now wounded, we pledge to make you fr



## Monthly Diabetes Breakfast Moves to Phillips Community Center



BY ROBERT ALBEE

After six straight years of monthly breakfasts for people with diabetes, friends and loved ones, the Native American Community Clinic (NACC) is handing this service over to A Partnership Of Diabetics (A-POD) who will be moving the feast to the Phillips Community Center (PCC), 2323 Eleventh Avenue South. According to A-POD's Robert Albee, "This has been a time-honored tradition for folks along Franklin Avenue and in Phillips who are diabetic. The wonderful tradition will continue with NACC initially leading the monthly presentations and planning the food selections. We see this as a hand-off, not a take-over!"

With the Grand Re-Opening of the PCC on Saturday May 12th, all of the PCC tenants will be in place and finally the vision cast as a wellness-oriented service and recreation center will be clear. There now will be the opportunity for guests to come to breakfast, stay for exercise downstairs at Running Wolf Fitness

Center or sample an open A-POD Meet-up next door to the dining room. Either way, guests will get a better glimpse into how the greatest progress for diabetes self-management in the State of Minnesota is taking place right here in the Phillips Community of Minneapolis. Eventually the swimming pool will be open as well for even greater possibilities for exercise.

Dining Room doors will be open at 8:30 AM for breakfast with presentations beginning at 9:15. This gives everybody time to socialize while having breakfast, which will continue to be available until 9:30. Doors will be closed at 10:30 to provide time for Waite House to prepare for free daily lunches. The general public is invited to participate in this meal, which begins service at 11:30 AM.

A Partnership Of Diabetics is a member of, and funded in part, by the Backyard Initiative of Allina Health and Novo Nordisk, a Danish insulin manufacturer.

## OPENING: PHOTOGRAPHY INSTALLATION OUTDOORS & FULLY PUBLIC

*Photographs Taken of People in East Phillips Neighborhood, MPLS.*



**Saturday, May 12th 6pm  
Phillips Garden 2646 Cedar Ave So**

**\$5-10 Suggested Donation**

Ten extraordinary photographs will be unveiled in East Phillips Neighborhood on May 12th. Photographer Amanda Spencer spent the summer of 2011 meeting the people of East Phillips Neighborhood, interviewing them and taking their pictures. Her project SEEING PHILLIPS & SEEKING UNDERSTANDING uncovers the daily lives, celebrations, and quiet diversity of an

inner city neighborhood.

The fully public installation within East Phillips will have a gala opening with dancers from the East Phillips Nepali community. The display on the front lawn of Phillips Garden, 2646 Cedar Ave. So., will run for 2 months.

As an emerging young artist in Minneapolis, Amanda Spencer focuses on cultural, social and personal identity. Beginning with the nerve-wracking moment

last April when she got out of her car in an unknown neighborhood, Amanda took pictures and was given friendship throughout the community. Her work invites the viewer to consider the dignity of Minneapolis' most diverse neighborhood. The SEEING PHILLIPS &

SEEKING UNDERSTANDING project reveals the humanity of Phillips neighbors not the stereotypes that surround them. The photographs are presented with personal stories written by the people in them. This accessible outdoor installation is meant to act as a gathering spot for the neighborhood and a celebration of their community.

Amanda Spencer found financial support for the project on the crowd-sourced fund-raising site Kickstarter, which caused her project to later be included in Kare 11's story on Kickstarter. The project was also shown at the 2011 national conference of Imagining America: Scholars and Artists in Public Life, where she was awarded a PAGE Undergraduate Fellowship.

The East Phillips photography installation, opening on May 12th 2012, shines light on the people of the diverse East Phillips community.

[www.akspencer.com/eastphillips](http://www.akspencer.com/eastphillips) (artist statement & photographs)

[www.akspencer.com/eastphillipsintroduction](http://www.akspencer.com/eastphillipsintroduction) (introduction to the book East Phillips)

## Shape Vision for a Better Franklin Avenue

The public is invited to a community meeting about improving conditions for bicycling and walking on Franklin Avenue between Minnehaha and Hennepin Avenues, Monday, May 7, 2012, from 7:30 – 9:00 pm, at the Phillips Community Center, 2323 11th Ave S in Minneapolis.

A plan for new or improved amenities is being created with funding from the Bike Walk Twin Cities federal nonmotorized transportation pilot program, administered by Transit for Livable Communities (TLC). Toole Design Group and its subcontractors are helping TLC with facility design and will lead the public meeting.

The meeting will include a brief description of existing conditions along Franklin for motorized traffic and for bicycling and walking, followed by a presentation of preliminary concepts for potential multi-modal improvements and then small group discussions to develop a shared vision for the corridor and to discuss specific ideas for the consulting team to explore in the next phase of the planning effort.

Franklin Avenue is an important east-west transportation corridor south of downtown Minneapolis, providing one of the few routes in the area across I-35W and Hiawatha Avenue. Based on 2011 counts at multiple locations, Franklin Avenue serves 500 or more cyclists per day. On streets such as Franklin Avenue, where there are no bicycle facilities and a lot of bicycle traffic, many bicyclists ride on the sidewalk. On Franklin Avenue, nearly a third of the cyclists are riding on sidewalks.

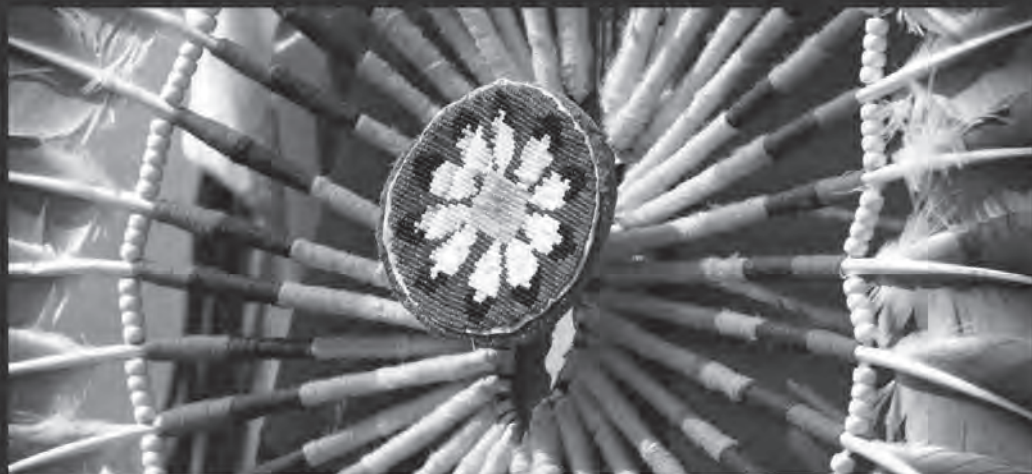
Better accommodation for bicycling will give cyclists a safer place to ride and also will improve conditions for pedestrians. This project also hopes to identify potential treatments to improve pedestrian safety and comfort crossing Franklin Avenue.

The intent of the meeting is to gather public input for a preliminary engineering plan for this segment of Franklin Avenue. Franklin Avenue is one of twelve corridors in Minneapolis and Saint Paul for which Bike Walk Twin Cities/TLC is funding preliminary engineering designs to improve conditions and encourage more people to walk or bike for transportation purposes and to support neighborhood retail. The intent is to build public and jurisdictional support for preliminary "plan sets" to more quickly implement projects as funding becomes available. To follow progress on design work for Franklin Avenue in particular, visit: <http://www.bikewalk2012.com/projects/franklin-avenue>.

[www.bikewalktwincities.org](http://www.bikewalktwincities.org).

Steve Clark  
Walking and Bicycling Program Manager  
Transit for Livable Communities  
[www.bikewalktwincities.org](http://www.bikewalktwincities.org)  
651-789-1419

**Visit The Alley online!**  
**[www.alleynews.org](http://www.alleynews.org)**  
**Even hipper, you can follow us on Twitter:**  
**@alleynewspaper**



## 17<sup>th</sup> Annual AMERICAN INDIAN WELLNESS FAIR

KEEPING THE CIRCLE STRONG

**Free Health Assessments**  
**Over 60 Exhibitors**  
**Community Feast**  
**Door prizes**  
**Grand Prize Drawings**  
**Held At 2:30**

**Tuesday, May 1, 2012**  
**11am - 3pm**  
**Minneapolis American Indian Center**

**1530 East Franklin Ave. South**  
**For more information please contact:**  
**Stephanie.Graves@minneapolismn.gov**  
**612-673-3735**



In conjunction with The American Indian Month Kick-off Parade of Nations  
Walk begins at Cedar Field (E. 25th St. & 18th Ave. So.) @ 9:30 am



# Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Improvement Association News

BY DAN WILDER

I am happy to report that at our March monthly members meeting the Midtown Phillips neighborhood voted to support a plan to put a streetcar on the Midtown Greenway. We feel it will bring a much needed connection to the light rail lines and businesses along Lake Street for all the neighborhoods along the Greenway. You can learn more about the Alternatives Analysis study Metro Transit is conducting this year to review options for the Midtown Corridor on our website [www.MidtownPhillips.org](http://www.MidtownPhillips.org).

In other news, we have an open board seat that we need to fill on our volunteer board of directors. It is a one year term to fill the seat I left vacant when I stepped into the role of president. I urge anyone who has a desire to help move our neighborhood in a positive direction to come to our next monthly members meeting and run for the

open seat. If you can't make it in person, please let me know that you're interested in running.

If you'd like to stay informed of upcoming meetings and events in the Midtown Phillips neighborhood, you should check out our new website at [www.MidtownPhillips.org](http://www.MidtownPhillips.org). On the website you can also sign up for our monthly newsletter, through which you can receive previous board meeting minutes and an update on what we're working on. Also please pass along any announcements you'd like us to post on the web. (Oh, and don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook too at [www.Facebook.com/MidtownPhillipsMinneapolis](http://www.Facebook.com/MidtownPhillipsMinneapolis).)

I plan on writing monthly updates in the Alley from now on. Until next time, I look forward to working with you to make Midtown Phillips a vibrant and bustling community.



BY CRYSTAL (TRUTNAU) WINDSCHITL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. –**  
*Phillips West Community Meeting!* All are welcome! Agenda Items include; an update from the Midtown Global Market, Minneapolis Police Update, Minneapolis City Council Update, Census 2010 Information & Construction Update from the American Swedish Institute. Free Pizza Dinner & Beverages Provided. Meeting will be held at Lutheran Social Service Center for Changing Lives on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor in the Centrum Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking available in rear off Oakland Avenue.

**May 12<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) 8:00 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 9:00 a.m. but first join us for a free breakfast from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. at the Center for Changing Lives 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](mailto:pwno2005@yahoo.com)

Help adult refugees & immigrants learn reading, writing and speaking skills needed to thrive in the U.S. Morning, afternoon or evening classes throughout the Metro. The MN Lit. Council provides training and support. Contact [volunteer@mnliteracy.org](mailto:volunteer@mnliteracy.org); Allison at 651-251-9110, visit [www.mnliteracy.org/volunteers/opportunities/adults](http://www.mnliteracy.org/volunteers/opportunities/adults)

# Sportstalk; Farewell Mama

BY RAY JAY AND YOUNG DEX

This May issue of Sportstalk is dedicated to, and in honor of my Mother and Dex's Grandmother, Mattie Mae Jackson, who passed on April 2, 2012. Mother, born December 5, 1927, has been our sports supporter throughout our lives. Even though she did not know a free throw from a dunk, and to her, off sides meant rum-maging through the kitchen during non appointed eating times she greatly encouraged us athletically; constantly reminding us to always put our best foot forward.

Filling in for Dad, Cleveland Jackson, who passed on September 18, 2010; of whom I grew up mad at, for never throwing me a football or a baseball, I later in life finally realized what a good

father/Hero Dad actually is. You see, Dad had to work all the time to support a large family, work that included 30 years in the United States Army defending his country. Serving, starting in World War II, at the age of nineteen, he served two tours in the war with Korea and four tours in Vietnam. What an American HERO he is!!!

Mother also encouraged us with Sportstalk, saying, "Keep it fun, entertaining and real." We Love You Mama and Pops!!!!

**Advertise in The Alley. Email ads@alleynews.org**

# Xcel Underground powerline Substations Planning

Public Hearing in June

BY SHIRLEY HEYER, MPNIA REP TO THE HIAWATHA PROJECT SUBSTATION DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Xcel held 3 design workshops with an Advisory Committee of 20 folks, including neighborhood reps, for proposed Hiawatha and Midtown South Substations (SS) as directed by Minnesota Pubic Utilities Commission. Final schematic designs to be presented June Public Hearing– watch for time and place.

At 3rd mtg. April 9, Architecture Alliance, artistic design architects of the SS walls, requested 5 ideas from each rep. describing their concept (not details) of "artistic" design.

The design is for 20'-22' high walls surrounding each SS. 2 main concepts emerged; that there be different artistic wall designs because of disparate surroundings.

Arch. Alliance will merge the ideas for the Adv. Subcomm. in early May to be sure they are on the right track.

The SSs are extremely large using all space at each location. The Hiawatha SS is modeled after the Elliot SS (11th Ave. S. east of M-dome). Also see the Elliot SS from the I-35 freeway into downtown off Hiawatha Ave. It goes around the north side of the Metrodome and the Elliott SS can be seen up above to the right. The Hiawatha SS will be similar in size and design except the Hiawatha SS's distribution structure will be 50' taller.

The Midtown South SS between Park and Portland residential areas overlooks the MGW. It is located on property owned by Xcel (a former SS which Xcel demolished and 2 residential properties to the north; recently bought).

**Hiawatha Substation/Sabo Bridge Parkway to the Midtown Greenway (MGW)**

Adv. Comm. members said the Hiawatha SS is a "gateway" into Mpls. and into the neighborhoods around Lake St. Light Rail Station. Views toward downtown are quite dramatic, especially at night and near sunset time as the light rail passes over Hiawatha Ave. near

the Sabo Bridge.

These neighborhoods have been the traditional gateway bringing immigrants to this part of Mpls.. The light rail line brings people from the entire world through this area from the airport to downtown Mpls.. Traveling south from downtown to the airport, the view near the Hiawatha SS covers the entire range of neighborhoods along East Lake St. from I-35W to the river along E. Lake St.

A futuristic design with lighting for the Hiawatha SS, something "evocative", was the major artistic element requested.

Concerns for the existing MGW bikeway/Sabo Bridge pkwy near this SS also had comments. One question: could Xcel move the Hiawatha SS's north wall 10-20 feet further south (means moving the entire structure inside the walls, too) or curving the north wall to provide more space between it and the bikeway.

The bikeway comes from the Sabo Bridge (E. 28th St.) and goes east to Minnehaha Ave. and then to the Mississippi River. The SS's proposed north wall would add an additional block or two to the tunnel-like effect currently seen where the bikeway travels between two industrial buildings.

Going south, a bikeway spur is being proposed from the Sabo Bridge to E. Lake St. parallel to Hiawatha Ave. It would be west of the current railroad tracks. Xcel plans to move the current railroad tracks closer to Hiawatha Ave. in order to accommodate its space requirements for the Hiawatha SS.

The railroad tracks will stay because they are used to bring in new light rail cars to the MTC's maintenance buildings (hub for all the entire light rail system) just north of E. 26th St. and also north of the Franklin Light Rail Station. New cars will be unloaded in this area for all future light rail lines, such as the Mpls/StP line currently under construction and the cars for the proposed SW line from down-

town Mpls. to the SW suburbs.

The current plantings in the parkway south of the Sabo Bridge will be lost, because they were planted in soil containing arsenic. Xcel did the tests and must environmentally dispose of the plants and soil. They cannot be reused. The MGW is asking for remediation from Xcel to replace the cost of these plantings and the corresponding volunteer hours so that these funds could be used on other planting sites along the MGW.

**The Midtown South Substation**

The SS located in Phillips West is surrounded by residential housing on the west and north sides and a business building to the east. Two existing residences to the north will be within one-driveway width from the north wall of the SS site.

On the south side Xcel owns the property to the base of the slope into the MGW. Xcel was asked if it would sell the slope to the Hn Cty RR Authority instead of building a part of the SS over the slope and/or even if they didn't build over the slope, would they set the SS wall 3 to 4 feet back from the rim of the MGW. This would allow room for a proposed walkway plaza on the rim of the MGW, already in the City of Mpls. Plan, and help maintain the historical designation of the MGW.

Since this substation is within a primarily residential area, there was not a desire for a flashy design such as on the Hiawatha SS site, but rather something that fit more into the residential character of the neighborhood.

The MGW Coalition also solicited comments from its members which it forwarded to Xcel. One idea offered was that the SS fit into their backgrounds and fade away; so the walls do not draw attention.

Info: MGW Coalition's rep (Tim Springer) through the Coalition office, MPNIA rep Shirley Heyer at [shirleymidtownphillips@msn.com](mailto:shirleymidtownphillips@msn.com) or Phillips West's rep, ED Crystal W., at [PWNO.org](http://PWNO.org)

**Maria's**  
**Cafe**

*Ancient Traders Market*  
1113 E. Franklin Ave.  
Minneapolis  
7<sup>AM</sup> to 3<sup>PM</sup> Mon. thru Sat.  
8<sup>AM</sup> to 3<sup>PM</sup> Sun.  
612.870.9842  
[www.mariascave.com](http://www.mariascave.com)

3440 BLOOMINGTON AVE.  
POWDERHORN PARK  
MINNEAPOLIS  
M-F 6:30-6  
SAT 7-5 • SUN 7:30-5  
729-5627

**ORGANIC &  
FAIR TRADE COFFEE**

**FREE Wireless Internet**

**May 1 - 26, 2012  
All month long!**

**INGEBRETSEN'S**  
Scandinavian Gifts and Food  
1601 East Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN

check our website for specials and events -  
[ingebretsens.com](http://ingebretsens.com)

Mon - Fri 9:00 - 5:30 • Sat 9:00 - 5:00 • 612-729-9333



## Sing Your Song



### Sing Your Song

★★★★★

(2011) Documentary /S2BN Films

**Cast:** Harry Belafonte (himself), Leadbelly (himself), Sidney Poitier (himself), Fran Scott Attaway (himself), Marge Champion (herself). **Running time:** 105 minutes. **Director:** Susan Rostock.

"Sing Your Song" is produced by Harry Belafonte's youngest daughter, Gina, a stupendous documentary on the living African American legend, Harry Belafonte at age 84. "Sing Your Song" is one of those overdue documentaries for which one can breathe a sigh of relief that the subject of the documentary is still living.

The handsome, yellow-toned Mr. Belafonte as the years of the civil rights movement rolls on would meet such giants as the actor-orator-activist -singer Paul Robeson, actor Sidney Poitier, singer-actor Sammy Davis Jr., actress Shelly Winters and singer-Afro-centric woman Nina Simone.

Belafonte is considered the "King of Calypso" after performing as a night club singer to raise money for acting classes. He first appears on stage backed by the Charlie Parker band, such members as Miles Davis, Max Roach and Charlie Parker himself.

Belafonte's speak the word "so-to-speak" deems him to be black-listed during the Joseph McCarthy era. He bails Martin Luther King out of the Birmingham City jail and raised thousands of dollars to get others released. Belafonte becomes King's friend and confidant until King's death in 1968. Through the 1950s and 1960s, Belafonte finances civil rights groups, Freedom Rides in the 1960s as well as registration drives. Almost always under cloud of grave danger, Belafonte risks being killed or seriously injured by white segregationists in Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia.

Belafonte narrates some of his itinerary from his early years with the American Negro Theater (closed in 1949) in the 1940s to his mission to bring food to



HOWARD MCQUITTER II  
**Movie Corner**  
Howardsmoviecorner.com

HowardMcQuitterii@yahoo.com

starving people in Ethiopia in the 1980s to joining campaigns to end apartheid and fight HIV/AIDS in South Africa in 2001.

Belafonte never stops criticizing U.S. foreign policy over which he clashes often with government officials or conservative talking heads. His public opposition to the Cuban embargo by the U.S. and the U.S. invasion of Grenada and throwing accolades to Fidel Castro are against the grain of many Americans. For all it's worth, he's a hero and a living example of a true humanitarian. The sad part is far too many Americans know little or nothing about Belafonte.

Besides Belafonte's decades long activism, the documentary highlights some of his acute acting ability in films such as "Bright Road" (1953), "Carmen Jones" (1954), "Island in the Sun" (1957), "Odds Against Tomorrow" (1959), "The World, the Flesh and the Devil" (1959), "White Man's Burden" (1995), "Kansas City" (1996) and "Bobby" (2006), and a few more.

In 1968, on NBC television, Petula Clark invited Harry Belafonte on her show during which her hand touched his in turn causes Plymouth Motors to threaten to remove the show until Clark vows to resign if the show is cancelled. Whites and Blacks at the time are not suppose to interact in any romantic fashion, especially if the man is Black and the woman is Caucasian.

"Sing Your Song" must be a palladium in American history as well as in film history and not be cast into a pococurante heap. There I'd

say "Sing Your Song" is a real treat to see and a great subject for deliberation.

## El Taller A.C. Social Justice Theatre Portrays Commonalities using Brazilian Augusto Boal's "Theatre of the Oppressed Forum" methodology

At 15th Ave St. Paul's Church May 7th 7PM

El Taller A.C. (The Workshop, non-profit) Puebla, Mexico-based social justice theatre organization, is literally crossing borders to bring the message that borders affect people on both sides, albeit in very different ways through their tour Women Opening Borders: A Journey in Equity, Culture and

Art.

The troupe members—six Mexican citizens and one US citizen will present two actor-written and -directed plays. El Taller A.C. challenges audience members to resolve a myriad of forms of violence that most directly affect women: the challenges faced by

migrant women, sexual harassment at work, domestic violence, and prejudice due to sexual orientation. The primary focus of the tour is a show about a single mother who is compelled to migrate to the US in order to provide better for her children who stay behind in Mexico. The piece is entitled Camino de Esperanza / Esperanza's Passage and uses Brazilian Augusto Boal's (1931-2010) methodology, Theatre of the Oppressed: Forum Theatre, which invites audience members to step into the shoes of one of the characters in order to change the final outcome of the play.

The other piece, Mujer no se escribe con M de Macho / You Don't Spell Woman with the Same 'M' in Macho is an upbeat one-woman farce divided into three monologues.

The troupe shows us our commonalities in spite of our differences, and helps us build bridges of understanding across the chasms of prejudice which have been widened by political forces on both sides of the US/Mexico border, and the more subtle manifestations of violence against women created by discrimination and tradition.

Free Will Offering.

### Making Places in the Midtown Greenway

A Visioning Workshop on Station Areas for a Midtown Greenway Streetcar

Imagine a streetcar line running through the heart of south Minneapolis, creating stronger connections between communities and to the Greenway. What could the station areas bring to the corridor? Join the Midtown Greenway Coalition to discuss the future of rail transit in the Midtown Greenway, and to create a vision for the stations' public spaces that will enhance our communities.

**May 19<sup>th</sup>, 10 AM – 1 PM**

Midtown Greenway Coalition Office  
2834 10<sup>th</sup> Ave S, Greenway Level Suite 2  
[www.midtongreenway.org](http://www.midtongreenway.org)

OPENING NIGHT

## Amanda Spencer's EASTPHILLIPS

outdoor & public photography installation

**Phillips Garden**  
2646 Cedar Ave So Minneapolis

**\$5-10 Suggested Donation**

**Art/Food/Drinks/Dancers**

[www.akspencer.com/eastphillips](http://www.akspencer.com/eastphillips)

**May 12th**  
**6-9pm**

**call to RSVP 651.788.6116**



**HELP PROTECT THE GREENWAY! A MAGICAL ROUTE THROUGH MPLS.**

Become a member of the Midtown Greenway Coalition by visiting [MidtownGreenway.org](http://MidtownGreenway.org)



## Mind And Body Unite

After thirty-three years of hard labor in the neighborhood iron foundry, one would expect this writer to have resolved the question surrounding the apparent duality between mind and body. He certainly has had ample time to think about it with his nose before the grinding wheel.

It is a vexing problem. If after all our efforts, the duality remains un-refuted, a concession must be made to agnosticism. Which is to say: The door is then left open to the possibility of a transcendent spirit worthy of being called God.

In my student days, there was a course which examined the structure of the brain and the correlation of its sectors to various functions. However, I found no correlation between brain morphology and, for example, the infinite complexity of my visual field on a lovely spring day. The professor inquired as to the nature of the disappointment. "I remain mystified!" was the response.

The plot thickens...

As fate would have it, I have made several appointments with South Point Community Acupuncture. The human pin cushion reclined. His contemplations resumed.

Again the question: Does the infinite complexity of our consciousness correspond directly with the not-so-infinite morphology of our neuronal circuitry? No, no, no, clearly not. So then what?

Answer: Consciousness reflects



PETER MOLENAAR  
*Raise Your Voice*

the electromagnetic waves generated from the circuits. Infinity achieved! Eureka, right?

March 29...

The bright-eyed children of Lucy Laney Elementary (North Minneapolis) sat spellbound to scientific instruction. Numerous exhibits conveyed their own efforts. It was their science fair.

One remarkable exhibit stood out. On display was an X-ray-derived photo of a cloud formation within the brain – yes, a cloud of interpenetrating electromagnetic waves. The observer stood transfixed.

Such clouds are of course generated at the speed of light, interact with each other, and in turn induce currents which generate more clouds. Such is the electromagnetic cloud theory of consciousness.

### Letter to the Editor

## War cannot be created

"War" cannot not be created like a basketball game...meaning you can create a basketball game by doing basketball things, but you cannot create "war", which is the freedom to kill and destroy, by doing warlike things. You cannot get "war" from doing "war", "war" cannot create itself.

The problem is, we believe "war" can be started like a basketball game, that once you have soldiers, bombers, battleships, things being blown up, you've got yourself a "war". The "war" starters in 2003 knew this-that even though they did not have any real reasons to attack Iraq, that once they got the visual appearance of a "war" going-they were good, they had themselves a "war", they had themselves a "war zone" they had themselves the freedom to kill and destroy within the "war zone", but all they had was a fight that they picked.

With our belief that "war" can be accessed through nothing more than violence, defenseless countries like Iraq with "shock and awe", the country of Iraq was pulled "into war" with the United States and Britain. Just how does attacking someone get them "in war" with you and then have the freedom to kill them? Now this same process is going to be played out with Iran. Israel and the United States talking arrogant talk about whether they will or they will not "go to war" with Iran. Does not Iran even get a say in this? They will be one half of the "war".

Someone needs to explain to me if the U.S. or Israel attacks Iran, how does that pull Iran "into war" with them? It must be a magical pull-in process, because I see no evidence of a military attack having such power.

Frank Erickson



Dave Moore says "Check this out!"

## Come Celebrate Re-Opening of Phillips Community Center May 12!

BY SHIRLEY HEYER, MPNIA REP TO THE PHILLIPS COMMUNITY PARKS INITIATIVE AND PCC MEETINGS

After saving the PCC from demolition or sale to private ownership, residents of the surrounding neighborhoods can sigh with relief! Their four-year effort saved the building with its double gym and swimming pool. Their efforts also resulted in a new partnership between the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) and a half dozen neighborhood organizations which are jointly operating and programming the building.

- Tours of building: staff of the MPRB, Minneapolis Swims, Running Wolf Fitness Center, Waite House, A Partnership of Diabetics, Ventura Village and the Guri Nabad Center before and after lunch
- Recognition ceremony  
Free lunch at noon  
Four hours of free music – come sit on the grass (or bring a lawn chair) on the west side of the park and watch local performers entertain you on the MPRB semi-truck stage.
- Participate in the Midtown Greenway Coalition's bike rodeo on 13th Ave. S.
- Check out numerous neighborhood exhibit tables.

Come join the Grand Re-opening Festivities Saturday, May 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The main entrance is at E. 24th St. and 12th Ave. S. Bike, walk, use your wheelchair! E. 24th St. from 11th to 13th avenues and the 2300 block of 13th Ave. S. will be closed to parking.

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN

Summer Programs at St. Paul's:

Arts Camp for youth 12-18: June 11-15

Day Camp for children: June 18-22

Young Leaders Job Program (ages 11-15):  
July & August

2742 15th Ave South  
Call 612-724-3862  
for more info





Backyard Initiative Update

# BYI Teams Creating Connections and Resources for Health



BY JANICE BARBEE, CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER

In the last two months the BackYard Initiative Update highlighted the work of eleven Citizen Health Action Teams (CHATs) that have been working over the past year to improve the health of BYI residents. There are a total of 14 CHATs now meeting in the Backyard community and this update highlights the work of the other seven CHATs.

The Backyard is defined as the approximately one square mile area surrounding Allina's corporate headquarters. Residents of these seven neighborhoods in south Minneapolis have been supported by the Cultural Wellness Center to develop and implement their ideas for community health improvement since December of 2008. Allina has been contributing the funds for these projects, with additional support from Twin Cities LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation).

Each of the CHATs is growing the community's capacity to increase residents' knowledge and skills that help people to take better care of themselves.

12. Project S.E.L.F. CHAT: This team began under the leadership of a young Somali man who had a vision for strengthening the connection between youth and elders in the Somali community by open mic performances, storytelling, and dialogue. The CHAT has hosted an event every month, except during Ramadan, has held two open mic events, two mother-daughter events, several story-telling sessions for young children, and a large community picnic last summer. They are planning an Oral Interview Project to document the stories and wisdom of the elders and the experiences of the youth.

13. Rebirthing Communities/Communities of Light CHAT: This CHAT has been conducting weekly workshops for families in the community to

discuss community issues, learn about sustainable energy, and produce lanterns that utilize solar batteries. In the workshops, facilitators challenge participants to consider the role sustainability and economic self-sufficiency could play in their lives. Each family makes three solar lanterns, and then participants become members of a community co-op, which sells the lanterns to the community. The CHAT has also developed two solar generator prototypes from scratch that have been placed in the homes of community members and are used to power appliances. In return, these families are charged with selling, teaching and installing more generators.

14. Somali Women's CHAT: This CHAT began with the vision to promote communication, understanding, and support among women of the Somali community who have children in the judicial system by creating spaces and systems for them to talk to each other, connect to each other, and assist each other. In the process, the team of Somali women found themselves supporting Somali women in many ways, reducing isolation, helping them navigate many systems and connect with resources, and building a support system for families that will help prevent children from getting involved in the judicial system. They have helped families to get memberships to the Science Museum and YMCA, organized weekly family days, and supported Somali women to attend trainings and workshops.

Backyard community residents are welcome to attend Backyard CHAT meetings and events, as well as the All-CHAT meeting on the third Thursday of every month. Call the Cultural Wellness Center at 621-721-5745 for more information.

## Little Earth of United Tribes Presents:

### 13th Annual Mother's Day Traditional Pow Wow

"Honoring our Children through Tradition, Family & Community"

Cedar Field Park, 25<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404  
In case of rain event will be moved to:  
East Phillips Cultural Center, 2307 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404

May 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Registration at 11 a.m.

Grand Entries:  
Saturday 12:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday 1:00 p.m.

Traditional Meal: Saturday at 4:30 p.m.  
Intermission Specials: Potato Dance & Switch Dance

**Head Staff:**

- ♦ Master of Ceremonies: Peter "Tito" Ybarra, Native Comedian
- ♦ Arena Director : William "Bill" Moose
- ♦ Host Drum: Little Earth Drum
- ♦ Head Female Dancers: Shania Thompson & Jr. Miss, Hallie Keezer
- ♦ Head Male Dancers: Andrew Big Smoke & Brave, Manuel "Lil Otter" Ortiz

**Royalty Special Events:**

- ♦ Manuel "Lil Otter" Ortiz, YOUTH Boys & Girls TEAM DANCE special - \$1,500.00 Cash Prizes!!! (4 per team of same dance category) Ages 13-17 & Ages 8-12
- ♦ Waabigwan Moose, Girls Dance Special & Regalia Give-away
- ♦ Deirdre Meeter, Jingle Dress Special, cash prizes awarded
- ♦ Hallie Keezer, Give-away
- ♦ TBA
- ♦ Miss Little Earth, Ronnie Patterson Dance Special
- ♦ Jr. Brave, Manny Brinkley Dance Special
- ♦ Tatanka Academy Brave, Lewis Ortleby Dance Special

Honorariums paid to all dancers in regalia & must register both days, and 1<sup>st</sup> five drums  
All Veterans, Eagle Staffs and Royalty are welcome



**Other Events:**  
Honoring all Jingle Dress Dancers, all ages, Cash prizes awarded



**Special Events:**  
Raffles, Royalty Coronation, Hoop Dancing

FREE Family event & OPEN to the Public.  
Alcohol, Drugs, Firearms prohibited

Outdoor event, bring your own lawn chair and canopy

**Security will be provided**  
Not responsible for lost/ stolen items, accidents or injuries



Arts & Crafts/ Food Vendors welcome: Must register: Contact Millie 612.481.4876  
FMI contact: Julie at 612.232.2975 or jlwbertiz@hotmail.com

Special Thanks To Our Partners



## PHILLIPS COMMUNITY CENTER

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board



2323 11TH AVENUE SOUTH • MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA • 55404

### GRAND RE-OPENING CELEBRATION

Saturday, May 12th • 10am-3pm  
FOOD TOURS MUSIC FUN!

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board

Further Info: Call Anthony Papa @ 612. 370.4886 or Al Bangoura @ 612.326.6285

Keep citizen journalism alive in the Phillips Community!

Donate online at [www.alleynews.org](http://www.alleynews.org)

The Midtown Greenway Coalition Presents:

The Greenway Glow

June 9th

9pm - Midnight

