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TRUSTGIVING

Oyate Wacinyapin/Russell Means

November 10, 1939 – October 22, 2012

BY LAURA WATERMAN WITTSTOCK

Russell Means died Monday, October 22, just weeks before his 73rd birthday.

...“complex man”

Like all other leaders throughout history, Means was a complex man, hard to understand at those times when he seemed to be reckless or unaware of the effect he was having on those close to him.

...“single purpose..safeguard promises of treaties...”

Yet from a distance, he had an astonishingly brilliant character, unafraid above all, but also willing to put himself at the center of controversy. He seemed to have a single purpose – to safeguard the promises of treaties with tribes, most especially his own Oglala Lakota nation – but in a greater sense, all native people.

**Rushmore and
Mayflower Protests**

Throughout his public life, which began in 1970 when he moved from San Francisco to Cleveland, Ohio and started his association with the American Indian Movement (AIM) Means only knew one direction: forward. In those days, there was strong interest in bringing the symbols of American history to the attention of the general public in a way that revealed the hundreds of years of pain and loss to the American Indian body and spirit those icons stood for. In 1970, he went to Mount Rushmore to take over that national monument and he went to Plymouth Rock to take over a replica of the Mayflower. Both of these takeovers were done to protest the treatment of Indian people.

Sovereignty and Spirituality

The 1960s was an era of protest and Indian protests had been going on, particularly those organized by

the Tuscarora Mad Bear Anderson. He traveled to Cuba, moved against the State of New York, and proposed caravans to the nation’s capital. But it was the charismatic Means who captured the attention of the press and other Indians to the cause of putting Indian sovereignty and spirituality at the center of a new national conversation.

He went to Washington, D.C. in 1971 as the national director of AIM and there he was able to study the organization of the Bureau of Indian

was working hard to reform the BIA and he had hired bright young Indian professionals to help him do that, the face of the bureau from Russell Means’ perspective was of the old and tired John Old Crow, the immutable and immovable bureaucrat. AIM’s strategy, was to perform a citizen’s arrest on Old Crow. It didn’t succeed, and trespass charges were made against the group of 24 Indians who were arrested. They were dropped the same day by Louis Bruce, and he invited the whole group over to his office for sandwiches and soft drinks. He listened to the issues brought forth and offered to look into them.

Partly in response to that, AIM brought Indians together from all over the country to formulate twenty reforms needed to bring true change. Those reforms were brought to Washington in 1972, just before Richard M. Nixon’s second presidential election. Means was at the center of the occupation, urging those inside to be ready to make the ultimate sacrifice in the event a threatened armed police action was realized. Those inside had no weapons other than table legs and garbage can covers or chair seats for shields.

Wounded Knee

Wounded Knee in February 1973 tested Means’ leadership skills to the limit. The American military and the FBI placed the occupiers in their scopes. Air Force planes flew overhead. The threat of American armed action pinned the group down for 71 days. Food had to be flown in at great risk to the aiders. At the end, 1,200 arrests were made but almost no convictions resulted. Russell Means and Dennis Banks were charged but were released when Judge Fred J. Nichol ended the trial with severe admonitions to

TRUST

BY THOMAS R. SMITH

It’s like so many other things in life to which you must say no or yes. So you take your car to the new mechanic. Sometimes the best thing to do is trust.

The package left with the disreputable-looking clerk, the check gulped by the night deposit, the envelope passed by dozens of strangers—all show up at their intended destinations.

The theft that could have happened doesn’t. Wind finally gets where it was going through the snowy trees, and the river, even when frozen, arrives at the right place.

And sometimes you sense how faithfully your life is delivered, even though you can’t read the address.

Reprinted from WAKING BEFORE DAWN, Red Dragonfly Press, 2007. Copyright 2007 Thomas R. Smith. Used with permission.

Affairs (BIA), soon focusing on its Deputy Commissioner, John Old Crow, someone who had worked there since 1933. Old Crow received a career service award in 1964, yet six years later he was still at the top of the one governmental agency most responsible for the trust responsibility to Indian people. The Mohawk Louis R. Bruce was Commissioner, only the third Indian to hold the post. He followed the Oneida Robert Bennett and the celebrated Ely S. Parker, the only Indian to achieve the rank of General in the Civil War. Despite the fact that Louis Bruce



the FBI for its misconduct.

...“finest hour in Geneva...”

Then Means went on to his finest hour in Geneva, Switzerland in 1977 when the Declaration of Principles for the Defense of the Indigenous Nations and Peoples of the Western Hemisphere was drafted. That agreement, drawn up by the native peoples became the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007. He became part of the history of the Western Hemisphere then, as perhaps no other Indian has done.

...“a way out from under...”

He never veered from his one true path: finding a way out from under the heavy boot of the United States on Indian sovereignty. He referred to the country as “the monster.” He could still teach Americans what

they should know in such films as “Last of the Mohicans” or on cable as the hilarious gardener Wandering Bear on Larry David’s show “Curb Your Enthusiasm.”

He was cremated and a 12-hour service was held at Little Wound High School Gymnasium in Kyle, South Dakota on Wednesday, October 24. His ashes were scattered in the Black Hills the following day.

Laura Waterman Wittstock is an elder with exceptional knowledge and wisdom having vast accomplishments locally and nationally; for example the Farr Award for “exceptional contribution to public affairs journalism” and is Producer of “First Person Radio”—KFAL-FM with interviews on topics affecting Native people.

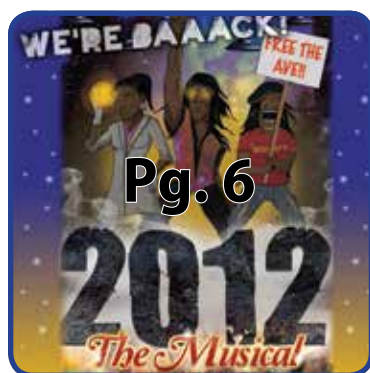
“...And I am very comfortable with who I am.”

.... Russell Means

“In fact, I can say I don’t think I’m trying to lead anyone toward anything.

To some extent I tried to be a ‘leader’ in the sense that the white media like to use that term, when the American Indian Movement was a young organization. This was the result of a confusion I no longer have. You cannot be everything to everyone.

I do not propose to be used in such a fashion by my enemies. I am not a leader. I am an Oglala Lakota patriot. That is all I need to be. And I am very comfortable with who I am.” Russell Means from July 1980 speech called “For America to Live, Europe Must Die” printed in Means’ autobiography, Where White Men Fear to Tread, St. Martin’s Press.



**Letter to the
Editor pg 7
“Real Americans
Vote”
Who are the real
Americans?**



P.O. Box 7006
Minneapolis, MN 55407
Editor's Cell Phone 612-990-4022
editor@alleynews.org
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"We came into this world to give truth a little jog onward and to help our neighbors rights"

Ann Greene Phillips (18__-1885)
Wendell Phillips (1811-1884)

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

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

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

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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.

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**December Alley
Deadline:
November 15**

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under inequality.**
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November Programs at the Franklin Library

BY ERIN THOMASSON

Children & Family Programs

Homework Hub

T-W-Th-Sat thru Nov. 27,
3:30–7:30 pm. Free tutoring
K-12 students.

Family Storytime

Weds 10:30–11 am

Age 2 & up. Share books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement with children.

ECFE: Reading Fun

Fri, Nov. 2 & 16, 10:30am–

12:30 pm. Parents, infants & preschoolers! Early Childhood Family Education fun, interactive activities for home to build child's literacy skills.

International Games Day:

Sat. Nov. 10, 2–4 pm. K-grade

6. Whole family! Try your hand (and feet!) at Wii games.

Read-Book, See-Movie

Sat. Nov. 24, 2–4 pm. Grades

3–6. Many books become movies! Watch movie discuss differences; book and movie. Call for title.

Chemists

Th Nov. 29, 5 pm. K-grade

6. Wonders & excitement of chemistry; easy-to-do activities led by volunteer group-chemistry students, teachers and professionals.

Teen Programs

Anime and Manga Drawings

Th Nov. 1, 4–6 pm. Register

Online or 612-543-6925.

Grades 7–12. Comic artist Adam Sward; develop & refine anime drawing skills. Practice character & concept development, composition, drawing, inking & coloring. No drawing exp. necessary.

4-H Club

Tu thru Nov. 27, 5–7 pm

Grades 6–12. Urban ecology, health and nutrition, sustainable ag. & related careers in food science from adults and peer mentors. Maintain a community garden and visit local food enterprises.

Game On! Gaming Tuesdays

Tu thru Nov. 27, 4–5 pm and

7–8 pm. Grades 6–12. Play PS2

or Wii games at the library! Bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!

Teen Center Reading Club

Weds Nov. 7–28, 5–6 pm

Read aloud or listen - books, short stories, current events. No need to read anything ahead of time.

Teen Anime Club

Th Nov. 15, 4 pm

Grades 6–12. Watch anime, discuss manga, share artwork, work on cosplay and more.

Game On! Gaming Thurs.

Th thru Nov 29, 4–5 pm and 7–8

pm. Grades 6–12. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Bring favorite board or card game, or play ours!

Young Achievers

Th thru Nov. 29, 5–7 pm

Grades 6–12. Involvement in



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Teen Movies

Fri thru Nov. 30, 4–6 pm

Grades 6–12. Movie titles by teens for viewing pleasure! Big-screen cinema feeling.

Adult Programs

Srs Play-Reading Group

Fri. Nov. 9, 10:30 am–12:30 pm

Stimulating morning reading & discussing great plays of our heritage.

Nonfiction for Elders

Fri. Nov. 9, 1–3 p.m. Stimulating

discussion; nonfiction books.

Info: 612-543-5475.

Memoir Writing

Th Nov. 15, 1–3 pm. Want to record personal history? Bring writings & what you are willing to read for helpful comments. Comments and suggestions.

Phillips Technology Center

www.hclib.org or 612.543.6925

Microsoft Word: Basics

Th Nov. 15, 6–8 pm

Learn: enter, delete, basic formatting, cut, copy & paste, & 'save' & 'save as.'

Computer Skills Workshop

Th Nov. 15, noon–2 pm

Practice skills; mouse & keyboarding, email & Microsoft Office with software

Microsoft PowerPoint: Basics

Fri. Nov. 16, 10 a.m.–noon

Create a basic slide show.

Social Networking: Basics

Fri. Nov. 16, 1–3 p.m.

Learn social media websites; Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook.

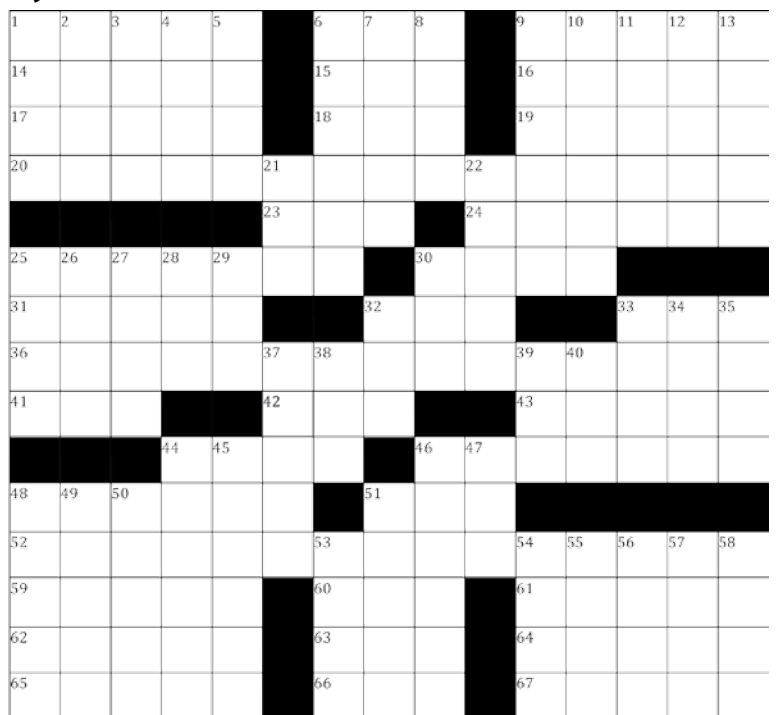
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Alley Crosswords

by Samantha "Sami" Pfeffer



Across:

- Sixth President of the US
- American technology consulting company
- Mountain in the Karakorum range

14. ____? Polo! (Call and response children's game)

15. Gunlover's club

16. Musical practice piece

17. Concerning the largest bone in the pelvis

18. ____, yes, ____!

19. Klum and Riefenstahl, etc.

20. Mexican holiday celebrated on November 1 and 2

23. Large moose-like animal

24. Urban and surf clothing brand

25. One displaced by war

30. Throat-clearing sound

31. "Is that a yes ____?" (3 wrds)

32. Mama sheep

33. Not me

34. Original countrymen (November Heritage Month)

41. After ARE, before TEE

42. ____ a ____ (face to face)

43. Unstitched cloth draped over women, usually

44. Not sink

46. Who the counselors care for

48. Buena Vista ____ Club (band)

51. Been out in the sun

52. American holiday celebrated on the fourth Tuesday in November

59. ____ Paulos, Patriarch of the Eastern Orthodox Tewahedo Church

60. Last Honest Politician?

61. ____ Hahn, Brooke Smith's

Grey's Anatomy character

62. Yes man, with brown (2 wrds)

63. Christmas evergreen

64. Lucifer Morningstar

65. ____ Rock or Uluru

66. Cooling agent?

67. Rutabaga, turnip, etc.

Down:

1. Amongst

2. Salvador

3. Voice solo in opera

4. Art school in Minneapolis

5. Walked on

6. Walked in

7. Nippy

8. School mistress, 1880's stereotype

9. Backspace

10. Again

11. Wonka Candy

12. See ya, in Madrid

13. Scottish monster, familiarly

21. ____ Adama, Battlestar Galactica

22. To seat

25. Melbourne Street Artist

26. Time periods

27. Trans, saturated, etc.

28. Inst. of higher learning

29. With .net, .com, .org

30. Stare, with wonder

32. First on the scene

33. Easily handled (in reference to ships)

34. Exceptional person or thing

35. Employs

37. Lesser of two ____

38. Goal

39. Forms the name of a school of thought (suffix)

40. Hat

44. One with iniquity

45. LA basketball team

46. Large underground space

47. ____ DiFranco, singer/songwriter

48. ____ Katic, plays Kate Beckett on Castle

49. "Super!"

50. The reason why

51. Arm bone

53. Very sticky tape

54. Flanders and Gerblansky, for example

55. Got bigger

56. Head first

57. Not basic

58. Not Harard

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with family and friends*



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Hundreds of Scouts and Friends are Cemetery’s Caretakers throughout the year

Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery
SUE HUNTER WEIR
97th in a Series

Another season at Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery has ended—its 159th to be exact. With the exception of Veterans Day, Sunday, November 11th, the cemetery will be closed until April 15th, 2013. That doesn’t mean that work on the cemetery will stop. The next phase of the fence restoration is due to begin shortly—more sections will be removed, restored and returned in the late fall.

Over 190 Girl Scouts and their parents volunteered to help put the cemetery to bed for the season. The occasion was the Centennial Day Year of Service by the Mississippi River Valley’s Minnesota-Wisconsin Chapter of Girl Scouts. Beth Hart, longtime Phillips community activist, organized the event; the girls spent the morning of October 13th raking and bagging leaves. And there were a lot of leaves to be raked. Lack of rain meant spectacular fall colors but it also meant that the trees dropped their leaves a few weeks earlier than usual.

Volunteers from Friends of the Cemetery spent Saturday, October

6th, cleaning markers in Block E of the cemetery (the block right outside of the caretaker’s cottage door). It’s a painstaking task—it takes approximately two hours to clean one small marker, four hours to clean a four-foot tall obelisk. The only cleaning materials that we use are plain water, toothbrushes and wooden craft sticks. It requires great patience but it’s a very satisfying experience to watch a name that has been hidden by lichen for who-knows-how long be legible again.

There are 104 stone markers, three metal urns and assorted marker fragments in Block E. Many of the markers are granite and do not need to be cleaned, but the marble and sandstone ones do. Once lichen starts to grow on a marble marker it begins to obliterate the carving. Lichen may give a cemetery an appealing old-fashioned look that’s fitting around Halloween but it is extremely destructive and left unchecked will eventually destroy the markers. It doesn’t take long: markers that were legible as recently as 2006 no longer are.

The nine markers that we cleaned ranged in age from 98 to 127 years old. Some were ornately carved and some were plain. The



190 Girl Scouts along with Friends of the Cemetery continuing their caretaking helped prepare this sacred place for winter during the 159th Fall season since the Cemetery’s first burial.

oldest, and one of the most ornate, was for Gus Harry Johnson, who was born on November 9, 1884, and who died less a year later. It’s a beautiful stone but one of seven in Block E that guards an empty grave. Gus Harry was removed and reburied at Hillside many years ago. Why his marker was left behind is something of a mystery.

There are a lot of mini-mysteries in Block E. Mildred Margarette Restad, who died in 1911 has a four-foot obelisk marking her grave. A baby girl, identified only as the Babe of Robert Restad, died one year earlier and is buried next to Mildred, but doesn’t have a stone, and she is not mentioned



photos by Tim McCall



“missing” markers aren’t clear. Did the family’s financial fortunes change? Was the person who died the one who would normally have taken care of family business like ordering grave markers? Did a couple’s children

grow up and move on? Was there a marker at one time that has since disappeared? Over the winter we’ll continue to work on finding the stories of people (with or without markers) who are buried in the cemetery. In the spring we’ll be looking again for volunteers to help us clean markers. We hope you’ll join us.

It makes sense that a veteran would have a marker and that his wife might not—the government provides them for veterans, though not their spouses, at no cost. But the reasons for some of the other

on Mildred’s marker even though they must have been related. Likewise, Eva Bogren, who died in 1897, has a beautiful marker but the three family members buried near her have none. Rodney Hurlburt, a Civil War veteran, has a marker; his wife, Eleanor, buried right next to him, doesn’t.

To see more photos of the Girl Scouts at work plus lots of other cemetery photos, visit us on facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/PioneersandSoldiersCemetery>

Tracking Running Wolf

Falling Prevention. “What can I do?”



BY CONNIE NORMAN

We see Elders in the community and others with balance issues that come to Running Wolf Fitness Center. I just wanted to share some statistics with you and talk about ways to prevent these falls from happening. We want a society where older adults can live safe, healthy and independent lives. While falls are a threat to the health and independence of older adults and can significantly limit their ability to remain self-sufficient, the opportunity to reduce falls among older adults has never been better. Today, there are proven interventions that can reduce falls and help older adults live better, and longer.

Each year, one in every three adults age 65 and older falls. Falls can cause moderate to severe injuries, such as hip fractures and head injuries, and can increase the risk of early death. Fortunately, falls are a public health problem that is largely preventable.

How big is the problem? (Centers for Disease Control)

- One out of three adults age 65 and older falls each year, but less than half talk to their healthcare providers about it.
- Among older adults (those 65 or older), falls are the leading cause of injury death. They are also the most common cause of nonfatal injuries and hospital admissions for trauma.
- In 2010, 2.3 million nonfatal fall injuries among older adults were treated in emergency departments and more than

662,000 of these patients were hospitalized.

- In 2010, the direct medical costs of falls, adjusted for inflation, was \$30.0 billion.

How can older adults prevent falls?

Older adults can remain independent and reduce their chances of falling. They can:

- Exercise regularly. It is important that the exercises focus on increasing leg strength and improving balance, and that they get more challenging over time. Tai Chi programs are especially good.
- Ask their doctor or pharmacist to review their medicines—both prescription and over-the-counter—to identify medicines that may cause side effects or interactions such as dizziness or drowsiness.
- Have their eyes checked by an eye doctor at least once a year and update their eyeglasses to maximize their vision. Consider getting a pair with single vision distance lenses for some activities such as walking outside.
- Make their homes safer by reducing tripping hazards, adding grab bars inside and outside the tub or shower and next to the toilet, adding railings on both sides of stairways and improving the lighting in their homes.
- Ask their doctor or pharmacist to review their medicines—both prescription and over-the-counter—to identify medicines that may cause side effects or inter-

actions such as dizziness or drowsiness.

- Have their eyes checked by an eye doctor at least once a year and update their eyeglasses to maximize their vision. Consider getting a pair with single vision distance lenses for some activities such as walking outside.
- Make their homes safer by reducing tripping hazards, adding grab bars inside and outside the tub or shower and next to the toilet, adding railings on both sides of stairways and improving the lighting in their homes.

To lower their hip fracture risk, older adults can:

- Get adequate calcium and vitamin D—from food and/or from supplements.
- Do weight bearing exercise.
- Get screened and, if needed, treated for osteoporosis.

Running Wolf Fitness Center staff will assist you in learning ways to develop better balance for life!

Connie Norman is the Manager of Running Wolf Fitness Center



Phillips West Neighborhood Upcoming Events:

November 1st (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Phillips West Monthly Community Meeting!

Join your neighbors and other Community Partners for updates from Local Government, ANW Hospital regarding their Air Permit, Business Partners, Residents, and Police. This event will take place at the Center for Changing Lives in the Centrum Room located on the 1st floor (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking is available in the rear off Oakland Avenue. Free Pizza Dinner & Beverages will be provided! If you would like more information contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email pwno2005@yahoo.com or check out our website for up to date Community Resources at www.phillipswest.info

December 6th (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. –

Phillips West Holiday

Community Meeting Celebration!

Please join us to Celebrate the Holiday’s and enjoy a free catered Holiday Dinner from Famous Dave’s BBQ while hearing about current Phillips West Events while getting an opportunity to Socialize and Network with other Neighborhood Stakeholders! All who live in Phillips West or support the Phillips West Neighborhood are welcome to attend! Celebration will take place at Lutheran Social Service Center for Changing Lives in the Centrum Room (2400 Park Avenue). Free parking available in rear off Oakland Avenue! If you would like more information or would like to get involved with the neighborhood please contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email pwno2005@yahoo.com or check out our website for up to date Community Resources at www.phillipswest.info

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BACKYARD INITIATIVE

The Backyard Initiative is a dynamic partnership between Allina Health and its neighbors to improve the health of residents in the seven neighborhoods immediately surrounding the Allina Commons, Abbott Northwestern Hospital, and the Phillips Eye Institute. In collaboration with the Cultural Wellness Center, the Backyard Initiative supports residents as they draw upon their own knowledge, skills and cultural values to care for themselves, their families and their neighbors. Research shows that social conditions – including isolation and a

lack of social support – have a profound impact on health.

Backyard residents have formed Citizen Health Action Teams (CHATs) that implement prevention and wellness pilot projects to improve community health. Alley Communications provides leadership and representation to the COMMUNICATIONS CHAT. Together, the Backyard Initiative, Alley Communications and the Communications CHAT are proud to invite you to this wonderful event where we celebrate the wellness and vitality of our Backyard Community



through so many vibrant ways of communicating: Spoken word, song, poetry, cartoons, speaking, and conversation. Come and find out more about the Backyard Initiative CHATS! Discover what Alley Communications has in store for the coming year! Be a part of it all! See you there! 612-990-4022 or editor@alleynews.org

“SOUKOUSIZE” Dallas and Siam, African and Reggae

Dallas Johnson, a singer, songwriter, producer and band leader-loves exploring musical styles. She composed jazz songs for Jevetta Steele’s last record, recorded an original house single for OM records, an electronic jazz song for Keston and Westdal, performed an American Traditional song on a compilation CD in support of marriage equality, wrote a lullabye that’s being recorded by grade school children in Colorado and can be heard singing soul music on Dan Barreiro’s KFAN show.

Currently, she’s singing world music, finalizing her 3rd original CD, and writing a non-fiction book. She’s the community arts director behind Bridging Minneapolis – a project in Phillips West.

Guitarist and composer Siam Matuzungidi hails from DR Congo and came to Mpls. by way of Uganda, Kenya, Dubai and Japan. A prolific composer, Siam wrote big hits in the 70’s that are considered classics, earning him the title, “soukous legend”. He’s toured with renowned soukous stars



like Samba Mapangala, Tshala Muana, Kanda Bongo Man, etc. Siam performed at the Ordway Theatre recently with Playing for Change, was the musical director for a Mixed Blood production and performs regularly with Socaholix, Marimba Africa, Cyril Paul’s Calypso Monarchs and 33 Degrees North, among others. He’s a recording artist and terrific guitar instructor for all ages and skill levels. So hit him up if you’re ready to make music!

MARGEAX DAVIS Rhythm and Blues vocalist

The Alley’s Media Social will be emceed by the very talented R & B vocalist, Margeaux Davis. She will be one of the amazing lineup of performers on Friday evening, November 16. Margeaux performed "Season's Of Love" as a soloist in the Broadway musical, "RENT" at the Guthrie Lab Theatre. In 2012, she performed as part of the "Rag Time" Ensemble. She won best R &

B vocalist in 2010 at the Twin Cities Hip Hop Awards and was nominated in 2011/2012 for best R&B vocalist in the Twin Cities. She is currently putting the finishing touches on an album with Grand Melody Music, "Plus Size Fashionista". You can hear her debut single, "Won't Do It Again" as a free download at <http://www.soundcloud.com/margeauxdavis>.



DAVE MOORE “Son of Boston (Agitator)”-a rap-poem about Wendell Phillips

Dave Moore will perform his rap-poem “Son of Boston (Agitator)” again at this year’s Alley Gathering Nov. 16th.

His debut performance last year of this poem embellishes his long-standing reputation as the creator of Dave’s Dumpster. Along with Linnea Hadaway, their masterpiece “Spirit of Phillips” cartoons have been published exclusively in The Alley for 25 years. These cartoons depict the words of 19th century abolitionist and human rights advocate, Wendell Phillips, namesake of Phillips Community.

The words are often portrayed amidst present-day social issues.

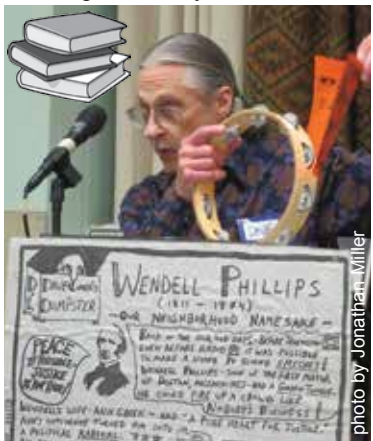


photo by Jonathan Miller

DEE HENRY WILLIAMS Amen Corner Planning Team and Stage Manager

Alley Communications is delighted in having Dee Henry Williams’ amazing energy and talents to help coordinate and stage-manage the incredible talent at A Media Social on November 16th. Dee has been a volunteer for 25 years at KFAI Fresh Air Radio. She produces a weekly radio program, A Great Blend of Watercolors, Saturdays, 6:00-9:00 A.M. She also supports indie labels specifically from the Blues, R&B, and Gospel genres.

Dee has programmed at KMOJ Community Radio and

WRNB and worked on numerous cable TV productions in the Twin Cities. Her multiple talents have also been contributed to the annual May Day Parade led by Heart of the Beast Theatre. Dee is a member of the Backyard Initiative’s Rebirthing Community CHAT team.

As a textile artist, Dee uses blue-jeans to produce mask-making workshops. Her Art for Healing & Celebration workshops help participants think outside the box, be introspective, de-mask and experience

the exhilaration of living in the moment. Some of her exhibited art can be seen on her website, www.shangospiritmarket.com.



Left: Dee Henry Williams
Right: Barbara LeShoure

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Invites YOU to the Annual C



@alleynewspaper

**Friday,
November 16
6:00 to 8:30 pm
EAST PHILLIPS
PARK CULTURAL
COMMUNITY CENTER
2307 17th Avenue S.,
Minneapolis**



* Amen Corner is an opportunity to Speak One’s Truth! Thrones Plaza, Chicago & Franklin Avenues. The in James Baldwin. The Amen Corner initiative is part

ns CHAT & Alley Communications, Inc.,
Gathering & Fundraiser for



Co-produced with the
*Amen Corner Planning Team
FEATURING :

Soukousize (Dallas & Siama) ~ African & Reggae

Dave Moore ~ Cartoonist and poet

Speaker ~ LEOLA ALTHEA JOHNSON
“Honey Boo Boo: A Convergence of News and Entertainment”

Christopher Toliver ~ Spoken Word

Barbara LeShoure ~ Blues, Chicago Style

Margeaux Davis ~ R&B vocalist and emcee for the evening

The good work and people of the Backyard Initiative

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(we don't want to miss the company of anyone!)

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h on Thursday & Friday from 4 to 6 pm, Peavey Park,
nspiration for Amen Corner is based on the play by
t of the Ventura Village Neighborhood Association.

BARBARA LESHOURE

Blues, Chicago style



souls of legends that included Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker

and Howlin' Wolf. Her Blues upbringing provided the foundation for which she was to later be acclaimed as Chicago's "Leading Lady of the Blues."

Diversely gifted in both Gospel and Jazz, her father insisted early on that singing the Blues was Barbara's destiny for life in order to carry on the tradition and to educate others of the tragic struggles resulting in this country's musical roots.

Since residing in Minnesota, Ms. LeShoure performs locally and has contributed regularly to the community through an inner

city program entitled "Music Mentoring". She has provided educational instruction about the Blues in several Minneapolis and St. Paul schools to promote awareness and appreciation of the African American cultural experience.

Ms. LeShoure has recently been inducted into the Chicago Blues Hall of Fame. Many lay claim to singing the Blues, but few, if any can lay claim to "living the Blues-side of the tracks" like Barbara LeShoure.

AMEN CORNER

in collaboration with Ventura Village Neighborhood Association

...excerpted from a one-year report written by Jason Rodney, Amen Corner.

July 2012 marked the one-year anniversary of Amen Corner at Peavey Park, Thrones Plaza. The project successfully engages residents and visitors in Ventura Village in dialogue, relationship, and action.

The name was derived from the Amen Corner phenomenon which has a long history in American lore. It was made famous by James Baldwin's play, "The Amen Corner", as an arena where an African American minister used her speaking skills to explore truth and obtain the support of parish-

ioners. Supporters of her point of view were put in a special section of the congregation, the Amen Corner, where the people would indicate agreement by shouting in unison, "Amen", or "let it be".

The Amen Corner in Ventura Village uses a "soapbox" or "open mic" by which to engage residents. Listening and documenting is also used as a positive way to reflect the comments of neighborhood people and to support their participation.

The Amen Corner outcomes include:

- Learning more about the neighborhood; people, stories and issues

- Building relationships with neighbors and community organizations
- Documenting perspectives or stories that need to be heard
- Creating effective ways of responding to what we're learning
- Getting people engaged with the Community Engagement Committee and/or Ventura Village Neighborhood Association

Come and Speak Ones Truth on Thursdays & Fridays from 4:00-6:00 p.m., Peavey Park, Thrones Plaza, corner of Chicago & Franklin Avenues.

LEOLA ALTHEA JOHNSON

"Honey Boo Boo As a Political Figure: A Convergence of News and Entertainment"

"I am a single parent of two adult boys, which is my favorite identity. My sons, who are both in their twenties, are wonderful, ethical young men. I'm also an academic and a writer. Most recently, I have been writing about photographic representations of black bodies in popular culture.

Her scholarship focuses on the media representations of African Americans in news and entertain-

ment, especially sports and music, as well as on women and African Americans who work in media industries. She is an associate professor of Media and Popular Culture at Macalester College.

Alley Communications is delighted that she will join us in what promises to be a provocative and dynamic evening including her presentation and many talented local performers.

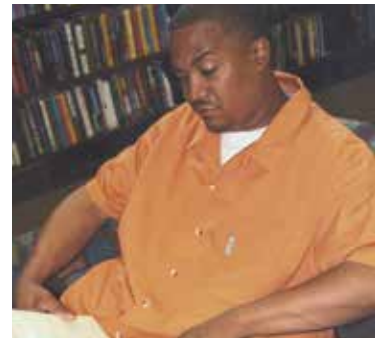


CHRISTOPHER TOLIVER

Spoken Word

Christopher Toliver's dabbling in creative writing ultimately grew into a passion. Drawing on his extensive experience with street life, Chris has now published his first novel, Hallway Man, as well as a wealth of poems and short stories. In 2010, while doing freelance work with Insight Newspaper, Toliver was awarded a Micro Grant through Project in

Pride and Living to further his ambition in obtaining a black-owned publishing company. Toliver says the grant was a seed that not only assisted him financially, but an unseen intervention that confirmed that he belonged. A native of Milwaukee, he is an inspiring author and speaker residing in Minneapolis.



If you can't attend this exciting event on Nov 16th, please donate to The Alley Newspaper at **GiveMN.org/alleynewspaper** or become an Alley Ally by donating directly as an

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Argo & The Watch



Argo

Argo (2012)

★★★★★

Warner Bros. Mystery/Suspense/Drama/History

Cast: Ben Affleck (Tony Mendez), Alan Arkin (Lester Siegel), John Goodman (John Chambers), Clea Du Vall (Cora Lijek), Taylor Schilling (Christine Mendez) Victor Garber (Ken Taylor), Bryan Cranston (Jack O' Donnell). **Running time:** 120 minutes. **Director:** Ben Affleck.

An international crisis sparks on November 4, 1979 in Tehran, Iran, at the U.S. embassy when hundreds of militant Iranians take 52 Americans hostage. The C.I.A. backed dictator Shah has to flee Iran for his safety.

During the chaos, the Americans in the embassy desperately try to destroy any and all documents that implicate American secrets. Six American diplomats manage to flee to the home of the Canadian ambassador. While the world is focusing on the hostage crisis ("Nightline" with Ted Koppel emerges as a nightly television news show continuing today long after Koppel retires), few, if any, are aware of the "Argo" operation sponsored by the C.I.A. agent, poses as a movie producer financing a movie in Tehran. Tension builds around Tony while he's walking the streets of a fragile Tehran. I think "Argo" could have been even more suspenseful than it is, but anyway is a very good movie under Ben Affleck's coat.

But before Tony goes on his dangerous mission to Iran, he goes to Hollywood to make a movie, a fake movie--mind you--collaborating with Oscar winning make-up artist John Chambers (John Goodman) to convince any Hollywood boss to sponsor the Movie. Movie producer Lester Siegel (Alan Arkin) along with Tony and John name the movie "Argo", a kind of watered-down Star Wars.

Tony flies with his crew to Tehran with false Canadian passports with no record of their arrival there in Tehran.

Mr. Affleck's directional hands ever so steady, precision of details for location, mood and time, indeed, he's just the man of his fifth direction to go to for a sound movie.

Tony Tony and Tony and John name the movie.

The Watch (2012)

☆☆☆☆☆

Twentieth Century Fox Science Fiction/Fantasy/Comedy

Cast: Jonah Hill (Franklin),



HOWARD MCQUITTER II
Movie Corner
Howardsmoviecorner.com

HowardMcQuitterii@yahoo.com

Rosemarie De Witt (Abby), Will Forte (Sergeant Bressman), Richard Ayoade (Jamarcus). Running time: 100 minutes. Director: Akiva Schaffer.

Initially the title of Akiva Schaffer's movie "The Neighborhood Watch" is changed to "The Watch" because his movie due to come out at the same time as the explosive racially charged Trayvon Martin debacle. But the name change did nothing to improve this listless, trite movie. Furthermore, calling "The Watch" a comedy is the joke--the tragedy, the lifelessness of four characters, all turn out to be bovine.

Bob (Vince Vaughn), Evan (Ben Stiller) and Franklin (Johan Hill), and the solo nonwhite--an African American--Jamarcus (Richard Ayoade), turns out to be a friendly alien. (Jamarcus is also an undercover alien.) How convenient it is to make the Black guy not just an alien but a friendly, undercover alien. But the stupidity of the three white middle-class guys makes the Johnny come lately Black guy even more stupid and almost as irrelevant as his white counterparts. The three white men set up an ad hoc watch of the neighborhood after a white security guard is murdered at a Wal-Mart like store in the town.

To put it bluntly, the mix of the usual gross gags and the unfortunate taste for vulgarity in "The Watch" just is flat at best, ugly at worst. What would you do if you discovered aliens in your neighborhood and they were all in the nude across the street or planning to rig the upcoming presidential election?



Last month's issue of "The Alley", in my Movie Corner, I reviewed "Para-Norman", an animation, I saw at Block E. Sadly, that was the last movie I saw at that beleaguered movie theater. Block E was closed on Monday, September 24, 2012 to my chagrin, though I

In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre

The Musical

New Native Theater, In the Heart of the Beast Theatre and Bedlam Theater partner for the debut performance of "2012: The Musical!"

New Native Theatre is a new way of thinking about, looking at, and staging Native American stories.

2012: The Musical is a romp through the end of the world as we know it! Inspired by the hoopla of the end of the Mayan calendar, the NNT Actor Ensemble's hilarious new play is about the year 2012 from a Native American perspective right from our own Franklin Avenue. Get ready for the return of Indian Alien ancestors who come to fix the ills of our Native people in the western hemisphere, complete with the arrival of rock star ancestors, and

dancing neon buffalo! Written by Rhiana Yazzie, Inez DeCoteau, and Andrea Fairbanks with music by Marisa Carr.

November 7-18. In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre - 1500 East Lake St 612-721-2535

Wed Nov 7 - 7:30 Preview

Thu Nov 8 - 7:30 Preview

Fri Nov 9 - 7:30 Opening

Sat Nov 10 - 7:30

Sun Nov 11 - 3pm

Wed Nov 14 10am school matinee, 7:30 show

Thu Nov 15 10am school matinee, 7:30 show

Fri Nov 16 - 7:30 show

Sat Nov 17 - 7:30 show

Sun Nov 18 - 3pm matinee - closing

Saturday Morning Puppet Shows for Kids



All Shows at 10am & noon in HOBT's Theater lobby. Read more

November 3: *Skeletons in the Closet* - Julie and Gustavo Boada

November 10: *Nalah and the Pink Tiger* - Anne Sawyer-Aitch

November 17: *On the Day You Were Born* - Esther Ouray & Julie Boada

"The Learning Fairy" all-new Episode 2!

At Open Eye Theatre

Blending child's play with rock and roll sprinkled with puppetry, old school theatre magic and modern day fun the Learning Fairy returns with her entourage of friends: Mr. Make-It, a mad scientist sort of guy who can transform things before your eyes, The Questioning Girl who -- well it's self explanatory, and of course -- her Fairy Band.

The Learning Fairy, has been collaboratively created by the per-

formers under the direction of Molly Van Avery and Michael Sommers. Zoe Sommers Haas, (the Learning Fairy) writes the lyrics, and Noah Sommers Haas composes the music. Michael Sommers designs the set with the magic completed with the lighting wizardry of Michael Murnane. Costumes are designed by urban fashion designer and Liseli Polivka

Box Office Hours

M-F 10am-4pm. Call (612) 874-6338. Email info@openeyetheatre.org. Online brownpapertickets.com

Open Eye is committed to economic accessibility to the Arts. A Pay-as-Able ticket request may be made at the door for any show that is not sold out.



"Art and the Class Struggle"

at Mixed Blood Theater

by Allan Woods
Nov 15th 7-9 PM

Art is one of the fundamental aspects of the human condition. Whether visual, performance, music, etc., art represents a kind of mirror in which society can see itself reflected. What does art through the ages and today say about the society we are living in? Socialists fight not only for

feared it, would close more than a year ago. I knew one of the AMC managers fairly well after going to perhaps 300 movies there at one time or another. I went to numerous movie screenings there until they tapered off to zero over the last year to eighteen months. Minneapolis has lost two movie theaters in the downtown area since 1999 (the other was "The Skyway Theater). As such, the closings (regardless of the reasons or motives) does not bode well for Minneapolis' downtown. Make no mistake about it, the AMC headquarters in Kansas City were livid about the closing here. Makes Minneapolis look like a flake of a town. I moved downtown three years ago--Lord and behold!--I could walk eight blocks or take a mall bus on a hot afternoon or in the frosty winter evening to see a movie at Block E. I miss Block AMC Theaters (over time, three companies owned it), but I don't miss Minneapolis' myopic view of not keeping a downtown theater.

the economic emancipation of the working class, but for the very soul of the human species, for a society in which everyone's potential can be developed to the full. Freed from the humiliating dependence and stifling constraints of the profit system, art, culture, and science will blossom as never before. To make life beautiful is the greatest of all causes. How can artists use their talents in the struggle for a fundamental transformation of the world?

Alan Woods, world-renowned Marxist theoretician, author, and chief political editor of the In Defense of Marxism website (www.marxist.com), will give a one-night-only, special presentation on "Art and the Class Struggle" at the Mixed Blood

Theater. Bring your ideas, questions, friends, co-workers, classmates, and family and join in this important and informative discussion.

This event is free and open to the public. Donations to help defray the costs of renting the auditorium space are appreciated. We will have a wide selection of books and booklets by Alan and other materials available for purchase. There is plenty of parking available in the neighborhood (for example, the ramp at 19th Ave & Riverside and the pre-pay kiosk lot across from Mixed Blood on 4th St.) For more information, for media opportunities, or to co-sponsor this event, please contact John Peterson at wil@socialistappeal.org or 651-373-7609.

Sponsored by the Workers International League, Wellred Books, Socialist Appeal, and the Student Marxist Association.

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Malala Lives

Is it possible that the spirit of a fourteen-year-old Pakistani girl has touched all of us? Malala Yousafzai faced down death for her cause. Eventually, a Taliban bullet did crease her skull and traverse her face. At the time, even this “non-believer” closed his eyes and bowed his head.

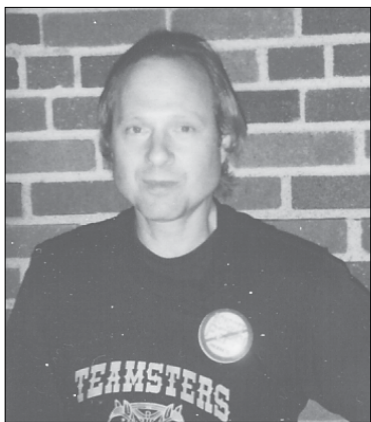
“Stop burning down our schools, let us learn, we are human beings”, say the teenaged girls who now defiantly conduct their vigils. They stand openly against Taliban law and its violent enforcement. “Silence is no longer an option”, they tell us.

Constitutional reminder (USA): “Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...”. ‘Separation of church and state’ is derived from this clause.

Meanwhile the local archbishop appears as a leading opponent of same-sex marriage.

We respond - do keep your own flock in order as pleases you, sir. However, there are numerous religious groups around the world which practice same-sex marriage. To name a few, these would be Quakers, Episcopalians, Reform Jews, Unitarian-Universalists, and Native Americans with a two-spirit tradition. Clearly, those who uphold the “Marriage Amendment” would suppress religious freedom indefinitely.

But truthfully, there is a deeper



PETER MOLENAAR
Raise Your Voice

aspect. If institutional discrimination is perpetuated, how many more young spirits would then be crushed beneath the bully culture? How many more teenagers would commit suicide as a result? Will Taliban law be imposed upon us all?

No, no... Sweet dreams, all... Malala lives!



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Letter to the Editor

“Real Americans Vote” Who are the real Americans?

I saw a yard sign in the Seward Neighborhood, it said, “Real Americans Vote” – no, that is not correct, most real Americans do not vote, most Native Americans do not vote, and they are the “real Americans”.

When I tell people I have not voted in over five years, and I’m proud of it—they are disgusted, shocked, but if I was not a middle-aged white guy, but a Native man, they of course would be much more respectful and understanding of my desire to not participate—now why is that?

For anyone to assume that I should participate based on my skin color is arrogant and racist. Minnesota is 98% white, it’s a white thing, and I get sucked into it and am expected to do certain things because I am white – and when I don’t, it is like I’m turning my back to my own kind. Here

is the white belief, this place is about us, for us, owned by us, ours to govern, ours to sell, created for us, ours to manage – and that I would not want to participate in my “own” state’s “democratic process” is just appalling!

How do you think we even got the chance to vote and have this “democratic process”...? “People died for your right to vote!” that’s right, millions of Native Americans died to create this “democratic” nation. Without the killing off of Native people and taking of their land there are no elections, there is no Minnesota.

I find it very odd that in 1865 there were two nations on the same soil, the Dakota nation and the United States – did the United States somehow not realize that there was a nation already here?

If German “settlers” “packed- up and invaded France, setting up their towns and farms in 1865, how would the world have defined that?

1865, two nations overlapping each other in the upper Midwest, so how did one prevail and the other disappear...the answer is, not by voting, not by a fair and democratic process. I’ll stay home on Election Day; you do what you have to do.

Thank you,
Frank Erickson



“The Spirit of Phillips”

Poignant 19th Century Wendell Phillips Quotations brought into the 20th and 21st Centuries for 25 years!

Neighbors Dave Moore and Linnea Hadaway have combined their artistic skills and consummate political savvy bringing forward the poignant advocacy and agitation phrases by Wendell Phillips (and Ann Green Phillips) from their mid-1800’s origin.

The 25th Anniversary of “Spirit of Phillips” cartoons will be celebrated at A Media Social event November 16th. Seventy such manifestations are in this tremendous portfolio of political cartoons.

Twenty-Six of the cartoons are available as greeting cards and are for sale by Alley Communications. Five will be available on Nov. 16th as large posters. Check them out!



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Ringing Rubber Bells!

BY ROBERT ALBEE

There are many of us who are now looking back at age 65 and forward to the rest of our lives, however long that might be. We want to be productive and healthy and engaged with our families and communities. Each of us are different and based on the damage and partially-healed injuries we sustained in getting to our current age, we enter our elder years with a history of liabilities to address along with our current state of health and wellness. So at what point do we start becoming feeble and fearful of falling and breaking a hip which is often the beginning of the end for an elder. We often fall because we lose our balance or simply trip over something that is in our way.

To begin facing this issue, I enrolled to become a trainer in A Matter of Balance. MOB is an evidence-based program designed to enable participants to become much more aware of fall prevention strategies and engage in physi-

cal activities designed to strengthen our abilities to better balance. What I found, however, is that the program lacked any real strategy to reverse my problems that started at an earlier age. I need to get better, not just maintain my current sorry situation! So like anybody with an idea of how to improve on things, I developed a swimming pool-based program that enables me to strengthen my muscles and balance/ coordination without fear of falling down. If I do fall, I only get wetter!

In this quest, I learned that there is a whole lot of "equipment" out there designed for therapy that is unavailable locally for aqua-aerobics programs. The "good stuff" is reserved for therapists who make it available for those recovering from injuries but only get a chance to use it a few times before their insurance support runs out. So what if we had some of these pieces to use over and over and over again?

Allina Health to the rescue!

A few months ago, through its Neighborhood Health Connection, Allina offered residents of Minnesota the opportunity to apply for a small support grant of \$250 to do something healthy; to promote a good idea or something they could then share with others. So I applied, asking for funds to buy some of those "therapy" aids that I could use with a few friends and develop our own program to help us enhance our balance skills in the pool. We also asked for assistance by a physical therapist (from Allina) to observe our program and make suggestions for developing an even better program that could fit into the Phillips Community Center pool once it reopens. Just our luck, Allina agreed and offered the funding; I also got a matching grant to extend our purchases for additional aquatherapy equipment. So we're on our way!

In the midst of this work, we've also gotten to know Clarice, who has attended her own pool workouts almost every day for the past



Ringing Rubber Bells

22 years. With a hip replacement and walking with a cane, she is very careful and will need a long time before she will again try our Wonder Board for balance, but is working for the first time with the foam bells albeit very lightweight ones. So she too is "ringing" rubber bells!

Consider this story an invitation! If you're interested in

improving your balance regardless of your age and you have a membership in the YWCA, why not join up to do this together. I'm not alone in this: the "we" is also Patricia Van Ert, who has been a partner in this little adventure from the very beginning. We have room for more folks if this idea intrigues you in any way. You can call me at 612.879.5029 and we can link up!

Lake Street Council annual wine & beer tasting

BY JOYCE WISDOM, ZOEANA MARTINEZ, AND HOLLY HARRISON

Why you should go to Lake Street Council's annual wine and beer tasting and silent auction on November 8 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at El Nuevo Rodeo:

1. Wine, beer, soda, coffee, Mexican food. Your ticket gets you access to 24 wines from all over the world courtesy of East Lake Liquors, Harriet Brewing growers galore, JOIA sodas, Peace Coffee coffee, and El

Nuevo Rodeo eats that will make your body strong, fight illness and produce healthy skin. Well maybe not exactly, but this mix of local and global is a perfect representation of the diversity and "mom and pop" cultures of so many Lake Street businesses, and your tummy will thank you for the gastronomical tour of everything our fundraiser has to offer. (Provided that you tour with moderation, of course.)

2. One-stop shopping. Hundreds of local businesses donate to our silent auction, resulting in a room full of goodies for you plus gifts for your loved ones. In past years we've had everything from gift cards to specialty bikes; T-shirts to TVs. Bidding on silent auction items means you can treat yourself and cross everyone off your holiday shopping list—we've got both your grandmother and your hipster nephew covered. (We release a full list of auction items

16th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

WINE AND BEER TASTING AND SILENT AUCTION

At our one-of-a-kind fundraiser, you can:

- Bid on over 150 unique silent auction items
- Sample wine, beer, coffee, and soda
- Enjoy authentic Mexican food
- Get to know your community

WHEN: Thursday, November 8, 5:30-8:00 p.m.
WHERE: El Nuevo Rodeo, 3003 27th Avenue South
TICKETS: \$30 at www.lakestreetcouncil.org and at the door

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Questions?
Contact ZoeAna at 612-822-1912 or zmartinez@lakestreetcouncil.org.

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Prepared and paid for by: Committee to Elect Jeffrey Hayden, 4018 3rd Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55409; Karen Clark Election Committee, 2633 18th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55407; Susan Allen for 62B Campaign, 3505 16th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55407

before the event, but to get a preview of the goods as they come in, find VisitLakeStreet on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, or Instagram.)

3. Hanging out with your community. This fundraiser draws Lake Street lovers from everywhere, and the bulk of the crowd calls Lake Street home in one way or another—they live here, they own businesses here, they work here. Gathering all these people in one room is a once-a-year thing, but the resulting good vibes should last you until next November.

4. Supporting Lake Street Council. The best part of all this wining and dining and shopping and networking is that it's all for a good cause! Lake Street Council works hard every day to engage, serve, and advocate for the businesses along our six-mile corridor, from France Avenue to the Mississippi River. But we can't renew and strengthen these communities without your help. This is our only fundraiser of the year, and it's your chance to show Lake Street Council that you dig what we do and want us to succeed.

Do any or all of the above sound fantastic to you? Great! Here are the details at a glance:

E Lake St

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