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the Alley NEWSPAPER

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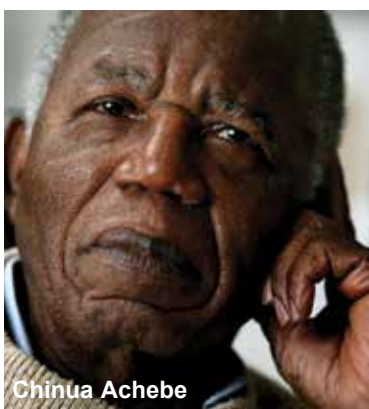


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100th Tale From Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery



Chinua Achebe

Thank You Sue Hunter Weir

Alley Communications, on behalf of hundreds of families and thousands of individuals express our tremendous appreciation to Sue Hunter Weir, local resident historian and writer of 100 “Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery.”

The lives of many people have been enriched by her extensive research, honoring of personal

stories and legacies, anecdotes, statistics, and personal quotations woven into 100 narratives. Each of the 100 Tales has its own engaging stories so it is remarkable that she can end each “Tale”; the secret of anticipation that keeps readers awaiting the next Tale. Readers need not fear the end of the Series because about 28,000 people (7,000 were moved, but their stories remain)

have been buried at this place formerly Layman’s Cemetery at Lake Street and Cedar Avenue.

These stories live on in family photo albums and scrapbooks, websites and oral storytelling traditions. Alley Communications is honored and pleased to have been able to be the exclusive first publisher of these “Tales”.

Sue Hunter Weir’s vivid, respectful sharing of these stories

helps us to appreciate the past, gain insight into the context of those times, draw connections to our present and underscore the words of Chinua Achebe, “the story is our escort; without it we are blind.” Thank you, Sue, for “escorting us” through those cemetery gates. Read the 100th “Tale on Page 4 -- “The longer you lived, the longer you were likely to live.”

“The story is our escort”

Phillips Pool & Gym Needs Your Help - see page 5

“It is the story that saves our progeny from blundering like blind beggars into the spikes of the cactus fence. The story is our escort; without it, we are blind.” – Chinua Achebe; born November 16, 1930 and died March 21, 2013.

BY HARVEY WINJE

The headline above, from The Alley Newspaper, April 1984, is still relevant in April 2013 because the 40-year saga of the Phillips Pool continues. The next chapter is being written as you read this. You are welcomed to be a part of this chapter.

The Pool is empty again!

The story intensifies as the characters’ levels of passion and available time move between those who are deeply involved to the casual observer and some in between. The hundreds of activists who have been involved in the Pool through its 40-year history are amazing. Read the article from April 1984 on Page 5 for just one example. A few activists from the beginning are still involved. Some activists are new. Nonetheless, all are working to keep the playing field level as they pursue their vari-

ous plans to fill the pool.

The various plan details and their possible impacts are obvious and important; more pool possibilities vs. less greenery and parking; less pools vs. more variety of ages and ethnic involvement; more pools/more money vs. more public use/possibility of less neighborhood use; and, many more.

May we hope and strive for understanding each other’s concerns all the while understanding that the lessons we leave in the story for our progeny are as important as the lessons of water enjoyment, safety, and survival.

My connection to the Phillips Pool began sixty-one years ago.

Probably everyone was somewhat scared when they walked into a new school that was larger than their grade school. I was.

Well, it wasn’t a “new” school, it was 26-years-old, but it was new to me. There was a man from “the olden days” on a large oil painting. I was distracted by twice as many students as attended Greeley Elementary School, two blocks south.

But, by 1962, its student body size had slid to 350 below its capac-

ity. I had graduated from that “new” school, **Wendell Phillips Junior High School**, seven years before.

A decade later, in 1972, I saw this title on a used bookstore shelf, **“Prophet of Liberty: Wendell Phillips.”** Wow! That was the guy in the oil painting! Who would know? They hadn’t told us!

One dollar and fifty cents bought that treasure of mid-19th Century American history with scores of quotations on equal rights for all people regardless of gender, ethnicity, or social class. It was there I read what I later heard Paul Wellstone say was his favorite quote of all time, “Peace if possible, justice at any rate.”

That same year, we saw the end of a long effort to build a Pool and Gym addition to Wendell Phillips Jr. High School with federal Model Cities’ money. The great excitement of that huge amenity was only exceeded a decade later when the Phillips Community lost its plea and Phillips Jr. High School was closed and demolished. There would be little consolation four years later when that same group of politicians and bureaucrats purchased the huge Mount Sinai Hospital, four blocks west, to remodel a portion of it into



Wendell Phillips Junior High School

a school. This seemed a seemingly obvious contradiction.

An amazing negotiation with those same politicians and bureaucrats kept the decade-old Pool and Gym from demolition. Bold plans included procuring a boiler, raising hopes and some money to reopen the Pool and sustain it with volunteer help. It was a huge task and the need for other ideas and more resources became evident.

The Mpls. Park Board (MPRB) assumed ownership of the Pool and Gym in 1987. Unfortunately, the heat for the Pool and Gym addition

had been from the old school’s boiler so the building stood unoccupied, unheated, thereby sustaining major damage. This included the buckling and heaving of the gym floor due to standing water through a leaking roof. A \$1.5 million renovation followed to correct those problems. The primary tenant became the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities. In addition, the YWCA operated a daycare center with additional programming conducted by Pillsbury United Communities.

Phillips Pool
see page 5

**General Meeting Wed.,
April 10 7:00 PM
2323 11th Avenue**

**Pg 2
SMH Fair April 13**

**Pg 2
Health Career Fair
April 18**

**Pg 2
Connecting the
Dots April 24**

**Pg 2
EPIC April 27**

South Minneapolis Housing Fair at New Location

BY MARGO ASHMORE

Homeowners can get their home improvement questions answered and find ways to bring creative visions to reality at the South Minneapolis Housing Fair Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Note this year's new location:

2121 Lake Street

Minneapolis Sports Center behind the Midtown YWCA.

Near the Hiawatha Light Rail stop on Lake Street, it's convenient by bus, walking, bike and car with parking in two lots.

The 19th is free to the public & provides useful local contractor connections and neighborhood-consumer resources for homeowners and prospective homeowners. Attendees chat with experts among the numerous carefully vetted exhibitors covering many aspects of home improvement.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. portion of the 5 hour Fair will be a Hennepin Fix-It Clinic. It's an opportunity for consumers to bring non-functioning small household appliances to see if and how they can be brought back to life. Other fun features: Bird feeder building for kids of all ages, power tool door prizes, Ask an Expert and the Natedogs food truck.

Four special 30-minute presentations:

- 11:00 a.m. Remodeling Your Home Through Social Media
- Noon: Financing Home Improvements
- 1:00 p.m. Front Door Feng Shui: Welcoming Opportunities
- 2 p.m. Growing Monarch Habitat.

The South Minneapolis Housing Fair is produced to benefit all Minneapolis residents, by

representatives of several neighborhood organizations, South High Community Education, and a dozen other corporate and institutional sponsors.

Info: www.housingfair.org
Pick-up a program at neighborhood offices and South Minneapolis libraries. To volunteer during the fair or exhibit next year, contact Event Coordinator Margo Ashmore at MANAGER@HOUSINGFAIR.ORG or call 612-867-4874.



VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

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

Wed. April 10 - **Board & General Membership Meetings** 6pm/7pm

Tue. April 2 - Community Engagement Committee 5:30pm

Tue. April 2 - Wellness, Greening & Gardening Committee 6:30pm

Thu. April 18 - Business Committee 6:00pm

Thu. April 25 - Housing & Land Use Committee 5:30pm

Thu April 25 - Crime & Safety Committee 6:30pm

Parks & Executive Committees meet irregularly; call for times

2323 Eleventh Avenue South • Minneapolis, MN 55404 • P.O. Box 580757 - Minneapolis, MN 55757 • 612.874.9070

WANT ADS

FREE WANT ADS FOR BYI RESIDENTS

Residents of the Back Yard Initiative area may place one free ad max. 2 square inches per month.

See contact info on page 6.

IMPROVEMENT IDEAS • HOME BUYER

HOME

housingfair.org



RESOURCES • NEIGHBORHOOD & CONSUMER INFO

South Minneapolis
HOUSING FAIR
Saturday, April 13th
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Mpls Sports Center
at the Midtown YWCA
2121 East Lake St., Minneapolis

Plus:
Hennepin Fix-It Clinic
Build a Bird Feeder
Door Prizes!

FOR RENT

21ST St & 16th Av
3 BR Older Home \$745. + Util.
28th St near 16th Av
Very nice 2 BR
Nat. Woodwork & Floors
\$745.+ Util.
612-825-6283

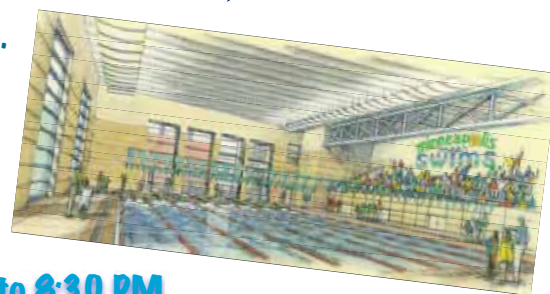
EXCHANGE Wanted:

Housing for Household Help Wanted: One elderly gentleman in need of help around the place. Older St. Mary's student seeks mutual living arrangement. In exchange for help at home, a room is needed while attending classes. Student is a good cook and cleaner. Has a valid driver's license. Will run errands and perform misc. household chores. References available. Send Email: whitebuffalo1111@yahoo.com

Connecting the Dots



From This...



To This!

Wednesday, April 24th • 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Phillips Community Center @ 2323 Eleventh Avenue S.

Several years after our initial "Connecting The Dots" events, we join together once more to address plans for our Phillips Community Center Pool. This time, we have initial funding and an Awesome design team to help us decide which plan fits best with our vision and potential for long-range funding. Please join us & share your thoughts with your neighbors, our Minneapolis Park Board Commissioners and other elected officials. Thanks So Much!

Co-Sponsored by Ventura Village, East Phillips,
Midtown Phillips and Phillips West Neighborhoods

For Further Information:
Robert Albee @ 612.812.2429

EAST PHILLIPS IMPROVEMENT COALITION

announces
the

14th ANNUAL MEETING of EPIC

-- Your Neighborhood Action Group --

Saturday, April 27th, 2013
Social gathering time: 9:30 am
Meeting begins at 10:00 am

at:

The East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center
2307 17th Ave. S.

Annual Board Elections



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Eyecare Technician • Health Information Technician • Nursing • Radiography
Occupational Therapy Assistant • Physical Therapist Assistant • Sonography

Wednesday, April 17 or Thursday, April 18

At the Midtown Global Market • Stop by anytime between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

On Lake Street near Chicago Avenue, Minneapolis. For information:

(651) 690-7800 • stkate.edu/minneapolis



ST. CATHERINE
UNIVERSITY

Tracking Running Wolf

“Let Food Be Thy Medicine and Medicine Be Thy Food”

Hello, This month we are very lucky to have an article written by Dr. Sara Jean Barrett, a Naturopathic Physician in Bloomington also doing health sessions here at Running Wolf. www.altsolutionsforhealth.com
– Connie Norman

BY SARA JEAN BARRETT
Hippocrates, a man commonly known as the father of modern medicine, is responsible for this insightful quote. In 431 B.C. he was really on to something. Our cells are made from and operate on what we consume. Throughout history many cultures have recognized the power of eating certain foods for all sorts of ailments. In the modern era food can be more than our medicine, it can also be our poison. We live in an age where we are surrounded by damaging products in our food; refined sugar, trans fatty acids, and high fructose corn syrup just to name a few. Additives, fillers and synthetic compounds are rampant in our foods and we must be diligent to avoid them. Even over 2,000 years later we still have nature’s perfect foods that promote health. In this article I am going to highlight some “super foods” that can have medicinal properties.

Wild blueberries- these tiny fruits pack a giant anti-oxidant punch! Wild blueberries (as opposed to cultivated) may even have more antioxidant power. Studies have shown that blueberries can reduce diabetes risk, improve vision and urinary health, and slow the aging process. No need to go hunting in the woods for wild blueberries, they are available in the frozen section of many co-ops and grocery stores.

Green tea-this light tasting tea is full of antioxidants and a compound called EGCG. Green tea may help reduce the incidence of breast, stomach, esophageal, prostate, and bowel cancer. For the anti-cancer effects you will

need to drink between 5-10 cups per day. Green tea does possess caffeine so if you are sensitive to caffeine be cautious about drinking several cups per day. Green tea is a nice coffee replacement in the morning and can also be drunk cold in the summer. Mix it up by adding sliced cucumber, fresh mint leaves and even fruit.

Wild caught Alaskan salmon-salmon provides a rich source of omega 3 fatty acids which help to reduce inflammation in the body. Studies have shown salmon to have preventative effects on cardiovascular disease, Alzheimer’s, and diabetes. Avoid eating farmed salmon which can be high in environmental pollutants particularly PCB’s.

Dark green leafy vegetables-including kale, collards, and swiss chard are particularly dense with phytonutrients and minerals. Dark green leafy vegetables might just be the most nutrient dense food per calorie available for us. While they are full of iron, calcium,

“...eat food as close to nature as you can find and reap the health benefits!”

magnesium, potassium, vitamin E, vitamin C, beta carotene, and lutein perhaps vitamin K deserves the spotlight. Vitamin K helps prevent osteoporosis, regulates blood clotting, reduces calcium in circulation helping to prevent atherosclerosis and may help prevent diabetes.

Cruciferous vegetables- broccoli, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, cabbage and bok choy all contain a compound called indole-3 carbinol that provides cancer fighting properties. These vegetables also contain sulforaphane which promotes liver detoxification of carcinogens before they can damage cells. To maximize their benefit lightly steam, sauté or lightly bake them. Eating too much raw cruciferous can interfere with the thyroid and overcooking will destroy some of the health benefits.



Apple cider vinegar- has been used for centuries as a way to preserve food and as a health tonic. Some properties include weight loss, lowering blood pressure, lowering cholesterol and reducing blood sugar in diabetics. A study in 2007 showed that taking 2 TBS of apple cider vinegar before bed reduced morning glucose levels 4%-6%. Apple cider vinegar also contains chromium, which can help lower blood sugar. If you make dietary changes that could lower your blood sugar be sure to talk with your doctor and carefully watch your blood sugar levels.

Spices- a whole article could be written on different spices and their individual health benefits. To name a few- turmeric, popular in curry, is anti-inflammatory and helps ward off Alzheimer’s Disease. Cinnamon can help regulate blood sugar as well as fight gas and bloating. Thyme is strongly anti-microbial and has a mucolytic action to help break up mucous if you have a cough.

Water- this list would not be complete without water. Mild dehydration has been linked to a myriad of diseases. A rule of thumb for myself is anytime I feel slightly ill whether it be a headache, cold symptoms or even a minor injury I start treatment with a glass of water. We require water to flush out toxins, maintain normal bowel function, protect and moisturizes our joints, aid in nutrient absorption.... need I say more?

In conclusion, when making choices try to eat food as close to nature as you can find and reap the health benefits!

[Running Wolf Fitness Center \(612\)872-2388. Join for better health! Open to everyone, cost is \\$10./mo.-ind. & \\$30./mo.-family. We have great fitness and nutrition classes.](#)

April Programs at the Franklin Library

BY ERIN THOMASSON
Children programs
ECFE: Reading Fun
Fri Apr 5 & 19, 10:30a.m.–2:30 p.m. Early Childhood Family Ed. (ECFE) sessions to learn fun, interactive activities to build literacy skills
Hands-on Hoopla
Sat Apr 13, 2–3:30 p.m. Games & activities for children and families.
Homework Hub
Tues-Wed-Thurs-Sat 3:30–7:30 p.m. Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed.
Family Storytime Wed 10:30 a.m. Age 2 and up. Share books, stories, rhymes, music, and movement with your children.
Teen Programs
4-H Mentoring Club
Tues 5–7 p.m. Urban ecology, health and nutrition, sustainable ag. & related careers in food science. Maintain a community garden and visit local food enterprises.

Young Achievers
Thurs 4:30–6 p.m. Want community involvement? Concerned about health & lifestyle? Bring friends & come for poetry, arts, games
Teen Anime Club
Thursdays, April 4 & 18, 6–7:15 p.m. For teens. Watch anime, discuss manga, share artwork, work on cosplay and more. Something
Movies for Teens
Fridays, 4–6 p.m. Titles chosen by teens. Teen Center couches and get the big-screen cinema feeling.

MVStudio: Music & Video Production
Wed Apr 10, 4–6 p.m. Hands-on exp. mixing your music & creating original videos. Work with ‘s Teen Tech Squad to express yourself using the latest technology.
ArtVentures
Thurs Apr 11 & 25, 6–7:15 p.m. Explore creativity while learning about the vibrant arts scene with visits from local artists and trips to see working artists in action.

Make This: (Maga)Zines
Thurs Apr 11, 6–8 p.m. Reg. Online or 612-543-6925. Grades 7-12. “Zines” are small publications to express yourself and share with friends. Zines come in a variety of formats & use different media. Learn this creative and unique medium.

Adult Programs
Seniors Play-Reading Group
Friday, April 12, 10:30a.m.–12:30 p.m. Join us for a stimulating morning of reading and discussion of some of the great plays of our heritage. Presented in collaboration with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.
Reading Nonfiction for Elders
Fri Apr 12, 1–3 p.m. Read and discuss the works of significant nonfiction writers. infor at 612-543-5475.
Memoir Writing Group
Thurs Apr 18, 1–3 p.m. Would you like to create a record of personal history? Bring what you have written to read to the group for helpful comments and



Franklin Community Library
1314 E. Franklin Avenue
New: 612-543-6925
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/

suggestions.
Phillips Technology Center
www.hclib.org or 612.543.6925
Email: [Intermediate](mailto:Intermediate@hclib.org)
Thurs Apr 11, 12:30–2 p.m. How to use folders, view & attach files to an email & set up an email address book using a Yahoo! account.

Cloud Computing: MS Office Web Apps and Google Docs
Fri Apr 12, 10–11:30 a.m. Learn Google Docs & Microsoft Office Web Apps, free Web-based applications for creating documents, spreadsheets, & more. (Familiarity with Internet and email use required.)

Computer Skills Workshop
Fri Apr 12, noon–1:30 p.m. Work on projects & practice skills from using the mouse & keyboarding to using email and Microsoft Office with our software instructors and volunteer assistants.

Microsoft Excel: Basics
Sat Apr 13, 10:30 a.m.–noon Learn the basics of working with an Excel spreadsheet: navigation, entering data and using formulas.

Franklin Learning Center
612-543-6934
Free tutoring for adults learning English and math, preparing for the GED & citizenship exams, & gaining life skills. Volunteers? No exp. necessary; we provide training & materials.

Phillips West Neighborhood Upcoming Events:

Check out the Phillips West Website @ www.phillipswest.info

April 4th (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. – Phillips West Community Meeting!

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

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“The longer you lived, the longer you were likely to live.”

Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery

Abraham Fletcher, born the longest ago -- 1776.

People often ask who is the oldest burial in the cemetery. They don't mean whose was the first burial or who lived the longest. What they're asking is who was born the longest ago.

That honor appears to belong to Abraham Fletcher who was born October 13, 1766, in Mendon, Massachusetts. He and his wife Margaret Crocker Fletcher moved to Territorial Minnesota with several of their adult children sometime in the early 1850s. At the time that they moved, Abraham was well into his eighties.

Life Expectancy Records of life expectancy for people born in the 1760s were not kept. But demographers later calculated that someone like Abraham Fletcher who was 83 in 1850 was likely to live another 5.9 years or until he was 89. Abraham Fletcher didn't make it quite that long—he died on August 25, 1854 at the age of 87. Margaret, who was born in 1772 died in 1861 at the age of 89 years and five days.

Mortality rate tables reveal a fascinating pattern about life expectancies. A child under the age of ten in 1850 (presumably includ-

ing those born in 1850) had an average life expectancy of approximately 38 years. Children who were between the ages of ten and twenty in 1850 had a life expectancy of 48 years, ten years longer. The same pattern persists up until 1920. While it seems nonsensical to say that the longer you lived, the longer you were likely to live, that was, within reason, the case. Infancy and very young childhood

Infancy and very young childhood were perilous times and children who made it past their tenth birthdays had survived or sidestepped some of the leading causes of premature death.

were perilous times and children who made it past their tenth birthdays had survived or sidestepped some of the leading causes of premature death—measles, teething, enterocolitis, cholera infantum, etc.

First Baptist Church

Margaret Fletcher was 81 when she became one of the ten founding members of the First Baptist Church in Minneapolis. Five of the church's original ten found-

ers were members

of the Fletcher family. Abraham's name is not among them which may have been due to poor health or some other age-related reason.

In its earliest days, the church met in Fletcher Hall which was owned by Abraham and Margaret's son, Asa. The building was located on what is now Portland Avenue. In his "History of Minnesota," Isaac Atwater described the congregation's meeting place:

"Access to this hall was by an outside stairway so frail in appearance, that nervous persons ventured upon it with trem-

bling. The room was rough, and its furnishings of the rudest. Seats were few but not far between, made of planks and supported by empty boxes and nail kegs. The pulpit corresponded, a platform six or eight inches high, for top a board smoothed by a saw and supported by two side pieces of the same sort, with pieces of lath nailed on to brace it up. The worshippers, however, were not troubled

Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery

SUE HUNTER WEIR
100th in a Series

by their uncouth surroundings. Prayer, praise and holy thoughts hallowed the place for them."

It's not hard to imagine Margaret being very nervous as she climbed a rickety stairway in order to attend weekly church services and Sunday School. But climb she did.

Margaret and Abraham Fletcher are buried in a family plot (Lot 9, Block B) with four other family members including their son Asa and his wife Nancy. Nancy died in 1865 at the age of 41, and Asa died in 1889 at the age of 81.



Photo Credit: Sue Hunter Weir

The slightest and subtlest "tilt" of the tombstone after many decades of freeze/thaw cycles is one of the hundreds of such examples of Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery "patina." Of the ages. Abraham Fletcher died on August 25, 1854 at the age of 87. Margaret, who was born in 1772 died in 1861 at the age of 89 years and five days. Margaret and Abraham Fletcher are buried in a family plot (Lot 9, Block B) with four other family members including their son Asa and his wife Nancy. Nancy died in 1865 at the age of 41, and Asa died in 1889 at the age of 81.

Sustainable Kitchen and New Nordic Cooking Classes at Ingebretsen's

BY CARSTENS SMITH

Karen Olson Johnson, the co-host of AM950's "Food Freedom Radio" will host two talks in April focusing on the small changes you can make in your cooking and eating habits that will have a big impact on the environment and the quality of everyone's life, especially your own. Karen will host the lively combination of

lectures, questions, and answers on Monday evenings April 1 and 8 from 6 to 8 pm. Each evening is \$5.

Karen is a long-time science education and teacher-trainer. She is the author of Common Sense for the Common Good and From Where I See It, informative guides to the simple steps we can take to create a cleaner, healthier world.

Both books will be available at Karen's talks.

Ingebretsen's will celebrate Earth Day with a New Nordic Cuisine dinner prepared by food historian and blogger Patrice Johnson. Patrice has combined her love for Scandinavian food (she is a self-proclaimed "Nordic food geek and meatball historian") with her commitment to sustainability and to eating well with minimal impact on the environment. Patrice will provide a light dinner, recipes, and an overview of the aesthetic behind New Nordic cuisine on Monday, April 22 from 6 to 8. The cost is \$25 a person and class size is limited to 10 people. Patrice's food blog can be found at calledtothetable.blogspot.com.

For more information or to register for either class, please call 612.729.9333 or email classes@ingebretsens.com

Hey Gardeners

BY BRAD PASS

It's NOT too early to start thinking about Garden fresh tomatoes, herbs and squash. It only seems so if you look outside. So - crank up your imagination and conjure mental pictures of spading warm loam, planting and tending the food and flowers for 2013.

Gardening News:

- The East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Garden (2428 17th Ave. S.) has a few openings for garden plots every spring. If you are an East Phillips resident and are interested, Contact Brad Pass at bpass@usinternet.com to get on the Wait List. For immediate attention, add "GARDEN" in caps to the subject line.

The First Garden General Membership meeting of the 2013 Gardening season;

WHEN? Saturday, April. 13th

Time? 10:00 AM

Where? The East Phillips Park Community Center (2307 17th Ave. S.)

Garden Plots will be assigned, and Plot fees will be collected, and



Sign-up for Garden Work Groups

- The Local Food Resource Hubs Network provides support to residents who wish to grow their own fresh produce, helping to ensure greater food security and healthy food access.** Hub membership provides seeds, plants, classes, tools and networking. **To join a hub in one of four Minneapolis neighborhoods or the Midway neighborhood of St. Paul, sign up online now! Or, download the printable sign-up form with program information at www.gardeningmatters.org.**

- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a way for you to avoid the work and still reap the harvest of organic local gardens by paying in advance for the best produce available on a weekly basis as it is harvested. There are many farms and gardens from which to purchase shares. See MinnesotaGrown.com for a list. I am familiar with Amador Hill Farm at the Women's Environmental Institute in North Branch. Go to <http://www.w-e-i.org/> and click on "Purchase Your 2013 CSA Shares Now" for information.

"Peanuts, Popcorn and Preemies"

Hennepin History Museum Fireside Series by Sue Hunter Weir. April 28th 2 PM

Wonderland Park in South Minneapolis opened its gates May 1905 in the most highly anticipated entertainment events of the year. Visitors had a chance to ride on one of the world's finest carousels, "fly" in an airship, Shoot the Chutes and see any number of amazing, death-defying acts (Dare Devil Dash doing his Dip of Death was a favorite).

The Park's serious side was the Infant Incubator Institute offering free medical care to prematurely born infants on display in "glass castles," as electrically-powered incubators. It was all part of American's love affair with electricity and all happening on Lake Street.

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Admission \$5 Seniors & Students \$1.

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PHILLIPS AQUATIC CENTER

the
a special supplement of **Alley**
NEWSPAPER



APRIL POOLS!

NO FOOLING! It's Historic!



In the City of Lakes and Land of 10,000 Lakes!

We are living in an historic time in Minneapolis: we are on the verge of having our first indoor public aquatics facility and it's located right in the heart of the Phillips Community. When completed, this fabulous new aquatics center will provide swimming lessons for everyone (including adults), a state-of-the-art competition swimming and diving venue, exercise and aerobics classes, and community swimming.

In recent months the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board joined us in our belief that Minneapolis should have an aquatics facility. At the MPRB Board meeting on March 6th, President John Erwin stated that the city has a "moral responsibility" to ensure that children in the city learn to swim and, in particular, those many children with no real access to lakes and swimming lessons. This is why it's vitally important that all children in Minneapolis learn the valuable life-saving and outdoor-access skill of swimming.

Remembering kids in water.



When I close my eyes and remember, it's wonderful to watch children learn to swim and see them grow in self-confidence as they conquer their fears and learn to safely navigate the water! Picture this! Kids between the ages of five and seven simply love water! Up to their necks and over their

heads. You'll see 'em at the shallow end—pinching their noses and sitting on the bottom while holding each other's hands! Then they explode to the surface! And do it again and again and again!

Next you see a couple more scooting along the pool rim headed for the "deep end" to show off — nope, not afraid of water way over their heads! Over and over again, they do somersaults of triumph, defeating danger and death! Hey, it's not over yet, because if there is a diving board, look out! Coming loaded with bravado and "dare-ya's" — they creep closer to the edge and then do something between a "cannon-ball" and a "belly-flop" in they go, one after another, spiraling down into the waiting waters. After an hour or so of this and I'd swear those kids have grown an inch or two apiece!

Remembering elders in water.



Go look into the other part of the pool. You will see an elder who's gone through lots of life since being one of those kids and now is finding his or her way slowly back into the water. Sitting first in a hot tub or whirl pool to warm up the joints and muscles, an elder gradually navigates into the shallow end, carefully down the ladder, with a cane dropped aside the ladder along with a pair of flip-flops. Ahh, the joy of being able to move again! Perhaps not exactly like somebody connected with the Bolshoi Ballet, but still, smoothly and without fear of falling down, gaining balance as if years were simply shaved away! If you have Parkinsons, or a partial paralysis, this is like heaven! Just look around!

The "evolving" Phillips Aquatic Center: Team ready!

This project began some years ago when, jolted by the loss of the Boys and Girls Club, members of the four quadrant neighborhoods of Phillips formed the Phillips Community Parks Initiative to focus on our park facilities



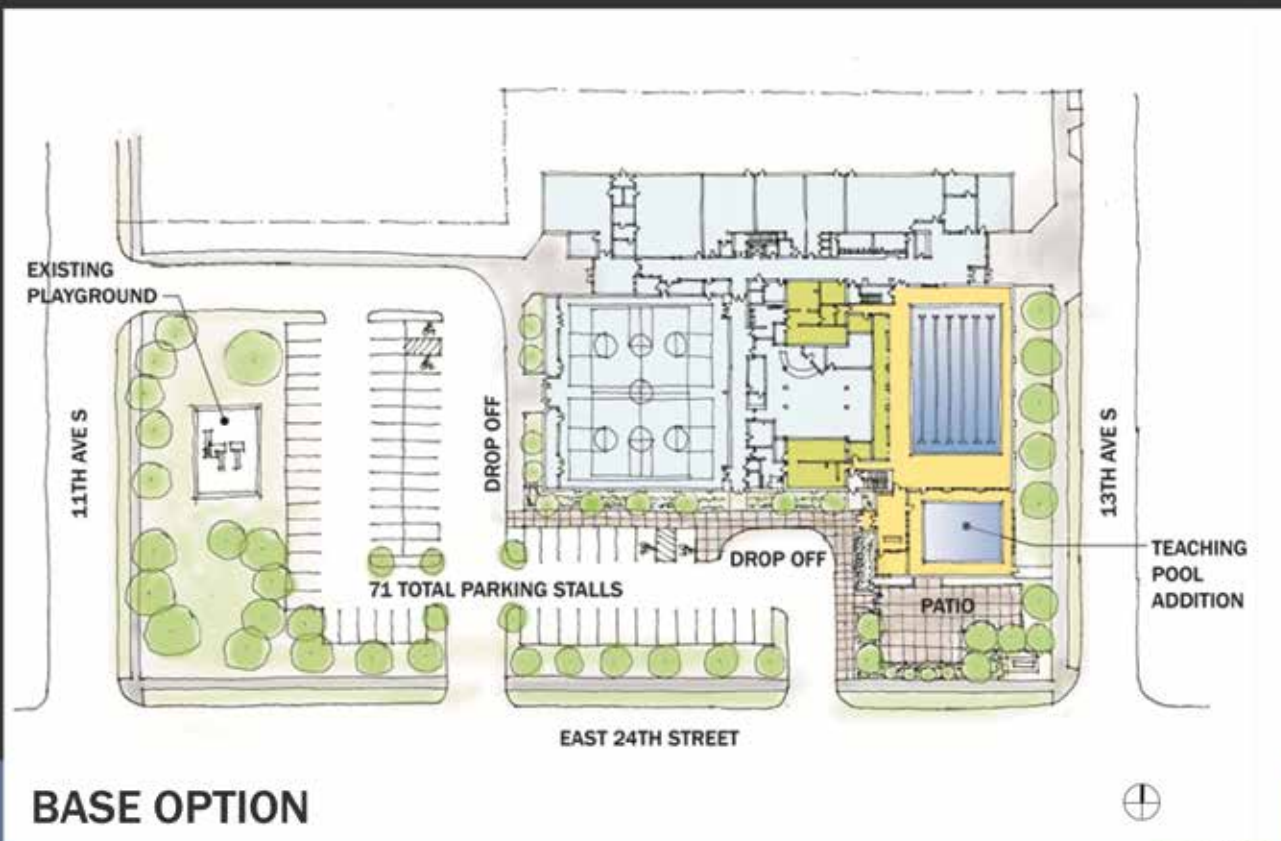
This is what the Phillips Aquatics Center is all about -- serving the great unmet aquatic needs of the City of Lakes and re-introducing a place for play, practice, competition and even recovery for the community. One of the best teams you could ever imagine is working very hard to bring a state-of-the-art aquatics center to the Phillips Community Center.

Brief history of the last few years of the 40 year old Phillips Pool

ties and determine how to make them more useful and sustainable. Shirley Heyer wrote a grant to obtain an intern from the U of M to research and report objectively on the functionality of Phillips parks. The report had just been presented when we learned we had roughly a week to stop the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board from either selling off and/or demolishing the Phillips Community Center which houses the pool. No sooner did community outcry bring that to a halt when we learned of the MPRB's plan to send concrete trucks to fill-up the now empty cavity which once was the Phillips Jr. High's, and then the Boys & Girls Club's swimming pool.



Existing pool without water



BASE OPTION

PHILLIPS AQUATICS CENTER
Pool Expansion

\$2,250,000



OPTION 1

PHILLIPS AQUATICS CENTER
Pool Expansion

\$5,100,000

Lieder, Clark, and Community garner support from the State...



The next chapter was led by Hannah Lieder who was inspired by the transformation she saw in Phillips kids whom she had taught to swim. Assisted by Rep. Karen Clark, Hannah began what turned out to be a two-year campaign at the State Legislature to seek the funding for her vision of the pool becoming the main piece of a reconstructed and expanded aquatic facility. The first year, despite long hours lobbying, Hannah's bill was defeated on the last day. Doing it all again the second year brought success. In a very tough legislative session, Hannah's bill was one of the few to make it through a crusty legislature in the midst of the continuing recession. \$1.75 million in funds from the Legislature's Bonding Bill was secured to begin restoration and revitalization of the Phillips pool.

...and Hennepin County, and Augsburg.

She also led efforts to convince Hennepin County to step forward with another \$325,000 in grant money to match the legislative appropriation and brought Augsburg College to the table with another \$100,000 of support. Hannah was awarded the KARE-11 Eleven Who Care Award this year for her work in saving the pool.

Challenged by the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board to develop a sustainable aquatics facility, Hannah, with her organization Minneapolis Swims, recruited the top aquatics experts in the country to put together a project that best meets the needs of the community and can be sustained into future years. The team consists

Now, let's consider the project.

Three options are being advanced: BASE OPTION, OPTION 1, and OPTION 2

BASE OPTION:

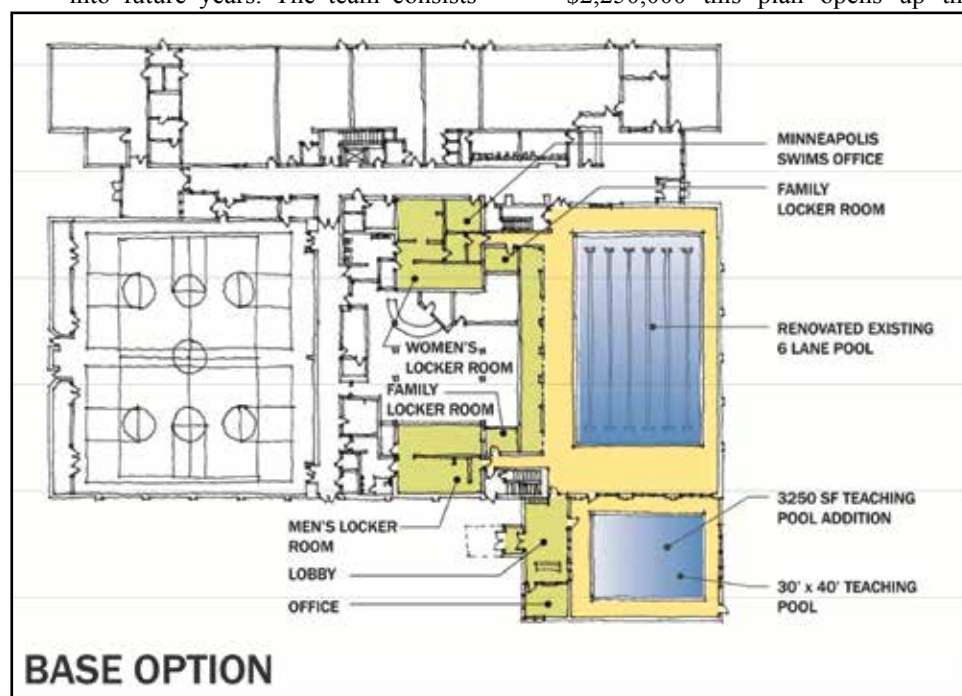


Beginning with a base project that essentially re-opens the current 6-lane pool for competition and lap swimming while creating a small shallow, warm-water teaching and exercise pool for children, elders and family activities. At a cost estimate of \$2,250,000 this plan opens up the

OPTION 1:



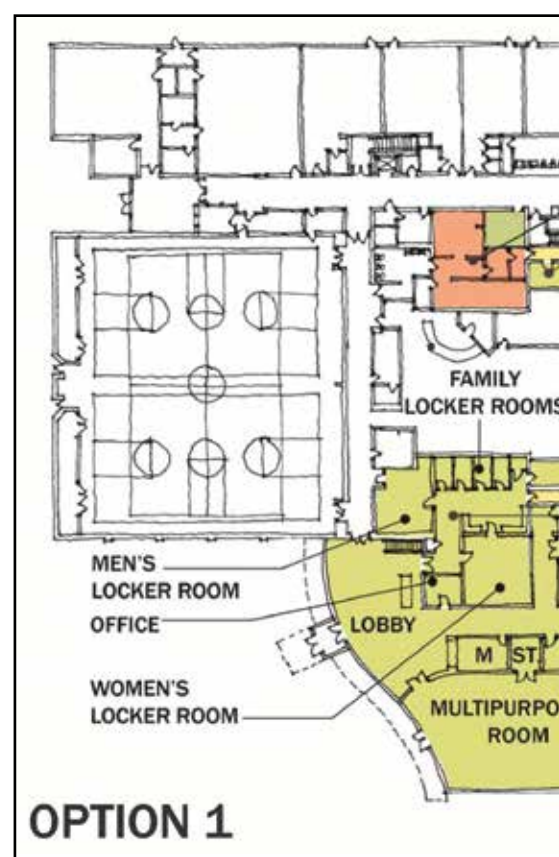
This option includes expansion of the competition pool to, much needed, 8 lanes, necessary for hosting competitive meets, adds spectator seating for up to 275 people, builds new showers and offers a larger warm water pool. With the additional lanes the pool could handle many more people and Phillips could develop our own competitive teams as they once did in the not so distant past. Take a trip down memory lane with Phillips families whose kids were involved in the Swordfish Swim Team. This plan would make changes to the outside of the building in terms of a two-direction outward expansion south and east toward 13th Avenue. Total cost estimate is \$5.1 million.



BASE OPTION

of Tom Schaffer of USA Aquatics, Stu Issac and Duane Proell of Isaac Sport Group, Dean Dovolis and Mick Stoddard of DJR Architecture. Funding for these conceptual design and business plans came from the East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Ventura Village, Minnesota Swimming and Minneapolis Swims.

south side of the building where the new "teaching pool" addition will replace some current parking, and include a nice patio area and a completely new "drop-off" pool entrance. However, it would use the old showers and would not function well for swim meets or gender-based swimming. Most of the capital funds for this option are already in hand, turning the focus primarily toward operations and long-term maintenance.



OPTION 1





PHILLIPS AQUATICS CENTER
Pool Expansion **\$7,506,000**

OPTION 2:



Moving up the development scale or—shall we say—to the grandest plan of all, we picture a \$7.5 million pool project that further expands the Phillips Aquatic Center, again both southward toward 24th Street and eastward toward 13th Avenue. This expansion will include all the features of OPTION 2, namely the additional swim lanes, new showers, but adds additional spectator seating for 100 more people, a separate diving well, a larger warm-water pool, upstairs classrooms and a roof deck. This plan would allow us to elegantly serve single-gender swimming in the teaching pool during normal business hours, while having the rest of the facility open for community swimming. The plan will also allow us to host swimming meets while keeping the teaching pool open for community swimming. This plan would require a westward extension of the parking lot

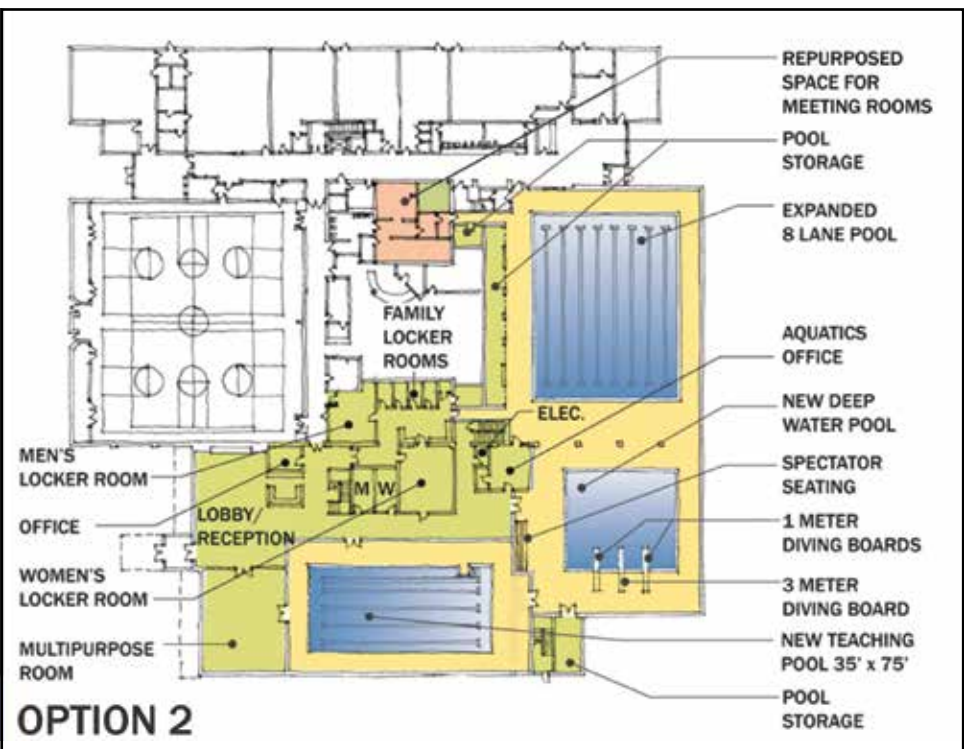
to accommodate additional vehicles. This will change the building’s footprint to a greater extent, but not necessarily to the neighborhood’s detriment as long as a larger-scale planning effort precedes this development.

Mpls. Park and Recreation Board “On-Board” with partial operations support; signals a major paradigm change.

While an effort by Minneapolis Swims and ISG Consulting has been made to offer a strong revenue-generating facility, which has considerable feasibility, at the March 6th MPRB meeting, the Park Board came forward with the willingness to provide some operational support. This is a major game-changer. Though the business plan includes scholarships and sponsorships so the highest-poverty, low-income residents will have access, the Park Board’s openness to helping with costs makes our commitment to continued access for our own population a greater guarantee.

Minneapolis Swim’s Hannah Lieder points out that “this facility could provide a very real opportunity to develop Olympic level swimmers and divers. The U of M has one of the top diving coaches in the world? One of his divers won a Silver Medal at the Olympics last year and four of his divers are at the national championships right now. Remarkably, Phillips youth could be in a feeder program for Olympic swimming and diving.”

Venture Village General Meeting- April 10th- features a public presentation without Voting.



In order to provide a deeper look into this project, Ventura Village will be featuring the Phillips Pool at its regularly-scheduled monthly **General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, April 10th**. The public is invited to this event, beginning at 7:00 PM, which is located in the same building as the proposed pool project. Minneapolis Swims has been invited to present and bring members of the development team to assist in making this project clearer to attendees and navigate the various options to be considered. No vote will be taken on the various options as it is only informational in its appearance on the agenda. Funds are already pledged to the project.

“Connecting-The-Dot’s” Open House and Pool Conference

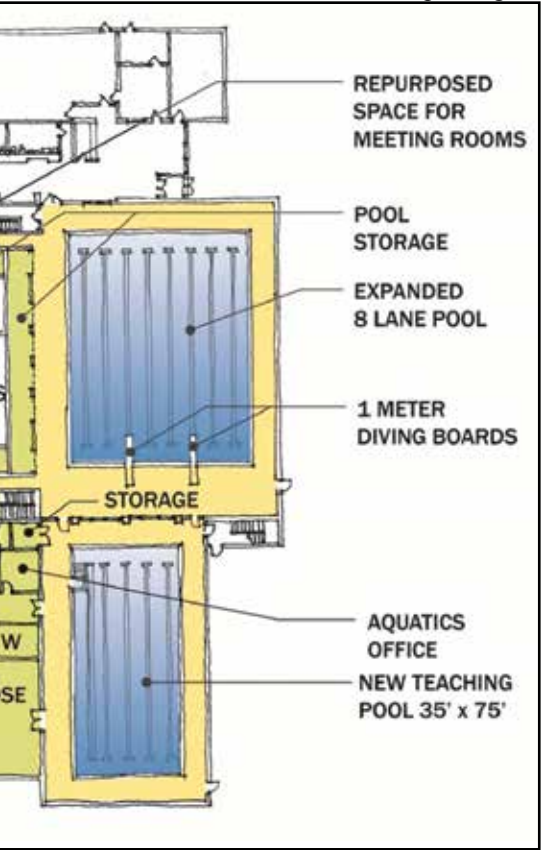
A “Connecting-The-Dot’s” **Open House and Pool Conference** is also scheduled for **Wednesday, April 24th from 6:30 to 8:30 PM** at the Phillips Community Center, located at 2323 Eleventh Avenue South. Snacks and beverages will be provided as this pro-

gram offers an even greater opportunity for residents and stakeholders in Phillips to come forth and dig deeper for answers and a greater understanding of available options. It is expected that Ventura Village will revisit the project in May and then provide support for one of these options. East Phillips Improvement Coalition has already gone on record supporting an option and the other two Phillips Community neighborhoods can be expected to do so as well.

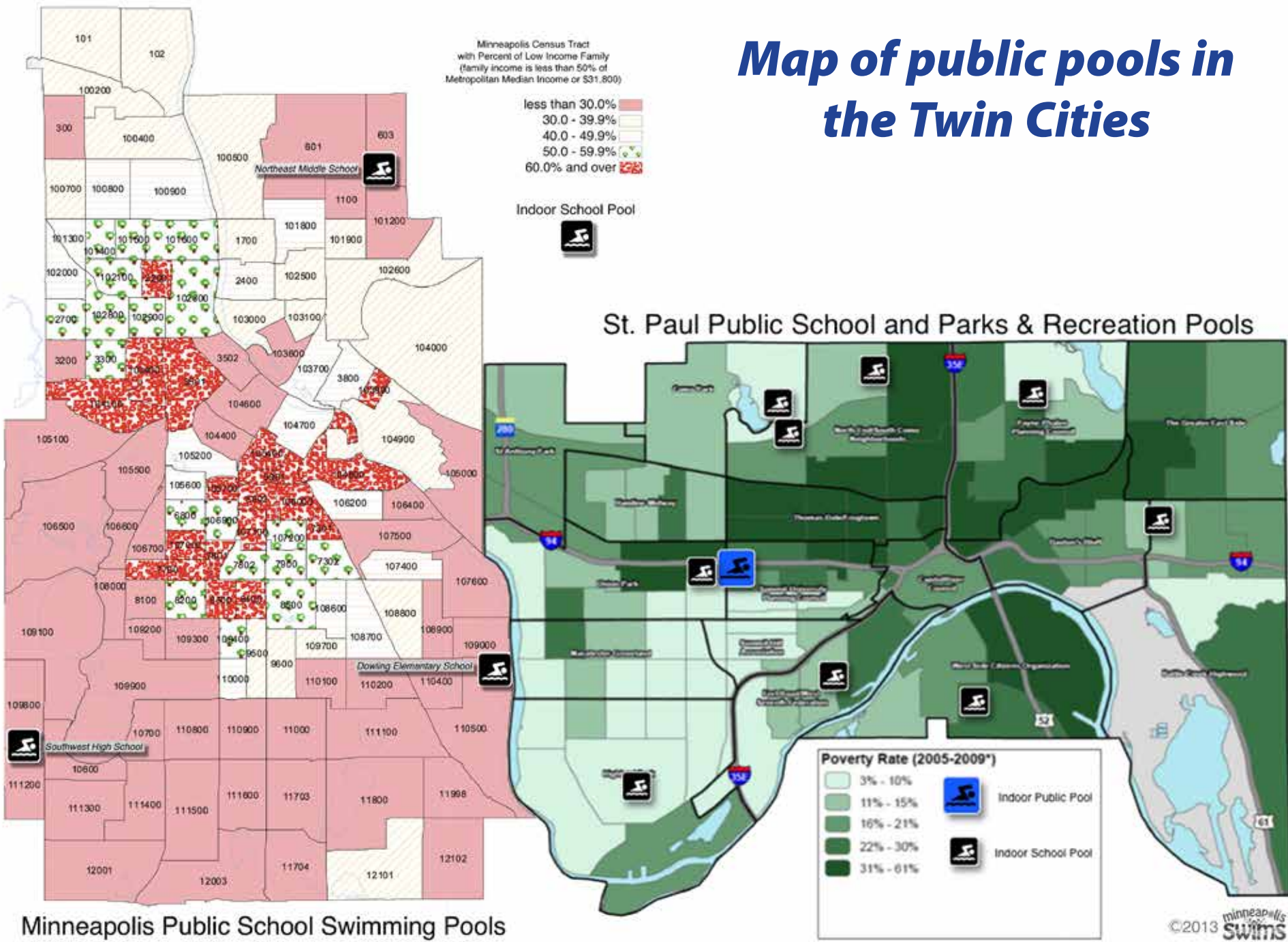
On-going access to information.

For further information, Alley Communications has posted a slide show of all 29 color slides of the Phillips Pool and various options on its alleynews.org website. The business plan will also be posted for perusal so readers can attend the Open House and engage the development team in meaningful dialog regarding this project.

Come and watch our Phillips Community grow before our very eyes! At present most of our youth cannot swim...but someday soon Phillips may be providing trained lifeguards for the City of Lakes. Someday there may be an Olympic champion



Map of public pools in the Twin Cities



The info below was obtained from the US 2010 Census Info Profiles prepared by the Minnesota Compass staff at Wilder Research, with the generous support of The McKnight Foundation, Oct. 2011. * For more detailed info on each Twin Cities neighborhood see www.mncompass.org/twincities/neighborhoods.php

Population	Midtown	East	Phillips	Ventura	
Age by Years	Phillips	Phillips	West	Village	Totals
0 through 24	2,062	2,062	1,821	2,675	8,620
25 through 64	2,552	2,058	2,262	3,491	10,363
65+	168	149	644	371	1,332
Pop. Totals	4,782	4,269	4,727	6,537	20,315
Household Incomes					Average
Under \$35,000	45.9%	53.3%	75.5%	61.3%	59.0%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	14.5%	13.5%	16.4%	18.0%	15.6%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	13.7%	24.3%	3.1%	12.4%	13.4%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	16.9%	5.0%	2.3%	4.0%	7.1%
\$100,000+	9.0%	4.0%	2.7%	4.3%	5.0%
Income Totals	100.0%	100.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.1%
Race/Ethnicity					Average
American Indian	5.5%	18.2%	2.4%	6.3%	8.1%
Asian	2.8%	3.0%	2.7%	2.1%	2.7%
Black	24.6%	20.4%	42.8%	41.9%	32.4%
White	22.7%	16.6%	25.3%	21.8%	21.6%
Other Race	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%
2 or More Races	3.3%	3.6%	3.6%	3.8%	3.6%
Hispanic ≠	40.8%	38.0%	22.9%	23.7%	31.4%
	99.9%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

≠ Residents who ethnically identify as Hispanic may be of any race, but are represented only as "Hispanic or Latino" in the graphs. All race categories are non-Hispanic.
* Or, search on the Internet directly for:
"Minneapolis-MidtownPhillips-102011" charts for Midtown Phillips info above, p. 8
"Minneapolis-East Phillips-102011" charts for East Phillips info above, p. 8
"Minneapolis-PhillipsWest-102011" charts for Phillips West info above, p. 8
"Minneapolis-Ventura Village-102011" charts for Ventura Village info above, p. 8
Summaries of the Compass info for this Phillips Pool insert prepared by Shirley Heyer, Midtown Phillips resident and member of the Phillips Community Parks Initiative.
The Phillips Community Parks Initiative is a loose coalition of the four neighborhoods, Waite House and other community agencies, brought together seeking improvements on vacant or unused park facilities in the four neighborhoods by working with residents for self-enhancement – despite the fact that 59% of households have incomes under poverty levels and 42% of residents are under the age of 24 (2010 US Census).

swimmer or diver from Phillips and we could be celebrating his or her victories. We might have a whole generation of parents who learned to swim here years ago watching their own kids revel in the water at the Phillips Community Center as they once did.

It is hard to imagine a project that will better serve the needs of all the diverse people of this community and the city as a whole, bringing youth and all the rest of us together for recreation, competition, health and just plain fun. Regardless of whether we get the base or deluxe package, in the end, all of us should support this effort in every way we can!

BY ROBERT R. ALBEE
WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM BRAD AND CAROL PASS, HANNAH LIEDER, AND SHIRLEY HEYER
Robert R. Albee is a Ventura Village resident and President of VV Neighborhood Association

Brad Pass is an East Phillips resident and Chair of the East Phillips Park Cultural Community Center Partnership.

Carol Pass is an East Phillips resident and President of EPIC.

Shirley Heyer is a Midtown Phillips resident and representative from Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Improvement Association

Hannah Liedler is a resident of East Phillips and E.D. of Minneapolis Swims.

All technical data and pricing contributed by Operating and Design Team

PAID ~ SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT ~ PAID
ThisSpecialPhillipsAquaticCenterSpecial Supplement was paid for by East Phillips Neighborhood Improvement Coalition, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Improvement Association, Phillips West Neighborhood Association, and Ventura Village Neighborhood Association. Collaboration process and production facilitated by Alley Communications, Inc.

BASE OPTION:

\$2,250,000

Existing Swimming Pool

- 6 lane X 25 yard lap pool
- 45 ft. X 75 ft. 1 in. • 3.5 ft. to 5 ft. to 12 ft. deep
- Pool meets minimum requirements for short course competitive swimming
- Pool meets requirements for one meter diving

Proposed Teaching Pool

- Zero depth entry pool with divider wall
- 30 ft. X 40 ft. • Zero depth to 4 ft. 6 in. deep
- Warm water pool
- Pool programming for multi-use

OPTION 1: \$5,100,000

Expansion of Existing Swimming Pool

- 6 lane plus 2 lane X 25 yard lap pool
- 60 ft. X 75 ft. 1 in. • 3.5 ft. to 5 ft. to 12 ft. deep
- Pool meets preferred requirements for short course competitive swimming
- Pool meets requirements for one meter diving

Proposed Teaching Pool

- Ramp and stair entry with 4 lane pool
- 34.5 ft. X 75 ft. 1 in. • 3.5 ft. X 4.5 ft. deep
- Underwater bench
- Pool programming for multi-use
- Pool programming for teaching & learn to swim

OPTION 2: \$7,506,000

Expansion of Existing Swimming Pool

- 6 lane plus 2 lane X 25 yard lap pool
- 60 ft. X 75 ft. 1 in. • 3.5 ft. to 5 ft. to 12 ft. deep
- Short course competitive swimming
- No diving

Proposed Deep Water Pool

- Deep water pool
- 45 ft. X 40 ft. • 12 ft. to 9 ft. deep
- One and three meter diving and other deep water programming

Proposed Teaching Pool

- Ramp and stair entry with 4 lane pool
- 34.5 ft. X 75 ft. 1 in. • 3.5 ft. X 4.5 ft. deep
- Underwater bench
- Pool programming for multi-use, teaching & learn to swim

Phillips Pool
from page 1

In June 2008, the MPRB reclaimed the building when the Boys and Girls Clubs exercised the option to not renew its lease. Realizing the building was in need of considerable repair, MPRB’s options included seeking proposals for funding from community organizations for its use, or operate as long as possible while pursuing funding for rehabilitation and reuse. The building reopened in July 2008 as the site of Club Youthline.

The building was closed in November 2009 when inspections and assessments determined the heating, cooling, electrical systems and swimming pool in the building were unusable or non-functional.

Information was “leaked” on April Fool’s Day that the pool was going to be filled with dirt and capped with concrete to eliminate excessive maintenance and insurance costs. The chatter included the idea that to turn the pool into a place for deck shuffleboard or other less expensive recreation.

It seemed like this particular place was destined to be at least figuratively, a game of deck shuffleboard as people pass their “biscuit/puck” to mark their score only to be knocked from it by the next opponent posturing for their score. But, there was no April- Fooling of Phillips’ residents. The swiftness of social media and citizen activism’s response stopped the implementation of a hidden agenda. The Park Board placed a moratorium on the plan to fill-in the Pool.

A new flurry of meetings and astute negotiating emboldened a new plan wherein new building tenants would program the facility and support the costs of the building.

By 2012, Waite House had moved from its old site on 13th Avenue, Running Wolf Fitness Center occupied a space for their

program owned by two neighborhood clinics, and Ventura Village Neighborhood Organization rented office space along with A Partnership of Diabetics (APOD) and Somali America.

The Pool itself was a larger and more formidable undertaking requiring more time. More meetings, lobbying, negotiating led to paradigm-changing decisions on part of the MPRB. A new non-profit, Minneapolis Swims, organized to operate a swimming program within the facility following some yet undetermined upgrades.

The Special Supplement in the four, center pages of this issue of The Alley includes information about the renovation and possibly expansion of the pool facility and it’s ancillary rooms such as locker rooms, lobby, and other infrastructure. It was collaboratively produced between Alley Communications and some of the people taking leadership to put forward the next set of plans for the “Pool”.

The next chapter is unfolding as you unfold this paper to read the narrative and to see the possible visions. Perhaps, all of the visions are not yet written or drawn. You may participate in the dialogue of the story and even its conclusion.

Forty years of successes and disappointments, ebbing and flowing. My hope is this next chapter about the Phillips Pool will be a ripple spreading to encompass more and more people but leave no wake that will “rock the boat.” May there be room made for many to “get in the boat and row together.”

Hopefully, we will read reviews of “this Story” some years hence that say, “Yes, they did instill respect for water, they did blend water safety with water fun, they did respectfully listen to one another’s questions and concerns, and they did do it all in a way that their progeny, too, could keep from blundering.”

Jack the Giant Slayer (2013)
★★★★☆
Warner Bros. Cast:
Nicholas Hoult (Jack), Eleanor Tomlinson (Isabelle), Ewan McGregor (Elmont), Stanley Tucci (Roderick), Eddie Marsan (Crawe), Ewen Bremner (Wicke).
(PG-13) Running time:114 minutes.
Director: Bryan Singer.

A simple, young farmhand Jack (Nicholas Hoult) unwittingly starts a war between giants in the clouds and earthly humans that hasn’t happened in centuries.

One Day Jack went to the marketplace where he intermittently eyes a pretty girl in the crowd who happens to be Princess Isabelle (Eleanor Tomlinson). But on the way back from fending off three or four brutes from Isabelle, a monk convinces Jack to buy a handful of beans in exchange for his horse. Those beans, however, are not ordinary beans—they’re magic.

Meanwhile, Isabelle is suited to marry a surly knight Roderick (Stanley Tucci) on order of her father, King Brahmwell (Ian McShane). She rebuffs any marriage to Roderick and at nightfall leaves the castle fleeing to Jack’s hut. There at the hut is short-lived because Jack dropped a bean producing a monstrous beanstalk rises to the skies carrying the hut and Isabelle with it.

The king sends out a group of men—Jack willing volunteers—including Elmont (Ewan McGregor), Jack’s good friend, and the backstabbing Roderick. The special effects almost pound the story into the ground in regard to growing beanstalk and the

Jack the Giant Slayer



dozens of giants climbing down on beanstalks will frighten very young children.

I remember, as a boy, the story book tale Jack and the Beanstalk in a fond way. No CGI or digital handiwork in the 1950s, just a fairy tale from a book or on the radio or, yes, even in a movie.

As I understand, the budget for “Jack and the Giant” is a whopping \$200 million. That in itself should be an embarrassment for all the expensive gimmickry for a child’s tale of old, put before viewers only to have their eyes sabotaged by the director and special effects crew’s gilded pleasures. It’s too bad because “Jack and the Giant Slayer” isn’t really a total stinker but once you climb the proverbial beanstalk Bryan Singers’ “Jack” doesn’t pass the smell test.

Hollywood of late has been seemingly enamored (happily to reap huge bags of gold) with recreating old children’s fairy tales into “viable” movies. But if “Jack” is enfeebled by its superfluousness, “Mirror Mirror” (2012), starring Julia Roberts as the Evil Queen/The Queen, and Lily Collins, the “good” little Snow White, is clearly a shambles.



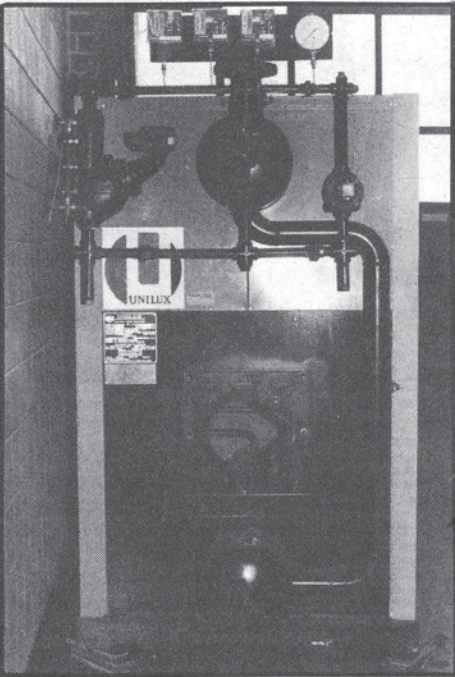
HOWARD MCQUITTER II
Movie Corner
Howardsmoviecorner.com

HowardMcQuitterii@yahoo.com
Director Rupert Sanders’ Snow White and the Huntsman” (2012), starring Charlize Theron, as the wicked !Queen/Ravenna and Kristen Stewarts as Snow White, is a markedly improvement over “Mirror Mirror” yet it still lacks suspense and at times appears more fanciful than what urgency is needed. Another attempt at a 21st century making of “Oz the Great and Powerful”, directed by a usual sure director Sam Raimi, is serviceable but that’s about all. What is next with another children’s fairy tale butchered, slanted, de-sanitized and gender “correct”? Some things maybe should well be left alone.

Archive Reprint from The Alley
Newspaper April 1984

- Ray Peterson
Vi DeMars

Over the past six months, the Pool & Gym Committee of Phillips Neighborhood Improvement Association has (1) signed a two-year lease with the Minneapolis School Board to operate the pool and gym, (2) received commitments from the Park Board to provide lifeguards, and (3) collected over \$2,700 in cash and another \$1,300 in pledges.



The Phillips pool and gym’s new boiler.
A beauty, eh?

PHILLIPS POOL & GYM NEEDS YOUR HELP

Special thanks to Signe Anderson, a committee member, for designating the pool and gym to receive \$1,100 from Channel 11 as one of the "Eleven Who Care" award recipients. Also special thanks to the Longyear Company of southeast Minneapolis for their generous donation.

The committee is preparing funding proposals to foundations and corporations to cover costs of necessary building improvements. An operating budget is also being developed to present to the United Way.

This work has been time-consuming and has involved getting estimates for a new heating plant, installation, utility hookups, a new gym floor, and additional parking. Similar facilities have been visited to compare operating and equipment costs. Area institutions, businesses and residents are being contacted to develop scheduling, staff needs, and programming for the pool and gym.

A new boiler arrived March 6th. Donations are need to help pay the \$26,000 bill. The boiler will provide space heating and hot water and allow the pool and gym to operate independently of the old school building.

An open house has been scheduled for April 11th to tour the facilities. The open house is primarily for the benefit of area institutions, social service agencies and other similar groups. Information from these groups will be used to develop specialized programming. If your group is interested, please contact the PNIA office at 721-5591.

The open house will begin at 1:30 pm. We will meet in the outdoor basketball court off of East 24th Street. Anyone else who is interested is also welcome to attend.

Work is becoming overwhelming for current committee members. More volunteers are needed. Help is especially needed with the following:
1. Coordinating membership sales.
2. Volunteers to sell memberships on their block.
3. People to help with minor repairs and fix-up.
4. People to help supervise, teach, provide security, and maintenance once the pool & gym is open.

(One or two hours a week will make a big difference if we all pitch in.)
Please call 721-5591 and leave your name and phone number for the Pool & Gym Committee.

Finally, please mark your calendar for Saturday, April 14th. We will meet at noon in the parking lot off of 24th Street and 13th Avenue and work until 3 pm to remove the old gym floor. Future work days will be set aside to paint the locker rooms and repair tile in the pool area. Watch the Alley for notices and please come—we need you! ■

Deal of a Lifetime!!!

PHILLIPS POOL & GYM

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
\$10 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____
\$100 _____ \$ _____ Pledge _____
Sign. _____

SEND THE COUPON TODAY! to PNIA,
1304 East 24th Street, Mpls. MN 55404.
Think of a cool pool just blocks away.
Be a part of Phillips with the stroke of your pen.

Why spend hundreds of dollars a year to swim at the Y when you can take a dip right in your own neighborhood for a fraction of the cost?
Why let bored kids roam the neighborhood tearing up your property when you could give them some good clean fun? And I mean clean!
You can make the Phillips Pool & Gym open by sending this ticket with your membership or pledge to PNIA.
The pool and gym will open, except if the Second Coming comes, in which case we'll send your money back (as though you'd care). Large contributors are also being sought, so include a letter with the ticket saying how often you plan to use the pool and gym.

individual memberships are \$10; families are \$25

Chicago and Back



PETER MOLENAAR
Raise Your Voice

In early mid March, the big ice off Chicago extended not quite indefinitely to the east. While there, I was to learn that an elder comrade from the Steel Workers Union had passed away. So, the handshake received at the last Party convention had been a warm farewell. Will the sparkle of eroding snowpack be gone by April 1st?

The CPUSA Labor Commission has for many years convened in the "Windy City". This time around we took a fresh look at our industrial concentration policy—the very policy which led to my employment at Smith Foundry and my connection to this community. But, in this modern world, it appears the high-tech sector and the crisis of low wage workers have emerged relative to the old emphasis on "core industries".

It's hard to believe that I must

now play role model before the Young Communist League!

My turn to speak...

"Regarding the elevation of low wage workers, allow me to reflect from a Minnesota viewpoint". As the previous speaker had commended Latino workers, I held up the "Minneapolis Labor Review", the front page of which featured a photo which had been cropped to frame the participation of Somali women. The big picture was an auditorium of the Minneapolis Convention Center filled with SEIU Local 26 janitors and security officers who had gathered to authorize a strike.

"Readers should know that these 6000 workers united to defeat employer demands which would have destroyed many families. In fact, significant contractual gains were made, in some measure owing to SEIU's mobilization of community support. "Local 26 has become a splendid 'school of communism' within Labor inasmuch as they forge deep bonds between people who might otherwise not associate".

However, the Chicago gathering was not happy to learn of the tension between African American and Somali students at Minneapolis South High...yet the unity displayed there in the Circle Dance bodes well for all youth everywhere.

I concluded with a reference to the American Crystal Sugar

A Frank Reflection

BY FRANK ERICKSON

"Your Intention is not to kill civilians?"

"Yes, that is correct."

"But you 'war' in a manner that does kill civilians...but you are not intentionally killing them?"

"Yes, that is correct."

"Do you feel that your freedom to kill civilians has your troops fighting in a way that will endanger and kill civilians?"

"No."

"So 'war' gives you the freedom to kill civilians and this is not intentional, it is part of the process of 'war', it is not you killing them?"

"That is right, in 'war' there will be civilian casualties."

"Members of your family?"

"No, no, no, none of my family members will be civilian casualties of the 'war' in Afghanistan."

"Why not, why not move your family to the 'war zone' while you fight this war in Afghanistan?"

"Why would I do that, that would be crazy."

"Because if 'war' produces civilian casualties, why not

lockout. It has been almost two years since the bosses told 1,300 workers to get lost. The lives of how many families have been smashed, the fabric of how many communities torn?

Will there be flooding this year in the Red River Valley?

provide a few possible civilian casualties, kind of a 'war' contribution, instead of buying 'war' bonds, you could provide civilian casualties."

"I find that very disrespectful to me and my family."

"Sorry about that, Commander...you call the entire country of Afghanistan a 'war zone', but this is an area where millions of people call home and live, isn't calling their homeland a 'war zone' intentionally putting them in your cross hairs?"

"No, our intention is not to kill civilians."

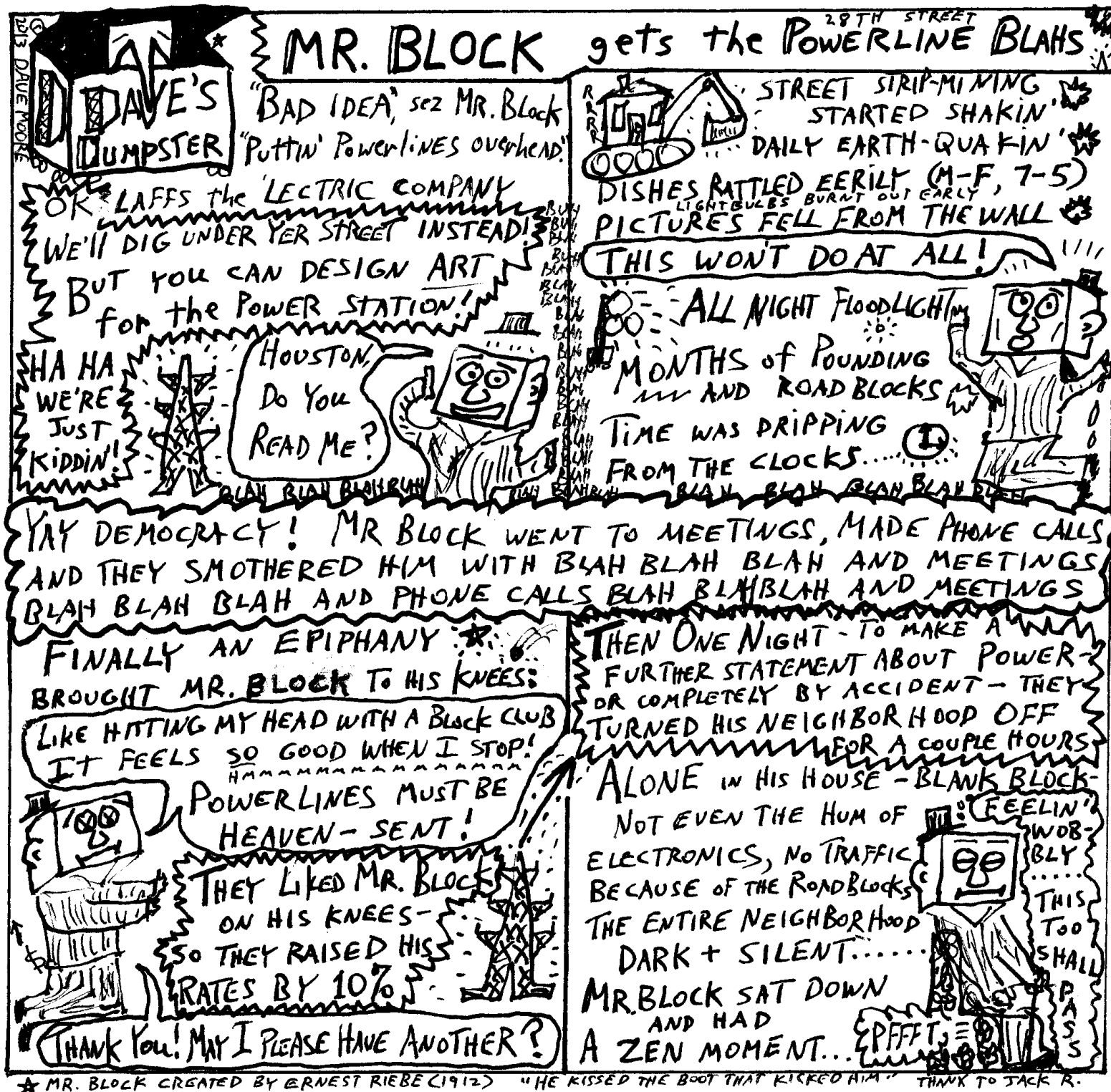
"But you believe you have the right to 'war' where they live, which in turn endangers them and gets them killed."

"Again, I will say, our intention is not to kill civilians."

"Yet you appear to show no respect for their lives, their very existence, putting them in danger by turning their homeland into a 'war zone'...which is somehow not intentional, Commander. NATO killed two boys in southern Afghanistan, the Associated Press on March 2 said you 'accidentally killed' the boys. Can such reckless, irresponsible, and lethal violence be defined as accidental?"

"This interview is over."

"Commander, wait, your hat!"



the **Alley** NEWSPAPER

P.O. Box 7006

Minneapolis, MN 55407

Editor's Cell Phone 612-990-4022

editor@alleynews.org

www.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)

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

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

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Contributors to this issue:

Robert Albee, Margo Ashmore, Sara Jean Barrett, EPIC, Vi DeMars, DJR Architects, Frank Erickson, Travis Heglund, Shirley Heyer, Sue Hunter Weir, Clarasophia Gust, Susan Gust, In the Heart of the Beast Theatre, Linnea Hadaway, Hennepin County Franklin Library, HN Cty History Museum, ISG Sports Group, Robert Larson, Hannah Lieder, Howard McQuitter II, Minneapolis Board of Education, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Minneapolis Swims, Jonathan Miller, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Loren Niemi, Connie Norman, Dimpho Orionzi, Brad Pass, Carol Pass, Ray Peterson, PWNO, Running Wolf Fitness Center, Khusaba Seka, Carstens Smith, Sandy Spieler, Greg Steenson, Cain Thomas Associates, USAquatics, Crystal Trautnau Winschitl

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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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May Alley
Deadline:
April 15

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Sumner T. McKnight Mansion Proposal to Phillips

By Robert Larson

The 2200 Park Ave. McKnight mansion needs a new use. My proposal for this former Native American property:

The idea is to convert it into a Neighborhood Garage in memory of Muriel Simmons. It would be for the benefit of families in need of affordable personal transportation repair and maintenance. I am well aware of the financial burden when a vehicle breaks down and you have to afford expensive repairs. What does a family do when they are on a fixed income? Do they resort to public transportation, family, friends, and neighbors to get around? How about a taxi? Is there a loner car provided when your car is being repaired? Getting your family to an appointment or shopping is difficult when your car is broken down. Do you take your children on the bus or walk to a scheduled appointment? Families are in need of an affordable alternative.

I believe this concept is vital to a thriving community. The end result will help support affordable transportation repairs and safer vehicles on the road. There are many tasks:

- Purchase the building.
- Convert one structure to a multi-stall garage.
- Update the mechanical systems.
- Attain a Human resource employee, or volunteer,
- Establish client guidelines.
- Purchase property and liability insurance.
- Assess local, State, and federal regulations.
- Purchase and install mechanics tools and equipment.

It will benefit the Phillips Community as a non-profit. The

old brown stone structure will be housing for retired mechanics that need affordable housing. There is a vast knowledge base in these mechanics who can no longer perform the physically demanding tasks of automotive repair; also for housing individuals that will earn their keep by repairing and maintaining the vehicles brought to the garage. They can pass down their experience to the next generation of automotive repair technicians. An ASE certification program will validate these younger mechanics and provide them with professional credentials. What do you think? Please send your feedback to whitebuffalo1111@yahoo.com or Alley Communications P.O. Box 7006, Mpls., MN 55407

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Plant the Seeds! Benefit To Grow a Sustainable Mayday Friday, April 5

6:30-9pm

Featuring: Previews of the parade. A selection of treats from local restaurants-with wine as you dine. A chance to mingle with MayDay Parade & Ceremony artists. Puppets, live music, drama, historic highlights from MayDays past. Special guests from far and wide. All kinds of fun!

Be part of the movement that will safeguard the spirit of MayDay for generations.

Buy your ticket for this special evening's preview, tour, and celebration by March 22 to be entered in prize drawings!

TICKETS \$100 - Available online or at 612-721-2525



April 6- May 2 Community MayDay Workshops

Saturdays
9-11 am. April
6, 13, 20, 27
Saturdays
1-3 pm. April 6,
13, 20, 27
Tuesdays 7-9
pm. April 9, 16,
23, 30
Thursdays
7-9 pm. April
11, 18, 25,
May 2





East Phillips Park Cultural
And Community Center

2307 17th Ave. S Minneapolis
612-370-4888 Minneapolisarks.org



Spring Break-Trips & Activities

Monday April 1st

Hot Shot Basketball Shootout Competition!

Come show off your skills and see who's crowned the best!
Ages 9-11, 12-14, 15-18 TIME: 4:00-8:00PM
WIN PRIZES!!! FREE!!!!!!



Tuesday April 2nd



Roller Gardens
Time: 11-3:00

Ages: 8-16 COST: \$5.00 includes skate rental and hotdog/chips/drink

Thursday April 3rd

Riverview Movie Theater
Time: 12-4:00

Ages: All Ages Cost: \$ 5.00 includes movie/popcorn/drink



Friday April 4th

All day activities: Outdoor Kickball 12-2:00 (all ages) Lights out Dodgeball 3:00-4:30PM
Movie Night: 6-9PM (Watching on a big screen in the gym) POPCORN Provided!!

Please fill out registration form on back for field Trips

Spring Sports
Registration

Baseball
Softball
Track & Field



East Phillips Park
Spring Sports
Registration

Baseball



10 & Under
Birthdates: 5/2/2002 Through 5/1/2004
Days of Play: Mon.,Wed. and Sat. May 18-July 18th
Postseason tournament: July 12-18

12 & Under
Birthdates: 5/2/2000 Through 5/1/2002
Days of Play: Tues.,Thurs. and Sat. May 18-July 18th
Postseason tournament: July 12-18

13 & Under
Birthdates: 5/2/1999 Through 5/1/2000
Days of Play: Wed. and Sat. May 18-July 18th
Postseason tournament: July 12-18

15 & Under
Birthdates: 5/2/1997 Through 5/1/1999
Days of Play: Mon.,Tue.,and Sat. May 18-July 18th
Postseason tournament: July 12-18

Please fill out registration on back and return to
East Phillips Park

Softball

10 & Under (Slow Pitch)
Birthdates: 9/1/2002 Through 9/1/2004
Days of Play: Tue.,Thur and Sat. May 4th-June 8th
Postseason tournament: June 10th-15th

12 Under (Fast Pitch)
Birthdates: 9/1/2000 Through 9/1/2002
Days of Play: Mon.,Wed.and Sat. May 13th-June 8th
Postseason tournament: June 24th-29th

14 Under (Fast Pitch)
Birthdates: 9/1/1998 Through 9/1/2000
Days of Play: Mon.,Wed.and Sat. May 13-June 22nd
Postseason tournament: June 24th -29th

Track & Field

Boys and Girls Ages 9-18
Birthdates: 9/1/94 Through 9/1/09

Thursdays (May-June)

Practice will Start April

Days & Times: TBA



Daisy's family and Anchor CHAT team members listening to a letter of gratitude being read from Councilmember Glidden: From left to right: Ray Thompson (Anchor Family CHAT), Fifi, Kathy, and Daisy Buenrostro with mother Angelica, Lee Younger (Anchor Family CHAT) and Andrea Jenkins, aide to 8th Ward Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden.

Daisy's Amber Alert response recognized

Daisy Buenrostro, whose family is part of the Backyard Initiative's (BYI) Anchor Family Citizen Health Action Team (CHAT), was honored by city officials and community members on February 21, 2013, at the BYI's All CHATs meeting for her role in helping police officers to safely locate an abducted child the day before. (KMSP-TV excerpts) "Police credit one Minneapolis teen's quick thinking with helping them safely locate an abducted child and the suspect in his disappearance on Wednesday. Daisy received a lot of surprise recognition from city officials and the Backyard Initiative for playing such a vital role in making sure Carlos Orozco was reunited with his mother."

The Backyard Initiative

The Backyard Initiative is a dynamic partnership between Allina Health and the people of the seven neighborhoods the immediate surrounding area. This Initiative goes beyond medical care to improve health and health care through: active engagement, addressing the root causes of illness and building connections. There are currently 11 active Citizen Health Action Teams or (CHATs) that implement prevention and wellness pilot projects to improve community health.

BYI Definition of Health:

- Health is a state of physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being. It is not only the absence of infirmity and disease.
- Health is the state of balance, harmony, and connectedness within and between many systems – the body, the family, the community, the environment, and culture. It cannot be seen only in an individual context.
- Health is an active state of being; people must be active participants to be healthy. It cannot be achieved by being passive.

Watch us Growing the Backyard CHAT each month in this corner of the BYI Back Page!



Activist self-care

BY KHUSABA SEKA

Attention all community activists...

When you think about how you started doing community work, what was the spark that started the flame? Maybe you don't have a specific memory. You just always could relate to the "underdog"? However, if I asked you, "Have you ever been close to burn out", you can probably tell me exactly what extinguished the flame.

So many of the youth we engage in this work are on the right path but burn out before they meet their destination. As I sit down with one young leader and discuss her future, this question comes to mind. How do we encourage her to continue the work her community is calling her to do without her giving up her youth or "separating her from the crowd".

Being 15, beautiful, and popular, you think someone of this description would not have others on their mind. But, Daisy Buenrostro is not only beautiful and popular, she is smart, courageous and can't remember a time she wasn't considering the feelings of others. Her name might sound familiar to you because she was just on the TV news for her bravery in helping to report a vehicle that was described in an Amber Alert. Because of her quick response, a kidnapped eight-month old baby was reunited to his mother.

"It was so powerful to see this young woman get an award for such courage and quick thinking. This award not only reflects her individual action but awards the mission of the Cultural Wellness Center values and Anchor Family CHAT to deeply care about the community and connect with neighbors."

[K. S.] I visited her and her family at their home. As we sat together and talked about the fate-filled day, I asked why she wanted to help.

[D.B.] "I have always wanted to be on the news for a heroic act, but it never dawned on me that checking a license plate number would get me there. I was just thinking of my baby sister, Kathy. I was scared to go outside. I tried to look at the plates from the window of my home but the front plate was missing on the car so I had to go outside to read the rear one. I had just gotten home from school and had put my pajamas on to be comfortable. I poked my head out the door to see if it was safe. I could still hear the helicopters above and I went back inside quickly. The numbers on the

Anchor Family CHAT includes Daisy and her family

Through the Backyard Initiative Assessment process, it became apparent that families in the BYI area are experiencing isolation and lack of resources to sustain health and well-being. There is a clear need to rebuild the web of relationships that will mend the fragmentation that families are experiencing. It is also necessary to restore the family bond with our youth to increase their sense of belonging and interconnectedness. Connecting them to elders and mentors in the community

will provide guidance and direction. An Anchor Family acts as catalyst for increased interconnectedness, building community through community rituals, gatherings and relationship-building activities surrounding cultural customs, individual achievements and personal or family grief and loss. For more information about the Anchor Family CHAT, please call Khusaba at 612-721-5745.



Self-care tips for an activist

1. Take good care of yourself physically. Drink plenty of water, rest, get good sleep and exercise.
2. Rely on your family for support.
3. Process or talk about your experiences with a mentor.
4. Have a balance between friends, responsibilities, and your passions.
5. Capture your feelings about your experiences; journal, write an article, start a blog.
6. Be a part of a group that honors your cultural heritage. This prevents isolation and a feeling of being used.
7. Have fun as much as possible..

graphic, but will never have leadership because of the unwillingness to share power with those who are traditionally the ones receiving services. Or, they are "used" by an organization who is pursuing funding but not really doing the work of truly engaging youth or the people in the community. The pull of your community's needs can be overwhelming. I don't want Daisy or our other youth leaders to burn out. Instead, how can I lend guidance on her new path? As I reflect on what has kept me engaged for over 20 years, self-care comes to mind. I thank the Buenrostro family for the work they do as an Backyard Initiative Anchor Family and the support they give each other in their every day life.

interest of mine. There is not much diversity in my school so finding a cultural group to work with would be good. I don't like seeing kids sitting alone in my lunchroom. I can relate to that. My mom is a good example; her being a BYI Anchor Family inspires me. She is involved

"It was empowering. I felt hope and love."

in such a big thing."

[K.S.] How can other youth be leaders?

[D.B.] "Look outside your windows. Look around you. You have to want to do good.

As I sat with Daisy I shared with her the leadership work I did at her age. I talked about how to keep balance, stay a kid, and finding a cause worth representing. Our young leaders need mentoring that builds them up, fortifies, utilizes, and builds their skills and talents. So many people will want to "use" them. They can be swallowed up by a cause for which they fit the demo-



Daisy Buenrostro, with the Cultural Wellness Center Engaged Citizen Award presented to her at the Backyard Initiative All CHATs meeting, February 21.

or for worse. We can spread the good and it will come back."

[K.S.] How has this attention affected your family?

"I am so impressed that this young girl helped by saving a baby's life .. such a role model for being a great citizen."

[D.B.] "We received positive and negative attention. It was difficult that the kidnapper was another Latina. I don't want people of my culture to be thought of as baby-stealers. There were things written online about us that were hard to see. When I went outside to investigate, I didn't know the kidnapper was a mom, too. It was sad to see her kids come out of the house after her. The positive is my friends have had fun with it. They say things like, "Make room for the hero!" My sister, FiFi, is getting recognition in school, too. I'm glad people called and congratulated my dad. He deserved the congratulations just as much as I, but he doesn't like a lot of attention".

[K.S.] How do you think you can keep the momentum from this event going?

[D.B.] "Well, I want to volunteer. Bullying and racism are an



Daisy and family members with three officers from the 3rd Police Precinct at the Backyard Initiative's All CHAT meeting present to recognize the valiant efforts of Daisy and her family. From left to right- backrow; Sgt. Carrol, Officer Turner, and Officer Hakanson. Front Row; Fifi, Daisy, and Kathy Buenrostro.

* Quotes by other Backyard Initiative CHAT team members about witnessing Daisy and her family being recognized by the Community, City Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden's Aide, Andrea Jenkins officers from the 3rd Precinct with KMSP's TV camera whirring!

We invite you to participate in the Backyard Initiative Community Health Survey!

The goal of the Backyard Initiative is to improve the health of the residents of the Backyard. This anonymous survey will collect information about how your life impacts your health.

The Backyard includes the neighborhoods of Central, Powderhorn Park, Ventura Village, East Phillips, Phillips West, Midtown Phillips, and Corcoran.

The survey will take about 2 hours and dinner will be provided. In gratitude, you will receive a token of appreciation for your voluntary participation.

For more information or to participate, please call: Khusaba Seka or Atum Azzahir 612-721-5745