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Augsburg Fairview Academy students hear real life stories from Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge participants

#### **ADDICTED NO MORE**

by LUCY PREYSZ

Two years ago, Anthony was 40 pounds lighter and had overdosed three times in one month.

"I couldn't stop getting high," he explained. "By the time I was in eighth grade I had used every prescription pill I could get my hands on. I was addicted to during painkillers and took



Casey spoke program.

pain medication every day of eighth-grade."

Anthony was one of three presenters who shared their stories with students at Augsburg Fairview Academy on March 13, 2019 as part of Know the Truth<sup>TM</sup>, the substance-use prevention program of Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge. Using a peer-to-peer format, presenters close in age to the students share their personal stories and struggles with substance use, stripping away any glamour or myths and providing students with the facts.

"We don't tell you what to do; our experiences speak for themselves," Anthony said.

Sadie Holland, the prevention education manager for Know the Truth, added, "Having presenters close in age to the students really helps them connect. It's not unusual to have presenters speaking at their old high schools just a year or two after graduating."

In many cases, the Know the Truth presentations are included in health classes, embedded into the drug and alcohol unit. Since 2006, the program has hosted more than 12,000 presentations and connected with more than 400,000 students. Last year alone, presenters spoke in more than 160 high schools and middle schools.

With no question off-limits, the presenters, Troy, Casey, and Anthony, spoke genuinely about their experiences and highlighted resources for additional support, including reaching out to @knowthetruthmn on Twitter, and through the text hotline at 612-440-3967.

Troy started drinking in middle school to disassociate from his homelife. By ninth grade, he was smoking marijuana every day, and that was the year that he failed his first class. Smoking eventually developed into using LSD, mushrooms, Xanax, DMT and MDMA. Then, when he tore his ACL in high school, he began using oxycodone that was prescribed to him for pain management. He overdosed twice.

**Addicted** Continued on page 8

#### Residents fighting for future entrepreneurs

Indoor urban farm supporters question why city is ignoring engaged community members who don't want public works at Roof Depot

By TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

You don't get a second chance after a building is torn down, and that's why the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) says it is working so hard to save the 230,000-square-foot Roof Depot structure from the wrecking ball.

Architect Dean Dovolis doesn't want to look back and say, "It could have been a community develop-

Instead, he firmly believes, "This is the right place to provide a future for the community."

Dovolis designed the first rendition of the East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm (EPIUF) in 2014 that would have used all 7.5 acres at the Roof Depot site (1860 E 28th St.).

**RESIDENTS** Continued on page 3



**Grant supports** 

homelessness

native

East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) members (left to right) Steve Sandberg, Dean Dovolis and Karen Clark discuss the way their proposed indoor urban farm site will benefit local residents.

## **EVERYBODY INTO THE POOLS**



Youth enjoy learning how to swim during lessons at the Phillips Aquatic Center, which is celebrating its one-year anniversary.

#### Looking back at first year of Phillips Aquatics Center

Submitted by MPRB STAFF

"Friday night is a great time to be at the Phillips Aquatics Center: It's really bustling with young people," says Sarah Chillo, Aquatics Manager for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB).

"Some of them are at the weekly free lifeguard clinic, working their way toward becoming a certified lifeguard, and some are enjoying teen night in the other pool."

She says a lot of them go back and forth, which is not just OK, but encouraged. As Chillo sees it, that shows the aquatic center's mission in action: expanding both water safety and recreational swim opportunities for the neighborhood and the broader city.

Another group the Phillips Aquatic Center (PAC) serves is

student athletes, as a site for swim meets and for regular practice times for girls' and boys' teams from Minneapolis Public Schools. Whether they're athletes, aspiring lifeguards or simply having a fun night out, youth have developed a sense of pride and ownership in this new community asset.

"The swim teams finally have a home, where they can build their team identity together instead renting time at pools all over town, and teen night is one of the ways PAC makes it easier for anybody to work swimming into their daily or weekly routine," said Chillo.

Indeed, PAC is meant to attract anybody and everybody who wants to get in the water: toddlers taking their first dip; masters-level adults arriving at 6 a.m. to refine their

strokes; seniors staying flexible with water walking; swim times for women and girls only.

It was designed and programmed to be welcoming and inclusive for all ages and abilities - which has resulted in a calendar packed with lessons, community and recreational activities; team practices and club rentals; competitions and special events.

Partners, supporters and collaborators have been essential to helping fill that calendar.

"They have helped ensure that the right swim opportunities are available to meet everyone's needs," says Chillo, "and they've also helped us cultivate a workforce that represents the community including multilingual staff."

**Pools** Continued on page 4

#### **FAST FACTS**

\*10,384 visitors (during PAC's first 11

**\***713 Participants in youth and adult

swim lessons **★**360 Hours of practice time for Minneapolis Public Schools' girls' and

boys' swim teams **★**130 Swim lesson scholarship recipients (18% of all swim lesson

participants) **★**96 Lifeguards completed American

**Red Cross certification** \*74 Masters, Jr. Swim Club members

**★**35 Swimmers enjoyed PAC's inaugural "Happy Thanks-Swimming 5K"

**★**5 Days per week offering water fitness, water walking and senior programming

event on Thanksgiving Day



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"When the great newspapers don't say much, see what the little independent ones say." Wendell Phillips (1811-1884)

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"Let me make the newspaper and I care not who makes the religion and the laws." – Wendell Phillips

**Next Deadline April 15, 2019** 

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Be a part of reading... telling ... sharing the truth.

Submit your items to copydesk@alleynews.org

#### **Adopting bus stops**

By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

Hopefully, when this is published, winter will be gone for the next seven months. However, since ideas take time to implement, this may be the ideal time to write about it: One of the worst things about riding buses is waiting at snow-filled bus stops. You have four choices, none of which are really safe:

- 1. You can wait on the (possibly icy or unshoveled) sidewalk, and climb over the snowbank when the bus comes, assuming the driver actually stops for you. Sometimes the snowbank isn't as solid as it looks and you sink as much as two or three feet deep into it and then have to try to get on a bus quickly! Not fun!
- 2. You can stand on top of the snowbank, which is risky because you don't know how sturdy the snowbank is, and you might fall in, or worse, fall into the street, just as the bus is coming! Yikes!
- 3. You can walk to the (hopefully shoveled) corner, then walk back on the edge of the street outside the snowbank, and stand there even with the bus stop sign. This sends the message most clearly to the bus driver that you are waiting for the bus, but can be risky if the street is slippery. Some bus drivers don't like you to do that, though, because they are afraid of slipping and running

4. You can walk to the (hope-

Welcome to

By CRYSTAL WINDSCHITL

Check out the Phillips West

April 4 (Thursday) 6-7 PM

Join your neighbors and other

Website: www.phillipswest.info

Community meeting



fully shoveled) corner, and wait where there is an opening in the snowbank, even if it's not by the bus stop sign. Some bus drivers prefer you do this, and it is probably the safest way. However, you run the risk of a driver not realizing you are waiting for the bus.

Currently, Metro has an "Adopt-A-Shelter" program where volunteers clean up litter around their bus shelter, report damage to Metro so their crews can fix it. What if Metro Transit had an "Adopt-A-Stop" program where people could volunteer to shovel an opening through the snowbanks by their local bus stop sign, and clean off any snow-covered benches to make waiting safer and more convenient in the wintertime? Perhaps a small reward such as a free ride coupon after each snow could be given as an incentive. Any Metro Transit officials reading this? There's plenty of time to implement this for next winter!

Community Partners for updates from local city government, 3rd Precinct Police. We will also have Met Transit Present to give an update on the new D-Line Construction and their upcoming outreach efforts. 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 Ave. Free delivery pizza and beverages will be provided! Contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com

#### What's Up at the Franklin Community Library | APRIL 2019

1314 E. Franklin Avenue | 612-543-6925 | www.hclib.org М, F, Sa: 9ам-5рм • T, W, Th: 9ам -8рм • Su: 12-5рм

By ERIN THOMASSON

**All Ages** 

**Learn Together: Connect and** 

**Play** 

Tuesdays, 6-6:30PM

Connect with your child during this drop-in program exploring early literacy activities. Join your neighbors each week for a different theme including music, art, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), reading and creative play.

Poetry Read-In

Saturday, April 27, 3-4:30PM For children of all ages and their caregivers. Talk, sing, read, write

and play together in a format appropriate for young children. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

**Teen Programs Urban 4-H Club** 

Tuesdays, 5–7PM We do everything from urban gardening to digital photo/video to theater. Partner: University of Minnesota.

**Teen Tech Workshop** Wednesdays, 5-6:30PM

Get creative and make music, videos, animation and other projects using both high- and lowtech tools, everything from iPads and 3D printers to synthesizers and sewing machines. Led by the library's Teen Tech Squad.

#### <u>Dhalinta Horumar sare rabta /</u> **Young Achievers**

Wednesdays, 4:30-6 PM U dabaaldag Dhaqanka Soomalida, sameyso saaxiibo cusub iyo in aad isticmaasho hab nololeed cafimaad leh. Lamaane: WellShare International. Celebrate Somali culture, make new friends and practice healthy lifestyles. Partner: WellShare International.

**Teen Anime Club** Saturday, April 6, 3-4:30 PM

Discuss manga and share artwork. Something different every

#### **Adult Programs Open Crafting** Monday, April 1, 1-3PM

Looking for a space to sew, knit or work on other crafts? Bring your current project and materials and join us! Sewing machines, knitting needles and other equipment will be available for your

#### Franklin Technology Hour Thursdays, 12-1PM

Do you want to explore new technology, practice using a computer program, or learn more about the library's electronic resources? Then come to Franklin Technology Hour! Bring your questions or come and explore a spotlighted resource.

#### **OLLI Nonfiction Book Club** Friday, April 12, 1-3PM

Enjoy reading a variety of nonfiction topics including biography, science, technology, politics and more. Partner: Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). April 12: Being Mortal by Atul Gawande. May 10 & June 14: Leonardo Da Vinci by Walter Isaacson

**Cards and Board Games** Saturday, April 13, 2:30-4:30PM Chess, Scrabble®, backgammon, cribbage, Mahjong and more! Come play a variety of games

with new or old friends. Games are provided, or bring a favorite from home.

**Franklin Learning Center:** 612-543-6934 flc@hclib.org

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

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Thank you

**Years of** 

#### **Music for Climate** Justice

On Saturday, April 6, Tom Neilson brings his satire and social commentary to a Climate Justice Fundraiser co-sponsored by MN350 and MNIPL to stop the construction of Line 3, a proposed tar sands oil pipeline that would cross the Mississippi headwaters as well as Ojibwe treaty territory and have a climate change impact equal to 50 coal plants.

Neilson is a storyteller who weaves an autobiographical sketch from his dairy farm roots to the Vietnam War, civil rights, liberation struggles in Central America and East Africa, border crossings, pipelines, guns, breastfeeding, parenting, sexuality, reproduction, humanism, lost loves and more...

His work has resulted in his

winning several music awards that includes two Song of the Year Awards from Independent Musicians, and a 2015 nomination for the United Nations Nelson Mandela Award for lifetime achievement in peace and justice. In 2017, he received the Arab American Women Association Award for Global Education Through Performance Art. Michael Stock of WLRN, Miami, FL says, "Tom does a great job of reminding people of what is really important, and the power of folk music to say it."

Neilson will tell you he is just a farm boy with a guitar who likes a good ball game and human rights. The 7 p.m. concert is at the Spring House Ministry at 610 West 28th St., Minneapolis. There is a suggested donation of \$10 -30. For more information, contact Bonnie Beckel 612-722-6473.

#### Residents fighting for future entreprenuers

And then he designed the 3-acre proposal, the 2-acre proposal and the 1-acre proposal as supporters sought a compromise with the city who purchased the property out from under them in 2016 after threatening to acquire it through eminent domain if necessary.

Dovolis has been working in the Phillips neighborhood since starting DJR Architecture in 1985, and has designed multiple affordable housing and other projects, including the Phillips Aquatic Center, and East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center.

This indoor urban farm is yet another community-driven venture that would address racial disparity, provide economic development and fit within the city's own plan for development along the Hiawatha lightrail line and Midtown Greenway, Dovolis pointed out. Little Earth Resident Association (LERA) is partnering in project, which would offer job training and employment to local residents, as well as a local food source. Other supporters in this diverse neighborhood include Tamales y Bicicletas, a grass-roots Latino-led neighborhood organization; South East Homes, the first East African specialized chemical health treatment program in North America; the Sierra Club, the Green Team, Women's Environmental Institute, East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC), and Seward Co-Op.

The neighborhood vision for the site includes the renewal of the Roof Depot building into an agribusiness powered by an immense solar array on the roof. The year-round, indoor urban agricultural space would be based on a collaborative farming model and support small, culturally specific businesses owned by local entrepreneurs.

Growing food locally in a manner similar to that of Holland would cut down on what's being shipped to Minnesota from California, and keep that money in the local community, pointed out Dovolis. If you introduce fresh fruits and vegetables into people's diets, the number of disease and health issues go down significantly. This benefits society as a whole.

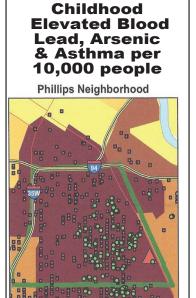
The indoor urban farm would offer jobs that local residents can fill, thereby cutting down on traffic while offering employment within the neighborhood. A bike shop could be situated right on the Greenway. The site would also provide very affordable mixed-use housing.

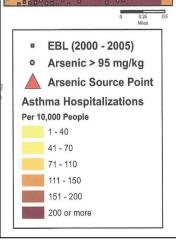
This would completely alter the area currently known by residents as "the intersection of death" for its toxic fumes and high rate of traffic accidents.

"You have a wide range of young entrepreneurs that want to be a part of this and create a future," stated Dovolis. "It's very hard to make that figure through a water works job. For that reason, we can't give up."

PLACE TO PUT HYDRANTS OR OFFER AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND FOOD?

"The city says we want a place to put our snow, sand, hydrants, manhole covers and records. They just want a storage place," stated Karen Clark, who recently retired as the neighborhood's state representative. She's lived in the area for 40 years.





"How can you turn down this gift of incredible community involvement?"

The city's water maintenance facility, known as the East Water Yard, is currently located on 2.4 acres in Ward 3 at Hennepin Ave. E. and 5th Ave. N. It dates back 120 years and is the hub for maintaining the city's 1,000 miles of water mains, 16,000 valves, and manholes covers, and 8,000 hydrants.

Replacing the maintenance yard is the last major unfinished piece of a 25-year-old master plan for updating the city's Department of Public Works facilities – but the East Phillips neighborhood group wasn't informed about this until after it had fashioned an innovative plan for the Roof Depot site and started asking city officials for support, pointed out EPNI supporters. They were shocked to learn the plan was made without consulting local residents, and they scoff at the request now to help pick out plants for the site as being true community engagement.

The Water Distribution's 100 maintenance staff at the East Phillips location (corner of Hiawatha and 26th St.) perform valve operations, greasing and packing of hydrants, street manhole repairs, main water repairs, and leak detection. The city expects 68 heavy equipment vehicles to go in and out several times each day from the Roof Depot site.

Steve Sandberg has been told by city representatives that they will gain efficiencies by locating public works operations at one site. "You don't gain anything by consolidating fire hydrants and manhole covers in a sand lot," he remarked.

Brad Pass also questions whether this is a big need. "I've lived in this neighborhood for 50 years and I've never seen them replace a fire hydrant," he observed.

Pass mentioned that he and supporters of the urban farm project



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF EAST PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD INSTITUTE

When residents first began envisioning how they could transform the industrial area along East 28th, they dreamed about a place that would offer very affordable housing and jobs. This plan originally filled the entire 7.5-acre Roof Depot site, but has been whittled down to 3 acres, then 2 acres, then 1 acre as residents seek to compromise with the city. They're feeling pretty frustrated with how they've been treated.



EAST PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD INSTITUTE

Dump trucks and other disel vehicles regularly drive along 28th St. and other neighborhood roads near the Roof Depot site, spewing chemicals such as carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, nitric oxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur oxides, and hydrocarbons including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). These PAHs have been linked to developmental delays, reduced IQ, symptoms of anxiety and depression, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, and cancer.

are accused of being against clean water. "That's absurd. We absolutely favor clean water," he said. "We would also like to breath clean air, which will be further compromised by the additional diesel trucks and commuting workers at an industrial storage facility in our residential neighborhood."

He continued, "There will be no water treated at the Hiawatha site and the city should be able to find a nonresidential site to store their sewer pipes, sand-salt mix and manhole covers, or at least allocate 19% of their 16+ acres at the Hiawatha site to something positive and good for this traumatized community."

#### POLLUTION AGAINST LAW

These city-operated diesel trucks concern neighborhood residents, who have already been fighting the traffic and pollution for years at the Bituminous Roadways asphalt plant and Smith foundry across 26th St. from the Roof Depot.

This low-income neighborhood has one of the highest levels of asthma and arsenic poisoning in children in the state. For every 10,000 people, over 200 are hospitalized because of asthma. Of the 7,000 children who live in Phillips, about 40% live in poverty and 80% fall into various ethnic groups, pointed out Clark.

That amount of pollution is not allowable in the area, according to Clark, who co-wrote the Clark/Berglin Environmental Justice Law that was enacted by the state legislature in 2008. It requires that any project in this neighborhood be reviewed by the Minnesota Pollution

Control Agency to analyze the cumulative pollution effects -- not only what will be caused by the new or expanded project.

Over the years, the law has been applied to projects by the Metropolitan Council, city of Minneapolis, and Abbott Northwestern Hospital, among others.

During a city GAC (Guidance Advisory Committee) meeting last fall, Clark stood up to explain this bill as it relates to the city public works project, and recalls being yelled at by Minneapolis Director of Facilities Design and Construction Bob Friddle, a tall man who rushed at her diminutive figure waving his arms. She walked out of the meeting, along with the rest of the community contingent, in protest after being told she couldn't speak, said Clark. "It was pretty unacceptable." WHY ARE STAFF RUNNING CITY INSTEAD OF ELECTED **OFFICIALS?** 

Indoor urban farm supporters

From page 1

want the city to respond to the big questions they're posing.

The city has a policy encouraging community participation. Why aren't they supporting this community-birthed project? Why haven't they paid attention to the 400 people who signed a petition in support of the community's plan or the many people who packed community meetings to support the indoor urban farm? Why haven't they allowed EPNI to present before the entire city council?

The neighborhood group, in the interest of meeting community needs and those of Public Works, has offered smaller, revised plans, but they don't see the city doing the same. "There was a lot of compromising on the part of the community," observed Clark.

Indoor urban farm supporters also want to know why the staff directive written by neighborhood Ward 9 City Council Member Alondra Cano and approved by the entire city council in December 2018 is being ignored and misinterpreted by city staff.

Just who is driving the decisions made at city hall? Members of EPNI don't think it is the community or even city council members.

"We've started to evolve into a staff-driven city," stated Dovolis, but that's not what he wants to see happen. "You can't let the staff run the political process."

#### THEY'RE NOT GIVING UP

In East Phillips, members of EPIC, the community, and EPNI remain determined to fight this level of pollution. After all, they've been at this for years.

They staved off the Hennepin County Garbage Transfer Station at Cedar and 28th in the mid 1990s; kept out the Midtown Eco-burner (Cogenerating Plant) in 2007; and convinced Xcel Energy to bury high voltage power lines along the Midtown Greenway in 2009.

In 2010, they celebrated the grand opening of the East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center which they fought for, funded and designed; and in 2018, after a sixyear battle, they came together with other Phillips organizations to save the existing swimming pool and build another in the new Phillips Aquatic Center.

They say they're not giving up on the Roof Depot site. The stakes are too high.

"You have one chance to make this work," stated Dovolis. "When this [building and 7.5-acres at the Roof Depot site] is gone, there will never again be this kind of aggregate land to make this work."



#### **Grant supports Native homelessness**

By LEE EGERSTROM

Editor's note: The article was reprinted courtesy of The Circle.

The Bush Foundation has awarded the Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI) a two-year, \$207,000 grant to explore community-based solutions to the chronic homelessness problems for Native Americans in Minneapolis.

Minneapolis-based NACDI is leading the effort but is working in tandem with the Metropolitan Urban Indian Directors (MUID) umbrella organization for Native groups. It also has enlisted outside consultants on the project, the Lakewood, Colo.-based Indigenous Collaboration Inc.

This came about late in the past year when Native groups in Minneapolis, working with the city and with various state and local agencies and nonprofits, struggled with finding emergency shelter and services for the Minneapolis homeless encampment in the Franklin and Hiawatha Avenues area of south Minneapolis.

That encampment was known as The Wall of Forgotten Natives. But the 300 to 400 mostly Native people who were living in tents and sleeping bags are not being forgotten, said Robert Lilligren, president and chief executive of NACDI who this year also serves as chair of MUID.

The outdoor encampment was closed in December and 140 peo-

ple from the camp were moved indoors in tents at what is called the Navigation Center. It is in property owned by the Red Lake Nation that is scheduled for development as affordable housing, beginning next

"Bush was watching what we were doing," Lilligren said. "It was a strange moment in philanthropy for us. They came to us and two weeks later we had a grant."

The grant is from the St. Paul-based Bush Foundation's Community Innovation Program that assists community efforts to find problem solving solutions for the betterment of the entire region. The Bush Foundation was created by a 3M Company executive, Archibald Bush, and his wife Edith. Their philanthropic works have provided more than \$1 billion to organizations and individuals in the Upper Midwest.

"At the Bush Foundation, we believe NACDI's ability to collaborate and engage the community can result in shared ownership of solutions to conditions causing homelessness in the Native community, said Rudy Guglielmo, manager of the Community Innovation program for the foundation.

The mechanism for NACDI's is newly-formed WiiDooKoDaaDiiWag, or "They Help Each Other" in Ojibwe, that is shortened for convenience to THEO.

Initial work is reaching out to people who are among the homeless. "We want to hear the thoughts from the people most impacted," Lilligren said.

That is a far greater number than the people who were living in the encampment.

By various measures, Native Americans are over represented in homelessness.

Sometimes lumped together with other population groups as "people of color," and sometimes alone, statistical analysis shows Native Americans are from eight times, to 17 times, and as much as 27 times more likely than other Minnesotans – either in the state or in Minneapolis – to be counted among the homeless.

Regardless of measures used, there is no disagreement that the Native population is over represented. That's where "out of sight, out of mind" problems often hurt the Native population, said Lilligren.

"Spring is coming," he said. "What happens when the Navigation Center closes?"

MUID organizations and leaders came together last fall to address immediate needs for shelter and services, especially with winter approaching. They continue to look at what services will be needed when spring arrives and the Navigation Center is closed.

Longer term, however, THEO and its partners and allies are look-



An experimental homeless shelter along Franklin and Hiawatha avenues, known as the "navigation center," soon after construction in December 2018.

ing for ways to tackle the historic and ongoing problems of homelessness for the Native community, Lilligren said.

Bush's Guglielmo said NACDI's history and "depth of relationships" makes it ideal for lead the effort.

The grant was for \$200,000 and an additional \$7,000 was provided for special "engagement" needs, he said.

Lilligren said NACDI did a nationwide search for guidance when the grant came through. That brought Indigenous Collaborations into the picture as a partner.

The leadership team for WiiDooKoDaaDiiWag/ THEO includes Lilligren (White Earth Ojibwe), consultant Carrie Day Aspinwall (Leech Lake Ojibwe), and from Indigenous Collaborations, Lesley Kabotie (Crow Tribe of Montana) and Paul Kabotie (Hopi Tribe of Arizona and Santa Clara Pueblo from New Mexico). The Kaboties are president and vice president of Indigenous Collaboration.

While still in early stages of the project, the THEO partners have had two gatherings with impacted people to begin the process, Lilligren said. One was a feast at the Minneapolis American Indian Center, with a spiritual leader, that Lilligren described as a "healing session."



#### The EPIC Report – April 2019

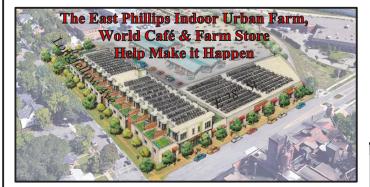
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#### Come to the

#### **EPIC ANNUAL MEETING**

Join the

**East Phillips Improvement Coalition** Help make positive changes in East Phillips.

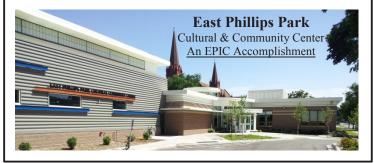


EPIC meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Community Center – 2307 17th Ave. S -

#### Join the EPIC Board of Directors

Requirements for Board Membership

- Be over 18 and live, work or own property in East Phillips.
- Attend at least 1 EPIC Community Meeting in the year preceding the Annual Meeting. & attend the Annual Meeting
- Nomination Forms at eastphillips-epic.com Click About EPIC -Or Call EPIC at - 612-280-8418 -
- $Commit \ to \ Representing \ ALL \ of \ the \ people \ of \ East \ Phillips$
- It's not too late to attend a meeting! Join us Thursday April 11th





#### **EPIC Annual Meeting** Saturday, April 27th 2018

**Don't miss this EPIC EVENT!** 

9:30 AM to 11:30 AM at the East Phillips Park Cultural & **Community Center** 

2307 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN

#### Free Pancake Breakfast

Door Prizes, Update on EPIC Projects, Board Elections, Grand Prize & much more.

**For Board Member Election Forms** Go to - eastphillips-epic.com **Click on - About EPIC** 

#### For Your Calendar: \*

Get involved in EPIC and East Phillips, Join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30

The EPIC Community Meetings are on the SECOND Thursday – Next Meetings; Thursday, 4/11/19 and 5/9/2019 at 6:30 PM - Meet Your Neighbors! - Get Involved! Agenda includes Neighborhood Industrial Pollution, Crime Initiatives, and EPIC project updates.

EPIC's Annual Meeting - Saturday, April 27th at 9:30 to 11:30 AM in the Community Center

Meeting Location: The above meetings and events are held at the fully accessible East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center located at 2307 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.

The EPIC Board of Directors meets on the FIRST Saturday of the month – Next Meeting; Saturday, 5/4/2019 and 6/1/2019 at 10:00 AM. in the EPIC Office at 2433 Bloomington Ave S

#### **GARDENERS!**

Garden Plots are Available for East Phillips Residents, contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478 Plots cost \$30.00 per season. The Garden KEY is \$5.00. Don't wait – Plots go fast

The East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Gardeners meet on the second Saturday of Each Month Meetings are Saturday, 4/13/2019 and 5/11/2019 at 9:00 AM in the East Phillips Park Cultural & Community Center at 2307 17th Ave. S. Subsequent Meetings are in the Garden at 2428 17th Ave S **Do Not Miss** 

East Phillips Park SummerFest - Sunday. June 23rd - 1:00 to 5:00 PM in the Park.

#### Obituaries from the 1860s: Gone to glory before us

Obituaries can be a source of valuable information for people wanting to know about family members or other people they're interested in, but not all obituaries provide the same information or even close to it.

The style and substance of obituaries has changed over time. During the late 1800s up until about the middle of the 20th century, obituaries functioned as death announcements and mostly offered details about funeral and burial arrangements but little else. More recent obituaries tend to focus on achievements and accomplishments and connections to family and friends, sometimes in the newspaper, but increasingly in social media.

In the 1860s, obituaries often told more about someone's character or beliefs. Sarah Dickey died in childbirth on Dec. 4, 1868, at the age of 41. She and her husband came to St. Anthony around 1865. He worked as a wheelwright. Her obituary ran on the front page of the Minneapolis Tribune on Dec. 9, 1868:

DIED - In Minneapolis, December 4th, Mrs. Sarah R. Dickey, wife of Mr. William Dickey.

The deceased, during a residence of somewhat more than a year, had greatly endeared herself to the friends and acquaintances she had formed. Her manners were affable and winning; her conversation indicated culture; her



tastes were refined and elevated; her mind was active and fond of the investigation of truth; her religious sensibilities were quick, and conversation upon religious themes was to her a source of evident delight. The loss to her family, to her circle of friends, and to the church with which she worshiped is great. The experience of extreme suffering had made her covet the "rest for the weary."

Some obituaries, especially those written for children, included poetry. Toussaint L'Ouverture Grey was born on April 11, 1859, and is said to have been the first African-American child born in St. Anthony. His parents were political activists, and his father was described as the "first resident barber in St. Anthony."Toussaint's obituary ran on the front page of the Minneapolis Tribune on July 2, 1868:

DIED – In this city, June 28th, of heart disease, Toussaint L'Overture *Grey, second son of R. T. and E. O.* Grey, aged 9 years, 2 months and

A devoted son and loving brother, his death will leave a void in the family circle, never to be filled.







(LEFT)Only the base of Sarah Dickey's marker is left over 150 years later. (MIDDLE and RIGHT) Lorenzo Prescott's marker was replaced last year, and Toussaint's marker was made of harder stone.

A good child, loving his Sabbath school and his God, he was willing to die, and asked his family to meet him in Heaven. He leaves a large circle of friends to sympathize with his parents over his early death.

He has gone to glory before us He turns and waves his hand Pointing to glory over us, *In that bright and happy land.* 

The Minneapolis Tribune's announcement of Lawrence (Lorenzo)Taliaferro Prescott's death is sparse considering the fact that he was the son of one of Minnesota's best-known territorial pioneers. He was the son of Philander Prescott, one of the casualties of the 1862 Dakota Conflict, and Mary (Spirit of the Moon) Prescott, the daughter of a Dakota tribal elder. Lorenzo served with the first Minnesota Heavy Artillery during the Civil War until he received an honorable discharge for a medical disability. While serving on the East Coast, he contracted malaria and his death is thought to have been caused, at least in part, by an overdose of quinine, the preferred treatment for malaria at the time. Lorenzo returned to Minnesota and married Marion Robertson Hunter, the granddaughter of Grey Cloud. He worked as an interpreter in one of the relocation camps in Nebraska, but returned to his sister's home in Shakopee when his health failed. The following announcement appeared in the Minneapolis Tribune on Jan. 6, 1869, three days after he died from ulcers. He was 30 years old.

"Mr. Prescott was well educat-

ed, a young man of good character and habits and until quite recently was employed as interpreter, at the Indian agency near Omaha. Failing health necessitated his resignation of that position, and he returned home to die."

Lorenzo Prescott is buried near his parents on what the Tribune described as "the old homestead, near Minnehaha." That appears not to have been the case since his parents had been buried in the family's plot at Layman's cemetery almost two years earlier.

Despite the occasional error or misunderstanding, obituaries are a valuable source of information and have preserved some sense of what people were like. Not just how and when they died, but how they lived.



#### MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC

www.midtownphillips.org | 763.310.4760 | ff midtownphillipsminneapolis



#### Did you know your neighborhood offers financing

It's never too early to start planning for your spring projects.

Get started today: mnlendingcenter.org

# for residents?

#### MIDTOWN PHILLIPS SPRING CLEAN UP SATURDAY, MAY 4

#### **CHECK IN 9AM:**

Check in and get supplies at Welna Ace Hardware, 2438 Bloomington Ave S

#### Clean Up Phillips!

In anticipation of the May Day parade, help pick up litter on Bloomington from 24th to Lake Street. Meet your neighbors and clean up your neighborhood!



#### MPNAI BOARD MEETING

Held every second Tuesday

#### Tuesday, April 9, 6:30-8pm

@ Stewart Park (Arts & Crafts Room) 2700 12th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Board Orientation

- Role of Community Meetings — Request for Midtown Phillips to create

'Safety & Awareness' Committee

Officer Elections

Treasurer • Secretary • Vice President

— Finance Report

#### COMMUNITY MEETING Held every fourth Tuesday

Tuesday, April 23, 6:30-8pm

@ Open Arms of Minnesota

2500 Bloomington Avenue, Minneapolis

 CEE Energy Loans Energy Zero Interest loans

– City of Mpls Sustainability Office Sustainability programs and goals in the City of Mpls

— Tour of Open Arms

#### Midtown Greenway Coalition seeks Midtown Phillips representative

The Midtown Greenway Coalition, a private nonprofit organization that works to protect the Greenway, seeks a volunteer board member to represent the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood. Women and people of color strongly encouraged to apply.

For more information or to express interest in joining the board, please contact us at info@midtownphillips.org

#### Habitat for Humanity homes

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity is partnering with the City of Minneapolis (via the Minneapolis Homes program) to construct new single-family homes with detached 2-stall garage at 2426 Elliot Ave, 2406 11th Ave S and 2444 10th Ave South.

For more information: noah.keller@tchabitat.org or come to the May 28 MPNAI community meeting.

This Monthly Alley Newspaper Half Page was paid for by Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Of, by and for its readers since 1976 alleynews.org • April 2019



Ready - set - jump into the Phillips Aquatic Center during its grand opening on April 21 after a year of construction and many more of community drive to re-open the facility.

#### **EVERYBODY INTO THE POOLS**

From page 1

It's all part of integrating into the Phillips community, and being responsive to its diverse immigrant and cultural communities. For instance, in working to expand culturally sensitive swim times for women and girls, MPRB has partnered with Hennepin County Public Health and B.R.A.V.E., an organization serving young women in the Somali diaspora community.

Al Bangoura, who became the MPRB Superintendent in January, sees PAC as a symbol of the organization reinvigorating its commit-

ment to recreation.

"I am thrilled to be working with the Board of Commissioners to meet the recreation needs of everyone in the city, including the Phillips and Ventura Village communities. I am proud of park staff and their work with partners, which made the Phillips Aquatic Center's first year a success. We look forward to building on those accomplishments in year two!"

Contributors include MPRB staff Sarah Chilo, Angela Doheny, Mimi Kalb, Robin Smothers and Dawn Sommers.



MINNEAPOLIS PARKS AND RECREATION



MINNEAPOLIS PARKS AND RECREATION
Nearly 100 lifeguards have completed their American Red Cross certification since the pool opened a year ago.
Many attend a weekly free lifeguard clinic to work towards becoming certified.



MINNEAPOLIS PARKS AND RECREATION

The Phillips Aquatic Center is meant to attract anybody and everybody who wants to get in the water. There have been 713 participants in youth and adult swim lessons in the past year, and 18% of those are on scholarship. The goal is to help people become strong swimmers.



**Underwater hockey?!** 

## Groups and organizations that call PAC home

- Augsburg University women's swim team
- Minneapolis Public Schools swim teams
- Twin Cities Aquatics Cooperative
- USMS learn-to-swim adult masters club
- Minnesota Loons underwater hockey club
- Subversive Sirens Women's synchronized swim team; queer- and women-of-color inclusive
- Minnesota Nice Twin Cities' first LGBTQ+ adult masters swim club
- Piranhas Swim Club competitive club for Minneapolis and metro-area youth
- Southside Charter School students swim weekly at PAC
- Hope Academy physical education curriculum includes swim lessons at PAC
- East Phillips and Phillips
   Youthline groups Friday night open swim, school-release-day trips

MINNEAPOLIS PARKS AND RECREATION



MINNEAPOLIS PARKS AND RECREATION



MINNEAPOLIS PARKS AND RECREATION

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

D.I.V.I.N.E. Institute will be developing a shelter to house up to 16 girls at 628 Franklin Avenue South.

DIVINE has requested support for a land use application needed for the development to proceed including:

- 1. Rezoning from the C1 district to the C2 district
- 2. Conditional use permit to establish an overnight shelter
- 3. Variance to reduce the minimum drive aisle width to allow maneuvering
- 4. Site plan review

D.I.V.I.N.E. Institute anticipates starting construction this coming Summer!



#### SPRING RUMMAGE SALE



Clothes, books, kitchenwares, tools, small electrics, toys, and more! We accept credit cards! Thurs, April 4 5:30-8:30 PM, Fri, April 5 1:00-8:00, Sat, April 6, 9:00-4:00

Walker Community Church, 3104 16th Ave S.



## Phillips Aquatic Center: Commemorating a Year Serving Our Neighborhood and the Greater Phillips Community

The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board is working to expand culturally sensitive swim opportunities and grow a workforce that represents the neighborhood.

The Phillips Aquatic Center (PAC), located in the Phillips Community Center (PCC), is celebrating a year of being open! Since April 2018, 10,384 guests have come to use the PAC; among those, 713 have taken advantage of swimming lessons (18% of whom received need-based scholarships). Additionally, monthly and seasonal passes are available at a reduced rate to all Phillips residents. Passes for children 12 and under are free.

It is important to the PAC to meet the diverse needs of the community. They offer a weekly women and girls-only culturally sensitive

A 6 dedicated swim time. They host Minneapolis Public High School girls' and boys' swim teams, along with several neighborhood-specific groups such as Hope Academy youth swim lessons and East Phillips/Phillips Youthline Friday night open swim and school release day trips. The PAC also enjoys the patronage of LGBTQ+ groups like the Subversive Sirens women's synchronized swimming team and the MN Nice adult masters swim club.

The list of groups utilizing the Aquatic Center is impressive, but no less notable is the job training programming offered here. Since opening, 96 participants have been certified as lifeguards and a Friday night lifeguard clinic has been established, which allows aspiring youth the chance to practice the skills to become a lifeguard.\*



A 6-lane competition and 4-lane teaching pool make up the offerings at the PAC



Local resident Dana Dexter and son Noah have become regulars at the PAC by taking advantage of weekly swimming lessons.

\*Thanks to PAC Director Sarah Chillo for her help in providing material for this article.

#### MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE APRIL 10, 2019 VENTURA VILLAGE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

The following Motion will be on the agenda for the April 10, 2019 General Membership Meeting. Please attend the General Membership Meeting on April 10, 2019 at the Phillips Community Center Dining Room at 7:00 pm.

MOVE to approve the reallocation of \$30,000 FROM Ventura Village 2019 Community Participation Plan funds TO Ventura Village Neighborhood Priority Plan for equipment in Peavey Park, including, but not limited to, swings.

#### **UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE MEETINGS:**

- Wednesday, April 10th: Board of Directors Meeting: 6 pm
- Thursday, April 25th: Housing & Land Committee: 5:30 pm
- Tuesday, April 30th: Community Engagement Committee: 6 pm
- Wednesday, April 10th: General Membership Meeting: 7 pm
- Thursday, April 25th: Crime & Safety Committee: 6:30 pm
- Tuesday, April 30th: Wellness, Gardening & Greening: 7 pm

ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE: VISITORS WELCOME TO ATTEND!

### People & Pets: free shelf for pets

**Courtesy of DWIGHT HOBBES** 

Hard times call for inventive measures, sometimes so simple you wonder why you didn't think of it. For instance, People & Pets Together (www.peopleandpetstogether.org), a monthly free shelf helping pet owners make ends meet. There's also a veterinary assistance program as well as other offerings to look after pet health.

Minnesota's only such operation, it provides, along with enough food to last 30 days, such sup-

Procession for

peace April 14

plies as carriers, litter, bowls and toys. Principally serving South Minneapolis, no one is turned away. If you live outside the area, you can still make a one-time visit.

The idea is to do what they can to help families fend for their little, four-legged (or winged) loved ones.

"We know pets are family", says the People & Pets Together brochure. "We help families stay together. Pets help people live happier, healthier lives. By supporting the relationships people have with

their pets [we hope] to improve the health of our communities."

Altruism is no shield against today's economy.

Accordingly, People & Pets Together have lost their lease and must move by next year. Meanwhile, the door stays open and tax deductible donations are welcome. Contact info@peopleandpetstogether.org or People & Pets Together, 3750 Bloomington Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55407



Teens shared their stories with other students during a Know the Truth presentation at Augsburg Fairview Academy. Left to right: Anthony, Troy and Casey. We hope that if you are ever faced with a situation where drugs are involved that you remember our stories," said Anthony.

#### Each year, St. Paul's Luther-ADDICTED NO MORE

an Church and its Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts sponsors a Procession of Peace on Palm Sunday. Attendees walk through the neighborhood, stopping to lift up concerns of the community, such as safety, the environment, youth, immigration and poverty. "Especially this year, with all the division in our society, we are committed to walking a different way: one of welcome and justice," say organizers.

All are invited to this year's walk on Sunday, April 14, noon, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2742 15th Ave S. For more information, call 612-724-3862 or e-mail stpaulscreate@gmail.com.

Save the date for these events:

**Volunteer for** 

On the first Sunday of May,

tens of thousands of folks will

festivity together. All this takes

- hundreds of volunteers pitch in

ties for churches, civic organiza-

Volunteer Coordinator at volun-

bags, brown paper, newspaper,

tubs, plastic bags for use during

the build workshops. Bring these

supplies to upcoming workshops

It is time to start collecting

tions, and businesses. Contact

teer@hobt.org for details.

starting April 6.

Register to be a 2019 May-

MayDay

to make it happen.

• Thursday, May 9: 5-8 p.m.: Semilla and St. Paul's Night at Midtown Global Market: Poetry by youth and adults, a youth pho-

tography show, music and more.

• Saturday, May 18: 9 a.m. to noon: "Pollinate Phillips". Pant pollinator attracting plants and art in boulevard gardens in the community.

PR. PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL



Procession of Peace on Palm Sunday led by St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

place for cooler and a hallway connects to the QURUXLOW Restaurant completing a 14th-15th Ave. evolution from previous stores, Peterson-Chrysler/Plymouth, Kawasaki Motorcycle, a gas station, and Kaplan Bros. Clothing, including a dust-free concrete parking lot.

While still in high school, Troy was arrested for being involved in a drug deal, but, through the recovery program at Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge, he learned his selfworth, explaining to students, "You are way too valuable to waste your days getting wasted."

Similarly to Troy, Casey began using marijuana in middle school to cope with the death of two of her friends. By high school, she had turned to drinking alcohol and using other substances, including meth and heroin.

"When I woke up in the hospital after my first overdose, my mom told me I had the choice to go into treatment, otherwise she couldn't watch me do this to myself anymore," said Casey.

She chose heroin over treatment. "All that mattered at that point

was making sure heroin was my top priority," Casey explained.

After her overdose, she spent almost two years moving between homeless shelters before she eventually came through the doors of Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge where, for the first time in her life, she wanted to make a change.

"After stepping into the Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge recovery program, I saw people were changing their lives, and I really wanted that."

The Know the Truth Program has proven as life-changing for the presenters as it can be for the students. Presenters often view the program as a way to give back and help ensure that people can learn from their journeys. Students meanwhile, find the program to be an effective deterrent for substance use. The numbers speak for them-

At the end of 2018, an outside research evaluator from the University of Minnesota validated the success of Know the Truth. This study showed that nearly one in four students who experienced the Know the Truth program reported an overall increase in healthy attitudes toward substance use and the risks associated with it, compared to only one in 12 who participated in only the standard health curriculum.

Like Troy and Casey, the final straw for Anthony came at a young age when he was in jail again for trying to return a stolen vacuum. His mom told him she wouldn't bail him out unless he went to treat-

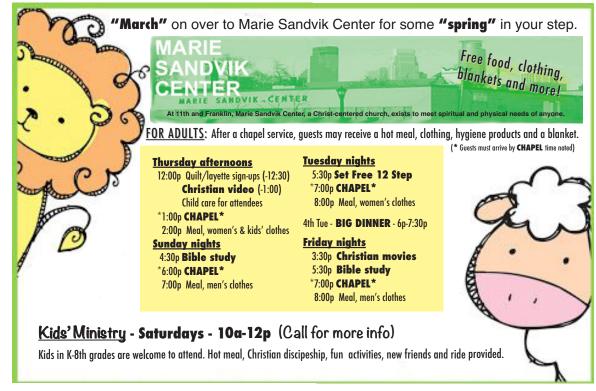
At the end of the presentation, Anthony shared a final take away: "Life is stressful. Life's not gonna change, but when you use a substance to escape from it, it doesn't actually solve those problems for you, it just pushes them away. We hope that if you are ever faced with a situation where drugs are involved that you remember our stories."



MIDTOWN GLOBAI Experience a world tour of tastes, arts and crafts at our public market.

Lake Street and 10th Ave S | Minneapolis

MIDTOWNGLOBALMARKET.ORG





TESHA M. CHRISTENSEN

#### 'Kids can't wait' says Phillips childcare owner Nadir Abshir

Local business owner Nadir Abshir of Family First Choice Childcare (2617 Bloomington Ave. S.) went to the Minnesota Capitol on Feb. 14, 2019 to lead a conversation with the Kids Can't Wait Coalition and Kids Count On Us.

"We are so lucky to have Lt Governor and Governor who are prioritizing kids and families," said Abshir. "We heard amazing stories from providers and parents directly impacted by the childcare crisis. We heard how much of a positive impact the Childcare Assistance

Program has had on kids and families. We also heard about the devastating impact losing CCAP [and] being on the waitlist can have."

She is grateful to Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan for their leadership and commitment to kids and families.

Abshir has been in the childcare world most of her life, whether it was attending childcare as a child while her mom worked 2-3 different jobs or when she started her first babysitting business at 12 years old.

"Now, as a provider serving low-

er-income families it's a struggle," said Abshir. "It's a struggle because we are a highly regulated industry. It's hard to find qualified committed staff. We are overworked and underpaid in an industry that is not valued because its considered 'women's work.'

"I believe that early education is a basic human right.

"We have the second highest education gap in the country and that's because our children begin kindergarten so far behind that they never catch up. That's why I go to the Capital.

"I am fighting for my kids and what they deserve. The kids at my center get to experience new opportunities like going to sports events, theatres, museums, and even police and fire stations. These might seem like simple ordinary things but to my kids, they are mind blown. They are surrounded by kids and staff that look like themselves and creates a sense of being home. Being able to have memories and experiences does wonder for a child's self-esteem."

#### Local pastor to receive BridgeBuilder Award

Pastor Joel Ramirez, long-time Phillips area pastor with ICCM (Inner City Church of Minneapolis), will receive the 2019 BridgeBuilder Award at Global Worship 12.

Global Worship is a colorful, exciting worship concert Saturday April 13, 6 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 1901 Portland. The evening will include performances from the Kehilat Sar Shalom Dancers, Quechua Church, Family Worship Center, and Heart & Soul Drum Academy, among others.

Pastor Ramirez has planted 15 churches in Mexico and the United States, and is involved in training pastors and church leaders. Through his work with CRU, a

ministry that equips local churches to be sensitive to the needs of the poor and marginalized, he serves as a mentor and teacher.

St. Paul's Church, serving the community since 1872, was founded by immigrants and has never forgotten its immigrant roots. It is the home of MissionShift Institute, which offers training in cross-cultural ministry.

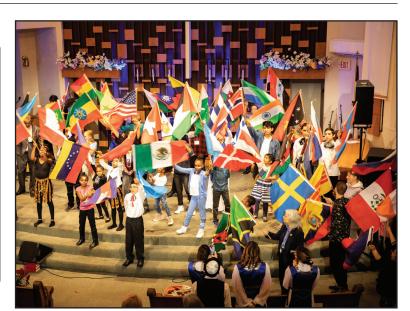
St. Paul's welcomes its new pastor, Rev. Russell Grigsby, who lives here and is excited to serve the Phillips community.

For more information, call 612-874-0133 or see www. StPaulsChurch.info



CHRISTOPHER BOPP

Pastor Ramirez demonstrates traditional music from his native Mexico.



HRISTOPHER BOPP

Many flags represent the nations of the Global Worship community.

#### *Movie corner*

#### **Rewatch Bogart's last movie**

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II oldschoolmovies.wordpress.com howardmcquitter68@gmail.com

"The Harder They Fall" (1956)

Columbia Pictures

A hard-hitting boxing movie where the mob has an iron-grip

on the boxing business and like another film of the same era called "Set-Up" (1949), it features much reality about who controls boxing in the 1930s-1950s. At the time, boxing along with baseball, is

America's most popular sport. "The Harder They Fall" is Humphrey Bogart's last film (he died on Jan. 14, 1957, from esophageal cancer) but he is still on top of his game as an actor.

I saw this movie when I was a boy, and have seen it several times since then, most recently three weeks ago.

The director Mark Robson ("The Seventh Victim" 1943, "Peyton Place" 1957, "Valley of the Dolls" 1967) is joined by Philip Yordan who writes the screenplay and also produces Bogart's last movie.

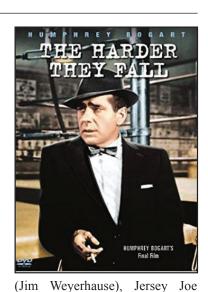
Eddie Willis (Humphrey Bogart) is a down-and-out sportswriter who falls into a trap when he signs with sleazy boxing manager Nick Benko

(Rod Steiger) to be a press agent to what will become a series of fixed boxing matches featuring an immigrant from Argentina, a massive man with cream-puff fists, a gentle giant named Toro Moreno (Mike Lane). Other louche characters, all mob guys, Art Leavitt (Harold J. Stone)and Jim Weyerhause (Edward Andrews) are a part of the corrupt boxing business. Benko, Leavitt and Weyerhause care little for Moreno's welfare only to cash in big time on a man who has no boxing experience. The mob buys a bus with Moreno's picture on it parading around the town as if Moreno is going to be boxing champion of the world. Moreno has no idea that he's getting ripped off from nearly all the spoils.

Things begin to change for Willis after the fight Moreno has with Gus Dundee (Pat Comiskey), recently has a fight with Bunny Brannen (Max Baer), probably too soon

to be in another one, is knocked down dying from a brain hemorrhage. Willis gets an epiphany realizing the whole thing on Benko's fixed fights are unscrupulous so he begins to tell Moreno he's being used and ripped off mightily. Once Willis confronts Benko and others about the big rip-off of Moreno, the sportswriter (he can't say he isn't warned by his wife, Beth, played by Jan Sterling) becomes a persona non grata. Willis threatens to send Moreno back to Argentina and to open up an investigation of the corrupt boxing world. George (Jersey Joe Walcott), Moreno's trainer, the only principal African American actor in the movie and also a reallife boxer, simply stayed in the mob's favor.

Cast: Humphrey Bogart (Eddie Willis), Rod Steiger (Nick Benko), Jan Sterling (Beth Willis), Mike Lane (Toro Moreno), Max Baer Buddy Brannen), Edward Andrews

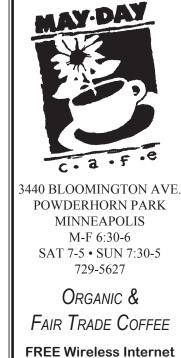


Walcott (George), Harold J. Stone (Art Leavitt), Carlos Montalban (Luis Agrandi), Nehrmiah Persoff (Leo), Joe Greb (Homeless Man). MPAA: NR. Director: Mark Robson. Producer and Screenwriter: Philip Yordan. Running time: 109 minutes. In black and white.

## HELPING PLAN A COMMUNITY ACTIVITY? KNOW OF AN AMAZING STORY WE SHOULD WRITE ABOUT? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Email copydesk@alleynews.org







Of, by and for its readers since 1976 alleynews.org • April 2019

#### Letter to the community

## Why is YWCA unwilling to have open and fair conversation?

By DORIS OVERBY

MIDTOWN COMMITTEE FOR DUE PROCESS

We have been deeply concerned that the Minneapolis YWCA management and Board chose not to involve the general membership in decision making regarding the new costly pay to park system. We believe that it is now necessary to send this letter to each member of the YWCA Minneapolis Board of Directors.

Even more disconcerting is the lack of due process in the YWCA's decision to suspend the memberships of Doris Overby and Dick Taylor. Management's unwillingness to fairly and openly negotiate a reconciliation has impeded the reinstatement of the memberships. We believe the management's decision to suspend without due process constitutes a glaring injustice.

We are further concerned that management may have used surveillance cameras to identify a member who was peacefully exercising her First Amendment rights to inform members of the controversy that had developed over the abruptly imposed parking system and the unwarranted punitive action taken against two members who were acting within their rights.

In each case, these members have felt intimidated and treated arbitrarily as management has relied on vague terms in the Code of Conduct, weak arguments, and accusations not supported with factual evidence.

We prefer to resolve the issues

with the Minneapolis YWCA management with an open dialogue in the presence of a representative body of members, management and a conflict resolution mediator.

In a recent meeting, our group discussed many ideas which we believe would vastly improve the relationship between the Minneapolis YWCA and its members and foster "good neighbor" relations within the community. Furthermore, in order to have a context for these ideas, we urge YWCA management to implement quarterly forums with members. By holding such forums, the Minneapolis YWCA can make credible its goal of "empowerment" and enhance its prospects for growth and success.

- 1. Reinstate the memberships of Doris Overby and Richard Taylor pending the outcome of a due process mediated reconcili-
- 2. Create an Advisory Committee similar to what other

Y organizations now support.

- 3. Review and modify the Code of Conduct to more accurately define terminology referring to "offending the comfort level" and clarify conditions for suspension and possible termination of membership.
- 4. No less than 10% of the Board of Directors should be regular YWCA members, racially, gender and age representative.
- 5. Establish a Membership Bill of Rights that would include such tenets as due process.
- 6. Given that YWCA members are avoiding parking fees by parking on neighborhood streets, it is necessary to address problems that have arisen from such a recourse.
- 7. It is clear that the new parking arrangement has resulted in potential new dangers for children in that parents are avoiding parking in the lot so as not to exceed the grace period and have to pay for parking. This has created such hazards as children walking in the

dark and crossing the street unattended.

Consider the possibility of a child or teen suffering an injury being picked up. The Y will suffer from the backlash of members and the community.

After the board has the opportunity to discuss these suggestions, would YWCA management be willing to prepare and implement such a dialogue? The meeting would ensue after both sides have agreed on the mediator and the choice of participants.

We respectfully submit this letter of concern with its list of ideas and suggestions for the benefit of the YWCA members, management and neighbors.

Our goal is to promote openness, membership participation in decision-making, fairness and due process. In good faith, we ask that the board engage with members in a process of mutual cooperation to resolve the issues addressed above.

## **Winter social**



PHOTOS BY WAITER GRIFFIN

The 22nd Annual Phillips West Winter Social on Feb. 21, 2019 brought together about 300 neighbors for a huge smorgasbord of supper choices by several Phillips West institutions on a serving table the length of the large assembly room. The evening was prefaced by institutional exhibitors in the Changing Lives Lobby at 2400 Park Ave. each decorated with institutional banners, paraphernalia, gifts like candy bars and ballpoint pens and a whole lot of information by institutional representatives.



# Respondance of the control of the co

KELLY EKART

#### Really, really free market April 6

Check out the Really Really Free Market on the first Saturday of the month from 1-3 p.m. at East Phillips Cultural Center. The next event is April 6. It is like a garage sale where everything is free. "Bring what you would like to give and take what you would like to receive – together, we can share our resources, help the planet, save some serious money, and reuse awesome items," said Kelly Ekart. "We can't promise what will be there every month but commonly found items include: kid and adult clothing and accessories, toys, books, kitchen and household items, linens, art

and craft supplies, and more!"

Make sure items brought are clean and dry. Unclaimed items are saved for next month or brought to a donation center. "We can usually bring a small number of items to the donation center for you, but please be prepared to help take away items if you bring in a large number of items," stated Ekart. "There is no need to bring any items in order to participate. Food, music, and company are as welcome as objects. Enjoy an afternoon in the gift economy!"

If on Facebook, join the group to get notifications of each event. https://www.facebook.com/TwinCitiesReallyReally-FreeMarket

Steps towards peace

#### **Peace via community**

By MARTI MALTBI

Before I get to the point of this article, allow

me to lay a little groundwork. Peace House Community has been open in the Phillips neighborhood since 1985. Our



founder, Sister Rose Tillemans, established PHC at 510 E. Franklin Ave, and in 2013 we moved to our current building at 1816 Portland Ave. S. PHC is a community center (not a "dropin center," please) focusing on homeless and low income adults. As our full name indicates, Peace House Community is a community, a series of relationships and connections. The building is simply a tool for bringing people together.

The focus of the day at PHC is what we call "Meditation," although it is more of a group discussion. For 45 minutes a day, our community (community members, volunteers, guests and staff) discuss a question designed to help us understand and relate to each other. The questions can revolve around anything from community events to childhood experiences to the best meal you've ever had.

We sometimes get complaints from newcomers that we are misleading people by talking about "meditation" when our actual practice is very different from the usual practice of meditation. (We've considered changing the label to something more accurate, but the community members have unanimously said they will ignore any change we try to make because the word is so integral to PHC's being!).

While I understand the complaint, I have come to realize that what we do is simply meditation on a grander scale. Meditation, practiced by an individual, focuses on expanding one's consciousness, becoming more self-aware, allowing one to "function" more effectively and so on. The meditation at PHC accomplishes these same things, but instead of relying on one's own insights from meditation, it allows community members to gain wisdom from others and self-awareness from examining their own responses to new ideas.

We learn not only from others' experiences and thoughts, but also from a deeper understanding of our own orientation to ourselves and the world around us.

As we as a society embrace technology in ever-increasing ways, we tend to sacrifices elements of ourselves. Relationships become digitized and we can choose the news we hear about the world, creating a self-supporting narrative. We find ways to insu-





TOP: Original Peace House west wall mural. BOTTOM: Exterior of new building at 1816 Portland Ave.

late ourselves, even as technology offers the opportunity for greater exposure. Certainly this is not true of everyone, but it is a constant possibility. The meditation practiced by the PHC community is a natural antidote to these dangers.

Fortunately, PHC is only one place to experience this type of meditation. Places of worship, 12-step meetings, coffee shops, family reunions, book clubs and a host of other settings provide this interaction. Well, it would be better to say they provide the opportunity for such interactions. It lies with each one of us to decide the extent to which we will interface with the world and the people around us, and by extension, how much we will learn about ourselves.

#### **OPINION & COMMENTARY**

Raise Your Voice

#### A worker's proud moment

By PETER MOLENAAR

Circulating within the ranks

of organized labor is a signon statement with the caption: "Union Members Stand United with Rep. Ilhan Omar."



It reads:

"Rep. Ilhan Omar is a fighter for working people who upholds her time as a union member with pride and continues to stand with unions, with working people, and with all who are oppressed.

"Just a couple months into her first term as one of the first two Muslim women ever elected to Congress, Rep. Omar faces unprecedented attacks. Her statements and intentions are being purposely twisted in cynical and disingenuous ways to try to discredit and isolate her.

"As union members we understand the importance of solidarity when our union siblings are under attack. The biggest enemies of working people and unions, like Donald Trump and his followers – who themselves are guilty of enabling violent antisemitism and white supremacy – are stoking the attack on Rep. Ilhan Omar.

"We unequivocally stand with Ilhan Omar against the Islamophobic smears being leveled at her for her outspoken views.

"We denounce the despicable efforts of Republicans to label her a terrorist or connect her to the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

"We call on our fellow union members, on our unions, and on elected officials to stand with Ilhan against Republican efforts to pit Jews and Muslims against each other."

Several hundred names down the list is found the identification: shop committee/steward (now retired) Teamsters Local 970. 35 years within the bowels of Smith Foundry, near Cedar Ave. on 28th St., are now more meaningful than a million iron castings. My name appears among the "siblings," the union brothers and sisters who have Ilhan Omar's back.

The Rand Report

#### Sex workers on Lake St. #2

By RAND RETTERATH

Part 2 of a series.

After the one man research project attempting to fully comprehend all the mitigating factors affecting the sex tourism market on



Lake St. and on Bloomington Ave. among others, I was left with the following considerations: Gender-based approach doesn't work! Community approach doesn't work! Political approach doesn't work! Feminist approach doesn't work! Social Service approach meets with only very limited success! Law Enforcement doesn't have the resources to effectively arrest their way to a solution (nor should they)! Judicial approach doesn't work, it means nothing! Penalties are meaningless. Combined Judicial/Social Service approach meets with limited success! Community Engagement approach doesn't work!

We have a spectacular list of tried and failed approaches to the sex industry. For decades, Lake St., as well as Bloomington Ave., have been the sex tourist destination of the south metro area. And for over 50 years nothing has ever resolved the phenomenon. Let's try a new and completely different approach.

My first endeavor was a market assessment. Why is the industry almost exclusively on Midtown side of Lake between 18th and 11th while on Columbus to Clinton, it is on both sides? The demand side participants like to SHOP the supply side before purchasing services. Suddenly, EVERYTHING made sense. It is easier to go around the block on 29th than it is on 31st. This same situation holds true for the Columbus to Clinton stretch, but on both sides!

The demand side solution is then to interrupt the shopping opportunity. Make the market harder to shop! It seems a silly thing but when considered, but it makes perfect sense. A test is simple enough by installing Jersey barriers at some key intersections. I would suggest barriers on the intersections along 29th between 18th and 11th Avenues. Do the same on Clinton and 31st. Then monitor the activity.

On the supply side, we need to demand involvement from the school board. Just like any vocational school, children are educated for a trade. Not all of the trades are socially appropriate. SCHOOLS MUST GET INVOLVED!

Public health officials should be using existing laws to mandate STD testing. In the course of my travels, I have identified a handful of sex workers that are known to have HIV. It is a public health risk to both supply and demand sides.

Minnesota Statues: Subd. 8. Health threat to others. "Health threat to others" means that a carrier demonstrates an inability or unwillingness to act in such a manner as to not place others at risk of exposure to infection that causes serious illness, serious disability, or death.

Our courts need to take a more

progressive approach ensuring the community welfare. This industry creates a toxic zone in our community with the abundance of feces, urine, needles, condoms as well as making it unsafe to travel, exposes children to parts of life prematurely and condemns EVERYONE to diminished lives.

I would also argue that prostitution, as a crime, should be equalized with solicitation and as part of sentencing should consider impact on the community. Again, this is a market-based approach that, to the extent possible, should be based on market-driven tactics. The market place makes no distinction on gender, merely on the purchaser and the supplier. By the way, I cannot say that a john has ever dropped needles or weapons.

On the demand side, the city needs to appoint an ombudsman to defend the rights of anyone, who through mental defect, addiction or other incapacity, works in the sex industry to hold oversight bodies accountable. This one is hard to believe, but I know of one case where I had to call the Civil Liberties Union and file a formal complaint with Department of Human Services to address a known sex worker deemed legally incompetent. I know of another with fetal alcohol syndrome. By definition, they are not able to make decisions for themselves and as a society, we should NEVER tolerate their being abused in this way. In addition, I have documented about a dozen sex workers who have been on the streets from 6 to 20 years. Someone needs to dig into these cases and determine competency and or mitigating circumstances beyond the voluntary social services provided in lieu of sentencing.

On the supply side, I wonder, given the statistical prevalence in certain areas, can the Special Service Districts be held accountable in some way? Certainly some work very hard in and with the community to make it safe for all. Others however do nothing, even to the extent, of not finishing buildings, playing the permit chase game and generally creating the environment in which the sex-industry can flourish. Is it any surprise that the highest densities of the sex trade occur immediately adjacent to ONE DEVELOPER/PROPERTY OWNER!

Likewise, if we have established a diversion program for sex workers, a similar one should be established for the demand side (jons). After all, most psychologists agree that sex addiction is a thing, and there are even 12-step programs for it. Additionally, in the course of my travels, I see the same johns, day after day, just like we have seen the same sex workers for YEARS! The American system of law says justice is blind. It does not decide who is or is not a victim. At best it can only consider mitigating circumstances.

It is time for a whole new approach! It is up to us to hold our city council people accountable. It starts with them! And it is up to us, living with it day in and day out to change the discussion and demand action.



Frank Reflections

## Rental housing supply and demand: gratitude or greed?

BY FRANK ERICKSON

More than 42,000 renter households in Minneapolis, even though employed full-time, pay more for housing than they can afford.

Without these 42,000 rental households, there wouldn't be the high demand for rental housing; there would be supply glut. Are there 42,000 potential renters on

waiting lists who can afford the units with high rents?

How can tens of thousands of renters who cannot afford their rents, be the foundation for raising all rents? These 42,000 households, who cannot afford their rent, are the core of "supply and demand." The landlords have nothing without renters.

Capitalism is wicked. Renters have no choice. Renters have to pay their rents. Ironically, they drive up their rent by paying rents they cannot afford.

All "supply and demand" sees is rent paid. It doesn't see nor does it care if the renter went without food to pay the rent. All capitalism needs to justify raising rent is that rents are paid. That is inhumane!

Without these 42,000 renter households in Minneapolis the "market" would crash! Landlords need to focus more on gratitude and less on greed!

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR OPINIONS ON WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE WORLD! Email copydesk@alleynews.org

Of, by and for its readers since 1976 alleynews.org • April 2019

## COMMUNITY HEALTH HUB



Working together, for the good of the residents, the Backyard Community Health Hub moves together to improve social support, social connectedness, health education, and health empowerment.

Building upon the successful activities and the learning of the last 10 years,
The Backyard Community Health Hub aims to leverage connectedness and
cultural practices to ultimately better serve communities, build local capacity,
and reflect community culture and values in the pursuit of wellness.

#### **APRIL 2019**

Check out the exciting activities happening in April and watch for the

#### Big Challenge

coming in May-June!!!!

Community Residents and Community Based Organizations' Staff — come be inspired to make healthy life choices and receive support in reaching your health goals.

Get a head start in April for our May to June challenge!

You can win individual prizes and recognition or organizational prizes and recognition for the

'Biggest Loser,'
'Most Steps,'
'Most Fitness Hours,'
and more.

All this is free and accessible to you and leads to positive health outcomes.

#### **GUIDE TO CALENDAR:**

1. WALK ANYTIME MGM & GREEN-WAY – 10am to 6 pm. CHECK IN with staff of the Backyard Community Health Hub to help us keep track of your participation.

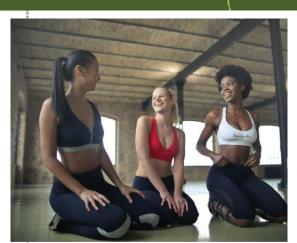
2. MONDAY activity – held in the Midtown Global Market's

Conference Room on the lower level

3. 1st and the 3rd THURSDAY activities – located in the center area of the Midtown Global Market.

4. WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY

activities — located inside of the Allina Conference Room.



Engage, Connect, and
Participate...Our work
unleashes the power of
citizens to heal themselves and
build community

-----Join us at the Midtown Global Market

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	*Walk Anytime!	*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	Dinner Dialogue on Diabetes 5:30-7:30 - Walk & Step - Massage & Reflexology	*Walk Anytime!	*Yoga 2-3  *Zumba 3-4  *Breath & Sound Therapy 4-6pm
*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	*Walk Anytime!  *Stepping into Wellness-with J. Most – 5:30-7:30	*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	*Walk Anytime!	*Walk Anytime!	*Yoga 2-3  *Zumba 3-4  *Breath & Sound Therapy 4-6pm
*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	*Walk Anytime!	*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	Dinner Dialogue Cardiovascular Health (2DC) 5:30-7:30 - Walk & Step - Massage & Reflexology	*Walk Anytime!	*Yoga 2-3 *Zumba 3-4 *Breath & Sound Therapy 4-6pm
*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	*Walk Anytime!  *Stepping into  Wellness-with  J. Most –  5:30-7:30	*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	*Walk Anytime!	*Walk Anytime!	*Yoga 2-3  *Zumba 3-4  *Breath & Sound Therapy 4-6pm
*Walk Anytime!  *Breathe 5-6  *Yoga 6-7  *Zumba 7-8	*Walk Anytime!				

"I stumbled upon the health activities offered by the Backyard when I came into the market to get dinner one evening. I saw these people in the middle of the market and it seemed like they were having fun, and they were having fun getting healthy. I joined them and continued to join them for Triple D's. It has been five months and already I have seen health improvements---my blood sugar is down, my weight is down from walking and eating healthier." -Jim

"I came to the Backyard Community Health Hub launching, and experienced so many different health activities--- walking, stepping, and yoga. I was invited back. I walk at least two to three times a week at the Midtown Global Market and the Greenway, sometimes with the staff of the Health Hub and sometimes with my friends. We laugh if I am walking with the staff and friends, or I laugh when I am walking alone, and it is the most fun and liberating thing. At first, when the staff person said we are going to walk and laugh, I felt a little funny, but honestly the laughing and walking is just like a medicine." -Carolyn



#### **BACKYARD COMMUNITY HEALTH HUB**

Midtown Global Market, 920 E. Lake St., Minneapolis MN 55407

BackyardHealthHub@culturalwellnesscenter.org 612-353-6211 | www.culturalwellnesscenter.org

Call Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for more info and to find out how to get involved!

