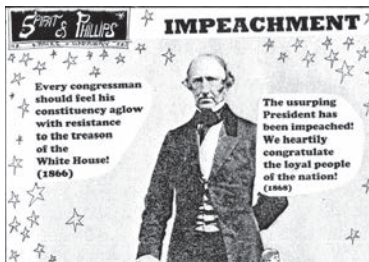




Indigenous People's Task Force – Pg 9



"Black Wings" Review by Dwight Hobbes – Pg 7



Impeachment 1868 Wendell Phillips – Pg 11



Dreamland Corridor on 38th St. – Pg 12



Top Movies of 2019 – Pg 10

Manhood rites of passage ceremony celebrates 15 Black male initiates



CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER

Manhood Rites of Passage Initiates: Jamal Williams, Christian McCleary, Corey Byrd, Jamir Williams, DJ Brooks, Trea Edwards, Sha-suAdili, Jaleel Simpson, Monte Moldonada, Jaron Major, Darrin Lofton, Quadree Drakeford

BY ELDER ATUM AZZAHIR AND MINKARA TEZET, CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER

On Dec. 11, 2019, the Council for Black Male Success and the Cultural Wellness Center held a Manhood Rites of Passage ceremony at the Minnesota Historical Society. The men, who ranged from 11 to 27 years old, completed an 11-week cultural self-study curriculum designed by the Cultural Wellness Center. The curriculum and the Rites of Passage ceremony stem from the Cultural Wellness Center's research into African people, traditions and rituals since ancient times.

"In order for black men to move ahead and become leaders—to become the backbone of their community—they need to recover the culturally grounded manhood that was lost during enslavement," said Elder Atum Azzahir, executive director of the Cultural Wellness Center. "Black male culture has become reactionary to life experiences under the dominant system, instead of one grounded in our cultural practices."

After 11 weeks of sessions, the Council for Black Male Success and the Cultural Wellness Center presented the young men, the "initiates," to the community. According to Azzahir, the initiates went from "feeling empty of culture and history" to sharing a "full representation of themselves as historical human beings," ready to create their future.

"On stage, you could see the men embodying the legacy of strength, beauty, gentleness and a masculinity that is a benefit, not a weapon," said Azzahir. "This collaborative seeks to invest in and uplift a different model of manhood. Several of the young men spoke to their ability to see themselves as black men who can be both compassionate and guided by principle."

The Council of Black Male Success comprises Above the EDGE, Aurora/St. Anthony Development Corp., Bolder Options, Change, Inc., Every Body's In, High School of Recording Arts, I AM Resources, Irreducible Grace Foundation, Mentoring Young Adults, MN Literacy Council, Past Athletes Concerned About Education (PACE) Program, Ramsey County, The JFK Movement, The Sanneh Foundation, Soul Touch Productions, St. Paul Youth Services, Ujamaa Place and YWCA St. Paul. The council was seeded by the Saint Paul Foundation. Each nonprofit organization selected one or two young men to participate in the Rites of Passage program.

Minnesota State Senator Jeff Hayden and Tony Sanneh, president and CEO of The Sanneh Foundation, served as keynote speakers at the Rites of Passage celebration. Sanneh, whose father is from Gambia, recalled boyhood visits to the African country to learn about his culture.

Rites of passage Continued on page 7

City Council and Staffs opposing plan

Phillips seeks jobs, food & housing that are green and community-guided

Brief Background by The Alley Newspaper

Land and buildings in every sector of Phillips have been challenged by large institutions, smaller non-profits, businesses, public schools, parks, and the City and County since the City was founded. The colonizing of this land and its people centuries ago seems to have set a pattern that is extremely difficult to overcome. Phillips has suffered many losses throughout the large, 21,000 population neighborhood, but the southeast corner of Phillips has had an unequal amount of threats and (a few successes) like the 12-year-long Garbage Transfer Station struggle (with HN County and the City of Mpls.) and a second Incinerator threat (with a private enterprise having "complicated" ownership) a few years later. An arsenic superfund site existed on land connected to the Roof Depot site. The defeat of building a Garbage Transfer Station avoided 750 garbage compactor trucks driving through Phillips every day. Now the City with a different City Council is threatening Phillips by adding 494 trucks driving through Phillips everyday and not conforming to state and environmental regulations to do it. Phillips is continuing the six-year long struggle to use at least a portion of the Roof Depot 7-acre site if not the whole parcel as originally planned. Here is their next step of trying to meet the City part way.

East Phillips Neighborhood Institute, EPNI, requests official City Council hearings on health impact assessment and environmental justice

BY DEAN DOVOLIS, EPNI PRESIDENT AND CASSIE HOLMES, EPNI VICE PRESIDENT

East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) and many concerned citizens are requesting the Minneapolis City Council to do two things:

1. To hold a **City Council Hearing** on the findings of the recently published **South Side Green Zone Health Impact Assessment for the Phillips Community (HIA)**. This publicly funded study documents health inequities that expose the environmental injustice that has resulted from decades of environmental racism and social and economic disparities in Phillips, especially East Phillips. It makes strong recommendations for positive corrective actions by the City of Minneapolis. However we believe that these recommendations are being violated in the city's proposal for expanding its Public Work's Water Yard in East Phillips. This HIA research was done by neighborhood groups with state funding and was not published until November 2019. We want the City to hold an official

EPNI Continued on page 6



KATIE SIMON

Little Earth drummers and Karen Clark amongst 50 neighbors at City Hall on Jan.17, 2020. They attended to express their support for the grassroots efforts of Phillips neighbors and organizations to create an environmentally sound development with affordable housing, food production, and small business employment opportunities called the Urban Farm.



COURTESY OF MIDTOWN GLOBAL MARKET

A Chinese Lunar New Year celebration at the Midtown Global Market

BY J. MARIE FIEGER & MEGAN BENEDICT

This Lunar New Year Celebration on Saturday, January 18, 2020 was a free public event featuring live music, a traditional Chinese Lion

dance by **Ha-Family Entertainment**, Chinese Heritage Foundation activities, a free kid's craft table making dragons, specially staged, decorative photographs

Continued on page 10



Alley Communications IS

facilitating culture and creativity in and around Phillips area of Minneapolis through publications, research, public forums, classes, workshops, artistic presentations, social media.

“When the great newspapers don’t say much, see what the little independent ones say.”
– Wendell Phillips 1811-1884

IS also doing business as

The Alley Newspaper and alleynews.org
Connecting Neighbors, Promoting Art and Culture, Advocating on Issues, Building Healthy Community, Facilitating Deliberation, Lifting Every Voice, Documenting History, Agitating for Change, Giving Truth and Democracy a Jog Forward representing the residents and businesses aided by its 501C-3, Not-for-Profit status.

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Electronic Production:

Hard Copy: Schmitt Creative; Steve Dreyer and Julia Robinson, VV News; Brad Pass, EPIC News; Sunny Sevigny, MPNIA News; Susan Ann Gust, CWCHH; Social Media: Schmitt Creative

Appreciative of these volunteering workers who have help make the current Newspaper and Social Media:

Atum Azzahir, Roberta Barnes, Megan Benedict, Cultural Wellness Center Backyard Health Hub, Dreamland Heritage Culinary, Dean Dovolis, Steve Dreyer, East Phillips Neighborhood Coalition, East Phillips Neighborhood Institute, Lindsey Fenner, J. Marie Fieger, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Mike Hazard, Henn. Franklin Library & Staff and Main Library Special Collections, Dwight Hobbes, Cassie Holmes, Sue Hunter Weir, Indigenous Peoples Task Force, Little Earth Association, Rose Lobley, Marti Maltby, Howard McQuitter, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Niemer-Fieger, Norway House, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Brad Pass, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Julia Robinson, Steve Sandberg, Sunny Sevigny, Katie Simon, Robert Taylor, Minkara Tezet, Ventura Village Neighborhood, Laura Waterman Wittstock, John Charles Wilson, Crystal Windschitl, Frank Wing

Supported by and **thankful** for contributions from neighbors, readers, advertising, workplace giving membership in Community Shares MN, contributions through GiveMN, some subscriptions and occasional grants. Financial contributions are needed, appreciated, and tax deductible.

Delivering Newspapers to every Phillips house by Jeff Matson Delivery; and to 170 businesses, places of worship, institutions in Phillips and adjacent neighborhoods by Peter Molenaar

Having Board meetings monthly:

6:30PM 3rd Wednesday in Ventura Village Meeting Room in Phillips Aquatic Center at 2323 11th Av.

Receiving correspondence that becomes the property of AC, Inc. dba The Alley Newspaper and may be published.

Acknowledging that views and opinions expressed in *The Alley Newspaper* and Social Media are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Alley Communications, Board of Directors, Editorial Leadership Committee, or other neighbors and writers.

Receiving mail and calls at:
P.O. Box 7006
Mpls., MN 55407
612-990-4022

Available at:
www.alleynews.org
twitter.com/alleynewspaper

Archives:1976 thru 2007 <http://bit.ly/2GaYHIU> and at Franklin and Central Libraries.

AD@alleynews.org 612-990-4022

“Let me make the newspaper and I care not who makes the religion and the laws.”
– Wendell Phillips 1811-1884

Next Deadline IS February 15, 2020



What’s Up at Your Community Libraries

BY LINDSEY FENNER

FRANKLIN LIBRARY EVENTS

The Franklin Av Library is CLOSED for renovations but events below at other places:

LitKnit (for all ages)

Mondays, 3:30-4:30 PM

Waite House, 2323 11th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Do you want to learn to knit and get to know your neighbors? Or, do you know how to knit and want to work on your project while getting to know your neighbors? Come to Franklin Library’s LitKnit circle. LitKnit circles are inter-generational spaces where neighbors spend time together learning a craft and sharing stories. Improve your craft skills, get to know your neighbors and find connection within your community.

Coffee & Conversations (for adults)

Tuesday, February 4, 10AM-12PM

Minneapolis American Indian Center, 1530 E Franklin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Join Franklin staff for free coffee and doughnuts.

Vinyl Revival: A Song is Born

Saturday, February 15, 2-3:30 PM

Minneapolis American Indian Center, 1530 E Franklin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404

Learn about hip-hop songwriting with Vinyl Revival Artist-in-Residence KITTO. Catch a sneak peek inside his creative process, discover how to compose hip-hop music using samples and loops, and enjoy a special performance by KITTO of a brand-new hip-hop song. KITTO is a Dakhóta and Anishinaabe hip-hop artist, lyricist and composer. He is a 20-year-old Augsburg University student from St. Paul, Minnesota. KITTO speaks to struggle and hardship through his music, empowered by pushing the envelope and helping his people take control of their narrative. Vinyl Revival is a series of artist residencies, programs and listening opportunities at Minneapolis Central Library. Funded by Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



EAST LAKE LIBRARY

2727 E. Lake Street

W, F, Sa: 9AM-5PM

M, T, Th: 9AM-8PM Su: 12-5PM

YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Homework Help

M, T, Th: 4-7PM

Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed. Tutors available September 16 to May 21, except on holidays and school breaks.

Family Storytime

Fridays, 10:15-10:45AM

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.

Baby Storytime

Fridays, 11:15-11:45AM

For children from birth to 24 months and their caregivers. Talk, sing, read, write and play together in a format especially designed for babies. Share books, stories, rhymes, music and movement.

LEGO® Lab

Thursday, February 20, 3-5PM

Calling all future engineers and architects! We’ve got the bricks, but we need you to bring your imagination. No experience necessary. We’ll also have DUPLOS®, so all ages are welcome.

ADULTS

Mobile Law Library

Monday, February 3, 2-5PM

Connect with librarians from Hennepin County Law Library about legal resources and support.

Mobile Mending

Sunday, February 16, 3-4:45PM

Bring your clean jeans, shirts and jackets that need mending and repair. Get buttons added, patches added, hems adjusted, and items shortened at no cost. Services will be provided by Mobile Menders – a volunteer group that provides free clothing repair to those in need. Collaborator: Mobile Menders.

City of Minneapolis Small

Business Support

Tuesday, February 18, 3-5PM

City of Minneapolis Small Business Team will be available to support individuals hoping to start or who are currently running a small business in Minneapolis. No appointment necessary. Collaborator: City of Minneapolis Small Business Team.

Sealing Your Criminal Record

Thurs, Feb 20, 12:30-2:30PM

Learn the process of how to seal your criminal record, also called “expungement.” Find out which criminal records can be sealed, the information needed to file, where expungement clinics are held, and how to be prepared to get the most out of your time with either a private attorney or at an expungement clinic. Please arrive on time and plan to stay for the entire session. Collaborators: Volunteer Lawyers Network, Hennepin County Law Library.



HOSMER LIBRARY

347 E. 36th Street

M, T, W: 9AM-8PM

Th, F, Sa: 9AM-5PM Su: 12-5PM

YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Family Storytime

Thursdays 10-10:30 AM

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 Tech Workshops

Tuesdays, 4:30-6PM

Get creative and make music, crafts, animation and other projects using both high- and low-tech tools, everything from iPads and 3D printers to Perler beads and sewing machines. Led by the library’s Teen Tech Squad. Sponsor: Friends of the Hennepin County Library. Suitable for preteens and teens.

Homework Help

M, T: 3:30-7:30PM Sa: 1-4 PM

Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advance sign-up needed. Tutors available September 16 to May 21, except on holidays and school breaks.

Taiwanese Paper Folding

(for families)

Saturday, February 8, 2-4 PM

Celebrate the Lunar New Year with Taiwanese paper folding! Learn how to fold simple designs, or challenge yourself to create a moveable 3-D paper sculpture. Partner: Minnesota Taiwanese Cultural Services Center Funded by Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund

West African Drumming,

Dance and Stories for Kids

Sunday, February 9, 3-4:30 PM

Grades 1-6. Ghana Mbaye will take you on a tour of his native West Africa through drumming, dance and storytelling. Listen to stories about Anansi the Spider (the great trickster) and learn African drumming and dance patterns. Bring it all together and perform an Anansi Tale complete with music and dance. Collaborator: ArtStart. Funded by Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Register online at hclib.org

Art of Musical Instruments with

Douglas R. Ewart (for teens)

Monday, February 10

Tuesday, February 11

Wednesday, February 12

4:30-6:30PM

Grades 6-12. Work with Douglas R. Ewart composer, musician and instrument maker to learn about instruments of different cultures and make an instrument. Then work with Douglas to decorate and perform on your instrument. Collaborator: ArtStart. Funded by Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Register online at hclib.org

ADULTS

Conversation Circles

Saturdays, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM

Non-native English speakers: practice your English and make new friends in an informal, volunteer-led setting, and learn about the library, too.

Tech Tuesdays Computer Help

Tuesdays 12-2 PM

Knowledgeable library staff and volunteers will be available to answer your tech questions about basic computer skills, how to download eBooks, saving files, using Microsoft Office productivity software, Internet and job searching, and social media such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

On this Spot: South Side

Stories with Daniel Pierce

Bergin

Saturday, February 15,

2-3:30 PM

Explore Black history of south Minneapolis in this pop-up documentary with live narration from award winning filmmaker Daniel Pierce Bergin. The film visits the Spokesman Recorder Newspaper, Martin Luther King Park, and Hosmer Library with a focus on place, the past and the people whose stories are found on these spots.

Seed Sorting Party

Sunday, February 23,

3-4:30 PM

Help sort and label donated seeds for the Hosmer Community Seed Library! A seed library is a collection of community-donated seeds that can be borrowed from the library and planted at home. Volunteer while learning more about seed saving and gardening. Collaborator: Plant Grow Share.



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CHARITY IS GOOD, CHANGE IS BETTER



Rev. G.L. Morrill, populist preacher “wherever two or three are gathered!”
Calvary Baptist, People’s Church—Hennepin Av, Wonderland Amusement Park, Nicollet Field Baseball Park, His Own Funeral

*Tales from
Pioneers and Soldiers
Memorial Cemetery*
By SUE HUNTER WEIR
173RD IN A SERIES

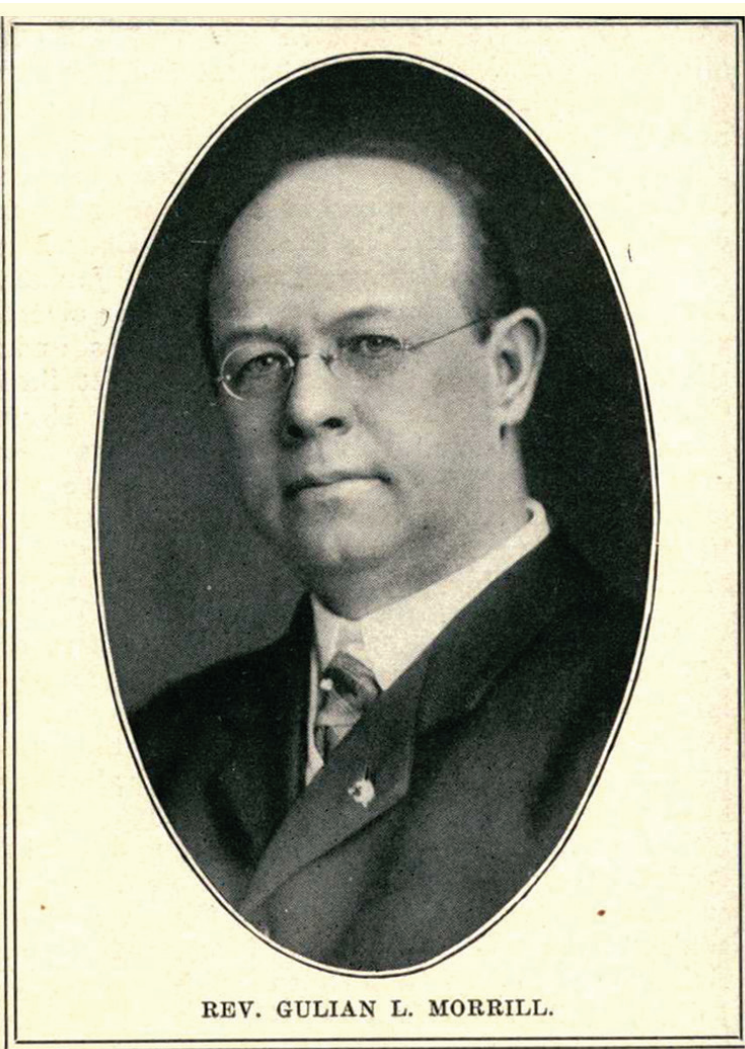
Bertha French and Fred C. Dodds, the parents of Cedric Dodds, were married in Minneapolis on April 5, 1911. Reverend G.L. (“Golightly”) Morrill performed the ceremony. Theirs was one of many—perhaps hundreds—of weddings that he performed. He was known to preside over as many as three weddings, two of them in his own home, on a single day.

Reverend Morrill was a great believer in marriage, though perhaps not so much a believer in true love, and went so far as to offer green stamps to couples who wed. Despite his many eccentricities he was a compassionate man and counted among his flock people who more conventional ministers would not find respectable enough to be members of their congregations.

Bertha and Fred Dodds were not a young couple when they married—Bertha was 28 and Fred was 32—but that did not necessarily mean that they were worldly. In 1911, the fact that she was visibly pregnant on her wedding day would have been only slightly less of a stigma than having no marriage prospects at all.

Perhaps it is not surprising then that Morrill performed the Dodds’ ceremony. By the time that Fred and Bertha married, she was somewhere between four to six months along in her pregnancy. After the couple got married they moved to Aberdeen, South Dakota where Cedric was born on July 11, 1911. He did not thrive and seeking help his mother brought him back to Minneapolis. Cedric died in Cody Hospital, a charity hospital for newborns, when he was three months old. The cause of his death was malnutrition with “prematurity” being a contributing factor. He is buried in an unmarked grave in Lot 20, Block j-2.

If that wasn’t enough of a burden Bertha experienced a



G.L. “Golightly” Morrill, with a University of Chicago theology degree, broke away from established churches and founding an unorthodox “People’s Church” in downtown Minneapolis. His Los Angeles Times Obituary noted, “Probably the most unique funeral service ever conducted was held here today when the voice of Rev. G.L. “Golightly” Morrill was heard preaching his own funeral service. The words were heard over the body of the noted writer and world traveler in a local funeral parlor this morning. They issued from a phonograph which was playing a record dictated by Morrill himself months ago in preparation for his final rites. After the sermon another record was placed on the machine and Morrill’s voice was heard singing a religious song.” “Golightly,” nickname, came from an associate who told him the Baptist Church officials were getting uneasy about his church services, where he told jokes, had musicians, drummers, slide projected images, and Hula Dancers. The associate told him to “go lightly.” G.L. did not change his methods, but did adopt “Golightly” as his pen-name. He was the Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, 2608 Blaisdell Av., where some members of notable families McGarvey, Pillsbury and Harry ‘Wild’ Jones (Church architect) belonged.

second blow to her reputation—the failure of her marriage. Five years after Cedric’s death Bertha began referring to herself as a widow, but she was not a widow, she was divorced. Whether by her own choice, by mutual consent, or by abandonment, Bertha was on her own.

Fred moved to Montana where he worked as a tractor engineer. He remarried in 1925, had two children. He died in Montana in 1968, at the age of 90.

In 1920 Bertha was living with her two younger sisters, Edna and Shirley, and working as a housekeeper in a private home. Edna was

37 years old and working as a saleswoman in a dry goods store. Shirley was a stenographer in a corporate office. One year later Shirley married. In 1925, Edna died, and Bertha was on her own.

In 1930, Bertha was living in Wayzata and was working as a “servant” for the E.J. Phelps family. Phelps was a prominent Minneapolis banker who lived in one of the mansions on Park Avenue’s Golden Mile. Bertha died in 1965 at the age of 89 and was buried in Lakewood Cemetery.

Reverend Morrill, a Powderhorn resident for more than 20 years, continued to be one of Minneapolis’ more colorful characters popping up all over town during the first two decades of the 19th century. He was everywhere—ballgames, Wonderland Park, Big Island Park, the Nicollet Avenue

ballpark, and his church, complete with hula dancers, movies and slide shows in the Unique Theater downtown. More than seven thousand baseball fans had to sit through one of his sermons, delivered from the pitchers mound, before the first pitch was thrown. They spoke highly of his sermon, praising its brevity. He raised money for the family of a firefighter killed in the line of duty and victims of a devastating earthquake in Italy. A dying man who didn’t want his expensive, custom-made, wooden leg to be buried with him asked Morrill for help and Morrill found a new owner for it. He ran (very) unsuccessfully for mayor in 1901. He eventually moved to San Diego where he died in 1928 but not before he tape recorded his own eulogy to be played at his funeral.



Rev. G.L. Morrill said, “I know many people who go on a religious debauch every Sunday.” Wing portrayed Rev. Morrill’s classic, characteristic poses. Frank M. Wing, cartoonist, born 1873 in Elmwood, Illinois, in Twin Cities at the turn of 20th century, a staff artist—Mpls. Journal, Mpls. Tribune, St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch, Chicago Tribune, Des Moines Register, and Tribune Syndicate; author of several books featuring his nostalgic cartoons; died in 1956 at the age of 82 when he lived in the Francis Drake Hotel in Minneapolis demolished in 2020 after severe Christmas Day fire, 2019.

YESTERDAYS —By Frank Wing

THE CHOIR UNSPEAKABLE 1-5

FRANK WING 1873-1956
Yesterdays, 1910, by Frank Wing; cartoons originally in the *Minneapolis Journal*; an influence on young Charles Schulz, who studied with Wing, joined him on Art Instruction School faculty; encouraged Schulz to submit his work (Li'l Folks) to the *Pioneer Press*. [Charles Schulz who later created “Peanuts.”] In *Yesterdays*, each cartoon is printed on the right-hand page and a short paragraph of commentary on the left, in which a friendly and knowing narrator speaks in a tone of gentle condescension and ironic understatement about the characters and their lapses. Wing identifies himself as a part of the community he satirizes (referring to “our town”), and speaks in a refined English peppered with colloquialisms, while most of the characters—many of whom have pretensions to urbanity—converse in a kind of rustic dialect. Wing had talent for drawing lanky yokels with distinct facial expressions. His writing, too, a critic said, “was great; each paragraph of narration or word balloon has words or phrases that I have never read before. I think that is part of the reason I enjoyed stuff like this so much; it is the sense of surprise and newness.”

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Transit
Make a
bee-line to
the B Line

BY JOHN CHARLES WILSON

In a few years, Lake Street bus riders will have an alternative to the super-slow Route 21. It’s going to be called the B Line and will operate on the same principle as the already existing A Line on Snelling Avenue in Saint Paul, and C Line on Penn Avenue in North Minneapolis. (The reason for the disordered sequence is that originally the letter B was assigned to a project on West 7th Street in Saint Paul, which was cancelled and upgraded to a proposed streetcar line.)

The B Line will go farther west than current Route 21, terminating at the junction with the Southwest Light Rail, which is now under construction. This is near the Whole

Foods (a.k.a. “Whole Paycheck”) Market west of Bde Maka Ska. On the east end, it will terminate at Saint Paul’s Union Depot, just like the current 21A. The original plan was for the east terminal to be near Midway Shopping Center at Snelling and University, but public input caused Metro Transit to decide to extend the route all the way to Union Depot. (This is why I advocate speaking up on transit issues!) The B Line won’t stop at every bus stop like the 21; instead, it will stop only at specially-built stations about half a mile apart.

Route 21 will still continue to exist between Uptown Transit Center and Minnehaha Avenue, probably turning around by Wendy’s where the 21E turns around now. Route 21 will run every half hour and stop at every bus stop, enabling people who can’t walk to or from a B Line station to still use the bus to get around. The B Line will run every 10 minutes and will be 20 percent faster than the current 21. If the situation on Snelling Avenue is any indication, the “slow” 21 will probably run faster too, because most riders will be taking the B Line.

It is possible that a local bus that stops every block will also be provided in Saint Paul between Selby Avenue and Midway Shopping Center, but this has not been decided upon yet.



All B Line buses will be large articulated buses, the kind which look like two buses connected by an accordion-like section. This should also reduce the horrific overcrowding Lake Street bus riders are all too familiar with.

Phillips West Neighborhood Organization and Community Partners
invite you, your friends, colleagues & family to the 23rd Annual

Winter Social Celebration!

The Center for Changing Lives Building
2400 Park Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55404

(event will be held in first floor lobby & adjacent conference rooms)



Thursday February 13th, 2020
5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Join your friends and neighbors for a FREE Community Celebration & dinner buffet of catered Mexican food! The purpose of this event is to provide a great meal and venue for Neighbors to network with one another and get information on available Neighborhood Resources (more than 20 organizations will have information booths)! If you have questions, would like to volunteer or have an information booth please call Crystal Windschitl at the Phillips West office @ 612-879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com you can also check out the Phillips West website: www.phillipswest.info

This event is Wheelchair Accessible !



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broke the illusion. The individual probably felt the same I did when I saw how the Muppets worked.

What struck me most was the conversation that developed between this person and my friend John, who had carried Luna a few years earlier and always attended the March and service. “It’s easy to forget there’s a person under all that,” he commented.

I don’t like to admit it, but I need to hear John’s comment regularly in my relationships with others. I often fall into the trap of viewing others in terms of how convenient or inconvenient they make my life, or what category I can slip them into to quickly understand them. I look at surface characteristics and decide from there if I want to get to know the person better. In other words, I reduce people to two dimensional caricatures and forget that there’s a real person in there.

Being a strong introvert and not being skilled at reading people, I may be more prone to this failing than most people. I have difficulty reading people and don’t often ask questions to get to know them. But I know I am not alone in this weakness. I have read enough comments on social media and listened to enough casual conversations to realize that most (if not all) of us feel justified in passing judgments about others based on the scantest of information. In one way this is understandable; we need to categorize the things around us to make sense of the world. But at the same time, when we categorize a person the way we categorize things, we forget the person in there.

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Peace House Community – A Place to Belong
The person in there

BY MARTI MALTBY

This December I got to lead the annual Homeless Memorial March, an event that honors those who died in the past year who were either homeless or formerly homeless. It was the fifth time in seven years that I led the March, an honor I received because I carry Luna, a huge “puppet” mounted on a backpack frame. Luna has become the symbol of the March and all for which it stands. When Luna rides on my shoulders, she’s about 12 feet tall.

The March ends at a church

where we hold a service memorializing those who have died. As participants file in, I scramble out from under Luna while two other volunteers lean her against the wall. As you might expect, something as big as Luna is quite heavy, weighing in at maybe 70 pounds.

A couple of years ago, as I emerged from Luna’s robes, I heard someone express surprise that I had carried her during the entire March. They weren’t surprised at my strength; instead, they had come to think of Luna as a person in her own right, and seeing an actual person



Norway House gallery presents Dewey Thorbeck: An Architect’s Sketches

January 18 - February 9, 2020 at 913 east franklin av.

An Architect’s Travel Sketches takes you on a watercolor journey around the world with Norway House’s architect, Dewey Thorbeck. From the Spit Harbour shops in Homer, Alaska to Machu Picchu in Peru, to the Nidaros Cathedral in Trondheim, Norway—to beautiful places that have a “strong and close integration of people, architecture, and landscape.” The exhibit will also feature Thorbeck’s sketches and plans for Norway House’s expansion, on schedule to break ground Fall 2020. A house on Elliott Av was demolished recently

to continue clearing land for the new building.

Architect, Dewey Thorbeck was the guest of honor on January 17th, opening a display of his travel sketches and designs for Norway House’s expansion. Thorbeck’s work as an artist and an architect is deeply dedicated to the interplay between humans, structures, and nature. In a statement regarding his philosophy and approach to his work, Thorbeck explains:

“The making of place, path, and shelter is rooted in the spirit of humans and is the basis for architecture. Thorbeck Architects believe architecture is more than

building and focuses on the making of places, through a participatory process that helps people connect with their environment. It is the strength of these connections – natural, cultural and historical – that measures the success of the architecture. The spirit of a place exists in the feelings that people generate about it. Without people, there would be no architecture. A beautiful building can evoke an emotional response, but a beautiful building that is part of nature is poetic.”



COURTESY NORWAY HOUSE

Norway House, 913 East Franklin Av, took a huge step forward toward the building of their expansion with the demolition of a duplex on Elliott south of where the Laundromat on East Franklin was before it, too was demolished. Norway House annual Ginger Bread House Gallery Show this year included a Ginger Bread House of the building for which preparations are being made.



St. Mary’s University Health and Wellness Fair on Phillips Campus

BY CARZ NELSON

A Health and Wellness Resource Fair was hosted by Saint Mary’s University at their Phillips Campus, 2304 Park Avenue South, January 15th, 2020. Valuable information and connections for health and wellness resources in the community for students and staff was available with providers there to meet and answer questions. It was also an opportunity for meeting Phillips neighbors. People enjoyed nutritious food from an attractive and generous food table while visiting.



James, Tony, and Janette (left to right) focused on a haircut Tony kept saying, “Don’t be afraid.” MIKE HAZARD



Peace House manager Marti typed in his office while Charlie gave Tom a haircut in the hallway. Peace House is always busy with tasks. MIKE HAZARD

Celebrating Peace House people

BY MIKE HAZARD

DON’T BE AFRAID

Janette, a retired psychologist who counseled couples (and who’s losing her hearing and was always letting couples know they were not hearing each other), was giving Tony a haircut at Peace House while James advised.

“Don’t be afraid,” Tony kept saying, “to press really hard with the shaver. Don’t be afraid.”

She was doing good, but she was afraid of pressing too hard. After awhile, James took over. The intimate trio was entertaining, and serious. Everyone wanted a good haircut. James explained how to cultivate a wave, how to shave a face.

Tony nicknamed Janette, Jean T. Jay. It was a scene that embodies the blessed heart of Peace House. People doing good together.

SO WE FEEL BETTER ABOUT OURSELVES

Charlie gives haircuts at Peace House on Fridays. He sets up in the hallway. “After lunch, there are too many people who need the bathroom so we cut hair in the hall. My father used to cut our hair. I learned from him. I started cutting hair at Carleton, 50 years ago. It was 35 cents or a pack of cigarettes. I do them free now, so it is the only thing that costs less now than then.”

A man stopped, looked, listened, and said, “It is always good to have a Cost Cutters at Peace House. So we feel better about ourselves.”

Tom already had a crewcut. He wanted the sides tapered. Charlie went at it. Tom said, “I was a wandering liberal arts major then I went to a company that became Adobe.” They talked about writing. Tom wondered if it was a good business. Not. Not anymore.

“Nobody knows if you’re working or not when you’re a writer,” joked Charlie. “I’m still writing. I gave up on the last novel I was writing. I decided it was not working. I’m still writing about politics and good government. I write for entertainment. I still write short pieces for the fun of it.”

“Human touch,” Charlie writes, “felt even through a machine.”

“Like Rumi, who said, ‘You must ask for what you really want,’ I want to tell them, this time is yours alone, for as long as you need. It’s okay here to ask for what your heart desires, and I will do the best I can to fulfill it.”

Tom looked at himself in the hand mirror. “No matter where I go, people think I’m a cop.” We three grinned.

These picture stories have been made by the artist Mike Hazard as part of a project celebrating Peace House People. The project is funded by an Artist Initiative grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. A selection of the work will be exhibited at Franklin Library in April, 2020.



EPNI From page 1

EPNI/Roof Depot update

hearing to look at the new evidence being brought forward and to seriously consider the HIA report’s strong recommendations. The 2008

Clark/Berglin State of Minnesota law requiring cumulative health impact analysis for polluters in East Phillips is cited in the study and must



This aerial photograph is of 3-Acres Required for Urban Farm of the 7 –Acres of the entire Roof Depot Site that was all originally to be used by implementation of the ENPI Proposal until City of Mpls. undermined the Proposal and planning on demolishing the 230,000 square foot “Sears, 1947 Warehouse later Office/Warehouse of Roof Depot Company. Demolishing of building will unearth arsenic contaminated soil discovered and regulated during h recent Arsenic Superfund Clean-up of the nearby Arsenic Triangle at 28th Street and Hiawatha Av. The existing City of Mpls. Maintenance Facility is at the top of the photo at 26th St. and Hiawatha Av. and remains the predominant reason the City is preferring this site of any other in the City. There is a desire to amass as much adjacent land as possible for extensive City use.

also be applied to the City’s proposal and be enforced.

2. To hold an official **City Council Hearing** on the community-based, community-led plan to begin to address **environmental injustice** in East Phillips. This publicly funded plan would create a year-round indoor urban farm at the former Roof Depot site with green jobs and job training, 23 units of very low income affordable housing, entrepreneurial space for cultural markets (including

Native American and other cultural crafts), a youth-led World Cafe, a certified kitchen, a bicycle shop and more. This plan would bring tangible solutions to address the recommendations of the HIA and other economic and social justice community development efforts, but it has never been given an official hearing by the Minneapolis City Council. This is an incredible community asset that begins to address Phase 2 of the HIA’s recommendations.

On Friday, January 17, 2020, EPNI was pleased to learn that there **WILL BE A HEARING ON THESE ISSUES**, announced by Council Vice President Andrea Jenkins. It is scheduled for a meeting of the City Council’s Committee of the Whole, which Council Member Jenkins chairs. **The hearing will be January 29, 2020, at 1:30 PM.** We are grateful for this opportunity and ready and willing to work with the City on this critical Environmental Justice work.



Drawing of EPNI proposed development including 28 affordable housing units on 2nd level with individual roof-top gardens that are above a high-tech indoor urban and aquaponic farm; local retail shops along 28th Street side of the existing warehouse next to indoor low-tech agriculture and aquaponics farm; and a bike shop and farmer’s market at east end of the existing warehouse building along the Midtown Greenway. To the top of the “L” shape of the EPNI is the city of Mpls. expansion of existing Maintenance Facility at the top of the drawing just south of 26th Street and west of Hiawatha Avenue.



Sign up for an
EPIC Garden
Plot!
NOW!

The Epic Report – February, 2020

www.eastphillips-epic.com

It’s Time to Think About Gardening!

Consider joining the
**East Phillips Community
Garden**
2428 17th Ave. S

Every spring, garden plots are available. If you live in East Phillips and are interested in gardening, now is the time to get on the Garden list!
CONTACT: Brad Pass at 612-916-8478 or bpass@usinternet.com

Our Community Garden is one of the very few actually owned by its community. Many years ago, the three houses on the site were burned to the ground in a gang conflict. To stop illegal activity on the empty lots, the neighbors came together, and in a long weekend built the front entrance, fenced the site and turned it into a “Guerilla Garden” owned by the City.

When rumors surfaced about a city plan to allow an apartment building on the site, EPIC went door-to-door and canvased the neighborhood receiving unanimous support to use a portion of the East Phillips NRP dollars to purchase the garden. Part of the purchase negotiations included the commitment of the city to remove and replace all contaminated soil on the site.

Gardeners include many of our new Nepali neighbors, a Native American language immersion school, the East Phillips Park youth plots and many East Phillips family gardeners.

There are 32 plots. The plot fee of \$30.00 covers water, property tax, insurance and the annual Fall Harvest Party. Gardeners contribute 6 hrs/year to help maintain the garden. To make gardening affordable for everyone in the ‘hood we have an alternative payment policy to alleviate the fee when necessary.

The Garden Meeting Schedule is printed here

Plots go fast so get on the list NOW!



For Your Calendar: *

To get involved in EPIC and East Phillips, Join us at any or all of the meetings below.

The EPIC Board of Directors meet on the FIRST Saturday of the month – Next Meetings; Saturday, 2/1/2020 and 3/7/2020 at 10:00 AM. at the EPIC Office at 2433 Bloomington Ave. S.

The EPIC General Membership meets on the SECOND Thursday of the month – Next Meetings; Thursday, 2/13/20 and 3/12/2020 at 6:30 PM at East Phillips Park – 2307 17th Ave. S.

The EPIC Annual Meeting is Sat. April 18 at 9:30 AM. Join us for Breakfast & Board Elections at East Phillips Park – 2307 17th Ave. S. **

The East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Gardeners meet on the second Saturday of Each Month during the gardening season, from March through September. Next meetings are: Saturday, 3/7/2020, 4/11/2020 & 5/9/2020 at 9:00 AM in the East Phillips Park Community Center at 2307 17th Ave. S. Subsequent meetings will be held in the Garden at 2428 17th Ave. S.

*** East Phillips Residents wanting a 2020 Garden Plot, contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478 or bpass@usinternet.com**

**** EPIC Board of Director Elections will be held at the Saturday, April 18 Annual Meeting. To run for the board you must live, work or own property in East Phillips and you must have attended at least one Thursday Community Meeting since the last Annual Meeting & complete the application on the Website - www.eastphillips-epic.com**



Brief history of East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm Project

The East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm Project - Epnifarm.org - is a 7-acre site previously owned by the Roof Depot Company. Before that, it was a Sears warehouse. It is adjacent or near: (1) Midtown Green Way, (2) Hiawatha Ave/State Highway 55, (3) Little Earth Housing, (4) Cedar Ave/State Highway 77, (5) Hi-Lake Shopping Center (6) Midtown YWCA, (7) and Midtown Light Rail Transit Station. It is a short midway distance between MSP Airport/Mall of America and downtown Minneapolis and the U.S. Bank Stadium. It could be considered a developer’s dream site! Some neighbors who have been around for awhile find it difficult to not anticipate that this valuable land is being amassed for just this eventual reason, even if decades from now. City Staff has admitted that choice of the City for this site rather than another neighborhood where neighbors would like having it, is because of the proximity of the current City Facility at 26th and Hiawatha. This may be interpreted as a

heads-up that sometime soon the City will seek expanding the City property across Longfellow Av and 28th Street; a domino-tipping theory.

In 2014, neighbors in East Phillips began planning a mixed use of the site for: a 60 to 75 employee, year-round, indoor aquaponic farm and urban farm training; 28 units of affordable housing; the youth-led World Cafe and market; a community accessible commercial kitchen; and bicycle repair and assembly shop. Negotiations had begun with Roof Depot with full transparency over several months. A year later, the City began to compete for the land and then threatened eminent domain. East Phillips Improvement Association, Little Earth Housing Association, and other organizations formed the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI). This new organization, EPNI, was to be the facilitator of the joint development project that had procured State of MN start-up planning monies with help from Phillips resident and State Representative Karen Clark before she left office.

The City Council of Minneapolis

has since given approval for plan “A,” which will demolish the historic 230,000 square foot, 1947 Sears warehouse (Roof Depot) site. In addition, the City refused to conduct a voluntary Environmental Assessment that would inform Phillips as to what will possibly be uncovered as bulldozers once again dig into the nearby Arsenic Triangle. Presuming the MPCA grants the required permits, the City (who is simultaneously promoting a zero waste direction) will demolish and haul away the Roof Depot building and as much contaminated soil as they deem necessary. Then they will begin what will eventually be a parking ramp for 480 employee vehicles, and the infrastructure for 494 City owned vehicles, coming and going on a daily basis. This appears to be in opposition to state regulations for environmental protection within the Phillips Community, set into law and co-authored by Representative Karen Clark and Senator Linda Berglin when they were still in state office.

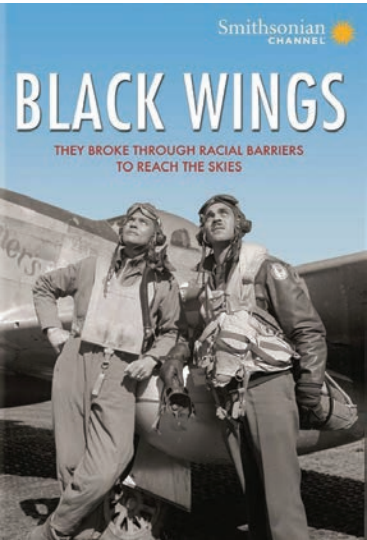
“Black Wings” documentary sets Black aviation record straight

BY DWIGHT HOBBS

Black Wings (Smithsonian Channel – DVD) brilliantly documents that African American aviation didn’t begin and end with the legendary Tuskegee Airmen. There were, for that matter, black airwomen. Throughout the 20th century, from biplanes to barnstorming to finally being allowed into combat to commercial air liners and eventually becoming astronauts.

Producer-writer Dan Wolf presumably directed (no one’s credited), delivering a gem of historic footage that had escaped general notice and well informed narration, including interviews, relating a fascinating account.

Von Hardesty, curator at the National Air and Space Museum, says of the bigotry that kept qualified pilots grounded, “Blacks had the same dreams, the same aspirations, the same love of flight. But they were barred for social reasons.” Regrettably, battling racism has yet to put much of a dent in their being just as sexist as whites. Tuskegee jet fighters who escorted and



never lost a bomber are deservedly celebrated, where is a bio pic or, indeed, any widespread championing across African America of the first black aviator, Bessie Coleman? Who brought herself up from abject poverty to work days, teach herself French nights, then go train in France, because no school here would let her earn a license.

There’s pilot William Powell who, in the late 20’s, did acknowledge

Coleman, naming a flight school after her. And was idealistic enough to reason equality in the sky would lead to acceptance in society. We know what became of that, despite his enlisting the support of boxing immortal Joe Louis.

It’s unavoidable that any accurate recounting detail that the amazing accomplishments of these fliers was largely done in the face of discrimination (airports that wouldn’t service them, fuel suppliers who refused to sell to them). Good old-fashioned racism, as American as apple pie, was a fact of black life, period. More important, though, is that these figures existed. Just like the Wright Brothers. Before Amelia Earhart. Some set flight records – not just for black pilots, but for all of aviation. For instance, Gus McCloud going clear to the North Pole in an open air cockpit against life-threatening odds.

Ultimately, *Black Wings* broadens the history books, adding pages inclusive up to 2011, a true find for anyone interested in seeing the record set straight.

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Rites of passage From page 1

Manhood rites of passage ceremony celebrates 15 Black male initiates

“I lived in Gambia for two and a half years, and I remember watching Rites of Passage ceremonies and wishing that I could experience the process, but I was too young,” said Sanneh. “Being grounded in my culture made me the man I am today, so I honor you and your journey.”

Senator Hayden also spoke to the journey of becoming men.

“Looking at me today, you can’t see that I’ve gone through the same thing you have with family and community to guide me,” said Senator Hayden. “Sometimes you judge yourself by what you are now and what you’ve been, and you’re not able to appreciate what’s there for you to become.”

The initiates will now serve as the Youth Council on the Council for Black Male Success and start their journey as leaders in the black community.

Oops!

Welna Hardware and Welna II were to receive special thanks as all of the other business contributors to our 45 Anniversary Gathering on Nov. 8th were thanked in the last issue of *The Alley*. So, here it is.

THANK YOU Welna Hardware on 24th and Bloomington, for the gift certificates!

THANK YOU Welna II on East Franklin Avenue at 22nd Av, for the gift shopping bags, calendars, and a multi-wrench!

Carz Nelson

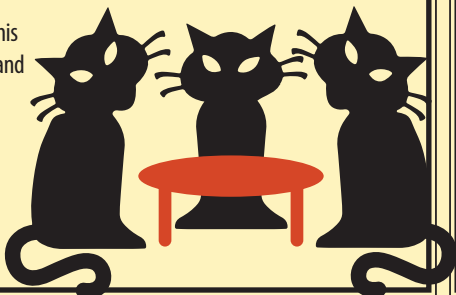
The Alley Newspaper’s newly forming Editorial Leadership Committee will be introducing each member to you readers in the coming months. Here is the first introduction and is about Carz Nelson:

Carz works and owns a home in Phillips. She has a passion for history and believes that a community gains power by understanding its past. She joined the ELC to assist the community’s dialogue about its history, its place in the present and the potential for the future.

HELP WANTED

Board Member Position(s)

Join the volunteer Board of this dynamic organization and this important community media source to stay strong, vibrant and lifting the many voices of the Phillips Community. Current responsibilities include the ability to attend monthly Board meetings. **Email the Board Chair, Cathy Strobel-Ayres, cstrobel11@gmail.com to receive more information about this position.**



Editorial Leadership Committee

Do you like newspapers? Better yet, do you read *The Alley Newspaper* and want to it to improve, grow or change? **VOLUNTEER** for the Editorial Leadership Team of Alley Communications and work with the Alley’s Coordinator to lift the many voices of the Phillips Community and how to get them represented within the pages of *The Alley Newspaper*! **Email Editor@alleynews.org or call Harvey at 612-990-4022 for more info and next steps.**





MIDTOWN PHILLIPS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.
www.midtownphillips.org

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

Stewart Park, 2700 12th Avenue South,
Minneapolis MN 55407

Tuesday, February 11
6:30-8pm

AGENDA
Annual meeting planning

Did you know your
neighborhood offers
financing for residents?

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

Get started today:
mnlendingcenter.org

ANNUAL MEETING &
COMMUNITY DINNER

Thursday, February 27, 5:30-8pm
@ Stewart Park (Gymnasium), 2700 12th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Enjoy a FREE community dinner and entertainment

Hear community speakers

- Allina/Abbott Campus Improvements
- Minnesota 2020 Census–We Count!

Resource/info fair

- New American Youth Soccer Club enrollment
- Want Mad Dads to do a street party on your block?
- \$20/hr jobs available with Minneapolis Census
- Learn about \$400K coming for Stewart Park Improvements
- Learn how to Compost & Recycle
- Find out about our two community radio stations
- Meet Minneapolis & Park Police
- Ask questions about the Minnesota 2020 Census–We Count!
- Register to vote!

Join the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood
Association board!

(District Rep candidates must live or work within
the neighborhood boundaries as listed below)

OPEN POSITIONS:

- Midtown Phillips Board President
- District 1: 24th-26th & Chicago to 12th Avenue
- District 2: 24th-26th & Bloomington to 12th Avenue
- District 4: 26th-28th & 12th Avenue to Bloomington
- District 5: 28th-Lake & Chicago to 12th Avenue
- District 6: 28th-Lake & Bloomington to 12th Avenue
- At Large Representative

For more information about being a board member, 763-310-4760

www.midtownphillips.org | 763.310.4760 | f midtownphillipsminneapolis

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



PHILLIPS DE MIDTOWN
REUNIÓN ANUAL Y
CENA COMUNITARIA

Jueves 27 de febrero, 5: 30-8pm

Parque de Stewart (Gimnasio), 2700 12th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Disfruta de una cena y entretenimiento comunitario GRATUITO

Escuche oradores de la comunidad

- Mejoras en el campus de Allina / Abbott
- Censo de Minnesota 2020: ¡contamos!

Feria de recursos / información

- Nueva inscripción en el American Youth Soccer Club (Club Americano de fútbol de Juventud)
- ¿Quieres que Mad Dads haga una fiesta callejera en tu cuadra?
- Empleos de \$ 20 / hora disponibles con el Censo de Minneapolis
- Obtenga más información acerca de \$400,000 para mejoras en el parque Stewart
- Aprenda a compostar y reciclar
- Conozca nuestras dos estaciones de radio comunitarias.
- Conozca a Minneapolis y la policía del parque
- Haga preguntas sobre el censo de Minnesota 2020: ¡contamos!
- ¡Registrarse para votar!

Únete al vecindario de Midtown Phillips Junta de asociación!

(Los candidatos de representantes del distrito deben vivir o trabajar
dentro de los límites del vecindario como se enumeran a continuación)

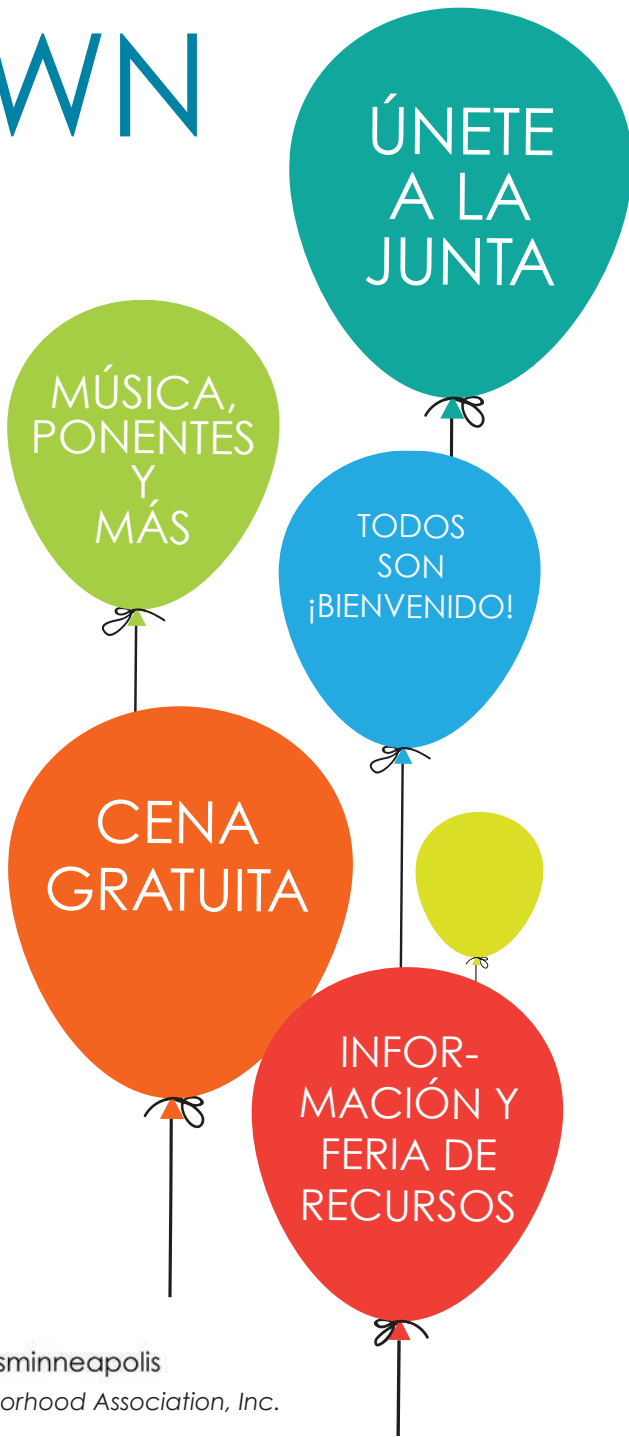
POSICIONES ABIERTAS:

- Presidente de la Junta de Midtown Phillips
- Distrito 1: 24-26 y Chicago a Avenida 12
- Distrito 2: 24-26 y Bloomington a Avenida 12
- Distrito 4: 26-28 y Avenida 12 a Bloomington
- Distrito 5: 28-Lake y Chicago hasta Avenida 12
- Distrito 6: 28th-Lake y Bloomington hasta Avenida 12
- Representante independiente

Para obtener más información acerca de ser miembro de la junta, Llamé a 763-310-4760

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





VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

F E B R U A R Y ' 2 0 N E W S

MINNEAPOLIS COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS- UPDATE FROM CPS, KALI PLIEGO:

The Minneapolis Police Department has a relatively new unit that I want readers to know about. The Community Navigator Unit is just over one year old, and is now actively making significant connections with neighborhood leaders and residents in the City.

Who are the Navigators? Navigators are subject matter experts on cultural and issue-specific dynamics and community resources. Their collective expertise encompasses the following cultures/communities: Native American, African American, LatinX, LGBTQIA+, East African/Somali, and Intimate Partner/Domestic Violence Survivors.

What do Navigators Do? Navigators serve as a resource for community members, patrol officers, investigators and MPD leadership. They work with the community and the Minneapolis Police Department to generate and recommend workable solutions for identified and assigned police/community issues and concern.

Break it Down: In my role as a Crime Prevention Specialist, I engage residents and businesses in my sector to proactively increase safety through offering Personal Safety Workshops, Home and Business Security Evaluations, and recruiting and assisting block leaders. My role and that of Navigators are similar in that our work is community based with a focus of bridge-building between the Police and residents. Where the Navigator role diverges is that they have a heavier focus in liaising Police and community on patrol calls, or after a crime has occurred. Being content experts in specific cultures, they are well equipped to help officers and investigators overcome barriers to engagement.

Current Community Navigators are:

- Supervisor—Glenn Burt, glenn.burt@minneapolismn.gov
- Native American Community – Deanna Beaulieu, deanna.beaulieu@minneapolismn.gov
- African American Community – Bo Powell, broderick.powell@minneapolismn.gov
- LatinX Community – Cecilia Robbins, cecilia.robbins@minneapolismn.gov
- LGBTQIA+ Community – Katie Miller, katie.miller@minneapolismn.gov
- East African/Somali Community – Mohamed A. Mohamed, mohamed.mohamed@minneapolismn.gov
- Intimate Partner/Domestic Violence Survivors – CeCe Rude, cecilia.rude@minneapolismn.gov

Navigators want to be invited to your next event! Contact Navigator Supervisor Glenn Burt, glenn.burt@minneapolismn.gov to coordinate.



At the January 8th, 2020 Ventura Village **Board of Directors meeting** Daniel Dorff, Elizabeth Ihde, Ray Peterson, and Thor Adam were reelected as officers (left). And at the **General Membership meeting**, Third Precinct Crime Prevention Specialist Kali Pliego gave her monthly report to the neighborhood association (right).



IPTF TO BREAK GROUND ON MIKWANEDUN AUDISOOKON CENTER FOR ART AND WELLNESS IN 2020

Indigenous Peoples Task Force is scheduled to break ground on the Mikwanedun Audisookon Art and Wellness Center this year. Mikwanedun Audisookon means “remembering our teachings” in Ojibwe. The Center will enable IPTF to gather all its programs under one roof. This important community asset will allow IPTF to expand health education and employment for youth and adults; new opportunities for workforce training and entrepreneurial development will be created. Mikwanedun Audisookon also offers a chance to strengthen cross-cultural understanding and our relationship with the environment.

Located at 2313 13th Ave. S., the 12,000 square foot building will be constructed using stabilized compressed earth block (SCEB), an indigenous-based green building technique that is more energy-efficient and environmentally sensible than conventional construction. Local young adults are being trained to make and build with the SCEB blocks. Last year, as part of an initial SCEB training, students constructed an SCEB building that will be used for short-term storage and curing vegetables. Ecologically beneficial landscaping will also be incorporated in the new building, such as best watershed management practices, gardens for Native American heirloom crops, and a green roof planted with medicinals and other culturally important plants.

The next SCEB training is being scheduled for sometime this May. For more information about the training or Mikwanedun Audisookon, please contact Mike Neumann at 651-260-9787.



Photos submitted by Mike Neumann

UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE MEETINGS:

- Wednesday, February 12th: Board of Directors Meeting: 6 pm
- Tuesday, February 25th: Community Engagement Committee: 6 pm
- Thursday, February 25th: Housing & Land Committee: 5:30 pm
- Wednesday, February 12th: General Membership Meeting: 7 pm
- Tuesday, February 25th: Wellness, Gardening & Greening Committee: 7 pm
- Thursday, February 25th: Crime & Safety Committee : 6:30 pm

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

Ventura Village is located upstairs in the Phillips Community Center at 2323-11th Avenue South • Minneapolis • 612-874-9070



Movie Corner

BY HOWARD MCQUITTER
oldschoolmovies.wordpress.com
howardmcquitter68@gmail.com

Top Ten Films of 2019

1. 1917
Director Sam Mendes epic World War II film where two British soldiers Lance Corporal Schofield (George McKay) and Lance Corporal Blake (Dean-Charles Chapman) are ordered to go through areas largely abandoned by the Germans to warn 1600 British combatants not to attack for the Germans are planning to ambush them. Largely shot in one take “1917”, the movie should join one of the best war films in film history. (R) Running time: 119 minutes. War/Drama/Thriller.

2. Once Upon a Time... In Hollywood
Back to Hollywood in 1969 with Sharon Tate (Margot Robbie) on the rise as an actress. Rick Dalton (Leonardo DiCaprio) is almost a has-been

TV and silver screen actor and his stuntman Cliff Booth (Brad Pitt) tries to find work in his beloved Hollywood. (R) Director: Quentin Tarantino. Running time: 161 minutes. Drama/Thriller/Period Piece.

3. Joker
A cautionary tale this dysphoric take in Gotham City, a place somewhere over time has seen a wider and wider gap between the have and have-nots with no end in sight. Caught up in all the misery of the city is one mentally-ill Arthur Fleck (Joaquin Phoenix), a clown by day and an aspiring comedian by night. He’s pushed to the margins of society, becomes known as the “Joker,” and goes on a rampage. As such, “Joker” is very disturbing character for sure, but the movie is much deeper than it appears. (R) Director: Todd Phillips. Running time: 122 minutes. Period Piece/Drama.

4. The Irishman
Frank “The Irishman” Sheeran, a former World War II learns to kill while serving in Italy. Looking back at his life sitting in a wheelchair in a nursing home, Frank (Robert Di Niro) tells an unseen person (possibly Charles Brandt, who wrote the book on “Frank Sheeran), tells stories about working for Jimmy Hoffa (Al Pacino), former president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, who disappears mysteriously in July 1975 at age 60. Frank starts out in the 1950s as a truck driver for a meat factory and works for the Italian mob knocking off dozens of men. By the time of President John Kennedy, Frank is rising in the ranks among the mob and becomes a favorite of Mr. Hoffa. (R)

Director: Martin Scorsese. Running time: 209 minutes. Crime/Biography/Drama.

5. Parasite
Now world-renowned South Korean director Bong Joon Ho (“Snowpiercer”, “Mother”, “The Host”) new film “The Parasite,” the title speaks for itself, starting with an unemployed family working for little or nothing has to come up with something to pull themselves out of their rut. So happens the son takes an interest in the daughter of the wealthy Parks family only to have his life and his family’s lives changed (perhaps for the worst) in a business scheme not exactly honest. (R) Director: Bong Joon Ho. Running time: 132 minutes. Korean in English subtitles. Drama/Thriller.

6. Ford v Ferrari
American car designer Carroll Shelby (Matt Damon), because of health issues, passes the baton to Ken Miles, British race car driver, (Christian Bale) hoping to build a revolutionary race car for Henry Ford II (Tracy Letts), (the Ford Motor Co.) to challenge Ferrari at the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1966. Director: James Mangold. Running time: 152 minutes. (PG-13) Drama/Biography.

7. Pain & Glory
A warmhearted quasi-biography of the director Pedro Almodovar’s successes and failures. From the days as a boy with fond memories of his mother to his adult years with a former lover. Director: Pedro Almodovar. Running time: 113 minutes. (R) Spanish in English subtitles. Drama/Biography (semi)/Romance.

8. The Purity of Vengeance
I saw this film at the 38th Minneapolis-St. Paul International Film Festival. Three detectives (Nikolay Lie Kaas, Fares Fares, Johanne Louise Schmidt) seek to solve multiple murders after two workmen busting into a wall in an older Copenhagen apartment find three mummified corpses still in chairs around a tea table with one empty seat. Not Rated. Director: Christopher Boe. In Danish with English subtitles. Running time; 119 minutes.

9. Rocketman
“Rocketman” is not North Korea leader Kim Jong Un but a reference to Elton John (Taron Egerton) one of our most influential musicians across generations. He faced many hurdles from parental problems to drug, alcohol issues and then to come to terms with being gay. (R) Director: Dexter Fletcher. Running time: 121 minutes. Biography/Drama/Music.

10. “Dark Waters”
Today, many of us who are “common people” complain about corporations but few are willing to take on any corporations when they have caused great harm (physically or otherwise). A corporate defense attorney stands up against Dupont, the most powerful chemical company in the 1950s through the 1990s, and beyond. Robert Bilott (Mark Ruffalo) discovers a farmer’s cows in the Appalachians that are mysteriously dying. More than that, people begin to get sick from the polluted river. (PG-13) Director: Todd Haynes. Running time: 126 minutes. Drama/Mystery.

Highly Recommended Films of 2019

- 1. Knives Out**
Drama/Mystery/Comedy
- 2. Uncut Gems**
Crime/Drama
- 3. Queen & Slim**
Drama/Romance/Road Film/African American/Police
- 4. Motherless Brooklyn**
Gumshoe/Drama/Period Piece
- 5. A Hidden Life**
History/Hitler’s Germany German in English subtitles
- 6. Ad Astra**
Science Fiction/Space
- 7. Harriet**
African American History/American History
- 8. Judy**
Biography/Music
- 9. Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice**
Documentary
- 10. It Chapter Two**
Horror also **Two Popes** Catholicism/Popes/Religious
- 11. The Farewell**
Family/Drama/Comedy Chinese in English subtitles
- 12. Midsommer**
Horror Swedish in English subtitles

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MIDTOWNGLOBALMARKET.ORG

Continued from page 1

A Chinese Lunar New Year celebration at the Midtown Global Market

COURTESY OF MIDTOWN GLOBAL MARKET

and performance by the Minnesota Chinese Opera.

The Lunar New Year is the largest and most important holiday in Chinese culture. During this 15-day celebration, families and friends unite to decorate their homes, watch fireworks and spend time together.

In the Chinese Zodiac, 2020 is the Year of the Rat. Those born in the Year of the Rat are said to be *instinctive, alert in nature, sophisticated and filled with spirit, wit, vitality and flexibility.*

Trung Pham and his family, owners of *Pham’s Rice Bowl* at the Midtown Global Market, were sponsors of this annual community event.

As the Ha Family Chinese Dragon danced its way through the aisles of Midtown Global Market some shoppers had their names written in Chinese and heard their fortunes while they and others were enjoying a performance by the Minnesota Chinese Opera on the Midtown stage. Some children also chose dragon-making and many had family photos taken within an elaborate picture frame to help remember the kick-off to this festive fifteen-day holiday.



SPIRIT & PHILLIPS

IMPEACHMENT

Every congressman should feel his constituency aglow with resistance to the treason of the White House! (1866)

The usurping President has been impeached! We heartily congratulate the loyal people of the nation! (1868)

Wendell Phillips (1811-1884) was talking about the impeachment of Andrew “the KKK has some good people” Johnson

Johnson’s response: “Why not hang Wendell Phillips?”



Raise Your Voice
More War Won’t Work

BY PETER MOLENAAR

Not long ago, I woke to the news of assassination... head swimming with visions of missile launches to and fro, skyrocketing oil prices, etc., etc. A quick study of relevant history commenced, before and after a trip to 4200 Cedar Avenue, where a consultation with WAMM (Women Against Military Madness) took place.

Minnesota’s leadership was bound to speak as well. Our own brave light, Ilhan Omar, stated: “Sending teenagers to die, or to return with lifelong wounds is not what it means to carry out our oath of office to protect the American people.”

From across the river, Congresswoman Betty McCollum stated: “President Trump’s decision to assassinate Iranian Major General Qasem Soleimani inside Iraq will have severely negative consequences on U.S. interests around the world... Further, it strengthens the Iranian regime’s domestic hold on power... Americans now know that 17 years of war in Iraq was based on a manufactured lie.”

On the other hand, Trump’s pal Pompeo has stressed: “U.S. resolve to hold Iran accountable for its interventions [in the Middle East].” Oh, really [!!!]

Sadly, Senator Amy Klobuchar’s echoes blamed Soleimani for “destabilizing” Iraq and Syria. Never mind his many contributions to the struggle against ISIS, yes, the ISIL which would not have formed if not for the U.S.A. invasion.

Note:

I was among those who called the Senator’s office to point out the discrepancy, suggesting she had been ahistorical and a tad dishonest. Her staff person was very cordial. Moreover, Amy’s email response was, I think, personal (not robotic).

So, why?

According to Adel Abdul Mahdi, Prime Minister of Iraq, Soleimani had come to mediate the showdown between Riyadh and Tehran in Yemen. Indeed, it was a peace mission intent upon addressing a dire humanitarian crisis. Such was the nature of the “imminent threat” to our “national interests”... a threat to Trump’s arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

So now, the Iraqi government has asked U.S. forces to leave. “We” refused to go. But then, apart from the moral outrage leveled by the world against our nation, perhaps “We, the People” will embrace a simple slogan: More War Won’t Work.

To “Raise Every Voice” The Alley needs your Questions and Opinions.

Write them here and send to copydesk@alleynews.org or P.O. Box 7006 Mpls., MN 55407

Phillips Neighborhood Clinic

Children’s Clinic Night

St Paul Lutheran Church; 2742 15th Ave S, Minneapolis

Thursday, February 13th 6-9 pm

No appointments needed

Ages 0-18 welcome

All services are free of charge

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The views and opinions expressed in *The Alley Newspaper* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Alley Communications, its Board of Directors, Editorial Circle, or other writers.



Cultural Wellness Center

2025 Portland Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-721-5745 | www.culturalwellnesscenter.org



CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER: Dreamland on 38th Street - Cultural Healing through Culinary Heritage

Serial entrepreneur and civil rights advocate Anthony Brutus Cassius knew the dreamers of his day needed a place to gather and plan, create and connect. Cassius first found that space at Foster’s Sweet Shop, where he and other prominent black Minneapolitans met monthly and strategized for civil rights in the 1930s. Among friends and fellow reformers, Cassius learned the importance of social entrepreneurship. Inspired by what he found at Foster’s Sweet Shop, Cassius opened the Dreamland Café on 38th Street and Fourth Avenue in 1937, in the heart of the south side’s black community. In highly segregated Minneapolis, many considered the Dreamland Café to be the only social center for African-Americans, and the restaurant drew celebrities like Lena Horne and Frankie Lymon when they came to town.



4RM+ULA rendering of Dreamland Co-Café and Cultural Wellness Center from E 38th Street looking East.

Dreamland Café Reimagined

Today, 38th street is poised to become one of six cultural districts in Minneapolis, created to drive economic development in the city’s most diverse neighborhoods. Dreamland on 38th will be an anchor project in the 38th Street Cultural Corridor. Dreamland on 38th is a joint venture between the nonprofit Cultural Wellness Center, one of the original founders and co-owners of the Midtown Global Market, and African-American entrepreneur Dr. Freeman Waynewood. Building on the experience and expertise of the Cultural Wellness Center, Dreamland on 38th will provide cultural healing through culinary heritage.

The vision is to create a flexible, supportive work space for African-American entrepreneurs to start and expand small businesses focused on the intersection of food and heritage—and to offer a dynamic space to host community gatherings and events. Dreamland on 38th will leverage the Cultural Wellness Center’s many cultural, community and business networks to create social and economic opportunities that enrich African-American entrepreneurs, entities and services.

With its unique mission, Dreamland on 38th honors the legacy of A.B. Cassius, his social entrepreneurship, his commitment to building a strong black community in Minneapolis—and his focus on food as a way to bring people together.

Core Aspects of the Project

Dreamland at 38th features the construction of a three-story, 7,500-square-foot building on a vacant parcel at 38th Street and 3rd Avenue South. Since 2018, the Cultural Wellness Center and Dr. Waynewood have been collaborating with 4RM+ULA, an African-American-owned architecture firm, to design a building to house the:

- **Dreamland Co-Café**, an innovative food business incubator program and commercial kitchen anchored by Dreamland Culinary Heritage, an established African-American-owned catering business incubated by the Cultural Wellness Center;
- **Cultural Wellness Center’s administrative offices**, from which they will offer entrepreneur development services, co-working space and knowledge production in education, housing and health; and
- **Community meeting and event space**, including a rooftop with downtown views.

Dreamland Co-Café will promote culinary heritage by expressing cultural healing and connection through food. Dreamland will be a space centered upon listening, eating and being together—and one dedicated to enhancing the nonprofit’s mission of cultural healing through community cultural education. The building will be jointly owned by the Cultural Wellness Center (51%) and ATJW, LLC (49%), which represents Dr. Waynewood.

Dreamland on 38th is a coordinated and collaborative effort, working in concert with other anchor organizations in the 38th Cultural Corridor, including Kente Circle, Sabathani Community Center and the *Spokesman-Recorder*—all African-American-focused organizations dedicated to promoting the health, well-being, education and economic security of people within the cultural district.

Program Outcomes

The Cultural Wellness Center believes that inside every human resides a spark—and that they help ignite that spark. Dreamland on 38th will fuel their work and mission, leading to positive outcomes for Minneapolis in general, and the African-American community specifically.

- **Entrepreneurship:** 5+ businesses started each year
- **Job creation:** Businesses started or supported by the Cultural Wellness Center will create and retain 60+ jobs per year
- **Community building:** More than 5,000 community residents will participate in community events each year
- **Growth:** 20+ businesses will grow in a stable and sustainable manner

In addition to these program outcomes, preventing gentrification of the 38th street area is a goal of Dreamland on 38th. Cultural culinary entrepreneurship is an anti-gentrification strategy, which supports the underlying mission of the cultural districts.

Financial Analysis

The Cultural Wellness Center is committed to financial discipline and the long-term financial viability of both the proposed real estate development project and its organization. The nonprofit is structuring the real estate project financing to ensure that it does not put undue financial pressure on either the entrepreneurs using the space or the Cultural Wellness Center. Toward this end, the Cultural Wellness Center has carefully thought through the project costs, project financing plan, project operating plan and its organizational operating plan (as it relates to this project).

Culture: A Powerful Resource for Health and Healing

The Cultural Wellness Center creates a space and owns a process for people to study their own culture—and in doing so, uncover the power to heal themselves and build community. The organization primarily serves people of African heritage, as many of its philosophies and practices are rooted in African culture, though its process of cultural exploration is relevant to all cultures. When people value their own

culture and increase their own understanding of who they are, it allows them to move through the world connected to something larger than themselves—and connected to others in an affirming and positive way. Healing happens when people recognize and accept the wisdom within themselves and their elders and tap into their cultural practices, disciplines and philosophies. The health of one’s cultural identity is directly related to personal health, the health of one’s community and cultural group.

For over 23 years, the Cultural Wellness Center has helped countless people improve their cultural wellness, leading them to better understand themselves and connect to their community, thereby reducing isolation and loneliness and increasing health and well-being. Their work gives people, particularly those of African descent, a voice. Being a person of color in Minneapolis can be isolating given the relative lack of diversity in many spaces. By building cultural wellness, the organization better equips people to be their authentic selves as they navigate dominant culture.

Why Now, Why This Project

At its core, Dreamland on 38th is about cultural heritage and cooperative economics. The project features African-American ownership and African-American leadership focused on developing African-American entrepreneurs in a space that will reflect African philosophy, art and culture, an event and social space where people of African descent will feel truly welcome and at home. The Cultural Wellness Center believes such a space is desperately needed and will add value to the Twin Cities as a whole, creating a place for African-Americans to connect and support each other and share their culture with the broader community.

Across the Twin Cities, companies are recruiting African-Americans to relocate here, only to have them leave because they feel isolated and disconnected. Dreamland on 38th will create that sense of connectedness and community for all African-Americans, on its own and as part of the 38th Cultural Corridor. The Cultural Wellness Center envisions that the Dreamland Co-Café will be the premier place for Africans, African Americans and the Diaspora—and the entire community—to experience and appreciate African

culture, including food, music, art and ceremonies. Dreamland on 38th is both much-needed economic development and cultural preservation. The collaborative project honors the area’s history as an African-American business district, while embracing its future as a vibrant cultural corridor.

Prepared for and paid by Cultural Wellness Center

Left: 4RM+ULA rendering of Dreamland Co-Café and Cultural Wellness Center from E 38th Street looking West. Below: Rooftop

