

ADAPTING

Physical Distance While Still Connecting

Adapting to (COVID-19)

By HARRY LEED, Phillips Neighborhood Clinic

A policy of “social distancing” has been implemented by schools, universities, businesses, and the state. Social Distancing, however, is a poor term; we need Physical Distancing.

Viruses and bacteria can travel in droplets, particles that can move through the air up to 6 feet or (sometimes) even farther. Scientists talk about a “chain” of infection. Any break in the “chain” can keep disease from spreading. That is why people are asked to avoid touching their faces and to stay away from others when feeling sick. In other words, maintain good hygiene and keep at arm’s length from other people when reasonably possible.

We do not want this to end our social lives, however. We talk about too little about the role of mental health in relation to physical health. Stress hurts your immune system, which is the heavy hitter when it comes to defense against disease. It may seem hard not to be stressed by a situation in which you find yourself, but you can try to think of relaxation as something you can do actively to boost your health. Think of relaxation and positive thoughts as a kind of medicine that can reinforce your physical wellbeing. Meditate, call a friend for a good laugh, or smile. It might seem kind of silly, but striving towards a good attitude will strengthen every aspect of your life, even if you feel crummy.

Diseases do not discriminate, and neither should we. Be available for emotional support to your friends, family, and greater

Physical Distance Continued on page 4



Students at Takoda Institute

Takoda—All Are Welcome

Adapting to Needs

By ERIN WOLF, Takoda Institute

Takoda, previously known as the American Indian OIC, was founded in 1979 in response to the damaging education and employment disparities faced by Indigenous people within the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Since its foundation, the organization has grown a workforce of over 25,000 through its culturally-relevant education, training, and workforce programs. Each year, over 900 people, affiliated with tribal

Takoda Continued on page 5



ELIZABETH CAMPBELL

Neighbors demonstrate their work and support of the EPNI Initiative recently at the corner of 28th Street and Longfellow Ave.

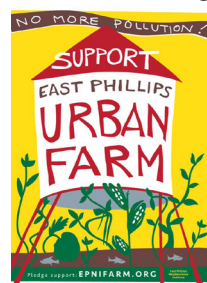
City Denies Neighborhood Initiative, Disregards Laws and Guidelines, and Threatens Housing

By FORMER STATE REPRESENTATIVE KAREN CLARK and STATE SENATOR PATRICIA TORRES RAY

East Phillips Neighborhood, the lowest-income neighborhood in Minneapolis, where the majority of residents are indigenous and people of color, ironically designated by the city of Minneapolis as a “Green Opportunity Zone” — was declared a federal “residential arsenic superfund site” in 2000. Industrial arsenic pesticide contamination was found in more than 500 homes in the area. To compound the situation, the city threatened

to use “eminent domain” to take control of a large, prime development site, known as the “Roof Depot,” with the intention of turning it into a storage yard — a place to relocate the entire Department of Public Works Water Yards.

The site will be used to store sewer/water pipes, manhole covers, water hydrants



City Denies Neighborhood Initiative Continued on page 6



Computer rendering of the Lake Street & 35W Transit Station

Good Things Come to Those Who Wait

Adapting traffic – Construction Update: New Lake Street & 35W Transit Station

BY MNDOT ADAPTED BY GUSTAVO MANCILLA

As part of the 35W@94 project, MnDOT and Metro Transit are building a new transit station at I-35W & Lake Street Transit Station. The transit station is scheduled to open in late 2021 with the launch of the METRO Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit service along I-35W.

A new stage for this construction project at Lake Street will begin this spring (early April) – if weather permitting - and is anticipated to take two years and be completed by Fall 2021.

Pedestrians and drivers must know that Lake St. will, in general, remain open with one lane available in each direction and

access to all businesses will be maintained during the construction.

The new transit station will include great new amenities, such as bike parking, benches, real-time bus arrival information, heating, trash and recycling bins, a station marker, and an information kiosk.

The station will provide a significant upgrades in comfort and safety in comparison to existing bus stops. From the station, it will take riders 7 minutes to get downtown. There will be approximately 700 buses stopping at the station each day, and 100 buses traveling downtown will stop here during rush hour.

Good Things Continued on page 6

Clyde Bellecourt, “Keith Ellison, crisis in Phillips! Join us in mutual pursuit of justice!”

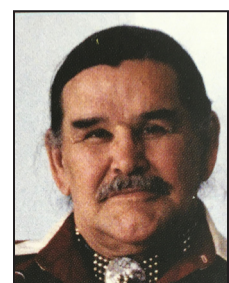
March 9, 2020

Dear Attorney General Keith Ellison,

Thank you for your attention to this crisis in our Community. East Phillips, as you know, is the most diverse neighborhood in all of Minneapolis. It is also the poorest on the South Side and the most overburdened with pollution from arsenic, lead, and airborne pollution from freeways, cars, and trucks as well as industrial pollution from a foundry and an asphalt plant. All of this is well documented, and results in more emergency room visits from asthma, more cases of children with lead poisoning, and more incidences of other ailments such as heart disease that are also linked to pollutants in the air.

When the 230,000 square foot Sears Warehouse occupied by Roof Depot Co. came up for sale, the Neighborhood; led by Little Earth of United Tribes, Tamales y Bicycletas, Somali Chemical Awareness, Women’s Environmental Institute, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, and others drew up a plan that would create an Indoor Urban Farm with “green” jobs and job training, a community commercial kitchen, an all nations World Café and Market, a bike repair and assembly facility right on the Midtown

Clyde Bellecourt Continued on page 6



Nee Gonn Way Wee Dun ---“Thunder Before the Storm” A.K.A Clyde Bellecourt, Co-Founder of American Indian Movement

Peace More Than Ever!

Adapting with Truth and Love

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

This is the most important election of your lifetime. I’m sure you’ve heard that before, and will hear it again. Nonetheless, 2020 presents a stark choice to us: not only electing a President and Congress, but faced with an even more important decision. Will we continue to be led by fear and division that plague us, or will we find the courage to speak truth in power and in love.

“Searching,” by Patrick Cabello Hansel, returns to The Alley Newspaper with a sequel to his 34 Chapter saga published from March 2009 to February 2012. Read a sequel and

The ELC is open to new members

The Alley Editorial Leadership Committee does a wide range of supportive tasks so the Board of Directors and Program & Engagement Coordinator can focus on core duties. Involvement/tasks are adaptable to time available and individual interests. Interested and/or questions? copydesk@alleynews.org; 612-990-4022



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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workers who have help make the
current Newspaper and Social Media:**
Atum Azzahir, Roberta Barnes, Clyde Bellecourt,
Clarence Bischoff, Patrick Cabello Hansel,
Elizabeth Campbell, Karen Clark, Cultural
Wellness Center Backyard Health Hub, Steve
Dreyer, East Phillips Neighborhood Coalition,
East Phillips Neighborhood Institute, Lindsey
Fenner, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Jeff Hayden,
MLatino Media, Tim McCall, Mike Hazard, Henn.
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Delivering Newspapers to every Phillips house
by Jeff Matson Delivery; and to 170 businesses,
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cent neighborhoods by Peter Molenaar

Having Board meetings monthly:
6:30PM 3rd Thursday in Ventura Village Meeting
Room in Phillips Aquatic Center at 2323 11th Av.

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or other neighbors and writers.*

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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
April 15, 2020**



What’s Up at Your Community Libraries



By LINDSEY FENNER

All Hennepin County Libraries closed on March 17 and are tentatively scheduled to reopen to the public on April 6.
Please check the library website at www.hclib.org for updates, as the reopening date may change. Availability of listed services below may change.

Starting March 20, ALL library staff are working from home. Hennepin County library workers fought hard to close library buildings down and keep library workers at home. This was a heartbreaking action to take; we all know how important public libraries are to the community. But frontline workers knew that it was impossible to keep libraries open or have workers in the build-ings, and still keep workers and vulner-able community members safe. It was also heartbreaking because Franklin Library was scheduled to reopen on March 17 after a long renovation. Thank you to all of the community members who have advocated on behalf of library workers and patrons! We are still here (just working from home)

Have a reference or library account question?
Chat with, text or email a library worker
<https://www.hclib.org/contact>
Text ‘hclib’ to 612-400-7722

As of 3/20/2020, you are unable to reach library staff at 612-543-KNOW (5669) or library building phone numbers. We are working to have staff available to answer phones, if possible.

Physical Materials:
All Due Dates Have Been Extended
All Holds Have Been Extended

Book Returns:
All library book returns were closed on March 19. There are no workers in the buildings to process them. Check the library website when they will reopen.

The Library could not ensure that workers could check in and process materials safely or without using up limited sanitation and Personal Protective Equipment resources that other County Departments urgently need. Thank you for holding on to your library books for us!

Library Card Information:
If you need to register for a library card or access your PIN number, contact the Library through AskUs: <https://www.hclib.org/contact>
At this time, you will need a library card and PIN to access Online Resources.

Online Resources:
Hennepin County Library has a smorgas-board of online resources including: News-papers, Practice Tests, Interactives for Kids, Journals, Encyclopedias, Directories, Local History Digital Archives, Free Download-able Music, Streamable Movies, Govern-ment Documents, Biographies, Computer Tutorials, and last but not least, E-Books. Visit the website to browse all online resources: <https://www.hclib.org/browse/online-resources>

E-Books and Audiobooks:
Libby: The Libby app is available for iOS and Android devices and is a streamlined way to access downloadable ebooks and audiobooks from OverDrive. You can check out and audiobooks right in the app. You can also read eBooks in the app or send them to your Kindle.

Cloud Library:
Find downloadable eBooks for readers of all ages. A reader app is also available for Apple, Android and other devices.

Library Events:
All Library events have been canceled through April 30

Meeting Rooms:
All Library Meeting Room reservations have been canceled through April 30

Community Resources:
Internet Access: Free Wireless Access in Minneapolis

USI:
USI opened their WiFi network in Minne-apolis for those that may need temporary internet access

- Look for the “City of Minneapolis Public WiFi” or “USI Wireless” networks on your mobile device and you will be connected. The process is similar to using Wi-Fi at a coffee shop or the airport.
- No password or credit card is required to sign in.
- You need to be within 50 feet of the hotspots. Signal strength varies indoors.

Contact:
Call: (24/7) 1-800-US-INTERNET
Email: info@usinternet.com
Text: 952-253-3277
Comcast opened their Xfinity WiFi network and is offering unlimited data for free.

- For a map of Xfinity WiFi hotspots, visit www.xfinity.com/wifi. Once at a hotspot, select the “xfinitywifi” network name open your Internet browser.

Hennepin County Human, Health, and Emergency Assistance:
As of March 17, all Human Service Hubs are Closed to face-to-face contact.
Call: 612-596-1300 for Assistance with SNAP, Emergency CASH Assistance (GA, MSA, DWP, MFIP), Health Care

To Order an EBT Card:
1-888-997-2227
To submit documentation:
Dropboxes are available outside of all Human Service Hubs
Documents can be mailed to:
HCHSD PO BOX 107
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440-0107

Census 2020:
Visit www.2020census.gov or call 884-330-2020 if you need assistance in filling out the 2020 Census

Meals for Children:
Minneapolis Public Schools are providing two cold meals per child Mondays through Fridays from 10 am to 2 pm while schools are closed due to the COVID-19 virus. MPS is working to add meal service during weekends.

Meals are available to any child 18 years and younger; the child does not have to be an MPS student. Due to federal regulations, children must be present to receive a meal. Meals are available in or near Phillips at:
Andersen United Community School
1098 Andersen Ln, Minneapolis, MN 55407

South High School
3131 S 19th Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55407

Green Central Park Elementary School
3416 4th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55408

Food Shelves open as of 3/17/20
Waite House
2323 11th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN, 55404
612-721-1681
Mondays: 1-5 pm
Tuesdays: 10 am-12 pm & 2-5 pm
Thursdays: 10 am-12 pm & 2-5 pm

Community Emergency Service
1900 11th Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-870-1125
Monday through Thursdays
Doors open at 10:30am to receive a number for each day
Registration begins at 12:30pm
Food shelf operates from 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Division of Indian Work
1001 East Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN 55407
Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays from 12pm-3pm

Food will be distributed through the garage near the main entrance.
As always elders 60+ are our priority and will be served first and foremost
BRING YOUR OWN BAGS!! This is important as we may not have any avail-able.

Day Shelter
Catholic Charities’ Opportunity Center
612-204-8300
740 E 17th St
Minneapolis, MN 55404.
Mary F Frey Opportunity Center will oper-ate from 7am - 1pm Monday - Saturday.
The Opportunity Center is staying open for meals, mail, lockers and showers.

United Way 2-1-1
United Way 2-1-1 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. We’re here 24 hours a day,
7 days a week to connect you with the resources and information you need. Whether you are in crisis, or need a little support, we’re here to help.
Call: 651-291-0211
Online: <https://www.211unitedway.org/>

Subject to MN State Mandates after March 22nd

**Tales from
Pioneers and Soldiers
Memorial Cemetery**

By SUE HUNTER WEIR
175TH IN A SERIES

An Oasis by Streets and Industry

Values beyond money

At a time when the value of most things is measured in dollars and cents, there are some who question whether cemeteries are sustainable. They question whether there is a business model for land that is purchased once but occupied forever. Cemeteries, especially inactive ones, are not moneymakers but they serve a number of valuable purposes. Not least of those is their value as urban green spaces.

22 Acres between pollution sources and Lake Street

Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery is the only green space of any significant size on Lake Street. It’s not large—only 22 square acres. In comparison, St. Mary’s Cemetery is 65 square acres, Hillside is 124, Lakewood is 250, and Fort Snelling National Cemetery is 436 square acres. Pioneers and Soldiers takes up only a very small percentage of the city’s land—only 7/10,000. The exact number of trees is not known, but if there are only 300, and there may well be double that, those trees remove eight tons of carbon dioxide from one of the city’s busiest intersections every year.

Cemetery is “Cool”

Trees also have a significant effect on local temperatures. In 2019, the National Academy of Sciences published a study that said that the right amount of tree cover (about 40%) can reduce air temperature by as much as

10 degrees. The cooling effect is very localized—it can be 10 degrees hotter across the street or only one block away.

Gifted trees keep giving

Over the years there have been several tree planting events in the cemetery. In September 1939, five local veteran organizations

presented the City of Minneapolis with twelve evergreen trees as a memorial to the veterans buried in the cemetery. In 2003, the cemetery was Hennepin County’s Regional Arbor Day planting site. Volunteers planted 150 trees, one for each year that the cemetery had been in existence. There were large shade trees, such as Autumn

Blaze and Green Mountain Sugar Maples. There were medium-sized trees like Ohio Buckeyes, Amur Chokecherries and Showy Mountain Ash. Twenty-seven specimen and evergreen trees were planted throughout the cemetery to provide species diversity and to create habitat for wildlife.

Enjoy heat relief in summer

When things heat up this summer and your air conditioning is making you feel claustrophobic, grab a lawn chair or a blanket and head out to your local cemetery. Bring a book, a sketchpad, a picnic lunch, or nothing at all. Hang out and enjoy the wildlife on Lake Street.



TIM MCCALL



TIM MCCALL

Trees can reduce air temperature by as much as 10 degrees within a block radius. If Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery had only 300 trees, eight tons of carbon monoxide from one of the city’s busiest intersections every year. Over the Cemetery’s 162 years there have been many tree planting events. The next one is April 18th—Earth Day 2020.

Earth Day Cemetery Clean-Up

Please join us starting at 9 a.m. on April 18, 2020, for a cemetery clean-up in honor of Earth Day. If you can, bring a rake and work gloves. We have plenty of bags. Light refreshments will be provided. If you can’t make it at 9, come later. We’ll continue working until it’s done.



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We’re Closed—But Just a Little! Curbside Pick-up and Online

Ingebrechtsen’s retail locations are now closed to the the public temporarily. Our Mail Order department will remain open during this time, and our specialty foods and meat market can fill orders for local curbside pickup.

We’ll answer phone inquiries between 10-3 pm CST, Mon thru Fri. Local customers can call 612-729-9333 for any inquiries and to arrange Curbside pick up. Please leave a message if we can’t answer!

Contact us toll free at 1-800-279-9333 and you can always email info@ingebretsens.com

Please visit our Facebook page for updates. We appreciate your patience as we Prioritize the health and well-being of our staff and customers. Please take care of yourselves and each other. Hope to hear from you soon.
Love—all of us at Ingebrechtsen’s

Subject to MN State Mandates after March 22nd

**THE ALLEY NEWSPAPER
IS A MEMBER OF**

COMMUNITY
SHARES
MINNESOTA

**CHARITY IS GOOD,
CHANGE IS BETTER**

Alley Oops!

The March issue of The Alley, incorrectly stated “Council Member Abdi Warsame resigns from City Council to lead Mpls.

Housing Authority.” Council Member Warsame sets the matter correctly with the following statement:

Council Member Warsame’s approval will be before the City Council on Friday, March 27th. Due to Covid-19 concerns, the format of that meeting may be conducted remotely. If he is approved by the City Council, he will have the option to resign his Council seat and accept the Executive Director position with MPHA. A special election cannot take place within 90-days of his resignation. The Elections Committee and the City Clerk will work to determine the best date for a special election in Ward 6.



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22 Orlin Ave SE, Minneapolis
**Parking across street at Prat School*

RSVP by March 26
jbenedi1@fairview.org or 612-623-7000

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www.minneapolisparks.org/jobs

Peace House Community–A Place to Belong We’ll Get Through It Together

By MARTI MALTBY

I recently attended an all-day seminar put on by a couple of colleagues from North Dakota. Their organization, Ministry on the Margins, has a similar mission to Peace House Community, although their activities are more diverse than ours. Among other things, they provide toys to children. Sister Kathleen Atkinson, who runs the agency, shared many stories, but one struck me because of a personal experience I have had.

Sister Kathleen, like many ministry directors, wants to provide her clients with good quality items. She said that one day she was horrified to see that a seven year old boy had received a stuffed dinosaur that was missing an eye. To her, the toy was defective and shouldn’t have been offered to the child. She didn’t want him to feel like he was unworthy of a good toy just because his family was poor. However, when she approached him, he showed that he had already developed an attachment to the toy.

“You see his eye,” the boy asked Sister Kathleen. “Yes,” she replied, but before she could say more he continued. “I chose him because he’s been through a lot. So have I. We’ll get through it together.”

The story resonated with me because of my daughter’s stuffed unicorn Brockie. She loved Brockie, but a few years ago our dog, which had never touched any of our kids’ toys, started chewing on Brockie’s head. By the time we rescued Brockie, the dog had opened up two large tears on Brockie’s face, and Amber was understandably distraught. I have some basic sewing skills and told Amber I could heal Brockie. By my own standards, the repairs were really good. The stitches were almost invisible and her head was almost back to its original shape. But, of course, Amber could see the difference. “She doesn’t look the same,” she said, and she wouldn’t play with Brockie as she had before. I was pained that I hadn’t been



able to restore Amber’s joy in her unicorn, but that changed some months later when Amber fell sick. Suddenly, she insisted on keeping Brockie with her in bed. “She knows what it is like to feel bad,” she said. Since then, anytime anyone in our family is sick, Amber makes sure Brockie stays in bed with them to help them get better.

I’m finally old enough to understand that my life has been different from the lives of most of the people with whom I interact. I’ve had more material security and haven’t experienced the discrimination and challenges that others have. While I’m thankful for the advantages I’ve had, I sometimes think I’m a poorer person for it. I’ve seen people who have much less than me be far more generous, because they understand the need for people to help each other in times of need. I’ve watched people go through traumatic experiences without any idea what to say or do to help them, despite having a Master’s Degree in Christian Ministry. By contrast, individuals with severe mental health problems and no resources have jumped into action, making sure their friends know they aren’t alone in their times of darkness. These days I still feel clumsy and inadequate when I try to help people, but I have at least learned that being present and going through things together is the place to start.

Physical Distance Continued from page 1

community. If you do not feel safe visiting someone at home, you may make a phone call to them, write a postal note to them, or write an e-mail to them. Support each other emotionally. It might be the best medicine we have.

Harry Leeds is a nursing student at the University of Minnesota and nursing clinician at the Phillips Neighborhood Clinic (PNC) 2742 15th Ave. So. As the PNC is primarily coordinated by students, the clinic will remain closed until at least April 1st.

Please see <http://phillipsneighborhoodclinic.com/> for up-to-date information. Other community clinics including Community-University Health Care Center (CUHCC) 2001 Bloomington Av., People’s Center 425 20th Av. So., and Southside Medical and Behavioral Health 324 E. 35th St., M Health Fairview—Smiley’s Point 2020 E. 28th St. are alternative options for PNC patients during this time and offer services on free or sliding scale.

Lawns For Legumes

Earlier this year, Minnesota approved the Lawns to Legumes program which provides funding to help residents convert their lawns to natural habitat for pollinators. Learn how you can be involved!

• Demonstration Neighborhood Project for Phillips and Corcoran neighborhoods’ grant provides funding for residents to install pollinator-friendly, native plantings in yards for little to no cost.

Contact Lilah to be involved in this project:
lilah@metroblooms.org or
(612) 293-4027.

• Lawns to Legumes: Resilient Yards Workshop (3 hours)
Learn about the four planting types Lawns to Legumes supports: pocket plantings,



Date & Time:
Thursday, May 14th, @ 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Location:
Phillips Community Center
(2nd floor dining room)
2323 11th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55404

After the presentation all attendees will receive one-on-one consultations with professional landscape designers to incorporate natural habitat at their residence.

Workshop is free to residents of Corcoran + Phillips neighborhoods - just check the box! Visit bluethumb.org/events to register.

Sing After Every Storm

By MIKE HAZARD

Ellie and Jamaih posed in the sun outside the back door at Peace House. Ellie wrote a poetical reflection on life the day she got sober. It hangs on the poetry wall inside. A few lines go:
“Be like the winds: Sing after every storm.
Change is scary, especially to those who watch us change while their lives stay the same.
Don’t hang out with negative people, especially yourself.
You don’t need a loud voice to be heard. All you need is something worthwhile to say. Sometimes you must end an old relationship to begin a new one with yourself.”

Sing after every storm, Ellie.
This picture story is by Mike Hazard. It is part of a project called Peace House People. A version of the work will be on display at Franklin Library from April 13 through May 9, 2020. The project is funded by an Artist Initiative grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.



Takoda Continued from page 1

nations in the U.S. and Canada, utilize the OIC’s services. Though the OIC was originally founded to strictly serve Native Americans, it has since opened its services and programs to people of every race, creed, gender, age, ability, or sexual orientation. Hence the name “Takoda”, which is a Lakota word meaning “all are welcome”.
Takoda offers a wide array of services to those who qualify, such as: assistance with applying for public grocery assistance (SNAP), case management services for clients who participate in the Minnesota Family Investment Program, and re-entry services for youth and adults who are looking for a second chance. Takoda offers a wide variety of short and long-term career-based trainings that will help gain students employment after

graduation. Among its long-term programs, Takoda offers a Computer Support Specialist program and Patient Services Specialist Program. Both of these long-term programs are designed to earn students a career in a high-demand field.
Some of the short-term programs include Customer Service & Sales Training, Warehouse and Equipment Operator programs, and a wide range of IT and Computer Literacy classes. Each programs offers transferrable college credits upon completion.
Takoda is located in the Seward Neighborhood, on the corner of Franklin and Cedar Avenues at 1845 East Franklin Ave. While short-term classes are taking place on a monthly basis, the spring quarter for Long Term classes start April 13th.



Palm Sunday Peace Processional 2019

Palm Sunday Peace Processional April 5th

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL, St. Paul’s Church 15th & 28th

St. Paul’s will host its annual Palm Sunday Procession for Peace on Sunday, April 5. We will march to places of pain and joy in Phillips, stopping to pray, to remember and to reclaim spaces

that have been taken by forces who consider human life cheap. The procession starts at 12 noon at St. Paul’s, 2742 15th Ave S. For more info, call 612-724-3862 or e-mail stpaulscreate@gmail.com.



Midtown Global Market Closed but Offering Groceries and Prepared Food Curbside Pick-Up or Delivery

MGM top priority: continue to protect guests, entrepreneurial business owners, and their employees. We are following all guidelines to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Restaurant and Brewery Hours – hours may vary
Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Grocery Hours
Monday through Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Call or online for Curbside Pick-Up or Delivery:
Manny’s Tortas — Curbside pick-up and delivery — 612-278-2411
Intown Sushi — Curbside pick-up and delivery — 612-354-2706

Call or online Curbside Pick-Up:
Sabbai Cuisine — Curbside pick-up — 612-393-6326
La Loma Tamales — Curbside pick-up — 612-870-3645
Jakeeno’s Tattoria — Curbside pick-up — 612-767-1102
Rituals (Aromatherapy products) — Curbside pick-up — 612-729-5522
Produce Exchange Grocery — Delivery — 612-879-0050
Eastlake Craft Brewery — Delivery — <http://eastlakemgm.com/delivery>

Grocery stores open to the public:
Grass Roots Gourmet: midtownglobalmarket.org/grass-roots-gourmet
The Produce Exchange: mercato.com/shop/the-produce-exchange

We continue to focus on frequent and recommended cleaning practices, such as surface wiping of all hard surfaces, including door handles, coolers, countertops and tables. We will continue to provide updates as new information becomes available.

Subject to MN State Mandates after March 22nd

WELNA HARDWARE ACE

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

Thank you

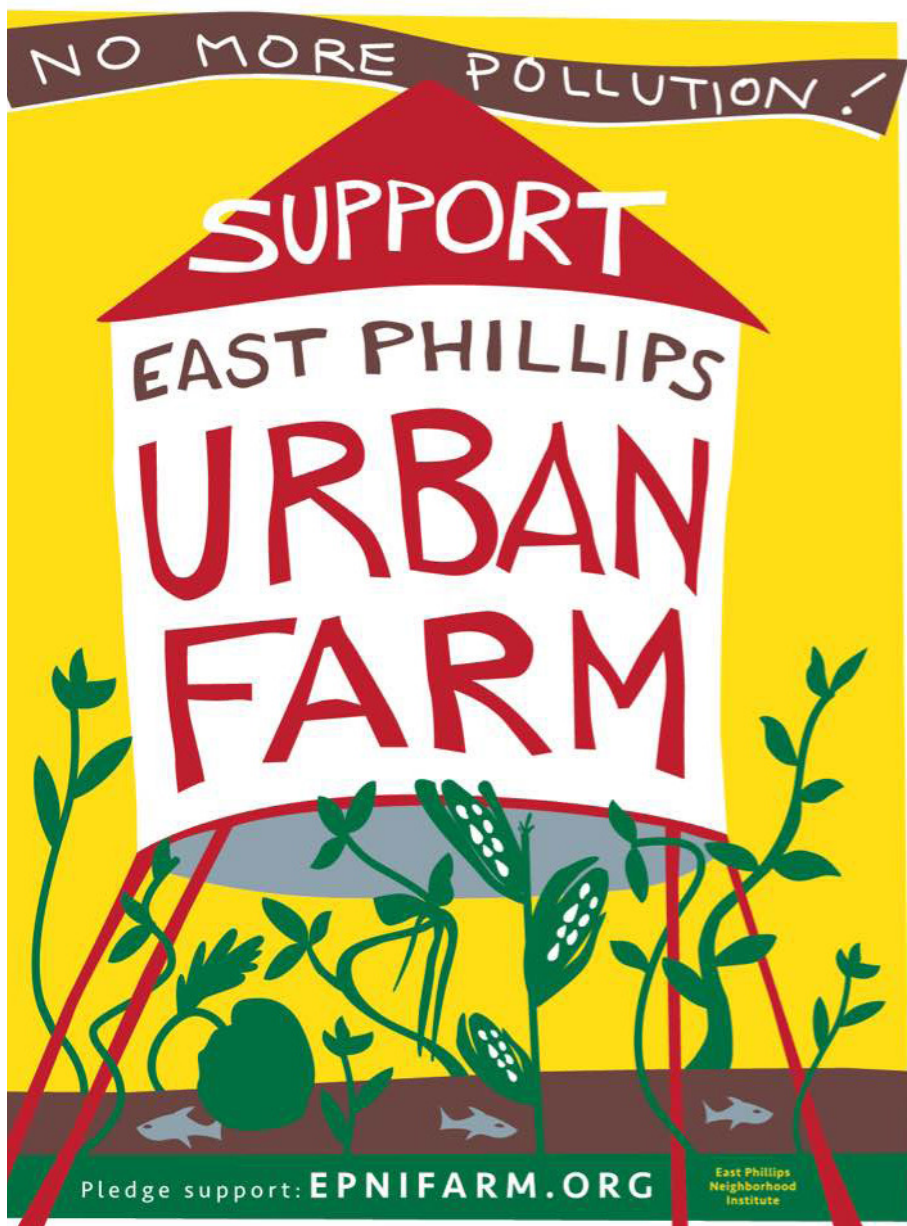
44

Years of advertising!

Welna in Phillips 2438 Bloomington Ave. 612-332-4393
Welna in Robbinsdale 4140 West Broadway 763-533-2758
Welna II in Seward 2201 East Franklin Ave. 612-729-3526

2020 CENSUS * You COUNT * Be COUNTED * You are COUNTED Upon * CENSUS 2020

City Denies Neighborhood Initiative *Continued from page*



and trucks with heavy traffic-produced toxic air pollution. This site promises to be the largest urban yard site in the state, and it will be in the poorest area of our city.

This would never happen in high-income neighborhoods in Minneapolis,

but it is happening in East Phillips, and no one seems to care.

"Health Impact Assessment"
DENIED by Mpls. City Council and
Water Department

A three year "health impact assess-

ment," publicly funded and completed in 2017, documented severe health disparities due to excessive traffic, lead contamination and industrial pollution in this highly diverse neighborhood. People of color and indigenous people make up almost four-fifths of the population in the Phillips community, which is significantly higher than the city's overall demographic distribution. The household income disparity is alarming: 63% of households in this community earn less than \$35,000. The median household income in Minneapolis is \$63,590.

Minnesota Legislation DENIED
by Mpls. City Council and Water
Department

The Minnesota Legislature enacted protective community legislation twice because of the severity of the socioeconomic, health and environmental conditions affecting this community. In 2008, one of the writers of this article, former state Rep. Karen Clark, authored an environmental justice law specific to Phillips, and in 2017 State Sen. Jeff Hayden authored State legislation to fund a community residents' plan to organize and present their perspectives to the city for future use of the land.

A Phillips Community created and operated "indoor urban farm" with aquaponics, green jobs and job training, cultural markets, a bicycle shop, a youth-led cafe and more is being DENIED by Mpls. City Council and Water Department

Members of the community have done their part. They have been working diligently to design a plan to create a community-run "indoor urban farm" with aquaponics, green jobs and job training, cultural markets, a bicycle shop, a youth-led cafe and more — on a corner within the huge and empty former Sears

warehouse building called the "Roof Depot." But the city is not interested in the community's proposal.

The City Council has repeatedly voted to overturn the neighborhood's proposal and instead turn this prime community development site into the largest urban utility storage facility in the state, with 480 spaces for an employee parking ramp, plus space for 494 commercial vehicles that together will make nearly 2,000 additional trips within this residential neighborhood. Additionally, this site is right across the street from Little Earth of United Tribes Housing, where approximately 1,000 residents, mostly children, reside.

Residents of East Phillips are working hard to organize, educate and fight against the determinants that contribute to the racial, health, economic, social and environmental disparities that are damaging and even killing their children. They have experienced firsthand the deaths of children who suffer from asthma and lead poisoning, but they need residents of other areas of the city to pressure their City Council members and the mayor to reject this harmful proposal to build a storage yard in this space and instead adopt the community proposal — which is actually good for the community and all of Minneapolis.

Environmental Justice, Equity, City's Engagement Policies DENIED by Mpls. City Council and Water Department

The city of Minneapolis needs to "walk the talk" when it comes to "environmental justice and equity." The city's broad map toward reducing greenhouse-gas emissions may show a small reduction over time, but the increased concentrations of toxic pollutants in poor areas of the city is blatantly racist and unconscionable.

We cannot accept this quietly.

Clyde Bellecourt *Continued from page 1*

Greenway in our own East Phillips Neighborhood. In addition, the plan would create 28 much needed affordable 2-bedroom apartments. All of this is fully supported in the language of the Minneapolis City Council's Green Zone Resolution which reads in part, "Be it further resolved that Green Zone efforts will include community led planning, prioritization of homegrown development, and community ownership of the Green Zone


initiatives that are innovative, creative, courageous, flexible and adaptive."

Little Earth of United Tribes, with its 1500 residents representing 34 Tribes and a waiting list of over 500, represents about 1/3 of the East Phillips Neighborhood residents. They suffer heavily from health disparities of asthma and other health issues that are correlated with the overburden of poverty and pollution, and along with Somali and Latinx residents, have been strong and hardworking supporters of the Community plan. The City's Public Works Expansion ignores these disparities as enumerated in the 2017 Phillips Neighborhood Health Impact Assessment, and also ignores the language and legislative intent of the 2008 Clark/Berglin Environmental Justice Law. The authors have said as much and are ready to testify to their goals in passing this law.

The City of Minneapolis staff in their desire to expand their maintenance facility in East Phillips has managed to keep open discussion of the merits of the Community Plan largely out of Council deliberations, and in so doing threatens to miss an incredible opportunity to work with a challenged inner-city neighborhood in a way that would undoubtedly win awards as a model for cities everywhere.

Thank you, Attorney General Ellison, for allowing us to bring this to your attention, and we look forward to your response as we work together for justice in our City and our State.

Clyde Bellecourt,
American Indian Movement, Inc.



MAY-DAY
c.a.f.e.

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

**ORGANIC &
FAIR TRADE COFFEE**

Good Things *Continued from page 1*

The station will host the Orange Line, a 17-mile planned highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line that will connect Minneapolis, Richfield, Bloomington, and Burnsville along I-35W, which will provide frequent, all-day service in both directions, seven days a week; every 10-minutes during rush-hour and every 15 minutes during non-rush hour.

The project includes a space called The Green Crescent, which is a one-block stretch of green-space that will include biking and walking paths to connect the Midtown Greenway to the new Lake

way. The bike ramp is scheduled to be open to the public in 2021.

There will be community-inspired public art installations created by two South Minneapolis Latino artists, Maria Cristina Tavera and Xavier Tavera.

Other improvements along this construction site in the crossing of Lake Street and Hwy 35W include the addition of new pavement along Lake Street between Blaisdell Ave. and 5th Ave. S. in Minneapolis, new sidewalks, new city utility upgrades and a new SB 35W auxiliary lane between I-94 and Lake Street.



Computer rendering of the Lake Street & 35W Transit Station

Street Transit Station; providing direct bicycle and pedestrian access from the new transit station to the Midtown Green-

Good things come to those who wait. Thank you for your patience. For more information, visit: www.mndot.gov/35W94

"Returning"

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

Author's note: this story picks up years after the saga of Searching, serialized in 34 issues of the Alley in the early 2010's. In that story, we met Luz and Angel, two 19 year olds running from their past and searching for their future, along with a score of beautiful and strange neighbors.

Patrick Cabello Hansel, is a Phillips Community resident, poet, pastor, and the author of the serial novel "Searching" that has appeared with a new chapter each month the last three

years. What does Patrick have in common with Charles Dickens, Henry James, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Herman Melville, and Rudyard Kipling. Gustave Falubert, Leo Tolstoy, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Wilkie Collins, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Boleslaw Prus, Tom Wolfe, Michael Chabon, Stephen King, Michel Faber, Orson Scott Card, Laura Hickman, and Lawrence Watt-Evans? See more about serial stories below.

Alley Communications has been honored and pleased to have been able to publish this novel by Patrick Cabello Hansel in The Alley Newspaper, chapter by chapter, each month for nearly three years. It has been a first for The Alley and for any local community paper as far as we know.

We have been reminded by Jane Thomson, one of our

most avid readers, writers, and active Alley Allies, that many noteworthy writers published novels in a serial format in newspapers or other periodicals. For example Jane points out that Charles Dickens published some of his works through serials in newspapers. He would publish chapters at regular intervals and if they were popular he would publish it as a book.

Some writers sought and even depended upon reader comments and suggestions as they developed their novels. Readers are encouraged to send or call with responses to "Searching." Did you enjoy it? Would you have changed any part? Would you like to see this story continued or another one sometime soon?

"Searching" A Serial Novelle Chapter 1

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

EDITOR'S NOTE Regarding "SEARCHING"
Alley Communications has been honored and pleased to publish this novella by Patrick Cabello Hansel in The Alley Newspaper -- a first for The Alley and for any local community paper as far as we know. Many noteworthy writers published novels in a serial format in newspapers or other periodicals; for example Charles Dickens published chapters at regular intervals and if they became popular he would publish the chapters as a book. Some writers sought and even depended upon reader comments and suggestions as they developed their novels. All 34 Chapters are at: www.alleynews.org/category/searching

Angel swore it was an owl. It was calling from a tree hidden deep behind the locked cemetery gates. He remembered that an owl calling meant death, but for whom? Himself? One in his family? A friend who had a death wish? He tried to see the owl through the fog that was beginning to creep in from Cedar Avenue, but he could not. It continued to call, lonely, vigilant, demanding.

Angel tried to laugh about it: of course there'd be an owl in the cemetery. Nothing but dead people there! But he didn't know anyone in that cemetery. They didn't bury Latinos there. They didn't bury anyone there anymore. Mr. Bussey, in his 4th hour history class at Roosevelt, had talked about the Civil War veterans buried there, the heroes of the Underground Railroad, the first murderers and their victims. It was the old dead who laid there, the ones who had grown tired of being restless and wandering, the dead who had settled in for the long millennium's wait for the final trumpet.



Left to right: Orson Scott Card "Intergalactic Medicine Show"; Michael Chabon "Gentlemen of the Road"; Wilkie Collins "The Moonshine"; Charles Dickens "The Pickwick Papers"; Harriet Beecher Stowe "Uncle Tom's Cabin"; Sir Arthur Conan Doyle "Sherlock Holmes"; Herman Melville "Moby Dick"; Center photo Patrick Cabello Hansel of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

No, this owl was calling for someone outside. Someone still living, who didn't know their number was up. That was a fact: death was on the prowl in the neighborhood. Death had an appointment, and death was never tardy. Angel shuddered for a second at that fact. Then he began to shake as he realized something else: he had been chosen to hear the owl calling. He had been called to be the messenger. The one who might be killed for bringing bad news. He, Angel Augusto Cruz Rojas, the first born of seven, was the one who must tell the story.

Angel pulled his hoodie over his ears and started walking. He was intending to go see Sammy and some of his friends downtown, but he turned around, walked quickly

passed the bus stop, made a sharp right across the street, and headed west on Lake. The sky over the Global Market ten blocks away bore the faintest trace of pink from the sun that had set nearly an hour before, and the wind was straight in his face. When he stopped two blocks away to light a cigarette, it took him several tries to keep the flame lit. Even from that distance, he could swear he heard it. The owl was calling him. But to do what? To tell whom? Angel needed to find out.

Patrick Cabello Hansel and his wife, Luisa are pastors of St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 28th Street and 15th Avenue in Midtown Phillips. He is also a writer of poetry and short fiction.

"Searching" Chapter 34 Epilog

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

"One person's found is another person's lost." We are taught that this is true, that there always must be winners and losers, that it is part of the way the world is made, that the "invisible hand" directs the fortunes of everyone, and that as one rises, another must fall. But what if by searching and finding, or even by searching and not finding, we are more connected to our fellow human beings? What if our search, our healing and our wisdom multiplies unto others, so that as one of us is found, we all are? It is easy to speculate on what will become of Angel and Luz, our beloveds. It is easy to speculate, and hard to know. They have found each other, and they are willing to go to any length to keep that treasure that is their love. But we

know that love untested is not real love, and that it is in trial that we often find our true strength. Luz and Angel will now walk together, and discover together, what their search will show them. Perhaps we will catch up to them a few years down the line: perhaps with babies, perhaps with degrees, most certainly with life's troubles big and small, and with life's joys, small and bigger than we can imagine. But what if by searching and finding, or even by searching and not finding, we are more connected to our fellow human beings? What if our search, our healing and our wisdom multiplies unto others, so that as one of us is found, we all are? And what of the others we have found along the way? Will Mr. Bussey return to Roosevelt a more curious and courageous teacher? Will Ana use her law degree to free the captives and ruffle the feathers of the powers? Will Angel's and Luz' families intertwine in a new weaving that reaches south to Mexico, deep into the past and far into the future? Will the man with the violin—if indeed he is a man—learn new melodies

hidden in old, old songs? It would be foolish of me to try and speculate where Mother Light may shine, and foolish to speculate where evil—be it the scarred cheek, the minions of La Migra, the sneering smile of the cowards who rape and steal and torture—may cast their shadow. It would be foolish to speculate, but it is never foolish to imagine. It is our spirits that lead us to dream, and it is our dreams that lead us to hope. And so, we do not say "Adios" to those with whom we have walked these thirty-four moons, we do not even say "see you later". We say, "Vaya con Dios"—"Go with God"—and we imagine and hope and believe that their going, and our going—though difficult and bitter and wounded as it may be—will lead us onward to the spring that bubbled up in the swale so many years ago, that sates the thirst of the desert crossers today, that refreshes all who welcome and all who are welcomed. Laten barnen komma til mig—Let the children come unto me—Dejen que los niños venga a mí.



The EPIC Report – April 2020

www.eastphillips-epic.com



The East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm, World Café & Farm Store (3-Acre Compromise) Senator Jeff Hayden & Colleagues are Helping Make it Happen

Text of Senator Jeff Hayden’s Letter to the Members of the Minneapolis City Council.

February 3, 2020,
To the Members of the Minneapolis City Council:

I urge you to strongly consider the proposal made by the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI), as it promotes environmental justice and improves air quality in our neighborhood. The Indoor Urban Farm Project proposal will bring jobs, affordable housing, and organic foods to our community. The proposal is supported unanimously by the following organizations and groups: East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC) Board of Directors, Sierra Club, Green Team, Seward Co-op. and over 500 individual signers on support petitions. The proposal also meets every goal of the South Side Green Zone and is in the South Minneapolis Opportunity Zone.

In 2016, former Representative Karen Clark, Senator Patricia Torres-Ray, Senator Bobby Joe Champion, and I sponsored legislation that granted \$300,000 to EPIC in order to assist in finishing design projects. These funds were successfully secured with additional assistance from MN’s Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). As indicated in the grant, EPIC and others helped from an inclusive non-profit corporation with the name East Phillips Neighborhood Institute Inc. (EPNI) to be responsible for the creation of the Indoor Urban Farm. Other goals of the project include: Second chance job opportunities, job training, coffee shop/world café, community kitchen, cultural markets, and a bicycle shop on the Midtown Greenway.

The members of EPNI have expressed deep frustration as there has been no effort by the City to understand, honor, or even hear the hard work of the community or abide by the principles of the Blueprint of Equitable Engagement endorsed by the City of Minneapolis. They would like the Minneapolis City Council and Staff to do the following: Seek an alternative site for the Water Yard *or* begin to have meaningful conversations with EPNI and the community to return to the 3-acre option at the Roof Depot site and begin to move other neighborhood polluters out of East Phillips.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hayden

C0-signed by:	
Senator Patricia Torres-Ray	Representative Aisha Gomez
Senator Bobby Joe Champion	Representative Fue Lee
Representative Hodan Hassan	Senator Scott Dibble
Representative Frank Hornstein	Representative Jim Davnie

The EPIC Annual Meeting
has been POSTPONED due to the Coronavirus.

At the time of this writing, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends canceling gatherings of more than 50 people. Based on this recommendation we have made the decision to postpone the EPIC Annual Meeting. Watch the Alley for a rescheduled date.

Also
Watch your email for updates on upcoming EPIC meetings.
For information on how to slow the spread of the virus, wash your hands & visit
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/action.html>.

For Your Calendar: *

- EPIC Community Meetings** – Rescheduled until further notice
- EPIC’s Annual Meeting** – Postponed. Watch the Alley News & your e-mail for updates.
- The EPIC Board of Directors** - Rescheduled until further notice

GARDENERS!

Garden meetings will be held OUTSIDE in the Garden as scheduled.

Garden Plots are Available for East Phillips Residents, contact Brad 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, 4/11/2020 and 5/9/2020 at 9:00 AM in the Garden at - 2428 17th Ave. S.

Gardening – It’s outside, so with caution, It’s SAFE

Due to the Coronavirus cancelations have occurred and dates will change. Watch your e-mail & the Alley.



APRIL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday April 14, 6:30-8pm

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

AGENDA

- Board Action on Future draft Neighborhood Program Guidelines & proposed funding
- Announce District 2 Representation from vote at March Community Meeting
- Discussion on outreach to fill open board positions (Districts 1 & 5 Reps)
- Review Board Manual/Policies/Partnerships

APRIL COMMUNITY MEETING
Tuesday April 28, 6:30-8pm

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



MIDTOWN PHILLIPS LISTENING SESSION

- Share your aspirations for Midtown Phillips!
 - What do you think MPNAI's priorities should be for 2020?
 - Meet the new board!
- Meeting tentative per COVID-19 situation, check website for updates. You can also email comments anytime to info@midtownphillips.org



Did you know Midtown Phillips offers financing for residents?

MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD 0% INTEREST LOAN PROGRAM

The Midtown Phillips Neighborhood has partnered with the Center for Energy and Environment Lending Center to help Midtown Phillips residents finance home improvement projects.

- 0% APR
- \$7,500 maximum loan amount
- No maximum income limit
- Terms up to 7 years
- Eligible improvements are most exterior, major mechanical and energy improvements

3 EASY WAYS TO APPLY

- 1) Apply online at mnlendingcenter.org
- 2) Email loaninfo@mncee.org for a copy of the application
- 3) Call 612-335-5884 to have an application mailed to you

Visit mnlendingcenter.org or call 612.335.5884 to get started today!



VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

APRIL '20 NEWS

311 OR 911: which do you call?

- **311** is for Non Emergency Information, Services, & Reporting: 311 Calls are answered between 7 am and 7 pm, Monday through Friday. Get information on licensing, permits, garbage pickup, parking, etc.
 - Report streetlight outages, graffiti, potholes, homeless encampments, abandoned vehicles, animal complaints, etc.
 - Report vandalism, harassment, and suspicious behavior that is not in progress at the time.
 - Download the Minneapolis 311 app for your devices through all common app stores
-
- **911** is for Emergencies & Suspicious or Illegal Behavior in progress:
 - Emergency medical situations requiring Emergency Medical Services, Police or Fire Department.
 - Police required situations can include domestic abuse, robbery, assault, home invasion, someone on your property, drug dealing, loud music or a party disturbing the peace after 10pm, sounds of shots fired, people on the street or in vehicles exhibiting suspicious behavior, etc.

Introduction to Franklin Avenue Business Association

One of the “behind the scenes” organizations in Ventura Village is the Franklin Area Business Association (FABA). This organization has been active for more than 30 years helping Franklin Avenue.

FABA meetings this past year have connected local business owners to city, county, state and police officials working in our community and also have been a great source of information sharing for members to highlight what is happening in the area.

In addition to bi-monthly meetings, FABA has:

- assisted with planning designs for Franklin Avenue,
- helped with beautification projects like choosing banners and flower planting along Franklin Avenue,
- administered grant programs,
- helped with graffiti removal, and
- been instrumental in bringing Open Streets' events to Franklin Avenue.

Membership in FABA is simple, inexpensive, and full of benefits. Membership meetings are a great opportunity to connect to other businesses, stay current on what’s happening in the area, and find out about helpful local resources.

For additional information about FABA, you can contact Board Chair Will Delaney at wdelaney@hope-community.org.

After School Students Busy at the PCC

Established in 1958, Waite House is a long-standing staple of the Phillips Neighborhood, and one of their key programs has been to work with youth. Students gather after school to do their homework, fundraise, and establish goals for themselves. Waite House staff, such as Ivonne Hernandez and Julie Graves help students get set up with internships through programs such as Roots for the Home Team, Growing Goods, Youth at Work KRSM, Youth at Work Food Systems, and Step-Up.

The students come in after school to work on their internships. Anessa and Eva, both in high school, work with food systems. While working, they distribute and keep track of meals provided for Waite House youth and other community members. Leandra, an eighth grader, will be starting her internship with Roots for the Home Team this summer. Roots for the Home Team makes salads with produce from their community gardens and sells them at Twins games; the program helps students learn entrepreneurial skills like keeping track of costs and revenue. These internships help students build their resume, while giving them ample learning experiences.

Waite House is constantly looking to grow and reach as many members of the Phillips Community and Neighborhood as possible. Currently Waite House is partnering with Ventura Village to build out a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) room to expand learning for 6th-12th graders in Phillips. Topics in the STEAM room include hydroponics, food science/culinary arts, urban agriculture, seed sharing and more. If you are interested in joining or volunteering, please contact the Youth Program Department at the Waite House site located at 2323 11th Ave. S or by reaching out to the Youth Program Director, Julie Graves at 612-455-0365.



UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE MEETINGS: NOTICE THAT ALL COMMITTEE MEETINGS WILL NOW TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Wednesday, April 8th: Board of Directors Meeting: 6 pm | • Wednesday, April 8th: General Membership Meeting: 7 pm |
| • Thursday, April 30th: Community Engagement Committee: 7:00 pm | • Thursday, April 30th: Wellness, Gardening & Greening Committee: 7:30 pm |
| • Thursday, April 30th: Housing & Land Committee: 5:30 pm | • Thursday, April 30th: 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 II
oldschoolmovies.wordpress.com
howardmcquitter68@gmail.com

“Onward”

(2020)
Animation /Adventure/Action
Pixar Pictures
★★★★☆ 3.5 of 5

Pixar never (or almost never) makes an animation that isn’t heart warming, inspirational, or both. The latest is “Onward”, not on the same level as “Toy Story”(1995), “Toy Story 2” (1999),”UP” (2009), “Inside Out” (2015) and WALLE” (2008); but is still entertaining and warmhearted.

Ian (Tom Holland) looks on his bedroom wall to see pictures of his father who passed away while he was a toddler. He misses him dearly and so does his older brother Barley (Chris Pratt). Ian is quite shy and Barley is brass and a bit immature.

On Ian’s 16th birthday, the boys’ mother, Laurel Lightfoot (Julia Louis-Dreyfus), gives a gift to him and to his brother from his father—a wizard staff that has the power to bring back their father for 24 hours.

While Ian is experimenting with the magic stick something goes wrong conjuring up only the bottom half of their father and the gem on top of the staff disappears. The top half is in a far off land. Barley, Ian, and the bottom half of dad jump into Barley’s old van taking off on a quest to rejoin the top half of their father having only 24 hours to do so. “Onward” becomes a road movie twisting and turning on highways, country roads, and running into dead ends with run-ins with biker gang fairies at a gas station and stop at a mystical restaurant owned by The Manticore (Octavia Spencer).

This entire wild, winding quest is fun to see with all kinds of creatures—Cyclops, elves, centaurs, manticores, unicorns on screen. Pixar is very adept at turning goof-ball action into lively adventures. Come to think of it, “Outward” has a bit of Harry Potter up it’s sleeves and maybe a slight touch of” E.T. Extra-Terrestrial,” (Pixar’s first film without any involvement from John Lasseter, following his departure as CEO of Disney’s Animation Areas.) “Onward” is about family—the microcosm of any society. To have a father missing is a serious gap in any family.

Cast: Tom Holland (Ian Lightfoot), Chris Pratt (Barley Lightfoot), Julia Loius-) Drefus (Laurel Lightfoot), Octavia Spencer (The Manticore), Mel Rodriguez (Colt Bronco), Kyle Bornheimer (Wilden Lightfoot), Lena Waithe (Officer Spencor), Ali Wong (Officer Gore), Grey Griffin (Dewdrop), Tracey Ullman (Gr Johner Ualderrama (Gaxton), George Psarras (Officer Avel), John Ratzenberger (Construction Worker).

Director: Dan Scanton. Running time: 114 minutes. (PG)

Transit Changes in the Med City

By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

Unfortunately, there is no significant transit news in the Phillips neighborhood, or even the Twin Cities, for me to report this month. Therefore, I am going to digress from my usual local focus and talk about changes coming to the transit system in Rochester as of the 12th of July.

The last time I wrote about Rochester Public Transit in the Alley was about three years ago when I first started this column. RPT was in the midst of a major service improvement from six days a week to seven. That’s right: until a few years ago, buses didn’t even run on Sundays in the Med City. Now, RPT is rectifying another shortcoming of their system: the complexity of routes. Most weekday routes don’t run the same at night or on weekends: for example, to go to Apache Mall on weekdays, Routes 7 and 7A are the way there. At night it is route 7N, and on the weekends it is Routes 23 and 24. The minor variations between them are a lot to remember.

The new system unifies the daytime, night, and weekend service so the same route number will always go to the same places. That simple policy is something we in the Twin Cities take for granted. This will be accomplished, in part, by going from one- and two-digit route numbers to three digits.

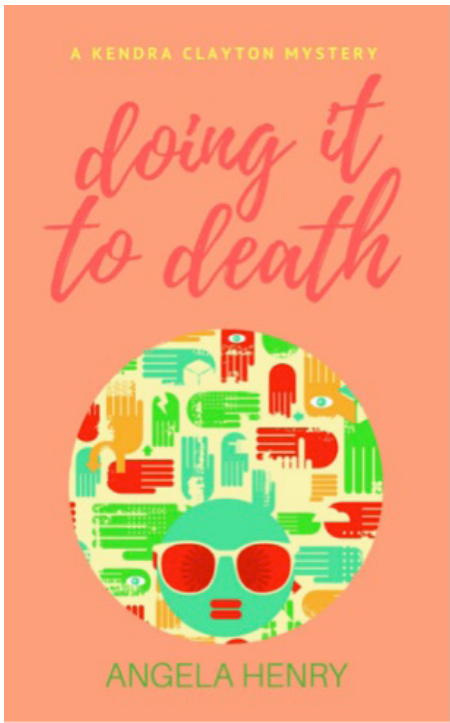


We used to have a similar cacophony here in the Twin Cities until about 20 years ago. Minneapolis and Saint Paul had duplicate route numbers: the Saint Paul 4 was different from the Minneapolis 4, and freeway buses were numbered after the freeway with radically different routes differentiated only by a letter. 35M went to Burnsville and 35B went to Edina!

Book Review

Angela Henry Offers Another Thriller, “Doing it to Death”

By DWIGHT HOBBS



Fans of mystery novelist Angela Henry’s Kendra Clayton series, rejoice. Delightfully intrepid, crime-solving sleuth Clayton is back, flying by the seat of her pants and as usual, two steps ahead of police detectives on the trail of a murderer.

Also par for the course, the closer she gets to figuring things out, the more her own life is in danger. On top of everything, Kendra would just as soon be left in peace, minding her own business, which is exactly what she’s doing when circumstance hurls her headlong, up to her neck in someone else’s troubles.

Far from formulaic, this time around Henry has come up with yet another way for Kendra to stumble into difficulty that she’d rather have nothing to do with but can’t see herself avoiding.

In “Doing It to Death” (Boulevard West Press), Dibb Bentley, about as unsavory a sort as you’re apt to come by, is freed from prison after a 30-year stretch.

Hell-bent on retrieving what he hid in the home of sad-sack, self-imagined “Mack Daddy,” Lewis Watts, he ends up dead in the trunk of Watts’ Cadillac. The evidence points to Watts, who is tossed in the clink and comes whining and crying to Kendra that he didn’t do it.

As distasteful of an individual as she

finds him, Kendra strongly suspects the worst crime he’s guilty of is living like he was stuck in a ’70s “Blaxploitation” flick. So, she grudgingly looks into it, drawn in against her will, not to mention instinct for self-preservation, to save someone she wouldn’t spit on to put out a fire. From there, everything begins to gradually, inexorably go straight to hell.

Fiction writing Rule of Thumb: Your protagonist has an interesting line of work in a glamorous, exotic or at least exciting setting. Kendra is a part-time GED teacher with a night job hosting at a soul food restaurant in a small Ohio town. Henry makes it work beautifully as you engage with Kendra’s thoughts and feelings, most engagingly her wry wit and dryly pragmatic view of people.

If it weren’t for bad luck, you’d swear the poor woman wouldn’t have any luck at all. Especially when it comes to her perpetually frustrated love life. Yet, she determinedly perseveres and, by the skin of her teeth, handily prevails.

Henry is subtle, a sure-hand at image-rich immediacy. She has an unerring ear for dialogue and draws perfectly natural characters to whom you can easily relate. Importantly, the narrative flow is seamless.

From the outset, reading: “Lewis Watts stood in the doorway of Pinky’s Bootleg Joint and surveyed the crowd. He recognized everyone in the room because he’d just been drinking with most of them at The Spot less than half an hour ago.

“When The Spot closed at two in the morning, everyone who wasn’t ready to go home and still had money in their pockets headed for Pinky’s, an after-hours bootleg joint. Leroy ‘Pinky’ Buford was an ex-bookie who let people party at his house when the bars closed.

“He sold watered down drinks ran illegal card and crap games that everyone swore were rigged and let scandalous couples who wanted to hook up behind their significant other’s backs use the three bedrooms upstairs, all for a fee, of course.”



Angela Henry

Tailor made for television, particularly, say, Lifetime or BET with an audience already in place thanks to prior Kendra Clayton successes (“The Company You Keep,” “Tangled Roots,” “Diva’s Last Curtain Call,” to name just a few), Angela Henry’s deftly entertaining “Doing It To Death” is, hands-down, another winner. For more info on the works of Angela Henry, visit www.angelahenry.com or connect with her on Twitter @MystNoir.

Art For All

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL, Semilla Center

The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts at St. Paul’s believes that creating art together can be a way of healing for individuals and communities. Semilla will host an “Art Block Party” for Block Clubs, where artists will create art with your neighbors—art

that will beautify your street and send a message of unity. Interested? semilla-center@gmail.com

Welcome to Semilla benefit “Art for All” on Saturday, May 16 from 5 to 9 pm, at the Center for Changing Lives, 2400 Park Avenue. Live music, food, hands-on art making, a silent auction, youth photography show and more. \$20 suggested donation—discount tickets for volunteers.

Raise Your Voice

The Elders Have Spoken

By PETER MOLENAAR

Little Earth, Phillips Community Center, Ebenezer Towers on Portland and Park Avenues, and Anderson Community School – for the Phillips Neighborhood, these were the Primary Vote polling places. Thanks to the volunteers who made it happen, those who had navigated the information overload were privileged to exercise their right. It can now be said with certainty: the elders have spoken.

To his credit, Joe Biden shook many hands in South Carolina. African Americans, especially the elders, bore witness to his having played second fiddle to President Obama, and trust him not to play a treasonous game with mass bigotry. Moreover, many believe Biden to be the likely candidate to defeat Donald Trump.

(We are not in a revolutionary situation at this time!)

From the standpoint of our ‘Popular Front’, looking back, many were initially drawn to the candidacy of Elizabeth Warren. Elizabeth was recognized as perhaps the first person to wrap a mind

around the 2008 financial crisis. She formulated and implemented a policy to reign in the criminal elements of the financial sector. Power to her. Right? Truthfully, when Bernie Sanders entered the race, many of us were conflicted.

To be sure, Bernie is our best agitator. Free college education? That was implemented by the first socialist country about a century ago. Medicare for all? Let’s catch up with Europe and save a lot of money (Elizabeth agrees). Cut the bloated military budget? Please. Green New Deal? We can’t live without it.

Break up the big banks? Well, personally... I suggest we nationalize and socialize our entire financial infrastructure (hey, nobody is perfect). Nonetheless, I was proud to attend the Labor for Bernie Rally at the CWA 7200 Union Hall, down on 3521 E. Lake Street.

However, once again: the Elders have spoken. Despite every grievance and criticism, we have to unite. But, do not doubt for one moment that the youthful social democratic spirit will continue to develop, evolve, and ultimately prevail.

Something I Said

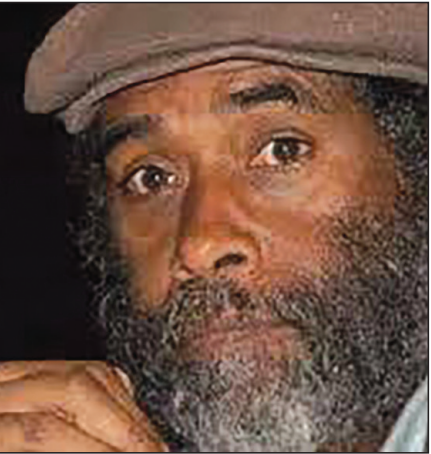
Dark girls deserve better

By DWIGHT HOBBS

Black was only so beautiful when the phrase hit in the 60s. Sure, we were at the tumultuous crest of a movement to throw off society’s shackles and, in the process, bolster self-esteem. Superficiality, though, runs deep. While we were exultant, reveling in social revolt, it didn’t displace an entrenched ideal. It didn’t cure a psychological infection. Folk with African features were no more attractive than they had been since the advent of that age old ditty, “If you’re white, just right. Yellow is mellow. Brown can stick around. If y’ black, get back.” However, times have changed, this has stayed the same.

Hence, “Dark Girls”, a documentary by the Association of Black Psychologists, is credited with providing, “an opportunity to take a soul-searching look at the effects of racism affect on the self-image of black women personally and collectively, particularly as it relates to complexion, so that where healing is needed, we can heal.” Among several salient aspects tackled in the film, the powerful impact of America’s insidious media is given a good, insightful look-see. Ironically, candid comment comes from, all sources, white hip-hop journalist, Soren Baker, who observes, “I’ve always found it hypocritical that rappers [claim to have] black pride, then... have [predominantly] light-skinned women or women who aren’t black in their videos, especially as the love interest.”

CJ Walker, the first black millionaire, made and sold hair straightener, predating such idiocy as is noted in the film. Including skin-bleaching (remember, Michael Jackson?), a multi-billion dollar business in which people ascribe to the faith that being lighter brings a better life. Beauty being in the eye of the beholder, they actually have a



point. Worse than grown women who play head-games with themselves, desperate to look white as possible, it’s heartbreaking to watch, for instance, the open scene in which an innocent child states, “I don’t want to be called black.” The also film reports on a new version of the 1940s experiment by Kenneth and Mamie Clark, in which children clearly exhibited self-hatred, favoring light hued dolls over dark ones.

Noted actor-director Bill Duke, who, with D. Channsin Berry, produced and directed “Dark Girls,” was asked, ‘Why are you airing our dirty laundry?’ His reply: “It’s stinkin’ up the house.” Like Chris Rock’s documentary, “Good Hair,” another no punches pulled examination of black folks’ folly; “Dark Girls” holds a mirror up for the color-struck among us to see for themselves exactly what they are: self-deluded phonies whose dedication to white supremacy poisons the minds and hearts of girls growing into women. FYI: “Dark Girls” 2 dropped in March, expanding the scope to an international perspective.

Anok Yai, ranked the world’s most beautiful woman and the richest model, is, yes, white-girl pretty. She’s also black as the ace of spades. There may be hope yet.



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Good things come to those who wait.

Cosas buenas llegan para aquellos que esperan.

Waxyaabaha wanaagsan ayuu u yimaada kuwa wax suga.

35W@94

mndot.gov/35W94

Thanks for your patience.
Gracias por su paciencia.

Waad ku mahadsan tahay dulqaadkaaga.

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612-353-6211 | www.culturalwellnesscenter.org

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Fill in the empty circles with your or your family's ideas for wellness!

Tear off this Backyard Back Page and hang it up!

Dance alone!
Dance with
your kids!

Stop and
take 3 deep
breaths

Write a
letter to
someone
you love

Offer grace
to yourself
and to others

Make music!
Play music!

Call and
check-in on a
neighbor

Move
your body!

Be extra
kind to yourself
and others

What are you
grateful
for today?

Make
something you
never made
before!

Who are the
people you will try
to connect with
each day?

Stare out the
window and try to look
for something
different that you didn't
see yesterday

Cultivate,
create or invite
beauty into your
space every day

If you can,
spend a bit of
time outside!

What
expectations of
"normal" can you
let go of?

Be watchful
for the buds on
trees and bushes

If you are a singer,
SING! If you aren't
a singer, SING!

Reflect on all your
strengths and the
strengths of others

STAY WELL!
YOU
Belong To Our
Community!

Stay well, stay connected!

The Backyard Community Health Hub is available through email, phone, and social media where many of our classes and other services are being Live Streamed.



THE PHOENIX OF PHILLIPS

Literary works and photography from the Phillips neighborhood

Volume VI: Hope

Free in Phillips, \$1 suggested donation



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Poetry Contest for Youth
News about our publishing arm!
May 16: "Art for All"

All photos credit: Youth Photography Project of the Semilla Center @ St. Paul's Lutheran



THE PHOENIX OF PHILLIPS

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Volume VI: Hope

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CONTRIBUTORS

PETER BREEN is a musician and poet living in South Minneapolis. He recently published a booklet of poetry "Everything is a Container" available at peterbreenwrites.com. His main musical project is Still Unstill, a genre-bending songwriting focused rock band.

PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL has published in over 60 journals. His novella "Searching" was serialized in 34 issues of The Alley. His poetry collection The Devouring Land is available through Main Street Rag Press. He and his wife Luisa pastor St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

DAVE MOORE moved to Phillips 35 years ago because of The Alley newspaper, where his monthly cartoons amuse and challenge. One of his heroes is Wendell Phillips, the man the neighborhood is named for.

JOHN RICHARD lives in Midtown Phillips, and works at East Side Neighborhood Services as the Director of Employment Services. When not at work, he enjoys gardening, biking and, of course, reading and writing. John was elected to the Board of Directors of the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Assn. and is excited for the opportunity to connect with neighbors through a new venue.

DAVID ROJAS MARTÍNEZ has lived in-out-and-in-between the U.S.A. and Mexico for the past twenty years and loves the power of storytelling. As a consecrated deacon of the Lutheran Diaconal Association, he is passionate about serving humanity from a faith perspective.

PAT WILLIS VINCENT is one of Semilla Center's mosaic artists and a prolific poet. Her chapbook will be out this spring.

SAFE

*(Two group poems by middle school youth,
from Young Leader writing workshops
at St. Paul's Lutheran on 15th Avenue)*

Feed my child
Give them a name
Running away
I would buy them food
A little girl
Mother is wearing a dress
Respect the poor

She is holding seeds
Her need is calm
I will give them shelter
I will take them free
Lily plants, mother and child
I will pay attention
I will protect

Save us from post-trauma
Save us from going to hunger
Save the people who think being different is wrong
There is still slavery in the air
Save us—no killing
Save us—no chemicals in the water
Save us—no drugs
Why do people, why do people?
Save the people who get blamed for things they didn't do
Save the people who...

I want you to heal the lakes, the ocean, the water
I want you to heal my mom into no pain
I want you to keep us from hurting
I want you to begin

I AM

I am the light
I feel the cold
I make people see
I make people safe
I walk on sacred land
I eat ice cream under the sun.
It feels good,
Melting on my tongue

Yo camino en la tierra sagrada
Se siente fresca
Se ve de colores
Se siente libertadora

I am
Water to clinch your thirst
I am the world
You swim in
Lake water
Clean water
I wash your body
Your face, your hair.
I am the water inside you
I am the water
That pours down at night

Yo soy la luz
Y les tengo que decir
Que no todo lo que es mal
Será malo para siempre

**Itzel, Esmeralda, Kimberly, Emiliano,
Ashley, Paulina, Makyla**

I AM

I am the first dragonfly you see in the spring.

The one that makes you smile,
because of my bright blue body.
The one who reminds you that even
insects can be beautiful.

I am the first dragonfly you see in the spring.

The one you run around to try and catch
The blue you see land in all your greens.
My eyes stare at the frogs coming out at night.

I am the first dragonfly you see in the spring.

The one that landed on your fishing pole
for a place to rest.

I am the first dragonfly you see in the spring.

Terrance, 12

POETRY CONTEST FOR YOUTH!

Cash Prizes!

Two levels: Ages 6-12 & 13-18

Send your poems on the
theme of "Struggle" to
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PSALM FOR AN OCTOBER MORNING

Creator of cleansing winds and restless imagination,
 Painter of the bold blues and golds
 Of the dying year,
 May the clear light of your beauty dancing
 On my sleep-seeded eyes
 Rise like incense before you.
 Accept the mute pleasure of the cup
 warming my hand
 As a morning song worthy of the offering.

In your great wisdom,
 In your great love.

Great God of the moist greening of the spring
 Call to us now in the time of drying.
 May the reds and yellows that flash in the trees
 Stir our thoughts with the still peace of endings,
 And the hope of new beginnings.

And in the autumn of our days
 May we fall with the grace of leaves,
 to bejewel the cold earth
 Like embers on the altar of sacrifice.

In your great wisdom
 In your great love.

John Richard

LATE NIGHT AT TEN-BELOW

We were trying to save on the electric bill.
 Still I would leave the bedroom lamp on
 When we'd stroll the few blocks
 To the corner bar
 Those winter evenings at 10 below

No real reason.

I just liked seeing the yellow light in the window
 When we came up the alley,

Knowing it was shining on the bed
 Where we'd soon huddle together
 Against the cold.

John Richard

HOPE IS AN ANCHOR

Because we never really know the sea
 and it is strong beyond our dreaming.
 Sometimes you must hold steady
 to watch and wait.

And when you learn when to set anchor,
 When you learn when to haul it up,
 You dare to travel into unknown waters.

Because when you work the windlass with your mates
 A good song keeps the rhythm
 And a certain joy glows in the sweat.

Because Faith and Love arc towards heaven
 Like two graceful arrows.
 A good strong center
 Grounds them here on earth.

John Richard

CREATION

God fashioned the treetops
 with tissue paper –
 green and wispy thin,
 like mosquito wings,
 and sprinkled them with rainwater.
 She made the trunks
 out of brown corrugated cardboard.
 (Her scissors, paste and snippets put away)
 She took the sun and
 lit the trees like birthday candles,
 humming to herself.

Pat Willis Vincent

THE SEASON OF DARKNESS

I find a mailbox in the darkness-
 last card, last package.
 Wise men see the Star.
 My soul knows
 some place close
 is lit with candles.
 People gather,
 surrounding a fire.

Pat Willis Vincent

PRIMOGENITOR AGING POEM

I probe my mind to find
The word for
numbered flower petals.
Leonardo knew
natures order,
the way water flows with
gravity's pull.
I remember
his miniscule drawings.
The word is on the tip of my tongue,
a prime number-
Then I decide to listen to the ocean.

Pat Willis Vincent

CURTAIN CALL

A sheet of snow
swaddles South Minneapolis,
a few more weeks
before the Spring season starts –
Still some preliminary
dusting can be done,
the playbills sent out.
A few choice words
said to the right people
about the opening
can do wonders.
Just picture
lilacs sighing purple
with rounded fragrance.
Crocuses peek out from
clumps of forgotten snow,
very close to curtain call.

Pat Willis Vincent

EVERYTHING IS JUST A CONTAINER

this envelope for this paper
this paper for these sentences
these sentences for these words
and I can't say what words contain
but I know how they expand
and contract as we stare at them
how the meanings shift day to day
think of the world inside the word love

Peter Breen

ICE AGE MOMENT

Today the wind whistles
between high rise windows.
Snow falls at a near
horizontal slant.
Instead of seeing Joe's
VW bus warming itself
in the corner parking lot,
I look down and see
a mastodon stopped
in its tracks –
Brown fur and tusks,
Weighed down by snow
I could grab a spear and
eat good meat
until late spring.
It's only April.

Pat Willis Vincent

SIX A.M.

Stretching into my skin,
I reach for the lamp.
Fumbling through a rounded trunk,
I find a clown nose,
glowing test tubes
that never spill,
a book, which when opened,
grows a tiny maple.
At the bottom,
There is the face of a flower,
vibrant red.
I slip it on,
turn to the East,
absorb the morning mist.

Pat Willis Vincent

I TAKE A BREATH LASTING A WHOLE DAY

the inhale, the sun rises, birds
chatter at the dawn, everyone
runs their daily courses, the heat
builds and I hold
for a moment in the afternoon
the exhale, the sun sinks, growing
dark against the purpling horizon, birds
go quiet and lovers meet
in secluded places, I hold again
in the stillness of the night

Peter Breen

**The Phoenix
of Phillips will publish
its first chapbook of
poems this spring!**

**You've seen her work in every
edition so far: Pat Willis Vincent.
We are so excited about this new
publishing venture.**

**We hope to have it ready for our
"Art for All" gala on May 16
(see back cover).**

**Check www.semillacenter.org
in May to find out how to
order it!**

ONE MEXICAN'S PRAYER

Ojalá, God willing, my mother whispered
and I hated her for it.
Because God has willed that my home vomit
me soaked in blood.

Ojalá the States will allow you to bloom
so I hid beneath my bed.
When it arrived, I remember falling asleep
to Mexican night songs.

Ojalá, I wish that, I could remember that night
because I was a happy child.
Certain of my place in the world, dragged awake
as an unwanted foreigner.

Ojalá I could recall the ways that summer days
never ended poolside.
The feeling of the sun's rays kissing my
brown skin I once loved.

Ojalá, if only, I had been born a full-grown tree
with roots too deep to tear.
And then I would have watched the years pass
grounded in a loving soil.

Ojalá I had not fallen in love with this new land
that now, too, wants to vomit.
And so I am left with nothing but prayers and tears
Ojalá. God willing. Dios quiera.

David Rojas Martínez

The modern Spanish/Castilian word comes from from the Old Spanish/Castilian word oxalá, which itself is a phrase that comes from a variant of Arabic وَجَلَّيْ اللَّهُ (wašā'Allāh, meaning "and may God will it"). It is often used as an adverb or an interjection, with a variety of meanings depending on its use. It is comparable to Modern Arabic's إِنَّ شَاءَ اللَّهُ ('In shā' Allāh, meaning if God wills" and is interchangeable with the same Modern Spanish/Castilian's "Si Dios quiere."

UNDERSTANDING HOPE

Understanding hope –
here's the thing –
you think it can't get worse,
and it does, and it does,
and you feel just like a dope,
but you're only beginning
to know the depths of desolation,
hanging on to that fraying rope.
You're just beginning to be
understanding hope.

Prayers are where it starts
and pleas are where it ends.
The colors you are seeing
can be no different.
You're clawing at the cliff edge
as you go sliding down the slope.
Oh, you are just beginning to be
understanding hope.

Snatching numbers from the air,
rolling dice may live again.
Rolling eyes in twitching bodies,
tongue-kissing the ring of the Pope.
Abasement in the basement,
help is just around the corner.
While you're waiting for backup,
you're getting painfully closer to
understanding hope.

Just this side of ecstasy,
you feel another shade of fear.
You couldn't help but wet yourself,
you might still get out of here.
This goes primal beyond rut,
blue skies and happy endings,
the words for which you grope,
the sweaty panic rush of
understanding hope.

You find yourself still breathing.
Well, at least that's something.
They'll surely pin a medal
on the vision glowing from
the shrine of best intentions
that miraculously came true.
Every crisis will work out for you.
You were so worried, was it worth it.
Suddenly you so clearly know
God's in his heaven wherever that is,
and you, you're at the very edge of
getting your first glimmer of
understanding hope.

Dave Moore

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Rachel Powers, Jessica Krohn, Andersen 3rd Grade teachers, Teresa Ortiz, Marion Gómez, Luisa Cabello Hansel, Marty Viscosi, Jorge Amerigo, Bart Buch, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Assn. Inc, and Sunshine Sevigny.

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"The Phoenix of Phillips" is a publication of the Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. For the past 14 years, Semilla has taught mosaics, mural arts, photography, puppetry and creative writing to over 3,000 people and installed 33 murals and over 50 other artistic place holders in Phillips and beyond. Semilla means "seed" in Spanish, and it is our passion to plant seeds of hope, justice and beauty in our community. We do so, conscious of the challenges facing us, but more conscious of the great hope we have.

The Phillips area is comprised of four neighborhoods: Ventura Village, Phillips West, Midtown Phillips and East Phillips. The boundaries of the Phillips community are Interstate 94 to the north, Hiawatha Avenue to the east, Lake Street to the south, and Interstate 35W to the west.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

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arts
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FOR MORE INFORMATION

on the neighborhood art blocks, youth programs and workshops in photography, creative writing, mosaics and murals:

The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Iglesia Luterana San Pablo
2742 15th Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55407

612-724-3862
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- Volunteer at one of our events
- Host a visit from Young Leaders at your workplace
- Serve on our board
- Donate

THE PHOENIX OF PHILLIPS VOLUME VII

The next issue of The Phoenix will be out in Fall 2020.

Submit to semillacenter@gmail.com

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Help make The Phoenix Of Phillips a fire of literary beauty by supporting the next issue financially.

Donations may be made out to:

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- Quatrefoil Library, 1220 East Lake
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- Midtown Global Market, Eliot and Lake
- Our Saviour's Lutheran, 24th & Chicago
- Franklin Library, 1314 E. Franklin
- Pow Wow Grounds, 1414 E. Franklin
- Messiah Lutheran, 2400 Park Avenue S.
- Mpls. Area Synod, 122 W. Franklin, Suite 600

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“Phillips: God’s Backyard” — Our youth photography show travels!

If you want to host at your business, school or religious organization,
contact semillacenter@gmail.com!

EDITOR’S NOTE.

As I write this, more cases of coronavirus are reported in our city, in our country, in our world. Millions of people are at danger of starvation in Yemen’s civil war. Hundreds of thousands of refugees are trying to flee the war in Syria. Where is hope to be found? It would be easy to despair of hope in these times. But where would we be without hope?

Hope is a radical stance to take. All the great reformers and revolutionaries were people of hope, who envisioned a different world in the midst of oppression and fear. The writers in this issue have that same vision. They won’t give up on the world, because the world is too beautiful. Their eyes, their words see something new bursting from the old.

This issue is smaller than previous ones. Let’s not let that happen again, writers! Exciting things are happening with your literary magazine, the only one by and for our neighborhood. Our first chapbook and broadsides will be out this year. Submit your work for the next issue on “Struggle”, and please choose to support our work financially. Thank you!

NOTA DEL EDITOR.

Mientras escribo esto, se informan de más casos de coronavirus en nuestra ciudad, en nuestro país, en nuestro mundo. Millones de personas corren peligro de morir de hambre en la guerra civil de Yemen. Cientos de miles de refugiados tratan de huir de la guerra en Siria. ¿Dónde se encuentra la esperanza? Sería fácil desesperarse de la esperanza en estos tiempos. ¿Pero dónde estaríamos sin esperanza?

La esperanza es una postura radical. Todos los grandes reformadores y revolucionarios fueron personas de esperanza, que imaginaron un mundo nuevo en medio de la opresión y el miedo. Los escritores en esta edición tienen la misma visión. No pueden renunciar al mundo, porque el mundo es demasiado hermoso. Sus ojos, sus palabras ven algo nuevo que brota de lo viejo.

Esta edición de El Fénix de Phillips es más pequeña que los anteriores. ¡No permitamos que eso vuelva a pasar, escritores! Están sucediendo cosas emocionantes con su revista literaria, la única de y para nuestro vecindario. Nuestro primer librito y pósters de poesía llegarán este año. Envíen sus palabras para la próxima edición “Lucha” y apoyen nuestro trabajo financieramente. ¡Gracias!