



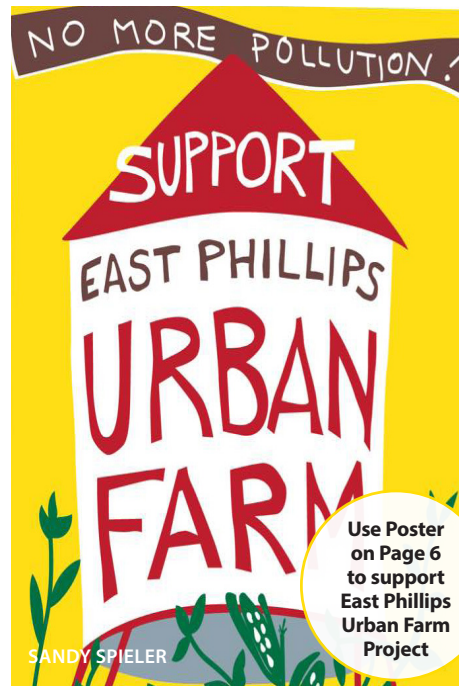
REMEMBERING



A rogue headstone escaped from nearby Pioneer Cemetery



Honor Guard at 2017 Pioneer and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery Memorial Day Celebration



Remembering 1980-1993 STOP 750 Truck Transfer Station Campaign in E. Phillips SUCCESS! 2020 AGAIN?



Mobile Outreach and Outdoor Drop In at Peavey Park Chicago and Franklin Avenues, Daily 1 PM - 3 PM

New ways to live...heal the earth...as healed

By KITTY O'MEARA

*And the people stayed home.
And read books and listened, and rested and exercised,
and made art and played games,
and learned new ways of being and were still.
And listened more deeply.
Some meditated, some prayed, some danced.
Some met their shadows.
And the people began to think differently.
And the people healed.
And, in the absence of people living in ignorant,
dangerous, mindless and heartless ways the earth
began to heal.
And when the danger passed, and the people joined
together again,
they grieved their losses, and made new choices,
and dreamed new images,
and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully,
as they had been healed.*

Commentary on
EPNI Urban Farm

Common Sense for the Common Good

By HARVEY WINJE

Before Covid-19, many cities across the U.S.—including Mpls.—were responding to climate change and racial discrimination by changing guidelines, revenue recipients, zoning, and goals. Housing, food, and jobs near public transportation—walking paths, bike trails, bus, and light rail—were common goals for the common good that was common sense.

Common Sense Continued on page 7

Be Counted in 2020 Census

23,800 people are anticipated will not be counted who live in Ventura Village, Phillips West, Midtown Phillips, East Phillips, Whittier, Cedar-Riverside, Seward, Corcoran, Powderhorn Park & Central Neighborhoods.

Let's prove this estimate incorrect!

Mobile Outreach and Outdoor Drop-In (MOODI)

MOODI is grounded in the cultural wellness approaches to moving from race to culture



A perfectly appointed tiny table and chairs. Tiny ice cubes. Tiny potato.

LOST 2020: Laypeople's Outdoor Sculpture Trail

By SAM MOLSTAD, Host

Are you finding yourself with time in your hands? Are you looking for ways to harness your Power?

If your answer was "yes," then please join us in creating the Laypeople's Outdoor Sculpture Trail!

WHAT?

You and your household will create a sculpture to display in a prominent outdoor location at your residence. Then, we at LOST will generate a map of sites where sculptures are located. The map will be posted online and delivered to your mailbox by LOST upon request.

WHEN?

Please submit your intent to sculpt as a direct message to Sam Molstad and include the address of where your sculpture will be located. The map will be posted and distribution began April 11th.

WHY?

Why not?

and community healings. The Cultural Wellness Center is located one block away from Peavey Park on the Hope community campus. The MOODI model is created by partners who have joined forces over the years to reverse the practice of individualism, loss of community, and loss of culture. Our response to the Corona-virus is to show up in community, practice social distancing but share our

resources including cultural and spiritual resource because we know that in this we must unite. Our effort is a collaboration between the people from the Cultural Wellness Center and Anam Cara (an incubated initiative of the CWC) along with community volunteers, health, social, and outreach workers.

REMEMBERING

Covid-19 Pandemic experiences make lasting memories. Here are some memories sent by a few neighbors. What will you be remembering?

- Remembering the ways of being present. There are ways of being present that do not require us to be physically present in times like these.
- Remembering there was a time when people wrote letters to one another to be present in mind, heart, and spirit.
- Remembering teachers who needed to quickly increase technical skills for online teaching.
- Remembering Grocery stores are ransacked and Charmin Ultra Soft essentially replaces the dollar as the official U.S. currency.
- Remembering the clean skies as we stopped driving our cars.
- Remembering the birds singing and the flowers blooming in this glorious spring.
- Remembering we sang when we washed our hands.
- Remembering how challenging it was to learn the idiosyncrasies and benefits of "Zoom" conversations, meetings, and learning.
- Remembering when we have the will we can pay the unemployed, empty the jails, feed the hungry, and house the homeless.
- Remembering whose work is essential.
- Remembering that the essential workers still had to fight for a living wage and safe working conditions.
- Remembering March 2020 was the first month in eighteen years without a school shooting in the U.S.
- Remembering the employers who cut their top pay to keep paying everyone at the bottom or started fundraisers, or found work, or continued health insurance. Remembering the employers who did none of those things.

Remembering Continued on page 10

2020 CENSUS—Why you count: Every missed person means forfeiting almost \$28,000 each towards MN funding for the next ten years.



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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Governed by Directors:
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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 Thursday 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.

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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 May 15, 2020

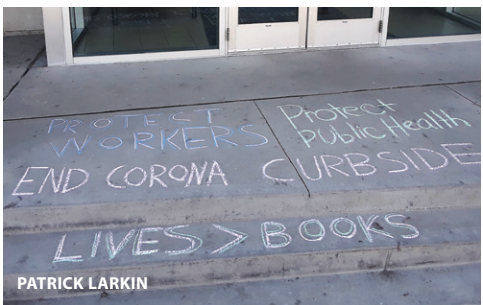


What’s Up at Your Community Libraries



By LINDSEY FENNER

On April 5, Hennepin County Library locked out around 311 County workers, including about 220 library workers. Most workers locked out are library specialists, who are among the lowest paid County workers. Library specialists usually provide the support functions that make libraries run, and had been working hard supporting remote library services since the libraries closed in mid-March. AFSCME Local 2822, which represents all but one of the locked-out workers, has filed a class action grievance against the lockout action by Hennepin County.



Starting April 13, Hennepin County Library started offering curbside holds pick up at 8 library locations, including at East Lake Library. Library workers have raised public health and worker safety concerns about providing this non-essential service, especially as the County decided to make recall to these high-risk locations involuntary, over the protest of Local 2822. (Curbside service has provided paid work for only about 20 of the locked-out workers.) In addition, library workers have been raising questions about the lack of conclusive research on coronavirus transmission on library materials; the use of precious PPE and sanitizing supplies for providing a non-essential service; and the example of putting both workers and residents into unnecessary interactions with each other to provide a non-critical service during a Stay-At-Home order. Books are great, but lives are essential!

Library workers ask that the community does not use Library Curbside services at this time. Instead, please take advantage of the many other remote services that Hennepin County Library is offering, and advocate for more robust remote services to bridge the digital divide!

All Hennepin County Libraries are closed to public. For Updated information on Hennepin County Library services during the Coronavirus Pandemic, visit www.hclib.org. All information is accurate as of April 19, 2020

Ask Us: Have a reference or library account question? Call, text, chat with, or email a library worker
<https://www.hclib.org/contact>
Call 612-543-KNOW (5669) to reach library staff by phone.

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Friday-Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday noon 5 p.m.

Español/Spanish: Llame o envíe un texto al 651-503-8013 para recibir ayuda en español.
Hmoob/Hmong: Hu losis text rau lub tsev nyeem ntawv ntawm 612-385-0886 txais kev pab hais lus Hmoob.
Soomaali/Somali: Caawimaad Soomaali wah, soo wac ama qoraal (text) usoo dir maktabada 612-235-1339.

Physical Materials: All due dates have been extended. All holds have been extended.

Book Returns: All library book returns were closed on March 19. Check the library website when they will reopen. PLEASE do not put library workers at risk by returning library materials at this time.

Library Card and Account Information: Contact the Library through Ask Us (above) to get your library account information.
Temporary Library E-Card: If you do not have a Hennepin County Library card and would like to apply for a card to access online resources while we are temporarily closed, Hennepin County residents and property owners can apply online to get a temporary e-card: <https://apps2.hclib.org/ecard>

Online Resources: Hennepin County Library has a smorgasboard of online resources including: Newspapers, Practice Tests, Interactives for Kids, Journals, Encyclopedias, Directories, Local History Digital Archives, Free Downloadable Music, Streamable Movies, Government 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.

Storytimes on Facebook: Hennepin County children’s librarians are hosting storytimes on Facebook. New family storytimes premiere at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, baby storytimes at 3:30 p.m. on Thursdays, and are available on YouTube anytime.

Homework Help: <https://www.hclib.org/programs/homework-help> Online tutoring and online resources (need a library card to access

Other Hennepin County Resources
Hennepin County Resource Helpline 612-348-3000, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., 7 days a week Help available in different languages
If you’re impacted by COVID-19, call for help with clothing, financial assistance, grocery and household supplies, medical care and equipment, or medication.

For people experiencing homelessness
Adults: Call 612-248-2350.
Families: Call 612-348-9410. On holidays, weekends, and evenings until 11 p.m., call 211 (mobile: 651-291-0211) and ask for the after-hours shelter team.

Domestic Abuse Service Center
Advocacy, orders for protection and safety planning services can be accessed by calling 612-348-5073.
We discourage anyone from coming to the domestic abuse service center at the Government Center. But if someone finds themselves there, a conference room has

been set up on the same level equipped with phones to call the services number 612-348-5073. The room is A0710.

Mental health emergencies
Adults 18 and over call 612-596-1223.
Children 17 and under call 612-348-2233.
Text **CRISIS to connect to a crisis counselor.

Community Resources:
Internet Access: Free Wireless Access in Minneapolis
USI: USI opened their WiFi network in Minneapolis 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: 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.

Food:
Waite House Food Shelf
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

Minneapolis Public Schools—
Food for children during closure:
MPS is offering WEEKLY food pick up at nearly 50 food distribution sites across the city of Minneapolis. Each day, up to 10 different sites across the city offer food pick-up from 10 am - 2 pm, Monday-Friday. Each food box contains 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches for a total of 10 meals. Families are welcome to take ONE (1) box per child, per week. Food is FREE and available to ANY child 18 years or younger.
Food pick in or near Phillips:
Monday: Andersen School
Tuesday: Phillips Park, Green School
Wednesday: Peavey Park
Thursday: South High School
Friday: Sullivan School

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/>

Lindsey Fenner is one of the locked-out library workers and is an executive board member of AFSCME Local 2822, representing Library Specialists, Associate Librarians, and Public Service Assistants at Hennepin County Library.

2020 CENSUS—Why you count: Census data determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Tales from
Pioneers and Soldiers
Memorial Cemetery

By SUE HUNTER WEIR
176th IN A SERIES

Covid-19
Postpones
162nd Memorial
Day at the
Cemetery

Remembering Memorial Days Passed

We held off making this decision as long as we could hoping that we would not have to end a 162-year tradition, but we have no choice—this year’s Memorial Day program will not take place as usual or as planned. These are unsettling times for everyone and the most important thing is to keep everyone safe.

Covid-19 is only one of many pandemics that have occurred throughout history. There have also been a number of smaller, local epidemics. In Minneapolis, in the mid-to-late 1900s, outbreaks of typhoid fever occurred every year in the late summer and early fall. Cholera infantum occurred around the same time. There were outbreaks of measles and whooping cough and smallpox. The leading cause of death among adults was tuberculosis (also known as consumption or phthisis pulmonary) which occurred any time of the year. It came to be known as the White Plague and continued to be a leading cause of death well into the twentieth century. The good news is that most of these diseases are now rare in the United States. Better sanitation, clean water, vaccinations, antibiotics, and other medications have saved countless lives.

Attendance at, and participation in, Memorial Day observances has waxed and waned over the years. Newspaper coverage was spottier some years than others so it’s

difficult to get a complete picture of what some of the programs were like and how many people attended. Memorial Day was also widely viewed as the official start of summer—beaches and amusement parks opened for the season. Newspapers advertised that it was time to buy new straw hats, summer dresses, seersucker suits, and spec-

made by veterans of the war and survivors of those who did not come home were still on everyone’s mind. Shops and schools closed, business came to a halt, and in the following decades tens of thousands of people marched through downtown. Women’s organizations made wreaths for every veteran buried in one of the city’s cemeteries, the numbers of



Remembering the Seward Concert Band playing at the Cemetery’s 2018 Memorial Day Celebration. Remembering that the idea for the Band, began in 1977, in the mind of Judy Wohlueter, a Seward Neighborhood oboist, who started talking to neighbors about making music together. Remembering that the Band’s mission is to provide for the education and growth of members and audience through the public performance of music. 400 amateur musicians have played with the Band in the past 43 years and one current member of the band is an original founder.

Remembering that William Henry Seward, namesake of Seward Neighborhood, served as a New York senator--1830 to 1834, NY governor---1839 to 1842, and a U.S. senator---1849 to 1861. After failing a 1860 bid for the Republican presidential nomination, Seward was appointed secretary of state by Abraham Lincoln---1861 and Andrew Johnson to 1869. He was one of Lincoln’s closest advisers during the Civil War, helping to ensure that Europe did not recognize the Confederacy as a sovereign nation.

Russia offered to sell Alaska in 1859 because they were in debt from the Crimean War and believed the United States would off-set the designs of Great Britain, Russia’s greatest rival, in the Pacific. Seward was laughed at for his purchase. People called it “Seward’s ice box” or “Seward’s Folly.” The strategic importance of Alaska was finally recognized in World War II. Alaska became a state on January 3, 1959.

tator shoes to mark the occasion. It was both a somber day and a celebration.

Decoration Day was first formally observed on May 30, 1868, in response to General Logan’s General Order #11. Interest was high at the time since the Civil War had only recently ended and the sacrifices



“Remember when...?”

wreaths increasing each year as veterans passed away. On May 30, 1884, more than 30,000 people attended the program at Layman’s and helped to place flowers and wreaths on graves throughout the cemetery. And Layman’s was only one of the cemeteries where services were held that year.

Through good times and bad, observances were held every May. The pandemic of 1918 occurred in the fall of the year so there was no disruption that year. In May 1919 those who had died in World War I were among those who were honored. During World War II, veterans of World War I and Gold Star Mothers, women whose sons had died during World War II, led the parades through downtown streets.

This year we will need to break the tradition to keep people safe. When it can be done safely, we hope to offer a program—perhaps on Veterans Day. At this point we can only wait and see. In the meantime, stay safe and be well, and enjoy the photos from past Memorial Day observances.



Check out the Phillips West Website:

WWW.PHILLIPSWEST.INFO
PHILLIPSWEST NEIGHBORHOOD UPCOMING EVENTS:
May 7th (Thursday) 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. – Phillips West Community Meeting!
At Alley Newspaper Press date we still are planning to meet May 7th. We will continue to follow Covid-19 recommendations and may re-evaluate if we still plan on meeting as we get closer to May 7th. If you would like more information or would like to get involved with the neighborhood please contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email her at pwno2005@yahoo.com

THE ALLEY NEWSPAPER
IS A MEMBER OF

COMMUNITY
SHARES
MINNESOTA

**CHARITY IS GOOD,
CHANGE IS BETTER**

MARIE SANDVIK CENTER

“Under his wings shalt thou trust” Psalm 91:4b

Marie Sandvik Center paused all in-person ministry services last month due to the covid-19 shutdown.

Our children’s ministry moved to a virtual platform like schools did.

When the restrictions are lifted, we plan to resume our adult chapel services, meals and clothing distributions. We hope to host summer kids club, too.

In the mean time, we are still receiving donations so that we might be supplied to help those with needs. We have many things available for those who need it: clothing, and hygiene packs. On a more limited basis, we have food, diapers, and blankets.

We continue to have sandwiches available to anyone who comes to our east side parking lot and rings the doorbell. (While supplies last.)

If you are in need of any of these things, please follow these steps.

1. Call 612-870-9617 between 11am-4pm, Monday through Friday.
2. Explain what you need and give your call back information.
3. We’ll call you back to schedule a time for you to pick up what we have collected for you.

Don’t lose hope. Cast your cares on the Lord because he cares for you. We care, too.

Call us if you need prayer or would like to be informed when we reopen our doors and resume services. We’ll post on Facebook, too.

17 For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory.
18 So we do not focus on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. - 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (HCSB) -

Marie Sandvik Center
1112 E. Franklin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-870-9617
www.mariesandvikcenter.org
Find us on

2020 CENSUS—Why you count: Accurate demographic data helps MN understand shifting community needs & efficiently direct resources.

2020 Lawns to Legumes: Corcoran + Phillips Demonstration Neighborhood Project



RESILIENT YARDS. RESILIENT PEOPLE.

As we continue to stay home and practice social distancing, we hope that you and your family stay safe and well as we come through this challenging time together.

The **Corcoran + Phillips Pollinator Project** is a grant program that provides funding for native plantings and pollinator-friendly trees and shrubs for your yard to protect our pollinators, other wildlife and our environment. The program includes training on how to care for your landscape.

We are offering this to residents of Phillips community to inspire active healing of the earth. We encourage you to connect to your environment, and help to make a difference from your yard!

For more information, and to sign up for the pollinator project, contact lilah@metroblooms.org or call (612) 293-4027.

You can also learn more by attending an online workshop about making your yard more resilient, from 5:30–8:30 pm, Thursday, May 14. This workshop is free to residents of Corcoran and Phillips neighborhoods. To register: bluethumb.org (check workshops page)



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NEW STORE HOURS

9AM-9PM

9-10 AM will be reserved for older adults and those who have compromised immune systems

For the latest updates, please visit seward.coop/coronavirus/

Peace House Community—A Place to Belong

Remembering We’re (Sort Of) All in This Together

By MARTI MALTBY

In one sense I hate mentioning the Coronavirus pandemic, because no one needs to be reminded of it and I would love to provide an escape from it. On the other hand, it has illustrated one of society’s strange paradoxes that has been on the edge of my thoughts since last year.

When it comes to surviving the pandemic, many people say that “We’re all in this together”, meaning we (as individuals) need to cooperate with the measures that we (as a society) must follow to stop the disease from spreading. Those people want to evoke an image of community, cooperation and everyone pitching in to accomplish a common cause.

And how do we do this? By staying as far from each other as possible, minimizing social (let alone physical) contact and generally isolating ourselves from each other. While we can still call, text or email each other, we can’t actually do anything together, at least not without risking each other’s health. Ironically, in the past when someone got sick, friends and neighbors might bring chicken soup or stop by to say hi, just to encourage the person and meet their needs. Now, sickness has become the period of greatest isolation. Even just the potential of having been exposed, the mere possibility that someone will get sick, is enough to isolate someone. It seems that our practice of “being in this together” demands that we come up with a modern phrase to illustrate what we mean.

This all brings me back to the paradox I mentioned earlier. As a society, we constantly try to balance the need to be together with our natural tendency to move away from anyone or anything that strikes us as at all threatening. Society, by definition, means people are together, and yet society is where we meet the “other,” the person who looks different from us,



That’s Catherine Mamer, dressed as a witch, at a Peace House Halloween party; whose poetic words Mike Hazard highlights within “Poetical Picture Story” on page 5. “I love that it is a little United Nations ...so many people...so much difference...together....if Peace House Community did not exist, I would have to invent it.”

who has different values, who will upset what I see as normal, and who may try to take what is mine.

The paradox was summed up beautifully for me a few months ago when I heard about a homeless man who was invited to attend a church service. His was hesitant to accept the invitation, explaining that “I’ve been in lots of church basements. That’s where they serve the meals. I just never thought they wanted me in other parts of the church.” As a Christian, I relate well to the man’s comment. It’s so easy to intellectually value community but work against it in practice. In this time of pandemic, it makes sense to ask everyone to practice social distancing as a way of caring for others, but we often do this without recognizing the emotional damage that isolation causes.

Of course, there is no solution or “right” answer here. Protecting the vulnerable from the pandemic is vitally important, but when that means shut-in grandparents can’t visit newborn grandchildren, domestic violence increases because of the stress of sharing a small apartment with others, and families cannot properly mourn the death of a loved one because funerals are now unhygienic, the “right” answer seems barely better than the alternative.

Transit

Transit and the Coronavirus

By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

Last month, I wrote about a restructure of Rochester Public Transit since there was no news about transit in Phillips or the Twin Cities in general. Ironically, The Alley Newspaper submission deadline was just two days before Metro Transit made the first of two major service cutbacks due to the closure of certain businesses and the Stay At Home order.

By now, most people should know Metro Transit closes down from 11 PM to 4:30 AM each night, and that most routes are on a Saturday schedule on weekdays. Presumably, normal service will be restored when this crisis is over.

Even in normal times, I don’t get out much anymore, and I’ve only been for one bus ride since this mess began. That was to help a friend who has a bad memory and gets lost easily going shopping at a location he doesn’t know how to get to by himself. (Caring for others is a legitimate reason to travel under the order.)

One thing I immediately noticed is how empty the buses are. Many have literally no people on board. One or two people seem to be more common. The most I encountered on any bus I rode while helping my friend was about six. This was on a weekday with the return half of my trip being during the typical rush hour. It was quite surreal.

Metro Transit is even foregoing fare collection on buses with a back door. (You are still supposed to pay on buses with no back door and on BRT and light rail.) This is so people can board and exit using the back door and not go near the driver, to avoid giving him or her the virus if they have it. At least Metro Transit admits the health of bus drivers is



more important than a few dollars. That is a step in the right direction towards logical thinking.

The current travel restrictions are supposed to be lifted 4 May. Personally, I predict the Governor is going to extend them again; I don’t think we’ll have the coronavirus under control by then. I read somewhere that similar restrictions were imposed for 116 days in Minneapolis and 71 days in Saint Paul during the flu epidemic of 1918. A repeat would take us to June or July. Please stay well, safe, and at home!

2020 CENSUS—Why you count: MN’s representation in U.S. House could shrink from 8 to 7 in what would be the first loss in a half-century.

Peace House Community
“Poetical Picture Story”

“A Little United Nations”

By MIKE HAZARD

“As the person who has been at Peace House Community the longest (34 years), my heart is breaking,” emails Catherine Mamer. “Never did I think it would come to this, but I realized it was the only choice we had.” Peace House Community has had to close the doors for now to keep everyone at a safe distance.

“What do I love about the Peace House Community? Almost everything,” enthuses Catherine. “I love that it is a little United Nations. Where can you find so many people of so much difference all together and getting along? I love that people are mostly respected and learn to care about one another. I love that people who have moved away come back and are so happy to see us still here.

“I love that people write to us from prison and tell us how much they miss us and can’t wait to come for coffee and meditation when they get out. I love meditation and that people share their wisdom and their pain and their life with others. I love that our volunteers are dedicated and never miss their days and stay for years.”

People often wonder how they can volunteer at Peace House Community. Catherine answers with her own experience. “I discovered I had so much to learn there, most of all that I was enough and did not have to always give something, but could just ‘be there’ and that was enough. Sitting and being with someone and listening to their joy and pain was enough.”

“Pray God we can reopen and begin welcoming our beloved Community very soon again.” Amen.

**This poetical picture story is by Mike Hazard. It is part of a project called Peace House People. The work will be exhibited at Franklin Library and Peace House when they reopen. The project is funded by an Artist Initiative grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.*

East Phillips Urban Farm & Housing vs City of Minneapolis

BY EAST PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD INSTITUTE

Neighbors Made a Plan:

Neighbors of East Phillips made a plan to buy and use 7.5 acres of land with a building between Longfellow Ave. and the Midtown Greenway and 27th St. and 28th St. when it became for sale in 2014. Led by Little Earth of United Tribes, Somali Chemical Awareness, the Urban Farm Project, the Women’s Environmental Institute, and the East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC), they planned an Indoor Urban Farm for green jobs, second-chance job opportunities and job training, a community commercial kitchen, an all nations World café, Market run by local youth, bike repair facility, and 28 affordable 2 bedroom housing units with start-up funding by DEED grant from the state of Minnesota.

Neighbors Plan Meets City Green Zone Goals & HIA Recommendations :

The Plan’s goals exemplify the Mpls. City Council’s Green Zone resolution; “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.”

City Plan Denies Green Zone Goals, State Laws, and Equity:

The City’s project will 1. Demolish the 236,000 square foot warehouse, 2. Release dangerous arsenic during demolition,; Bring 400+ commercial vehicles and 400 workers vehicles into this already polluted community, 3. Store water & sewer pipes, manhole covers 4. Hot-mix smelly asphalt.

The City is ignoring the recommendations of the State mandated 2017 Phillips Neighborhood Health Impact Assessment for City leaders to REDUCE the traffic and pollution burden on the Community that is the most diverse, least affluent neighborhood in Mpls. that is overburdened with Arsenic and lead pollution, from freeways, cars, trucks, foundry, and asphalt plant; having more emergency room visits from asthma, children’s lead poisoning, heart disease, and ADHD linked to pollutants than any other area in MN. The Southside Green Zone was created to improve this multi-generation pollution tragedy in East Phillips.

The City’s plan also ignores the language and legislative intent of the 2008 Clark/Berglin Environmental Justice law (MN Statute 116.07subd 4a), flaunting their stand as above the law. The authors of the law are ready to testify to their goals and intent in passing this law.

No Community Input Allowed:

The Minneapolis City Council and Public Works staff, prohibited open discussion of the Community Plan in Council and Public Works meetings since it undermined Neighbor’s Purchase Proposal to the previous owner by threatening Eminent Domain. Andrea Jenkins provided 20 minutes on Jan. 20, 2020 six years after we started working on the problem and well after all votes had been taken to support the demolition of the warehouse and prevent any “non municipal use” at the Hiawatha Campus expansion site. The community is thankful to C.M. Jenkins for allowing the neighbors to be heard.

Entire Sears/Roof Depot Warehouse Needed for Neighbors’ Plan

All 7.6-Acres of the Roof Depot site was originally, and is, the goal of the community’s project and would create a more viable project. Note: the City intends to demolish the warehouse without requird Environmental Permits; at any time. The community has requested notification of demolition date, but to no avail.

At least the South East portion of this building is required to create a sustainable Urban Farm Project. Constructing a new building is too expensive rendering the community project unsustainable.

Urban Farm Financial Support

In 2015, there was so much enthusiasm for the Indoor Urban Farm that the community had accumulated commitments for \$9 million dollars in project support and had negotiated a \$5 million dollar purchase price with the owners of the Roof Depot, the previous owner. This was all negated by the unethical threat of eminent domain by the city.

Opportunity is Still Possible

The City and State will miss an incredible opportunity to work with a challenged inner city neighborhood in a way that would benefit the local economy, work-force, and win awards as a model for cities everywhere.

Please Help Reverse City’s Momentum & Power

Please express your concern over this situation to Mayor Frey(jacob.frey@minneapolismn.gov), and the Minneapolis City Council(all can be reached at city-councilmember@minneapolismn.gov) who have voted unanimously against the East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm project in favor of more pollution.

Please Thank State Senators Patricia Torres Ray, Jeff Hayden, Scott Dibble, Bobby J Champion, Kari Dziedzic and State Representatives Hodan Hassan, Aisha Gomez, Jean Wagenius, Frank Hornstein, K Dziedzic, Fue Lee and All who SUPPORT the Urban Farm Project. We look forward to your response and support as we work together for Environmental and Economic Justice in our City and our State.

Please copy your communication and responses to this letter to Brad Pass at bpass@usinternet.com. For questions, Brad can also be reached at 612-916-8478. www.EPNIfarm.org

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Or Text to Give: text mealsformedics to
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Thank you to The Minneapolis Foundation for initial funding and support!

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2020 CENSUS—Why you count: Get Help in Times of Need. Many 911 emergency systems are based on maps developed from the last census.

In the Heart of the Beast Theatre Executive Leadership Transition

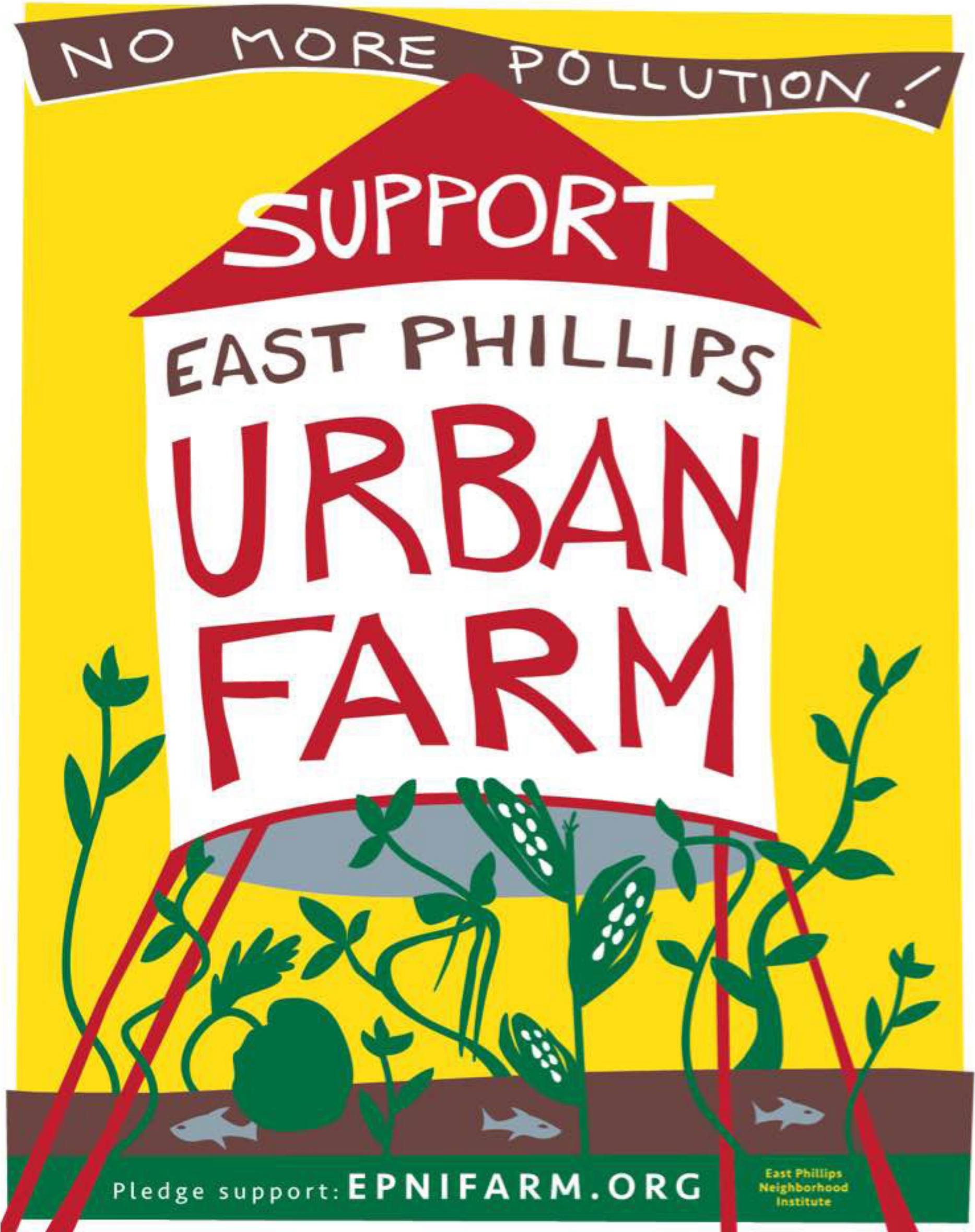
Lisa Marie Brimmer & Claire Curran begin as Interim Co-Executive Directors of In the Heart of the Beast Theatre on May 1st as Corrie Zoll ends his five tenure as Executive Director

By CLAIRE CURRAN
Lisa and Claire bring creative, equitable, community-centered skills from their past work and artistic experience. We're very excited to have their leadership and perspectives at HOBT in this unprecedented moment.

Lisa Brimmer, artist and arts administrator, recently Interim Co-Executive Director of Cedar Cultural Center and member FREE BLACK DIRT collective, Lisa has been a critical part of designing, recruiting, and convening HOBT's MayDay Council since October 2019.

Claire Curran has been HOBT's Communications Director for two years, and previously led Communications and Campaigns at Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light. Claire has been a core part of leading the organizational culture shifts necessary for HOBT to embrace a more equitable future.

— — — — — ✂ Cut here for poster. Post this in a window or on a door to show your support for East Phillips Urban Farm Project! — — — — —



2020 CENSUS—Why you count: Non-profit organizations use census numbers to estimate the number of potential volunteers in communities.

Common Sense Continued from page 1

During Covid-19, increased awareness of inequities of healthcare, housing, food, and jobs demands more common sense for the common good of everyone.

Nonetheless, the Mpls. City Council and Staff are continuing to flaunt their power against our neighbors’ Urban Farm, Affordable Housing, and Jobs Center Initiative in the highly diverse and low-income East Phillips area near public transportation. The City is going up against laws, and against their own environmental Green Zone Guidelines as they continue to seize control of the seven acres of land and a 236,000 square foot building (recently renovated) adjacent to Little Earth of United Tribes Housing, other residences, the Midtown Greenway, Pioneer and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, Smiley’s Point Health Clinic, Hi-Lake Shopping Center, and close to the YWCA and a Hennepin County Service Center and Transportation Hub. On this vital land, the City is forcing creation of a large storage depot and large truck and car parking lot.

In 1975, one half of Little Earth of United Tribes housing was uninhabitable and almost demolished only three years after it was built. This was partially due to substandard design and construction; more significantly, it was threatened because of greed to seize prime development land near downtown Minneapolis and on the route to Mpls.-St. Paul International Airport—Hiawatha Avenue. That

threat was fought and won by neighbors and the American Indian Movement. Once again, land in the same area is threatened by greed, institutional racism, and incompetent urban planning; all made worse by conflicts of interest by key City politicians and bureaucrats.

Continued development of seven acres for warehousing and truck parking by the City is counterintuitive and counterproductive to the merits of the site, well-being of neighbors, goals of Green Zoning incentives, and good urban planning. Releasing more pollutants during demolition—including the arsenic beneath the large building—and adding more vehicular pollution adjacent to housing and four forms of less polluting transportation is counter to commonsense.

Wendell Phillips, namesake of the Phillips Community, said it well seventeen decades ago, “Commonsense doesn’t ask for an impossible chessboard, it takes the one before it and plays the game.” City of Minneapolis: Take the situation and land before you, use commonsense, and do the right thing. Listen to voices from the past, like Wendell Phillips, but much more importantly, listen to the voices of “the many” TODAY. Join in adapting the seven acres into the new norm of housing, jobs, transportation, food distribution, and cultural improvisation instead of a metropolitan garage for parking and storage that is much less advantageous for serving the purpose of the common good.



Save the date for a virtual, safe and deeply celebratory Chrysalis MayDay experience on Sunday, May 3rd!

By CLAIRE CURRAN, HOBT
HOBT and the MayDay Council have been in a chrysalis year working to design a more equitable and accessible MayDay Celebration. Now, collectively, we find ourselves in a moment of Chrysalis in Quarantine.

In this time of physical distancing, we know now more than ever that MayDay lives IN the community. We, all of us, ARE MayDay! And we will continue to create together in this time of quarantine.

Check-out hotb.org for art-making workshops with Graci Horne, Ifrah Mansour, and Mike Hoyt; as well as community activities on May 3rd including a grief and healing meditation led by Serita Colette in the morning, and a community sing (from the safety of your home, yard, or porch) in the afternoon.

Remembering Those Who Went Before

By LAURA WATERMAN WITTSTOCK

- Chubs
- SkunnyWundy
- Buckaday
- Gahjeestohd
- Fibber McGee
- Alexander
- Casey
- Winona
- Spice
- Precious Sparkle Monte



“Fondly remembering Winona, a Cairn Terrier, Casey, a Corgi, and all our pets who ‘brought joy and great interaction to our family’”
...Laura Waterman Wittstock

named the big one Chubs. We kept the name because it seemed to suit him. We were recruited for work in Minneapolis and we soon found a house to rent. Chubs slipped out and went straight up the elm tree on the boulevard. I panicked but was convinced he would come down, and he did. By the time we moved to Minneapolis, he weighed about 20 pounds and no dog would cross him. His favorite food was shrimp. All sort of normal except for one bizarre behavior. He liked all Indians but hated Caucasians. If a white guest reached into a cupboard for a hand towel, Chubs, laying in wait, would snarl and scratch their hand viciously. We learned to put towels out and check the cupboard for Chubs’ presence before guests arrived. He loved us dearly and would put his arms around us in loving embraces. His powerful body allowed him to jump from the floor to the top of the refrigerator in one smooth leap. When his hindquarters suddenly failed, the vet told us the end was near. We enjoyed a few weeks, before taking him in. As I said goodbye, he put his arms tightly around my neck. I was sobbing. The vet said the University of Minnesota wanted to autopsy Chubs because of his size and we agreed. We were told he was functioning on a third of his heart. We imagined he did not want to leave us. The truth was he lived a glorious life as a giant cat but paid a price for it.

Alexander, the 80- pound Dalmatian, slept peacefully between us on a double bed every night. He was careful not to push us out of bed, which he could have easily done, but he did make connubial bliss a little tricky. He lived far beyond Dalmatian life expectancy. Some surgery kept his larynx open until he just could not breathe and he went to his beloved vet for a last goodbye.

Buckaday was a stray cat that came to our house and did not leave. He competed with the dogs for tid bits from the table. He could sit up, lift his paw for attention and do any manner of interactions for our regard. His name was Ojibwe for hungry and we said it cost a buck a day to feed him. Once he caught a squirrel and ate the entire thing except the tail.

Unlike Buckaday, SkunnyWundy, named for the Seneca trickster, was a gentle, small tuxedo, as the cats with black and white distinctive markings are called. We tried to keep her in the house but she would have none of that. She visited neighbors and enjoyed their company. She did get the occasional fight abscesses and once I had to cut an abscess open with an X-Acto knife that had been sterilized. She recovered nicely. She lived to 19 always looking like an adolescent cat.

Going through the whole list might be tedious but I can’t leave it without talking about Gahjeestohd. She was named shining light for her dazzling personality. I picked her out of a puppy group. She ran over and jumped into my arms. It was a choice made by the spirits. I put her in a little puppy box and on the plane with me. She came to her family in Minneapolis and loved everyone. Her Cairn Terrier cheerfulness allowed her to make friends with all she met. But something soon was wrong. She waited all day for us to come home and often she was sad. Concerned, we asked the vet for his advice and he said, “Get her a dog!” All was well after Fibber McGee came to live with us. Gahjeestohd’s outstanding characteristic

was she could tell moods so when I was sick she knew it practically before I did. She stayed next to me without food or water until I arose out of the bed. She was called our “nurse dog” and she was most beloved by the whole family. When she died at the gentle old age of 17 she was mourned as the brave woman she was, a true warrior.

My husband and I do not have a legal will. Almost instantly we thought about making one but our lawyer was not in his office. We have now worked out an online way to send things back and forth. It took us quite a while to figure out which charities to leave something to and how to give things to our children, grandchildren and our great grandson.

Apparently, from reports in the newspaper, we are not the only ones with this dilemma. Lawyers everywhere are rushing to figure out how to get wills done.

We are far from wealthy but we do have enough to leave a little something behind. I’m amazed to find out how little attachment I have to those things I thought precious when I acquired them. We know our children won’t have room for what we call stuff. We have tried to pass on only junk free items, but it is hard when photos or that special silk scarf is involved.

Next we have to downsize by clearing out the basement where 35 years of stuff have accumulated, some from a previous move – boxes of papers that never were opened. At least we are stuck inside where our work goes on. My husband is teaching his classes online using the popular Zoom and I am still volunteering for Wicoie, the nonprofit that supports language learning for very young children. The blameless parents of the students have had losses beyond imagination. That is true for many communities throughout Phillips and the whole city. Let’s turn our thoughts to them at least once a day and give what we can, whether talent, food, funds of course, and precious time. That’s what we are rich in now.



The EPIC Report – May, 2020

www.eastphillips-epic.com



SPRING HAS SPRUNG



FINALLY IT'S *SPRING!*

&
Garden Plots
are still available

in the

East Phillips Community
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2428 17th Ave. S

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Contact Brad at bpas@usinternet.com or
612-916-8478
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Plots cost \$30.00 Per season. Garden Key - \$5.00 Per Key

Help During the Pandemic:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Free Wi-fi: | Look for "City of Minneapolis Public WiFi" or "USI Wireless" |
| | Contact USI Support at https://usinternet.com/support/ for info & help. |
| Food/school: | Free food during school at https://hungerimpactpartners.org/ |
| Food/students: | Free – 1 Box of 10 meals per student per week. Age 18 or less. |
| | Go to https://nutritionservices.mpls.k12.mn.us/covid19 |
| Unemployment \$ | To apply, go to https://www.uimn.org/applicants/index.jsp |
| Learning portal | Distance learning for MPS Schools go to: https://mpls.k12.mn.us/ |

For Your Calendar:

To get involved in EPIC and East Phillips, Join us
At 6:30 PM on ZOOM on the 2nd Thursday

The EPIC Community Meetings are on the SECOND Thursday of each month – Via ZOOM;
Thursday, 5/14/2020 and 6/11/2020 at 6:30 PM. Watch your E-Mail for your Zoom Invitation .

East Phillips Community Gardeners meet on the second Saturday of Each Month – Via ZOOM;
Saturday, 5/9/2020 and 6/13/2020 at 9:00 AM. Watch your E-Mail for your Zoom Invitation .

East Phillips Residents wanting a 2020 Garden Plot, contact Brad at bpas@usinternet.com or 612-916-8478.
DON'T DELAY – They go fast

The EPIC Board will temporarily meet on the FIRST Thursday of each month – Via ZOOM;
5/7/2020 and 6/4/2020 at 7:00 PM. Watch your E-Mail for your Zoom Invitation .

The EPIC Annual Meeting and the East Phillips Park SummerFest
are both postponed due to COVID-19

LOCAL COVID-19 RESOURCES

These are very challenging times for all of us, but more so for some. Do not feel alone. If you or someone you see in the community needs help connecting to resources, contact us. ***We are all in this together!***

Below is a partial but by no means exhaustive list of local resources.

Practice social distancing, wash your hands often for 20 seconds, wipe down surfaces with disinfectant if you have to leave the house and return, stay at home, and be safe!

Food, health & housing

- Hunger Solutions has referral information for food services: 1-888-711-1151
- Metro Mobility is providing free food order delivery: 651-602-1180
- United Way 211 has resource and referral information 24 hours a day: call 211
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or 1-888-628-9454
- State of Minnesota Coronavirus Hotline: 651-201-3920 or 1-800-657-3903, available 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Need Shelter First Call for Help: 651-291-0211

Legal advice for housing

- HOME Line 612-728-5767 Para Español, llame al 612-255-8870. Af- Soomaali wac 612-255-8860. Hais lus Hmoob, Hu 612-255-7104
- Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid 612-334-5970

Senior Services

- HOME, Household & Outside Maintenance for Elderly, program for older adults age 60+: 952-746-4046
- Meals on Wheels: 612-623-3363
- Help at your door: 651-642-1892
- Senior Linkage Line: 1-888-333-2433

Safety

- Domestic Violence Minnesota Day One Crisis Line: Call: 1-866-223-1111 Or Text: 612-399-9995
Please call 911 in an emergency.

Disaster Distress Helpline

- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Helpline provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to people experiencing emotional distress related to natural or human-caused disasters: 1-800-985-5990
—Saint Paul & Suburban Area Intergroup: Phones answered 24/7: 651-227-5502
—Greater Minneapolis Intergroup: Phones answered 24/7: 952-922-0880

Addiction

- VirtualNA.org for meetings 24/7
- Minnesota Recovery Connection, Twin Cities, MN. Telephone support 612-584-4158 from peer recovery navigators Monday through Friday, 9-5.

Education

- School & child care questions: 651-297-1304 or 1-800-657-3504 (7 a.m.-7 p.m.)

Hennepin County Library

Call 612-543-KNOW (5669) to reach library staff by phone to answer questions, connect you to online resources or recommend your next read.
Mon-Thur 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Sunday noon – 5 p.m.

Donations

- Hennepin County is requesting donations of personal protective equipment: 612-348-3000
- Blood Banks are in desperate need of donations: 612-871-7676

Please support the many Midtown Phillips businesses that continue to serve our community!

MPNAI is now holding virtual board and community meetings via Zoom.

MAY 26, 6:30-7:15 pm

Join us for a forum with Senator Jeff Hayden on COVID-19 Issues

Connect by phone or by web

Please watch our website www.midtownphillips.org for links to join!

MIDTOWN PHILLIPS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.

www.midtownphillips.org | [midtownphillipsminneapolis](https://www.facebook.com/midtownphillipsminneapolis)



VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

MAY '20 NEWS



Tree pullers



Sod kicker



Spring in Minneapolis, Easter 2020



Our Ventura Village Neighborhood Organization, like everyone else, has had to adjust and cancel meetings in March and April. As the weather improves we still want to serve and involve our neighbors. Here are some ideas for May:

-Join us on Saturday, May 16th to plant our "Flowers on Franklin" planters. We'll start at 10 AM at the Trinity First parking lot at 13th and E. Franklin. We'll have plenty of room to keep our social distance. We'll also have seeds, plants, other supplies, and ideas for your gardens.

-If you want to start or add to your own garden we have a tool library to help you. We have specialized tools like a sod kicker, tree pullers, and string trimmers and common tools like shovels and wheelbarrows. We can help you create raised beds or find a place to garden if you don't have one. Contact us at 612-874-9070 or at venturavillage.org.

-You can volunteer at one of our neighborhood gardens. Contact Mel at Mel24thstreetfarm@gmail.com for more information.



Sunflowers at the Pentagon Highrise in one of our raised beds,

Photo Credit: Nardal Stroud

Ventura Village monthly membership meeting cancelled in May



Something to Think About While Sheltering in Place

Story by: Crime Prevention Specialist, Kali Pliego

What comes to your mind at the mention of the word capital? Money, business, stock market, finance, banks? Capital is the seed of an investment. It's the thing of value you start with, that when invested (planted) has the ability to grow and develop into something even better. Non-profits and institutions hold capital campaigns when they plan exciting developments. A synonym for capital could be asset.


I invite you to think differently about capital. What if capital were not about money at all? What if capital were defined by other things that hold intangible value? What would it mean if you considered yourself and your neighbors to be capital in the context of your community? Each of us has a unique set of skills, interests, education, hobbies, personalities, and passions that we carry with us into community. All that stuff is capital. Imagine how your neighborhood might be different (better?) if each neighbor invested some of their capital into it. The University of Minnesota Extension refers to this social capital as 'community glue' (<https://extension.umn.edu/building-trust-communities/social-capital-makes-communities-better-places-live>)

East Phillips/Midtown Phillips' own Banyan Community started with two people, Tim and Joani Essenburg in the 90s, investing their social capital by creating a block club, which led to Kid's Club, youth programs, and a block club network that now serves over 250 families in the Phillips neighborhoods (www.banyancommunity.org to learn more).

In the words of Dave Hawn, President and CEO of Phillips West's Urban Ventures (www.urbanventures.org), "When people intentionally engage in each other's experiences, doors open and the benefits of shared networks multiply." This is the power of social capital when properly invested.

In my own experience working with youth near Guatemala City, a region ravaged by poverty, gangs, and violence, the single most effective tool I possessed to prevent their gang involvement was fostering positive connections between each individual youth and the community—social capital. We did that through community service projects because that's what the youth had capacity to do and it's what the community needed.

I challenge you to think about what capital you have to offer your neighborhood. Is it a skill like gardening, mechanics, or sewing? Time to volunteer for a local charity? Intentional relationships with your neighbors, youth, or kids on your block? Figure out what you have to offer, and then offer it.



Starting Seeds (A Project to Try at Home!)

Story and photo by: Michele Manske, Pillsbury United Communities


This year it hasn't been the weather that's been keeping us inside; it's a global pandemic. With all the emotions that are coming up, let us stay present. What I am seeing is the strength behind the movement of people faced with a challenge, and it brings me hope that collectively we can organize, mobilize, and find solutions. As an urban farmer, I work to change old systems that no longer serve us. I am driven to change the narrative of injustice towards our environment and our neighbors. That is why I'm going to teach you how to start your own garden with items found around your house. This can be grown by your window or in your backyard because there is great power in growing your own food. If you have internet access, you can find my seed starting video on Pillsbury United Communities Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/PUCMN/>, or by searching "Michele starting seeds at home" on Youtube. For those of you who don't have access, read on!

Step one: gather potting soil. This can be ordered online, or found at any local hardware store. Some stores are doing curbside pickup so you don't have to go inside. Call ahead to order. **Step two:** gather old toilet paper rolls, paper towel rolls, or egg cartons. If using paper rolls: crease the roll so it resembles a square instead of a circle. Cut to desired length, for example: cut in half if using a toilet paper roll. Cut slits at the four corners to half way, so you will be able to fold the bottom of the roll like a box. You should have an open ended box, or seedling pot! **Step three:** pre-moisten your soil. You want to mix the water in until you are able to form a ball of soil without water dripping from it. **Step four:** fill your seedling pots. Be careful not to pack the soil in too tightly, as the seeds need room for their roots to grow. **Step five:** place by the warmest, sunniest window in your home. Watch the seeds daily, and water when the soil is starting to look, or feel a bit dry, but be careful not to let them dry out completely.

Continue caring for your seedlings in this way until the second week of May. If you have a space outside to plant continue on. If you are planning to keep plants indoors, it is time to replant them in a larger container. **Step six:** start bringing your seeds outside for a few hours at a time. This is called, hardening off, and allows your seedlings to get used to what will be their new outside home. After 5 days of bringing them outside and back inside at night, they are ready to plant outside! A good rule of thumb is to plant your seedlings outside after May 15th. We rarely get another frost after this date, so your plants will be safe from a frozen demise. When planting outside, dig a hole to the depth of your plants roots and twice as big. Fill with water, place plant in hole and gently push the soil back into the hole.

For more gardening tips or advice feel free to reach out to your local urban farmer at MicheleM@pillsburyunited.org. Happy planting!





First Care Community Clinic to Open New Location in Ventura Village

By: Tammy Kocher, New Life Family Services

Community Care Clinics of Minnesota and First Care Pregnancy Center have plans to build a dual-purpose building in the Phillips community near the corner of Franklin Ave and Chicago Ave (Formerly owned by Gospel Light Baptist Church). Community Care Clinics currently operates out of the heart center in Abbott Northwestern Hospital and plans to split off its prenatal services as well as provide full family medical services. First Care has existed for 47 years bringing hope and help to families by providing pregnancy, adoption and family services. This will be a fifth location for First Care and will focus on their pregnancy and parenting services. Demolition on the property has already begun, with the hopes of building a new 12,000+ sq ft building with an anticipated completion date of late 2020 to early 2021.

2020 CENSUS—Why you count: A certificate from past censuses can be used as proof to establish your age, residence or relationship.

Movie Corner

Covid-19 Stay-at-Home Movie Recommendations

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

During Covid-19, the lights went out in movie theaters across the country along with countless restaurants, bars, sporting event, churches, and schools. At first, crowds of 500 were prohibited, then 100, then 50, and, finally 10. Physical distancing is in order, preferably six feet; yes, wearing masks outdoors is

commonplace now. Since people are strongly encouraged to stay home, I am recommending some movies to watch while sitting on the couch or doing household chores.

Remembering Movies from the Past

1. “Parasite,” rich, in Korean, with English subtitles, 2019.
2. “Once Upon a Time... When We Were Colored,” 1995.

3. “Beast of the Southern Wild,” 2012.
4. “The Haunting,” 1963.
5. “The Producers,” 1968.
6. “Passion of Joan of Arc,” 1928.
7. “Once Upon a Time in Hollywood,” 2019.
8. “The Pink Panther,” 1964.
9. “Whiplash,” 2014.
10. “Attack the Block,” 2011.
11. “A Shot in the Dark,” 1964.
12. “The Women,” 1939.
13. “Nebraska,” black and white, 2013.
14. “Lust for Life,” 1956.
15. “Paterson,” 2016.
16. “Shane,” 1953.
17. “Joker,” 2019.
18. “The Irishman,” 2019.
19. “The Nun’s Story,” 1959.



20. “Roma,” Spanish with subtitles, 2018.

Remembering Continued from page 1

- Remembering: that we are connected.
- Remembering that my health depends on the health of healthcare workers and janitorial workers.
- Remembering that my food depends on the health of everyone in the ecosystem of our food supply: grocery workers, warehouse workers, meatpackers, delivery and truck driver, farm workers.
- Remembering what day it is as days and deadlines have merged; sometimes not a good thing—or not.
- Remembering how interesting to see rooms of famous people and friends Skyping and Zooming from home.
- Remembering those workers who put themselves at risk because they had no other choice.
- Remembering as hysteria grows, world governments are forced to shut the entire planet down and lock everyone in their houses and the only person that can keep people from flipping out and starting a huge riot is a gun toting Oklahoma meth head with 180 pet tigers!
- Remembering the workers who have died.
- Remembering that solidarity can grow in quarantine.
- Remembering: the yellow crocus and dandelion still bloom for the wakening bumblebee, the robins still nest in the budding pear tree, the squirrels still rustle under the uncrinkling rhubarb.
- Remembering: the children still play and sing and laugh and wonder.
- Remembering there is no more Charmin to Squeeze or Mr. Whipple because he would be at home in the “protected class” at his age.
- Remembering ancestors more often; especially who went through hard or harder times, too, and what they can teach us.
- Remembering how misinformation and dismissal of scientist’s warnings led some to “guzzle the Kool-Aid” and add to the distrust between people and some authorities.
- Remembering what has united people’s efforts even while physically separated.
- Remembering inequities exposed more and underscored with a commitment to make change knowing we can.
- Remembering whole new type of jokes like: “I got lost in the woods back in January and I’ve only just now been able to charge my phone. What did I miss?”
- Remembering this joke, too: Covid-19 started in China. The entire world lost their minds. 40% of the population thinks it’s the end of the world, another 40% thinks it’s all fake, and 20% blames the whole thing on cell phone towers.
- Remembering the one thing everyone seems to agree on is that the only way to survive is by hoarding toilet paper.
- Remembering who media overlooked

and how we can remember each other more in appreciation.

- Remembering those who had no home in which to “stay home,” and remembering to value them and help support as part of the whole community.
- Remembering the commitment and service of health care workers.
- Remembering that all work is essential in a community.
- Remembering that without malfeasance of some authorities not only could this corona catastrophe been minimized perhaps it could have been avoided altogether.

others when they needed it.

- Remembering how life has steadily worsened the world for those of us who aren’t behind tall walls and have neither treatment nor a vaccine.
- Remembering the many inequities of health care if I live long enough.
- Remembering how fortunate I was to be healthy and to be able to help

• Remembering Comrade Harry:
Covidiot’s Rally
April 19, COVID-19
Passing from a coma to beyond Mariana held his hand
Take a deep breath...
Stars and stripes seek access to watering holes
nurses face exhaustion and death

M

P

S

MINNEAPOLIS

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Urban Education. Global Citizens.

FOOD PICK-UP SITES

Starting Monday, March 30 MPS will operate nearly 50 food distribution sites offering **WEEKLY** food pick up. Each day, up to 10 different sites across the city will offer food pick-up from **10 am - 2 pm, Monday-Friday.**

Each food box contains 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches for a total of 10 meals. Families are welcome to take ONE (1) box per child, per week. Food is FREE and available to any child 18 years or younger. **Look for the yellow school bus at all MPS food pickup sites!** Make sure your household has adequate refrigeration to store food.

Supplemental groceries will be available for families in partnership with The Sheridan Story. (Please note: Friday, April 3, will be the last day for daily food pick up.)

NW

Northwest

NE

Northeast

CENTRAL

SW

Southwest

SE

Southeast

MONDAY

Farview Park

Lucy Laney

Olson Middle

TUESDAY

Cityview

Jenny Lind

Hospitality House

WEDNESDAY

Hmong Academy

North Commons

THURSDAY

Bethune

Mastery School

Minneapolis PAL

FRIDAY

Folwell Park

Hall

Patrick Henry

NE

Edison

Waite Park

C

SW

Whittier Park

SE

Andersen

Bancroft

Hale

Hiawatha

Bossen Field Park

Green Central

Seward

Phillips Park

NE

NE Athletic Park

C

Anwatin

Marcy Open

SW

Jefferson

Windom

SE

Sanford Middle

South

NE

Northeast Middle

C

Harrison Park

Pratt

SW

Bryant Square Park

SE

Roosevelt

Sullivan

For more information, visit: <https://cws.mpls.k12.mn.us/COVID19>

MARCH 26, 2020

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IN THE SPIRIT OF COLLABORATION AND COOPERATION WITH MINNESOTA'S CURRENT STAY AT HOME ORDER, WE ARE TAKING THESE STEPS...

- OUR DELI & BUTCHER SHOP ON EAST LAKE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE CURBSIDE PICK UP.

- OUR STORES ARE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

- CURRENTLY WE ARE UNABLE TO SHIP ONLINE ORDERS.

- WE WILL CONTINUE TO MISS YOU AND WANT TO KEEP IN TOUCH!

YOU CAN STILL BROWSE OUR WEBSITE AND VISIT US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE. PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH! WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU.

ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE BEST AND EASIEST TO SEND US AN EMAIL OR LEAVE US A VOICE MAIL, WE'LL HAVE ONE OF OUR WONDERFUL HUMANS AVAILABLE BY PHONE MONDAY – FRIDAY, 10 TO 3 CST

BUTCHER SHOP 612 729 9331

INFO@INGEBRETSENS.COM

GIFT SHOP & MAIL ORDER 612 729 9333 (PRESS 1 TO LEAVE A MESSAGE.)

TOLL FREE 800 279 9333

2020 CENSUS—Why you count: Census numbers help businesses and industries reduce financial risk and locate potential markets.

Raise Your Voice
Consuming
the orange
coronafruit

By PETER MOLENAAR

Remembering:

April 14...

Most of the day was spent responding to text messages and calls of concern. Comrade Harry had entered Hennepin County's ICU (COVID-19). Blood oxygen was dangerously low, and failed to improve.

January 8...

The CDC issued a warning.

January, February, March...

Eight campaign rallies and five golf trips are interspersed with, "its a hoax... the corona virus is very much under control... stock market looking very good to me."

April 2...

The economy is imploding and 35 million U.S.A. citizens are in line to lose their private health insurance.

March 3...

After having passed through two sites of infection (Seward Co-op and May Day Cafe) I visited East Lake St. Allina Clinic, but was not tested (no tests available)... I thought, as a senior with damaged lungs that I might die should the symptoms emerge... was not even placed on a prioritized list!

March 4...

The East Lake St. Walgreens had no disinfectant at the check-out counters!

March 20...

Busy cashiers at the 1700 East Lake Stop-N-Shop were frantically disinfecting after each customer, but nobody was disinfecting the gas pump handles!

March, April...

I regularly wage a one person online campaign to have our country's ethanol



supply deployed as a mass disinfectant... but fail miserably.

April 17...

I spent much of the day conveying to friends: in a comatose state of being, Harry's condition has deteriorated over the night...

Now...

Thankfully, my undiagnosed symptoms have remained mild for about two weeks.

Meanwhile...

A Texas senator (the one with small hands) is complaining about all the "free stuff" us regular folks crave... stuff like Medicare and Medicaid. Gosh, Senator, you represent the 10% which owns 80% of our country's wealth, and your people pay a lower tax rate on stock dividends than we pay on wages. Never mind that labor is the source of all wealth, including the wealth most of your 10% are simply born with. Right, Senator?

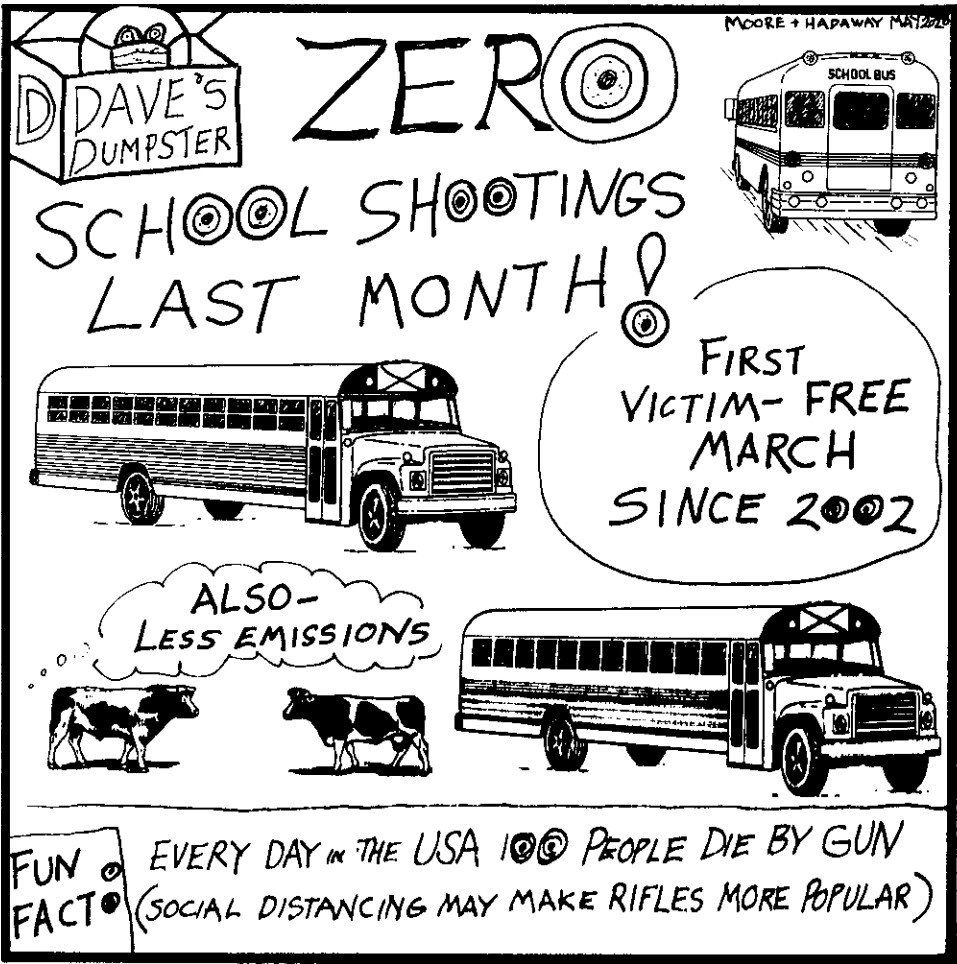
Note:

Sadly, the orange coronafruit has been consumed by the "under educated" lot of the GOP base.

Truthfully, the "inevitable crash" was predicated by Trump's "great tax break" for the parasite class, even as many had foreseen a looming pandemic. So, here we are. I say we demand single-payer universal health care (Medicare for All) or we make the revolution. What do you say?

Copy Editor's Note:

See the poem by Peter Molenaar at the end of Remembering on page 10.



TRUTH
TO THE
PEOPLE

By AL FLOWERS

Veteran activist Al Flowers delivers a daily address, #truthtothepeople, via Facebook, on the corona crisis and our communities.

3PM
Monday through Saturday,
2:30PM on Sundays.
Archived on Facebook

"Returning," Another sequel Chapter of the 35 novella Chapter, "Searching," by Patrick Cabello Hansel will appear in the June issue of *The Alley*.



May Day Café Gift Certificates
now available!
INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE BURRITOS,
COFFEE, AND CROISSANTS!

It's a great way to support us during this time!

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or Venmo@maydaycafe

Put your full name and mailing address in the transaction memo & your certificate will be mailed to you.

May Day Café is temporarily closed until further notice

Something I Said

Corona Crisis Increasing Domestic Abuse

By DWIGHT HOBBS

Remembering:

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz didn't grant license to physically, emotionally and mentally terrorize, issuing the order to stay home when you don't have to be outdoors. Cowards, of course, consider this a gift dropped in their laps and, accordingly, the National Domestic Violence Hotline logged no less than 951 calls for help between March 10 and 24 alone.

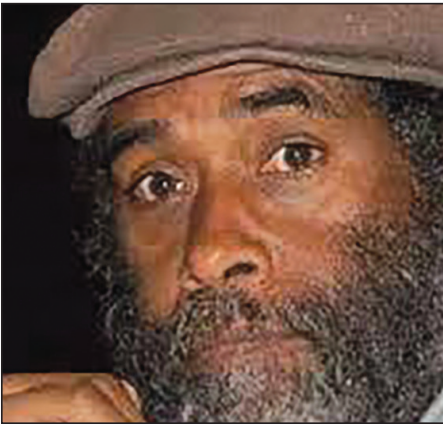
Close quarters, it goes without saying, contribute to conflict in normal circumstances. People simply get on one another's nerves when they've been cooped up too long. Crazy as true love can get, reasonably sane couples manage to drive each other nuts and not come to blows. It's not even a strange idea that this widespread disaster might make them all the more mindful of how rare strong, healthy relationship is. It

is not, by any means, a time to drag out a knee-jerk think-tank rationalization regularly leaned on to clinically assess batterers, "Oh, they have anger management issues." Issues that somehow are managed and never arise when a partner's hulking family member or friend happens to be around. It certainly isn't a time for self-loathing sufferers to say, "it's love." Love doesn't leave knots upside your head. It doesn't put you in the emergency room. It sure doesn't lay you out on a slab in the morgue. For good measure, tragedy on top of tragedy, there are amusing social media anecdotes of parents desperate for a corona cure if only to get kids out from under foot, back in school. Nothing's cute, though, about reported instances of increased child abuse.

It is an international issue. Since the plague, domestic violence increased by almost 40% in a single week in Paris, a city that enjoys an historic reputation for know-

ing how to appreciate women: one romantic stereotype seriously debunked. French can women resort to code words at pharmacies to escape domestic violence during that country's corona virus lockdown. They have this resource because on March 27, the Interior Minister put a strategy in place making pharmacies a lifeline for victims of domestic violence. Even, if the abuser is standing right there. The pharmacist calls the cops and they step in. This kind of thing is also being done in Spain (don't hold your breath hoping the U.S. President follows suit). Right here, March 22nd, a few days before Gov. Walz announced the executive order, was a Sunday, usually the slowest day for Minnesota's domestic abuse hotlines: about 25% more people called in. That number can't help but have grown by now.

With the corona crisis, now, more than ever, domestic abusers have their victims cornered. Which makes it more important



that sufferers show him or her the door. Or get out, themselves. Importantly, there are shelters available despite the virus.

Minnesota Day One crisis center:
1-866-223-1111
Text: 612-399-9995
Emergencies: 911



BACKYARD COMMUNITY HEALTH HUB

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

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

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

 Like us on Facebook



The Practice of Mutual Aid & Community Care

by Nicole Sara Simpkins, Sarah Jane Keavney, Cara Carlson, Minkara Tezet

In mid-March, several community practitioners and elders began sharing concerns about our city’s collective response to Covid-19. In particular, we were concerned for our neighbors who depend on social services, health clinics, and community for their basic needs and safety. We asked ourselves: what will happen when people without housing can’t access public libraries, or the Midtown Global Market? Where will these community members find health and safety information? How can we continue to offer care and knowledge with the Backyard Community Health Hub closed? How will people stay safe when social distancing isn’t possible in crowded shelters? What about the 700+ unsheltered people not currently on any priority list for housing and care?

We also asked, what would it be like to answer these questions from the standpoint of cultural and community wellness, informed by the Cultural Wellness Center’s 21 Principles of Community/Cultural Health Practices? How would this response be different from a state, agency, or hospital system response? Where would the resources, expertise, and support come from?

When systems are tasked with providing care, words like prioritization, eligibility, service delivery, and vulnerability describe how we respond to human needs. Within systems, people become symptoms, risk, percentages. When a community is tasked with providing care, words like context, inherent, tending, relationship, and reflective describe how we experience our health together. People become their capacity, their wisdom, their healing.


The principles of cultural wellness teach us that a “tremendous amount of healing takes place when people take responsibility for their own healing and the healing of their community and when the community takes responsibility for the healing of its members” (Principle 4). Principles 8 and 9 teach us:

- Emphasize prevention over treatment and teach that prevention must involve the whole community.
- View illness as affecting a person within the context of a whole community, not as an isolated event.



The “Mutual” in Mutual Aid

We began to deepen our practice of these principles in mid-March, by showing up to Peavey Park every day from 1-3 PM. We call ourselves The Mobile Outdoor Outreach Drop-In (MOODI), and we offer a practice of mutual aid and community care. We’re focused primarily on our neighbors without shelter - members of our community who exist outside of the systems tasked with providing care. We bring what we know about cultural and community wellness. This includes the cultural practice of hospitality: we offer tea, coffee and hot chocolate, snacks, warm clothing, personal hygiene and wellness supplies, information, knowledge about how to care for ourselves while experiencing stress, connection to on-site needs assessment for medical care, assistance with seeking aid, harm reduction



Today

Yesterday is gone, a dawning of a new day,
called today.
I woke with determination.
I will make today a powerful day.
I will purpose to make it such.
I will do what I can do and be grateful that I
can do something.
I will say what I can say that is positive and
uplifting to me and others.
I will give what I can give and give with a
cheerful heart to myself and others.
I will say tomorrow that yesterday was a
powerful day!

Roberta

items, and, most importantly, presence: care in community.

We recognize the “mutual” in mutual aid - as we, ourselves, experience the mending that takes place when we gather material and cultural resources to share. “We” include teachers, practitioners and learners from the Cultural Wellness Center and Anam Cara; outreach workers from agencies and organizations; activists and community organizers, volunteers and professionals, herbalists, and people who live and care in a web of overlapping communities. The cultural resources come from ourselves, our bodies, our hearts and spirits, our training and expertise, our resilience and our networks. The material resources come from our connections with people who recognize our shared humanity and who are able to share their excess and abundance. We ask, we talk, and we offer to redistribute.

We are mindful of what it means to show up to this work during a pandemic. If we do not apply the principles of care, wellbeing, and “best practices for safety” when it comes to our own health, we will undermine our work. In truth, we are only ever as safe as the most vulnerable people in our communities. In this time of Corona, we encounter this stark truth in a new way: we are not separate beings. When we keep ourselves safe from exposure to the virus, we keep our community safe. When we provide increased safety to our community, we keep ourselves safe.

MN ‘Shelter-In-Place Order

On Friday, March 27, Governor Walz issued what is now referred to as a “Shelter-in-place” order: all persons currently living within the State of Minnesota are asked to stay at home, unless to engage in essential services. As community care practitioners, we gathered in the park after this announcement, standing in a very wide circle, with 6 feet between each of our bodies, and attempted to figure out what this might mean for us and the people we are caring for. We figured out that yelling across the space with our homemade masks wasn’t going to get us far, so we started meeting weekly online to support our on-site work.

Waltz’s order contains the following note: “Individuals without a home are exempt from the restrictions in this Executive Order, and they may move between emergency shelters, drop-in centers, and encampments. Encampments

should not be subject to sweeps or disbandment by state or local governments, as such sweeps or disbandment increase the potential risk and spread of COVID-19.”

Community Responsibility for Safety

As days and weeks pile toward months ahead, we continue to question what it means to take community responsibility for safety during this time. We know that, pre-Corona, there were inadequate shelter beds, a housing crisis, and pre-existing outbreaks of disease and poor health. We know that community members experiencing these conditions are disproportionately black, indigenous and people of color. We know that in actuality, this systemic scarcity is a creation; in factual reality, there are enough rooms, beds, meals and money within our city to house and nourish all of us. Pandemic conditions heighten the brittleness of what has been.

We continue to show up in the park from 1-3 each day, practicing an attitude of cultural dignity and community connection (Principle 15) as we care for one another. We continue to reflect on what is needed during this time. As we seek to address the concerns that first brought us together, we are asking, how can this moment become a chance for healing and learning? How can we see cracks where the light gets in to provoke shifts toward truthful, stronger, and lasting wellness?

These questions spin threads that strengthen us toward becoming a community in service to itself. CWC Principle 7 teaches us, “Present, when possible, lifestyle changes and renewed decision-making within a cultural context as preferable to clinical options.” This is how we are showing up with a renewed sense of purpose - out of concern for the lived conditions of our neighbors, friends, family, and ourselves - we become a community who cares for itself.



MOBILE OUTREACH DROP-IN

1-3pm DAILY @ Peavey Park 730 East 22nd Street - MPLS, MN

TO VOLUNTEER, email:
covidmobileoutreachmn@gmail.com

TO DONATE \$, visit:
<https://www.givemn.org/story/Mxmjeg>

TO DONATE SUPPLIES:
 Drop off **highly sanitized** items at Peavey Park between 1-3pm or email covidmobileoutreachmn@gmail.com to request a pick-up.

Basic resources for unsheltered homeless:

- Outdoor/Camping Gear
- Water & Non-Perishable Food
- Hygiene Items
- Wellness Items

Needs assessment:

- Basic medical information
- Service and eligibility access