

Tips from a COVID-19 Case Investigator

By LINDSEY FENNER

How to gather together indoors

As we spend more time indoors, it's important to keep in mind all of the ways we can reduce risk of spreading COVID-19 and still spend time with family and friends. Unfortunately, smaller social gatherings are a very common way that coronavirus spreads. Numbers are rising and the virus is much more widespread across Minnesota and our neighboring states. This means that we are going to have to work together

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Robert Albee 1945 - 2020

Remembering Bob Albee

By CARZ NELSON

Bob Albee was a great neighbor. He was a paragon of community involvement; his decades of work in Phillips spanned innumerable issues and organizations. He was generous as a mentor and a role model. He was a champion for social change. His work was fundamental to many neighborhood institutions that will continue well beyond his own life. Bob Albee has died, but his contributions to society will live on.

the alley Newspaper owes a special debt to him for his work with the newspaper. He was on *the Alley* Board of Directors from 1996 until late 1999. He was also the creator and first editor of the Ventura Village Neighborhood News feature in *the alley*.



Albee was from Huron, South Dakota. He graduated from the University of South Dakota in 1969 with a MA in the fields of Political Science and History. He helped start the radio station WOJB in the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation in Wisconsin in 1982. The station continues to bring community radio to the North

Country to this day.

In 1991, he became the Assistant Director of the American Indian Community Development Corporation. In this role, he helped to revitalize East Franklin Avenue. He worked on projects like the Many Rivers East and West apartment buildings at 1400 and 1500 East Franklin Avenue.

With his wife Sharon, Bob developed A Partnership Of Diabetics (A-POD), a diabetes education and support program operated by and for people with diabetes initially as one of several other Community Health Action Teams within the Backyard Initiative, a partnership between community residents in seven neighborhoods and Allina Health, facilitated by the Cultural Wellness Center. A-POD eventually formed as its own non-profit organization. Albee received the Bruce Zimmerman Award from the Minnesota Department of Health in 2014 for his work in promoting diabetes self-management and empowering participants in their interactions with health care providers.

Albee served on the boards of numerous nonprofit organizations, including the Green Institute and Phillips Community Energy Co-op. He was an advocate for the Phillips Community Center and the Ventura Village neighborhood.

In 2017, he moved to Lynwood, Washington to be near family. After a short battle with cancer, Albee died on October 6, 2020.

When the COVID-19 pandemic is under control, (hopefully this spring,) a celebration of Bob Albee's life will be held in Minneapolis.

Bob Albee was passionate about talking with people, embellishing conversations and information through print and radio, and then welcomed and effectively used social media as it has evolved. Bob was the first and creative editor of Ventura Village News published in the alley newspaper beginning six years ago after being an Alley Communications Board member for four years in the late 1990's. Bob was an amazing, dedicated, and inveterate good neighbor in meetings, yes, but most importantly, in person on the street, in their home, also at their home and backyard as he was always personably reaching out to others. We

have missed him in the Phillips Community since they moved to the Seattle area, but he left memories and footprints here for us to follow and

reminding us as Chief Seattle said, "Take only memories; Leave only footprints."

- Harvey Winje, *the alley* Newspaper Editorial Leadership Team

Bob did a lot of good things in the Native American community in Minneapolis over the decades that he lived there. He also spent a lot of time working in the Phillips neighborhood to improve the lives of people living here. For example, he fought to keep the swimming pool from being cemented in at the Phillips Community Center, believing that inner city kids need a place to learn to swim, and need access to such recreational places. He also ran diabetes meetings there since he suffered from that himself. Personally, for me Bob was a friend and mentor. He was on The Circle board for a long time and he cared deeply about our community and the newspaper. Overall, he led a life of service to other people and he is dearly missed.

- Cat Whipple, Managing Editor of The Circle.

Bob was a tireless champion for the Ventura Village and Phillips Neighborhoods and the people in the community. He saw possibilities and wanted to get things done. Almost 20 years ago, shortly after I joined the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, I was serving as center director at Stewart Park and Bob was kind, supportive and a true collaborator. He served as a bridge between the park and the community and he opened a lot of doors for me, which resulted in great connections and opportunities to develop great programming. Later, he was at the center of the transformation of the Phillips Community Center. He knew the importance of, and the need for, programming and services for those in the neighborhood. He really rallied for building renovations and rebuilding the pool. He was part of a group of passionate neighborhood advocates that worked with park staff to make the Phillips Community Center a great destination for youth and families. Bob will be missed by all who knew him and admired him. - Superintendent Al Bangoura, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Park & Franklin Lofts Resumes

By DOUG HOVELSON, Tuffa Associates

The constructing of a 43-unit, four-story apartment building at Park Ave. and East Franklin Ave., in the Ventura Village neighborhood has resumed.

Tashitaa Tufaa, the building owner, says it will help fill a need for moderately priced, family-oriented rental housing in the core neighborhoods of south Minneapolis. "The focus of Park Franklin Lofts is to create attainable housing for people and their families who live and work in the city," says Tufaa, who is a Twin Cities resident and business owner.

The 35,000 sq. ft. building's main entrance will be on Park Ave. and will have nine 3-bedroom and eight 2-bedroom apartments, along with 13 1-bedroom and 13 studio apartment homes. Tenant

on-site parking is a 17-stall off-street surface parking lot for tenant use.

Tufaa started the project in the winter of 2017-18; but halted soon in 2018 because of its general contractor filing for bankruptcy just as the concrete foundation was started. Despite the setback, Tufaa clung to his dream, "I never gave up on the project, but I had to regroup and find a new project manager and construction partner." He also had a growing school transportation business, Metropolitan Transportation Network (MTN), to operate.

Patrick McGlynn, McGlynn Partners LLC., is overseeing project development. "My job as the developer is to complete Tashitaa's vision of creating more attainable housing in an area of the city that really needs more housing,"

says McGlynn. "Also, this is a privately financed project - we are showing that this type of project can be done without public financing." Ebert Construction, from Corcoran MN, is the general contractor on the project. Coulee Bank in St. Paul is supplying project financing.

It would be a plus if the project inspired more affordable/attainable housing proposals from other developers, says McGlynn, who believes there are more opportunities to pursue in the core cities.

"The building details are designed to complement and enhance the architecture of the surrounding neighborhood," says Damaris Hollingsworth, project architect from Design by MELO. The building exterior includes a mix of corrugated metal, brick and

wood elements at key locations for visual appeal. Brick complements the mix of brownstone and brick exteriors of a nearby church and residential row houses, while wood finds its match in the wood siding of adjacent single-family houses, says Hollingsworth.

Continued on page 3



Tashitaa Tufaa speaking



<https://www.givemn.org/organization/Alleynewspaper>

thealley

Alley Communications IS connecting neighbors, promoting art and culture, advocating for issues, building health community, facilitating deliberation, lifting every voice, documenting history, agitating for change, giving truth and democracy a jog forward.

Guided and Informed by: Phillips residents

Governed by Directors: Cathy Strobel-Ayres, Pres.; Thorbjorn Adam, Steve Dreyer, Lee Leichtenritt, Frances Mendenhall, Steve Sandberg.

Operated by Editorial Leadership Team: Lindsey Fenner, Mary Ellen Kaluza, Carz Nelson, Minkara Tezet, Harvey Winje, and Meena Mangalvedhekar;

Facilitated by Coordinators: Program and Engagement Coordinator, MeenaMangalvedhekar, et al.

Page Coordinators: Steve Dreyer and Julia Robinson-Frantsvog, VV News; Brad Pass, EPIC News; Sunny Sevigny, MPNIA News; Roberta Barnes and Susan Ann Gust, BackPage.

Hard Copy Graphic Design and Social Media: Meena Mangalvedhekar.

September journalists to the alley :

Roberta Barnes, Cultural Wellness Center’s Backyard Health Hub, Steve Dreyer, East Phillips Neighborhood Coalition, Lindsey Fenner, J. Marie Fieger, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Sue Hunter Weir, Marti Maltby, Tim McCall, Howard McQuitter, Midtown Phillips Neigh. Assoc., Carz Nelson, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Niemer-Fieger, Brad Pass, Kali Pilego, Julia Robinson-Frantsvog, Sunny Sevigny, Ventura Village Neighborhood, John Charles Wilson, Sharon Albee, Al Bangoura, Chase Bank, The Circle, Patrick Cabello Hansel, Martini Cuccioli, Dwight Hobbes, Doug Hovelson, Carz Nelson, Pangea World Theater, Bruce Silcox, Dawn Sommers, Sandy Spieler, Tuffa Associates, Cat Whipple

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the alley is delivered to every house in Phillips by Jeff Matson and to 170 apartments, businesses, places of worship, institutions in Phillips and in nine adjacent *alley* radius neighborhoods by Peter Molenaar.

Board meetings: 6:30 PM 1st Thursday by Zoom. Editorial Leadership Team 2nd and 4th Mon. Mornings by Zoom and virtual conversations as needed.

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

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

Submissions due the 15th day of the previous month.

email: copydesk@alleynews.org



Library News

By CARZ NELSON

For updated information on Hennepin County Library services during the Coronavirus Pandemic, visit www.hclib.org. All information is accurate as of October 15, 2020

Franklin Library at 1413 E Franklin Avenue is open for computer use. Call (612) 543-6925 to make an appointment. The building will remain locked, but staff will let you in at your appointment time. Masks are required and will be provided if you do not bring one. Because of social distancing, staff will be unable to offer computer assistance. You will have access to a desktop computer, Internet, and printing. You will need to bring your own headphones. At this time, Franklin Library is open for computer use ONLY. Other areas and services, including book/DVD checkout, are not available. They will be accept-

ing returns during staffed service hours.
Franklin Library Computer Hours
Tuesday & Wednesday – 9 AM to 5 PM
Thursday – Noon to 8 PM
Friday & Saturday – 9 AM to 5 PM
Sunday & Monday – Closed
Franklin Library meal pick-up for youth, Thursdays Noon - 2 PM
For ages 18 and under. Pick up a week worth of free meals. Caregivers can pick up meals for youth who are not present. Meals include sandwiches, milk, fruit, vegetable, and snack.

Connect with the library social worker outside Franklin Library, Wednesdays 9am- 5pm:
• Basic needs (clothing, food, meals, shelter)
• Chemical Health
• Disability Services
• Education & Employment
• Hennepin County Benefits
• Housing
• A listening ear
• Mental Health Resources
• Transportation
Grab and Go Library Service at Hosmer Library: Hosmer Library, 347 E 36th St., is open for retrieving holds, limited browsing of materials, checking out items, returning library materials, quick

reference support, computer appointments and printing. Meeting rooms, study rooms, children’s play areas, and lounges will not be available for use at this time. Masks are required and will be provided if you don’t bring one. Check the library website for up-to-date service information and hours.

Homework Help
Live, virtual tutors are available through Help Now www.hclib.org/programs/home-work-help.

Physical Materials
Due dates for physical materials continue to be automatically extended. You are not required to return materials at this time. Libraries are accepting returns during staffed service hours only. Items will be removed from your account after a three-day quarantine.

Online Library Events:
The Virtual Cooking Program is coming soon. This program will feature videos from local kitchens such as Sioux Chef and Green Garden Bakery. Check the library website for dates and times.

There are a growing number of online library events! Check out the schedule by going online to www.hclib.org and click on “Events”.

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

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Call **612-543-KNOW (5669)** to reach library staff by phone.

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SUNDAY NOON – 5 p.m.

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SOOMAALI/SOMALI: Caawimaad Soomaali ah, soo wac ama qoraal (text) usoo dir maktabada 612-235-1339.

Carz is a Phillips resident and an enthusiastic patron of Hennepin County Library.

METRO TRANSIT

Onward, Funding Transit!

By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

October 2020 has been an excellent month for Twin Cities transit enthusiasts. We are finally getting guaranteed funding for three and a half projects:

• The Federal Transit Administration made a Full Funding Grant Agreement with the State of Minnesota for the Green Line extension to Eden Prairie. This provides \$928.8 million towards the

\$2,002 million needed for the project, with the remainder being funded locally. Construction has been under way for two years, and completion is expected by 2023.

• The Minnesota House passed an infrastructure bonding bill which provides funds to start construction of the B and D Lines, which are bus rapid transit. The B Line is planned for Lake Street as a faster version of Route 21, similar to Route 53 except for using Selby Ave. in Saint Paul rather than I-94. The D Line will be a faster version of Route 5, serving the Chicago Ave. S. and Fremont Ave. N. corridors. Construction is expected to begin in 2021 on the D Line and 2022 on the B line.

It should take about two years for each line.

• Included in the bill is funding for preliminary planning and engineering work for the E Line, which is intended as a faster version of Route 6. Assuming that full funding eventually comes, construction could start as early as 2023.

This is definitely good news and a reminder that our transit system isn’t dead, it’s just sleeping its way through the COVID-19 pandemic. Though I am personally mad at society for believing in forcing health on people, I will be glad when it’s over so things go back to normal, like being able to dine in at restaurants, browse books at the library, or just sit down in a public place.



SEIU Healthcare MN members went on a two-day Unfair Labor Practices strike at Abbott Northwestern Hospital on October 5 and 6. Striking Radiology Technologists at Abbott have been bargaining with Allina Health since May. Among other issues, SEIU members are fighting for the same COVID-19 quarantine pay and benefits as other workers at Allina.

Photo Courtesy of SEIU Healthcare MN

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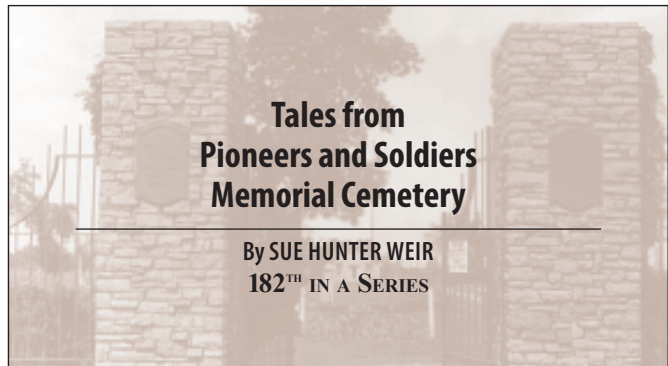
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A Good Time to Be Born

Despite being bombarded daily with alarming news stories about the novel coronavirus, there is good news about health. In a recent New York Times article, Dr. Perri Klass declared this to be a good time to be born. Children born in the United States today are likely to live longer than their parents and the diseases that killed so many children in the past are very much relics of the past. It is, she wrote, “A good time to be born.”

In the early 20th century, that was not the case. As many as 20% of American children did not live until their fifth birthdays. And those who did were still vulnerable. There are 227 children who died at the age of five buried in the cemetery. How did these children who were seemingly healthy and who had survived many of the diseases that took younger children die?

There were a small number, about ten, accidental deaths but most deaths were caused

by diseases or infections that are preventable or treatable in our day. Common causes of death were membrane croup, spinal meningitis, scarlet fever and typhoid. But perhaps the biggest threat posed to children was diphtheria. It claimed the lives of 71 of the 227 children—31% of them. Young children and adults over the age 40 were the hardest hit by the disease.

There are many superficial similarities between typhoid and novel coronavirus. In their early stages, they look much like colds—fever, sore throat, and loss of appetite—but those early symptoms eventually lead to greater respiratory distress. Both diseases are spread through air-borne droplets broadcast by someone who is already infected. The incubation period is about two to three weeks for diphtheria and approximately five to 14 days for coronavirus.

What’s different is that diphtheria can be prevented. A



John Wesley and Elinor Lockwood lost three children between 1881 and 1889. Five-year-old Lottie died from typhoid in 1881. Eight-month old Harry died from cholera infantum in 1885, and seven-month-old Lawrence died from pneumonia in 1889. Each of those diseases is treatable or preventable today. It’s a good time to be born.

vaccine was discovered in the 1920s. The number of cases plummeted and diphtheria is no longer a cause of death in the United States although it remains a factor in other parts of the world.

A curious feature of the English language is that we have words for adults who have lost their spouses (widow or widower) and words for children who have lost one or both of their parents (orphan, motherless or fatherless child) but we don’t have a word for parents who have lost a child. There is no single word that captures their grief and sense of loss. And many of the parents of the

children who died at the age of five suffered more than a single loss. It was not uncommon for families to lose a second child within days, weeks, or months of the first and often from the same disease. Other families lost children over a period of years from a number of different causes.

The Madison family lost five-year-old Martin in February 1864, and ten-week-old Albert four months later; both died from diphtheria. The following year a three-week-old baby, also named Martin died from diphtheria. In 1880 the Hendrickson family lost five-year-old Julia on Decem-

ber 31st, less than two months after they had lost 11-year-old Andrew. These are just two of the hundreds of families whose heartbreak was magnified by the loss of more than one child.

Where is the good news in all of this? If those children were born today, the vast majority of them would have survived to adulthood. We know how and have the means to prevent the diseases that took so many lives. Vaccination, antibiotics, and public health education all save lives. And simple things—wearing a mask to avoid coming into contact or spreading air-borne diseases, avoiding crowds, and handwashing—are among the most effective. It is, as Dr. Klass noted, a good time for a child to be born.

Park & Franklin Lofts

Continued from page 1

Tufaa developed MTN into one of the leading private school bus operators in the



6th ward Councilmember Jamal Osman speaking

state. As a real estate investor, Tufaa hopes to make an impact on society by helping produce more attainably priced housing in city neighborhoods. “We are responsible for creating affordable housing for people in our society,” he says.

The Park & Franklin project



Councilmember Andrea Jenkins speaking

brings him back to his early days as an immigrant to the U.S. “I lived in an apartment just four blocks away from the Park and Franklin intersection when I first arrived in Minnesota from Ethiopia,” he says. “I know that part of the city very well, I love it, and I am excited to create more housing for the neighborhood. There’s plenty of luxury apartment and condo buildings in Minneapolis – especially downtown – but hardly any new attainably priced housing that working families can afford.”

Random *alley* News

- ▶ **Cathy and Mark Welna** were named WCCO Radio Good Neighbors for donating 160 meals to St. Theresa’s Home Workers. Congratulations to Cathy and Mark, owners of Welna Hardware in Phillips on 24th and Bloomington Av. and in Robinsdale on 41st and West Broadway.
- ▶ This is the link to the **digitized alley archives** at the Hennepin County Library: (you might need to log in with a library card to access) <https://digitalcollections.hclib.org/digital/collection/p17208coll7/search/searchterm/alley/field/publis/mode/all/conn/and> Or you can access by going to hclib.org, clicking on “browse” then “digital collection,” then “browse by collection” and scroll down to “Minneapolis Community Newspapers” to see the other community newspapers that are in the digital archive.
- ▶ **The City Council approved nearly \$2 million dollars of CARES Act** funding to help build 100 tiny homes for unsheltered residents by December 31st, 2020 in a partnership with HN County, the State of MN, Avivo, Simpson Housing Services, and Special Treatment Services.
- ▶ **To connect unsheltered residents to available shelter: Sgl. Adults** 612-248-2350; Families, 612-348-9410.
- ▶ In the **Heart of the Beast** Theatre has announced all Staff being furloughed for three months (beginning October 12th) due to a significant and unexpected loss in funding in addition to the impacts of Covid-19 as it still pursues “building a new path forward.”
- ▶ **Norway House** will begin construction of their \$15M, 15,000 square foot Event Center at Elliott Av. and East Franklin Av. in

- March 2021 to be completed early in 2022.
- ▶ The **Southwest Journal** will cease publication on 12/31/2020, unless a buyer can be found.
- ▶ **SEIU Healthcare MN members** went on a two-day Unfair Labor Practices **strike at Abbott Northwestern Hospital** on October 5 and 6. Striking Radiology Technologists at Abbott have been bargaining with Allina Health since May. Among other issues, SEIU members are fighting for the same COVID-19 quarantine pay and benefits as other workers at Allina.
- ▶ **628 E Franklin Av apartment building** once again defies renovation completion, now by the by the sixth developer. Who will be next to attempt bringing this structure back to use when housing is so needed?

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Nov. 19, 2020

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Tips from a COVID-19 Case Investigator

Continued from page 1...

to make sure the upcoming winter holiday season doesn't make things worse. Here are some things to think about when you are planning for the holidays:

Communicate expectations beforehand: Make sure everyone attending has agreed to take the same precautions like wearing masks indoors, staying home when sick, and limiting activities for a few weeks before and after the gathering.

Plan ahead for preventative measures: If you're hosting, make sure to have extra masks, hand sanitizer, and supplies for handwashing. Have furniture already spaced. Get single use utensils or encourage people to bring their own.

Keep a list: Write down who was at the gathering, just in case someone gets COVID.

Help slow the spread



STAY SAFE MN

This will be helpful if you are contacted by the health department.

Outdoors is better than indoors: How could you adjust traditions to make them outdoor activities? If you are meeting indoors, think about how to avoid crowding and improve ventilation. Is there enough space indoors for everyone to easily socially distance? Can you open some windows or doors to improve ventilation?

Smaller is better than bigger: Try to limit indoor gatherings to ten or fewer people. The more people attending means the higher the risk, especially if guests are coming from out of town. You should not be attending gatherings if you have been told to isolate or quarantine, have symptoms of COVID-19 or are at high risk of serious illness.

Anxiety or stress during COVID-19 is normal



Be prepared to cancel: If anyone in a household is feeling unwell, that whole household should send their regrets. This goes for the host household too. Did you plan for an outdoor event but the weather didn't cooperate? It is safer to reschedule. Arrive and realize you're not comfortable with the precautions being taken? I give you permission to gracefully leave.

Be thoughtful about food: Many of our upcoming holidays center around food, but sharing a meal indoors is a high-risk activity. This is because we have to take our masks off to eat. The least risky option is to have a virtual shared meal. Another lower risk option is to meet in-person but skip the meal. If you are going to share a meal in-person, eat outside if the weather allows. Set up several tables so that everyone is able to distance while eating. Consider having each household group bring their own food, dishes and utensils, and sit at their own tables. And when you're done eating, masks go back on.

Don't forget the basics: We don't get to take a holiday from wearing a mask, social distancing (this means no hugs!), handwashing, and staying home if sick or at high risk of serious illness.

Read more: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/holidays.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>

Lindsey lives in East Phillips and has been working a reassignment as a COVID-19 Case Investigator for local public health. She never thought she would still be doing this in November.

Ani-Meals Brings Meals on Wheels to Furry Family Members

By DWIGHT HOBBS

In the best of times folk who have trouble making ends meet have enough of a challenge feeding themselves, much less Fido and Kitty. These are far from the best of times. Accordingly, Ani-Meals is more than ever a pet owner's godsend, spun-off from Meals on Wheels through a Meals On Wheels America grant to PetSmart Charities in 2015. Soon as word got out about the supply, demand grew. Melanie La Pointe, Ani-Meals director at the Community Emergency Service location, recalls, "It exploded pretty fast. At first, we had about ten animals, then, it went up to about 70." That number is now 163 pets belonging to 90 clients of MOW.

For confirmed animal lover La Pointe, the program is a heartfelt undertaking. "It's really important for people to be able to keep their pets. Pets are family. A lot of our

[MOW] clients don't have any family. They're basically isolated." A condition the corona crisis hardly helps. "Their dog or cat is their family and it's important to keep [pets] healthy. A study said that being lonely was equivalent to smoking two packs of cigarettes a day." Accordingly, having that pet to care for as a reason to get up each day can be vital. "Somebody that needs them. It's a mutual arrangement that makes them both healthier and happier."

As shown by the explosion in demand right off the bat, there's a steadily increasing demand for Ani-Meals' services. There is not a correlating increase in resources. Asked what she'd do with more funding, La Pointe answers, "I'd make arrangements so we could provide more veterinarian care [which is] really expensive. When you're on a fixed income, you can't spend \$800 on a cat." Generally, you don't even have

it to spend on yourself. She underscores, "You just don't have the money." Meals On Wheels America is looking into that, but, she sees any help from that quarter as being a year away. Meanwhile, the program has an excellent relationship with 3 Pound Cats. "Dr. Marie Louderback makes house calls for basic exams and vaccines. That makes it possible for people in apartments to keep their animals."

Ani-Meals provides monthly, weekend deliveries of some purchased, but mainly donated pet food. This includes some specialized foods, such as canned-only or grain-free for animals with more specific dietary needs. All said, an invaluable community resource, especially these days. To volunteer, donate or otherwise support Ani-Meals: mlapointe@cesmn.org or 612.870.1125 x128. Located at 1900 11th Avenue, South Minneapolis. And you can look on Facebook.

Many people in our neighborhood are homebound, at nutritional risk, may spend much of their time in relative isolation, and are often lonely. MOW delivered meals help - but so may a beloved pet, relieving loneliness and providing companionship.

However, feeding a pet can be expensive. An animal can literally eat into the food resources of already vulnerable people.

That is where Ani-Meals steps in.

Ani-Meals
A Program of Community
Emergency Service

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RETURNING CHAPTER 4

A Split Decision

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

We hope that when two people “cling to each other and become one flesh” their journeys flow together into one tender, complicated and true story. But we know that life doesn’t work that way often. In order for Luz and Angel to be truly together in their life now, both of them must undergo journeys that the other may never know, let alone understand.

Angel fell back asleep next to his sleeping son. Luz entered a dark space in the bookshop with a strange man named Harald. The wonders that Luz saw made her ask herself over and over if she was dreaming. What Angel saw in his dream was all too real.

Luz’ darkness was not darkness at all. The small door at the back of the store led to a space full of tiny lights, in multiple colors, that illuminated beautiful carvings on the wall. As she walked into the space, the carvings—of lions, eagles, gigantic trees and humans of all shapes and colors—

seemed to speak to her. Not in words, but inside her, in the universe of her brain and soul where there were no limits.

She turned and said to Harald, “This is so beautiful! What is this place?”

“Ah, child of light,” Harald smiled. “This is not a place at all. It is more time than place. Although to be exact, it’s not really a time either.”

Normally, Luz would have thought that the man who spoke these words was nuts. But in the warmth and light of that space, it didn’t seem strange. She had started reading The Chronicles of Narnia to Angelito before bed. Although, to be honest, she was more thrilled with the adventures of the four seekers than her son was.

“You said that you’ve been waiting for me?” Luz asked Harald. “What did you mean?”

“Well, to be honest,” Harald laughed. “It’s more like this that has been waiting for you.”

And with those words, he spread his arms wide towards the whole gallery of beauty.

“Take all the time you want, although time doesn’t really matter,” he said. “I will call you back when you are ready.”

Meanwhile, Angel’s

dream unfolded. He was walking down Lake Street, but instead of it being a cold, slushy winter day, it was a hot, muggy evening in summer. Salsa, hip-hop and Norteño music poured from a few cars that drove by. He could smell the sweet smoke of barbecues rising from neighbors on 18th and 17th. It smelled so good, he could almost taste it.

But then the smoke turned. It wasn’t the smell of hamburger fat dripping onto the coals, but the smell of wood burning, of garbage, of tires on fire. The music was louder and louder: people screaming, with sirens racing by, gunshots ringing out, the sound of breaking glass. Men with shaved heads leaned out of cars with no license plates and cursed. He started to run in the dream, run and yell for Luz, for Angelito and Lupita, for his mother and father, but the only faces he saw were hidden in hideous masks. The street was on fire!

The worst thing for Angel was that he did not wake up, and so couldn’t tell himself that it was only a dream. He fell into a deep sleep, dreamless and weighed down.

The best thing for Luz was that she totally forgot about school, about her part-time job at the arts

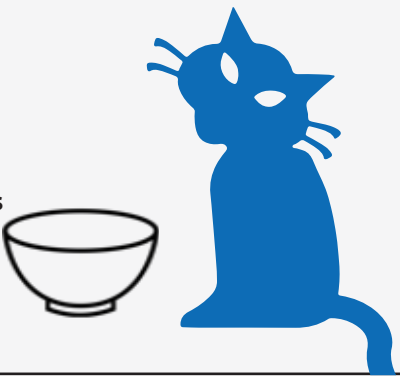
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give TO THE MAX 
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center, about money worries and family worries and any worry at all. It was, as Harald had said, as if time really didn’t matter.

And the strangest thing is that neither one of them remembered to pick up Lupita from day care...

www.givemn.org/organization/Alleynewspaper



The EPIC Report – November 2020

www.eastphillips-epic.com

EPIC – ZOOM

EPIC has gone to ZOOM like many others.

There is still a lot to do in East Phillips and EPIC needs your input and direction.

Some examples of EPIC projects & events:

- The East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm
- Community Safety
- Affordable Family housing
- The East Phillips Cultural & Community Center
- The Phillips Aquatic Center
- East Phillips SummerFest
- Phillips Community Clean Sweep
- East Phillips Community Garden
- The Garden Fall Harvest Party
- The on-going battle against pollution
- The on-going battle for Environmental and Economic justice for East Phillips
- The East Phillips Annual Meeting
- East Phillips Community meetings

Join EPIC on ZOOM at 6:30 PM on the SECOND Thursday of each month. Contact Sarah at epic.ssantiago@gmail.com For your ZOOM Link. Become an EPIC member and get on the EPIC e-mail list.

EPIC needs You!

Radical Traffic Changes in the Neighborhood

What are your thoughts? Give 311 your comments & forward to EPIC at: epic.ssantiago@gmail.com

Changes:

- Lots of 1-way streets
- Barricades.
- Speed Bumps.
- One lane North & one lane South coming soon to Cedar Avenue.
- 800+ more vehicles & pollution coming to the Roof Depot site.

Concerns of residents:

- 1-way = faster traffic. Enforcement?
- Stop gunfire & drugs-then talk about removing barricades
- Make speed bumps permanent at City expense.
- 1 lane on Cedar? Are they nuts?
- More traffic pollution & congestion? They’re nuts too!

For your Calendar: *

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

EPIC Board of Directors meets temporarily on the FIRST Thursdays Via Zoom. 11/5/2020 and 12/3/2020 at 7:00 PM. [Watch your E-Mail for your ZOOM Invitation.](#)

EPIC General Membership are on the SECOND Thursday of each month. – Via ZOOM 11/12/2020 and 12/10/2020 at 6:30 PM. [Watch your E-Mail for your ZOOM Invitation.](#)

East Phillips Community 17th Ave. Gardeners are not meeting at this time.

* **East Phillips Residents wanting a 2021 Garden Plot, contact Brad Pass at 612-916-8478**

To join EPIC and/or receive ZOOM Invitations, contact Sarah at epic.ssantiago@gmail.com

The East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm Project needs your support!

The project will produce Green jobs, training and second chance opportunities, affordable family housing & free, safe, indoor housing for many homeless, new homes for burned out businesses, home grown organic food, a coffee shop, world café & gallery for local artisan’s work, a commercial kitchen, and a bike repair facility on the Greenway – WE like this better than the City’s plan for more pollution from Demolition, more Trucks & Cars, an Asphalt plant & Sewer Pipes. What do you think??? SEND letters to all Council Members the Mayor & the Governor.

Send COPIES to cpass@runbox.com

DONATE: EPNIfarm.org

Peace House Community Turns 35!



**MIDTOWN
GLOBAL
MARKET**

**CELEBRATE NOVEMBER
AT THE MARKET!**

DIWALI
November 14
11am - 2pm





BLACK FRIDAY
November 27



**SMALL BUSINESS
SATURDAY** November 28

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Peace House Community—A Place to Belong Looking Forward

By MARTI MALTBY

A recent email from HousingLink, a local nonprofit that works on low income housing issues, contained links to news articles with depressing titles like:

- “Elderly and homeless: America’s next housing crisis”
- “New report shows Minnesota LGBTQ teens and adults overrepresented in homeless population”
- “Homeless and facing winter in Minneapolis”
- “Homeless families struggle with impossible choices as school closures continue”
- “Homeless advocates blame Minneapolis’ continued lack of affordable housing for ‘Wall of Forgotten Natives’ resurgence”
- “Neighbors object to Ramsey County plan to convert St. Paul hospital into a homeless shelter”

While I try to find positive things to pass on to others, especially during this convergence or homelessness, covid, increasing mental health challenges, and an impending end to the eviction moratorium

(a news story that didn’t even make HousingLink’s email), at some point I need to face the fact that life sucks for a lot of people, and it is about to get worse. Some of you reading this know this far better than me because the headlines are speaking about you, or about your friends and neighbors.

The United States has had a homeless crisis since at least the 1980s. By itself, homelessness is bad enough. It robs people of their identities, destroying physical and emotional health, removing security and flaunting the nation’s wealth in their faces. Combined with Covid, it is catastrophic.

Of course, Covid and homelessness are not the only issues out there. Sex trafficking, racism, and any number of other issues have put Americans in perilous positions for decades or longer. Solving these problems is never simple, but it is necessary.

Coming out of the election, politicians will be one of the groups we look to for solutions. I am writing this in mid-October, but by the time

you read this the election will have passed (although we may still be waiting to find out who won the presidency and various other positions). I hope that whoever winds up in the White House and all of those who are moving into elected offices at any level of government realize that their goal should never have been to win the election. Keeping the other candidate out of office won’t help the people represented by those headlines. Political power is meant to make society “better”, which doesn’t include increasing the number of people without housing, allowing predators to prey on the vulnerable, or maintaining any of our other problems. Regardless of one’s political position, political power has to be used to solve these problems.

My prayer is that anyone who holds office does so recognizing their responsibility to find solutions to the threats their constituents face. They must move past preventing other politicians from taking action to taking positive action themselves.


Coronavirus Update

Peace House Community (PHC) is open from Noon to 3:00 p.m. on weekdays to allow access to our bathrooms and hygiene supplies, and to serve coffee and cookies from our back door. We recognize that the combination of Coronavirus and the recent unrest in south Minneapolis have made it more important than ever that we maintain our relationships with our community members and provide hope and stability during these uncertain times.

PHC will continue to assess how we can be most effective in bringing hope and light to the community. Please join us in prayer for our neighborhood, our city and our country during these times.

You may contact us at contact@peace-housecommunity.org if you have specific questions. We will still check our email and phone messages during this time.

PHC is adding heaters on their back open-porch and maybe the parking area to help with folks gathering during the cold weather.



Peace House Community grieves the inequalities and discrimination that have divided our community into separate and unequal groups. We stand beside, mourn with, and demand justice for any and all community members who have been systematically profiled, killed, and treated unjustly throughout history.

If you have a business or know of a small business that could use exposure to the over 20,000 Phillips residents who receive the paper each month, advertise with The Alley! Our ad rates are very competitive and we can work with you on rates and sizes. Email copydesk@alleynews.org



Sharon Day begins attaching the first leaves with other Ceremony attendees near the Minnesota Capitol Steps Sunday October 11, 2020 one day before Indigenous Day 2020.

Over the last few months, many people have responded to Sharon Day’s invitation to send their messages to future generations. From a place of deep love, the purest truth, and with hope, people created leaves with their messages to be part of the Tree of Peace, Tree of Life, Tree for the Future. People from all over Turtle Island contributed to this large scale sculpture. The tree was raised with the wish that our leaders enact policies that reflect our prayers that everyone be able to live a good life. Singers, dancers, and speakers were

- MN Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan, White Earth Band of Ojibwe
- Meena Natarajan and Dipan-

kar Mukherjee, Pangea World Theater

- Sharon Day, Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe, a second degree M’dewin, Indigenous Peoples Task Force Executive Director, artist, musician, and writer.
- One Voice Mixed Chorus
- MN Representative Mary Kunesh-Podein
- Barb Tilsen, singer, songwriter, poet, performer
- Tom LeBlanc, Strong Buffalo, (Tatanka Ohitika) Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota, decorated Vietnam veteran, poet; and Ben Weaver, singer, songwriter, poet
- Ikidowin Youth Theater Ensemble
- MN Senator Patricia Torres Ray
- Oshki Gishiik Women Sing-

The Tree of Peace, Tree of Life, Tree for the Future Ceremony

BY NIBI WALK, PANGEA WORLD THEATER, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TASK FORCE [1335 E 23RD ST., PHILLIPS COMMUNITY-- VENTURA VILLAGE, MINNAPOLIS] IN COLLABORATION WITH SHARON DAY,

ON THE MINNESOTA STATE CAPITOL STEPS SUNDAY OCTOBER 11, 2020, WAS AN INCREDIBLE PREFACE TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY 2020 THE NEXT DAY.



YOUR
VOTE
MATTERS

November 3, 2020
Election Day

ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION



To register at your polling place on Election Day, bring one proof of residence listed below.

① ID WITH CURRENT NAME AND ADDRESS

- Valid Minnesota driver’s license, learner’s permit or ID; or a receipt for any of these.
- Tribal ID with name, address, photo and signature.

② PHOTO ID PLUS A DOCUMENT WITH YOUR CURRENT NAME AND ADDRESS

Approved photo IDs

Choose one. Can be expired.

Driver’s license, state ID or learner’s permit issued by any state

U.S. Passport

U.S. Military or Veteran ID

Tribal ID with name, signature and photo

Minnesota university, college or technical college ID

Minnesota high school ID

Approved documents

Choose one. Can be shown on electronic device.

Bill, account or start-of-service statement due or dated within 30 days of the election for:

- * Phone, TV or internet
- * Solid waste, sewer, electric, gas or water
- * Banking or credit card
- * Rent or mortgage

Residential lease or rent agreement valid through Election Day

Current student fee statement

③ REGISTERED VOTER WHO CAN CONFIRM YOUR ADDRESS

A registered voter from your precinct can go with you to the polling place to sign an oath confirming your address. This is known as ‘vouching.’ A registered voter can vouch for up to eight voters. You cannot vouch for others if someone vouched for you.

④ COLLEGE STUDENT ID WITH HOUSING LIST

Colleges and universities send election officials a student housing list. If you are on the list, show your college photo ID to complete your registration.

⑤ VALID REGISTRATION IN THE PRECINCT

If you are registered in the precinct but changed names or moved within the same precinct, you only need to tell the election judge your previous name or address.

⑥ NOTICE OF LATE REGISTRATION

If you registered to vote within 20 days of the election, you may get a Notice of Late Registration in the mail. Bring it with you and use it as your proof of residence to register.

⑦ STAFF PERSON OF A RESIDENTIAL FACILITY

If you live in a residential facility, a staff person can go with you to the polling place to confirm your address. This is known as ‘vouching.’ A staff person can vouch for all eligible voters living in the facility.

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
mnvotes.org • 1-877-600-VOTE

VOTING IS ONE WAY WE FIGHT FOR

OUR FUTURE

TOGETHER WE HAVE POWER!

The Largest Bank in the US Moves into Phillips

BY LINDSEY FENNER

Chase Bank has opened a new branch in Phillips, at the former Roger Beck Florist shop at 1100 E Franklin Ave, one of two pilots of what Chase is calling a “community center pilot concept.” And it is true that the Phillips neighborhood could use some more banking options, especially with the loss of Wings/City County Federal Credit Union down the street at 913 E Franklin a few years ago. However, it remains to be seen if Chase Bank will be a good neighbor and support our neighborhood’s financial well-being.

With the irony of the universe, the new Chase branch occupies the same building that the former Wendell Phillips Community Development Federal Credit Union (WPCDFCU) did in the 1990s. WPCDFCU was organized in the mid-1990s by Phillips neighbors to “Focus on accumulating capital in the community, ensure access to credit for residents, and promote financial literacy among adults and youth.” And although it was short-lived and eventually merged with City-County Federal Credit Union, WPCDFCU’s democratic and community-centered vision will be hard for Chase Bank to live up to. The new Chase branch is also across the street from Woodlands National Bank, owned by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

Chase Bank is, of course, part of JPMorgan Chase, the

largest bank in the US, with \$3.213 trillion in assets. And as the largest bank in the US, JP Morgan Chase definitely had a role in the 2008 financial collapse. In 2013, JPMorgan Chase paid a \$13 billion civil settlement to the US Justice Department for its mortgage lending practices, where JPMorgan Chase acknowledged it made “serious misrepresentations to the public.” More recently, JPMorgan Chase has seen protests as a major banker for fossil fuel industries, including being a backer of the proposed Enbridge Line 3 Pipeline which endangers Ojibwe treaty lands.

And although in a statement Chase claims the new branch “will help provide access to opportunities for an underserved community rebuilding in the wake of protests related to the death of George Floyd,” Chase Bank doesn’t have the best track record in reducing lending disparities in cities where they have had a longer presence. Investigative reporting by WBEZ Chicago found that “Chase had the most racially disparate lending record of all Chicago’s major lenders,” with only 1.9% of home purchase lending dollars between 2012 and 2018 going to Chicago’s Black neighborhoods. And during a pandemic when most Americans are struggling to get by, JPMorgan Chase keeps growing, reporting a profit of \$9.4 billion in the third quarter of 2020, up 4% from this time last year.

Chase Opens Innovative Branch in Ventura Village

BY HODAN AHMED, BRANCH MANAGER

Chase recently opened the doors to a new branch in Ventura Village, located at 1100 E. Franklin Ave. This is Chase’s fourth branch in the Twin Cities metro area, but is the first to feature an enhanced format to help address the needs of underserved communities. It’s the second of its kind among Chase’s 4,900 branches na-

tionwide.

The branch will help provide access to opportunities – critical as our community rebuilds in the wake of the protests related to George Floyd’s death and the economic challenges tied to the pandemic. This branch is here to serve small businesses and individuals and provide tools and resources

like programs to support financial health, educational workshops and growth support for entrepreneurs. As the bank’s branch manager and as someone who knows firsthand the difficulties new immigrants face when it comes to financial literacy, we want to be an important partner with this community, so everyone has the opportunity to build a strong financial future.

To best serve the area’s diverse population, our employees speak seven languages, plus we have a dedicated com-



COURTESY CHASE BRANCH BANK

Seating left to right: Jonathan Jensen, Elisabeth Olson, Kiyun Lee and Tsedenya Mengiste. Standing left to right: Bassam Zahran, Hodan Ahmed and Edison Bautista

Which begs the question: Where is this money coming from?

The people of Phillips deserve real opportunities for financial security and community investment. It will be up to Chase to prove that they are here for the right reasons. And with their history, Chase Bank has their work cut out for them.

community manager who works with the neighborhood and businesses to increase awareness of our available resources, and support and connect them with financial health tools, products and services. Our community manager also oversees our partnerships with local nonprofits such as African American Leadership Forum (AALF), Latino Economic Development Center, Northside Economic Network (NEON)

and will seek to build more. We also have a pop-up space available to showcase local small businesses that might not have a storefront. We’ve invested in the Twin Cities – \$1.75 million in recent philanthropic commitments to help local minority business owners and non-profits. It’s an exciting time to be a part of the community and we look forward to helping Ventura Village grow and prosper.

march 1991 City Council votes to close Mr. Arthur’s Bar

by John Manning

Last month, the City Council attempted to end years of debate over a notorious Franklin Avenue bar by voting against renewing the liquor license for Mr. Arthur’s Lounge. The vote was 12 to 0. Council member Walter Dzedzic, a friend of the bar’s owners, was absent.

The bar’s owners, however, are not giving up. Joan Ranallo, widow of the bar’s namesake, said the family will sue to keep the bar open past the April 1st closing date set by the city. The Ranallo family even continue efforts that began last fall to improve the bar’s reputation. Mrs. Ranallo said Mr. Arthur’s will soon have more food to offer its patrons.

“(With a suit) we could see the bar still open during the spring and summer months,” said City Council member Brian Coyle. Coyle, whose 6th ward includes the area around Mr. Arthur’s spoke at the Council’s February 8th meeting against renewing the bar’s license.

Ranallo sounded under siege during a phone conversation in late February. “It is a never ending thing,” Ranallo said. “It has been a long two years of being harassed.” Ranallo seemed most bitter when she blamed the fight over the liquor license for contributing to her husband’s recent death. Arthur Ranallo died of heart disease in January of this year.

A prohibitionist drive has taken over the City Council, according to Mrs. Ranallo. “They want to close everything on Franklin—what right do they have to close everything?” she said referring to the recent closing of several bars in the Franklin Av. area. “The Council doesn’t have the right to tell people they can’t drink. If they don’t want you, why don’t they buy you out (when) you’ve been here forty years,” Ranallo added.

Ranallo also questioned the American Indian Movement’s opposition to the bar. She

said a member of the AIM patrol once asked her to hire them, not off duty police officers, to patrol the bar. “Here, pay us, they said,” Ranallo claimed.

The AIM patrol’s director of security, Ron Bear Cronick, said there was “no way” a patrol member would have asked Ranallo for money. “We patrol around there, not because she wants us to, but because there is police brutality and a lot of minors going in there,” Cronick said.

Cronick said Ranallo offered a patrol member money last month, saying the patrol was doing a good job. Cronick said he told the patrol member the donation would look like a bribe.

Ranallo also ridiculed Clyde Bellecourt’s testimony against the bar during the City Council’s licensing committee’s hearings.

“He quit drinking, you know,” she said. “He is reformed, and he is trying to help his people. If there was ever an Indian speaking with a forked tongue, that’s the one.”

Mrs. Ranallo insisted she wasn’t worried about what the Indian community would think of her quotes in this story because, she said, “Indians don’t read anyway.”

Ranallo spoke her mind on a number of other problems she sees in the neighborhood: There are too many non-profit organizations with offices on Franklin; the police don’t appear to patrol the neighborhood enough; curfew hours and laws against drinking in public places are not enforced; hundreds of homeless men get drunk on Franklin and have no where to go home to sleep it off.

Blaming the neighborhood for the problems at the bar was what annoyed Council member Coyle about the bar supporters’ testimony at the licensing committee’s hearings. All but two of the people who testified for the bar during the committee’s three months of hearings worked but did not live in Phillips.

“Characteristically, they had a negative impression of the neighborhood, but had a

positive impression of the bar—of course, they work there,” Coyle said.

With one member absent, the Council voted unanimously for not renewing the license. Coyle said the united vote was unexpected. The absent Council member was Walter Dzedzic, a friend of the Ranallo family.

“It was very clear to the Council that the majority of the people in the neighborhood, regardless of whether they were renters or property owners, had had it with Mr. Arthur’s,” Coyle said. The unanimous vote may help the city when the Ranallo’s take the decision to court, according to Coyle. “When an elected body voted 12-0, that should count for something,” he said.

The Ranallo family testified during the licensing committee’s hearings that they would have to close down their other bar, Legends Cafe, on the northeast side, if they no longer operate Mr. Arthur’s. “They testified they made twice as much money at this location than at the other,” Coyle said.

“I don’t know what is going to happen,” Ranallo said.

This article from March 1991 is taken from the Alley Archives (available online through the Hennepin County Library’s Digital Collections). Mr. Arthur’s Bar was one of the more notorious former occupants of the current Chase Bank branch at 1100 E Franklin Ave. The building served variously over the past century as a grocery, café, bar, community credit union, florist shop, and now, a branch of the largest bank in the US.

Some Notes About the 1996 Wendell Phillips Community Federal Credit Union

By The Alley Editorial Team

Sam Grant started the Wendell Phillips Community Development Federal Credit Union in 1996 after hearing from the community about their need for a financial institution controlled by members. According to Grant, the core membership was African American, Somali American and American Indian, all of whom were of lower socioeconomic standing.

“We called ourselves ‘thin cats’ where the point was never as a financial institution to get rich off the backs of the people served, but the goal was the wealth of the people we served, not the wealth as an institution.” Grant, who volunteered at the credit union, said, “The bottom line was to increase the capacity to get more resources out the door to the

members.”

He now regrets that he didn’t groom a leadership to take over the responsibility of the credit union. Due to new NUCA regulations, the credit union was eventually forced to merge into the City-County Federal Credit Union in 2001.

Grant noted how, in 2008, Fort Snelling Federal Credit Union, whose core membership was military veterans, merged with Hiway Federal Credit Union. He explained that many credit unions stay afloat by having a base member of professionals as members.

Grant said in hindsight, “We should have gone for an aggressive partnership with a lot of organizations committed to serving low-income people. It would have reduced our stress of operation. We should’ve done a partnership strategy in terms of organizing the membership base and collaborated in raising money, increasing the access to services the membership needed.”



VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

NOVEMBER '20 NEWS

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced many changes in the world. On our August page we wrote about how the Native American Community Clinic adjusted to it. In this issue we wanted to look at how the pandemic has affected 3 other important Ventura Village organizations -Waite House, it's largest food shelf, and 2 schools: PPL - Loring-Nicollet High School (LNAS) and Trinity First Lutheran Elementary School.

In every obstacle there is also an opportunity. Despite the challenge, and especially because of the challenge, educational platforms are changing and growing.

Trinity First Lutheran School, located at 1115 East 19th Street, is an elementary school starting with children age 3 through 8th grade. We are a Christian school that accepts all students regardless of background. Tuition is based upon family size and income, and we never turn away a family due to their inability to pay. We have small class sizes and a full-time special education program. We also provide technology to all students for home-based learning.

After ending our 2019-2020 school year with three months of distance learning, we hoped our 2020-2021 school year would begin differently. We saw unique challenges in the distance-learning model: difficulty keeping our students engaged, a widening disparity in academic achievement, technology utilization that surpassed what families and staff had been trained in, and the negative impact on relationships from meeting only virtually. We waited until the end of July for guidance from the governor on what schools in Minnesota would be doing in the fall. (While we have autonomy as a private school, we wanted to make an informed decision.) The governor's announcement was to give decision-making power to each school district and offered guidelines on Covid spread to help determine where on the spectrum of distance, hybrid, and in-person a school district would lie.

And so we decided to start the school year with a hybrid model, in line with the Covid statistics for our county. We divided families into two groups - Blue and Gold - with corresponding Blue and Gold days. This model is allowing us to better practice social distancing, more effectively assess student need with smaller groups, and reduce the chaos of pickup and drop-off.

When students are on-site, they receive direct, small group instruction. Teachers are condensing curriculum to focus on the core subjects (Math, English, Reading, and Bible) and core topics within each subject. Of course, there is much cleaning, distancing and safety protocol in place to ensure that students and teachers are as safe as possible while at school.

While off-site, students work individually on assignments either practicing what they learned or preparing for the next instructional day. Fridays are Specials, where students have time for project-based learning, Science and Social Studies projects, Music, Friendship Group, Counseling, and Library time.

We are so grateful for the ability to meet in-person and look forward to a time when all of our students can be with us again full time. If you would like to learn more about enrolling your student, please call our school at 612-871-2353.

Contributed by: Anna Gruen

Despite an upended school year, and thanks to lots of creative distance learning, 52 Alternative High School students from Project for Pride in Living (PPL) received their diplomas last spring – that's a 96% graduation rate! This school year, both of PPL's alternative high schools, LNAS and MERC, are continuing distance learning. The schools are prioritizing daily check-ins with students using Google Voice, video conferencing, YouTube, and phone calls, and are supporting students and their families with home deliveries of supplies and food.

"We want to keep students focused on positive things around them, rather than dwelling on negative and unclear information," says Casey, Lead Teacher for PPL's LNAS. Teachers are working to prioritize the social and emotional health of each student, as well meeting each student's individual needs, like their learning preferences, deliveries of homework packets or online assignments. PPL has also worked with students and their families to ensure everyone has the necessary supplies, technology, and equipment for distance learning. Although this school year looks nothing like before, we are seeing resilience and strength from the students and teachers that is inspiring.

Contributed by: Laura Dunford

The Waite House Food Shelf has had to adjust in several ways. First, it is housed in the Phillips Community Center, which has been closed to the public since March. It began by serving its donations and meals at the crowded 13th Avenue entrance, participants staying socially distanced outside. In June it was able to start serving on 11th Avenue side of the PCC. The vacant gym was used to store the increased donations, and the 3 entries on that side made access easier for everyone.

Secondly demand has become greater. According to Ethan Neal, Pillsbury United Communities Food Systems Manager, over 300,000 pounds of food and 28,000 pounds of produce was distributed between March and September of 2020. In comparison, about 198,000 pounds of produce was distributed last year. The food shelf took in over 900 new clients.

During this new school year Ethan expects to see an ever greater increase in need. Families that depended on free and reduced lunches in school will now have to provide breakfast and lunch for students who are doing distance learning at home. As an agency Pillsbury United has begun to change their rules and protocols to fit the needs of their community members. They have increased the number of visits allowed per month and they invite anyone to visit their other food shelf, Brian Coyle, in the Cedar Riverside neighborhood as well.

With 2 food shelves and 2 produce days at each site, the community is able to access them every week of the month



*Waite House food storage and distribution
Photo Credit: Ethan Neal and Jovita Morales*

VENTURA VILLAGE NOTES

- Our next Association meeting will be Wednesday, November 11th, 7:00 PM. Because the PCC is still closed we'll meet in person at ICCM Church 1812 Park Avenue. You can access our Zoom Link by contacting us at 612-548-1598 or at venturavillage.org. Committee meetings will be Thursday, November 19th.
- Our board elections will be in December. Nominations will be accepted until November 25th. Contact us using our number or email as above or by talking to a current board member.
- We need your bagged leaves for our neighborhood gardens. Contact Melissa at MelissaT@pillsburyunited.org.
- Bob Albee passed away recently. He was one of the original founders of the Ventura Village Neighborhood in 1999. He and his wife Sharon, were active participants until they moved to Seattle several years ago. Along with others, he was instrumental in creating a Master Plan for the neighborhood and for developing low income housing along Franklin Avenue. When the Park Board wanted to sell the Phillips Community Center, he helped save the building, and get the swimming pool repaired and operational. His greatest contribution was his commitment to community engagement. His reaching out to immigrant and minority communities by helping establish KALY radio station, by editing the Ventura Village page in the Alley newspaper, and by representing Ventura Village at events such as Open Streets and Peavey Park celebrations was important and appreciated.



Dear Friend of *The Alley* Newspaper:

For many of us, the world seems to be in a time of great change, some might even say chaos. And, yet, every day, people in the Phillips Community greet the day, put a life and family together, work hard to make ends meet and do so using their many diverse, cultural ways of knowing to try to make it happen. For 45 years, *The Alley*, a community governed media source, has also been doing its best to reflect many of those stories and keep on putting one foot in front of the other to keep publishing month after month. Published on a shoestring budget and largely volunteer run, *The Alley* informs, engages, and facilitates communication and promotes the exchange of information, opinion, culture and creativity among thousands. The resilience of the Phillips Community is resounding, and it inspires *The Alley* newspaper to try to do its very best to reflect this resiliency within the pages each month.

The Alley remains committed to maintaining its original free print format because we know many of our readers do not have the same level of access to computers or the Internet as readers in other com-

munities. The paper is not really “free” to produce, however. It is more expensive to print and distribute than it is to only publish an online paper. Nearly all our monthly expenses are for layout, printing and delivering the print edition.

The Covid-19 pandemic has created a new challenge for our largely break-even organization because many of our neighborhood advertisers have lost significant revenue due to the stay-at-home requirements and the public health pleas to limit indoor exposures. Consequently, we are feeling the squeeze on our finances. To save costs, we are experimenting with reducing the paper to a mere 8 pages and using color on only a four pages. Even with these tactics, we have had to dip into our 2-month ahead reserves and now need your help.

A Board of Directors from the community guides *Alley* Communications, the nonprofit organization that publishes *The Alley* newspaper. We are asking you for a tax-deductible donation to help us reach our **goal of \$3,000**, the cost of one month of publishing *The Alley*. To date, we are **more than half-way to our goal! Your contribution, small or large, will help us reach this doable goal!**

Checks can be mailed to:

Alley Communications
P.O. Box 7006
Minneapolis, MN 55407
Phone: 612-990-4022

Or donate online at:
<https://www.givemn.org/organization/Alleynewspaper>

With your support, *The Alley* will continue to land on doorsteps and newsstands throughout our community.

Cathy Strobel-Ayres, President
Board of Directors
Alley Communications

Movie Corner

“The Trial of the Chicago 7” (2020)

***** of 5 Stars of five Dreamworks

By HOWARD McQUITTER II

“The Trial of the Chicago 7” displays one of the better courtroom scenes on film. Director-writer Aaron Sorkin takes a major piece of American history, particularly on one of the most famous (or infamous) trials on American soil: The Chicago Seven. (I can appreciate some of the best courtroom cases on film Otto Preminger’s “Anatomy of a Murder [1959], Billy Wilder’s “Witness for the Prosecution”[1957], Stanley Kramer’s “Inherit the Wind”[1960] and”Judgment at Nuremberg”[1961] .)

The seven men Abbie Hoffman (Sacha Baron Cohen), Jerry Rubin (Jeremy Strong), David Dellinger (John Carroll Lynch), Tom Hayden (Eddie Redmayne), Rennie Davis (Alex Sharp), John Froines (Danny Flaherty) and

Lee Weiner (Noah Robbins) would go on trial for charges of conspiracy to start the riots in Chicago at the Democratic Convention in 1968 over opposition against the Vietnam War. Attorney General Ramsey Clark (Michael Keaton) from President Lyndon Johnson’s presidency pushes back on pressing charges against the seven men. The eighth man, Black Panther leader Bobby Seale (Yahya Abdul Mateen II), would be tried separately from the others. Once President Nixon comes into office, the new attorney general, John Mitchell (John Doman) immediately presses charges against all seven. The trial occurred between April 1969 to February 1970, shining the light on the new left for its vocal anti-Vietnam sentiments and their support for Black leaders like Malcolm X, Bobby Seale, Huey Newton, Fred Hampton and Angela Davis.

The tension in the courtroom is high-octane with the contentious old Judge Julius Hoffman (Frank Langella) hellbent to find the defendants guilty. All seven men are represented by a top notch lawyer William Kunstler (Mark Rylance), known for his defense of

left-leaning clients such as the Black Panthers, the Revolutionary Communist Party, Weather Underground, the American Indian Movement and the Attica Prison rioters. And to get under the skin of the judge, Abbie Hoffman, leader and founder of the Yippies, would blurt out sarcastic comments sparking laughter



in the court. His friend and fellow Yippie Jerry Rubin (Jeremy Strong) more than half stoned sitting next to him occasionally has something to add to Hoffman’s cynical remarks.

Sorkin integrates very well between courtroom scenes and flashbacks when the “guilty” seven participate in the demonstrations against the Vietnam War when meeting the Chicago police turns violent. Each of the seven men has his own personality. For

example, Eddie Redmayne’s character Tom Hayden is a cerebral, soft-spoken activist who would later find politics as a career. Alex Sharp’s character Rennie Davis is a passionate anti- war activist. Yahya Abdul Mateen’s character as Bobby Seale, leader of the Black Panther Party, plays a man strong-willed in his move for justice for African Americans. And going back to Mark Rylance’s performance is Oscar worthy; honestly,all the performances are terrific. The cameo performance by Michael Keaton as the retired attorney general Ramsey Clark is a fine performance.

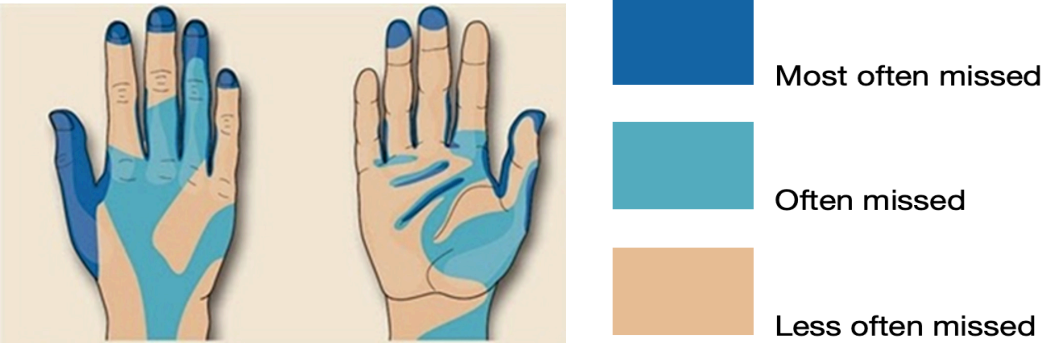
Now let’s get with it: did the Chicago police incite the riot? Will the people unsympathetic to the anti-war demonstrators in Chicago gloat over a decision to convict the seven for conspiracy to start a riot and most-if not all- the men cross state lines to do so? By 1968, the tide against the Vietnam War is growing, not to be deterred by president or anyone else wanting to waste American men’s lives in a foreign land. Sorkin’s (“ Molly’s Game”[2018]) “The Trial of the Chicago 7” just maybe to an extent a cautionary tale

as well as looking back at a tumultuous era similar to ours although I think at that time with much more hope for the future.

Cast:Eddie Redmayne (Tom Hayden), Sacha Baron Cohen (Abbie Hoffman), Alex Sharp (Rennie Davis), Jeremy Strong (Jerry Rubin), John Carroll Lynch (David Dellinger), Yahya Abdul Mateen II (Bobby Seale), Mark Rylance (William Kunstler), Joseph Gordon-Levitt (Richard Schultz), Ben Shenkman (Leonard Weinglass), J.C. Mackenzie (Thomas Foran), Frank Langella (Julius Hoffman), Noah Robbins (Lee Weiner), John Doman (John Mitchell), Kelvin Harrison Jr. (Fred Hampton), Caitlin FitzGerald (Daphne), Micheal Keaton (Ramsey Clark) Brandon Essig (Abbie’s Friend), Alice Kremelberg (Bernadine), David Bianco (Chicago Policeman # 1), Kevin Scroggs (Chicago Policeman #2), Elissa Pisel (Juror), Colin Bowles (Radical Protester), Ariona Rose (Hippie). Director: Aaron Sorkin. Writer: Aaron Sorkin. Original Music: Daniel Pemberton. Cinematography by Phedon Papamichael. Running time: 129 minutes.

If you have a business or know of a small business that could use exposure to the over 20,000 Phillips residents who receive the paper each month, advertise with The Alley! Our ad rates are very competitive and we can work with you on rates and sizes.
Email copydesk@alleynews.org

Common areas on hands that get missed in hand washing
The graphic below shows areas on your hands that often get missed when washing.



Book Review of “The Amateur”

Arts, No Chaser

By DWIGHT HOBBS

“[He is] something new in American politics...a president who is inept in the arts of management and governance, who doesn’t learn from his mistakes, and who therefore repeats policies that make our economy less robust and our nation less safe. We discover a man who blames all his problems on those with whom he disagrees...who discards old friends and supporters when they are no longer useful. And who is so thin-skinned that he constantly complains about what people say and write about him. [He is] a strange kind of politician...who clings to the narcissistic life of the presidency.” No, that is not someone complaining about Donald Trump. It’s from Edward Klein’s *The Amateur: Barack Obama in the White House* (Regnery Publishing, Inc.) an informed assessment of America’s affirmative action golden boy.

Klein’s credentials are solid, former New York Times Magazine editor in chief and Newsweek foreign editor, whose books include *The Truth About Hillary* and *The Kennedy Curse*. He holds no politically correct cows sacred. And in a fluid, conversational, page-turning tone, sheds unsparing light on Barack Obama.

As Obama rose to power largely by strength of the black vote, it’s telling that his creed is not “We Will Overcome” but, evidently, “I have overcome.” For instance, heavy hitting Loop Capital founder, chair and CEO Jim Reynolds referred the US senatorial aspirant to Jesse Jackson. Jackson took him under his wing to establish a strong profile, speaking weekly at Operation PUSH. Obama, of course, welcomed the career boost. There wasn’t much lasting gratitude in his attitude. “Perhaps out of fear of alienating white voters”, Klein writes, “Obama never acknowledged his debt to Jesse Jackson.” Trinity United Church of Christ Reverend Jeremiah Wright had been his mentor since before marrying Michelle, “more than a religious and spiritual guide... he was his substitute father, life coach and political inspiration wrapped in one package.” In the long run, he also proved too pro-black and Barack turned his back, publicly denouncing the outspoken social crusader.

Obama came out of the Windy City. Accordingly, referencing the Al Capone era, Klein comments, “Obama is the product of Chicago-style politics...patronage, nepotism, bribery and corruption.”

Published between elections in 2012, *The Amateur* had no impact on the [year] vote. It did, however, give Trump a chance to trash Obama on the dust jacket, decrying, “[This] is the best book I’ve read on how Barack Obama is wreck-

Raise Your Voice

Vote No to the Boogaloo

By PETER MOLENAAR

Most residents of the Phillips Community are, more or less, familiar with the Chicago Crossings at the Chicago/Franklin Ave. intersection. *the alley* is regularly distributed to the Halal Market, Great Dragon, Golden Fingers, and Cairo Grille. Last month, in the course of said delivery, I would meet an extraordinary gentleman.

Approaching in a wheelchair, he beckoned while pointing to the not fully healed burns on his legs. Someone had to record the story of this African-American elder who had been doused with gasoline and set on fire by white-supremacists... the night the 3rd precinct burned. Indeed, our good neighbor had suffered retribution for having protested the

ing our country.” It turned out to be the pot calling the kettle. Apparently both men share more characteristics than is commonly known. For that and other reasons *The Amateur* is a fascinating read.

placement of incendiaries at the site.

Note:

Our friend spent two and a half months in recovery at HCMC. Along the way, he suffered the complication of a stroke which left half his body paralyzed. As of this writing, to corroborate his story, we await the release of his medical record. Accordingly, his name is withheld from this publication.

Who are the likely agents of such evil acts?

Looking back, as our city burned, my immediate neighborhood organized its defense against the “Boogaloo Boys”. Not one of us thought it was communists, or socialists, or Democrats! The online indication was that a “boogaloo” had been set in motion with the intent of fomenting an eventual

race war. By invoking chaos, a “law and order” reaction is fostered. So, we might dub them: “anarcho-fascists”.

Law and order? Let us recall that numerous states endeavored to flatten the coronacurve in order to prevent overwhelming death within our healthcare system. Who then tweeted: “liberate Michigan”? Who acted upon this call with assault weapons in hand? For that matter, who would trash Native-American spaces and minority owned businesses? Who would burn down post offices?

Hey, patriots freely choose to wear masks. Moreover, patriots freely choose not to divide our nation with all manner of hate speech.

A good neighbor has been severely burned. Cast your vote appropriately, please.

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Moving from "Race" to "Culture"

Living in this world, we experience fragmentation, separation, and trauma. Engaging in paths toward social justice or political activism further fragments us as we attempt to create 'systems' change. We are learning all people have spiritual practices and resources to pull from their cultural communities that have the capacity to ground, guide, and anchor us as we perform our life's work.

In September and October,

the Cultural Wellness Center offered the training **Cultural Self-Study: A Path to Moving from Race to Culture** with over seventy participants with the support of Re-CAST Minneapolis. Participants were part of Cultural Health & Wellness Directory and are cultural healers, practitioners, and clinicians. We live in a world where many people are having experiences of trauma, separation, and fragmentation. Training participants engaged in the

process of cultural self-study that focuses on inner development. The purpose of this inner development is to produce knowledge and build community in order to create communities of healing that practice grounding spiritually and culturally.

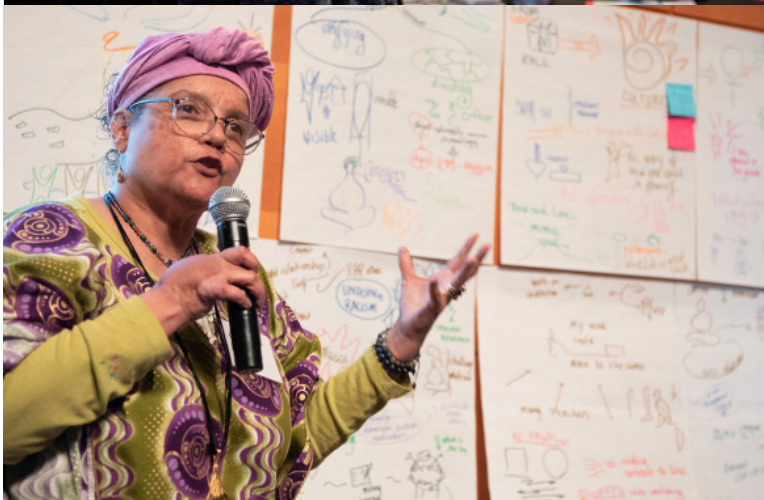
These trainings were offered as a resource aimed at connecting the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color community to a network of culturally specific practitioners who provide mental health and healing services. The goals of the trainings are to promote cultural knowledge by partnering with cultural practitioners and clinicians who practice ways of healing from trauma. There is no charge for the training. These trainings were designed to increase the capacity of providers to understand stress and trauma and deepen their ability to foster healing and resiliency.



Cultural Self-Study: A Path to Moving from Race to Culture, explores two systems of thought:

	Modern System Thought		
Object	Rationality	Science	Technology
	Ancient System Thought		
Spirituality	Symbol	Mythos	Harmonium

Participants engage in a process of cultural self-study with an anchoring in Ancient wisdom, inner development, empirical knowledge, community cohesion and generational continuity.

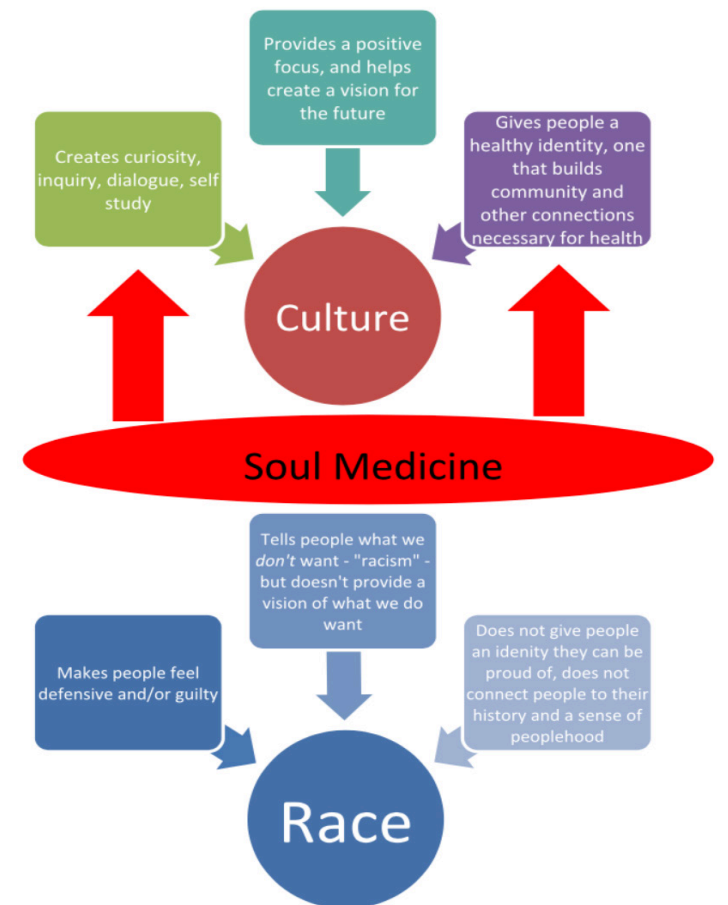


Upcoming trainings will occur (via Zoom) on:

November 5, 2020, from 1 to 4 pm

December 3, 2020, from 1 to 4 pm

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL [INFO@CULTURALWELLNESSCENTER.ORG](mailto:info@culturalwellnesscenter.org)



"Modern medicine has neutralized the wisdom of the body and soul."

"We must hold onto ourselves, our cultural ways of knowing, in order to heal the disconnection inside of us, the healer must mirror that which they are trying to create."

"Moving from Race to Culture and Soul Medicine has been a recovery for me, it has taken me out of alienation into connection."

"The acknowledgment of the soul is 'becoming', your true authentic self."

"Soul Medicine, the joining of the heart, soul, and body in healing work makes my heart sing this beautiful song called wholeness."

"There are fragmentations in the modern or traditional system of healing, the body is separated from the breath of life, the soul, and the second fragmentation, the practitioner from the client."



Cultural Wellness Center
Health · Heritage · Harmony

2025 Portland Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55404

612-721-5745 | www.culturalwellnesscenter.org



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