

“There is nothing new under the sun, but there are new suns” - Octavia Butler



4/20/21, SAY THEIR NAMES cemetery at 37th & Park (near George Floyd Square) The sun sets on a call for justice. Visitors at the cemetery honor, mourn, celebrate, and gather momentum for the work of tomorrow. They compose a symphony for those lost: Guilty on all three counts. Black Lives Matter. Humanity Matters. You Matter.

PHOTO AND WORDS BY MEGAN GRAMLOW, PWNO SAFETY COMMITTEE

A great exhale of relief went through the city, through the world, with the three guilty verdicts for Derick Chauvin. But, the verdicts cannot bring back those who lost their lives at the hands of police, or begin to comfort grieving families. Even as we feel relief we must add Daunte Wright to this picture. Our work is only beginning.

THE ALLEY EDITORIAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE



Painting of Duante Wright and his son

BY NIKKOLAS SMITH/ WWW.NIKKOLAS.ART

“If she saw your child, Katie, as she saw her child, I don’t think she would’ve reached for a taser, let alone a gun,” attorney Ben Crump said to Wright’s mother and the crowd assembled at the services in North Minneapolis Thursday, April 22.

ON STAGE



NINA SIMONE: FOUR WOMEN
BY CHRISTINA HAM
PILLSBURY HOUSE THEATRE



Regina Williams has played Nina from Philadelphia to Atlanta, and helps facilitate On Stage discussions of the play

Past, Present, Theater

On Stage involves local students in a closer look at Nina Simone’s work around racialized violence

By JESSIE MERRIAM



“When we listen to Simone sing ‘Mississippi Goddam’--it could’ve been written yesterday. Somebody needs to write a ‘Minnesota Goddam’ right now,” Twin Cities actress Thomasina Petrus declared to the group,

gathered on the morning of April 1 to explore the play *Nina Simone: Four Women* and Simone’s reverberating legacy.

This gathering was arranged by **On Stage: Creating a Community Dialogue Around Live Theater**, a Twin Cities nonprofit that brings the scripts of local plays to college classes and community centers and facilitates discussions with the aid of theater creators and educators. On April 1, Professor Jo Lee’s “American Drama by Playwrights of Color” class at the University of Minnesota was joined by creators/artist-activists Nora Montañes

and Sun Mee Chomet, as well as Petrus, who performed in the 2016 Park Square Theatre staging of *Nina Simone: Four Women* in St. Paul. Lucas Erickson, On Stage’s founder, facilitates every discussion.

Have you ever written a song? Have you been to a protest before? Is there a social issue in the world or something in your heart that activates you?

Christina Ham, an acclaimed Minnesota playwright, wrote the 2016 play that digs deeper into the way racialized violence catalyzed Nina Simone’s evolution as

Continued on p6

Pivotal Vote for East Phillips Urban Farm Project Expected in May

By LINDSEY FENNER

On May 14, the Minneapolis City Council is expected to vote to approve or reject the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) for the City’s Hiawatha Maintenance Facility Campus Expansion Project at the former Roof Depot Building in East Phillips. An EAW gives details on a project and its environmental impact, and it is one critical legal check against the environmental damage the proposed Public

Works Maintenance Facility expansion might inflict on East Phillips neighbors. The vote on the EAW was delayed due to the unprecedented number of over 1000 public comments on the EAW by supporters of the East Phillips Urban Farm Project.

The East Phillips Urban Farm has growing support among the members of the Minneapolis City Council.

Please continue to urge Mayor Jacob Frey
jacob.frey@minneapolismn.gov
and the Minneapolis City Council
citycouncilmembers@minneapolismn.gov.



Vote NO on the EAW

Vote YES for the East Phillips Urban Farm Project!



A Closer Look at the Winter Greenhouse Project

By ELIZA SCHOLL, HECUA INTERN WITH TAMALES Y BICICLETAS



Volunteers Bozena Scheidel and Mattie Wong secure polycarbonate glazing. Volunteers have been essential to the project.

On South 15th Avenue, half a block south of E. 28th St., Tamales y Bicicletas is building a winter greenhouse on its urban garden space. For ten years, the nonprofit has used bikes and urban farming to reduce the environmental impacts of the heavy concentration of industry on the East Phillips community.

“How do we decolonize our food systems that then leads to decolonizing our minds and bodies?” asks Jose Luis Villaseñor Rangel, the founder of Tamales y Bicicletas. “That’s always been the DNA of why we do what we do.”

The construction of a winter greenhouse is Tamales y Bicicletas’ latest project. Daniel Handeen, a professor of architecture and a Research Fellow

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STOP THE VIOLENCE, LETTER FROM 8TH GRADER P 5



ART BY NINA

SEMILLA CENTER ART PARTIES/ FIESTA DE ARTE P 6



TWIN CITIES ARTS AND CULTURE OPENING UP! PAGE 9



PHOTO COURTESY OF ASI

Papier at ASI, Osher Gallery installation

HEART OF THE BEAST UPDATE P 11



EN EL CORAZÓN DE LA BESTIA TEATRO DE MÁSCARAS Y MARIONETAS
ESTÁ OFRECIENDO UN PROGRAMA EN LÍNEA CON DURACIÓN DE 3 MESES LLAMADO TALLERES DE DEFENSORES ARTÍSTICOS PARA NIÑOS DE EDUCACIÓN PRIMARIA.
(see p. 11 for english)

Tips from a COVID-19 Case Investigator

The Best of Times, The Worst of Times

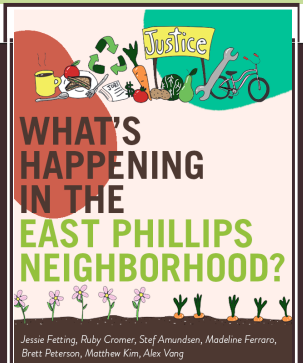
By LINDSEY FENNER

As I am writing this in late April, I have just gotten my first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. After doing pandemic response work for almost a year, it was an incredibly emotional moment for me, as I know it has been for many people. My tears of joy were matched by the broad grin of the man getting vaccinated across from me, his elation clear through his mask.

But my joy in getting vaccinated has been tempered by the cold reality of rising COVID cases in Minnesota. At work, we watched the numbers slowly inch up in the month of March, and then saw them pick up speed in April. We don’t know when this latest surge in Minnesota will peak. I desperately hope that by May, the worst will truly be behind us, but right now, as I write this, we just don’t know.

Why have cases been rising again? Perhaps the biggest reason is the growing dominance of the variant strain B117. B117, the variant of concern first discovered in the UK, has torn through Europe, and is now tearing through parts of the US like Michigan and Minnesota. B117 seems to be over 50% more transmissible and likely causes more severe illness than the original COVID variety. And it is now believed to be the dominant COVID strain in Minnesota. What this means practically, is

Continued on page 10...



check out this helpful zine created by U of M Students for Climate Justice! z.umn.edu/epnzine

Why will there not be a parade?

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.

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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 2nd Tuesday by Zoom. Editorial Leadership Team 2nd and 4th Mondays 8:30 -10:00 Mornings by Zoom and virtual conversations as needed.

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Archives: 1976 thru 2007 <http://bit.ly/2GaYH1U> and at Franklin and Central Libraries.

Submissions due the 15th day of the previous month.
email: copydesk@alleynews.org



Library News

By CARZ NELSON

We live in rapidly changing times. For updated information on Hennepin County Library services during the Coronavirus Pandemic, visit www.hclib.org. All information is accurate as of April 16, 2021.

LIBRARY UPDATES:

“ON THE AVENUE” BY TUFAWON PRESENTED BY FRANKLIN LIBRARY

Local artist Tufawon has dropped a tune about Philip’s own Franklin Avenue. Franklin Library presents the video on the library’s YouTube channel. Check it out. It’s a good representation of the neighborhood. And besides, someone you know could be in it.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZO6yPou0NoM>. Or else go to YouTube and search for On the Avenue by Tufawon.

DUE DATES RETURN
HCLib suspended due dates for the past year because of COVID. This policy ended on April 26. Check your online account or paper receipts for due dates. Renewal policies remain the same; items can be renewed up to three times. Returns are accepted at all library locations. Book drops accept returns 24/7.

MAYDAY PROGRAM LED BY UMN’S LABOR EDUCATION SERVICE
Celebrating May Day: Workers of the Twin Cities Labor Move-

METRO TRANSIT

Keep Taking the Virus Seriously, Seriously!

By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

I caught COVID-19 last month and was out of commission for about two weeks. Even though vaccines are being rolled out and an end is in sight, please keep being careful! If you think masks and social distancing are government plots to take away your freedom, you are right! They are taking away your freedom to get so sick you wish you were dead. Trust me, you don’t want this.

That said, Metro Transit has liberalized the capacity limits

ment- Workers from Tattersall Distilling, Augsburg University, and the Atwood Center talk about recent organizing campaigns in their workplaces. Thursday May 6th at 6:30 PM., Registration is on the library website.

East Lake Library Grab&Go
East Lake Library, located at 2727 E. Lake St., is open for Grab and Go service
Sunday 12-5 PM;
Mon, Tues, Thurs 9 AM to 5 PM
Wednesday 12-8 PM.

Franklin Library
1413 E Franklin Ave., is open for computer use only. 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. Returns are accepted during staffed service hours.
Franklin Computer Hours
Tues & Weds – 9 AM to 5 PM
Thursday – Noon to 8 PM
Friday & Sat – 9 AM to 5 PM
Sunday & Monday – Closed

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

on buses and trains. Regular buses now allow 20 people to ride; articulated “double” buses allow 30, light rail cars allow 33, and Northstar cars allow 70 (though I doubt overcrowding is a problem on Northstar; 90 percent of its ridership has abandoned ship, at least for now). Masks are still required on buses and trains, and while you are waiting for them.

In other, more positive, news, construction on the D Line has begun. As I’ve mentioned in this column before, the D Line is a Bus Rapid Transit line which will follow the same route as Route 5, except that it will only stop at specially-built stations. The stops in the Phillips Community will be along Chicago Avenue at Franklin Avenue, 24th Street, 26th Street, and Lake Street. Even though it is south of the Phillips Community, I would like to mention that a planned station at 38th Street has been deferred until the City

up-to-date service information and hours.

No More Fines
Hennepin County Library has gone fine free. Patrons are no longer charged for overdue material, but they continue to be responsible for the replacement cost of unreturned or lost items. An item is considered unreturned 41 days after its due date.

Outdoor Wifi Available
Franklin & Hosmer Libraries
Free Wi-Fi is available in the parking lots and grounds of several Hennepin County libraries, including Franklin and Hosmer. Library staff can help you find the best signal.

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

At-Home Service
At Home service is provided free of charge to Hennepin County residents who can’t get to a library due to illness, disability, or visual impairment. To apply for At Home service, submit an online application or apply by phone 612-543-8850 Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM.

Library Social Workers
A social worker is available outside the library at **Franklin Library** Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 AM – 5 PM, **East Lake Library** Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 AM-5 PM.
• Basic needs (clothing, food, meals, shelter)
• Chemical Health
• Disability Services
• Education & Employment
• Hennepin County Benefits
• Housing
• A listening ear
• Mental Health Resources
• Transportation

E-Books and Audiobooks
Libby: Available for iOS and Android devices; use the app to access downloadable ebooks and audiobooks.

Cloud Library
Downloadable ebooks for readers of all ages. A reader app is available for Apple, Android and other devices.

Online Services
Go to the library without leaving home. Here are just a few of the services available at www.hclib.org:
• Tools for job searches
• Ancestry Library Edition and other resources to research family history
• Local music on MNspin

Ask Us: Have a reference or library account question? Call, text, chat with, or email a library worker.
www.hclib.org/contact
Call 612-543-KNOW (5669) to reach library staff by phone.
Mon to Thurs – 9 AM to 9 PM
Friday & Sat – 9 AM to 5 PM
Sunday – Noon to 5 PM

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

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



“READING NEST” BY JESSIE MERRIAM

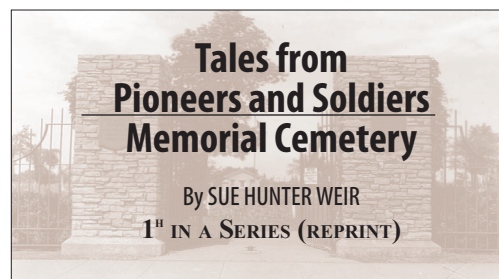


May Day Café

Open for business
four days a week, FRIDAYS
THRU MONDAYS
from 9am to 1pm
for TAKE OUT only.
No inside seating.

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

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



Editor’s Note: Tales from the Cemetery is on hiatus this month, so this month is a reprint of the very first Tale. Reprinted from the alley July/August 2003; from alley Archives 186 Tales of Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

Every day tens of thousands of commuters pass through the intersection of Cedar Avenue and Lake Street. Most of them are unaware of the fact that they are within several feet of a major historic site. In June 2002, Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Although Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery is the oldest existing cemetery in Minneapolis, that was not sufficient reason for its inclusion on the Register. In fact, federal historic designation is an honor that is rarely awarded to cemeteries since any cemetery is, by definition, “historic.” So why does this Cemetery merit such an honor? The Cemetery was awarded its historic designation because of the role that those buried

The Forgotten Residents of Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

in the Cemetery played in the early days of Minneapolis’ history.

As its name suggests there are a number of Minnesota territorial pioneers buried there, as well as approximately 200 military veterans. Three veterans of the War of 1812 are buried at Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, as are approximately 150 Civil War veterans. Other veterans served in the Mexican-American and Spanish-American Wars. The Cemetery has strong ties to Minneapolis’ abolitionist movement of the 1850’s and 60’s and has been racially integrated since at least the 1860’s, a practice that was not common at the time.

However, veterans and territorial pioneers (that is, those who lived in Minnesota before 1858) make up only a small percentage of the 17,000 people buried there. The majority of the people were working class--the people who, quite literally, built the City of Minneapo-

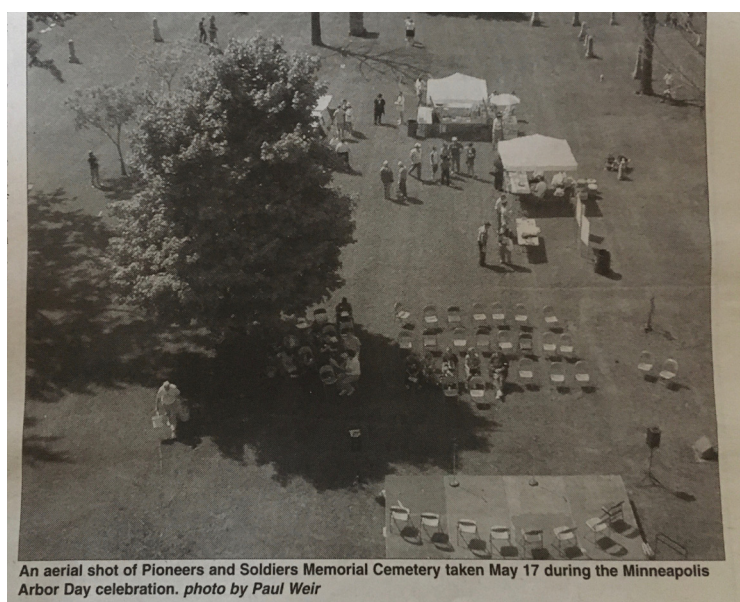
lis. These include hundreds of people who worked in the flour and milling industries, and who built or worked for the railroads. There are several thousand immigrants buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery. Children make up the largest group: an estimated 50-60% of the people buried in the Cemetery are children under ten years of age.

The first burial took place in

“The alley has published 186 articles about Pioneers and Soldiers cemetery and I’m only just now finding out!?”

—From an alley Facebook friend

1853 making this the Cemetery’s 150th anniversary year. In recognition of that, the Cemetery was selected as this year’s regional Arbor Day planting site. The theme was “Renewing Our Legacy: 150 Trees for 150 Years.” Approximately 200 volunteers turned out to plant, mulch, and water the trees which were specially selected to increase species diversity and to provide wildlife habitat. Most of the



An aerial shot of Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery taken May 17 during the Minneapolis Arbor Day celebration. photo by Paul Weir

For this photo, taken in 2003, a Park Board employee raised photographer Paul Weir to “bird’s view” height in a “cherry picker” tractor.

trees were planted according to a design by Works Progress Administration employees during the 1930’s. More than sixty years, after it was developed, a collaboration among numerous city agencies and non-profit organizations brought the plan to completion.

The Cemetery has been owned and maintained by the City of Minneapolis since 1928. It is open Wednesday-Sunday from 8:00-4:30 between April 15th and October 15. The next time you’re in the neighborhood and have an extra few minutes, think about stopping in and paying your respects to some very interesting people.

No Memorial Day Program this Year

The pandemic years of 2020 and 2021 have broken a 162-year tradition; regretfully, there will again not be a Memorial Day Program in Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery in 2021.

But the cemetery is now open to the public every **Wednesday-Sunday, 8AM-430PM** so please stop in. We hope to offer some talks and tours later in the summer and in early fall.

Participate in the Phillips West Community Survey!

A core commitment of the Phillips West Neighborhood Organization is that our actions should be driven by and responsive to the needs, hopes, and priorities of the people that live, work, and go to school in the Phillips West neighborhood. But in order to meet this commitment we need to know: What do our neighbors care about?

On April 26th, the Phillips West Neighborhood Organization launched a neighborhood-wide community survey to start answering that question. In partnership with the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs at the University of Minnesota, this survey was honed and designed by a committee of Phillips West residents. This Strategic Planning Committee will be using the results from the survey to help craft a strategic plan for PWNO, identifying our priorities and key functions in the neighborhood over the next 3-5 years.

As Lynn Farmer, a co-chair of the PWNO Strategic Planning Committee, offers in a call for survey participation, “As Phillips west residents and strategic planning members, we want to ensure PWNO understands the needs, wants and concerns of all community members. Your feedback will help inform how we can effectively structure and plan to serve all Phillips West residents effectively and equitably.”

This community survey is not just a means to an end; PWNO understands the process of creating and disseminating the survey as an end in itself by providing a vehicle for neighbors to connect and build relationships with one another. In the words of Verge Granger, longtime Phillips West resident and strategic planning committee member, engaging in this survey process is more about values than it is about data. It’s about “listening, engaging, understanding and accepting all members of the Phillips West community for who they are.”

We encourage all those who live, work, or go to school in the Phillips West neighborhood to join us in this effort!

Take the survey

Scan the QR code below or visit www.phillipswest.wordpress.com/survey to take the survey online. The survey is available in English, Spanish, Somali, Oromo, and Amharic. You can request a physical copy of the survey or to take the survey in another language by emailing info@phillipswest.org or texting (612) 642-1487.

Help get the word out

Tell your family and roommates. Flyer your building. Call your neighbor who you’ve been meaning to say hello to for a while. Email your block listserv. For access to printed flyers or email templates, please reach out!

Doorknock with us

PWNO is hosting an outreach event on **Saturday, May 15th**. Meet us at the Peavey Park picnic shelter at 11am for coffee, snacks, a chance to meet neighbors, and a little bit of door knocking to spread the word about the survey.

April 26
survey opens

May 15th
outreach event

May 17th
survey closes



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Continued from page 1...

Deep Winter Greenhouse

at the Center for Sustainable Building Research at the University of Minnesota who designed this greenhouse model, was looking for a way to grow crops through the winter with minimal additional heating inputs. The goal was to generate as little carbon dioxide output as possible. Handeen's design is being constructed by Tamales y Bicycletas and by Appetite for Change on Minneapolis' north side.

"The project came from all the peripheral issues about food insecurity and food justice. We didn't want to have to rely on drought-prone Valley Central crops being brought in. We wanted to be able to provide for ourselves, regionally and locally," explains Handeen.

This farm scale greenhouse emerged from the Version 2 deep winter greenhouse model – trying to make a more accessible version in terms of cost, constructability, and space. This greenhouse is cheaper per square foot than its predecessor. It will have enough insulation to allow plants to grow through the winter without relying on heating systems or expensive lights. Handeen and other researchers



Winter/spring 2019-20: Tamales y Bicycletas volunteers prepare baseboards and map the site. Covid and uprisings pause the project.



Summer 2020 TyB and Fireweed Community Woodshop volunteers dig the perimeter



Handeen and Villaseñor affixing polycarbonate glazing, spring 2021



will put sensors in the finished greenhouse to monitor how well the greenhouse design is able to stabilize temperature.

Handeen emphasizes that the greenhouse, which will be powered by solar energy, will allow people to plant in the soil even

"Urban farming and the need to grow locally over the winter usually requires horizontal lights or hydroponics, but this structure uses soil and sun. Still connects us to the earth."

—Jose Luis Villaseñor

during cold Minnesota winters. Most Minnesota greens that people find in co-ops during the winter rely on hydroponic grow-



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Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

It Might Be a Start

By MARTI MALTBY

I recently received a survey regarding racism in the Hennepin County homeless shelter system. The results of the survey will become the basis for a workgroup that will look for ways to eliminate racism from the shelters.

Because of my work schedule I can't attend the workgroup meetings, so I don't know what outcomes to expect. I sincerely wish the workgroup success, because they've undertaken a big project. Their task intersects with systemic dynamics, volunteer training, racism within the homeless community, mental illness, and a host of other issues. Homeless individuals and families face enough challenges already. Experiencing racism in the middle of the system that is supposed to help them almost defies description in how insulting it is.

Because I received the results of the survey a week or two later, I have seen the variety of views that the workgroup will have to balance. They have a lot of material to work with, but the diversity of opinions about the causes of the problems, and about the way forward, ensure that they will not have an easy time. Even if they find a brilliant solution to the problem, they then have to convince everyone from the system managers at the county level to the volunteers in the shelter kitchens to follow the plan.

While I hope the workgroup succeeds, I am also struck by the irony of their work. This seems like something Kafka or one of the other absurdist authors would describe

with glee. Imagine what things will look like for the homeless if the workgroup succeeds. They can sit on hold for hours when calling the shelter intake line, probably only to hear that the shelters are full. Once they get into a shelter they enter a competition for the scarce permanent housing slots. While they wait for their opportunity to move into their own apartment they get to deal with the stress of homelessness and the uncertainty that it brings (which is even worse for homeless parents who have to find ways to keep their kids in school and safe from predators without scarring them for life). But at least the homeless can sleep well knowing that in the shelter they won't be judged by their skin color.

Having written that last paragraph, I want to emphasize that I really do hope the workgroup succeeds. I know things will not get better for the homeless all at once, and that the workgroup will be one step towards a functional system to help those who really need it. They have a difficult task, something that would certainly be beyond me. Even if I had unlimited power and funds to reshape the system, I'm not wise enough to solve the problem they are taking on.

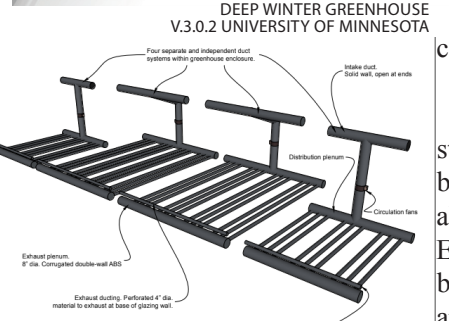
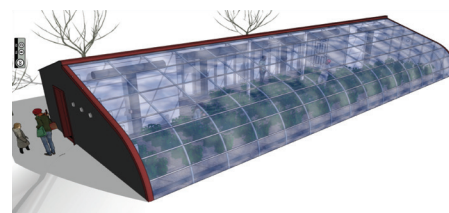
And yet, no matter how successful the workgroup is, I hope that no one makes a big fanfare of their accomplishments. That would be like a football team that is losing 49-0 holding an end zone celebration after kicking a field goal. The system fails the homeless in so many ways. One workgroup making progress on one issue can't let us think the problem has been solved.

"There was a moment where urban farming was its own thing, just radical folks," says Villaseñor. The conversation around food justice has evolved to the point where the City has shown support for getting nutritious food to the community, from urban

the winter? How do we start our own plant starts early, so the community can have that at hand when it's time to transplant? We could have a greenhouse..."

Ultimately, Tamales y Bicycletas hopes the greenhouse will be a place for community members to grow free food and sell some food to local restaurants to sustain the project. Along with growing food, this greenhouse is meant to be a space for community conversations and building solidarity within the East Phillips community.

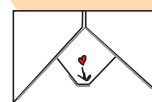
When the greenhouse construction is complete, plots will be available for people who live along 14th or 15th Avenue in East Phillips to farm. Flyers will be posted in the neighborhood announcing a time to sign up for plots when the greenhouse is ready.



Plans for version 3.0.2 of the "DWG" show the buried PVC pipe ductwork that pipes heat from the sun-heated air below the glazing into the soil

farm initiatives to pushing corner stores to stock fresh food. Villaseñor appreciates the investments the City is making to promote food security.

This greenhouse has long been a dream for Villaseñor: "Before COVID we were planning relationships with small restaurants. How do we keep this going over



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Compassion and Courage During the Coronavirus

By LEE LEICHTENTRITT

During the month of March, when John Charles Wilson and I came down with the coronavirus, two brave people came to our aid. Marge Beard and Ben Painter brought us food and drinks in a socially distanced manner, which made our COVID-19 ordeal manageable. The fact that these two people showed compassion for us during our illness is something to be lauded.

Ben Painter said that his friend Scott H. brought him groceries when he had the coronavirus last year, so in keeping with Scott's spirit of selflessness Ben decided to "pay it forward", in his own words. Marge Beard puts others' needs front and center; her compassion and courage comes from her upbringing and faith.

I am sharing our story with the readers of the Alley to show our gratitude for the people who helped us. Remember that you can perform socially distanced acts of courage and kindness for people you know who come down with the virus.

Redoing Lake Street

By SHIRLEY HEYER

Metropolitan Transit continues its projects for improving bus service with a Lake Street Line B (Lake/Marshall/Selby/downtown St. Paul) fast bus. Work start is planned for this fall.

Because longer wait times, increased walking distances, redesign of all traffic lanes are major changes, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Inc. (MPNAI) questions if the changes are equitable, necessary, beneficial, accessible, and include the Chicago Transit Station.

- Line B will make stops every 10 minutes
- Local buses every 30 minutes, +/- 10 minutes leeway
- Traffic lane design varies from block to block; cross streets and less on-street parking can cause confusion, congestion

MPNAI welcomes nearby neighborhoods, residents, workers, businesses, and organizations to 3 virtual engagements. Dates to come.

Contacts: MPNAI
shirleyconsults@gmail.com
d_nestea@yahoo.com
Cody.Olson@metrotransit.org
(He can send you a 15+ page PDF detailed plan description)

IF YOU HAVE 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!
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East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC)

Board Meetings are the first Saturday of every month at 10am

The next EPIC Board Meeting is Saturday, May 1 at 10am

EPIC Garden meetings are the second Saturday of every month at 9am

The next EPIC Garden Meeting is Saturday, May 8 at 9am

Community Meetings are the second Thursday of every month at 6:30pm

The next EPIC Community Meeting is Thursday, May 13 at 6:30pm

Join the folx on your block in picking up trash every Saturday, anytime from 9-11am. Join the whole neighborhood the last Saturday of every month-meet at 27th St and 17th Ave at 10am!

NOTE: All meetings are virtual for the time being (except trash clean ups). Get the link to join at the EPIC website

Visit eastphillips.org to learn more
Follow us on Facebook for neighborhood updates and resources: facebook.com/eastphillipsep

NewsHour; in March of 2020, a Burmese American family was attacked in a Sam's Club with the attacker spouting racist ideas about Chinese Americans. These are only some examples of what Asian Americans face every day. Congress should write new legislation that protects Asian Americans against hate crimes so they can feel somewhat secure.

Secondly, the government should be searching for solutions to end violent crimes against the Asian American community because it will reduce the



ART BY NINA

normalization of racism against Asian Americans. There is undoubtedly a long history of government officials using the Asian community as a scapegoat while perpetuating racist ideas. In the early 1900s, U.S. officials made Japanese immigrants endure extra medical exams because the government believed they carried the bubonic plague. Furthermore, Asians often fall into two stereotypes, the model minority myth and the perpetual foreigner myth. The model minority myth suggests Asians are more successful overall and do better in our society. The model minority myth is harmful because it causes people to justify racism against Asians because "they have it good". Likewise, the perpetual foreigner paints Asians as two timing

citizens and that they'll never be American enough. In the end, both myths are used to delegitimize racism against Asians while disregarding the history of anti-Asian sentiment. It's up to influential people like authority figures to spread awareness and condemn the normalized racism against Asian Americans.

Lastly, I'm asking all government officials and authority figures to put a stop to the violence against Asian Americans and punish those who've committed such hateful acts because it's their responsibility to keep all citizens safe. When you're someone who is super influential, your choice of words matter. The way our former president phrased COVID-19, calling it "Chinese virus" and "Kung Flu" just puts false blame on Asians and spreads xenophobia. Despite our former president saying these horrible things, two representatives from California are talking about and acknowledging all the aggression against Asian Americans. Representative Ro Khanna says it's important to acknowledge the situation and talk about it while the other representative, Mark Takano, is hopeful Biden and his administration will make it known that diversity is important and we should come together. This is what we all should expect from influential figures in our society and if they don't meet that standard, we need to hold them accountable.

While the pandemic continues, our current president Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris have both condemned the violence against Asian Americans. Being a good example for the public is one step to fixing the problem. Ultimately, there are many reasons for the federal government and authority figures to put in more effort to find solutions to end hate crimes against Asian Americans, as well as finding people who committed those acts and giving them a fair punishment.

EPIC's May Community Meeting May 13, 2021 at 6:30pm

1) Have your voice heard about how EPIC should spend it's city funds!

2) EPIC bylaw changes will begin a review process on May 13 and a vote will be held June 10. To view proposed changes visit EPIC's website.

El proceso de revisión de los cambios en los estatutos comenzará el 13 de mayo y se realizará una votación el 10 de junio. Para ver los cambios propuestos, vaya al sitio web de EPIC.

Random alley News

By LINDSEY FENNER

► **The Emergency Rental Assistance Now Available**

The state of Minnesota has rolled out more emergency rental assistance at <https://www.renthelpmn.org/>. The program opened up for applicants on April 20, and will initially assist renters who owe back rent. The second phase will open up the program to all who qualify. Eligible Minnesota renters can receive help with rent and utility bills dated on or after March 13, 2020. If you qualify, you could receive up to 15 months total assistance. Visit the website to complete a checklist to see if you will be eligible or call 211 with questions.

► **Community Cleanup on Saturdays:**

Southside Harm Reduction Services (SHRS) will be organizing community clean-ups, Saturdays at 12PM. Meet at the corner of Bloomington and 27th St. Training and safety gear will be provided (wear closed-toe shoes & face mask). Questions? Email: volunteer@southsideharmreduction.org See graphic for details. Based in South Minneapolis, Southside Harm Reduction Services works within a harm reduction framework to promote the human rights to health, safety, autonomy, and agency among people who use substances.

► **MNConnect Virtual Powwow through May 14:**

The 2nd annual virtual powwow is taking place April 15 through May 14 on [MN Connect Powwow](https://www.mnconnectpowwow.com) with a live Facebook celebration on May 21 with MC Deanna StandingCloud, MIGIZI, and youth from the community. Anyone can submit a video, but prizes will only be awarded to youth in 6th-12th grades who live in Minnesota. To learn more, go to <https://www.migizi.org/mn-connect-powwow> or follow MIGIZI on Facebook @MIGIZIMN

► **Midtown Global Market Welcomes New Restaurant and Grocery:**

Oasis Market & Deli opened at Midtown Global Market in April. Owner Amina Deble and General Manager Warsame Warsame - a mother and son team - offer groceries, butcher services, and a Mediterranean grill. Menu items include gyros, falafel, salads, plus cold and hot cafeteria-style service. The grocery will feature East African and Mediterranean staples like grains, spices, sauces, baked goods, oils, spices, spreads, peppers, cheeses, meats, pastas, rice, canned goods, drinks, chocolates, and hard-to-find desserts and candies. Oasis Market and Deli will be open Monday-Sunday, 10AM-7PM. www.oasismidtown.com (612) 315-4656

► **Artful Advocates Workshop Series:** In the Heart of the Beast see p. 11

MIDTOWN GLOBAL MARKET

GLOBAL FASHION & JEWELRY CRAWL

Saturday, May 8 | 11am - 4pm

Catch all the spring and summer fashions. Great gift giving ideas for Mom.

MIDTOWNGLOBALMARKET.ORG

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70+ Minnesota artists

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at Midtown Global Market

A collaborative of Minnesota artists with an online shop at theartshoppemgm.com

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Bring this ad in for 10% off your purchase. See website for special offers and more info.

Continued from page 1...

On Stage, Nina Simone



an artist-activist. Pillsbury House Theatre planned to stage the play last year, but Covid postponement has pushed it to this fall or next spring.

The play follows Nina Simone on a fictional visit to the aftermath of a real event: the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, a prominent Black church and civil rights rallying place. In the bombed-out church, Ham brings the characters of Simone's 1965 composition "Four Women" to life and imagines Simone engaging with them on how to be heard as Black women in the midst of personal and widespread violence.

Petrus went over the backdrop of terrorism at that time in "Bombingham" and around the nation, and students were invited to consider the effects of fear on individual and social consciousness. The bombing occurred in a year of great upheaval, and three months after the murder of Medgar Evers in Jackson Mississippi. These events had a profound effect on the real Nina Simone. She wrote the song "Mississippi Goddam" that year, vigorously lamenting the sluggish pace of change and the persistence of bias in society and the justice system.

This sluggish pace was at the forefront of the group's mind that April morning, day four of the Derek Chauvin trial. The students and On Stage facilitators took a moment of silence to acknowledge the fear, anxiety and fatigue conjured by the overlap of past and present events.

"Bring your forehead closer to the screen if you've listened to music yet today," Chomet invited the group. They talked about the way some songs stick in your head and inform the way you see your daily life. Then they discussed Nina Simone's evolution

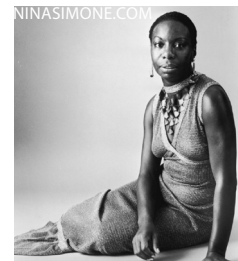
ing sense of her duty to "reflect the times and situations in which I find myself" through song.

They viewed Simone's 1962 performance of Gershwin's 1935 folk opera song "I Loves You Porgy," to demonstrate her earlier style in subject matter as self-presentation. After viewing Simone's concert performances, Chomet guided the students to "rock the chat" and give impressions of what was conjured by this evolution to as, Petrus put it, Simone's "claiming being herself--claiming being a queen."

The women in the play grapple with the tragedy of the bombing, as riots erupt outside. Music becomes a core means of resistance in an era when women were denied speaking roles in the civil rights movement they were critical in organizing. Students listened to the song "Four Women," and considered the influence of racism on conceptions of beauty and self-worth, the tension created by the perceived gaze of a hostile world.

Think of a moment where you felt exposed or where you doubted yourself; What did you need in that moment to help you feel supported and strong?

The play offers "four different lenses on Blackness and Black women's thoughts," Petrus said. "How varied experiences are even within one's own community. This is what theater does that I love--it offers you the opportunity to realize how you thought one thing, but there are layers." Those layers are revealed by every single element of the theatrical enter-



1968 portrait of Simone



Thomasina Petrus leading a pre-pandemic discussion of Pike St. at Washburn High School

prise: the costumes, lighting, set, and stage management all reveal aspects of a character and a situation, Petrus emphasized, along with dialogue and physical action. The jam-packed hour closed with a viewing of Simone's powerful 1964 performance of "Mississippi Goddam."

"I've had what I call the willies, I get chills every time to listen to these songs. 15 discussions - I listen to them a lot," Erickson said in an interview afterward. Each semester, On Stage hosts 15 discussions of two different plays. In 2020 he started OnStage/OnLine

"Some educators have had to bow out. It's an intense time, with the trial," Erickson says. But the hope, and feedback, has been that this forum offers a source of connection and deeper consideration.

Chomet closed this discussion with shout-outs to current musical artists lifting social justice causes. And a palpable energy, the sense of the power of theater for grappling with these issues.

Petrus' enthusiasm for the accessibility, depth, and power of theater is infectious: "Theater is one of the last arenas where adults can learn about each other in an environment where it's safe to ask the hard questions. Strangers can come together and really learn about each other."

Find out more about On Stage at www.onstagemn.org. Follow Pillsbury House Theatre on social media for announcements about the play!

Don't tell me I tell you

Me and my people just about due I've been there so I know They keep on saying "Go slow!" But that's just the trouble

Nina Simone "Mississippi Goddam" 1963

to bring future local plays to virtual classrooms, to "stimulate an interest in live theater, examine the cultural context of a play, and of course, to have fun!"

"We just want to create some kind of ripple effect in their learning. Hard to measure, but it's there," Erickson says. On Stage works with theaters to offer discounted tickets to participants so they can attend the performance post discussion. The plays have addressed such difficult issues as gender and racial inequity, LGBTQ discrimination, cultural diaspora and alienation and aging. The facilitators bring the plays alive through dynamic activities, encouraging the students to grapple with their themes and see theater as relevant and enriching.

"We open a can of worms and then leave," Erickson admits.



Thomasina Petrus leading a pre-pandemic discussion of Pike St. at Washburn High School



Simone's 1962 "I Loves You Porgy" performance viewed by On Stage/OnLine facilitators Erickson, Petrus, Montañes, Austene Van (Artistic Director of both New Dawn and Yellow Tree Theatres), and Maria Asp (Speaking Out Collective)

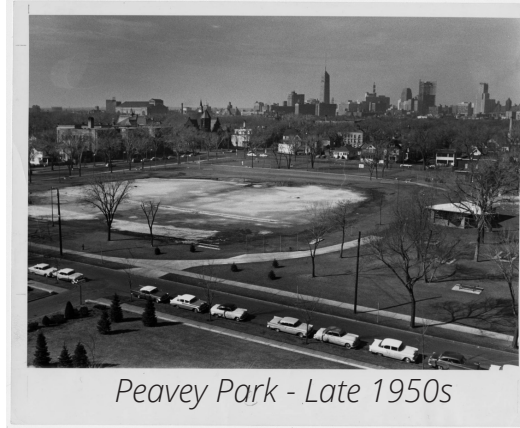
VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

MAY '21 NEWS

PEAVEY PARK "A BUSY PARK IS A SAFE PARK"

Less than 100 years ago Peavey Field Park did not exist. In 1927 the site of Peavey was just another part of the city with residences, businesses, and a fire station at E. 22 Street and Columbus. In that year the grandchildren of Frank H. Peavey donated their family home to the Park Board. Peavey, who passed away in 1901, was prominent in the grain trade and the house was typical of the other mansions on Park Avenue. The house was removed and Peavey Park started as a field occupying the NE corner of E. 22nd Street and Park Avenue.

The park expanded very slowly until after World War Two. Park Superintendent Charles Duell then wrote that play space was "badly needed in this thickly populated district of the city". Tax-forfeited or condemned properties were purchased - 22 lots on Chicago Avenue in 1947, the Fire Station was closed and given to the Park Board in 1949, and Columbus Avenue from E. 22nd Street to Franklin was closed and added to the park in 1956. That year the park was graded, ball fields were built, and tennis courts and a wading pool were added. In 1992 the last 2 buildings (including a liquor store) were demolished and converted into a new entrance to the park with brightly colored mosaic tile benches at the corner of Franklin and Chicago.



Peavey Park - Late 1950s

In recent decades Peavey Park has had its share of problems and criminal activity.

It is located at a very busy and accessible crossroads in South Minneapolis, Franklin and Chicago Avenues. It is in a neighborhood that is changing and transitional. Poverty, racism, gang activity, and the supply and demand of drugs and other vices have all contributed to the tensions at Peavey.

In 2010 the neighbors of the Park, including the Ventura Village Neighborhood Association, the West Phillips Neighborhood Association, and Hope Community contacted the Metropolitan Design Center of the University of Minnesota's College of Urban Design to do a study of how the Park could be used to address those problems.

A Community Advisory Board of members of those organizations, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB), the Minneapolis Police Department, business owners, and other community leaders and residents worked together to make design recommendations. A guiding principle was "A busy park is a safe park".

They worked to get those recommendations into the long term MPRB South Mpls. Parks Plan. Funding was approved in 2017 and work began in 2018. Parts of the park were leveled. New basketball courts and a full soccer field were installed. The neighborhoods helped fund the pavilion, picnic tables, swings and sod for the soccer field, hoping that inviting the community to use the park would make it a safer place.

The past year has not been good to Peavey Park. The pandemic closed the park building. Along with other parks it was used as a homeless encampment. Recently 2 stabbings have occurred there along with more gun violence.

Again our neighboring communities are encouraging people to use this park.

Ventura Village is planning to use some of it's Neighborhood Priority Plan (NPP) funds to improve the walking paths in the park. The MPRB has begun to open up programming for youth. Neighboring Hope Academy also plans to make use of the park this summer.

The MPRB has listed Peavey as a future community garden site with raised beds on Park Avenue and a fruit tree orchard on Chicago Avenue. (See map) A recent MPRB survey asking about community gardening at Peavey received 26 responses, almost all of them positive. At nearby Franklin Steele Park the 14 newly installed raised beds (See



- 1 Fruit Tree Orchard on Chicago Avenue
- 2 Raised Beds for the Community Garden on Park Avenue

picture) have been spoken for with a waiting list. Parks traditionally have not allowed personal gardening but with more apartments, renters and interest the MPRB is responding to the demand.

New neighbors will help also. The Franklin Park Lofts across Franklin will bring new residents to the park. The First Care Community Clinic for families will break ground soon across Chicago Avenue. At a recent neighborhood meeting concerning a nearby building that has sat vacant for 20+ years, residents reminded the city that to have a healthy neighborhood the building needs to be "occupied not vacant"! This is true of parks also.

SPRING IS HERE! Safety Considerations for your Yard and Home By: Kali Pliego, Crime Prevention Specialist

One thing I love about Springtime in Minnesota is seeing people out in their yards.

Whether maintaining the lawn, working in the garden, fixing up the home's exterior, or taking on a new outdoor project, we Minnesotans seem to love being outside. I'm sure our affinity for getting out of the house has a lot to do with being cooped up over our long, cold winters. Add a year plus of pandemic times to the mix, and it feels like a simple backyard is a destination location!

Here are some safety tips to consider for when you're out working in the yard:

- Make time to get to know your neighbors who are also outside—One of the best strategies for crime prevention is building strong neighbor relationships!
- Consider taking gloves, a garbage bag, and litter grabbers with you on neighborhood walks to beautify your space while getting exercise;
- Keep house and garage doors closed and locked when you're not nearby—Your garage is more vulnerable to burglary if you're out of sight and distracted with a task (like mowing the front lawn);
- Consider that your patio furniture could be used as a burglary tool;
 - Burglars can pull them to a window to use as a ladder to gain access;
 - You can prevent this by "pinning" your garden and first level windows from the inside (in addition to window locks, you may opt to add security to windows with track fillers or pins);
- Trim bushes and small trees to eliminate hiding spots and free up sightlines;
- Mind recreational fire safety:
 - Keep fire extinguishing materials on hand (garden hose, sand, bucket of water);
 - Stay 25 feet from buildings and flammable materials;
 - Fires must be supervised by someone 18 years or older;
 - Burn fires on non-windy days;
 - Visit Minneapolis City webpage on recreational fires for more tips and rules: <https://www.minneapolismn.gov/resident-services/public-safety/prevent-prepare/fire-safety/recreational-fires/>

• **Free Food For Kids:** One of the positive developments of this year's pandemic have been the organizations and individuals who have worked together to help those in need. An example of this happens every Tuesday afternoon, 2:00PM to 6:00PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church's parking lot, 1901 Portland Avenue. Free Food For Kids is a church and nonprofit who distribute a week's worth of meals for families who have been guaranteed at home. Participants can drive or walk up and volunteers from St. Paul's help with the distribution. Thank you to all those caring for our community!"



Photo courtesy of Pastor Grigsby

• **The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe presented a plan** for a new building to the Ventura Village Housing and Land Use Committee. They plan to build on the vacant lot on the 2200 block of Bloomington Avenue S. It will house their Minneapolis Embassy and also have between 24 and 28 apartments. The initial plan calls for solar panels and community space on the roof. They will continue to update Ventura Village on the process and building developments.



Raised Beds @ Franklin Steele Park



Franklin Park Lofts across Franklin from Peavey Park

Our May Neighborhood meeting will be on Wednesday, May 12th 7:00 PM on Zoom. To get our link call 612-548-1598, email us at villageventura@gmail.com or by visiting our website at venturavillage.org.

If you're interested in helping us plant flowers on Franklin Avenue this month leave a message on our phone line or email. Thanks!

Continued from Page 1

Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts continued

A partir de marzo, Semilla Center comenzó a organizar estas fiestas de arte el primer miércoles del mes, comenzando en línea mientras hace frío afuera y luego comenzaremos a reunirnos en persona al aire libre de mayo a septiembre, y mudarnos al interior en persona de octubre - noviembre. Las fiestas son un lugar para crear cosas, charlar, comer, bailar, mantener la distancia social, sonreír, celebrar, conocer vecinos, compartir información sobre dónde vivimos juntos y crear soluciones para hacer una vida más saludable y seguro vecindario, este año y muchos mas. Comenzamos haciendo linternas simples en las fiestas y encendiéndolas en nuestras ventanas y en nuestros porches todos los miércoles por la noche para recordarnos que mantenemos las luces encendidas y que estamos aquí el uno para el otro. Cualquiera en Phillips puede asistir, pero también nos estamos enfocando en un área pequeña alrededor del Semilla Center, desde 26th St. a Lake St. y Bloomington a 14th Ave. S.

Las fechas de las fiestas de arte son:
Primer miércoles del mes, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm en ubicaciones alrededor de Midtown Phillips a determinar pronto.

5 de mayo, 9 de junio, 7 de julio, 3 de agosto *, 1 de septiembre, 6 de octubre, 3 de noviembre, 1 de diciembre

* La fiesta del 3 de agosto será el martes por la noche para National Night Out.

Semilla Center proporcionará fondos para anfitriones de fiestas, artistas y músicos para estas fiestas de arte:

-Los anfitriones serán los vecinos de Midtown Phillips que proveer alimentos y bebidas, y se coordinarán con el personal y los artistas de Semilla para organizar la Fiesta de Arte en un espacio designado. Los anfitriones recibirán \$333 por cada fiesta.

-Los artistas diseñarán y crearán una actividad de arte para hacer linternas con los vecinos de Phillips en las Fiestas de Arte en coordinación con el personal de Semilla. Los artistas recibirán \$333 por cada fiesta.

-Los músicos tocarán música o DJ para las Fiestas de Arte en coordinación con el personal de Semilla. Los músicos recibirán \$333 por cada fiesta.

¡Gracias!

¡Espero verte en las fiestas!
Bart Buch y Angela Barrera
Semilla Center

Si desea ser Artista, Anfitrión, o Músico o si tiene alguna pregunta:

semillacenter@gmail.com.

Incluya "Art Parties" en el sujeto del correo electrónico y proponga lo que le gustaría hacer como anfitrión, artista o músico.

Para mantenerse actualizado sobre las fiestas,
visite semillacenter.org
o en Semilla Center en Facebook.



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



A Party Invitation and Call for Artists, Party Hosts, and Musicians from SEMILLA CENTER

Spring is arriving, and we at Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts want to help create better times with new connections, strengthening existing connections and increasing community trust, using art and parties —Art Parties! to celebrate together and continue looking out for one another.

Starting in March, Semilla Center started hosting these art parties on the first Wednesday of the month, starting online while it was colder outside and then we will start to meet in person.

The parties are a place to create things, to chat, to eat, to dance, to space out, to smile, to celebrate, to meet neighbors, to share information about where we live together and create solutions together to make a healthier and safer neighborhood, this year and beyond. We are starting by making simple lanterns at the parties and lighting them in our windows and on our porches every Wednesday night to remind each other we are keeping the lights on for each other, we are here for each other. Anybody in Phillips can attend but we are also focusing outreach on a small area around the Semilla Center, from 26th St. to Lake St. and Bloomington to 14th Ave. S.

Dates for the Art Parties are:

First Wed. of the Month, 5:30-7:30pm, locations in Midtown Phillips TBD.
May 5, June 9, July 7, August 3*, Sept. 1, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1

Semilla Center will provide funding for Party Hosts, Artists, and Musicians for these Art Parties:

- Hosts will be Midtown Phillips neighbors that provide food and drinks, and coordinate with Semilla staff and artists to host the Art Party in a designated space. Hosts will receive \$333 for each party.
- Artists will design and create a lantern-making art activity with Phillips neighbors at the Art Party in coordination with Semilla staff. Artists will receive \$333 for each party.
- Musicians will play music or DJ for the Art Parties in coordination with the Semilla staff. Musicians will receive \$333 for each party.

If you would like to be an Artist, Host or Musician or if have any questions you can write to us at semillacenter@gmail.com. To stay updated on the parties, check out our website at semillacenter.org or at Semilla Center on Facebook.

LAKE STREET RECOVERY #4

TUESDAY, MAY 25TH, 2021 / 6:30 - 8:00 PM
A VIRTUAL MEETING

Topic: Solutions to Homelessness



Speakers:

Michael Goze, CEO
American Indian CDC

Al Bangoura,
Superintendent

Minneapolis Park &
Recreation Board

More Info:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/97326950488>
Dial by your location
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 973 2695 0488

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/97326950488>

Past meetings can be found on the MPNAI website:

www.midtownphillips.org/meetings

Sheila Delaney
Indoor Village

Deborah Moses - CEO/
Executive Director

St Stephens Human
Services



MIDTOWN PHILLIPS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC

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

Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts: A Party Invitation

We had a hard year last year, in many, many ways. Covid-19, economic hardship, violence, addiction, police brutality, social unrest, and homelessness have all increased the neighborhood's fear and isolation. One good thing that came out of the emergency of the uprising last year was getting to know new neighbors and looking out for one another during troubling times.

We hope and feel better times are coming. Spring is arriving, and we at Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts have an idea, An Invitation! We want to help create better times with new connections, strengthening existing connections, and increasing community trust using art and parties - Art Parties! to celebrate together and continue looking out for one another.

see the Midtown Phillips box below for more details

THANK YOU!
HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE
PARTIES!
BART BUCH AND ANGIE
BARERRA
SEMILLA CENTER FOR
HEALING AND THE ARTS

What's Your Score?

By MARY ELLEN KALUZA

Americans are obsessed with their credit score - checking it daily, paying for apps, even sending screenshots to potential mothers-in-law. The score is a source of pride and boasting. It can also be a source of shame and low self-esteem. It feels like that 3-digit number defines who we are. Have a good score? You're golden. Have a distressed score? You're tarnished.

Your credit score is based on information in your credit reports. Essentially it is your grade on what has been reported. That grade will determine if you can rent or buy a home, get a phone plan, get a job or promotion, have a decent interest rate on your car loan, how much you pay for insurance, and who will marry you. I tell my daughter she doesn't marry anyone until I see their credit report. Mostly I mean it as a joke, but one partner's poor credit score can hold the couple back from pursuing goals. It is not a joke that life is hard and expensive with a low credit score.

The whole idea of buying and selling information about potential borrowers' credit-worthiness goes back to the late 1800's. The score we all know and love or hate - FICO - came into widespread use quite recently in the early

Continued on p11

Random alley Labor News:

By LINDSEY FENNER



- **International Workers Day March | Marcha en el Día Internacional de los trabajadores May 1:** May 1st is International Workers' Day, and the Twin Cities Labor Movement will be marching. Saturday, May 1, 2021 at 2 PM, Minneapolis. Gather at Lake Street and Nicollet Avenue. The organizers demand: Labor Rights! Justice for Essential Workers! Immigrants Rights! Immigration Reform Now! Stop Police Brutality! Climate Justice Now! Stop Line 3! Derechos laborales Justicia para los trabajadores esenciales Derechos para los inmigrantes Reforma migratoria ya Alto a la brutalidad policial Justicia climática ya -- alto a la Linea 3
- **Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship Deadline June 1:** Nellie Stone Johnson

was a fierce advocate for workers, folks of color, and the power of education. The Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to racial minority union members and their families who wish to pursue an education at one of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. Scholarships ranging from up to \$1200 for part time and up to \$2500 for full time are given each year to students enrolled in community or technical college, along with undergraduate and graduate programs. For more: <http://www.nelliestone.org/scholarship-program>

- **Healthcare Workers at Allina authorize strike:** At the end of March, 4,000 workers represented by Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Healthcare MN overwhelmingly voted to authorize an Unfair Labor Practices Strike against Allina Healthcare, if the two sides cannot reach a deal. Workers at Allina, which includes Abbott Northwestern Hospital and Phillips Eye Institute in the Phillips neighborhood, have

been in contract negotiations with Allina since January. According to SEIU, continuing issues are Allina's 0% pay increase offer and refusal to address health and safety concerns. As of press time, SEIU workers have not yet gone on strike, but have been holding informational pickets at Allina healthcare facilities throughout the Twin Cities. SEIU is required to give 10-day notice before workers can walk out.

- **Hospitality Workers Win "Right to Recall" Ordinance in Minneapolis:** In March, the Minneapolis City Council passed an ordinance that requires hotels and event centers to give priority to their former employees before hiring new applicants. The ordinance applies to hotels of more than 50 rooms and



SEIU Healthcare MN workers and supporters held an informational picket at Abbott Northwestern Hospital and Phillips Eye Institute on April 7.

event centers of more than 50,000 square feet or 2,000 seats. Employees need to meet all three of the following criteria to be eligible: --Employed at least 6 months from March 13, 2019 to March 13, 2020 (including at least 80 hours of work performed in the City); --"Lay-off" occurred after March 13, 2020; and "Laid off" due to lack of business or other economic, non-disciplinary reason.

- Violations of the ordinance can be reported to the City of Minneapolis Department of Civil Rights by visiting their website <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/government/departments/civil-rights/> or by calling 311.

Arts and Culture Spaces in Phillips are Opening Up

By LINDSEY FENNER

The Phillips neighborhood's wealth of galleries and museums have started opening up for in-

person visits. Please go to each organization's website or call for most up-to-date information on hours and COVID restrictions.

ALL MY RELATIONS ARTS:
1414 EAST FRANKLIN AVENUE,
MINNEAPOLIS

Gallery hours:
Monday-Friday 10 am-5 pm and
Saturdays 10 am-3 pm.
612-235-4970

www.allmyrelationsarts.com
Current Exhibition:

Inherent Right, Artist: Peter Williams, April 26-June 26
Yup'ik artist and designer Peter Williams bridges worlds of fashion, art, tradition and innovation. His hand-sewn works from self



ALYSSA RUSSELL, ALL MY RELATIONS

hunted animals challenges anti-Native policy and viewers who subscribe to mainstream, non-Indigenous views of conservation, believing that we must "preserve" nature by minimizing human interaction with it. This is in contrast to Indigenous perspectives: We must build reciprocal, intimate relationships with plants and animals, as we nourish ourselves and adorn our bodies with them every day. His fur objects go a step beyond to address the legacy of colonization and the struggle to keep ancient customs alive. By celebrating natural cycles and living in harmony with the animal

and spiritual worlds, Yup'ik culture has survived for thousands of years in some of the harshest environments.

-ALL MY RELATIONS ARTS

AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE: 2600 PARK AVENUE, MINNEAPOLIS

Museum hours:
Thursday-Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.,
reservations required
www.asimn.org/ 612-871-4907
Current Exhibitions:

Papier - Bea Szenfeld and Stina Wirsén, Feb 06, 2021 to Jul 11

In a juncture between art and fashion, two renowned Swedish artists meet in a mutual affection for the hand-made and paper. Papier unites Bea Szenfeld's spectacular sculptural paper-fashion with Stina Wirsén's evocative illustrations.



ASI

Family Gallery - Water, sky, and me - Stina Wirsén Feb 28, 2020 to Jul 11 2021

Water, sky and me was developed and designed in collaboration with Swedish illustrator and author Stina Wirsén, and features original illustrations and artwork by the artist created especially for you and ASI. The family gallery is only open to families and learning pods who make advanced reservations.

Lace Reimagined

Amy Sands, April 10 to July 11

Sands creates one-of-a-kind paper works that integrate traditional and digital methods of printmaking. Amy's latest body of work draws on ASI's textile collection to inspire new patterns that are translated into paper cuts and then printed.

-AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE

NORWAY HOUSE: 913 EAST FRANKLIN AVENUE, MINNEAPOLIS

Gallery hours:

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday and Sunday 10:00am - 4:00pm,
appointments required.
<https://www.norwayhouse.org/>

Current Exhibition:

Red River Girl: The Thortvedt Family's Journey to America. Thursday, March 25 - August 8

This exhibit, in partnership with the Vest-Telemark Museum in Norway and the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, MN, tells a story of emigration from Norway to the United States by some of the earliest settlers in Clay County, MN. They recorded the history of the community and the story of their family through their own drawings, photographs, letters, and journals.

-NORWAY HOUSE

SOMALI MUSEUM OF MN:
1516 East Lake St. Suite 011
Minneapolis

Museum hours: Friday 3 PM TO 7 PM. Saturday, and Sunday from 1 PM to 5 PM. <http://www.somalimuseum.org/> 612-234-1625

Current Exhibition:

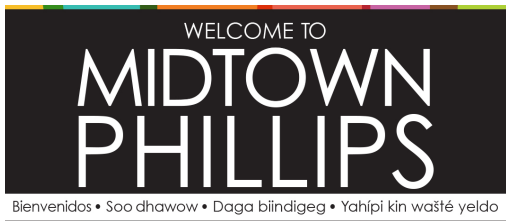
The Dirios Exhibit

Showcasing many works from Dr. Mohamad

(Dirios) Mohamed's personal collections and artifacts from Somalia & the Somali Culture and Research Center.

"Dr. Mohamad Dirios is a collector and preserver of Somali ethnography. served the academy of science in Mogadishu, and later became the last director of National Museums of Mogadishu".-Somali National Museum

-SOMALI MUSEUM OF MN



MPNAI MAY BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, May 11, 2021
6:30-8:00 pm

AGENDA:

- Fast Bus Line meetings & select representatives to attend
- Finance Report
- Board Orientation

Find Zoom link at www.midtownphillips.org/meetings

Movie Corner

Godzilla vs. Kong

(2021 Warner Bros.)

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II



Howard McQuitter II



The last time the two mammoth monsters Godzilla and King Kong - one a reptile, the other a mammal - fought one another was in the 1962 film by Japanese director Ishiro Honda. Back then men dressed as Godzilla and King Kong battled it out, costing thousands of lives. In that film the battle between Godzilla and King Kong climaxes on Mount Fuji. Director Adam Wingard's Godzilla vs. Kong, as to be expected, uses plenty of C.G.I. (computer-generated imagery) making the beasts larger than ever. Oh, how Godzilla and Kong have grown in size since their beginnings! Today both beasts are as big as - if not bigger - than the skyscrapers they easily knock over. And the way it looks in Wingard's hyper C.G.I. version, it's Godzilla who is the villain. I think.

What also can be said (and in more recent movies on

Godzilla or Kong) is that the Japanese get a big breather from both beasts who in the past have made it a point to level or near level their cities and leave thousands of deaths. This time Godzilla appears in Pensacola, Florida upstaging the city and everything in it. Kong on the other hand is taken from his haven on Skull Island before he's attacked at sea by Godzilla. They battle at sea in the midst of warships and aircraft carriers while F-16s swoop down from the sky firing missiles at the great beasts.

I think it's safe to conclude Godzilla vs. Kong delivers what it promises: ultimate fighting at its best between Godzilla and Kong. But the only lifts (and there's barely a handful) is the battle between the iconic monsters who leave billions of dollars in property damage and numerous lives lost. The human characters are essentially insipid and without much depth. Although I'm a big fan of many of the earlier Godzilla films as well as some of the King Kong films, I'm not eager for more C.G.I. Godzillas or Kongs. For heaven sakes, let these behemoths rest.

Cast: Alexander Skarsgard (Nathan Lind), Millie Bobby Brown (Madison Russell), Rebecca Hall (Ilene Andrews), Brian Tyree Henry (Bernie Hayes), Shun Oguri (Rey Serizawa), Kyle Chandler (Mark Russell). Director: Adam Wingard. Cinematography: Ben Serevin. Music: Junkie XL.

Running time: 113 minutes. Rated: PG-13

continued from p.1...

COVID tips

that while there might have been some riskier activities we did before and didn't get sick, we now are much more likely to get COVID doing the same things. We are also seeing many more cases in children and teens, and more severe illness in younger people. The good news is that the vaccines in the US seem to do a good job against B117. But we all need to take steps to protect folks who aren't vaccinated yet, or can't get vaccinated, like children and folks who are immunocompromised.

- Even if you are vaccinated, you should continue taking COVID precautions in public and in private groups that are mixed vaccinated and unvaccinated. Although protection from the vaccines is phenomenal, it isn't 100%, and levels of virus spread are currently very very high.
- Everyone, vaccinated or unvaccinated, needs to stay home if they have COVID symptoms and get tested.
- If you've been waiting to get vaccinated because you think you are low risk, please don't wait. The protection isn't just for you. It's also for everyone who can't get vaccinated, like people with serious health conditions.

Something I Said

Can You Say "Tuskegee Experiment"?

By DWIGHT HOBBS

You couldn't throw the COVID-19 or any other number vaccine on me in a bucket of water. Can you say Tuskegee Experiment? The research for which African Americans were used by the United States Public Health Service as lab rats to explore the effects of syphilis. That was far back as 1932 but medical science hasn't progressed so far today that we don't have one Dr. Jean-Paul Mira, chief of intensive care at the Cochin Hospital in Paris, France. In April of last year, he asked the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research director Camille Loch on French television channel LCI, "Shouldn't we be doing this

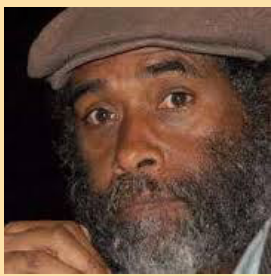
study in Africa where there are no masks, no treatment, no intensive care, a little bit like we did in certain AIDS studies or with prostitutes?"

Locht responded, "You are right. We are thinking of a parallel study in Africa to use [an] approach with the BCG placebos." Placebos. The same ruse this government perpetrated, in a study that went on until 1972, years with not one infected patient being treated with penicillin despite that by 1947, the antibiotic was widely available and had become the standard treatment for the disease. The program killed 128 of its 600 participants letting them die from syphilis or related complications. Mira and Loch might well have got away with similarly disregarding black humanity but for the outrage on social media condemning their comments. There is no telling how many men, women and children would have died

a miserable death as Mira and Loch blithely went on about their business. Admittedly, there's no evidence that US doctors will follow that lead. No smoking gun. On the other hand, there's also no reason to believe they won't, the medical profession conducting another Tuskegee-style experiment and simply being smarter about keeping it under their hats.

Time after time this country has demonstrated an entrenched, indeed institutionalized contempt for black life. Any of us who doesn't at least think twice about taking that needle simply isn't awake.

Vaccine, my Aunt Fanny. I'll take my chances.



Dwight Hobbs

READ NOT TO CONTRADICT AND CONFUTE, NOR TO BELIEVE AND TAKE FOR GRANTED...



BUT TO WEIGH AND CONSIDER" FRANCIS BACON

the alley invites you to CONSIDER writing a note or letter to the paper, for feedback or to publish!

What you need to sign up for an appointment: • You only need to provide your first name, last name, date of birth and home address • You are encouraged to provide your mobile phone number and email address, if you have them

What you need for your appointment: • You will be required to wear a mask and comply with social distancing requirements • You need to con-

firm your first name, last name, date of birth and home address • You do NOT need to provide an ID • You do NOT need to have medical insurance • Free Metro Transit pass for the day of your appointment is provided in confirmation text message and email

State of MN COVID-19 Public Hotline

For questions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, call

MORE FREE COVID-19 TESTS NEAR PHILLIPS

- **Minneapolis Convention Center**
1301 Second Ave. S., Exhibit Room B.
10 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays
10 a.m.-4 p.m. weekends.
Walk in accepted, appointments preferred: mncovidtestingappt.as.me
- **Native American Community Clinic**
1213 E. Franklin Ave
2 p.m. Tuesdays.
Appointments required: Call 612-872-8086 to schedule an appointment.
- **Southside Community Health Services, 324 E. 35th St.**
2-3 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.
Appointments required: Call 612-821-3548 to schedule an appointment. You can expect to get your test results in about 2-3 business days. Same day testing can be done for health care workers, first responders and essential workers.

• **State Fair Vaccination Site 1680 Como Ave, Falcon Heights.**
Everyone 16+ who lives in Phillips is eligible to get vaccinated at the community vaccination site at the Minnesota State Fair Grounds
To sign up for a Vaccine Appointment you can either:
• Call 833-431-2053, Mon - Fri 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Sat 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (operators available in multiple languages and can assist in making language/ADA accommodations)
Or sign up on the COVID-19 Vaccine Connector to be contacted to schedule an appointment
Refugees and Immigrants can call for scheduling help in other languages: 651-318-0989 Mon - Fri 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Refugee and Immigrant COVID-19 Help Line
651-318-0989

"Remember to **imagine and craft the worlds you cannot live without,**

just as you dismantle the worlds you cannot live within." — Ruha Benjamin

1-833-431-2053
Mon-Fri 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sat 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Mental Health Crisis Line - Call: **CRISIS (**274747)

If you're a Hennepin County resident who has recently tested positive for COVID-19 and needs help remaining in isolation, we can help. Email EssentialServices@hennepin.us. Español: Si usted es residente del condado de Hennepin y recientemente dio positivo por COVID-19 y necesita ayuda para permanecer aislado envíe un correo electrónico a essentialservices@hennepin.us. Soomaali: Hadaad degan tahay Degmada Hennepin dhawaana lagaa helay COVID-19 aadna caawimaad u baahan tahay si aad ugu sii jirto gooni joogaaga Ilmey u dir essentialservices@hennepin.us. Lindsey lives in East Phillips and has been working a COVID response reassignment in local public health since May 2020. She is very tired.

The Alley Newspaper is a member of **COMMUNITY SHARES MINNESOTA**

Give. And light a fire under inequality.
www.changeisbetter.com
(651) 647-0440

Raise Your Voice

On Entering the Twilight Zone

By PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

Sales of color televisions began in 1954, but it was not until September of 1961 that the premiere of Walt Disney's World of Color persuaded consumers to purchase color televisions. Having entered the realm of consciousness prior to '61, "baby boomers" like me now imbibe black and white reruns as a type of "food for the soul". Indeed, we have existed long enough to relive The Twilight Zone.

"The Twilight Zone is a place that exists at any moment of Time, of space or of mind... but always when you least expect it.

UPDATE
FROM HOB COMMUNICATIONS, COMPILED BY LINDSEY FENNER AND JESSIE MERRIAM

Meet the May Day Council at <https://hob.org/mayday-council/>

Why will there not be a parade?
Given the realities of Covid-19 and a lack of staff/council capacity due to the furlough in October, the HOB Board decided in a January meeting to move forward with a decentralized celebration to reduce pandemic spread.

We want to create an accessible and decentralized MayDay this year, in a lot of different ways. Stay tuned. HOB.ORG

HOB'S RE-START PLAN

The Re-start is committed to co-creation with new Executive Co-Directors (currently hiring!), as well as our incredible board, staff and MayDay Council. We've re-enlisted the support of the MayDay Council for year two and our next move will be to welcome additional community members to conspire on holding the theatre as a community asset.

visit www.hob.org for the full Community Report, hiring calls, artist announcements,
Follow and share HOB updates on instagram

Continued from p.9

Score

1990's when the practice of risk-based lending, charging higher interest if the borrower was deemed a higher risk, took firm hold in the lending world. Theoretically, lending decisions based on the score are made without interference of personal biases.

The scoring system eliminated some, certainly not all, of the unfairness and prejudice that goes into a decision to extend credit or not. The score does not tell the back-story - was there a job loss? An illness? Death in the family? Divorce? Youthful ignorance? And, it does not address the persistent inequities of colonization and slavery that give great advantages to some and rob others of those same advantages.

Despite its failings, the credit scoring system is not going away any time soon. (There are rumblings in the media about "shutting down the credit bureaus", but there's a lot of money in buying and selling our personal data so that will be a battle.) The good news is, anyone can improve their score.

When you find yourself in this realm of unlimited possibility, be careful what you say or do. The right decisions may help you find your way back out..."

Sunday, April 11, 2021...
Fading after a long day, before turning in I became aware that Daunte Wright had been killed. With apologies to the family, I will state that my arthritis was earned at Smith Foundry, here in South Minneapolis. Which is to say: I am no longer a foot soldier in the people's movement. Okay?

Next day...
Yet, committed to the belief that "hope is alive", I returned to the drawing board. My vertical-axis-wind-harvester will eventually desalinate sea water... irrigate deserts... help avert climate catastrophe... after all, our youthful multi-racial activists will tend to Daunte's memory. But then at day's end, unaware of the curfew, I drove to Cub Foods. The parking lot was empty.

You are now entering...
Once upon a time, in broad daylight, I was driving on Lake

Street with one headlight out. Fortunately, when pulled over by the police, my very intense "fight or flight" impulse was overruled by the superego: sit still, Dutch/Scandinavian one, and you very likely will survive. Tragically, Daunte's legitimate instincts deprived him of that particular white privilege.

Remember...
In the aftermath of mass murders, Trump consulted his troops: "should I tone it down?" "No, no, no", they implored... "taser, taser taser", she said. Yes, she knew of prior events where other tasers seemingly magically transformed to kill... resulting in mere reprimands for "accidental" occurrences. Conceivably then, there was opportunity, motive, and premeditation.

"We share the torment of the damned." So reads a headline in the April 2021 issue of *Southside Pride*. Actually, we have a few elders in this neighborhood who threw a few stones in their youth. Perhaps we should meet before checking out. We are on the cusp of transition to socialism, are we not?

Artful Advocates Workshop Series

In the Heart of the Beast is excited to announce Artful Advocates Workshops: a 3 month series of free online workshops for elementary-aged children! HOB teaching artists will guide your children through an art-making workshop on Saturday mornings. Each one-hour workshop will include the

- following activities:
- a hands-on art-making activity that can be completed at home
 - a follow-up outdoor activity
 - a call to action to translate your art into environmental action!



Participants who register in advance will receive FREE art kits with materials for each workshop. Art kits will be delivered the first week of each month.

For more information visit: <https://hob.org/artful-advocates-workshop-series/>

Para más información visite: <https://hob.org/artful-advocates-espanol/>

En el Corazón de la Bestia Teatro está ofreciendo un programa EN LÍNEA con duración de 3 meses llamado Talleres de Defensores Artísticos para niños de educación primaria. Los talleres con duración de una hora incluye actividades como:

- Actividades de manualidad para la creación de arte que pueden ser completadas en casa
- Actividades de seguimiento al aire libre
- ¡Un llamado a la acción para traducir tu arte en acción ambiental!

Los participantes que se registren con anticipación recibirán kits de arte GRATUITOS con materiales para cada taller. Los kits de arte se entregarán la primera semana de cada mes.

M*Y D*Y P*R*DE 2021

(Due to budget cuts, A is cancelled)

Right after the Vietnam War ended in 1975, Heart of the Beast Theater celebrated Workers' Day & Spring with puppets & music & a parade in Powderhorn Park. This was so much fun it became a yearly event - anyone who wanted could join the MAY DAY PARADE. Heart of the Beast gathered the community each year to pick a theme & build puppets & non-motorized floats. The overall message of Peace & Love preached a populist inclusion of all peoples. A pageant highlight was the giant Sun puppet crossing the lake to dance with the Tree of Life. Unfortunately, crowds got bigger & expenses rose, resulting in threatened cancellation in 2019. Community support poured in & the Parade happened. Then new leadership laid off all staff. Covid-19 cancelled 2020. Now BIPOC-oriented leadership seeks to reorganize & "root out" white supremacy in the festival organization, "pay artists who were exploited, and to "make the parade safe for people who aren't liberal in a white south side kind of way." After the Festival is "decentralized & decolonized," leaders envision a yearly program that will be everywhere all the time - turning the Parade into a metaphor - exactly how is not yet clear (see the HOB website). Hopefully it will be as joyous as the procession which celebrated Spring sunshine in the park for 45 years.

Or, to paraphrase our neighborhood namesake Wendell Phillips:

"The People must be Waked Woke!"

OUR NEW HOME!



Cultural Wellness Center's EXPANDED Community Health Hub ---



COMING SUMMER 2021!

In addition to the regular Community Health Hub activities and work of our *Health Champions (see April Back Page of The Alley Newspaper), some of the new features you can expect to find in our new space include:

- ▶ **FOOD DEMOS and LEARNING LABS**
- ▶ **2 treatment rooms for some of our Health Hub activities**
- ▶ **GRAB & GO**



Our **GRAB & GO** will feature:

♥ **Fresh Salads and Fruits**



♥ **Culinary Seasonings**
♥ **Seasonal Herbs**



♥ **"Smooth Purpose" (Smoothies)**



♥ **Bars and Breads made from Ancient Grains**

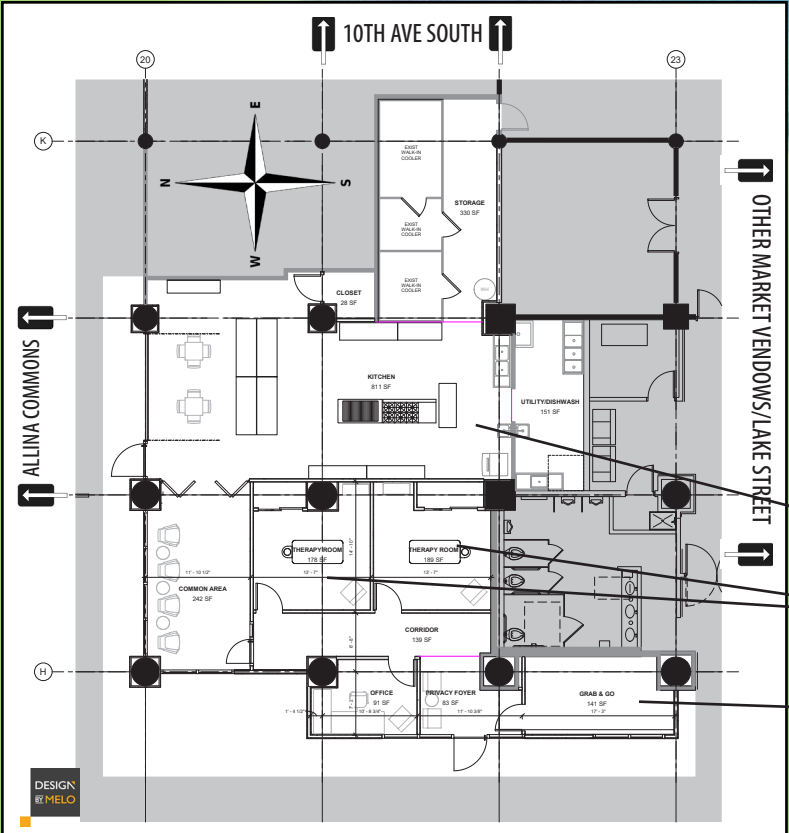


♥ **& Other Healthy Goodies!**

The Community Health Hub has always been centered on the wellbeing of community and community-building within the physical space we had available in the Midtown Global Market...we are excited for our expanding capacity!



ILLUSTRATED BY JESSIE MERRIAM



Introducing the Designer of our new space:
DESIGN BY MELO

Damaris Hollingsworth,
NCARB, AIA, NOMA, LEED AP



TEDx Speaker and Inclusive architectural thought leader, Damaris creates sustainable places and spaces that remain relevant through the shifts of demographics and economics.

With an Architectural and Urban Planning degree from the Faculdade de Arquitetura & Urbanismo at University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, Damaris moved to the United States of America in 2006 and has since become a Registered Architect, a LEED accredited professional and holds a NCARB certificate.

Damaris' dynamic and engaging personality combined with her global and multicultural background enables her to connect with people from all walks of life. Her approachability makes people feel relevant and the outcome of her work makes it clear that all voices matter.

With vibrancy and grace, Damaris is poised to expand the reach of inclusive architecture as a way to promote social justice and to beautify all communities. Her design solutions are deeply rooted in the people it serves, while responding to both community values and economic realities. Her resiliency inspires all around her to be productive and stay engaged.

ENGAGE, CONNECT, and PARTICIPATE....

Our work unleashes the power of citizens to heal themselves and build community. If you would like to find out more about any of the classes or to join in, check out the Backyard Community Health Hub's Facebook page or email

BackyardHealthHub@culturalwellnesscenter.org



Cultural Wellness Center
Health · Heritage · Harmony

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



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