

## Hennepin County Library Permanently Closes the Franklin Learning Center



FRANKLIN LEARNING CENTER FACEBOOK

Franklin Learning Center, ca 2012

By LINDSEY FENNER

First shuttered due to the Franklin Library remodel project in 2019 and then COVID-19 in 2020/21, Hennepin County Library (HCL) has decided to permanently close the Franklin Learning Center (FLC), the adult education service at Franklin Library. Hennepin

County Library has made no public announcement about ending this valued community resource as of July 13, when the alley contacted them for comment.

Josh Yetman, HCL spokesperson, declined to answer questions about why the decision

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## East Phillips Urban Farm Faces Crucial City Council Vote in August

By LINDSEY FENNER

The future of the East Phillips Urban Farm will reach a crucial turning point in August when the Minneapolis City Council will hear a staff report on the future of the City's Public Works expansion at the Roof Depot site at Longfellow and 28th Street, and vote on an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW). An EAW is a short document that reports on the facts of a project and determines the need for a further review called an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

At the end of April, the City Council approved a staff directive that paused the City's Public Works expansion at the Roof Depot site, with a required report at the City Council Committee of the Whole meeting on Thursday, August 5. The report will include information on the financial and operational impact of ending the Public Works expansion project and recommendations for selling the property to community groups.

The Public Works expansion,

if it went forward, would increase car and truck emissions in a neighborhood already overburdened with pollution and accompanying health conditions like asthma.

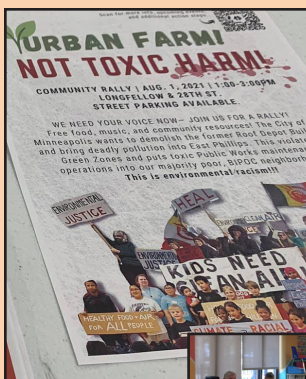
Neighbors, community members, and allies have been fighting for another vision of the Roof Depot site, the East Phillips Urban Farm. The community project would include urban agriculture, affordable housing, job training, and a small business incubator. The

*Continued on page 4...*



CHRISTINA DOVOLIS

Jason Chavez, running for Ward 9, and Karen Clark, Women's Environmental Institute Director and EPNI Board Member



The East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) hosted a workshop with local businesses and community organizations such as Migizi, Gandhi Mahal, Little Earth, and more to envision a business model for the future East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm!



CHRISTINA DOVOLIS

### Arts, No Chaser

## A Great Run: Interview with Jack Reuler

By DWIGHT HOBBS

Mixed Blood Theatre ushered in authentic multicultural fare 45 years ago and remains at the fore. Owing to the vision of neophyte upstart, founding artistic director Jack Reuler who recently resigned, leaving Twin Cities considerably stronger than he found it. Reuler spoke about his career and the historic venue established "In the spirit of Dr. King's dream".

*Did you have any idea what you were doing when you started Mixed Blood?*

In 1976, at 22, I wanted to espouse a particular world view and didn't know anything about theatre. I had a job with a social service agency, the Center for Community Action, to [identi-



RICH RYAN

Jack Reuler

fy] community needs. Shortly before, Ernie Hudson was at Theatre In The Round Players in The Great White Hope. One of the few opportunities for actors of color. It was the bi-centennial.

*Continued on page 5...*

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## Red Lake and NACC Set to Open New Healthcare Center

By TINA MONJE



Mino Bimaadiziwin, the new Red Lake Nation apartment building.

In September of 2020, Red Lake Nation and their affordable housing nonprofit partner, CommonBond Communities, began taking applications for their new Native-centered apartment building, Mino Bimaadiziwin. Today, most of the units are occupied, and they hope to have the building full by late August.

In partnership with Native American Community Clinic (NACC), Red Lake Nation is also gearing up to open the Mino Bimaadiziwin Wellness Center, an onsite health clinic.

Dr. Laurelle Myhra, PhD, LMFT, is an enrolled member of Red Lake Nation, and the new clinic's director. According to Myhra, this project, arguably the first of its kind in the nation, has been made possible by the innovative Indigenous leaders who are seated at the planning table. The culmination of "a lot of indigenous people carrying indigenous knowledge and ancestry," she says, has resulted in this new, one-of-a-kind avenue, through which residents may access housing and healthcare.

This project comes after years of increasing homelessness within the community, and years of community organizing and development among Minnesota tribal leaders, Indigenous outreach workers, and community members at large.

Construction began in the fall of 2019, and moved rapidly through the winter, on a site familiar to the population for whom this development is built to serve. At this site, in December of 2018, Simpson Housing opened the Navigation Center. By the guidance of local Native leadership groups, including Red Lake Nation, American Indian Community Development Center (AICDC) and Metropolitan Urban Indian

*Continued on page 10...*

THE EAST PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD INSTITUTE IS CALLING ON ALL URBAN FARM SUPPORTERS TO SHOW UP FOR EAST PHILLIPS AT

### TWO EVENTS IN AUGUST:

#### COMMUNITY RALLY

Longfellow and 28th Street.  
Free food, music, and community resources.

#### MINNEAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Streaming online  
Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofminneapolis> or  
City Council TV: <https://www.minneapolis-mn.gov/government/meetings/city-council-tv/>

SUNDAY  
AUGUST 1,  
1-3PM

THURSDAY  
AUGUST 5, 10AM



# 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, Eric Angell, Kyle Cranston, Steve Dreyer, Lee Leichtenritt, Frances Mendenhall, Steve Sandberg.

Operated by Editorial Leadership Team: Lindsey Fenner, Laura Hulsche, Mary Ellen Kaluza, Carz Nelson, Minkara Tezet, Harvey Winje, and Jessie Merriam

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## August content contributors to the alley :

August content contributors to the alley: American Swedish Institute, Roberta Barnes, City of Minneapolis, Cultural Wellness Center and CWC Health Hub, Daniel Dorff, Steve Dreyer, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Lindsey Fenner, Vivi Grieco, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Patrick Cabello Hansel, Ben Heath, Hennepin County Libraries, Dwight Hobbes, Jenna Holst, Laura Hulscher, Sue Hunter Weir, Mary Ellen Kaluza, League of Women Voters Minneapolis, Marti Maltby, Tim McCall, Howard McQuitter II, Jessie Merriam, Michael.Be., Midtown Global Market, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Assoc., Minnesota Housing, Tina Monje, Dave Moore, Carz Nelson, Peter Molenaar, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Jack Reuler, Rich Ryan, Sarah Santiago, Searchlight Pictures, Sunny Sevigny, Melissa Trent, Ventura Village Neighborhood Organization, John Charles Wilson

## DONATIONS

**Thank you to neighbors, readers, advertisers, subscribers, GiveMN, and Community Shares MN donations. Alley Communications is a Not-for Profit 501C-3; donations are tax deductible.**

*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.

## Correspondence becomes the property of the alley and may be published.

Journalists' opinions in *the alley* and social media are not the opinion of Alley Communications, et al.

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612-990-4022

twitter.com/alleynewspaper

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](mailto:copydesk@alleynews.org)**



# Library News

By CARZ NELSON

All information listed here is accurate as of July 15, 2021. For the most recent information, check out the library website at [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org).

## LIBRARY UPDATES:

### NEW HOURS AT FRANKLIN LIBRARY

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	9 AM to 5 PM
Wednesday	9 AM to 5 PM
Thursday	12 Noon to 8 PM
Friday	9 AM to 5 PM
Saturday	9 AM to 5 PM
Sunday	12 Noon to 5 PM

## SUMMER LIBRARY SERVICE

Franklin Library is open for regular service, including book check out, holds pick up, and walk-in computer use. There's no limit on the time people can spend inside the library. Visitors and employees who are fully vaccinated don't have to wear face coverings.

## LIBRARY REDUCES SERVICE

After 30 years in the basement of Franklin Library, the Franklin Learning Center is closed. There's no word yet from the library as to why it was closed. Alternate resources can be found at the following locations:

- **U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services:** [www.uscis.gov/citizenship](http://www.uscis.gov/citizenship)
- **Hennepin County Hotline:** 612-348-3000. Find legal, food, education and health resources and answers to

immigration questions

- **Language learning and test preparation:** [www.hclib.org/programs/adult-learning](http://www.hclib.org/programs/adult-learning)
- **Literacy Minnesota:** 1-800-222-1990, <https://www.literacymn.org/classesforadults>. Language Learning, GED, and citizenship classes

## FREE BOOKS

The library will give away free books at the Four Sisters Farmers Market at 1414 E Franklin Avenue. Four Sisters Farmers Market is held every Thursday, 11am-3pm but the library will be there only on the **FIRST Thursday of each month.**

## STATE PARK PASS

You can borrow a Minnesota State Park pass from Franklin Library! The pass grants entry



into any of the 75 state parks, and is valid for 7 days after check out.

## FUN FOR KIDS

This summer, Franklin Library will host snacks and outdoor games for youth on **Thursdays at 2:30 PM.**

## CHILL ON THE LAWN

Franklin Library has free Wi-Fi outside the building from **7 AM to 10 PM.** They also have chairs on the front lawn when the library is open. It's a convenient spot to hang out and log on.

## 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.*

## 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](http://www.hclib.org):

- Tools for job searches
- Ancestry Library Edition and other resources to research family history
- Local music on MNspin

## ASK THE LIBRARY

Have a reference or library account question? Call, text, chat with, or email a library worker.

[www.hclib.org/contact](http://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**

ESPAÑOL/SPANISH: Llame o envíe un texto al 651-503-8013 para recibir ayuda en español.

HMOOB/HMONG: Hu losis text rau lub tsev nyeem ntawv ntawm 612-385-0886 txais kev pab hais lus Hmoob.

SOOMAALI/SOMALI: Caawimaad Soomaali 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.*

The Alley Newspaper is a member of



**Give. And light a fire under inequality.**

[www.changeisbetter.com](http://www.changeisbetter.com)  
(651) 647-0440



**"MONEY IS LIKE MANURE, OF VERY LITTLE USE EXCEPT IT BE SPREAD"**

FRANCIS BACON

*Donations are always in season!*



## METRO TRANSIT

# You Can Gamble, Your Kids Can Have Fun

By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

Are you any of the following: A transit dependent parent who wishes to be able to take his/her kids to Valleyfair? A teenager who'd like to go to Valleyfair by his/herself

without being driven there by a parent? An adult who'd like to check out the races at Canterbury Park without a car? Or an adult who'd like to go to Mystic Lake without a car and without being beholden to the casino bus schedule? If so, the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) has a solution for you! Route 410, also known as the "4FUN" bus, is a new weekend express bus from the Mall of America to Valleyfair, Canterbury Park, and Mystic Lake. Buses leave the Mall of America every hour from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and again from 6:23 to 10:23 PM (though skipping the Valleyfair stop in the evenings). Return buses from Mystic Lake run 9:44 AM to 5:44 PM and again from 7:01

to 11:01 PM (though the last one to pick up at Valleyfair is the 8:01 PM bus which leaves Valleyfair at 8:20). Of course, from the Phillips neighborhood, you will need to take either the Metro Transit 5 or the Blue Line to reach Mall of America to transfer to the 4FUN bus.

In other news, Metro Transit is adding back service that has been cut during the pandemic. The following improvements involving the Phillips area as of 21 August 2021 are:

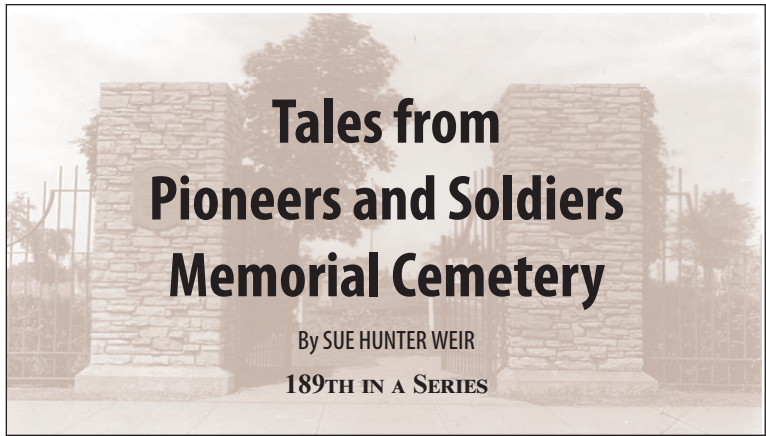
- The Blue Line will run every 10 minutes during the morning rush hour.
- Route 2 will add trips to the University of Minnesota.
- Route 5 will adjust north-bound afternoon trips for

dismissal times at Heritage STEM Academy.

- Route 21 will adjust west-bound morning trips for start times at Southwest High School.

Also, construction on the Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit, which will stop at the new Lake Street bus stop in the middle of I-35W (in place of the shelters that used to be at the sides of the freeway on top of huge and crumbling flights of stairs), is almost completed. We should expect to hear of service starting by the end of 2021, replacing the current Route 535. This will be a real boon to people headed to the southern suburbs.





# Three Lives Lost Over \$20

The St. Paul Globe characterized it as a story that began and ended in a graveyard. It was the murder of Thomas Tollefson, a streetcar conductor, on the night of July 26, 1887. Tollefson’s murder was, as many crimes are, senseless and poorly planned. When all was said and done, three men died—one man murdered and two men hanged for having killed him. The two murderers netted a total of \$20 (worth a little more than \$430 in today’s currency).

Tollefson was a 28-year-old Norwegian immigrant who earned his living driving the Cedar Avenue streetcar line. He and Christina Nelson were married on February 10, 1887, a little more than five months before he was murdered. Tollefson was described as “a handsome fellow, and as brave and as generous as a man can be.”

The night that Tollefson was killed there was a big fire downtown and streetcars were running a couple of hours behind schedule. Tollefson’s 10 o’clock car didn’t reach its last stop at Cedar Avenue and Lake Street until midnight. Ten minutes earlier another streetcar driver, whose car had been derailed by planks obstructing the lines, warned Tollefson that he might run into trouble. Outside of the cemetery’s gates Tollefson encountered Tim, Henry, and Peter Barrett. Tim and Peter were both armed, and it was Tim who shot Tollefson twice, once in the thigh and once in the chest. Tollefson died instantly. The three brothers spent an hour wandering in the cemetery before going to their sister’s house and hiding the cashbox containing the stolen money in a hole they dug in the basement.

The Globe’s reporter described the Barrett family as a “peculiar one,” which didn’t quite capture the extent

of their lawlessness. Before the murder at least two of the Barretts had served time in prison. At the time of the investigation, Henry was in jail for operating a “blind pig” (selling liquor without a license). Tim was also in jail, arrested for having committed a number of armed holdups

near Minnehaha Falls. Peter, who was only 16, had fled to their mother’s home in Omaha, Nebraska.

While he was sitting in jail serving his sentence, Henry “Reddy” Barrett offered to tell what he knew about the robbery and murder. It’s not clear why he did so, but it appears to have been a combination of a guilty conscience and fear that harm would be done to him or, more importantly, to his wife. He fully understood that his brothers were likely to hang and that it was possible that he would, too, even though he claimed that he had little to do with the crime.

Detectives were dispatched to Omaha to bring Peter back. The grand jury indicted Peter and Tim Barrett for first-degree murder on December 6, 1887. The two were tried separately. Tim was tried first. His trial lasted 16 days and was attended by so many curiosity seekers that the courtroom was almost “crowded to suffocation.” Peter’s trial lasted 21 days. Their attor-

neys’ strategy primarily consisted of trying to discredit their brother Henry’s testimony as a “most damnable conspiracy.” That strategy failed. In each case the jury deliberated for only two hours before finding the defendants guilty of first-degree murder. Henry was never charged.

Tim and Peter were sentenced to hang on July 12, 1888, but they were granted a stay of execution while they appealed their cases to the State Supreme Court. Their appeal was denied and the governor refused to grant clemency. The two men were hanged on March 22, 1889. Timothy Barrett was 25 years old. Peter was 18. Their mother arranged to have her sons buried in Omaha.

Thomas Tollefson was buried in Layman’s Cemetery on July 28, 1887, but was among the thousands of people disinterred during the late 19-teens and early 19-twenties. He was



1880-1886. Horse-drawn streetcar, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

moved to Hillside Cemetery on September 30, 1921. His widow, Christina, married Morris Lansberry, a widower with three children, three days before the Barrett brothers were hanged. She and her new husband had hoped to attend the hanging but were turned away “as no ladies were permitted to witness it.”

*Is there something going on in Phillips that should be noted in the alley? Maybe a shoutout for a job well done, an inspiring development, or a bittersweet farewell? Let us know all about it by sending your sentences to: [copydesk@alleynews.org](mailto:copydesk@alleynews.org)*

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

# RCV.... Easy as One, Two Three!



THE FOURTH IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES ABOUT THE 2021 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNEAPOLIS.

Minneapolis residents can say goodbye to voting for the lesser of two evils thanks to Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), a unique method for electing local officials that was first implemented in our city in 2013. On November 2, you can vote for your first, second, third choice candidates for the offices of Mayor, City Council, Parks & Recreation Board and Board of Estimate and Taxation. That’s right, just like the lottery, you can pick three.

Here’s how RCV works: Choose the candidate who best represents your views, and fill in the circle beside their name under the 1st Choice column. You can then proceed to indicate your second and third choice candidates by marking the circles next to their names in the 2nd and 3rd choice columns. There is no Primary election runoff, so no candidates are excluded before Election Day. You can choose any candidate among every candidate who files to run for office.

You don’t have to choose three candidates, but here’s why you might want to: After the polls close, all first choice votes will be counted (including absentee and vote-by-mail ballots). If there is a clear winner – that is, if one candidate receives the highest vote count ABOVE the 50 percent threshold - the race is called, and that candidate is declared the winner. If no candidate reaches 50 percent, then the counting moves to round two.

In round two, the candidates with the lowest vote count and no mathematical chance of winning are eliminated, and their voters’ votes are shifted to their second choice candidate. If, after round two, no candidate reaches the threshold, the counting moves to round three, four, and five etc. until the candidate with the most votes above 50 percent is declared the winner.

With Ranked Choice Voting, every candidate is on equal footing, and no candidate is a “spoiler.”

The City of Minneapolis website has extensive educational materials explaining RCV, including videos in Spanish, Somali and Hmong (<https://vote.minneapolismn.gov/ranked-choice-voting/details/>). If you or someone you know has a question or needs assistance, call the City of Minneapolis Help Line: 311.

**Remember: your VOTE is your VOICE, and every eligible voter has the right to be heard. Democracy depends on it. Learn more at [lwvmpls.org](http://lwvmpls.org).**

STEP 1			STEP 2			STEP 3		
1	1 <sup>st</sup> Choice Select One		2	2 <sup>nd</sup> Choice If any, must be different from your 1 <sup>st</sup> choice		3	3 <sup>rd</sup> Choice If any, must be different from your 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> choices	
<input type="radio"/>	WEBBER PARK Parks Party		<input checked="" type="radio"/>	WEBBER PARK Parks Party		<input type="radio"/>	WEBBER PARK Parks Party	
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	BELTRAMI PARK Parks United		<input type="radio"/>	BELTRAMI PARK Parks United		<input type="radio"/>	BELTRAMI PARK Parks United	
<input type="radio"/>	LOWRY PARK Parks United		<input type="radio"/>	LOWRY PARK Parks United		<input type="radio"/>	LOWRY PARK Parks United	
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<input type="radio"/>	BOSSEN FIELD PARK Parks Party		<input type="radio"/>	BOSSEN FIELD PARK Parks Party		<input type="radio"/>	BOSSEN FIELD PARK Parks Party	

Graphic taken from Minneapolis Elections website  
<https://vote.minneapolismn.gov/>

**Do you read “the alley”?**  
Want it to continue, grow, improve,  
and land at your  
doorstep or on a newsstand  
as a “free newspaper”  
each month?

**Contribute!** or send a check to P.O.  
Go to Alley Communications Box 7006, Mpls., MN  
on GiveMN, 55407





# East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC)

**EPIC's August Community Meeting**  
**Thursday, August 12 6:30pm-7:30pm**  
**AT CEDAR FIELD PARK AND ONLINE (Zoom link to join at eastphillips.org)**

Join us for a community discussion about drug use and lack of housing in our community. Come hear about how these issues are being addressed along Bloomington Ave and share your creative solutions.  
*If you would like to request interpretation, contact Sarah at (608) 513-5107 or [sarah@eastphillips.com](mailto:sarah@eastphillips.com).*

**Reunión comunitaria de agosto de EPIC**  
**Jueves 12 de agosto de 6:30 pm a 7:30 pm**  
**EN CEDAR FIELD PARK Y EN LÍNEA (enlace de zoom para unirse en eastphillips.org)**

Únase a nosotros para una discusión comunitaria sobre el uso de drogas y la falta de vivienda en nuestra comunidad. Venga a escuchar cómo se están abordando estos problemas a lo largo de Bloomington Ave y comparta sus soluciones creativas.  
*Si desea solicitar interpretación para una reunión EPIC, comuníquese con Sarah al (608) 513-5107 o [sarah@eastphillips.com](mailto:sarah@eastphillips.com)*

**Shirka Bulshada ee Ogosto ee EPIC**  
**Khamiis, Ogast 12 6:30 pm-7:30 pm**  
**XARUNTA BARNAAMIJKA CEDAR IYO Khadka tooska ah (Ku dhaji isku xidhka si aad ugu biirto barta Eastphillips.org)**

Nagala soo qaybgal dood bulsho oo ku saabsan isticmaalka daroogada iyo guryo la'aanta ka jirta beesheena. Kaalay maqal oo ku saabsan sida arrimahan looga hadlayo Bloomington Ave oo la wadaag xalalkaaga hal-abuurka ah.  
*Haddii aad jeclaan lahayd inaad codsato turjumaad kulanka EPIC, fadlan la xiriir Sarah (608) 513-5107 ama [sarah@eastphillips.com](mailto:sarah@eastphillips.com)*

**South Minneapolis**  
**Mayoral Candidate Forum**  
**Sunday August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2-4pm at Cedar Field Park**

Come hear from candidates who are trying to represent you! There will be FREE FOOD, music and activities for the whole family. Translation will be available.

The next **EPIC Board Meeting** is Saturday, August 7 10am-11am

The next **EPIC Garden Meeting** is Saturday, August 14 9am-10am

For links to join EPIC meetings go to [eastphillips.org](http://eastphillips.org)

## Your First Apartment!

By MARY ELLEN KALUZA

It's that time of year – moving vans are everywhere. Eighty percent of moves happen between April and September. A significant number of those moves are young people leaving the nest for the first time. Many life lessons await them! Some lessons will be painful. Avoid the pain with a little bit of knowledge.

### CHOOSE YOUR ROOMMATES WELL

- ▶ Everyone will be equally liable for the whole rent, not just their portion. Are the roommates dependable?

- ▶ Do you share a similar life-style?
- ▶ What about smoking or drinking?
- ▶ Frequent guests?
- ▶ How will you resolve conflicts?

### IS IT AFFORDABLE?

The rule of thumb is to keep housing expenses at 30 percent of your income. But, this is just a guideline and not necessarily the best measure of affordability. If you have a decent income, the remaining 70 percent of your income can be substantial. If you are earning minimum wage, the remaining 70 percent isn't much. Spend some time on your budget. Know your monthly net income and recurring expenses (phone, transportation, insurance, etc.). Track spending on food and entertainment. Can you cut some expenses to afford rent? Consider a different neighborhood? More roommates?

### CHECK YOUR CREDIT REPORT

Most landlords use a screening service for prospective tenants, which includes your credit, your rental history, and your criminal background. They may have credit score thresholds to be considered for a rental. Be proactive by getting your free credit reports from [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), to check for errors and other issues that drag your score down, before you pay the application fee to the landlord. If your rental application is denied based on what is in your screening report, you have a right to a free copy of the report.

### FIND THE RIGHT PLACE

- ▶ Is the apartment convenient for work, school, public transportation?
- ▶ What is the parking situation?
- ▶ What are the utility costs?

- ▶ Is the building secure? Can you safely lock up your bike?
- ▶ Want houseplants? How is the natural light?

### KNOW YOUR LEASE

A lease is a contract you are legally obligated to fulfill. Breaking a lease can end up on your rental record, and make it very difficult to rent in the future. Any unpaid rent may be reported to the credit bureaus, ruining your credit. You can also be sued for the unpaid rent, which could lead to wage garnishment and much misery.

It is wise to inspect the apartment thoroughly before signing a lease. Make a list of any issues. Take photographs, too. Have the landlord sign the list and keep a copy for yourself to avoid disputes later on.

### BEWARE OF RENTAL SCAMS

- Look for red flags:
- ▶ Remarkably low rent
  - ▶ Pressure to act quickly
  - ▶ Request to wire money or use reloadable card

### ON YOUR OWN!

Some of this advice comes from the Minnesota Attorney General's website where you'll find much more: [www.ag.state.mn.us](http://www.ag.state.mn.us), under Topics – Housing – Landlords & Tenants.

Oh, and invite your mother to dinner!

*Mary Ellen Kaluza is a Certified Financial Counselor with LSS Financial Counseling which offers free counseling for budgeting, debt, credit, student loans, and housing. Website: [www.lssfinancialcounseling.org](http://www.lssfinancialcounseling.org). Call: 888-577-2227.*

## MAY DAY CAFE



**REOPENING AGAIN**  
**JULY 30**

**WITH**  
**INDOOR DINING**  
**OPEN FRIDAYS THRU TUESDAYS**  
**WITH EXTENDED HOURS**  
**9AM TO 3PM**

**YAY**

**COME HANG OUT WITH US AGAIN**

continued from p.1 ...

## Roof Depot cont.

community group organized around this vision, the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute, has an active lawsuit against the City of Minneapolis to stop the Public Works expansion, is working on securing funding and a buyer for the property, and has been holding workshops with business owners, community groups, and tenants interested in renting space within the 230,000 sq.ft. Roof Depot.

**Manaal Ahmed, volunteer with the Ward 9 talks with Christina Dovolis, Community Organizer and EPNI Communications Director**



**(L to R): Jacqueline Neadeau (Little Earth Residents Association Board President), Joe Vital (Community Organizer and Secretary of Native People's Caucus), and Bruce Ferguson (Community Organizer and Business Consultant)**



# Rental Assistance and Renter’s Rights

**As the COVID-19 Eviction Moratorium is phased out, here are some resources for renters:**

► **RentHelp MN:**

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. Apply online at <https://www.renthelpmn.org/> or call 211.

► **Disability Hub: Disability Hub MN**

is a free statewide resource network that helps you solve problems, navigate the system and plan for your future. You’ll discover options and tools for managing your health, your benefits, your work, your housing, and more. Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5 pm. **1-866-333-2466** <https://disabilityhubmn.org/contact-us/>

► **Energy Assistance Program:**

The Energy Assistance Program can help you pay energy costs - such as a heating bill - between Oct. 1 and Sept. 1, 2021. If you qualify, you could receive a grant to cover some of your energy expenses. Contact Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County: <https://caphennepin.org/952-930-3541>

► **HOME Line MN:**

HOME Line provides free and low-cost legal, organizing, education, and advocacy services so tenants throughout Minnesota can solve their own rental housing problems. Tenant Hotline: For English, call 612-728-5767, Para Español, llame al 612-255-8870, Af Soomaali wac 612-255-8860.

► **HousingLink:**

Affordable housing-related openings, data, information and resources. <https://www.housing-link.org/>

► **LawHelpMN:**

Informational guide and provider directory for legal issues relat-

ed to a wide variety of topics, including housing. <https://www.lawhelpmn.org/>

► **Minneapolis Renters’ Coalition:**

This Renter Fund seeks to aid cost-burdened renters in a low-barrier way. The application is open the 15-20th of each month, opening and closing at noon. 25 applicants are selected randomly each month. Apply at <https://www.ppna.org/renter-support-fund>. Questions? Contact Julia - 612-446-4661 or [julia@ppna.org](mailto:julia@ppna.org). Preguntas en español? Contactar a Nicole - 612-400-6300 or [informacion@ppna.org](mailto:informacion@ppna.org)

► **Senior LinkAge Line:**

Resources and support for seniors and caregivers for aging in place, assisted living and other senior housing options. 800-333-2433, Monday through Friday from 8am to 4:30pm.

► **United Renters for Justice - Inquilinx Unidxs por Justicia:**

United Renters For Justice (IX) works for permanently affordable democratic housing and structural changes: tenant unions, rent control, stronger enforcement, and cooperatively owned housing. <http://www.inquilinx-sunidxs.org/>

*continued from p.1 ...*

## Reuler, cont.

America celebrating its ideals, but not living those ideals. So, Mixed Blood Theatre began as a summer project, [to] rid America of all its isms. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Blind enthusiasm of youth. I hoped to attend veterinary school in the fall, but we did six shows, three of which were world premieres, and it went well. Forty-five years later, it’s a summer program run amok.

*Eventually you’d be discriminated against as a white artistic director.*

Theater Communications Group, organizing theaters of color to discuss concerns about unifying, [felt our] programming and staff weren’t part of that. I’ve come to appreciate their decision over time.

*You’ve staged black plays, Asian, LGBT, Native, Disabled long before most Twin Cities venues.*

While we’re categorically a black theater, we’ve done shows by, for and about a wide mixed community, including shows in Spanish with bi-lingual casts. Looking back on the body of work, we didn’t do it for some finite time or because a grant allowed it. We grew our wings and added so anybody could feel welcome and affirmed.

*Was Penumbra an offshoot of Mixed Blood?*

No. Lou Bellamy directed our first show, Dutchman. And for several years was part of the directing and acting talent pool. I’ve learned a great deal from him. In the first year of Mixed Blood, the Hallie Q. Brown Center went



to Lou and said, “We have this beautiful, thrust stage. Would you run our theater?”

*Mixed Blood’s outreach series has always been a strong feature. Bringing authentic multiculturalism to communities with short shows that work well in schools.*

We’ve toured for 35 years. Fourteen productions, averaging 5 a year. Dr. King’s Dream was our first one. One of the people I admired was Paul Robeson. Phillip Hayes Dean wrote a play on Broadway with James Earl Jones as Robeson. We added that to the repertoire. Then, we commissioned a show on Jackie Robinson. Some years later we commissioned the astronaut Ron McNair. One year we did August Wilson’s Malcolm X, which had been staged at Penumbra. Terry Bellamy performed in it.

*Some strong, national acting talent came up through your shop. Don Cheadle, Carl Lumbly.*

They were kind enough to share their talents at a young age. At 22 or so, Don Cheadle already knew he was going to be a Don Cheadle. Carl Lumbly went to Macalester College [and] South High School. In the course of his years there, he wrote a musical, Badd High, based on South High being torn down.

*Speaking of Cheadle, that was interesting color-blind casting with him as Tom Joad for Grapes of Wrath.*

When we did that in 1991, there was a notion at the heart of it that the Depression was a time when white people learned how to live the way other people had been forced to live. So, we did The Grapes of Wrath as sort of an embodiment of America. But, that term is not something that should be associated with Mixed Blood.

*You had a singular experience with playwright Ed Bullins, Minister of Culture for the Black Panthers.*

Our first year, I got a script from him, JoAnne, based on JoAnne Little, a North Carolina prisoner who murders the guard who raped her. I picked him up at the airport and told him all these great things we had done to his play. He had to decide whether he was to go along with it or go back to New York. Happily, he liked what we did. And took me under his wing. Then, for about 3 years, I scouted Minneapolis plays for Joe Papp at the Public Theatre [in New York].

*Well, congrats on a great run. Thanks.*

## Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

### Life vs. People

By MARTI MALTBY



Marti Maltby

I recently read “Ghost Rider,” Neil Peart’s memoir, recounting a 55,000 mile motorcycle trip he took to help him deal with personal tragedy. His 19 year old daughter died in a car accident, and ten months later, his partner of 22 years died of cancer (although Peart claimed the real cause was a broken heart). Lost in grief, he left his house in Quebec and rode to Alaska, then

south into Mexico and Belize, before returning home.

Early in the book, Peart mentions how the deaths changed his perspective on life. Before that point he led a blessed life, untouched by death or disease, with a job he enjoyed as the drummer of Rush (arguably the most successful Canadian rock band of all time). As you might expect, being in a world famous rock band brought many people into Peart’s life, who sought to befriend him superficially, in exchange for what his fame and wealth could do for them. His belief was, as he put it, “Life is good, but people suck.”

As he healed from this tragedy, his mantra became “Life sucks, but people are good.” His new attitude stemmed from those who supported him through the blackest time of his life. After

his daughter’s death, friends and family took care of his business dealings, ran interference so he wasn’t overwhelmed by well-wishers, and even accompanied him and his partner overseas to prevent either of them from committing suicide as they grappled with their loss. When his partner died, he continued to lean on friends, and during his journey he met others who unwittingly helped him regain his emotional balance. Before he started his trip he received help from people who had been only marginal characters in his life, and he was touched by their concerns. During his trip, few of the people he met knew his plight, but their simple acts of civility and hospitality helped him heal.

I have often wondered what makes Peace House Community such a special place, and I believe a lot of it comes down to the founder’s view of life. Sister Rose Tillemans would probably

have agreed with Peart that “Life sucks, but people are good”. She suffered many mental health crises and was even hospitalized on occasion. She focused her life on activities that helped others, but she wasn’t satisfied. She realized that hurting people often need connection, rather than activity, to help them heal. She then created a place that didn’t offer counseling, or provide housing, or train people to get jobs. She created a place for people to sit and talk, connect, and support each other to heal from the pains of life.

I enjoy working at Peace House Community more than any other agency I’ve been part of. The reason is simple: every day I see that people can be good, even when life has treated them unkindly. Generosity, support, and laughter make life bearable for those who have little. At Peace House Community, I get to see goodness if I just stop to look.



# Random alley News



By LINDSEY FENNER

## ► Hazardous Waste Collection Event August 13 and 14 at South High

Hennepin County will be accepting household hazardous waste Friday August 13 and Saturday August 14, 9AM-4PM at South High, 3131 19th Avenue South (enter off 21st Ave. S)

Accepted from Households: Aerosols; Batteries (tape both terminals); CFLS and fluorescent lamps and HID lamps (limit 25); drain and oven cleaners; gas cylinders -- specialty gases less than 59 pounds (subject to evaluation); liquid cosmetics; mercury thermometers, paint, stain, varnish, solvents (limit three 5-gallon pails); pesticides; petroleum additives; pool chemicals; propane gas cylinders less than 50 lbs (subject to evaluation)

Automotive: Antifreeze; auto paints; vehicle lead-acid batteries; gas, fluids (except oil), fuels

Check the County website for the full list of guidelines: [hennepin.us/collectionevents](https://hennepin.us/collectionevents) or call 612-348-3777

Be prepared to show your driver's license or other proof of county residence.

## ► Stewart Park Under Construction This Summer:

Stewart Park at 2700 12th Avenue South will remain open while improvements are underway. Renovations include a new 6,000 foot multi-use field, pedestrian paths, and safety fencing along 26th Street. Stewart Rec Center is open for summer activities and programming.

## ► Phillips Area Traffic Safety Improvements:

As part of its "Vision Zero" project to prevent severe injury and death from traffic crashes, the City of Minneapolis is beginning a project to improve traffic safety along 24th St., 26th St., 28th St., and Chicago Ave in Phillips. According to the City, ten years of traffic crash data showed many crashes in Phillips. The City Staff Contact for this project is Mike Samuelson, [Mike.Samuelson@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Mike.Samuelson@minneapolismn.gov).

## ► Kindertransport Exhibit on View at American Swedish Institute July 22-October 31:

See page 8 for more details.



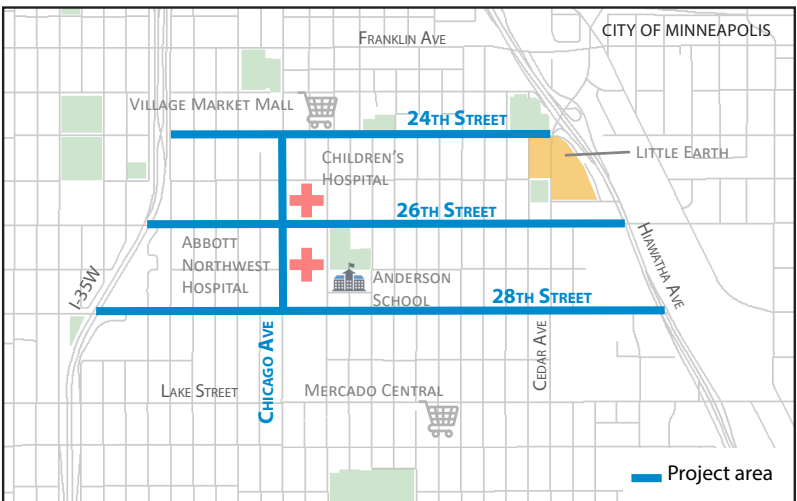
Kindertransport Exhibit: Rescuing Children on the Brink of War at the American Swedish Institute

## ► 18th Avenue/Little Earth Traffic Study:

The City of Minneapolis received a \$50,000 grant from the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) to study personal and traffic safety concerns along 18th Avenue between 24th and 26th Streets in East Phillips. Last summer, 18th Avenue neighbors saw increased crime, speeding, and safety issues, and came together to organize a variety of traffic-calming strategies. The study is currently in the "input" phase which will include the first round of community outreach. The City Staff Contact for this project is Jasna Hadzic-Stanek [jasna.hadzic-stanek@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:jasna.hadzic-stanek@minneapolismn.gov)

## ► Gatherings Cafe Reopening:

Gatherings Cafe in the Minneapolis American Indian Center at 1530 E Franklin Avenue, reopened in late July. The new hours are Tuesday-Friday, 9:30AM-3PM. Their mission is "to provide healthy comfort food with contemporary Indigenous flavors." Led by new executive chef Brian Yazzie, the restaurant has been closed to the public during the COVID-19 Pandemic, but has been busy preparing meals for elders, growing food for the restaurant at the Little Earth Urban Farm, and supporting interns.



Map of Phillips Traffic Safety Project Area



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# VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

## AUGUST '21 NEWS

venturavillage.org   612-548-1598   villageventura@gmail.com


### COMMUNITY CLINIC COMING SOON!

by Jenna Holst, First Care Pregnancy Center



Over 80 years ago, the original building on the property across from Peavey Park, near the intersection of Chicago Ave and Franklin Ave, was a community medical clinic. And now, after more than 80 years it will be one again.

On June 23rd, Community Care Clinics of Minnesota and First Care Pregnancy Center held a groundbreaking ceremony on the property near the corner of Chicago Ave and Franklin Ave. Dr. Robert Larbi-Odam, MD, and his wife, Abena, from CCCM, and Tammy Kocher, executive director of FCPC led the groundbreaking. They were surrounded by community partners, members of the Ventura Village Neighborhood group, pastors, and others invested in the project. Several classes from Hope Academy also joined in on the celebration.



WEST ELEVATION - CHICAGO AVENUE

Coming soon on the property will be a 12,600 sq. ft. building. This building will house the clinic on one side – which will offer full prenatal services, as well as full - family medical appointments. On the other side, First Care will offer free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, STD testing and treatment, and parenting education & material support. Community Care Clinics and First Care are thrilled to continue to be a part of the Phillips Community, and are excited to offer medical services to families.

Construction is anticipated to be finished in the next 6 months, with an opening date of the community clinic in early 2022.

### YOUTH RADIO CAMP

by Michel.Be.



In June, a group of interns from the KRSM Youth Media Internship, led by Youth Media Manager Michel.Be, participated in the Radio Camp hosted by ThreeSixty Journalism at the University of St. Thomas and Minnesota Public Radio (MPR).

The collective objective for the Radio Camp was to empower young media makers to generate authentic narratives, including Black, Indigenous, and Youth of Color.

Something new to the Radio Camp this year was a collaboration between partner organizations MIGIZI Communications, The American Family Indian Center, ThreeSixty Journalism at the University of St. Thomas, and KRSM Radio. MIGIZI, whose mission is to provide a strong circle of support that nurtures the educational, social, economic and cultural development of American Indian youth. Part of this new collaboration was for MIGIZI and KRSM to intentionally recruit participants to ensure that the camp centered young media makers who identify as Black, Indigenous or People of Color. Included in the first cohort was Max, a second year KRSM intern, and other youth involved with KRSM programming. MIGIZI hand selected the entire second cohort, ensuring that the second week centered Indigenous media makers.

Students learned about new media platforms, equipment, and virtually toured the MPR News studios. Each of the participants were paired with an MPR mentor to create a short audio segment as the final project. Another part of this new collaboration included KRSM leading two workshops each week of the camp. The first week of the camp was kicked off by two of KRSM’s second year interns, Clairrail and Michael, who led a “Finding Your Voice” workshop that focused on representation in media, authentic voice, and valuing youth perspectives.

The Radio Camp ended with a closing celebration on June 28th. Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan was the keynote speaker at the celebration along with Sarah Glover from MPR, Melissa Olson from Migizi, and Dymanh Chhoun from ThreeSixty Journalism, and Andrea Pierre and Michel.Be of KRSM. Rap Artist NurD performed as the featured artist and there was a tribute to Laura Waterman Wittstock, the founder and long-time director of MIGIZI Communications, who passed away in January.

Andrea Pierre, the new station manager of KRSM, expressed the importance of this kind of work for the station “ Our motto is ‘Radio For All’. We want to encourage BIPOC youth into careers in media and technology. After a challenging year of COVID and civil unrest in our cities, they see how media narratives can affect perception. We are proud of this new generation of content creators who will tell their stories and perspectives. We believe that these are the steps necessary to prepare them for when they lead.”



Waite House Youth picking raspberries



Waite House summer youth group planting kale and papalo, a Mexican herb similar to cilantro    *\*\*Photos courtesy of Melissa Trent\*\**



Sharon filling a raised bed at Chicago Gardens



Kaija holding golden raspberries

### AUGUST OUTDOOR EVENTS!

- National Night Out is Tuesday, August 3rd. Contact Luther Krueger at 612-673-5371 for your closest event.
- The 4 Sisters Farmers Market will be open every Thursday 11 AM to 3 PM at the Pow Wow Grounds Coffee Shop, 15th and E. Franklin.
- Dining with Dignity free dinners will be served at Our Saviour's Church, Wednesday, August 4th and 18th, 4:30 - 5:30 PM.

Our neighborhood association will not meet August 11th. Our next Committee Meeting will be August 26, General Membership September 8th.





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## Volunteer Opportunities with The Alley Newspaper:

- Join the Board and help guide, grow and sustain the Alley with your marketing, social enterprise or organizational development, or community media development skills
- Join the Editorial Leadership Committee and be part of producing the Alley each month
- Research possibilities for pro bono or discounted web designers to enhance the Alley webpage
- Organize fundraising efforts including to events, advertiser development, and sponsored pages
- Social media outreach to post articles from the current edition and from other sources with content relevant to Phillips residents

For additional info: **Cathy Strobel-Ayres** at [cstrobel11@gmail.com](mailto:cstrobel11@gmail.com)

continued from p.1 ...

## FLC Closing, cont.

was made to permanently close the Franklin Learning Center, who made the decision, and if any community members and stakeholders were involved in the decision-making process. The Hennepin County Library system is governed by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners with an advisory Library Board of county residents appointed by the County Board. Angela Conley is the County Commissioner representing the Phillips neighborhood. Chad Helton is the Library

Director, who was appointed in August 2020.

The Franklin Learning Center was founded in 1988, and provided one-on-one citizenship test, GED, and adult basic education tutoring. Although most information about the FLC was removed from the HCL website, the most recently available 2018 HCL Annual Report highlighted the achievements of the Franklin Learning Center. It noted that 74 FLC learners had become American citizens and that there were 20,650 study hours at the FLC during the report year.

See *the alley's* Library News on page 2 for other adult education resources.

*Lindsey is an employee of Hennepin County Library and a former FLC volunteer.*

## "Kindertransport:" Unique and Important Exhibit Comes to the American Swedish Institute

By THE EDITORIAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Through artifacts, audio testimonies and moving personal stories, the new exhibit explores the rescue effort that brought about 10,000 Jewish children from Nazi Germany to Great Britain and other countries, including Sweden, between 1938 and 1939.

Unique to ASI is "The Story is Here," a supplemental exhibition with accounts from three local, Midwest families of Kindertransport survivors.

Members of the alley's Editorial Leadership Committee attended the opening of the exhibition and found it a moving and educational experience.



## Returning Chapter 11

# A Strange Feast

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

Agnes led Angel and Luz and little Angel to the basement community room, the smell of fresh baked bread and cinnamon grew stronger, along with hints of fresh coffee. As they entered the dining area, they saw tables filled with cinnamon rolls and pan dulce, trays of sambusas and fry bread, and coffee urns.

"Is this just for us?" little Angel asked.

"Yes and no," Agnes laughed. "It is just that you are be welcomed and fed, yes. But no food and no light is just for us, but for everybody."

Luz and Angel didn't realize how hungry they were until they started eating. They ate and drank, almost forgetting they were on a mission to find their lost daughter. Again, it was little Angel who brought them back to reality.

"Do you know where my sister is?" he asked Agnes.

"Oh yes," Agnes said. "She's being cared for by some friends. They will bring her here soon."

At this, Luz and Angel jumped up and peppered Agnes with questions. It was hard to tell which one was speaking which lines.

"Where is she?"  
"Is she OK?"  
"Who has her?"  
"Why didn't you tell us this at first?"  
"Please, please, bring her to us!"

Agnes smiled and simply said,

"Do not worry. She is on her way. But please, let me introduce you to some friends who you may or may not know."

She pointed around the room. Angel and Luz rubbed their eyes as she gave them the tour. Were these people here the whole time, or are we imagining them?

"Here's our resident card shark, Lefty. Behind the counter is Chef Abdi. Over by the pop machine is Alice, who made the wonderful rolls. And lying by the elevator is our dog Voltaire."

Lefty, Abdi and Alice waved their hands in greeting. Angel

was sure the dog Voltaire had done so as well, and was scratching his head in wonder.

"And who is that couple over there, holding hands?" Luz asked. She pointed to an elderly interracial couple.

"Oh, those are our newlyweds," she said.

"Newlyweds!" Luz exclaimed. "But they're so...so..."

"Old?" Agnes laughed. "Not that old. She's only 84. And he's not a day over 87."

"And they are newlyweds?" Angel asked.

"Indeed!" Agnes replied. "A beautiful June wedding, just like they always wanted."

All of them marveled at the love of the couple, and for a moment, the room became even warmer and brighter. Then little Angel tugged on Agnes' skirt.

"But what about my sister?" he asked.

"She's almost here," Agnes said. "There's just one more person I want you to meet."

You can imagine the joy and the impatience of Angel and Luz as they heard these words. They stood up and walked closer to Agnes, the two of them almost glowing in the warmth of the welcome they received.

"Just one more person," Agnes said. And then she seemed to shrink, and the light and warmth of the room suddenly took on a chill.

To be continued.



## MIGIZI correction

THE EDITORIAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

In the July 2021 issue, we incorrectly gave the address of the new MIGIZI building as 1845 WEST Lake Street. The correct address is **1845 EAST Lake Street**. We have learned from this mistake that the "W" and the "E" are next to each other on the keyboard. We have also learned that Nicollet Avenue is the road that divides South Minneapolis into east and west.

AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE  
2600 Park Avenue,  
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Thursday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Admission: \$12 adults, \$8 seniors ages 62 +, \$6  
ages 6–18 and full-time students with ID.  
Free for ASI members and  
children ages 5 and under.



# MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

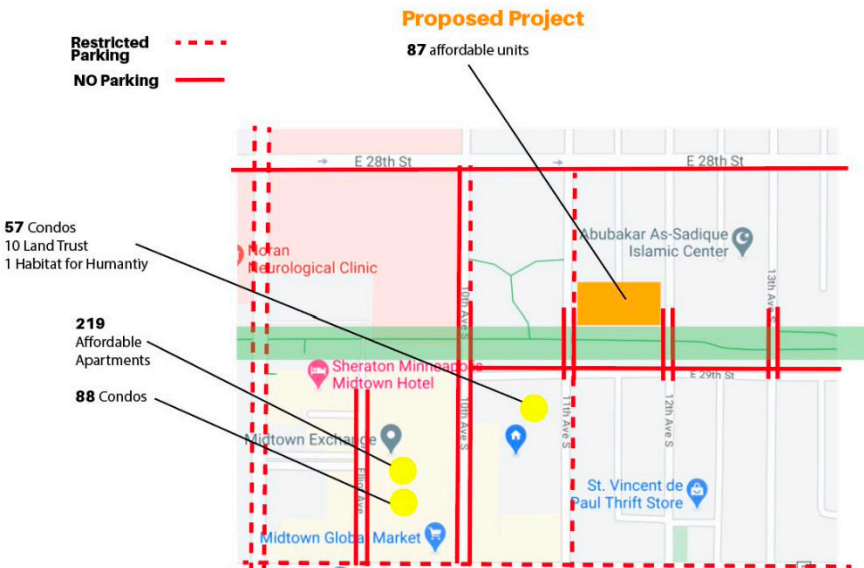
## COMMUNITY MEETING AUGUST 2, 2021

6:30-8:00 pm

### Affordable Housing Presentation Proposed for 29th St & 12th Ave So

Reuter Walton, developer will present on this proposal which includes:

- Affordable Housing at 30-50% area median income (\$30,000-\$50,000 approx)
    - 1, 2, & 3 bedroom units
    - 5 stories • 86 units, 62 parking spots
    - Access to the Midtown Greenway
  - Adjacent to CEPRO Park • Outside Children's playground
- Zoom link will be posted on [www.midtownphillips.org](http://www.midtownphillips.org)**



## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 3, 2021

National Night Out (NNO) takes place every year on the first Tuesday in August. Neighbors come together to meet each other, share food, play games, and generally have tons of fun! Events are held in neighborhoods across the city.

### Our city leads the nation for NNO participation!

Every year, thousands of residents take part in the festivities.



### Holding an NNO gathering gives you and your neighbors:

- A reason to have a social gathering with your neighbors
- Time to build important relationships that keep your neighborhood safe
- A chance to get to know each other and local police officers

### Each neighborhood plans its own event. Examples include:

- Block parties • Festivals • Parades
- Cookouts • Youth activities • Public information events
- COVID-safe protocols are encouraged.

To see if your block is registered and to sign up for a street closure permit, email NNO coordinator Luther Krueger: [luther.krueger@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:luther.krueger@minneapolismn.gov)



**MIDTOWN PHILLIPS**  
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.

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**PHILLIPS WEST**  
NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

This summer PWNO summer intern Tommy Navarre been working on analyzing the rental landscape in Phillips West. Recognizing that not enough attention has been paid to the conditions of renters in Phillips West (especially as close to 90% of Phillips West residents are renters), PWNO is working to connect renters with resources and organize public events that focus on the Phillips West renter experience. Tommy has approached this task from a couple of different angles: he has both worked with data from the Phillips West Community Survey and reached out to property management in the neighborhood in order to build up pathways of communication. We hope to use what we learn this summer to help advocate for renters in the neighborhood and connect renters with resources.

Tommy began by calling all rental property owners in the Phillips West neighborhood to get a sense of their perspective. While we were unable to reach some property owners, the commonalities from those we did reach were evident. The three most common issues mentioned by property owners were crime, traffic (speeding and a lack of parking), and financial challenges due to the pandemic.

Using rental property data from the University of Minnesota's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), Tommy then analyzed who the major property owners in the neighborhood were from multiple angles. The following is a sample of what we found: approximately 1450 rental units are located in over 220 buildings throughout Phillips West. While the majority of the buildings in Phillips West are smaller, with 1-4 rental units, the majority of rental units are located in just a few larger buildings. Just 10 property owners own around 55% of all rental units in Phillips West. Meanwhile, the largest 10 buildings in Phillips West contain 48% of all rental units in the neighborhood.

Our next step was to begin brainstorming ways to use available funds and resources to assist renters in Phillips West. PWNO reached out to other neighborhoods in Minneapolis to get a sense of what's possible, keeping in mind what we learned from property owners. While we are still in the planning phase, we would encourage all Phillips West residents to reach out to PWNO with ideas, questions, concerns, or anything else as we discern the best ways to support renters in the neighborhood. Our next steps will include a community conversation about rental conditions in Phillips West coming up on August 26th. We encourage all Phillips West residents to keep an eye out for additional information or opportunities to get involved. You can visit our website: [phillipswest.info](http://phillipswest.info) for more information when it becomes available.

## August Housing Events and Notes

### Thursday, August 26, 6-7:30:

Community conversation about housing in Phillips West. Watch for exact details on our website or social media

### We Want Your Feedback!

What programs or events would benefit you as a renter? Let us know how PWNO can best work with renters by giving us a call or sending us an email

### Contact Us!

[info@phillipswest.org](mailto:info@phillipswest.org)  
(612) 642-1487



# Summer of Soul

**(...Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)**

**Documentary/Music  
(2021 Searchlight  
Pictures)**



Harlem Cultural Festival in 1969 is the festival all but forgotten, deliberately thrown (literally) down in a basement. Many people in Harlem at the time believed the festival is the main reason racial disturbances that year didn't occur like the previous year after the assassination of Martin Luther King on April 4, 1968. All in all, over 300,000 Harlem residents, 99% African American, crowded into **Mount Morris Park** (now **Marcus Garvey Park**) - all outdoors - to see and hear a great tribute to African American music: gospel, jazz, blues, rhythm & blues, and soul. The few cops at the festival are barely visible. Nearly all the security is provided by the Black Panthers for an energetic, peaceful, and historical music festival.



## Howard McQuitter II

Thanks to **Ahmir “Questlove” Thompson**, the director, who found the two-inch tapes in a basement simply going to waste for 50 years, we have ***Summer of Soul***. What a grand prize to see Black people from little kids to seniors watching the singers and the instrumentalists perform on stage. The Harlem Cultural Festival had a strong touch, reminiscent of the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s. Unfortunately, this great tribute to Black music is probably the last big memorable event for Black Harlem before gentrification set foot in Harlem with very high rent condominiums.

A long list of stellar musicians appear on the stage like Stevie Wonder, B.B. King, Nina Simone, Sly and the Family Stone, Mahalia Jackson, Hugh Masekela, David Ruffin, Gladys Knight and the Pips, Mavis Staples and the Staple Singers, the 5th Dimension, the Edwin Hawkins Singers, Mongo Santamaria, and Abbey Lincoln.

Then to add to the fun in Mount Morris Park, several attendees tell their stories of being in the crowd soaking up the music. One

attendee, a teenager, remarks he couldn't take his eyes off of Marilyn McCoo of the 5th Dimension. And to think at that time, after the assassinations of Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King, one festival brings Black people together, at least for a moment.

Stevie Wonder's keyboard solo "Shoo-Be-Doo-Be-Doo-Da-Day" is enough to get anyone swinging to the music. Or, the Edwin Hawkins Singers in lime green attire swaying in unison singing "Oh Happy Day". To quote Gladys Knight, referring to the festival, "It wasn't just about the music." Sly and the Family



Stone went on to delight the audience by singing “Everyday People”. One last word: *Summer of Soul* deserves every bit - if not more so - the overkill attention given to Woodstock, held around the same time. Honestly,

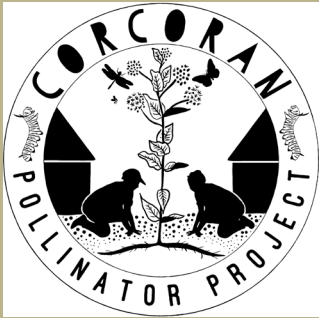
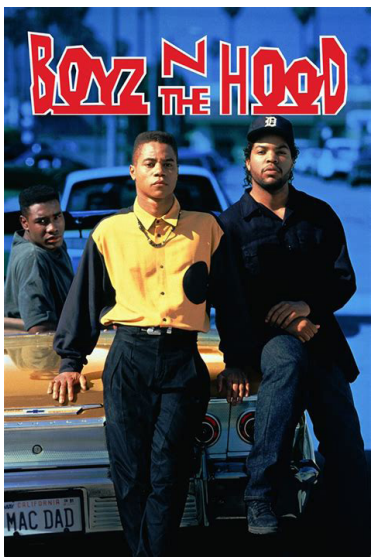
*Summer of Soul* is Black people's Woodstock.

Director: Amir Thompson,  
a.k.a. Questlove. Running time:  
117 minutes.

## Also in the Movie Corner...

John Singleton's first film, *Boyz n the Hood*, was released on July 12, 1991 - 30 years ago.

The late John Singleton's first film is a masterpiece centering around the results of white supremacy and not just neighborhoods in decay. He was the youngest person (and the first African-American) nominated for best director. Laurence Fishburne, Cuba Gooding Jr., Morris Chestnut, and Desi Arnez Hines II are the principal cast members. If you haven't seen *Boyz N the Hood*, it is a must see. And if you have seen it, it is worth seeing again.



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*continued from p.1 ...*

## Red Lake Nation Cont.

Directors (MUID), this temporary shelter was built in response to the Franklin/Hiawatha encampment, known as the Wall of Forgotten Natives, which quickly grew through the spring and summer of 2018.

The short-lived shelter provided 24/7, low-barrier entrance, where staff helped residents find permanent housing, and access to social services and health care. Many social service agencies visited the shelter to assist those seeking housing; NACC, the shelter's neighbor, and clinic to many of its residents, provided harm reduction services and healthcare, until the shelter closed in June of 2019. According to Simpson Housing's final Learnings and Outcomes report, of the 176 people who received shelter at the Navigation Center, 67 of them "did not achieve positive housing outcomes."

Since the Center closed, there have been a number of encampment developments in the neighborhood. Every encampment has been subject to the city's ongoing forced eviction efforts, which do not provide safe and viable alternatives for our neighborhood's

unhoused residents. As a result, residents are repeatedly separated from their communities, and from community based support networks, including healthcare and social services.

Though this neighborhood already boasts two Indigenous-led and -focused healthcare centers (NACC and Indian Health Board), the Mino Bimaadiziwin Wellness Clinic will add an additional, culturally-appropriate,



## Mino Bimaadiziwin Apartments

point of entry into healthcare. The clinic is ready to open as soon as their furniture and internet arrives, and Myhra hopes it will “make opportunities for people to heal,” opportunities for people to “see themselves in a place where they couldn’t see themselves before.”

The clinic will host NACC-operated intensive outpatient treatment (IOP), in addition to medication assisted treatment (MAT) for people who use opiates. They will also offer behavioral health services, a harm

reduction meet-up group, and age-specific 12-week White Bison programs for individuals and families. The White Bison program was created by Indigenous people in Colorado Springs, to support sobriety and healing, and it is now used by Indigenous healthcare providers across the country. As Myhra works to secure logistics, clinic staff are preparing by attending an Indigenous Health Toolkit training, a set of cultural and social justice trainings and assessments for nurses and providers, and additional workshops that are geared toward building competency among those caring for this community.

“You have to be innovative when there aren’t enough resources,” says Myhra. “NACC would never be able to do this on their own, and Red Lake wouldn’t be able to do this on their own.” She attributes the creativity of this project to the many Indigenous minds that have been working together on this for years. “It’s really all coming together,” she says. “People are all carrying forth a vision.”

Pending furniture, internet, and NACC staff moving their

Domestic Travel		RECOMMENDATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS	
	Not Vaccinated	Fully Vaccinated	
Get tested 1-3 days before travel	✓		CDC.GOV
Get tested 3-5 days after travel and self-quarantine for 7 days. Self-quarantine for 10 days if you don't get tested.	✓		
Self-monitor for symptoms	✓	✓	
Wear a mask and take other precautions during travel	✓	✓	

## CDC Travel Guidelines for COVID-19

## REMINDER: TRAVEL GUIDELINES

By MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Masks are required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations. For more information, visit [CDC: Requirement for Face Masks on Public Transportation Conveyances](#) and at [Transportations Hubs](#).

If you have a condition or are taking medication that weakens your immune system, you may NOT be fully protected even if you are fully vaccinated. Talk to your healthcare provider. Even after vaccination, you may need to continue taking all precautions.

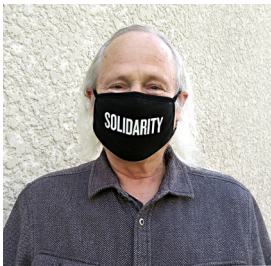
IOP from the Ancient Trader's building up the road into the new space, Myhra hopes to have the clinic open by the end of July.



Raise Your Voice

Manoomin Speaks

By PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

Manoomin is the “wild rice” which sustains the Anishinaabe. The word is especially familiar to the Ojibwa among us. Sadly, the manoomin has faded due to habitat loss, degraded water quality... climate crisis. Like the canary in the mine shaft, manoomin speaks... and speaks to us all.

My place in the world...

Molten iron flows just north of Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, and just south of the Roof Depot on 28th Street. Smith Foundry is the place I labored for 35 years: repetitive motion, 500,000 molds of sand... ankles worn down to bone on bone. Was once a “people’s soldier”. Now with titanium and plastic surgically implanted, perhaps I will march again.

July 14, 2021...

The old soldier sported a fancy ankle brace and wielded an aluminum crutch. Hobbled along, he traversed the granite flat before ascending. Minnesota’s grand rotunda was occupied by the manoomin spirit. The call rang out: STOP LINE THREE!

Actually, the original Line 3 was the source of millions



Red Lake Camp

of gallons of oil spills (check online: line 3 pipeline). Want to go tit for tat over the merit of fresh pipe? Hey, we are talking tar sand oil here, at a time when we desperately need to be weaned from fossil fuels, period. No number of temporary high wage “man camps” will compensate for the loss of a viable planet. To which I will add: the assertion of “white privilege” by some of these campers must end immediately.

WORKERS AND OPPRESSED PEOPLES UNITE!

The fog of COVID has lifted now. So, let’s self-educate and begin marching in stride. Ilhan Omar put it this way: The decision that U.S. entities make on line 3 is a decision for the entire world.” Do we side with short term corporate profits, or do we side with the seven generations yet to come? I intend to soldier on, but dear neighbors, you must decide.



Indigenous leaders at the Minnesota State Capital



Rise for Climate, Jobs, and Justice Summit on September 8th in the Twin Cities! Stand together to ensure the safety of the next 7 generations. Interested in volunteering, or having your organization join the summit? Contact us at [rose@honorearth.org](mailto:rose@honorearth.org)

Learn more about StopLine3 movements and support on social media or at [www.stopline3.org](http://www.stopline3.org) and [www.honorearth.org](http://www.honorearth.org). Facebook and Instagram: Red Lake Treaty Camp, Camp Migizi, Honor the Earth, StopLine3, and Resist Line 3.

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Carrion away local & stable ownership...



# Meet the Cultural Wellness Center's COVID COMMUNITY COORDINATORS!

**ADDIE**, Hotline Worker and Testing Event Coordinator- holds a passion for caring for others, using her 30 years of administrative skills developed in the church community. She is proud about returning to school at age 62 finishing her education, receiving a BS in Ministry and a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from the University of Northwestern in St Paul. Addie is known to have great intuition, patience, emotional focus, compassion, and networking abilities.

**ADRIANNE**, Data and Information Coordinator- has dedicated her life and work to being a "proponent of culture." Born in Atlanta, Georgia to Liberian-born parents, she embodies the true definition of "African-American" in a particularly resonant way as a first-generation American with Liberian roots. Adrienne's work at the CWC exemplifies her special gifts for optimizing service by emphasizing the dissemination of information into knowledge and empowerment.

**ELDER ATUM**, CWC Executive Director-is the founder and E.D. of the Cultural Wellness Center, an African American nonprofit centered on the idea that when culture and community knowledge are studied and valued, they are powerful tools for health, healing, community building, and economic development. Elder Atum completed and received her Cultural Doctor of Literature (D-Litt Kemii) from the International Khepran Institute in 2007.

**J. MOST**, Ground Navigator- his children, music, dancing, and small business marketing are his passions. Inspired by his fathers' musical talent, he knew early on he wanted to be a songwriter and performer. He co-founded COMMAND STEPPERS. He holds a BA in Secondary Ed with 15+ years of teaching and social service experience with special needs and at risk students. He utilizes his collaborative spirit to build trustworthy relationships throughout the community.

**JAMES**, Lead Ground Navigator- is a father of three sons and an author and mentor. His favorite subjects are Spirituality and Poetry. His humility leads to the powerful and beautiful place of living out his strengths and passions. He celebrates the accomplishments of others and sees everyone as valuable and as collaborators. As a community builder and successful leader, he shines in all professional settings.

**JASMINE**, Hotline Worker- is currently pursuing a nursing degree at Rasmussen University. Jasmine served in the Army National Guard for six years as a Chemical Biological Chemical Specialist. She is also a mother to one-year-old son, Jackson.

**KANESHA**, Hotline Worker- originally from Milwaukee, WI, she is a pre-nursing student at South Central College in North Mankato. Caring for people is her passion. She is known by her friends as being conscientious, diligent, and a good listener. Currently, she works at a nursing home in the memory care unit and enjoys making the residents smile. Kanesha also likes to draw and paint.



**LaDONNA**, Hotline Worker-is also a fashion designer of Anaquece Designs and a mother of a 12-year-old son. She designs unique apparel that is colorful, bold, and filled with expression. LaDonna loves to create as a way to connect with people and bring beauty into their lives. Being a mother opens her heart to care deeply about someone other than herself, a quality that she gives to each person as a Covid hotline worker.

**LATESHIA**, Ground Navigator, was born and raised on the west side of Chicago. She states, "I found myself once I moved here to MN in 2014". She was hired by the CWC as the Domestic Violence Navigator and also a housing navigator. She prides herself on being very knowledgeable about many different subjects yet believes the most important thing is, "There's so much power in the knowledge of self."

**LAUREN**, Hotline Worker and Data Input Specialist-CPhT, holds a BS Degree in Chemistry, has worked as a Pharmacy Technician since 2006, and is validated to give COVID-19 vaccines. When the opportunity arises, she tutors students in math and science and reviews grants for the Federal Government. Lauren is a woman of strength, and the humility of her heart provides a beautiful example.

**LOIS**, Hotline Worker and Vaccine Event Coordinator- has years of experience organizing events, allowing us to rely on her abilities and helping to make the coordination of our events easier. A born leader and a team player, Lois enjoys making key connections that enhances others and situations. She prides herself in being on time to help to create a peaceful working environment. Her sacrificial service makes a powerful impression.

**MARY LUE**, Hotline Worker and Troubleshooter-, Master of Social Work, Mary Lue is also the former Diversity and Inclusion Organizational Development Coordinator for the Minnesota Department of Transportation where she managed nine statewide diverse groups. She is a woman of generosity who seeks opportunities to give unselfishly.

**PAMELA**, Ground Navigator-has been connected to the CWC for over 20 years and is now recognized as an Elder in the community. Her wisdom and knowledge as a housing specialist and giving, compassionate approach helps her to engage with and connect people to resources and mentor them in utilizing their own gifts.

**PHYLLIS**, Hotline Worker-born in Hot Springs, Arkansas, moved to MN, growing up in the Frogtown area. She loves people and has demonstrated this through her work in nursing, being a sales associate and owning a retail business, Sunday's Best Boutique. Her faith is very important and leads her to a goal of having a "Woman-to-Woman ministry one day, helping women to not have others judge you and love the skin that you are in".

**ROBERTA**, Project Director, BN, MBA,- is the director of the CWC's Community Health Hub, which offers a full calendar of health events and programs related to exercise and motion, natural self-care and culinary wellness taught by certified instructors, community experts and local leaders connected to the CWC. Mrs. Barnes combines her nursing expertise with her business acumen to build effective programs that change lives.

**ROSE**, Ground Navigator-known as Ms. Rose- loves working with people, especially with youth and young adults. She enjoys doing follow up with people who she has assisted. Some of her favorite things are old school music, dance, playing cards, and cooking. One of her greatest desires is to open a soul food restaurant.

**STEVE**, MBA, Chief Financial Officer of the Cultural Wellness Center. An accountant by training, Steve brings strong fiscal oversight and management to the 25-year-old African American Minneapolis-based nonprofit. He is a man of great wisdom and insight, extremely humble and giving, making him a perfect fit for the health, healing, community building, and economic development work of the CWC.

**TAMIEKO**, Hotline Worker- has worked professionally in the nonprofit and social services sector for a number of years. Throughout her career, she also found time to help others by volunteering for change within her community serving in the areas of social justice, homelessness, and at-risk youth. Currently, she is a licensed foster provider, volunteer at her place of worship and an entrepreneur, owning "At Your Service Cleaning" business.

**TRELAWNEY**, Hotline Worker- is a student at MNSU pursuing a health sciences degree and hopes to specialize in pediatrics. She enjoys helping people, working with kids and traveling with family and friends. Trelawney is community-minded, volunteers with her church and Youth Days and is committed to the increasing the cultural awareness of others.

**URI BIIA**, Hotline Worker-is a Pickering Fellow at Johns Hopkins University, who plans to become a Foreign Service Officer. Before starting graduate school, she received her BA degree from Howard University. She was also a Peace Corps Volunteer who served as a Secondary Education English Teacher in Benin, West Africa.

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