

Never Homeless Before 1492

PHOTO ESSAY By CARZ NELSON



Looking West down Franklin Ave; 1492, the year it all began.

On November 3, a new art installation was unveiled at the Wall of Forgotten Natives, the location of the 2018 homeless encampment on Franklin Avenue. Twenty-three boards wired to the chain-link fence spell out: "Never Homeless Before 1492". Each panel

Continued on page 4...

Response to 2744 and 2740 12th Avenue Proposed Development: Ensuring Gentrification and Income Inequality by Policy and Design

A Letter to the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association

By SUSAN HUNTER WEIR

Reprinted in the alley by permission of the author.

The City of Minneapolis is well known for expressing concern about gentrification and income inequality—one of the dubious categories in which we lead the nation. These plans appear not to have taken into account the demographic

makeup, and therefore the needs, of the people who live here. There is undoubtedly a need to have more housing for renters, but these designs are not the answer. I have listed some of the problems that jump out at me.

- 1) Inadequate parking. Regardless of what the city's

Continued on page 6...

PHILLIPS WEST COMMUNITY GARDEN MURAL



LAURA HULSCHER

The Phillips West Fall Fest and Annual Meeting was held on November 6th outside the Swedish American Institute. Here neighbors led by Daja Shanklin of Self Made Creative Learning paint a mural for the new Phillips West Community Garden.

The garden is on the northeast corner of Portland Avenue South and 28th Street.

Minneapolis Public Housing Authority Is Building New Multifamily Housing. Is this a good thing?

By LINDSEY FENNER



DJR ARCHITECTURE

When I received the community meeting notice about a new three-story apartment building directly behind my house, my first concern was for my garden, and how much sunlight it might lose. When I realized this was a redevelopment project by the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority, I knew I needed to dig a little deeper. What would happen to my neighbors living in the existing public housing duplex? How is this project funded? In the very back corner of my mind, I remembered something from a few years ago: concerns about the privatization of public housing. Did that have anything to do with this project?

The redevelopment on my block is part of a larger, city-wide project by the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority. MPHA is best known for the large apartment towers they run. Less well-known are over 700 MPHA single family homes, duplexes, and fourplexes scattered throughout Minneapolis.

MPHA is redeveloping 16 of these "scattered sites," including the one behind me in East Phillips, and several in Midtown Phillips. These existing homes will be demolished and turned into 3-story, 6-unit buildings of 2 and 3 bedrooms, totaling 84 new units city-wide. According to MPHA, the current residents, who tend to be working class black and brown immigrant families, will have temporary housing during construction, will have housing in the new buildings, and will not see any increase in rent.

MPHA secured \$4.6 million from the American Rescue Plan, approved by the Minneapolis City Council in July 2021, to fund the bulk of the planned redevelopments.

The proposed buildings were designed by DJR Architects and use a new modular system developed by Rise Modular, based in Owatonna, MN. This modular system is touted to be of higher-quality, more environmentally friendly, and cheaper and faster to pro-

Continued on page 4...

Winter Events

HOLIDAY MARKETS and ACTIVITIES AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD, listed by location

MIDTOWN GLOBAL MARKET

920 East Lake Street • www.midtowntglobalmarket.org

Holiday No Coast Craft-o-Rama

Saturday, December 4, 10AM-4PM

Join us and 45 great local artists for a handmade holiday shopping fest!



www.nocoastcraft.com

Family Fridays

December 10, 17, and 31, 5PM-7PM

Join Midtown Global Market for Santa, Craft Activities, and a family-friendly New Year's Eve celebration

NORWAY HOUSE

913 East Franklin Avenue • www.norwayhouse.org/

Gingerbread Wonderland

November 23 - December 31

The ever-popular and ever-fragrant Christmas tradition at Norway House returns! Familiar houses from the Twin Cities, Norway, Fairytales, and beyond are submitted each year from bakers aged 2-99 years old.



ALL MY RELATIONS

1414 East Franklin
www.allmyrelationsarts.com

Biskaabiiyang

Closing December 11

biskaabiiyang (returning to ourselves) is a group exhibition investigating Indigenous Futurisms and the interconnectedness of nows through video installation, interactive gaming, mixed media and digital illustrations curated by Emerging Curators Institute Fellow, Juleana Enright.

OPEN EYE THEATRE

The Longest Night: A Winter Solstice Cabaret

506 E. 24th Street
www.openeyetheatre.org

December 9- 21

Audience favorite Bradley Greenwald celebrates winter's beauty, the holiday blues, and the soul's need for rebirth in an eclectic program of words and music as kaleidoscopic as the season. A meditative and joyful performance sure to warm snow-covered hearts!

AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE

2600 Park Avenue • www.asimn.org/



JMERRIAM

Julmarknad Handcraft Market and Festival

The sights and sounds of the Scandinavian marketplace return in time for the holidays at one of the region's largest handcraft markets and festivals. Shop handmade goods from more than 60 regional artists at booths inside ASI and out in the courtyard. Browse exceptional items from ASI's own Jul Shop, alongside distinctive artisan glass, clothing, wood, jewelry, ceramics, and textiles.

Saturday and Sunday
December 4 & 5
10AM- 4PM

Winter Solstice Celebration

Tuesday December 20 • 5 PM – 9 PM

Advance registration is now required for Winter Solstice.

Mark the shortest day and longest night of the year at ASI with ASI's popular Winter Solstice Celebration. Since pagan days, solstice has traditionally meant the "year as reborn," with ancient (and modern) Scandinavians fusing it into the longer "Jul" or Yule season. ASI celebrates this powerful seasonal juncture with fun, festivity and performance.



ASIMN.ORG

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

ELECTION RESULTS, P 10



MINNEAPOLIS RECREATION CENTERS REOPENING TO THE PUBLIC, P6

CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER ANCIENT GRAINS SPREAD: TASTING EVENT P 5, ANCIENT GRAINS, P 12



LAST NIGHT IN SOHO MOVIE CORNER P10

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS!

Check out *the alley's* table this year at the ASI open house. Meet the Editorial Leadership Committee, find out about ways to be involved, and see our year in review.



Be our guest at ASI's annual Neighborhood Open House. From 5-8 p.m., we're offering free museum admission to thank our supporters, celebrate the holidays and introduce the Mansion to new friends.



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 Leichenritt, Frances Mendenhall, Steve Sandberg.

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

Facilitated by: Graphics Designer and Coordinator, Jessie Merriam.

Page Coordinators: Steve Dreyer and Daniel Dorff, VV News; EPIC News; Sunny Sevigny, MPNA News; Mira Klein, PWNO; Roberta Barnes and Susan Ann Gust, BackPage. Social Media: Jessie Merriam, Susan Gust

December content contributors to the alley:

Thor Adam, Roberta Barnes, Brothers EMpowered, Cultural Wellness Center and CWC Health Hub, Daniel Dorff, Steve Dreyer, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Lindsey Fenner, Focus Features, Vivi Grieco, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Patrick Cabello Hansel, Ben Heath, Hennepin County Libraries and Covid-19 Response, Dwight Hobbes, Laura Hulscher, Sue Hunter Weir, Mary Ellen Kaluza, Marti Maltby, Tim McCall, Howard McQuitter II, Jessie Merriam, Midtown Global Market, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board, Dave Moore, Carz Nelson, Peter Molenaar, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Kali Pliego, Sarah Santiago, Sunny Sevigny, Thomas R. Smith Universal Pictures, Ventura Village Neighborhood Organization, Mary Watson, 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 Monday 8:30 -10:00am, 4th Thursday 6:30-8pm 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.

P.O. Box 7006
Mpls., MN 55407

submissions: copydesk@alleynews.org

ad inquiries: businessmanager@alleynews.org

design: design@alleynews.org

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

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

Submissions due the 15th day of the previous month.

email: copydesk@alleynews.org



Library News

By CARZ NELSON

All information listed here is accurate as of November 15, 2021. For the most recent information, check out the library website at www.hclib.org.

HENNEPIN COUNTY EXPANDS LIBRARY HOURS

Hennepin County Library has expanded its hours See Franklin's new schedule below. Check out hclib.org for other libraries.

FRANKLIN LIBRARY HOURS

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

LIBRARY SERVICE AND COVID PRECAUTIONS

Everyone must wear a mask in the library and in all county buildings. Children under five years old are exempt. People who have tested positive for COVID 19 or who are experiencing symptoms should not enter the library. Franklin Library is open for regular service, including book check out, holds pick up, and walk-in computer use. There is no limit on the time people can spend inside the library.

HOMEWORK HELP

Both Franklin and Hosmer Libraries provide free one-on-one tutoring for K-12 students.

Franklin: Wednesdays 3:30-7:30 PM and Thursdays 3:30-7:30 PM

Hosmer: Mondays 4-7:30 PM and Saturdays 1-4 PM

CONNECT AND PLAY AT HOSMER LIBRARY

For young children and their caregivers. Connect with your child during this drop-in program exploring early literacy activities. Wednesdays at 4-7 PM; this month on November 3, 10, and 17.

COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS

Franklin Library hosts a monthly program outdoors in front of the library. Neighbors and community members can stop by for free coffee and doughnuts. It's the perfect time to chat with library staff. Weather permitting, the meetings are on the second Fridays of the month at 10am-12 noon. Upcoming dates are November 12 and December 10.

READING SUGGESTIONS

Looking for a good book to read? You could ask a librarian. At hclib.org, towards the bottom of the page, you'll find the link, *Ask us for reading suggestions*. This leads to a form you fill out about what sorts of books you like, and what sorts you don't like. Fill in the form and you will get an email with reading recommendations. If you don't want to fill out a form, you can always ask librarians for recommendations in person, over the phone, or via chat.

FRANKLIN LEARNING CENTER CLOSED

The Franklin Learning Center is closed. Alternate resources can be found at the following locations:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services: 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

Literacy Minnesota: 1-800-222-1990, www.literacymn.org/classesforadultsEnglish. Language Learning, GED, and citizenship classes

FREE BOOKS

The library gives away free books at the Four Sisters Farmers Market, which is held on the first Thursday of the month at 1414 Franklin Avenue.

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 at 612-543-8850 Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM.

ASK THE LIBRARY

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

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.

Is there something going on in Phillips that should be noted in the alley?

Let us know all about it by sending your sentences and/or photographs to:

copydesk@alleynews.org

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



May Day Café

Open for business

FRIDAYS THRU TUESDAYS

from 9am to 3pm

for DINE-IN and TAKE-OUT

Masks required inside.

METRO TRANSIT

More Transit, and Less

By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

I've been writing about this for over a year now, so you should know I am excited that the Orange Line starts Saturday, 4 December 2021! There will be a Grand Opening at the I-35W and Lake St. station at 1 PM, with local entertainment and food vendors from 2 to 4. The

station is already open and being used by regular buses. It is a lot better than the old stops at the sides of I-35W that were at the top of crumbling staircases.

Unfortunately, along with the good news, there is bad news for transit riders in the Twin Cities. Due to a shortage of bus and train operators, schedules are being cut by 5 percent overall at the same time the Orange Line starts.

Affected routes in the Phillips neighborhood are:

- The Orange Line will replace Route 535.
- Route 2 will run every 12 minutes instead of every 10.
- Route 5 will have schedule times adjusted to reflect actual travel times and will run every 10 minutes.
- Route 9 will have schedule times adjusted to reflect actual travel times.
- Route 11 times will be adjusted for better connections with the new Orange Line.

- Routes 14 and 22 will adopt the Sunday schedule on Saturdays too.
- Route 21 will have frequency adjustments on weekdays and Saturdays.

These cuts are supposed to be temporary, until enough operators are hired to restore the old schedule. If you or someone you know wants to be a bus or train driver, Metro Transit is holding hiring events, with information available on their website at metrotransit.org. Wages start at \$21 per hour, with a \$1,000 hiring bonus.

These have been frustrating times for transit users. Relief is in sight, however.

Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

By SUE HUNTER WEIR
193RD IN A SERIES

A Winter Tale of Friendship and Kindness

An earlier version of this story appeared in the December 2004 edition of the alley. It is a story about kindness and generosity, qualities that sometimes seem in short supply during these challenging times. Sometimes it's good to remember good people doing kind things for strangers. Thanks to Tim McCall for providing additional information about Mr. Howard's military service.

The story of Captain Samuel J. Howard's death was front page news on December 20, 1908. The story of his death was a human-interest story—a holiday story about kindness and generosity, and a story about friendship between two strangers. Because of that friendship, Captain Howard, who had no

72-year-old Civil War veteran who was traveling from Olympia, Washington, where he lived in a veterans' home, to Boston for Christmas. Although the newspaper referred to him as "Captain" Howard, that was an honorary title, a courtesy often extended to elderly veterans. On July 28, 1863, he had enlisted as a private and was discharged less than two months later, on September 15, 1863, due to disability. On October 22, 1864, he re-enlisted, serving in the 11th Massachusetts Light Artillery, and he mustered out as a private at the end of the war, on June 16, 1865.

The Tribune's reporter described him as a "grey-bearded warrior," who was "still

Harry Hurlburt, a mortician from Minneapolis, boarded the train in Miles City, Montana. He noticed Mr. Howard, huddled in a corner, surrounded by workmen on their way home for the holidays. Mr. Hurlburt persuaded the other passengers to make room so that Captain Howard could stretch out, and he bought him an orange.

An orange seems like such a small gift, but in 1908 an orange in December was a luxury that many could not afford. On the day that Mr. Howard died, the Tribune ran an article announcing the arrival of the first boxes of Christmas oranges from Arizona; they retailed from \$6 to \$7 a box. In comparison, ham cost 11 cents a pound, and a 98-pound bag of flour cost \$1.90. In 1908, oranges were among the most prized of holiday treats.

When the train arrived in Minneapolis, Mr. Hurlburt ordered an ambulance for Mr. Howard and rode in it with him to City Hospital. Mr. Howard was still holding the orange that he had been too weak to eat. After getting him settled in at the hospital, Mr. Hurlburt told Mr. Howard that he and his wife would be back to visit after dinner. By the time that they arrived, Mr. Howard had died. The cause of his death was kidney failure.

Mr. Howard had made his own plans about where he wanted to be buried. Among the papers that he was carrying was a deed to a cemetery plot in Turnwater Cemetery in Olympia, Washington. He also had a list of people to be contacted in the event of his death, including the name of a son in Springfield, Massachusetts. For unknown reasons, none of the people on Mr. Howard's list claimed him, so the arrangements for his burial fell to a man whom he'd known for less than a day.

Harry Hurlburt was only 27 years old when he met Samuel Howard. He lived for almost forty more years. Harry Hurlburt died on January 13, 1946, and was buried in St. Mary's Cemetery.

about the move or the future of the PEI campus.

In reporting by WCCO Channel 4 TV, Phillips Eye Institute workers represented by SEIU Healthcare MN, said the union was not notified about the decision to move PEI or reduce staffing.

The Phillips Eye Institute was founded in 1987 as part of the adjacent former Mount Sinai Hospital and is the second largest eye specialty hospital in the United States. It is named after Jay Phillips, local Jewish philanthropist and businessman who was instrumental in the founding of Mount Sinai Hospital. Mount Sinai Hospital closed in 1991, and the hospital campus is now home to Hope Academy private school.



Samuel Howard's military marker

known connection to the city of Minneapolis, came to be buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery.

Captain Howard was a

proudly wearing the Union blue and prouder still of the little bronze G.A.R. [Grand Army of the Republic] button on his faded lapel."

Allina Moving Phillips Eye Institute, Reducing Services and Staff

By LINDSEY FENNER

Allina Health has announced they are moving the Phillips Eye Institute (PEI) out of its building at 2215 Park Avenue in February 2022. Both inpatient and out-patient eye care will be moved into the Abbott Northwestern Hospital Campus, which is undergoing a \$199 million renovation and rebuilding project. The move will also mean a reduction in staff. Allina did not respond to questions about how many staff positions will be

lost, but said in a statement that they are "committed to working closely with employees impacted by the transition to provide support and direction for future job opportunities within the Allina Health system."

Allina did not provide any information on the future of the PEI building and the nearly 2 acre site in the Phillips West neighborhood. In a statement, they said "Allina Health is committed to working with our community partners to determine the best future use of the PEI building." As of mid-November, Allina had not contacted the Phillips West Neighborhood Organization



Advent Candle: Peace

Peace to the goose with the broken wing, eliciting the maddening kindness of human beings, maddening because inconsistently applied.

Peace to the snapping turtle burrowed in the riverbottom mud, frozen and sealed as if for Judgment Day.

Peace to the queen bee in her hive, kept warm at the center of a ball made of thousands of her subjects, not all of whom will survive the winter.

Peace to the bear in her leafy den, giving birth in her sleep, as it seems that poets sometimes do, astonished to awaken to the bright, hungry eyes of the poem.

Peace to the trees keeping their minds on heaven, while holding fast the under-sky of roots and mycelia.

Peace to the clouds, shielding the sun from the glaring follies of humans below.

Peace to all the fevered world with its rising temperature and tides.

Peace to the famished who have eaten the poisoned bread of lies.

Peace to the strangers to themselves, unable to abide their own company.

Peace to those from whom everything has been stripped, who shiver in fear of the coming winter, having never recovered from the last.

Peace to those who live in dread of the picture the puzzle pieces of dusk are assembling.

Peace to those whom anger and shame keep awake through the long night, fighting the reckoning that collapses the day.

Peace to the one who lights a single candle, hoping its heat is enough to keep him alive while help is on its way.

Peace to those who wait patiently and impatiently for a new song to be born in the silence.

—Thomas R. Smith

Thomas R. Smith is a poet, editor and teacher who lives in Wisconsin near the Twin Cities. His work is strongly rooted in this region and includes its people, animals, birds, flowers, and trees. He has had hundreds of poems published in the US, Canada, and the UK, including several in the alley over the years. Find poems on his website www.thomasrsmith-poet.com and look for his new book, *Medicine Year*, in 2022.

Urban Adventures Start with a GREAT Place to Call Home!



Schedule a tour and find out how to join our senior living communities:

Ebenezer Park Apartments | 612-879-2233 or 711 for voice relay

Ebenezer Tower Apartments | 612-879-2243

Ebenezer Loren on Park | 612-871-4574

Ebenezer Care Center | 612-879-2262 or 711 for voice relay

Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

Standing Still

By MARTI MALTBY



Marti Maltby

Never having been in the armed forces, I don't have personal experience with the idea of leaving no one behind on the battlefield, even if rescuing them requires great personal risk. I understand it in concept, but I've never had to live it out. Only recently did I realize that I get to see others live it out every day that I come to Peace House Community.

Many of our community members make decisions that confound anyone from a middle class background. They decline housing opportunities, or move into housing and then get kicked out for inviting all their friends from the street to stay with

them. They get into fights with their best friends and the next day act like nothing happened. They buy, sell and barter items from each other in a system that often looks like a giant commune. Most confusing of all, they stick with friends who they know are dragging them down.

I hear so many questions that start with "Why don't they ...", as if people who have never lived on the streets know what the community members should do. The questions are usually well-meaning, but they

say more about the questioner's ignorance than about the best way to escape the streets. Knowing how to live on a moderate income in a reasonably safe neighborhood doesn't mean much to someone with almost no income who faces predators, dealers and pimps every day.

The answer to "Why don't they ..." usually comes down to friendship, or at least community. Those who have little are forced to rely more on others than those who have enough to take care of themselves. When they are at their neediest, they are more likely to get help from people who understand their position than from others who have an excess but who don't grasp the seriousness

Continued on page 6...

Continued from page 1...

Public Housing, Cont.

duce - which means a briefer period of displacement for current residents.

At community meetings, neighbors raise questions about size, design, and parking, all valid concerns. But are these projects even good for public housing policy? And more importantly, are they good for the people who rely on public housing?

Public housing is a locally managed, federally funded program which began in 1937, to create both housing and construction jobs during the Great Depression. Public housing is designed to be affordable - rent is set at 30% of the renter's income - and therefore highly subsidized, primarily by the federal government through the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Public housing is highly sought after, especially with the shortage of affordable housing in Minneapolis. MPHA's drafted 2022 plan shows that over 17,000 households are on public housing waiting lists in Minneapolis.

Despite high demand, public housing has been controversial since the beginning. In the '70s and '80s, a push for privatization led to the establishment of the Section 8 voucher system. Rather than providing publicly-owned housing, the vouchers enable low-income people to rent from private landlords. Significantly, with the Section 8 voucher system, private landlords end up getting a higher subsidy from HUD per unit than public housing authorities do for publicly-owned housing.

Public housing has not been adequately funded by Congress for decades. In 2022, MPHA expects to receive \$2.1 million less than HUD's own funding formula says it needs for oper-

ational costs. And this doesn't include capital improvement needs: MPHA has an estimated need of \$150 million for significant repairs and deferred maintenance on current housing.

This means that public housing tenants are living in aging buildings that are becoming increasingly dilapidated and unsafe. A State of Minnesota investigation shows the deaths of five people in a 2019 fire could have been prevented if the Cedar-Riverside public housing highrise had a modern sprinkler system installed. A recent class-action lawsuit, filed on behalf of public housing residents against the City of Minneapolis and MPHA, alleges dangerous and unsanitary living conditions, due to lack of maintenance.

MPHA knew something needed to be done to bring in more money. And this is where things get even more complicated.

MPHA realized they could access more money from HUD if they used something called "Section 18 Demolition and Disposition." Remember how private landlords get more money from HUD than public housing authorities do? And remember our over 700 "scattered sites?" Through some bureaucratic sleight-of-hand, MPHA decided to sell these homes to itself for \$1. Or rather, not quite to itself. To a non-profit called Community Housing Resources. Which is run by MPHA.

The strategy, first brought forward in 2018, was concerning to public housing advocates, like the Defend Glendale and Public Housing Coalition (DGPHC), and the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party 63rd Senate District Central Committee, who saw it as a huge step towards the privatization of public housing in Minneapolis.

To address these concerns, the City of Minneapolis and MPHA signed a Memorandum of

Understanding in 2019, in which MPHA committed to maintaining public ownership of the scattered site properties and giving residents certain rights and protections.

Even after final HUD approval in 2020 and unanimous City Council support of this plan, critics like DGPHC continue to question if these over 700 housing units will continue to remain public and truly affordable.

Which brings us back to the 16 redevelopment projects. For the short-term, these buildings seem reasonable and pragmatic. MPHA figured out a way to get more HUD funding, take advantage of significant one-time federal COVID relief dollars, and create a few more units of badly needed family housing.

But for the long-term, I don't know. The labyrinthine course of this public housing redevelopment shows how truly broken public housing policy is. Will these new buildings end up sliding into more gentrifying private housing? Is the modular construction truly innovative, or will it just create more cheap and shoddy eyesores like so much of the multiunit housing being built today? And how is anyone making sure that people who live in public housing, who often don't speak English as a first language, have both agency in and understanding of these changes?

At a November 15 City Planning Commission public hearing on eight of the 16 project sites, public comment was mixed, with neighbors both for and against the plan. But everyone agreed that we need more affordable housing. What is the best way for Minneapolis to get there?

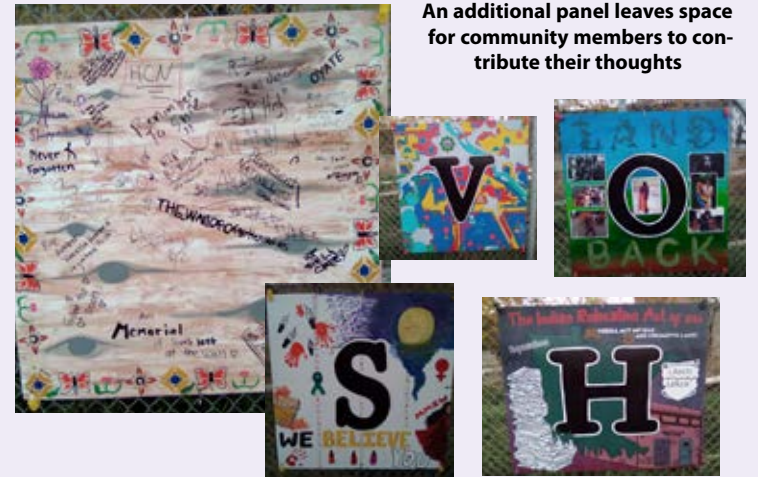
Continued from page 1...

Never Homeless Before cont.

includes images and symbols that are relevant to the American Indian community.

Artist Courtney Cochran led the design. Many community members contributed to the work, including people who

have experienced homelessness themselves. The project is sponsored by the Native American Community Development Institute and the Minnesota Department of Transportation. It will remain in place on Franklin Avenue for two years.



An additional panel leaves space for community members to contribute their thoughts

A sampler of some of the art accompanying each letter. "S" commemorates Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women; The letter "H" references the Morrill Act that Lincoln signed in 1862, granting thousands of acres of tribal lands across the midwest and west to public universities (including the University of Minnesota) for funding and establishing endowments. (High Country News <https://www.hcn.org>)

Continued on page 6...



The middle and right buildings, 2425 and 2427 16th Avenue South, likely built in the 1880s, were demolished in 1971 to make way for a public housing duplex. The left building still stands.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COLLECTION, HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY

The public housing duplex at 2425 16th Avenue South under construction in 1971/72.

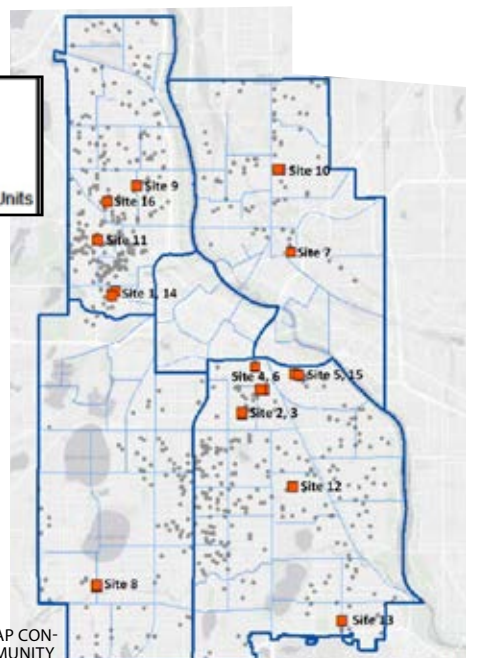


The proposed public housing 6-unit multi-family residence at 2425 16th Avenue South.

MPHA Family Housing Expansion

Proposed Sites
Existing Scattered Site Units

Map of the 16 Public Housing Scattered Site Redevelopments, presented at the November 15 Planning Commission Public Hearing



ESN, HERE, GARMIN, OPENSTREETMAP CONTRIBUTORS, AND THE GIS USER COMMUNITY



As part of my doctoral work, I get to study ancient whole grains and their impact on the health and wellness of community, and how to better educate and train future nutrition professionals to meet the needs of diverse and vibrant communities.

-Melissa Jansma

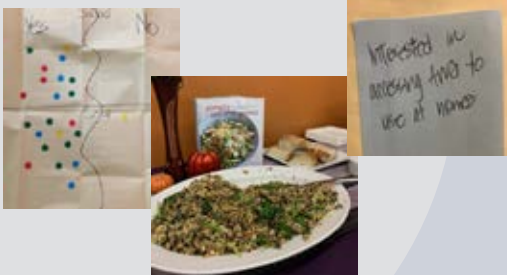
The Cultural Wellness Center's Community Health Hub recently hosted Fellows from the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders (IRLs) program housed at the U of M for a tasting event at Midtown Global Market.



The IRL participants took a tour of the Market, learned about the work of the Cultural Wellness Center, the Backyard Initiative and the Community Health Hub. Everyone shared a meal together centered around Ancient Whole Grains.



The menu included a **Kale and Quinoa Salad, Black Barley and Fire Roasted Tomato Soup with Collard Greens, ancient grains bread and crackers, and vegan cookies.** Attendees were polled and 100% of people said they would eat the soup and salad again and everyone except one participant said they would make the soup and salad at home.



Giving community exposure to Ancient Whole Grains through tasting events is only part of my work. By researching the food systems, I can help ensure ancient whole grains are accessible and affordable for all people.

-Alissa Perteet-Jackson



Handouts were provided for each of the recipes as well as information on ancient whole grains. The Cultural Wellness Center will continue to collaborate with the University of Minnesota to deepen the Ancient Whole Grains project and impact the community for the greater good.

"I would say that my experience at the tasting event at the Cultural Wellness Center was very meaningful to me. I'm very grateful to have the opportunity to take part in these community events as a student because not only am I able to connect concepts from my coursework to these events, but I am also connect to the community at the same time. From being involved in the event, I learned that food is an amazing way to connect people from different backgrounds."

-Sabrina K., U of M Student



A CWC Community Research Ethics Board member from the U of M recommended the Cultural Wellness Center as 1 of the 3 sites to visit during the national gathering for the Fellows from the Interdisciplinary Research Leaders (IRLs) program. The CWC's Community Health Hub inside of the Midtown Global Market gives an experience of the past, present, and future of health and wellness and the vital impact culture has on the well-being of communities especially those who participate in the CWC's Community Health Hub programs. More than 50,000 people have participated in more than 35 activities from 2008 to the present. During the pandemic, programming transitioned to online and expanded to serving people around the world.



-Rebekah Schulz

An Amazing Way
FOOD
To Connect People!

Interdisciplinary Research Leaders (IRL)

IRL is a national leadership program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation housed at the University of Minnesota. Interdisciplinary teams of three (researchers and community leaders) are part of this three-year fellowship that includes a research project. The goal is to combine the power of community and applied research to explore critical issues and develop community-driven solutions to advance health equity. The IRL Leadership Meeting is scheduled annually to promote IRL program goals and build relationships that support individual, team and institutional change that strengthens the intersection between community power and health equity research.

Contributors to this page's content:

Roberta Barnes, CWC;
Alissa Perteet-Jackson,
Melissa Jansma and Rebekah Schulz,
U of M students.

Photos:

Roberta Barnes, Ankhet Hesi-Ra, CWC;
Rebekah Schulz, U of M student



Cultural Wellness Center

Health · Heritage · Harmony

2025 Portland Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55404

612-721-5745 | www.culturalwellnesscenter.org



Like Us on FACEBOOK

SEE THE BACK PAGE FOR MORE INFORMATION & RECIPES WITH ANCIENT GRAINS

Continued from page 4...

Peace House, cont.

of the situation. Paradoxically, PHC's community members often get their protection and security from the same streets that threaten them. By establishing and maintaining their friendships, the community provides for each other in a way that completely baffles people from the suburbs.

All of this means that those who struggle financially or are homeless will often turn down the opportunity to "escape" when it is offered. They realize that they can leave, but they will be leaving others behind who cared for them when they were at the lowest point in their lives. Like those in the military, they reject the idea that they can leave others behind in order to protect themselves. Often, this decision leads to tragic results.

On the other hand, it high-

lights what is most noble in humans, and provides an example to the rest of us. We are constantly tempted to worry about ourselves and our own needs, and only help others from our leftovers. Seeing the devotion and sacrifice that those who have little are willing to make for each other can help us overcome that temptation, and finally to become a better version of ourselves.

[For two ways of looking at this issue, see Paul Piff's TED Talk about how money makes you mean (https://www.ted.com/talks/paul_piff_does_money_make_you_mean?language=en), and Five Finger Death Punch's song The Wrong Side of Heaven (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_14Ab5FRwM)]

Minneapolis Recreation Centers Reopening to the Public

B Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) continues to transition its 47 recreation centers to pre-COVID-19 services and hours of operation.

All MPRB recreation centers are currently offering scheduled, registered, and ActivePass programs Monday through Saturday, with five sites offering pre-registered programs on Sunday. Search all available activities at minneapolisparcs.org/register.

Recreation centers will begin offering general public hours starting November 29, with the following phased approach:

Mon. Nov. 29 - Sun. Dec. 19

- All recreation centers open Monday-Friday, 3-7 pm
- Drop-in recreation opportunities available during those public open hours
- Recreation centers open outside of public open hours and on Saturdays and Sundays for pre-registered and ActivePass programs only
- Youth sports games begin at various sites with spectators allowed

Mon. Dec. 20 - Tues. Dec. 30 (Minneapolis Public Schools Winter Break)

- All recreation centers open on School Release Days, Monday-Friday, Noon-7 pm
- Drop-in recreation opportunities available during those public open hours
- Note: *all recreation centers will be closed and programming cancelled Dec. 24-25 and Dec. 31-Jan. 1 in observance of Christmas Day and New Year's Day*

Monday, January 3, 2022, and onward

- All recreation centers open Monday-Friday, 3-9 pm
- All recreation centers open Saturdays, Noon-6 pm
- Northeast, Farview, East Phillips, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Pearl recreation centers open Sundays, Noon-6 pm
- Drop-in recreation opportunities will be available during those public open hours

Masks Required

During all phases of reopening, masks will be required for all recreation center visitors, including instructors and sport spectators, as directed by MPRB Superintendent Al Bangoura.

Information provided by the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board.

Random alley News



By LINDSEY FENNER

► Southside Green Zone Council Seeking Members:

The citizen advisory committee advises the Mayor and City Council on the implementation and evaluation of the Southside Green Zone Work Plan. The Southside Green Zone boundaries include all of Phillips and parts of Seward and Cedar-Riverside. There are ten open seats.

- 4 open seats for voting members who live inside the Southside Green Zone.
- 4 youth ambassadors who will be voting members that live inside the Southside Green Zone.
- 2 "at large" non-voting members.

For more information about the responsibilities of a committee member, contact Kelly Muellman: kellymuellman@minneapolismn.gov. Phone: (612) 673-3014

► Turnblad Mansion Being Restored:

The American Swedish Institute is beginning a \$20 million project to restore and renovate the Turnblad Mansion at 2600 Park Avenue. The 33-room "castle," which now serves as a museum and cultural center, was built in 1908 by Swedish immigrant and publisher Swan Turnblad. The project will include needed repairs to the iconic tower, create more accessible space for employees and volunteers, and open long-closed rooms in the mansion to the public. The project is scheduled to launch in Spring 2022, with completion by fall 2023.

► Midtown Greenway Coalition Calls for Re-Do of Re-Paving Greenway:

A section of the Midtown Greenway commuter bike trail was repaved by Minneapolis Public Works in October, but bikers are already calling

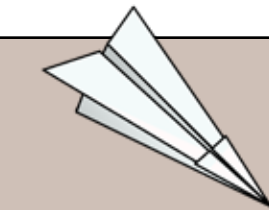


Tree delivery by horse-drawn cart next to Swan J. Turnblad residence, 26th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Completed in 1908, the Swan J. Turnblad mansion was built in the French Chateausque style. The house became the American Swedish Institute in 1929.

for a re-do. According to the Midtown Greenway Coalition, a nonprofit group that advocates for the Greenway and Greenway users, the repaving has left the trail surface worse than it was before and created a safety hazard for users. Public Works has admitted they used a different resurfacing process, called "micropaving," which cost a third of the 1.6 million budgeted for the project. The 5.5 mile bike and pedestrian route runs along the former Milwaukee Railroad line from the Uptown Chain of Lakes to the Mississippi River.

Continued from page 1...

Gentrification (Letter) cont.



current policy is, the reality of life in Midtown Phillips is different. This is not, for the most part, a community of bicycle commuters. Our block (the 2700 block of 12th Avenue) is a block where most of the renters and owners are immigrant families. That usually means two working parents and several young children per household. Five of the houses on the east side of the street are duplexes with little off-street parking, and for those properties there are not two cars/vans per property, but more commonly four to six. Residents already have to pay for parking permits because of our proximity to a school, mosque, mall, and two major hospitals. Parking is at a premium. The notion that people will ride bikes if no parking is available is simply not true. (I say this as someone who walked from my house to the U every day for 30+ years and heartily supports the idea of bike commuting for those who are able).

2) Safety. 28th Avenue is one of the city's busier streets and speeding is the norm. Twelfth Avenue is likewise heavily trafficked by residents, school

buses, students' parents, and people using the park. All of these amenities are great but they do mean that there is a lot of traffic. (About one out of every three or four bike bollards are flattened on any given day).

3) Proximity to public transportation. The bus routes are no longer safe. In order to access the #21, residents have to cut through the open-air drug market on 12th and Lake. Likewise, the #14 on Bloomington is essentially an encampment where drug-use and drug-dealing is rampant. The last two times that I took the #5, there were gun-toting teens on the bus.

4) The design of the two proposed buildings is incompatible with the rest of the block and with most of the surrounding neighborhood. The majority of houses date from the 1880s to the 1920s, and share a similar style. The Midtown Neighborhood Association wrote design guidelines for the neighborhood that requested that all new homes should share that style—mostly in reference to front porches and detached garages. The

developers for all three new builds on our block complied with those guidelines, however these plans share none of the architectural elements present in the neighborhood.

5) Inadequate play space for the children. There is simply not enough space for the number of children who will live in the 12 units (see comments about safety).

6) What do these properties have to do with continuing income inequality? Inappropriate design and inexpensive construction will undoubtedly have an impact on the surrounding properties. Many studies show that homes owned by people of color (all but three homeowners on our block) are artificially low in value, which translates into owners having less wealth to pass on to their children.

I think that it's time for everyone to ask how city policy and design lead to gentrification, and how poorly-designed architecture undermines the social history and future economic well-being of its residents.



VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD



DECEMBER '21 NEWS

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

VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

- Our end of the year **Annual Meeting** will be on Wednesday, December 8th, at 7:00 PM. We will meet in person at ICCM Church, 1812 Park Avenue. You can also participate via zoom by contacting us by phone or email. Our Board of Directors for 2022 will be selected
- Norway House's popular Gingerbread Wonderland exhibit opened Tuesday, November 23rd and will run through December. Located at 913 E. Franklin it will be open 10 AM through 4 PM.
- Ventura Village has prepared a Request For Proposal (RFP) for a new website for the neighborhood association. If you are interested contact us at villageventura@gmail.com.

ARE YOU READY FOR AN EMERGENCY? KALI PLIEGO

Emergencies can happen anytime and without warning. They can vary from natural phenomena (weather) to health (pandemic) to social (large scale crime events). It is important to be prepared for disaster before it strikes. Start by collecting the following suggested items in an emergency kit:

- Water (enough for drinking and sanitation)
- Food (non-perishable)
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio
- Medicines, if applicable
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle (to signal for help)
- Dust masks (for contaminated air)
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place)
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and ties (for sanitation)
- Wrench (to turn off utilities)
- Can opener
- Maps (mark locations of nearby hospitals, stores, pharmacies, etc)
- Cell phone with back up chargers

Families with school-aged children should make a family emergency plan. Make sure kids have important phone numbers and a meet up location in their backpacks in case an emergency starts while family members are separated (at home, work, school). Remember to practice when it's easy. Have a family meeting to go over the emergency plan and make sure everyone understands the plan.

For more information on emergency preparedness, go to www.ready.gov

WHEN TO CALL 211 MARY WATSON

Families or individuals who need help or are seeking information about health and human services and resources in their area, can get **immediate assistance 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year by calling 2-1-1**

Assistance just call 211

- Shelter and housing options.
- Utilities assistance.
- Supplemental food and nutrition programs.
- Service for veterans.
- Childcare options.
- Mental health support.
- Vaccination and healthcare information.
- Support/path for exiting unsafe physical, emotional, or mental conditions.

BROTHERS EMPOWERED WELCOMED TO VENTURA VILLAGE STEVE DREYER, THOR ADAM, BROTHERS EMPOWERED

Brothers EMpowered is a community based organization that supports and empowers men of color youth and families. The organization was founded by Minister Charles Caine 5 years ago. It's three main focuses are: health and wellness, youth empowerment, and community outreach. It has been active in other parts of Minneapolis, especially the North Side, and has recently become active on Franklin Avenue in Ventura Village. They were asked by Urban Homeworks to provide a presence on the 2100 block of Elliot Avenue to counteract a growing issue from gun violence.

As a part of their community engagement Brothers EMpowered PEACEMAKERS is a service provided by the organization. They work to develop a relationship in the community and offer these services:

- De-escalation
- Conflict resolution
- Motivational interviewing
- Community engagement
- Mediation
- Advocacy
- Mentorship
- Positive reassurance
- Connection to resources
- Positive visual presence
- Professionalism
- Active community building
- PEACEKEEPER Training



Left: Photo provided by Brothers EMpowered
Below: Photo from November 6th event provided by Thor Adam



On November 6th Brothers EMpowered hosted an event with the help of Ventura Village, PPL, Hope Community, Norway House and Urban Homeworks. A live band played while neighbors socialized and children jumped in a bouncy house. The cotton candy and popcorn was a festive snack before a meal was provided. During the event there was a raffle for bikes. There are plans for a winter event to be held to continue the positive experience of neighbors socializing and enjoying time with one another.

You will also see the Brothers EMpowered PeaceKeepers on Franklin Avenue as they have been asked by PPL to have a presence near Elliot Avenue.

2021: A YEAR IN REVIEW ALONG FRANKLIN AVENUE STEVE DREYER

In 2021 several significant construction projects have been completed or started on or near Franklin Avenue in Ventura Village.

- The Park and Franklin Lofts, a 4 story complex with 43 apartments was opened this summer.
- In January work began on Anishinabe 111, the third phase of the Anishinabe housing campus. It joins Anishinabe Wakiagun, which opened in 1996, and Bii Gii Wiin, which opened in 2016. Construction has been completed and it adds an additional 40 units of permanent supportive housing for members of the community suffering from substance use disorders.
- In June Community Care Clinics of Minnesota and First Care Pregnancy Center broke ground for their 12,600 square foot clinic on Chicago Avenue near Franklin.. Construction is proceeding rapidly and they hope to open in early 2022.
- In September Norway House broke ground for their planned expansion at the corner of Franklin and Elliot. Preparations are being made to begin construction and will continue through the winter.
- Almadina Market has added a new store on Franklin near Chicago Avenue.
- The Native American Community Clinic purchased their building this year also, and they have been remodelling to better serve their patients.

Thank you for these improvements to our neighborhood and watch for more in 2022.

Community Care Clinics construction



Park and Franklin Lofts



Anishinabe III



Norway House future expansion site



Almadina Market

*Something I Said***Mario and Melvin**

By DWIGHT HOBBS

The original title of Mario Van Peebles' *Baadasssss!* (Sony Pictures, 2003) was *How To Get The Man's Foot Outta Your Ass*, entirely fitting for the social commentary his father Melvin Van Peebles' film *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song* (Yeah, Inc., 1971) put forth in a time when grassroot black America had grown sick and tired of this country kicking us around to keep us down. Indeed, *Baadasssss!* is a dramatized, making of historic document, looking at what went into Melvin returning the favor and putting his foot in American cinema's behind, profoundly challenging its cherished tenet of supremacist propaganda.

There is a reason, after all, The Black Panther Party for Self-Defense lauded it,



Theatrical release poster for Melvin Van Peebles' 1971 film.

in Huey Newton's words as "the first truly revolutionary... [film]" that, in the opening credits, starred "The Black Community." It became required viewing for Party members. There is the same reason Bill Cosby, who'd narrated CBS' *Black History: Lost, Stolen or Strayed* three years earlier, stepped in with a \$50,000 loan to complete funding after Columbia Studios

suits turned their backs and left production high and dry. Neither was going to see this landmark depiction of black reality go by the wayside. The days of demeaning portrayals of mammies and shiftless men were done.

There was a downside. It pried the door loose for Spike Lee, which continued to revolutionize cinema, but also ushered in an era of the new, "blaxploitation" stereotype: studs and sexpots – even if scores of actors did get work.

These days it no longer turns the world upside down when black filmmakers including, finally, female producers and directors have something serious to say. For which we can thank a scrappy brother - the late Melvin Van Peebles - who made history on a shoestring budget of \$150,000 (unfortunately bouncing a check to then-fledgling Earth, Wind & Fire) in just under three weeks. We can also be grateful to Mario Van Peebles for honoring that legacy with an unflinching tribute just as hard hitting as the original film.

'Tis The Season to be Distressed.**...Or Not.**

By MARY ELLEN KALUZA

Despite what marketing executives would have us believe, the Holiday Season is not a warm, carefree, cozy time for many, if not most of us. It is a season packed with stress—emotional stress, time stress, expectation stress, financial stress—the list goes on, much of it related to gift-giving.

A lot of our gift-giving is about wanting others to love us, or our own self-esteem. How many of the grandparents reading this, feel like buying gifts for a grandchild is a competition with the other set of grandparents? Or, are you parents competing with an ex-spouse for children's love? Would you like to stop the whole family gift exchange because it is a financial burden, but your better-off siblings don't?

Studies show that we get more happiness and long-lasting memories out of experiences rather than material objects. Spend a minute right now and scan your memories. Do you find long gone stuff in there, or do you find time with someone you loved?

One toy I do remember and still have almost 60 years later is an octopus made of scrap yarn from my grandmother. She gave it to me with a name: Priscilla Lavae. We made it

together. With 23 cousins, the opportunity to have my own time with Gram was indeed very special. Today when I look down at the countless brown age spots on my hands, I don't say "Ugh." Instead I am reminded of Gram and her spotted hands guiding mine while we made Priscilla Lavae.

And, I think of my beloved Uncle Joe...

I don't recall the things he gave me, I remember driving around the mines on the Iron Range or going fishing. He told me jokes and stories, and he was clearly happy to be spending time with his niece. I felt loved. With minimal expense these two adults cemented my adoration of them forever.

One Christmas, a sibling put together a small collection of favorite family recipes as her family gift. I treasure that little handmade booklet. Each time I open it I am reminded of all the cooks who perfected those recipes, and feel so grateful to have it.

So, this season, focus on the memory-building experiences. If you are a grandparent, use



This photo taken 66 years ago is the cover of the little cookbook and features my mother, grandmother, and a brother in the foreground. I'm still in the making under that maternity blouse.

the gift of your time. Take a drive with your grandchild. Tell stories about their early childhood, their parent's, or your own childhood. Make something with them and teach them a lasting skill. If you are competing with your ex for your children's affection, you can be sure the children will remember the competition and not the love. And, bowing to the pressure to spend more money than you want will only create resentment. No happy memories there.

Give the gift of memories to your loved ones and have a truly happy Holiday Season!

Mary Ellen Kaluza is a Certified Financial, Housing, and Reverse Mortgage Counselor

*Returning Chapter 15***What is in This Place?...**

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

Our beloved family did not know the history of the garage they were cornered in. It was built as a barn by Sigurd Amundson in the summer of 1900, to store his cart and horse. Sigurd had begun building the house on Ascension Day in 1899 and moved into it on Candlemas Day, 1900 with his wife Evangeline (nee Magnuson) and their infant son, Ronald. Sigurd had immigrated to Minnesota from a small town near Lund, Sweden when he was eight years old. His parents, William and Jeanette (nee Olson) were charter members of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. (The one on 15th Avenue, built by Swedes, not the one eight blocks away, built by Norwegians.) They were buried in Soldiers and Pioneers Cemetery two blocks away, along with three of Sigurd's siblings, who died at ages 2, 7 and 11 of dysentery, cholera and a work accident, respectively.

Sigurd first sold vegetables, used clothing, and pots and pans from his cart. As the automobile became more prevalent in the city's poorer wards, he learned how to fix them, and started one of the first garages on the south side. Legend had it that his horse, known to all the children of the area as "Buddy" had run away on a cold Santa Lucia Eve in 1914. Some believed Buddy's ghost still haunted the swale.

After Sigurd and Evangeline sold the house in 1928, and moved with their four children near to Diamond Lake, the new owners converted the garage into a small wood-working shop. The childless couple made cabinets, end tables, chairs and knick-knack shelves. They sold the house and garage in 1963 to an Augsburg professor, who rented it out to students. By the late

60's it became the place to buy pot, and was raided several times by the police.

The incarnations that followed included: a halfway house for ex-cons run by an obscure Christian sect, transitional housing for Hmong refugee families, a feminist-lesbian organizing space, and a Pentecostal church. It was foreclosed more than once, inhabited by squatters, became a crack house, then sat boarded up for years, as thieves tore out all the copper piping and beautiful wood work. Brian Fleming bought it in the name of one of his shell companies, Horizons LLC, got renovation grants from the city, solar grants from the state, and fitted it with the fastest high speed internet, top of the line thermal windows and LED lights. It was the most energy efficient house in all of Phillips.

And the garage that had been a barn? The first floor was Horizon LLC's training center, where teens learned computers and business skills, funded through grants from major foundations. The loft had been converted into a literal sweat shop with sauna and steam room, and trafficked women from Nepal, Ecuador and Bosnia, providing massages and other services. And in the basement, where our family was encountering evil in all its dressed up majesty, was a computer lab behind two leaded steel doors. A Russian national, an Alawite doctor from Syria with a fake Canadian passport, and two of Brian's high school friends, sat at immensely powerful computers, manipulating bitcoin markets, hacking into companies large and small, and spreading disinformation.

That was the energy that surrounded Luz, Angel and Angelito, the energy they would need to overcome even if they never fully understood it.

To be continued...

MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SUPPORT THE MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD

Your support of the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association allows us to increase our capacity for community outreach and partner with local groups and organizations to create informative forums, sponsor resources, and fund projects that promote the health, stability and well-being of residents throughout the course of the year. As neighborhood organizations are experiencing decreased levels of city funding, we are seeking donations to help bridge that gap as we go into 2022 to sustain our ability to partner with neighborhood organizations within Midtown Phillips.

In 2021, we partnered with several local non-profits to implement a variety of projects to expand outreach. Here's some—but not all—of our partner's contributions to the Midtown Phillips community:

- Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts facilitates community art and literary projects including murals, utility box wraps, and hosts youth workshops.
- Somali TV helps us reach our Somali residents, providing filming and promotion of our events, and supports our social media.
- Banyan Community provides valuable assistance to promoting and hosting National Night Out parties and building community, hosts community breakfasts and speakers, and has a number of youth and family programs.
- KRSM Radio provides youth with leadership & development skills as well as promotes our events on 98.9 FM.
- New Americans Youth Soccer Club not only provides youth with development skills but has also been a strong force for gathering residents to events and promoting resources and information to community families.
- Pillsbury United Communities/Waite House maintained a community garden in 2021, offering fresh produce and gardening skills to community members.

The needs of Midtown Phillips residents and businesses are greater than ever. Help us continue to provide as much support to our community as possible!

DONATE:
WWW.GIVEMN.ORG/STORY/MPNAI2021

Thank you to our 2021 Community Outreach Partners!



To learn more about these organizations
Visit www.midtownphillips.org/our-partners

Hear interviews & reflections from Midtown Phillips residents:
www.midtownphillips.org/krsm-neighborhood-interviews

For more info on Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association,
please visit www.midtownphillips.org

MPNAI DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, December 14, 6:30-8pm

AGENDA: Community Safety Discussion & Finance Report

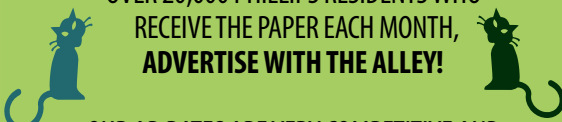
Please watch our website www.midtownphillips.org for updated agendas and links to join our zoom meeting!



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

Advertise with us!

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!**



OUR AD RATES ARE VERY COMPETITIVE AND WE CAN WORK WITH YOU ON RATES AND SIZES.

EMAIL BUSINESSMANAGER@ALLEYNEWS.ORG

70+ Minnesota artists



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

Or visit our shop at Midtown Global Market, 920 E. Lake St., Minneapolis 612-562-5871

Mention this ad for a 10% discount off your purchase. See website for special offers and more info.

In love with South Minneapolis since 1921



WWW.INGEBRETSENS.COM
1601 EAST LAKE STREET MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55407



LAST MINUTE HOLIDAY GIFTS

Don't worry, we've got you!
Shop for unique, one-of-a-kind gifts:
Jewelry, Art, Accessories, Leather, Goods, Clothing, Foods, Services, and Gift Certificates!



Family Fridays • 5 - 7pm Every Friday
Visit our website events page for all activities.



MIDTOWNGLOBALMARKET.ORG
920 E. Lake Street | Mpls

Movie Corner

Last Night in Soho

★★★★★

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II

Last Night in Soho to its credit is quite spellbinding, thanks in large part to cinematographer Chung-hoon Chung (who also is the cinematographer with director Edgar Wright's *Shaun of the Dead* [2004] and *Hot Fuzz* [2007]). What director Edgar Wright does convincingly well is how he segues genres, drama, horror and mystery. Adding to this fascinating film is a tribute to many 1960s rock/R&B songs. (The title for *Last Night in Soho* is a reference to a 1960s rock band, Dave Dee, Dozy, Beaky, Mick & Tich.)

The story begins



Universal

with a young woman, Eloise (Thomasin McKenzie from *JoJo Rabbit*), with big aspirations to go London to be a fashion designer but not without a warning about moving to the big city from Peggy (Rita Tushingham). Eloise loves 60s music and

styles. Her first nights are in the dorm with some other students who love to party and go to bars. She feels out of place but she does go to the bars with them. Eloise, not satisfied living with the other students, rents a second-floor apartment from an old landlady (Diana Rigg).

But before long, Eloise begins to have strange dreams (some might say hallucinations, or maybe reincarnation) about a woman named Sandie (Anya Taylor-Joy), from the 1960s, with aspirations to be a famous singer. But Eloise is pulled into these dreams like a spectator as this glamorous blonde goes into her performances, seemingly gliding through with singing and dancing before crowds and louche men. However, these dreams become darker leaving her to believe she's no longer a spectator, but something more sinister. She wants

to find out what really happened to the promising talented woman. But a clue may be on the way from her landlady who, attempting to ease Eloise's agitation, remarks, "This is London. Someone has died in every room in every building..." And Eloise remembers what Peggy warned her about London. The only one to come to her aid in crisis or otherwise is John (Michael Ajao) a young gentleman from her class.

Fine performances by Anya Taylor-Joy, Terence Stamp (*Billy Budd* [1962]), Rita Tushingham, Diana Rigg, Michael Ajao, and especially Thomasin McKenzie. I can't leave out the great 1960s music weaving in and out of the film.

Director: Edgar Wright. **Screenwriters:** Edgar Wright and Krysty Wilson-Cairns. **Cinematography:** Chung-hoon Chung. **Music:** Steven Price. **Cast:** Anya Taylor-Joy (Sandie),

Thomasin McKenzie (Eloise), Matt Smith (Jack), Terence Stamp (Silver-Haired Man), Diana Rigg, R.I.P. (Miss Collins), Michael Ajao (John), Synnove Karlsen (Jocasta), Andrew Bicknell (Cloakroom Attendant). **Production Companies:** Film4 Productions, Perfect World Pictures, Working Title Films, Complete Fiction Pictures. **Distributed by:** Universal Pictures.

Running time: 117 minutes, (R).



Howard McQuitter II

How Phillips Voted:

Ballot Questions, Mayor, and Turnout

By LINDSEY FENNER

The Phillips Community is split between two wards - 6 and 9. Ward 6 includes Phillips West and Ventura Village in Phillips, as well as neighborhoods to the north, east, and west: parts of Cedar-Riverside, Elliot Park, Seward, and Stevens Square. Ward 9 includes East Phillips and Midtown Phillips, as well

as neighborhoods to the south: Corcoran, Powderhorn Park, Central and parts of Longfellow. Ward 6 has 4 precincts in Phillips and Ward 9 has 2 precincts in Phillips (see map on page 11 of the six precincts in the Phillips community)

Charter Questions: Breaking down the charter amendment votes at the precinct level, Phillips voters overwhelmingly voted in favor of Question 3, which authorizes the City Council to enact a rent control ordinance. All six Phillips precincts voted against Question 2, which would have created a city Department of Public Safety. Precincts in Ward 6 all voted strongly against Question 2, whereas precincts 9-3 and 9-4 in

Phillips saw a much more evenly divided vote, with 51.57% voting no in 9-3 and 52.81% voting no in 9-4. Phillips voters were split on Question 1, the Government Structure Amendment. Four Phillips precincts voted against the so-called "Strong Mayor" amendment: 6-6, 6-8, 9-3, and 9-4. The Yes and No votes in Precincts 6-6 and 9-4 were separated by less than one percentage point.

Mayor: In the mayoral election, incumbent Mayor Jacob Frey had the most first round votes in all Phillips precincts, though he didn't receive a majority in any precinct. Kate Knuth had few first choice votes, but consistently did well on second choice votes. AJ Awed did

ELECTION RESULTS Citywide

- **Mayor:** Jacob Frey (incumbent)
- **Board of Estimation and Taxation:** Steve Brandt and Samantha "Sam" Pree-Stinson
- **Park and Recreation Commissioner At Large (3 Seats):** Meg Forney, Tom Olsen, Alicia D. Smith
- **Question 1 - Government Structure:** Executive Mayor-Legislative Council - Passed
- **Question 2 - Department of Public Safety - Failed**

- **Question 3 - Authorizing City Council To Enact Rent Control Ordinance - Passed**
- **Ward 6 City Council (In Phillips, this includes the Ventura Village and Phillips West neighborhoods):** Jamal Osman (incumbent)
- **Ward 9 City Council (In Phillips, this includes the East Phillips and Midtown Phillips neighborhoods):** Jason Chavez
- **Park Board District Three (This includes all four Phillips neighborhoods):** Becky Alper

well in Ward 6 Phillips precincts
Voter Turnout: City elections typically have much lower voter turnout than national or state

elections, and this election year was no different. The citywide voter turnout in the 2020 general
Continued on page 11...



East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC)

EPIC's December Community Meeting
Thursday, December 9 6:30pm-7:30pm

Join us to hear about:

- 1) work a group of East Phillips neighbors are doing to establish a Community Resource Hub with a long-term goal of an Overdose Prevention Site once it is federally legal
- 2) resurfacing work and ADA pedestrian improvements in East Phillips in 2022-2023

Watch eastphillips.org for updates on whether there will be an in-person meeting option
OR JOIN VIA ZOOM (Zoom link to join at eastphillips.org)

If you would like to request interpretation, contact Sarah at (612) 354-6802 or sarah@eastphillips.org

Sign up for swimming at the Phillips Aquatics Center (2323 11th Ave)

- 1) Youth swim lessons.
East Phillips families pay just \$5
- 2) Junior Swim Club.
East Phillips families pay just \$5

Please call or stop in if you need swimwear. Limited options available.

Stop in or call (612)230-6495 for questions and to register.

Visit eastphillips.org to learn more

Follow us on Facebook for neighborhood updates and resources:
facebook.com/eastphillipsepic

The next **EPIC Board Meeting** is Saturday, December 4 10am-11am

For links to join EPIC meetings go to eastphillips.org

Raise Your Voice

Local World News

By PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

It is said that no small part of the world had its eye on our 2021 elections. As it came down, 7 of our 13 member city council are newly elected; 8 are people of color, and there are 3 who identify as “Democratic Socialists”. Congratulations Minneapolis! On the other hand there was, I think, an element of unprincipled opportunism in the mix.

Question: What is the sociology of our persistent low voter turnout and, for the sake of democracy, what is the solution?

Within the immediate purview of *the alley* community, we must uphold the election

of incumbents Jamal Osman (Ward 6) and Andrea Jenkins (Ward 8). On a personal note, I am delighted over the election of Jason Chavez (Ward 9) and Robin Wonsley Worlobah (Ward 2) inasmuch as they have elevated the banner of socialism.

Indeed, Worlobah managed to defeat the “wildly popular” Cam Gordon of Green Party fame. As a matter of principle and practical consideration, we suggest to Cam that he pass on any useful experiential knowledge. I believe Robin will, in some fashion, reciprocate.

Similarly, our reelected Mayor Frey would do well to welcome Kate Knuth and Sheila Nezhad into his inner circle. After all, Kate and Sheila garnered many thousands of votes and represent a body of opinion deserving of respect. The winner-take-all approach will not serve the mayor well. No, not this time.

“We need to resolve this gun violence crisis... that’s number one”, so said Jeremiah Ellison (Ward 5), “and that requires having an accountable public safety system”. Sadly, these two items have been posed as opposites.

Early in the period of mobilization and intense discussion, in harmony with the public safety charter amendment, this column advanced the slogan: “disman-

tle and reconstruct”. Our proposed rehiring procedure envisioned psychological profiling tests which, in some instances, would result in redeployment away from the “inner city”. Officers of the D. Chauvin type (in his case, a record of 17 brutality complaints) would simply be fired. This vision has not been lost.

As it happened, however, the slogan “abolish the police” and the more modest slogan “defund the police” combined with a rising crime rate to create an atmosphere conducive to fear mongering. Mayor Frey acted upon an astute calculation and he won. However, he is not responsible for the whole history of racial capitalism and is, for the most part, a respectable human being. Truthfully, I ranked him as my third choice.

Anything else?

Marxism asserts that the ‘state’ (i.e., the armed force of law enforcement) will eventually “wither away” in a socialist society as all manner of material and spiritual oppression is lifted from the development of every child, no matter what. No child is a born criminal. Don’t you agree?

Continued from page 10...

Elections, cont.

election was 81.3%. Citywide voter turnout for the 2021 city election was 54%.

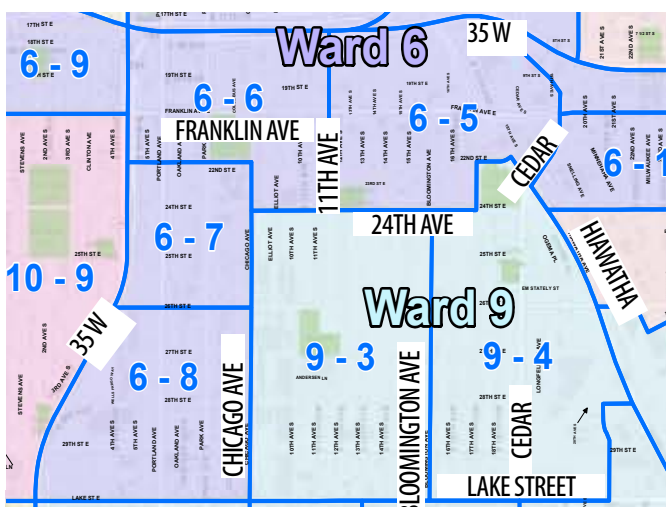
Both Wards 6 and 9 had lower voter turnout than the city as

a whole: 43.5% in Ward 6 and 49.5% in Ward 9. Although the preliminary voter turnout in Minneapolis as a whole was higher in 2021 when compared to the last city election in 2017, turnout actually went down in Ward 6, and was only slightly up in the two Ward 9 precincts in Phillips.

Election Data from the City of

Minneapolis and the Minnesota Secretary of State

Do you wish this article had more maps, tables, charts, and graphs? So do we! If you’re into data visualization and you’d like to occasionally volunteer your skills to the alley, email copydesk@alleynews.org



MAP CREDIT: CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

Map of the Phillips Community City Council wards and precincts
Incumbent Ward 6 Council Member Jamal Osman won reelection to another term
Jason Chavez will be replacing outgoing Ward 9 CM Alondra Cano. Cano did not run for reelection.

ALL ADULTS 18 AND OLDER SHOULD GET A COVID-19 BOOSTER SHOT

PFIZER AND MODERNA VACCINES			JOHNSON & JOHNSON VACCINE		
FIRST DOSE	SECOND DOSE	BOOSTER SHOT	SINGLE DOSE	BOOSTER SHOT	
All adults 18 and older should get a booster shot 6 months after their second dose.			All adults 18 and older should get a booster shot 2 months after their single dose.		

'Mixing and matching' COVID-19 vaccine boosters
You can choose your COVID-19 booster, regardless of what vaccine you originally received.

STAY SAFE MN

WELNA HARDWARE
ACE

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

Thank you
45
Years of advertising!

Welna in Phillips 2438 Bloomington Ave. 612-729-3526
Welna in Robbinsdale 4140 West Broadway 763-533-2758

Covid-19 Customer Service
Curbside Pick-Up and Delivery Available.
Call each store for most up to date Open Hours

OPEN AGAIN: 2438 Bloomington Av. 612-729-3526

Seward Co-op
EVERYONE WELCOME GROCERY & DELI EVERYONE WELCOME

Locally grown and raised foods and natural wellness products since 1972.

317 E. 38th St. (Friendship Store)
2823 E. Franklin Ave. | www.seward.coop

Seward
COMMUNITY CO-OP

CITY COUNCIL VOTES NEW FOUNTAIN FOR PHILLIPS

Affectionately named (by politicians who don't live under it) "Little Nimby" statue streams environmental racism...

FREE BONUS !!
City Water Yard floods air with increased diesel traffic - masking odors of foundry and asphalt !
LUCKY US !!

I MIGHT NEED ALL NINE LIVES...

ROOF DEPOT
NIMBY
EAST PHILLIPS
URBAN XARM

Not In My Back Yard

SEE PAGE 5 FOR INFO ABOUT A RECENT ANCIENT GRAINS TASTING EVENT



THE CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER AND ANCIENT GRAINS:

Connecting People To Their Roots Through Culture and Nutrition

- Ancient grains include spelt, kamut, einkorn, and emmer, millet, barley, teff, oats, sorghum; and the pseudocereals quinoa, amaranth, buckwheat, and chia
- Ancient grains can be used for a variety of dishes including salads, breads, soups, and pastas
- Because they originate from Asian and African regions, they are highly adaptive to many different dishes right in our neighborhood, where many diverse cultures live.
- Ancient grains are truly sustainable nutrition; they allowed for the growth and movement of various people groups over the ages and are still extremely valuable today for both our nutritional and cultural wellbeing.

TIPS ON HOW TO PREPARE ANCIENT GRAINS

- Tips on how to prepare ancient grains:
 - Grains that need to be soaked prior to cooking: barley, oats, rye, spelt, kamut, einkorn, and emmer
 - Grains that DO NOT require soaking: quinoa, millet.
- Grains which are naturally gluten free: quinoa, millet, buckwheat, amaranth, and teff.
- Other grains like oats can be gluten free but check the package/source to be sure

RECIPES TO MEET THE NUTRITIONAL AND CULTURAL NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY

QUINOA & KALE SALAD



Ingredients: Quinoa, kale, almonds, currants, goat cheese, olive oil, lemon juice, maple syrup, dijon mustard, salt, pepper

Ancient whole grains offer the full spectrum of nutrients and have an intact kernel, as well as endosperm, germ and bran

NUTRITIONAL VALUE

- Quinoa is a complete protein providing all the essential amino acids that the human body needs. It is a great source of potassium, fiber, and B vitamins.
- Technically a seed, there are more than 120 known varieties of quinoa.

White and yellow quinoa have the mildest flavor, so are good varieties to try first.

Red and black quinoa have slightly stronger, earthier flavors and tend to hold their shape better than lighter colored quinoa.

CULTURAL VALUE

- Quinoa has been cultivated for about 5000 years and is indigenous to the Andean region of South America, specifically Bolivia, Ecuador, Chile, and Peru.

BLACK BARLEY & FIRE ROASTED TOMATO SOUP WITH COLLARD GREENS



Ingredients: Black barley, tomatoes, collard greens, vegetable soup base, onion, spice, olive oil

NUTRITIONAL VALUE

- Barley consists of around 17% fiber and has been shown to significantly reduce blood sugar, blood pressure, and total cholesterol. Black Barley cooks to a delicious glossy purplish-opal hue and is a good source of B vitamins - energy for a busy schedule

CULTURAL VALUE

- Barley is or has been a staple grain in many cultures: Ancient Greece, Rome, Egypt, & China.

REBEKA SCHULTZ, CONTENT AND DESIGN. ROBERT TAYLOR, RECIPES AND FOOD PREPARATION



Cultural Wellness Center

Health · Heritage · Harmony

2025 Portland Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55404

612-721-5745 | www.culturalwellnesscenter.org



Like Us on FACEBOOK

“The Cultural Wellness Center is a community based local nonprofit organization that leverages connectedness and cultural practices to better serve communities, cultivate local champions, build local capacity and reflect community culture and values in the pursuit of wellness”