

3,500 Hennepin County Workers Reject County's Offer and Authorize a Strike

By AFSCME LOCALS 34 AND 2822

AFSCME Locals 34 and 2822 have rejected Hennepin County's latest labor contract offer. The County is attempting to stagnate wages, pass business costs on to employees, and is blatantly ignoring COVID risks employees are enduring during the pandemic. AFSCME Local 34 and Local 2822 members include social workers, human services representatives, service center representatives, and library workers.

On Monday December 13, workers represented by AFSCME Locals 34 and 2822 voted to reject Hennepin County's "Last, Best, and Final Offer," and authorize a strike. The no vote comes one day after members of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49, representing county snow plow drivers and other workers also rejected the county's offer.

Collectively AFSCME Locals 34 and 2822 represent 3,545 workers at Hennepin County, the two largest bargaining units who work at the county.

Throughout the negotiations process, AFSCME has made it clear to the employer that its members demand wages that keep up with inflation, real compensation for the COVID costs, and respect.

AFSCME also made it clear that the county's take-backs were unacceptable, including introducing a two-tiered system eliminating sick and vacation leave for new hires (leaving PTO as the only option), and attacks on the union's power by shifting costs of the arbitration process.

The county is in excellent financial shape with the highest bond rating and hundreds of millions of dollars in

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A SOLSTICE WISH

Here's to new light,
ancient light,
deep rest! Good ears!
Inner fires!



East Phillips Needs Harm Reduction Solutions for the Drug Problem

By STEPHEN GREGG



Insite offers wrap-around services, in addition to safe injection supplies and supervision. Photo courtesy of PHS Community Services Society.

In the eight years I've owned my home near 26th St and Bloomington Ave, I have been stuck by a discarded syringe, seen multiple overdoses, two deaths, and countless ambulances and police vehicles. I have watched in horror as entwined problems increase: the number of people experiencing homelessness, open air drug use, and crime. When approaching neighborhood issues, I try to practice empathy. From the beginning I've wanted to be involved in the work to find solutions, attending countless neighborhood meetings of all sorts. The problems here are deep-rooted and complex. I'm not a social worker—actually I'm an agricultural plant scientist. So I also comb research for solutions to problems. And this search has pointed me strongly towards harm reduction practices and services, practices endorsed by the CDC. Harm reduction has the potential to reduce short term

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New Council Brings New Hope for Environmental Justice in East Phillips

By STEVE SANDBERG

As Minneapolis residents waited to see what change would result from the November 2021 election, 75 to 100 community members gathered on Saturday, December 18th at the East Phillips Cultural Center gymnasium to lift up their ongoing work to bring community led development to the 7.6 acre Roof Depot site in the East Phillips neighborhood. Led by EPNI staffer Joe Vital, the meeting highlighted EPNI's work

to save the 230,000 square foot Roof Depot building for aquaponic farming, affordable housing, solar development, and a youth-led coffee shop, event center, and bicycle repair and assembly facility. Local BIPOC businesses displaced in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd are also supporting this community led effort. The meeting featured appearances of City, County and State level representatives. Restating their long-held support for the



Photos provided by East Phillips Neighborhood Institute

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thealley

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

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

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



Library News

By CARZ NELSON

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

FRANKLIN LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	9 AM to 5 PM
Tuesday	12 Noon to 8 PM
Wednesday	12 Noon to 8 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

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.

FAIR AT FRANKLIN - GET HELP MANAGING YOUR MONEY

Have trouble opening and keeping a banking account? FAIR is a program that can help you with banking services. Their goal is to help people cash their paychecks, build credit and increase their financial literacy. FAIR offers accounts with pre-

dictable fees and no overdraft penalties.

In partnership with Build Wealth Minnesota, FAIR is hosting a series of pop-ups in January. All accounts opened at these events will receive a \$25 opening deposit or a gift card.

FAIR ambassadors will be in the Franklin Library community room

January 28 from 1 pm - 4 pm to answer questions and sign up new people who may be interested in the program.

Can't make it to the library? FAIR is also hosting a virtual event on January 22 from 10 AM to 2 PM.

Register in advance for either of these events at fair-financial.org/events. For more information, call Build Wealth Minnesota at 651-262-2173.

PHOTO DISPLAY

Franklin Library is featuring a new exhibit of archival photographs in the upstairs display case. Salvage for Victory documents supply shortages during World War II. There are some great parallels to current supply chain issues caused by the pandemic. Check it out!

HELP FINDING RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

The Bridge for Youth visits Franklin Library the fourth Wednesday of each month, 2 to 5 PM. They connect people with resources and provide hygiene items and other supplies. Look for them in their outreach van on the corner of 14th and Franklin Avenues.



JESSIE MERRIAM

Metro Transit

Happy New Year, People of Phillips!

By JOHN CHARLES WILSON

Well, the year 2021 is drawing to a close and 2022 is just now starting. As a transit enthusiast, I have a lot to be disappointed in and a lot to look forward to, and I hope alley readers feel the same. What was disappointing was primarily that the

pandemic has decimated transit usage to the point where many bus and train routes have been curtailed. I had hoped things would be back to normal by now, but I suspect this is the new normal. The rise in attacks on innocent transit users, especially on unsupervised trains, is very disconcerting. There are people who now eschew the light rail for slower buses because they are perceived as safer. The fact that there is a shortage of bus and train drivers doesn't help any, either.

However, there are reasons to be hopeful for a better future: Maybe even if humans don't beat coronavirus, we may find a way to have an uneasy truce with it. Maybe

FREE FOOD FROM EVERY MEAL

Franklin Library is collaborating with Every Meal to distribute free meal bags. Bags are located inside the library entrance and are free for anyone to take, while supplies last.

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 4-6 PM; this month on January 19 and 26.

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.

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.

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

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Rapid Transit to Saint Paul. I have written 58 columns, one each month since March 2017. One thing I've learned is there isn't always enough Phillips-specific transit news to justify a monthly column. Therefore, as of January 2022, this column will only appear in the Alley when there is sufficient local transit news to justify it. That will be a minimum of once every three months, as that's how often Metro Transit enacts "picks" or schedule changes. I may start using other means to publish my thoughts on transit in non-Phillips contexts, and I will let you know if I do. Thank you for being loyal readers.

Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

By SUE HUNTER WEIR
192 ND IN A SERIES

“They Have Wandered Into an Unknown Land”

The inscription carved on the Corrie family’s marker undoubtedly referred to life after death, but it also accurately captured the lived experiences of thousands of people buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery. They are the ones who traveled thousands of miles to establish new homes in Minneapolis. Once settled, they tended not to travel far. They may have moved from house to house but for the most part they rarely strayed far from their first neighborhood—near to jobs, churches, family members and friends.

The Corrie family came to Minneapolis from England by way of Canada. Frederick Charles Corrie, the patriarch, was born in 1852. When he was 30 years old, he moved with his wife, Frances (Fannie) Hill, and their oldest son, also named Frederick, to Quebec. Two more children, Herbert and Tenice Rose, were born there. In 1889, they made one more major move—this time to Minneapolis. After traveling more than 4,000 miles, they were finally home.

Fanny gave birth to three more children. In 1890, she had twin girls, Edith and Ethel, and in 1892, she gave birth to Ralph. Ethel died from pneumonia in 1893. In 1909, Herbert, known as Bert, died from appendicitis at the age of 24 and was buried next to his little sister..

Frederick Sr. found work as a plumber and in 1896 bought a home at 2825 East Lake Street. The area was relatively undeveloped at the time but a little less than ten years later one of the city’s major attractions, Wonderland Park, was built two blocks east of their home. Wonderland was just that—a wonder that attracted thousands of visitors every weekend—but it was regarded as a nuisance by many of the families who lived nearby.

In 1905, Frederick Corrie Sr. gave a deposition in a lawsuit that pitted the congregation of Elim Presbyterian Church, located at 32nd Avenue and Lake Street, against the owners of Wonderland Amusement Park. Elim’s members sued to keep the park closed on Sundays. They were in the right—the park was in violation of a law dating back to Minnesota’s territorial days that prohibited nonessential businesses from opening on the Sabbath. The law was enforced erratically, but still on the books. Although Frederick Corrie did not attend the church, he weighed in on the congregation’s side:

“ T h e Wonderland show makes a great deal of noise both in day time and night time and gathers a very noisy crowd to its grounds, particularly on Sunday...I can distinctly hear the great noise from the Wonderland grounds in my house with all of the doors and windows shut. The scenic railway, the merry-go-round, the band, and the miniature railway all make a great deal of noise as well as the outcries of the people on the grounds so I can hear all of them in my house with the doors and windows shut tight.”

Although he didn’t mention them in his deposition, fireworks at the park’s eleven o’clock closing time, every Tuesday and Friday night, very likely kept many of the neighborhood’s early-to-rise, blue-collar workers up at night.

The park’s management company offered to move the church several blocks down the street but the church’s pastor refused as a matter of principle. In his eyes, the park would still be violating the Fourth Commandment. A trial date was set but postponed for several months and something clearly changed in the interim, though what it was is a mystery. Some type of settlement must have been reached since the congregation, though not the church building, did move and Wonderland stayed open on Sundays.

The Corries remained in their home for several more



Corrie Family Marker

years. The elder Frederick C. Corrie died from bladder cancer on May 15, 1914. Fanny outlived her husband by 32 years. She was one of about 85 people who met the criteria to be buried in the cemetery after it was closed to future burials in 1919. She died on February 10, 1946, from bronchial pneumonia, at the age of 85. She had given birth to six children in three different countries. She is buried in the family’s plot, Lot 90, Block N. Frederick J. Corrie, the couple’s oldest son died in 1961; on his death certificate his father’s name was listed as Frederick I, perhaps a tip of the hat to the family’s British roots. He is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery.

Minneapolis Edible Boulevards is Hiring Youth!



Ingredients for making walnut meat taco bowls from December’s cooking class. Photo provided by Minneapolis Edible Boulevards

BY MICHELLE SHAW

Together with Growing North Minneapolis, Julius Rennie, Kelly Shay, and Caring is Culture, Minneapolis Edible Boulevards is hiring youth from the Phillips and Cedar Riverside neighborhoods to work through March 31, 2022. Applications will be open until the positions are filled. If you're 14-18, enjoy engaging with your community and making a difference, and have a passion for growing food, we'd love to have you apply. You can find an application our Minneapolis Edible Boulevards Facebook page, or send an email to minneapolisedibleboulevards@gmail.com.

In other news: join us on January 22, 2022, for another free cooking class on Zoom! You buy the groceries and cook from your own kitchen; we provide instruction with Kelly Shay of Harmonious World. In December we made Walnut Meat Taco Bowls, which were absolutely delicious, and while we're deciding what to make in January based on feedback from our attendees, we'd love to have you sign up. You can find the registration link for the event on our Facebook page. If you don't do Facebook, reach out using the email above. We can't wait to cook with you!

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

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from 9am to 3pm

for DINE-IN and TAKE-OUT

Masks required inside.

Closed for a winter
break through Jan 13

AVOID*SPOT*TREAT

FROSTBITE & HYPOTHERMIA

***** AVOID *****

When the weather is extremely cold, try to stay indoors.

If you must go outside dress properly

NOSE

EARS

TOES

A SCARF OR KNIT MASK THAT COVERS FACE & MOUTH

A HAT

A WATER-RESISTANT COAT

MITTENS OR GLOVES

SEVERAL LAYERS OF LOOSE-FITTING CLOTHING

WATER-RESISTANT BOOTS

CHEEKS

CHIN

FINGERS

***** SPOT *****

FROSTBITE

A victim is often unaware of frostbite because frozen tissue is NUMB

Signs & Symptoms

- Redness or pain in any skin area may be the first sign of frostbite.

Other signs include:

- a white or grayish-yellow skin area
- skin that feels unusually firm or waxy
- numbness

HYPOTHERMIA

often occurs at very cold temps, but can occur above 40°F if a person is wet (from sweat, rain, or water) and becomes chilled

Signs & Symptoms

Adults:

- shivering
- exhaustion
- confusion
- fumbling hands
- memory loss
- slurred speech
- drowsiness

Infants:

- bright red, cold skin
- very low energy

and know who is at high risk for hypothermia or frostbite.

Older adults lacking proper food, clothing, heating

People outdoors for long periods: homeless, hikers, hunters

Those who consume a lot of alcohol. Drug use also contributes.

Babies - outside or sleeping in cold rooms

Continued from page 1...

Strike, cont.

reserves. In 2020 the county received \$224 million in federal aid for COVID, and in 2021 received \$246 million through the American Rescue plan, with the last round of relief specifically earmarked by President Biden to go to hazard pay.

Despite receiving nearly half a billion in COVID funding, the county has not offered hazard pay to workers to account for the risks they're taking while serving Hennepin County residents directly during the COVID-19 pandemic, or compensate its workers for the increased costs of working from home.

"It's clear from our vote that our AFSCME members have rejected Hennepin County's efforts to stagnate wages and continue to shift business costs onto us, despite the County having the means to offer wages that keep up with inflation, reimburse us for shifted costs, and provide hazard pay for COVID risks," said social worker and Local 34 President Grace Baltich.

"Many of us are working two to three jobs and are still not able to afford housing in



Hennepin County AFSCME workers and supporters at an informational picket at the Hennepin County Government Center on November 10

the county. Still others are on or eligible for welfare while working for the County! A 2.5% wage increase with inflation going up 7% is completely unacceptable. We care about the people we serve, but we need to be able to survive ourselves. Respect and fair wages mean great service to the community," stated AFSCME Local 2822 President Ali Fuhrman, clerical worker at the Downtown Minneapolis Library. "We call on the county to take us seriously now, and make a real offer that our members can accept."

A strike would begin no ear-

lier than January 11, but the union may elect to begin its strike later.

Community members can support county workers by contacting their Hennepin County commissioner and telling them they should support county workers in their contract fight for better wages and respect!

If you live near Phillips or Powderhorn, your commissioner is **Angela Conley**. Send her a message or call her! angela.conley@hennepin.us Phone: 612-348-7884

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/staysafe/index.asp>

***** TREAT *****

If a person is experiencing hypothermia or frostbite...

1 SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

2 GET THEM INTO A WARM ROOM OR SHELTER

3 REMOVE ANY WET CLOTHING

4 WARM THEM UNDER DRY LAYERS OF BLANKETS AND CLOTHING

5 PLACE AREAS AFFECTED BY FROSTBITE IN WARM-TO-TOUCH WATER

FROSTBITE CAUTION

Since skin may be numb, victims of frostbite can harm themselves further. Use caution when treating frostbite and:

1 UNLESS NECESSARY, DO NOT WALK ON FEET OR TOES WITH FROSTBITE

2 DO NOT USE A FIREPLACE, HEAT LAMP, RADIATOR, OR STOVE FOR WARMING

3 DO NOT USE A HEATING PAD OR ELECTRIC BLANKET FOR WARMING

4 DO NOT RUB OR MASSAGE AREAS WITH FROSTBITE

Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

Just Visiting... Unfortunately

By MARTI MALTBY

This month, I want to say a few things in praise of the Phillips neighborhood. I don't live here, but I often wish I did because of its character and vibrancy. I live in the northern suburbs, and by comparison my neighborhood is bland and boring.

I look forward to receiving the alley each month because there's so much going on. From the Native American community's efforts to preserve and promote the original "American" culture, to the current residents' community building efforts (everything from beautifying the neighborhood to community kitchen events); from the atmosphere in the Somali Mall to the American Swedish Institute's calendar of events, there is never a shortage of

Marti Maltby

opportunities to meet new people and experience something new in your own backyard. I especially appreciate the movie reviews of Howard McQuitter II, but I enjoy all the contributions that help me understand the heritage and vibrancy of this neighborhood.

This neighborhood values its history, but also moves proactively to protect its future. I've rarely seen residents and neighborhood groups so active in defining what their community will look like. It has found a wonderful balance between preserving what has been and moving decisively into the future, even as "outsiders" like City Hall try to impose a different vision.

I first discovered the Phillips neighborhood in 2007 when I began working at Our Saviour's Housing. I attended the monthly

Continued on page 15...

First Black police chief in Minneapolis leaves much undone



Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo details the city’s preparations for the trial of former police officer Derek Chauvin. Photo by Max Nesterak/Minnesota Reformer.

By DWIGHT HOBBS

This commentary first appeared on the *Minnesota Reformer*, <https://minnesotareformer.com>

It is difficult to countenance Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo’s betrayal of the Black citizens who greatly helped put him in that job.

Indeed, before he assumed the position in 2017, it would’ve been unthinkable. But, well, here you have it. Rondo, as he’s informally known, did nothing concrete about the department’s occupying-army treatment of a population desperately in need of a strong ally, beyond mandating body cams. His ordering fewer marijuana stops is laudable but not much more than politically correct. And he hardly deserves a pat on the back for the no-brainer of firing Derek Chauvin and his accomplices, taking a bow by testifying in court. At length, however, he sided with the enemy, then, with the announcement that he’s retiring next month, he blithely went on about his business.

When Arradondo’s name came up for consideration, the roar of support from Black folk, led by the likes of such veteran activists as Rev. Jerry McAfee, Spike Moss and Bill English, was not to be ignored. Had it been denied, all hell likely would’ve broken loose: pro-

tests up and down the streets and sidewalks in front of City Hall, demands for Mayor Jacob Frey’s head on a spike, the whole nine.

Rondo rode that wave of popularity to a position that gave him the opportunity to make change in which people could actually believe. And he’d proven himself the perfect person to do it. Rondo, hometown hero, came up through the ranks and, importantly, there was a time he was committed to improving the MPD. As a lieutenant, alongside Sgt. Charlie Adams, Lt. Lee Edwards, Lt. Dennis Hamilton and Lt. Don Harris, he filed suit to do something about the department’s entrenched racism, specifically a history of systemic discrimination and a hostile work environment for Black officers. The city settled for \$740,000.

Arradondo told reporters in June 2020, “We will have a police department that our communities view as legitimate, trusting and working with their best interest at heart.” Hogwash. That department hadn’t materialized in the previous four years, has yet to materialize since then, and he is leaving with that job undone, failing to keep his word.

More to the point, last year, he turned on Deputy Chief Art Knight like a snake. Knight, calling a spade a spade, had

the floor yanked from under him for his candor. He said what everybody knew.

“The MPD needs to improve how it recruits, trains and promotes minorities and women,” he told the Star Tribune. “If you keep employing the same tactics, you’re just going to get the same old white boys.”

Instead of standing behind Knight for that gutsy statement, Arradondo threw him under the bus. Unnecessarily. He could’ve kissed the right behinds with a suspension perhaps, some sort of mere slap on the wrist for not being p.c., but you don’t demote a man for saying what is plain as the nose on one’s face.

When those same revered community leaders who’d had his back called on him to reinstate Knight as deputy chief/ chief of staff, Arradondo flatly refused. Knight has since sued the city.

When Arradondo walks away from the job, it won’t be with any sort of lasting legacy. He will have amounted to an affirmative action token from whom great things were expected but who, instead, did a meet-the-new-boss-same-as-the-old-boss.

Dwight Hobbes is a long-time Twin Cities journalist and essayist.

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Ebenezer Tower Apartments | 612-879-2243

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CDC'S ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRACKING

CARBON MONOXIDE

Carbon monoxide, also called CO, is a toxic gas that you cannot see or smell.

CO CAN BE DANGEROUS IN YOUR HOME.

You may be exposed to unsafe levels of CO by:

- Using poorly maintained or improperly vented fireplaces, woodstoves, heating equipment, ovens, water heaters or other appliances;
- Using a gas stove, grill, or oven to heat the home;
- Running a generator, charcoal grill, camp stove, or other gasoline or charcoal-burning device inside your home, basement, or garage or near a window.
- Cooking with a charcoal or gas grill inside the home or other enclosures.

Although CO Poisoning can be prevented, each year, **approximately 438** people in the U.S. die as a result of unintentional, non-fire related exposure to this toxic gas.

WATCH FOR SYMPTOMS OF POISONING

Breathing CO can cause headaches, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion.

If CO levels are high enough, you may become unconscious or die.

Seek medical help and get outside to fresh air if you think you may have CO poisoning and are feeling dizzy, light-headed, or nauseous.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Install a battery-operated CO detector in your home and check or replace the battery when you change the time on your clocks each spring and fall. If the detector sounds leave your home immediately and call 911
- Make sure all fuel-burning appliances, fireplaces, and wood stoves are properly vented
- Have your heating system, water heater and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year
- Only use generators outside, more than 20 feet away from your home, doors, and windows
- Never use a generator, grill, camp stove, or other gasoline or charcoal burning devices inside the home, basement, or garage or near a window, door or vent
- Do not use a gas cooking range, grill, or oven to heat your home
- Do not run a car or truck inside a garage attached to your house, even if the garage door is left open
- Do not burn anything in a stove or fireplace that isn't vented

LEARN MORE!

Visit CDC's Environmental Public Health Tracking Network to learn more about carbon monoxide poisoning

www.cdc.gov/ephtracking

www.cdc.gov/co

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- **Saturday Sounds:** Noon-2pm (every Saturday)
- **Jan. 6:** Three Kings Event

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Kids events & activities



Saturday Sounds



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stand as a “free newspaper” each
month?

Contribute
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on www.GiveMN.org

or send a check to P.O. Box
7006, Mpls., MN 55407



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A New New Year’s Resolution

By MARY ELLEN KALUZA



January always brings up the whole New Year’s resolution business – a promise to change our behavior. As I thought about resolution ideas, I found myself getting cranky. Resolving to do anything besides making it through the day in the darkest and coldest time of the year is insanity. The last thing I will do in January is throw away the remaining Christmas cookies or go out in the cold to exercise more. The failure rate of New Year’s resolutions is 80%. Eighty percent! Why would we set ourselves up for failure only to feel worse about ourselves? Yet, it comes up every year: we are asked to set a goal we almost certainly will not achieve.

That is not to say we shouldn’t set goals that will help us prosper, live longer, and enjoy those longer lives. I propose we hold off on making promises to ourselves until the sun is higher in the sky and we aren’t so cranky to increase our chance of success. “Fourth Month of the Year’s Resolution” doesn’t roll off the tongue quite as neatly as “New Year’s resolution”, but I can live with that.

What should your Fourth Month of the Year’s resolution be? We all face different challenges and desires in life – no one resolution fits all. These dark days are the perfect time to think about what we want, what we need, what we have, and what fears weigh on us...

easy enough to do from the couch. Having those lists will be helpful when the Fourth Month comes around.

For me, growing older creates the most anxiety. What if I develop a serious health issue that requires difficult decisions; or I become a burden on my family? Your fears or desires might be more immediate: The car is running on borrowed time; you really want to buy a home; you finally know what you want to do with your life but your defaulted student loans are in the way; or maybe your doctor is warning you

about diabetes. (That last one was a plug for eating well and exercising more – still very good resolutions.)

When the Fourth Month of the Year is nearing we can pick our goals under the warm spring sun with renewed hope. I may resolve to complete my healthcare directive to save my loved ones the difficult decisions, and select my Power of Attorney for when I can no longer make sound financial choices. You might decide to set up a dedicated savings account for that newer car or your own home; meet with a

student loan counselor to get your loans on track and pursue your dream career; or join a gym.

Just think – no cookie will regretfully have been tossed out when we needed it the most, and we will have a fighting chance to be in the 20% of resolution success stories! And, hey, no rules against getting it done before that Fourth Month. Happy New Year!

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



Alley Communications

Annual Report 2021

It belongs to YOU!!!!

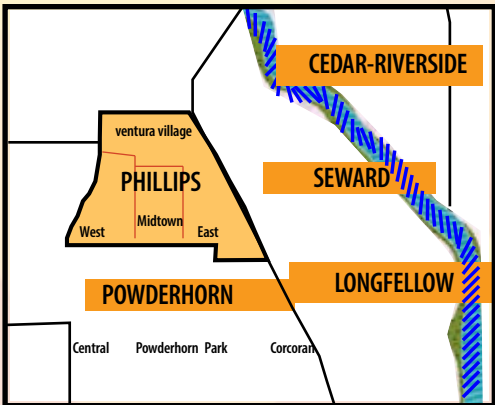
From the Editorial Leadership Committee

2021 was a year of activity and evolution for *the alley* Editorial Leadership Committee. Highlights were -

- ▶ Welcoming new volunteers Tina Monje, Vivi Grieco, Laura Hulscher
- ▶ Continuing our in-depth, local pandemic coverage through the summer and into the transition back to in-person school
- ▶ Covering the Ward 6 and 9 City Council races and publishing voter education articles from The League of Women Voters
- ▶ Partnering with the Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts to distribute *The Phoenix of Phillips* literary magazine, Volume VII
- ▶ Moving to a more local printer to help with printing and delivery schedules
- ▶ Working to expand paid positions, including the first business manager and website improver - Ben Heath!
- ▶ Participating in community events as the post-vaccine world began to open up, including tables at the Phillips West Fall Festival and the American Swedish Institute Neighborhood Night. Look for us at upcoming neighborhood events!
- ▶ Collaborating with artist and new *alley* designer Jessie Merriam on developing the distinctive visual feel of *the alley*

ELC Hopes and plans for 2022 and beyond -

- ▶ Expanding cultural coverage of the Phillips community
- ▶ Forming school partnerships to feature youth and student voices
- ▶ Highlighting Phillips' small businesses and the diverse people behind them
- ▶ Building our community volunteer base to help fulfill these hopes and plans!

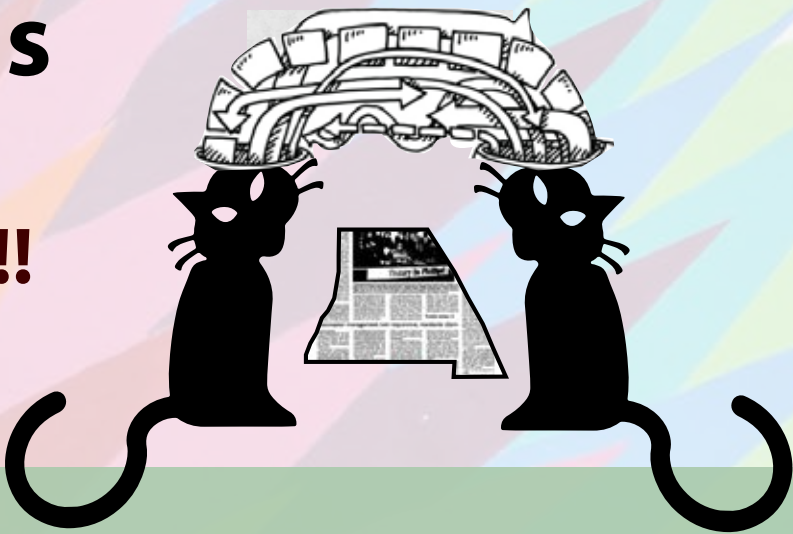


News is put in *the alley*. Where are *alleys* put?

The alley Newspaper in print is available in and around the Phillips Community and online at alleynews.org. Print copies of *the alley* are brought to the homes of 3,000 people in the Phillips Community and 3,000 copies to 150 businesses, institutions, and apartment buildings in Phillips and nine neighborhoods surrounding Phillips.

2,000 newspapers are delivered to 75 places in the Phillips Community--35W to Hiawatha Av and E94 to Lake Street.

1,000 newspapers are delivered to 75 places in Seward (20), Corcoran (18), Longfellow (15), Powderhorn (12), Central (6), and Cedar-Riverside (4) Neighborhoods. The number of copies and locations change as closely monitored by the delivery person to ensure availability to readers, decrease waste, and control printing costs. A recent count of a previous month's copies on newspaper racks when delivering the next month was only 100 papers (3.3%) of the 3,000 delivered.



Why I Contribute to *the alley*

DAVE MOORE, CARTOONIST (WITH LINNEA HADAWAY),
Dave's Dumpster, Spirit of Phillips

1. Tradition. I've been in *the alley* almost monthly since the mid-80s.
2. Wendell Phillips. Our neighborhood is named after this freedom fighter. Linnea Hadaway & I are proud to illustrate quotations from his speeches.
3. I like sharing art with my neighbors. I wish some would say "I can do better than that" and send in their own.

DWIGHT HOBBS, WRITER, *Something I Said*
Because it is the only community newspaper I've written for that doesn't serve a publisher's propagandist agenda first and the community as an afterthought.

MARTI MALTBY, WRITER, *Peace House Community*
I started writing for *the alley* because they asked me to contribute a column each month from PHC, which seemed like an easy way to contribute to the neighborhood. As I've gotten more used to writing the columns, I've grown more comfortable being a voice for PHC's community members and trying to find positives in trying circumstances. It's a chance for me to help others understand important issues and to recognize a lot of special people.

PETER MOLENAAR, WRITER, *Raise Your Voice*
This person of northern European descent opposes all manner of terroristic threats. In its essence, *the alley* is the opposite of White-Nationalism.

PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL, WRITER, *Returning*
I contribute to *the alley* because it's a constant presence in the midst of an ever changing world. (And because you print my stuff!)

SUE HUNTERWEIR, WRITER, *Tales from the Cemetery*
Tales from the Cemetery is intended to be a reminder that the Phillips community has a long, interesting history. It was the first, and for many years, the only cemetery in Minnesota listed in the National Register. It is the home of thousands of immigrants, many members of the City's early African-American community, and thousands of children who would have survived if they were born today. I write for *the alley* to keep their stories alive.

BEN HEATH, BUSINESS MANAGER, PHOTOGRAPHER
The Phillips community. Without which there would be no *alley* newspaper. The purpose of the paper is to provide a voice for the people who call our streets home. It's the people who bring their views, histories, experiences, wishes, fears, sorrows, and share them from I-94 to E Lake St, Hiawatha to 35W (and beyond). It's the people who make our neighborhood a community, and that makes *the alley* worth working for.

LAURA HULSCHER, EDITORIAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE,
COPYEDITOR, CONTRIBUTOR

I volunteer for *the alley* because I appreciate community news... and for the adventure. Papers like *the alley* shine a light on issues local to global in a way that big media can not. They have been a lifeline for many in the Twin Cities, especially in recent times. As for adventure, how could I pass up the opportunity to help operate a collaboratively-run neighborhood newspaper!

VIVI GRIECO, COPYEDITOR
I volunteer with *the alley* because I am continually inspired by the authenticity and integrity put forth in every issue. I love working for a publication that is written by the people it is written for. That the issues and happenings of one neighborhood can fill an entire publication reminds us to recenter, ground ourselves, and pour our energy into our immediate community. *the alley* is a display of abundance, and I treasure my involvement.

JOHN CHARLES WILSON, WRITER, *Transit News*
I am a transit enthusiast. I started collecting bus schedules as a hobby when I was a child, and now I like to write about public transit, its history, and ways it can be made better in the future. That is why I write the Metro Transit column for *the alley*.

JESSIE MERRIAM, DESIGNER AND CONTRIBUTOR
I work for and volunteer for *the alley* because it is thoughtful, heartfelt, and useful! And collaborative. The beautiful people who contribute have their eyes on labor movements, development, the stories told by cemeteries, library hours, growing food, health issues, environmental and social justice, poetry, movies... The people who make this paper happen are inspiring to me. And they let me make silly doodles and play with colors. I have only lived in Minneapolis since 2018 but *the alley* makes it feel more like home--people have each other's backs.

HOWARD MCQUITTER II, WRITER, *Movie Corner*
Writing for *the alley*, (especially During COVID-19,) is fun and challenging. Yes, people have a lot to say and are terrific writers in *the alley* at a time when the Internet and other digital age weigh against newspapers in general- and small newspapers even more so. So many of the city's neighborhood newspapers have demised in recent years. Thank God for *the alley*! Thank God for all the writers!

a gallery of front pages & community partners

alphen.org
 ALPHEN, PA and the
 Beaver River Area

VOL. 46, NUMBER 9

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SEPTEMBER 2021

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PHILADELPHIA OCTOBER 10
 2021

The Avalon Theatre at 1300 E Lake Street has been home to the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre since 1988.

In The Heart of the Beast Theatre Update

BOARD UPDATE AUGUST 12, 2021

In 2021, HORT has organized and adapted to the impacts of COVID-19. We considered every path forward that would

put us in the best possible position to live out our mission and carry the important work of the May/Day Council into the future.

In conversation and with the input of HORT staff and the May/Day Council, the HORT Board of Directors has voted to close the theatre for the summer since 1988.

It's time for all of us, small or home based that will allow us to

Continued on page 4...

City Council Committee Votes to Halt Hiawatha Public Works Expansion, Future of Urban Farm Uncertain

by LINDSEY FENNER

In a confusing and close vote, on August 18 the Policy and Government Oversight (PGO) Committee approved a staff directive authorizing by CMOs Cane, Jenkins, Gordon, and Johnson, that halts the planned expansion of the Hiawatha Public Works Mainstream Facility at the Road Depot Site at 1860 E 28th Street in East Phillips. However, an abstention by CM Eliason on the part of the director, which would have given the East Phillips Neighborhood Initiative (EPNI) exclusive development rights to the property used for site 5-6, so the provision did not pass. This means the future of the East Phillips Urban Farm project proposed by EPNI is uncertain.

The partially approved staff directive passed by a 7-6 vote, with Council members Ritch, Fletcher, Cunningham, Olson, Anderson, and Bender voting in support. The PGO Committee is expected to receive a financial report on the city costs of maintaining the Road Depot site until development, as well as a "social equity

impact analysis" at their meeting on September 9.

In a separate vote, the City Council voted to approve the Environmental Assessment Worksheet of the new hall of Hiawatha Public Works Expansion Project. EPNI filed a lawsuit in summer 2020 to stop the City from demolishing the Road Depot building before a land use environmental review was completed.

Leaf artist, Doreen, in the studio at the Hiawatha Public Works Mainstream Facility.

Leaf artist, Doreen, in the studio at the Hiawatha Public Works Mainstream Facility.

yódohshëndagwa'geh A Place For Rest

photomontage artwork by yéwé is one to several types of training and used by Seneca artist Rayna Bess and her collaborative company Haudenosaenno. The future of the city is uncertain in the future of operations as the new facilities are, and the future of operations are in the future, with the city of the city. In voting and taking action in the past, with yódohshëndagwa'geh the cultural and contribute to the future.

Now showing through September 21, 2021
 at All My Relations Art, 1414 E Franklin Avenue.

Help for Voters Living with Disabilities

THE FIFTH IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES ABOUT THE 2022 MINNESOTA ELECTIONS BRINGS TO YOU THE LATEST ON WOMEN VOTERS' NEEDS.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), landmark legislation that prohibits discrimination against indi-

viduals living with disabilities, has put the force of law behind standards for voting access in all areas of civic life, including access to the polls.

Access to information is essential to ensure that all people have the right and ability to vote, regardless of their mobility or their physical, communication or other limitations. Minnesota has made strides in improving access to voting for all, in addition to the requirement that polling places be physically accessible, there is a more accommodations that can provide individuals living with disabilities better access to the ballot box.

Continued on page 8...

COVID-19 Back to School

by JEFF FENNER

It's September, which means kids are back in schools! But with the Delta variant spreading in MN, and kids unable to safely to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, sending your kids back to school may not be the most ideal idea.

Although the state wants to make sure that schools are safe, the good news is that all of the COVID-19 prevention measures are already being used to keep your kids healthy.

Read your school's COVID-19 plan. Ask questions of their staff. Ask questions of their staff. Ask questions of their staff. Ask questions of their staff.

Send your kids back to school with vaccination. Even vaccinated people help to keep the chain of transmission, and protect unvaccinated people.

Get your kids back to school. Although they are less likely to get severely ill, they still get sick, and they can spread COVID-19 to vulnerable loved ones.

Reduce community risk. Reduce community risk. Reduce community risk. Reduce community risk. Reduce community risk.

Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids.

Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids.

Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids. Protect your kids.

Continued on page 10...

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A POETRY AND MUSIC EVENT AT THE COUNTRY MUSIC CENTER IN PA

A CALL FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

"QUOTING TIME: A Place of Endless Time"

EDIBLE BOULEVARD CLASSÉE PA, P10

LENDERO, PA

LINE 3 CAMP UPDATES, A PHOTO STORY

PH: MOVIE COVER & COMEDY CROWD

COVID-19 Testing

alphen.org
 (in the City of
 Readers Since 1973)

VOL. 46, NUMBER 12

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DECEMBER 2021

alphen.org

POSTAL PERMIT
 #1

Never Homeless Before 1492

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAZ NELSON

Leaning West down Franklin Ave. 1492, the year it began.

On November 3, a new installation was unveiled at the Wall of Forgotten Natives, the location of the 20th century's encampment on Franklin Avenue. Twenty-eight bands united to link back time: first came "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 Northern Phillips Neighborhood Association

By SEAGAN MUEHLER

In response to the ally by per-
 mission of the author.

The City of Minneapolis is well known for expressing concern about gentrification and income inequality—one of the dubious categories in

- 1) Inadequate parking
- 2) Inadequate of what the city's

Continued on page 4...

PHILLIPS WEST COMMUNITY GARDEN MURAL

The Phillips West Wall Fund has an Award Mural to be held on the West Wall of the Phillips West Community Garden. This mural is a work of art that will be a permanent part of the garden. The mural is a work of art that will be a permanent part of the garden. The mural is a work of art that will be a permanent part of the garden.

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

ELECTION RESULTS >

CULTURAL WELLNESS
 CENTER: ANCIENT GRAINS
 TRADING: P.S.
 INTERVIEW: GAMES: P. 2

LAST NIGHT IN
 SUNDAY
 P. 10

MINNEAPOLIS RECREATION
 CENTERS RESPONDING TO THE
 PUBLIC, P. 6

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR!

Check out the ally's list this year at the R20 open house (see page 10). The ally's list is a list of all the ally's list this year at the R20 open house (see page 10). The ally's list is a list of all the ally's list this year at the R20 open house (see page 10).

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

By LINDSEY FENDER

When I received the community meeting notice about a new three-story apartment building near 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 project? How is this project funded? In the very back corner of my mind, I was wondering 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 large city-wide project by the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority (MPHA). MPHA is best known for the large apartment complexes they own. Last week, I was one of 700 MPHA single-family homes, duplexes, and fourplexes across the city.

MPHA is redeveloping 16 of these projects, including the one behind me in Madison Phillips. These existing units will be demolished and turned into 3-story, 6-unit buildings with 2 and 3 bedrooms, 4 to 6 bath units, and city-wide water. According to MPHA, the current of the city is to be working with the new buildings, and will not see any impact.

MPHA secured a \$4.4 million from the American Rescue Plan Act, approved by the Minneapolis City Council in May 2021, to fund the bulk of the planned redevelopment.

The proposed buildings were designed by the Architects and was a new modular system developed by Rex Modular, based in Orono, MN. This modular system is touted to be of higher-quality, more, and faster to construct than traditional construction.

Continued on page 4...

Winter Events

NEIGHBORHOOD AND ACTIVES: 100% THE NEIGHBORHOOD, Locally Inspired

MIDTOWN GOLF MARKET

1001 East Street • www.midtowngolfmarket.org

Holiday Be Care Café • Rama

Saturday, December 4, 10AM-4PM

Join us and enjoy great coffee and a

lunching! Hosted by

Joe and Julie's Bakery

and a family friendly New Year's Eve celebration

www.eventbrite.com

NORWAY HOUSE

911 East Franklin Avenue • www.norwayhouse.org

Geographical Wednesday

December 21, December 1

The new people and new things

Christmas traditions and New Year's

celebrations. Hosted by the New Year, Norway, Sweden, and beyond are celebrated each year from January 2-29th all day.

www.eventbrite.com

OPEN FIRE THEATRE

The Longest Night • Winter Solstice Concert

28-30 December • www.openfiretheatre.org

December 29

Isakshagen (Isakshagen) is a group of people who

are trying to help people who

are trying to help people who

are trying to help people who

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MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, INC

LAKE STREET RECOVERY #4

TUESDAY, APRIL 30TH, 2024 / 6:30-7:30 PM
A VIRTUAL MEETING

Topic: Solutions to Homelessness




Speakers:	Michael Kane (20)	Dr. John Taylor
	Assistant Mayor (20)	Executive Director
Dr. Rebecca Nelson	Dr. Rebecca Nelson	Rebecca Nelson
	Executive Director	Executive Director

Agenda:

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Prayer
- 3. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 4. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 5. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 6. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 7. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 8. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 9. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 10. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 11. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 12. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 13. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 14. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 15. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 16. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 17. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 18. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 19. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association
- 20. Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association

APRIL 13, 6:30-8pm: MPNAI BOARD MEETING
AGENDA:

- Discuss co-hosting Midtown Phillips summer 2024 with DPC
- MPNAI final of response to Rapid Transit Line for Lake Street Line
- New Board Election

Find Zoom link at www.midtownphillips.org/meetings



**MIDTOWN PHILLIPS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.**

www.MidtownPhillips.org | info@midtownphillips.org | www.facebook.com/midtownphillips



**SEMILLA CENTER'S
NEIGHBORHOOD ART
PARTIES**

You are invited to

For neighbors of Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts.
Free Art kits for the second party can be picked up at
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2742 15th Ave. S.
on Monday April 5, 4-6pm

**2ND PARTY - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 5:30-7PM
AND THE 3RD WEDNESDAY
OF EVERY MONTH, 5:30-7PM**

Parties will start online until the weather warms up.
A Zoom link for the parties can be found at
[semillacenter.org](https://www.semillacenter.org), or Semilla Center's Facebook page

MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Save the date!

9th Ward CANDIDATE FORUM

**Tuesday, September 21
3pm**

Little Bells Farm (2400 Ogdena Pl.)

Hours: 2:00pm

Note: as for a "Phone-In" need is currently made
prior to the Candidate's Forum.

At One North of Oakdale Street





MPNAI BOARD MEETING

**Tuesday, September 14
6:30 - 8 pm**

• Review 2023 Community Engagement Plan
• Financial Report

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



**MIDTOWN PHILLIPS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.**

PHILLIPS CLEAN SWEEP

Saturday, October 9, 2021

Sign Up Here

Pick up Summer Pick-Up Supplies and the Annual Report.

CHECK IN AT EITHER OF THESE LOCATIONS:

- Morris Hill Community Center (1000 Morris Hill Ave.)
- Lutheran Social Service - 2800 Park Ave. (201-32)

Sign Up Here

Meet your neighbors, help pick up trash, and clean up your neighborhood. Organize your neighborhood.

10am-3pm

Pick-up 4-6:00 at Morris Hill (201-32) Ave. 5

Bring out your trash!

The Phillips neighborhood has used funds to provide free pick-up for residents during Clean Sweep. They will pick up up to 100 lbs of household trash, old furniture, carpets, household appliances and more.

Materials should be out the night before and no later than one hour before 10:00 AM.

Phillips residents are invited to attend and observe at Phillips Clean Sweep.



alleyway.org
 CO. 60, and for a
 business license \$100

the alleyway

PHILLIPS CLEAN
 SWEEP OCTOBER 31
 (see page 31)

VOL. 46, NUMBER 10

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OCTOBER 2021

facebook.com/alleywayscappet



Open Eye Theatre presents THE RED SHOES

October 14 - 31, 2021

The critically-acclaimed film now features returns after a 14-month hiatus in its newly expanded version! The RED SHOES takes in title...

Naloxone Shortage:

What's Happening and What You Need to Know

THE MOVE

While naloxone is theoretically abundant, a single dose from other producers can cost about \$20 each, an unbearable price for PWUID, and for the underserved or underground entities who serve them.

"There's enough naloxone in the world," says Martin. "We don't need to be in a situation where we're having to deny people the naloxone." Martin suggests that other pharmaceutical companies either cannot or simply will not offer it at competitive prices. For now, SHERS is relying on donations from other generous organizations.

Despite speaking over 200 deaths, the nation's grassroots harm reduction organizations were notified this spring that Pfizer, their primary supplier of affordable, single-dose injectable naloxone (i.e. Narcan), would temporarily halt production. Pfizer has declined to provide information with major news sources, except that this halt has nothing to do with COVID-19 vaccines, and that production will resume in February.

Of the many naloxone producers, Pfizer is the only one who sells the product at an affordable rate. In 2012, the company entered into an agreement with a nation-wide buyers' club consisting of community harm reduction organizations in an effort to get the opioid overdose reversal drug into the hands of those most likely to respond to overdose - people who use drugs (PWUID).

MINNEAPOLIS-BASED Southside Harm Reduction Services (SHRS) is one of the many buyers' club members who rely on Pfizer's accessibility. Of the opioid services programs (SSP's) in Minnesota, SHRS purchases and distributes the largest quantity. SHRS Founder and Executive Director Jack Martin

I Pledge to VOTE!

Election Day is November 2, 2021.
 Do you have your plan to vote?
 (Go to early voting, absentee and in person options and other tips for making sure your plan. [page 19](#))



City Council Candidate Questionnaire

This year, the alley asked the City Council candidates who want to represent Phillips in City Hall some questions about issues that are important to the people of Phillips. These questions were adapted from suggestions by Phillips residents and alley contributors. See inside for their answers!

Bridge Fest: Celebrating the New 24th Street Foot Bridge

BY CASANDRA NELSON





LEFT: A photographer tests the view, an image of the old steel tower on the fence to his right. MIDDLE: The new view of downtown from the bridge. UPPER RIGHT: A view of the new bridge. LOWER RIGHT: Feris wheel at the bridge celebration. Photos by Catherine Nelson

Continued on page 12...

Fast story on page 4...

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ON GARDENS OF DIFFERENT SORTS

LAWNS TO LEGGINGS AND RANDOLPH ALE HOUSE NEWS

CALL FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS! PS

GREEN TO GRASSES: THE FRONT YARD KEEPS GIVING

ENJOY BOREAL COOKING CLASSES F10

EVENTS / PROGRAMAS EN LINEA DE LA BIBLIOTECA

KINDERTRANS: PORT AND LESSONS FOR IMMIGRATION POLICY FROM ASL P14

P10: MOVIE CORNER & BONUS REVIEW

CULTURAL WELLNESS CENTER

12

JENNIFER ADAMS, MD, MPH
PRESIDENT, NATIONAL BLACK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

I am African American and I am the Chief Community Development Officer for the Cultural Wellness Center. I am also a health educator and have been in the community health field for 20 years. I help support them in their journey and support.

I do this work because it is a calling. I have been doing this for the last 20 years. I believe in community and I want to make sure that they have the skills that they need to be healthy and well.

ALICIA MCKINLEY LANE DANCE & STORYTELLING

Alicia McKinley Lane is a dancer, choreographer, and storyteller. She is the founder of the dance company, Alicia McKinley Lane Dance & Storytelling. She is also a health educator and has been in the community health field for 10 years. She helps support them in their journey and support.

J. MARK COMMAND TROUBLE

J. Mark Command Trouble is a health educator and has been in the community health field for 10 years. He is the founder of the dance company, J. Mark Command Trouble. He is also a health educator and has been in the community health field for 10 years. He helps support them in their journey and support.

COMMAND TROUBLE has helped me feel comfortable in my own skin. I have been able to express myself and my feelings. I have been able to connect with others and I have been able to support them in their journey and support.

DR. JENNIFER ADAMS, MD, MPH
PRESIDENT, NATIONAL BLACK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Dr. Adams is a health educator and has been in the community health field for 10 years. She is the founder of the dance company, Dr. Jennifer Adams. She is also a health educator and has been in the community health field for 10 years. She helps support them in their journey and support.

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PRESIDENT, NATIONAL BLACK LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

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A -ty THANK YOU to our HEALTH CHAMPIONS of the Community Health Hub!!

You have helped to bring us Health and
Harmony over the past year and you are keep-
ing us well as we look forward to our future!

ENGAGE, CONNECT, and PARTICIPATE...

Be well volunteers, the power of others to lead themselves and build community. If you would
like to be a part of this, please contact us at info@blackwellnesscenter.org

Cultural Wellness Center

Health - Her Journey

1000 West 10th Avenue, Suite 100, Denver, CO 80202

313.333.3333 | www.blackwellnesscenter.org

Facebook: @BlackWellnessCenter | Instagram: @BlackWellnessCenter

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 VENTURA VILLAGE[illegible][illegible]

PHILLIPS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD

to excited to bring you our inaugural Phillips West Annual Meeting paired with our Annual Meeting. This is an all-in-one chance to be together with neighbors and bask in the glory of Minnesota fall, all while celebrating everything that we've accomplished together over the past year and electing the new leadership of the Phillips West Neighborhood Organization. Have you been craving a chance to get involved, to see what PWNO is all about, or just to get outside and enjoy the changing of the seasons? Well this is your big chance.

We sincerely hope you can join us. Stay tuned for our website, subscribe to our newsletter, or follow us on social media (epennoms) for all the event updates. And if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out by emailing info@phillipswest.org. **RSVP Today** via our Facebook event!

PHILLIPS WEST

Fall Fest

& ANNUAL MEETING

FESTIVAL DE OTOÑO
Y JUNTA ANUAL

XALFADDA DAYTRA
IYO KULANKA
SANNADLA AHVA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH
4:00 - 6:00PM

AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE
2600 PARK AVENUE

FREE FOOD
ARTS & CRAFTS
PWNO ELECTIONS
COMIDA GRATIS
ARTES Y CRAFTS
ELECCIONES
JUNTA
DIRECTIVA
GUSTO BELLAASHAH
FANKASHANKA
DOORASHANKA
GUDIGICA

Participate in the Phillips West Community Survey!

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

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

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

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

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

Take the survey

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

Help get the word out

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

Doorknock with us

May 15th, Meet us at the Poverty Pact picnic shelter at 14th for coffee, snacks, a chance to meet neighbors and a little bit of door knocking to spread the word about the survey.

April 26
survey opens

May 15th
outreach event

May 17th
survey closes

EAST PHILLIPS IMPROVEMENT COALITION

[illegible]

12 Writers and Artists of *the alley* Each Month

There are “Gems” in *the alley* Newspaper--- written, drawn, and photographed “Gems.” Creators of those “Gems” are also “Gems.” The Community that owns and governs *the alley* Newspaper is a “Gem,” too.

“This month, I want to say a few things in praise of the Phillips neighborhood. I don’t live here, but I often wish I did because of its character and vibrancy. I look forward to receiving *the alley* each month because there’s so much going on...I enjoy all the contributions that help me understand the heritage and vibrancy of this neighborhood.”

(EXCERPT FROM JAN 2022 *alley* PEACE HOUSE—A PLACE TO BELONG, BY MARTI MALTBY)

Twelve contributors in *the alley* Newspaper every month and the year each began:

Dave Moore and Linnea Hadaway: Dave’s Dumpster and Spirit of Phillips Series, 1986; combined total of 300 cartoons.

Peter Molenaar: Raise Your Voice, Feb. 2000.

Howard McQuitter II: Movie Corner Feb. 2002.

Sue Hunter Weir: Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, July/Aug. 2003

Tim McCall: Tales photography, 2003.

Patrick Cabello Hansel: Searching, a 33 Chapter novel, Mar. 2009. Returning, Searching: Sequel, June 2020.

Lindsey Fenner: Library News, Tips from Covid-19 Investigator, Random *alley* News, Random *alley* Labor News, Apr. 2016

John Charles Wilson: Metro Transit, Mar. 2017

Marti Maltby: Peace House—A Place to Belong, Mar. 2019.

Dwight Hobbes: Something I Said, Arts No Chaser, Hobbes in the House, Reprinted articles of his from MN Spokesman-Recorder, Mar. 2019.

Mary Ellen Kaluza: Personal Financial Advice, Food and Recipes, Gardening Advice, Jan. 2020.

Carz Nelson: Library News, Reported articles, Jan. 2020.

Jessie Merriam: Graphic Design, Reported news, Jan. 2021

Also Many Writers and Designers: create the Engagement Partnership Pages—Cultural Wellness Center, East Phillips Neighborhood, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood, Phillips West Neighborhood, and Ventura Village Neighborhood.

There are scores of other past writers and current writers who have contributed columns, reported news, investigated reporting, tributes, and photography who are also the gems in *the alley*.

if time or creativity is your currency, read on about other ways to join the community!



givemN
ignite Generosity • Grow Giving
GiveMN.org
<https://www.givemn.org/organization/Alleynewspaper>

THE ALLEY
The Phillips Community Newspaper



the alley Board 2021 Year in Review

ALLEY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The coronavirus pandemic continues to challenge our ability to connect in person with our partners, sponsors, and our Phillips community members. The pandemic has limited our ability to strengthen our relationships, and to host in-person fundraisers. In spite of these challenges, we have successfully continued to publish *the alley*, and we have increased our capacity to find new writers in the Phillips community, who bring a more diverse array of stories and information to you. For this, credit is due to **the Editorial Leadership Committee**, a group of Phillips volunteers dedicated to telling the stories of our neighborhood through community-led journalism.

The Committee was formed a few years ago, to focus on distributing the work of storytelling and copy-editing our monthly content to more community members, to better support our mission of community led and community informed journalism.

While fundraising continues to be a challenge, we are happy to report that we were awarded a grant from the Swedish Institute to reach and highlight the work of small businesses and artists of color, to support and promote their work to a wider audience. We raised significant revenue from *alley* readers and supporters. We also increased the number of sponsored pages, produced by organizations that wish to reach the Phillips community. Currently, four city-funded Phillips neighborhood organizations sponsor half- and full-page spaces to communicate their work, their community happenings, and to promote engagement with the people they serve. Additionally, the Cultural Wellness Center sponsors the back page each month to promote their community wellness initiatives.

This success allowed us to hire a part time business manager, Ben Heath, to manage tasks that Harvey Winje and Susan Gust have performed for many many years, when we could not even think of hiring someone to do the basic operations of *the alley*. We are also very proud to have Jessie Merriam as our graphic designer and layout expert. Jessie is very grounded in the Phillips and surrounding communities, which has helped us reach more grassroots community endeavors, and to highlight more of the wonderful work our community produces.

Finally, as a Board of a small nonprofit, we are always looking for new members to support the work of all the wonderful people who produce *the alley*. We are currently discussing new ways to operate and meet our mission with fewer monthly meetings, and with a more focused effort on our core functions. We would love to hear from you.

GET INVOLVED

the alley is not static--you can help create the neighborhood paper you want to see

- ▶ **JOIN THE BOARD** your perspective matters! A few hours a month can make a difference
- ▶ **GRANTWRITING** experience? **FUNDRAISING** experience? Get involved on the board or for one project or event.
- ▶ Write for *the alley* – cover events, critical issues, controversies, local personalities, inspiring neighbors...
- ▶ Found some new hobbies and communities in the pandemic? Any new recipes? Share them with the community!
- ▶ Stretch your creative wings with poetry, humor, cartoons, drawings...**we love to include local art on the cover**
- ▶ Attend a neighborhood event? See a cool new mural? Send in a photo, or make a little photo series for the paper!
- ▶ Do you have a small business? Tell your story, and/or consider a small ad in the paper! Or sponsor an ad for your favorite small business.

Just imagine – your name could be in the paper! Your mother would be so proud.

Zoomers, Millenials, Gen-X, all generations welcome

BILINGUAL WRITERS
MARGINALIZED VOICES

FUNDRAISERS, GRANT-SAVVY ORGANIZERS

HISTORIANS, STORY TELLERS, INVESTIGATORS

DOODLERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, SOCIAL MEDIA IMAGINERS

If you would like to find out more information or discuss, please go to the website and reach out via <https://alleynews.org/volunteer>

[HOME](#) [ABOUT](#) [PDF ARCHIVES](#) [VOLUNTEER](#)

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 22ND 2021

Did you know that you can write for the alley?
Just drop a line to copydesk@alleynews.org

Volunteer
How do you want to help?
☐ Board Member
☐ Editorial committee
☐ Copyeditor
☐ Distribution
☐ Fundraising
☐ Contributor (writer, photographer etc)
The alley relies on our wonderful volunteers to get the paper to our readers. Check the role(s) you are interested in for more information!
Tell us a little about your skills and interests:

JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS!
Do you care about the voice of the Phillips community and have a few hours each month?
Email Carly
carly@alleynews.org

Call for Sculpture Concepts Deadline Extended

By ABDI HASSAN JR. AND TIM SPRINGER

The deadline has been extended for proposing designs for a new Midtown Greenway light-emitting sculpture. An advisory team composed of East Phillips residents who live near the site of the future sculpture voted to extend the deadline for responses. The previous deadline was December 3, 2021. Now artists have until February 4, 2022, to submit sculpture concepts.

The sculpture will be in the public space above the Midtown Greenway entrance ramp at 18th Avenue South, where it will provide joy, light, and wayfinding. It will be owned and maintained by the Midtown Greenway Coalition. The 29-year-old nonprofit organization stewarded

the creation of the Midtown Greenway and currently serves as the community’s voice in promoting Greenway improvements, maintenance, and use.

The revised Call can be found linked at www.midtowngreenway.org.

The most important criteria the Advisory Team will use when selecting three finalists is the desired impacts on viewers. Our neighborhood went through a lot in the year of 2020 which brought us together to make this a beautiful neighborhood, a safe place for our families, and a cared for area to live in. The installation of this sculpture will have a meaning of unity behind it. The desired impact we’re



An example of whimsical art on Portland Avenue.

looking for is to amaze neighbors and Midtown Greenway trail users. We want Greenway users to look forward to showing this beautiful art to their friends and families they take on this trail. Submittals from artists prior to the December 3 deadline will be automatically

kept in the running. Those artists may also submit revised proposals or submit entirely new sculpture concepts. Three finalists will be selected by the Advisory Team to have their sculpture concepts presented to the public for voting. Eligible voters will

include people who live on the two most impacted blocks, plus East Phillips residents and Midtown Greenway trail users.

WHAT DO RESIDENTS OF PHILLIPS WEST WANT?



We asked those who live, work, and go to school in the Phillips West neighborhood about their concerns. Three very clear priorities emerged from the results:



COMMUNITY SAFETY
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
FOOD ACCESS



As this process has made clear to us, we need ongoing, creative, & diverse engagement methods embedded into the future work of the organization. This does not mark the end of our efforts, it is only the beginning. For more information please visit phillipswest.org/strategic-plan

Way back in Spring 2021, PWNO launched a community survey to help us learn more about what our neighbors care about and establish priorities for our work over the next three years. There were three priorities that emerged from the survey results: community safety, affordable housing, and food access. Now that 2021 has come to a close, we are excited to share ways for our neighbors to get involved in pursuing these three goals!

Curious about how to get connected to work in one (or more) of these priority areas? Here's how:

1. Take the PWNO 2022 Membership Survey to tell us about how you'd like to be involved: bit.ly/PWNOMembershipSurvey
2. Join one of our committees: Safety, Housing, and Food/Garden! You can join by filling out the member survey or getting in touch directly via our website, email, or phone.
3. Sign up for our email newsletter and follow us on social media for updates about upcoming events and opportunities to get involved. You sign up/follow through our website: phillipswest.org

PWNO worked with artist Taylan de Johnette to design graphic representations of our neighborhood priorities just like what you see to the left here. You can find more of Taylan's work at tdejohnette.com!



Student Loan Program Changes Could Help Forgive Your Debt

By SHANNON DOYLE

This is a partial reprint with permission from LSS Financial Counseling Sense and Centsibility Blog

If you are paying off student loans, you probably have noticed recent headlines about making student loan forgiveness possible for more borrowers. The U.S. Department of Education (DOE) is making (temporary) fixes, officially called a waiver, to the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program. Here's your guide to understanding the DOE's changes and navigating the system so you can get your payments counted towards forgiveness.

If these changes affect you, it's crucial that you take action as soon as possible. The waiver will end on October 31, 2022.

What is Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)?

College graduates working for government agencies and non-profits are typically paid much less than their counterparts in private indus-



try, yet they need the same level of education. Congress passed legislation in 2007 creating the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program to make public service more appealing to graduates. PSLF offers forgiveness on the remaining balance of qualifying federal student loans after 120 qualifying payments, while working for a qualifying employer.

What Changes is DOE Making to PSLF?

The Department of Education created this waiver — finally — after years of complaints and a dismal rate of loan forgiveness. PSLF has been riddled with poor communication about program processes, confusion over what payments qualify for forgiveness, poor servicing and administrative foot dragging. The DOE has approved a mere 1% - 2% of PSLF applications since the first loans have been eligible for forgiveness in October of 2017. That's only 16,000 borrowers out of millions who work in public service!

- According to the press release from the Department of Education, its changes to PSLF will:
- Count all prior payments made by student borrowers toward PSLF, regardless of the federal loan program.
 - Simplify what it means for a payment to qualify for PSLF.
 - Eliminate barriers for military service members to receive PSLF.
 - Review denied PSLF applications.
 - Identify and correct errors in PSLF processing.

While these changes are a fantastic step forward, they don't resolve all issues and they are temporary — only in effect for payments made on or before October 31, 2022. Keep up on all the details by visiting StudentAid.gov.

Author Shannon Doyle is a Program Manager with LSS Financial Counseling.

Learn more about the changes and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program

Read the entire blog at: <https://www.lssmn.org/financialcounseling/blog/student-loan-program-changes-could-help-forgive-your-debt>. Schedule a free student loan appointment with LSS Financial Counseling by calling 888.577.2227. Visit www.lssmn.org/financialcounseling for more information.

Returning Chapter 16

Split Screen

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL



Patrick Cabello Hansel

Picture this if you will: in one frame, Brian Fleming lording it over our poor family; drawing out the encounter in the basement in search of his own twisted pleasure. Luz has faced his evil before, as a young girl, an encounter that scarred her, but one which she has overcome through tears and sheer force of will. Angel, her husband, knows but a little of this part of his wife's story. He is trying to keep his anger in check so as to not antagonize this man, who holds — somewhere, God knows where — his beloved daughter Lupita as ransom. Ransom for what, Angel can only guess.

In another frame, little Lupita is sitting on a rug with a race track pattern. The asphalt lanes abut images of the pit stop, grandstand and concession areas. She was playing with a Match Box Car, racing it around the track, but now she is playing with an old stuffed rabbit, who looks as if he has been in too many scrapes with angry gardeners. One of the rabbit's ears has been stitched back onto his head, and the fur on his belly worn down. But Lupita doesn't care. She has stopped — for a moment — calling for her mama and papa. She has stopped crying. If you just saw her in the frame, you would think she is like a typical two year old. But as the frame widens, you will see an elderly woman, sitting in a chair, holding knitting needles. If you look close at her hands, you can see them shaking.

Look back now at the first frame. Brian Fleming is leading Luz — and only Luz — through a steel door at the back of the basement room. You can see Angel's fear, his powerlessness, his shame. On

Luz' face, there is a look of determination. And on Brian's face? Brian Fleming is the kind of man that never shows his real face to anyone. There is a condescending smile he puts on, an impatient sneer at employees, and only when absolutely necessary, the rage that strikes fear.

Back to the second frame: as you look closer, you can see the face of the elderly woman, and you realize it is Agnes, the one who found our little family on the street, who brought them to warmth and food and safety, the one who betrayed them to Brian Fleming and his terrible enterprise. If you look closely at her face, you can see the grief over having betrayed this family, mixed with the fear of what Brian Fleming has told her he would do to her family if she didn't do what he told her to do. There is a battle between these two emotions, one that cannot be contained.

And then, back to our first gaze into this drama. Little Angel has pulled his father's phone out and is about to call 911, as soon as the evil man leaves. He's not sure what he will say, but he remembers the number painted over the garage they are in. 2647. He knows it means the address, he knows this is his moment to act, but he needs one more thing. He turns to his father and asks,

"Papito, what avenue are we on right now?"

Angel looks at his son like he's crazy, then reconsiders.

"I think we're between 17th and 18th," he says to the boy.

The boy looks at the phone he has been hiding, and touches the three numbers: 9-1-1.

To be continued...

ON SOLID GROUND

Soil Dedication

10:00am | Monday, January 24, 2022
Free event for all | Norway House

It's important that Norway House, like any good house, has a solid foundation to build upon. Much of our pride and our connections to Norway today were forged by the immigrants who came to settle in the United States. Many had very little to start with, but nonetheless, built sustainable and supportive communities throughout the country.

We'd like to honor your roots in these early stages of our building process.

On January 24th, at 10:00am, we invite you to bring a jar or cup of soil from your hometown--the place that raised you--to pour into the foundation of Norway House. The names of each town or city will be recognized near the entrance of the building. Help us ensure a solid ground for all who visit in the years to come.

To RSVP and learn more, visit norwayhouse.org

Nils Nisse, our campaign troll, reminds us of this important bit of advice:

*"Don't build a house on sandy ground.
No--you've got to build your house on a mountain!"*



Nils Nisse, the Norway House campaign troll

continued from p.1 ...

Harm Reduction, cont.



Insite in Vancouver. Photo courtesy of PHS Community Services Society.

harms while creating space for long lasting change. The city is already funding harm reduction services, such as the work of Southside Harm Reduction, who do street outreach and provide needle exchange.

According to the National Harm Reduction Coalition website, harm reduction principles are a set of practical strategies to reduce the consequences of drug use, based on a belief in rights for people who use drugs. Some of these include: acknowledging the realities of intersectional causes of drug use; ensuring that people who use drugs have a voice in the creation of solutions; NOT minimizing or ignoring the real harms and dangers caused by illicit drug use; and creating non-coercive and non-judgmental services. At this point, I can hear countless neighbors in meetings saying, “We don’t want to enable drug users.” And without much support from the city, the primary tactic that comes up is for neighbors to move people experiencing homelessness off a given block, inevitably resulting in them moving to another nearby. This is all neighbors feel they can do, but it makes the problem worse by further scattering used needles, causing more stress and harm to unhoused folks, and disconnecting them from case workers and services (see CDC guidelines during Covid).

The fundamental short-term issue is that people experiencing homelessness have no place to go. There is little affordable housing and extremely limited and/or high-barrier shelter beds.

Many city and county empty lots and neglected spaces have been fenced off, leading people to move onto private land—yards, sidewalks, and parking lots of housed neighbors, which causes clashes between these groups. We need a community center where people can go during the day, where they won’t be harassed or arrested, and

**Want
to learn
more or get
involved?**

- Email **EastPhillipsOPS@gmail.com**
- Attend the January East Phillips Community Meeting for a presentation by Southside Harm Reduction Services (see **EPIC’s ad on page 14 for details**)

we need to combine this with strong Housing First policies. A community center can provide wrap around services for participants, a proven strategy for increasing use of services such as addiction counseling and housing programs.

One site that does this is Insite in Vancouver, British Columbia. This site opened in 2003 as the first overdose prevention site (OPS) in North America, an epicenter for drug addiction in Canada. Since opening, Insite has seen almost 4 million visits by people to inject drugs, with 6,400 overdoses. To date, astoundingly, 0 deaths have occurred. And on top of that, according to a 2014 review paper summariz-

ing 75 studies on OPS sites, nearly 60% of people who use Insite enter addiction treatment. Studies also show that these sites do not increase drug use or crime in the areas where they operate, including drug sales. They do reduce the number of people injecting in public and syringe litter by half or more. Over 120 of these sites exist around the world, many of them for decades.

You may know that these kinds of sites are technically illegal on the federal level in the U.S. But things are changing fast. So much so that, with strong support on the state level, New York City opened two such sites in Manhattan in November of this year. In the first day, two overdoses were reversed. With a growing sense of urgency, there are signs that the federal government is willing to let these pilot projects happen, although this is still a gray area. Despite this, overdose prevention sites (OPS) are endorsed by the American Medical Association and many physician groups, such as those in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and California to name a few.

We are in an opioid epidemic and a housing crisis and we need overdose prevention sites in Minneapolis and across the country. Currently, a group of East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC) members along with harm reduction organizations are working to make this happen. Send an email to EastPhillipsOPS@gmail.com if you want links to the research or to get involved.

continued from p.1 ...

Urban Farm, cont

project were State Senator Omar Fateh and Hennepin County Commissioner Angela Conley. Neighborhood resident Karen Clark, who represented the area for 37 years in the state legislature, presented compelling documentation on disparities of income and wealth, as well as extremely elevated rates of asthma, childhood lead poisoning, and other environmentally related illnesses occurring in our majority BIPOC neighborhood. Her work for environmental justice over many years was the genesis of this project.

The greatest interest was in the changing political situation at the City level. This

is being led by 9th Ward Councilmember elect Jason Chavez, joined by Ward 1 Councilmember elect Elliot Payne, and 10th Ward Councilmember elect Aisha Chugtai. In the weeks before the 2021 election, a resolution to tear down the Roof Depot building was reinserted for a vote and passed by a 7 to 6 margin, but 4 of those 7 council members are no longer on the Council. So, in 2022, with optimism and anticipation, East Phillips again presents the Minneapolis City Council with the opportunity to reverse decades of neglect in favor of Green investment and Environmental Justice. “Urban Farm not Toxic Harm!”



Photos provided by East Phillips Neighborhood Institute

Bridge over Midtown Greenway closing to motor vehicle traffic

THE CITY OF MINNEAPOLIS

Dec. 23, 2021 (MINNEAPOLIS) Beginning Monday, Dec. 27, the 10th Avenue bridge over the Midtown Greenway is closing indefinitely to motor vehicle traffic.

A load limit was placed on the bridge following a structural analysis. Since the load limit took effect, the City has observed many vehicles crossing the bridge that exceeded that limit. To prevent the bridge from degrading further, no motor vehicles will be allowed to cross the bridge until the City and Hennepin County can find a long-term solution to the problem.

The bridge and the greenway will remain open to bicycles and pedestrians.



10th Ave bridge crossing the Greenway (courtesy Google Maps)

Movie Corner



Howard McQuitter II

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II

PASSING

(2021 Netflix)



From a cinematic viewpoint, the rich black and white, crisp shadows inside and outside brownstone houses as well as the inside intimate jazz sessions are excellent. *Passing* displays for subtlety blossoms on celluloid.

Passing is Rebecca Hall’s debut film about two African American women, one is passing for white while the other is married to a dark-skinned Black man, at the time of the Harlem Renaissance when Black figures like Zora Neale Hurston, Langston Hughes, Alain Locke, Jean Tommer, Claude McKay,

Augusta Savage, Aaron Douglas, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Countee Cullen are on the scene particularly in Harlem.

Passing is based on the novel by Nella Larsen, who comes from a mixed background, similar to Hall. Hall gets to the central characters immediately with Clare Kendry Bellew (Ruth Negga) and Irene “Reenie” Redfield (Tessa Thompson). On one hot summer day sometime in the mid or late 1920s Irene, impeccably dressed and wearing a hat that partly obscures her face, enters a luxe white hotel. She’s uncomfortable sitting in a “whites only” hotel restaurant as she slowly turns her head by the gaze of a white woman sitting across from her. But there’s someone sitting several tables away who’s looking harder at Irene. It happens to be Clare. They’re high school friends from Chicago and haven’t seen each other in nearly a decade. Seeing Clare in New York City surprises Irene. Clare is passing for white and married to a white man, John (Alexander Skarsgard), who doesn’t know he’s married to an African American, and is vehemently anti-black. (From my naked eye neither Clare nor Irene can pass for white.)

However nervous Clare is about being “discovered” as a Negro by her white husband or other whites, she wants to be with her friend Irene at all costs. Like a breath of fresh air,



NETFLIX

Clare delights in being Black when she’s around Irene and her dark-skinned husband Brian (Andre Holland), a medical doctor by trade. All three go to the Black nightclubs listening to jazz swing music and having an occasional dance.

Back at Irene and Brian’s house, Brian explains to his two young sons about some recent lynchings. Irene takes exception to her husband’s tell-

ing their sons about the lynchings (at least at their tender ages). Irene has just recently warned Clare what danger she can be if her true “racial identity” is discovered.

The uneasiness, the ever-present possibility of ostracization, the pretense of being white, the fear of being exposed for Black is the dominant theme in films such as Elia Kazan’s

Pinky (1949), John M. Stahl’s *Imitation of Life* (1934) and the remark, Douglas Sirk’s *Imitation of Life* (1959). Even Spike Lee’s drama-comedy-musical *School Daze* (1988) deals with the dark-skinned college students.

A film like *Passing* makes me pause and reflect on my own blackness even though I’m dark-skinned and have no chance of passing for white. Rebecca Hall has created a timely and well directed film. And that she did the film in glaring black and white. As for the two major actresses, Tessa Thompson and Ruth Negga, their performances are Oscar worthy.

Director: Rebecca Hall.
Screenwriters: Rebecca Hall and Nella Larsen.
Cinematography: Eduard Grau. **Original Music:** Devante Hynes. **Cast:** Tessa Thompson (Irene), Ruth Negga (Clare), Andr  Holland (Brian), Alexander Skarsg rd (John), Jutus Davis Graham (Ted), Antoinette Crowe-Legacy (Felise), Stu S. Becker (Cabbie), Gbenga Akinnagbe (Dave), Ashley Ware Jenkins (Zulena). **Production Companies:** Significant Production, Picture Films, Flat Five Productions, Film4 Productions, Gamechanger Films, Sweet Tomato Films, EndeavorContent. **Distributed by:** Netflix. **Running time:** 98 minutes, (PG-13).



East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC)

EPIC’s January Community Meeting
Thursday, January 13th 6:30pm-7:30pm

Join us to hear from Southside Harm Reduction Services about Overdose Prevention Sites.

Come learn about:

- 1) Various Overdose Prevention Sites around the world
- 2) What East Phillips residents are doing to establish one
- 3) And how it could benefit the community!

Join in-person at East Phillips Community Center (2307 17th Ave)
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, January 8
10am-11am

For links to join EPIC meetings go to eastphillips.org

Raise Your Voice

Sitting Bull vs Jeff Bezos

By PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

This parcel of territory, this domain of *the alley*, if you will, has imprinted upon the writer’s mind since employment at Smith Foundry began in 1979. He was also, at that time, a volunteer at the Paul Robeson Marxist Bookstore, located in Dinkytown. A poster of the iconic Sitting Bull was prominent on the wall there.

So then, I was pleasantly surprised to find Curt Brown’s MINNESOTA HISTORY article (Star Tribune, Sunday, December 12),: “Looking back on Sitting Bull’s visits”. I had no idea that Sitting Bull had toured the Twin Cities on two occasions subse-

quent to Custer’s last stand. He actually attended mass at the Assumption Catholic Church in Richfield!

As far as the eye could see, far beyond seven generations, what spirit did the sitting bull manifest... reflection, contemplation, meditation, even serene contentment while chewing the cud? Such was the nature of his namesake.

These were whirlwind tours that were punctuated with press briefings, a telephone, ballet and theater, even an aborted assassination attempt. Federal agents intended to impress. However, there were starving people on the Dakota plains.

Even so, on a bitter cold day, “a beggar woman, with a worn wistful face and pleading eyes, stood in a supplicating attitude, her thin blue hands outstretched for alms.” From the proceeds of his autograph sales, Sitting Bull plucked out at least \$10 of silver—worth about \$280 today—and handed it to the woman... thus the opulence of tall buildings contrasted with her plight.

How does Jeff Bezos compare with Sitting Bull? From Wikipedia: “Jeffrey... American entrepreneur, media proprietor, investor, computer engineer, commercial astronaut... he is the founder of Amazon... with a net worth of around \$200 billion, he is the wealthiest person in the world...”

Okay then, Bernie Sanders put it this way: “instead of attempting to go to the moon, how about Jeff Bezos pays his workers a living wage?” Moreover, Bezos deploys an electronic monitoring system to enforce rapid repetitive motion on his workers. The result, for example: workers at the Shakopee facility suffer twice the injury rate of other Minnesota warehouse workers, also an extraordinary burn-out-turn-over rate, or otherwise a retired life with serious arthritis.

Hey folks, locally, it is largely our East African neighbors who have borne the brunt of Amazon’s brutality. Their effort to build worker’s power emanates from the Awood Center, housed within Bethany Lutheran Church, 2511 E. Franklin Avenue. Their struggle is our struggle. Right?

With Sitting Bull in mind...

In our approach to children, we should ponder Lenin’s thesis regarding the historical basis of the uneven development of peoples. It follows: Minnesota will, one day soon, develop a traveling cadre of Native American educators for the purpose of uplifting every child, including our white kids who all too frequently need special attention.

Continued from page 4...
Peace House cont.

Ventura Village Neighborhood Association meetings and watched as the residents made sure companies and social service agencies contributed to the overall good, rather than just setting up shop for their own benefit. After three and a half years, I moved on to another company located downtown and lost some contact with Phillips, but when I came to Peace House Community in 2018 I found the same attitude still prevailed: if you were willing to be a good neighbor, you

would have plenty of people to lean on. If you were just here for yourself, the neighborhood would let you know what was expected of you.

I know the Phillips neighborhood faces many challenges. Crime is high, resources are sometimes lacking, and the city often ignores even simple requests (like street sweeping the leaves before they freeze to the roads). The neighborhood carries on, however, and Minneapolis is richer because of it.

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WANT FREYs WITH THAT ?
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Mayor puts Police Reform on Menu

Even Dave's Dumpster was Pepper-jacked
BY BOB DAVE MOORE + L.H. HAWAY

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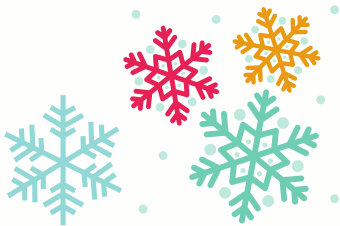
It's a **FOOD** Truck !

Hey! Hey! We're the Munchies!

Boomer Humor: This joke based on 1962 TWILIGHT ZONE episode, plus The Monkees TV theme song



VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD



JANUARY '22 NEWS

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

Our Saviour's Community Services: Same Name, Different Services

By: Mike Huffman, Executive Director

Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Mike, and I'm the new Executive Director at Our Saviour's Community Services (OSCS). We provide dignified shelter and housing for single adults and education for adult English language learners through our two programs – Our Saviour's Housing and the English Learning Center. I wanted to take just a second to share some exciting changes happening with our services in the coming months.



As the pandemic continues to impact service delivery for many nonprofits, OSCS made a strategic decision to transition our emergency shelter to a medical-respite model, also known as a recuperative model. Beginning in 2022, we will specialize in providing temporary, emergency shelter with on-site healthcare staff and other supportive services to homeless adults who are being released from the hospital with a medical need that makes them too vulnerable to recover on the street or in a traditional shelter.

This change allows us to make the best use of our unique shelter facility, which was originally designed as a medical clinic, as well as our location near two major hospitals. More importantly, we will address a critical gap in homeless services – a need the pandemic has made painfully apparent – and help ensure that medically vulnerable, unhoused community members have a safe place to heal and recover as they search for permanent housing.

Changes are also taking place in our English Learning Center (ELC). This fall, we began providing both in person and virtual learning opportunities, which doubled our offerings and doubled the need for volunteers. The ELC is also starting to prepare for winter/spring term, which will run from January 3-April 28. We are resuming math classes in the evening, adding digital literacy classes, and hoping to start an afternoon drop-in tutoring lab if we can get interest



Photo by Amanda Steepleton

from volunteers and students. New volunteers are welcome at any time and can apply using the sign-up form on our website (<https://oscs-mn.org/elc-volunteer-application>).

OSCS started in this community with community members seeking to support recent refugees. While our mission has expanded to include housing and shelter, our focus on community remains in our name and our values. My hope for OSCS going forward is to continue to be a community asset located in the heart of the neighborhood, and I look forward to continuing to build those relationships. If you want to connect, please reach out to me.

Franklin-Chicago Anchor

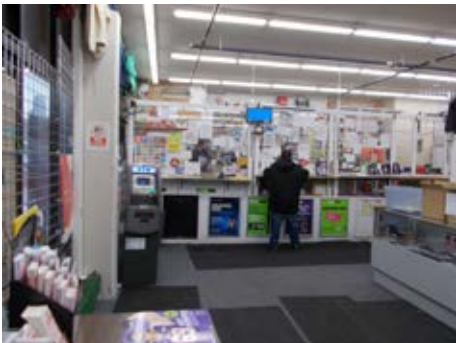
By: Steve Dreyer

Franklin Avenue in Ventura Village is dotted with a number of small businesses and markets. One such small retail business anchoring the busy Franklin - Chicago intersection is Two Amigos. Two Amigos is located in the PPL -owned building that served as its learning center and is now the Loring Nicollet Alternative School. Owner Richard Inamagua started Two Amigos at that location in

2003. The other Amigo was his brother-in-law who has since left the business, although Richard's sister is part owner. Richard came to the United States from Ecuador when he was 17. He worked in other small businesses and at one time owned a restaurant in another city.

Two Amigos specializes in check cashing, wire transfers, money orders, phone sales and repairs, bus cards and other related services...A large part of his business is with regular customers whom he built a relationship with. A big part of the store has a section that sells clothing, and does prints and designs.

The crime and drug dealing in that area is a big concern for Two Amigos and the other legitimate businesses and organizations nearby.



Ventura Village Neighborhood News!

- Our first meeting of 2022 will be Wednesday, January 12th, at 7 PM. We will meet in person at ICCM Life Center, 1812 Park, and you can attend via Zoom by calling or sending us an email.

Seasonal Increase in Automobile Theft

By: Kali Pliego

During the colder months, car thieves take advantage of residents who leave their cars running unattended. All precincts see a spike in auto thefts when temperatures plunge and the snow flies. The temptation to start the car and let it warm up while you stay warm inside or leaving it running while doing a short errand could be a costly mistake; even if you lock the car, it only takes seconds to break a window or jimmy a door lock. It is against City ordinance to leave your key in the ignition while you are not in your car: Minneapolis City ordinance 478.160, Open Ignition – failure to lock ignition and remove key from passenger vehicle is a towable offense. It is legal to use a remote starter but keep in mind that an unoccupied running vehicle will provide some temptation to a thief. If the car is running and locked, they may still attempt to break into the vehicle. What you can do:

- Do not leave your vehicle running and unattended, including to 'warm up', or run a quick errand
- Use anti-theft devices such as steering wheel clubs, GPS trackers, and/or engine kill switches
- Be aware of unauthorized tow trucks in the neighborhood or other suspicious vehicles in the alley or on your block
- Call 911 when you witness any suspicious activity and/or people around your property or block
- Have your license plate and VIN documented in case you need to report your car has been stolen
- Meet your neighbors and watch out for each other – organize your block and share information – consider being a block leader to help facilitate information sharing.

For more information on block clubs, crime prevention tips, contact your Crime Prevention Specialist, Kali Pliego at kali.pliego@minneapolismn.gov

Youthline Program Information & Updates

By: Courtney Gillman, Youth Program Specialist

Youthline engages youth ages 12-17 in positive leadership experiences and recreational activities while connecting them to adult mentors in the parks. A Youth Program Specialist is returning for a special assignment. Sarah Chelstrom will be back at the Upper South Parks (East Phillips, Phillips Community Center & Stewart) in January 2022. There will now be three programmers – Courtney, Sarah & Seng.

Program Highlights:

- Stewart Park will be doing Archery, an Arts & Craft group, and Teen Hangout Time.
- Phillips Community Center has a Technology & Me group and a Self Defense class.
- East Phillips with have Work Hard Play Hard – where kids get homework help and then play gym games. There is also an Art and Cooking group meeting throughout the week.

Questions:

If you would like to see when and where programming is happening, you can look here: https://apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolis/parks/Activity_Search Or email cgillman@minneapolis/parks.org

ICCM Opens New Parking Lot/Community Space

By: Chris DeLaurentis

For over 30 years the 3 lots at the corner of Park Avenue and E. 18th St. sat vacant. Weeds, garbage, and a broken down chain link fence occupied the lot until ICCM Life Center broke ground there in September of 2020. It is now a parking lot and community outreach corner. Paving, curbs, landscaping, trees and shrubs have brought beauty and purpose to this underutilized space. Not only will it provide off street parking for the Life Center, but it will also be used for outdoor events, youth activities, and hopefully in the future farmers markets, and community yard sales..

We thank Ventura Village for it's ongoing support as well as all the donors and volunteers who contributed to this improvement to our community.

