



INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

LEGACY ALLEY BRICK DESIGN, CHECK OUT THE ALLEY ARCHIVES AT ALLEYNEWS.ORG!

4 JANUARY EVENTS



5 COMMUNITY JOURNALISM TRAININGS

6 ALLEY COMMUNICATIONS ANNUAL REPORT



8 HUNGER CRISIS IN EAST AFRICA

Norway House: A new place for gathering and a new landmark

By JOSEPH GRØDAHL, Director of Programs and Events Norway House

This past October, Norway House welcomed 1,200 visitors and supporters, as well as Her Majesty Queen Sonja of Norway, to its East Franklin Avenue location for a Grand Opening dedication ceremony on a new 18,000-square-foot addition, including a new Innovation + Culture Center. Norway House, with its mission to connect the United States with contemporary Norway through arts, business, and culture, has built the new center to be a welcoming place for all, with space for receptions, conferences, and meetings.

The Sundet Family Aula (Hall) in the Innovation + Culture Center is an open, airy space with plenty of natural light painted in a soothing sky blue that complements the indigo blue that has become the signature color of Norway House. The oversized funky flower light fixtures in the main entrance hallway create a very warm and inviting feeling.

Water is a predominant theme with the Innovation + Culture Center, architecturally designed with an iconic “floating roof” supported by slender steel columns that extend up through round openings above the roof

Continued on page 8...



Clad in wood, the new pedestrian-friendly Franklin Avenue entrance to Norway House was designed to be reminiscent of a Norwegian stave church. For the October Grand Opening, visitors lined the red carpet leading up to it, hoping to get a glance of Queen Sonja.

Court Hearing Held to Halt Demolition of Roof Depot Building

Ruling Expected in January

By STEVE SANDBERG and H. LYNN ADELSMAN



Elizabeth Royal, attorney for EPNI, addresses the crowd following Dec.15th hearing at Hennepin County District Court.

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS

“Why do I contribute my time? Well, with fundamental transformation in mind, let it be said: our developing multi-racial/multi-national community resides at or near the center of the universe.”

Peter Molenaar, Raise Your Voice

At 7:30 AM on Thursday December 15, with 120 listening in, lawyers for the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI), and the City of Minneapolis presented their cases at a hearing in Hennepin County District Court before Judge Edward Wahl. Oral arguments against demolition of the 5.3 acre Roof Depot building were presented by a three lawyer team led by Elizabeth Royal, who was joined by Jessica Blome, and Miles Ringsred.

Mark Breslin from the City Attorney’s Office, supported by our tax dollars, argued for the City. He argued that there was no risk to the community from demolition of the Roof Depot, and that an expanded maintenance yard posed no significant increase of pollution, and would

bring only benefits. The community lawyers argued that what is needed is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which would look at the existing cumulative levels of pollution, then evaluate the city’s plan, which would in part increase diesel traffic, thereby increasing health disparities such as asthma, cancer and heart disease, in our community. A ruling is expected in January. The judge will either grant an injunction to delay the demolition, or deny the request for an injunction, thereby clearing the way for demolition in February.

If an injunction is granted, the judge will set a bond amount that EPNI would have to post

Continued on page 5...

Minnesota Nurses Strike Settlement Is a Win for Patients

By HARRY LEEDS, RN

After intense negotiations, Minnesota nurses at metro and Twin Ports hospitals, including Abbott Northwestern, have reached a settlement that will improve working conditions for nurses and, in turn, benefit the patients they serve.

The strike was sparked by nurses’ concerns about staffing levels and safety that they said

were putting patients at risk. Allina Health, a hospital system at the center of the dispute, initially refused to budge on these issues, leading the nurses to strike for three days in September. They threatened to strike again from December 11th through December 31st.

This comes at a time when the “triple-demic” of RSV, influenza, and COVID are filling hospitals

to the brim. It seems the threat of losing the skilled, dedicated nurses that staff Minnesota hospitals forced leadership to face the staffing issues that have been harming patients.

The agreement includes a commitment from most hospitals to work with nurses to improve staffing levels, especially as poor staffing levels could cause harm to patients.

Nurses are on the front lines of healthcare, and when they are overworked and understaffed, it directly impacts the quality of care that patients receive. This union has forced corporate hospitals to grapple with the impacts their business-approach to healthcare is having on an evolving disease landscape.

Additionally, the settlement serves as a reminder of the

power of organized labor. The nurses’ union was instrumental in negotiating the deal, and their solidarity and determination were key to its success. In an era when unions are under attack and worker rights are being eroded, the Minnesota nurses strike settlement is a much-needed victory for

Continued on page 11...

thealley

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

Guided and Informed by:
Phillips residents

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

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January Contributors to the alley: H. Lynn Adelsman, American Swedish Institute, Roberta Barnes, Shelia Bland, Cultural Wellness Center and CWC Health Hub, Steve Dreyer, Lindsey Fenner, Joseph Gredahl, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Patrick Cabello Hansel, Ben Heath, Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, Hennepin County Libraries and Covid-19 Response, Hinterhands Puppet Company, Dwight Hobbes, Laura Hulscher, Sue Hunter Weir, Journalism of Color, Mary Ellen Kaluza, Harry Leeds, Bruce Magnuson, Marti Maltby, Tim McCall, Terry McDaniel, Howard McQuitter II, Jessie Merriam, Midtown Global Market, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Assoc., Minneapolis Edible Boulevards, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Carz Nelson, Norway House, Gretchen Pederson, Ciren Saadeh, Steve Sandberg, Michelle Shaw.

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

Board meetings: 6:30 PM 2nd Tuesday by Zoom. Editorial Leadership Team 2nd Monday 8:30 -10:00am, 4th Thursday 6:30-8pm by Zoom.

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

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

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Submissions due the 15th day of the previous month



Library News

By CARZ NELSON

All information listed here is accurate as of December 15, 2022. 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 PM to 8 PM
Wednesday	12 PM to 8 PM
Thursday	12 PM to 8 PM
Friday	9 AM to 5 PM
Saturday	9 AM to 5 PM
Sunday	12 PM to 5 PM

URBAN 4-H

A youth leadership club that's driven by curiosity. For adolescents.

Franklin Library
Tuesdays at 4-5:30 PM

WOMEN OF COLOR AFFINITY GROUP

Looking for a space where women of color can come together and share their experiences? Then join the Women of Color Affinity Group.

Hosmer Library
Tuesdays at 6:30 PM

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Join us for Coffee & Conversations.

Franklin Library
Second Friday of the month 10 AM to 12 Noon

WAY TO GROW

Way to Grow connects parents of kids ages 0-8 to a culture-to-culture family educator to help with resources and provide support and education.

Franklin Library
Tuesdays at 3 to 5 PM

STEAM WORKSHOP

The Franklin Library's Teen Tech Squad leads education and entertainment for kids 8-plus on topics in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math.

Franklin Library
Wednesdays at 5-6 PM

EMERGE

A Workforce Coach from EMERGE will be available to work with people aged 16-21.

Franklin Library
Wednesdays at 3 to 5 PM

ANIME CLUB

Anime Club for adolescents.

Franklin Library
Wednesdays at 6:30 - 8 PM

CAREER AND JOB ASSISTANCE

Meet with a CareerForce employment specialist at Franklin Library for job and career help. Stop by for individual assistance with job searching, resume writing, and more!

Franklin Library
January 9 at 1 to 3 PM

HOMEWORK HELP

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

Franklin: Tuesdays and

Thursdays at 3:30-7:30 PM, Saturdays at 1-5 PM
Hosmer: Mondays and Wednesdays at 4-7:30, Saturdays at 1-4 PM

SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION

The City of Minneapolis Small Business Team is holding public office hours at Franklin Library. This is a great opportunity for people with questions about starting, maintaining, or expanding their businesses. Please feel free to drop in – no appointment needed.

Franklin Library
Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 12 to 2 PM

VETERAN RESOURCES

Senior Outreach Coordinator of MACV (Ending Veteran Homelessness), will be available to talk to veterans and connect to resources.

Franklin Library
Thursdays at 12 to 1 PM

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.

Franklin Library
Wednesdays at 2 to 5 PM

FREE FOOD

Franklin and Hosmer Libraries are collaborating with Every Meal to distribute free meal bags. Bags are free for anyone to take, while supplies last.

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.

ASK THE LIBRARY

Have a reference or library account question? You can chat, email, text, or call the library. Chat or email at www.hclib.org/contact, text to 612-400-7722, or call 612-543-KNOW (5669) to reach library staff by phone.

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.

Minneapolis Edible Boulevards Seeks Your Input



Join Kelly Shay for January's Zoom cooking class where you'll learn how to make a delicious Loaded Veggie Chili.

By MICHELLE SHAW

Ring in 2023 by joining us for our free January cooking class! This month Kelly Shay of Harmonious World and Wellness will teach us how to make something delicious on Zoom. You can find the registration link and grocery list (for those who also want to cook!) on our Minneapolis Edible Boulevards' Facebook and Instagram pages. If you don't have either, feel free to reach out to minneapolisedi-

bleboulevards@gmail.com. Minneapolis Edible Boulevards wants to hear from you! It's essential to not only have resources available for our neighbors, but also to listen to community members in our partnering neighborhoods. What's important to you? We have a survey on Instagram and Facebook to capture those thoughts and ideas.

As a City pilot for the past 3 years, we've also been advocating to change the City ordinance

since 2019, because Minneapolis currently doesn't allow food to be grown on our boulevards (while St. Paul does). We'd like to know about any other changes you'd like to make to the current ordinance on what we're allowed to grow there (the language is included in the survey). Again, if you don't have access to facebook or instagram,

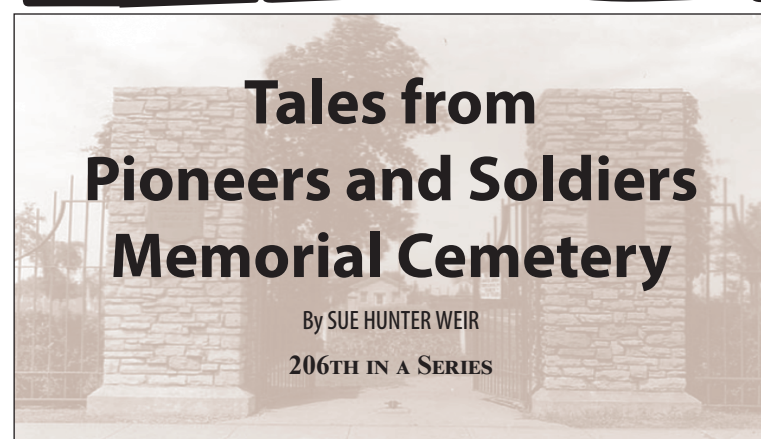
please send an email to request the survey be sent to you. We'll share your input with our team, in addition to the council members working on changing the ordinance.

Thank you, in advance, for helping us turn food injustice to food justice for all of our neighbors!

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS

"I do this because I like having a way to connect with my neighbors on the Southside on a regular basis, so that we can partner together as Minneapolis neighbors. Too often we are put into silos, and we need to see that what impacts one part of the City, impacts us all. I wish we all had a way to connect with our region of neighborhoods like The Alley allows. Thank you to all the volunteers at The Alley who make this possible month after month!"

Michelle Shaw, Edible Boulevards



Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

By SUE HUNTER WEIR
206TH IN A SERIES

Artifacts and Curios (and a Piano)

The caretaker's cottage is a wonderful place. The two front rooms were built in 1871, which means it may well be the oldest existing stone building in South Minneapolis outside of Fort Snelling. The back room was built during the Great Depression by workers employed by the Works Progress Administration, a program designed by Franklin Delano Roosevelt to create jobs for displaced workers.

But it's not just the structure that's interesting. The inside of the building is something of a way-back machine. There are artifacts and relics dating back in some cases to the 1870s. None of the items are of any great monetary value, but they capture a piece of Minneapolis' history that might otherwise have been lost.

The Layman family, the cemetery's original owners, were prodigious recordkeepers. There are dozens of ledgers in which they recorded the sales of cemetery plots, some for as little as 50 cents. There are Lot and Block cards which show who's buried in every grave (not a small task to maintain, given that there are currently more than 22,000 people buried there). There are burial permits dating back to the 1870s, and index cards with the names and burial locations of not only those who are currently buried in the cemetery, but also of the 5,000 or so who were removed.

There is an old filing cabinet that holds correspondence between the caretaker and grave owners. Most of the letters were written in the late 19-teens and early 1920's, the period of time when some 5,000 people were disinterred and buried elsewhere. Some of the letters are heartbreaking, detailing a family's inability to relocate their loved one, usually due to poverty or poor health. Others are

from families who stubbornly refused to relocate their loved ones because they believed that "eternal rest" meant precisely that.

There is an old safe,

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS

"The Alley was one of the earliest and most ardent supporters of Friends of the Cemetery's efforts to preserve Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery. That Friendship began more than 20 years ago, and we are grateful for their on-going support."

Sue Hunter Weir, Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery



The cemetery's piano. It was made by the Chicago Cable Company in 1894 so is almost 130 years old.

after the cemetery office was vandalized. The book was not damaged but was moved to a more secure location. And maybe the best of all is the cemetery's piano. It was made in 1894 by the Chicago Cable Piano Company and was donated to the cemetery in the 1940s. It was most likely rolled outside for Memorial Day services and other programs. It is in rough shape, some of the trim is broken and several of the ivory key covers are missing. A piano restorer told us that the wood is too brittle for it to be repaired but it's still a beautiful old thing. At least that's what many of the 90+ seventh-graders from Northeast Middle School thought when they visited the cemetery in October. In their thank-you notes, several students mentioned that they loved that old piano. One student's take-away for the day came out of a conversation that we had about why piano keys are no longer made of ivory. He learned, he wrote, that piano keys used to be made out of elephant tusks. A strange thing to remember from

Continued on page 8...

Something I Said

The Animal Factory

Book Review

By DWIGHT HOBBS

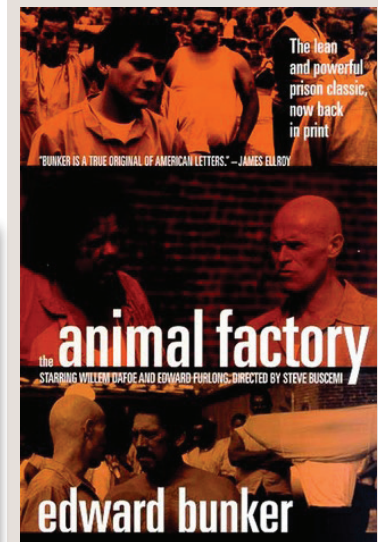


Dwight Hobbes

Rule of thumb goes, the book's better than the movie. Edward Bunker's *The Animal Factory* (St. Martin's Minotaur) and Franchise Pictures is a tossup. Both are brilliant. The novel's narrative is fluid, with compelling immediacy. Co-screenwriter John Stepping teams with Bunker for an ingenious adaptation.

Bunker (*Education of a Felon: A Memoir* /St. Martin's Griffin.) made his way from the wrong side of the law to a career as screenwriter-actor (*Animal Factory*, *Straight Time*). He was "Mr. Blue" in Quentin Tarantino's *Reservoir Dogs*.

The Animal Factory protagonist, 20-something, privileged Ron Decker is slapped in prison so the judge can stand hard on



Franchise Pictures

white offenders, not just criminals of color. Never mind that Decker, no angel for sure, dealt weed and coke, but this is his first bust. He's a politically correct scapegoat. Street spawned, veteran of incarceration Earl Boen takes him under his wing, shows him the ropes. In a hellish environment, they become unlikely allies, then fast friends – in an environment where young, pretty Decker can use someone influential having his back. Circumstance irreversibly changes their lives. Some brute thinks he can rape Ron. Earl's crew convince him otherwise, ganging up to stab the guy, severing his spinal cord. They'd've sliced his throat, but,

Continued on page 5...

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

Let us know all about it by sending your sentences and/or photographs to:
copydesk@alleynews.org

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

JANUARY EVENTS

Community Journalism Trainings
Thursdays:
January 5, 4 - 5 PM
January 19, 6 - 7:30 PM
February 2, 12 - 1:30 PM
Online (Zoom)
Free

Interested in learning more about community journalism, or getting involved in *the alley*? Receive free, professional community journalism training

Thursday Evenings at ASI
Thursdays
3 - 8 PM
American Swedish Institute
2600 Park Avenue
Free

Explore the ASI with free museum admission from 3-8pm. There will be live music on select Thursdays. <https://asimm.org>

America, Europe, and Asia that are “thrilling from beginning to end” and showcase repertoire from the 14th to 21st centuries with “impressive technical facility and musicianship” (Cleveland Classical). Emerson will perform an eclectic program on the 55-rank Schlicker organ at Mount Olive, with a reception to follow. Presented by Mount Olive Music & Fine Arts. For more information go to <https://www.mountolivechurch.org>.

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS

“What I love about ‘the alley’ is the identity it gives to the neighborhood. We need more things like this.”

John Andersen (Look for an upcoming historical piece on the Southtown Yards.)

than 250 structures created by our community, including familiar buildings and landmarks by professional bakers and gingerbread enthusiasts of all ages and abilities. <https://www.norwayhouse.org>.

Writers, Poets & Musicians Against the War on the Earth
Thursday, January 12
6 - 8 PM
American Swedish Institute
2600 Park Avenue
Free

In 1966, Minnesota poet and writer Robert Bly co-founded American Writers Against the Vietnam War and was an opposition leader among writers. His wife Ruth Bly is carrying on the tradition with a new cause at heart—the environment. A talented group of local poets and musicians is inviting everyone to gather at ASI to honor all of creation in spoken word and song. <https://asimm.org>

Wish Work Puppet Series:
The Three Little Pigs and Other Puppet Fun
Saturday, January 14
1 - 2 PM
Hinterhands Puppet Company
2742 15th Ave S
Suggested donation: \$5-\$10

Come see Scott Sorenson’s version of *The Three Little Pigs* followed by a few short performances, then make a simple take-home paper puppet stage (materials provided).

Wish Work, a program of Hinterhands Puppet Company, is a puppet theatre for young audiences. We wish to do the work of hammering the stardust of our world into the shape that is best for young audiences, giving them the chance to shape the stardust they are given into their wishes in the future.

Gingerbread Wonderland Through January 8
Norway House
913 East Franklin Avenue
Adults: \$10
Children: Free

Gingerbread (or in Norwegian, ‘pepperkake’) is a quintessential feature of the Norwegian holiday season. Since its launch in 2015, the Norway House Gingerbread Wonderland has grown to more

Edible Gardens Cooking Class with Kelly Shay
Saturday, January 21
11 AM - 12 PM
Online
Free

We ring in the new year with a cooking class led by our friend Kelly Shay of Harmonious World and Wellness. Stay tuned for the next couple of weeks to learn what we will be making and get a shopping list. We still have a few \$10 Seward Co-op and North Market gift cards for residents of one of the Minneapolis Green Zone neighborhoods (including Phillips) who need help to participate. For more information and to register, go to our event page via the Minneapolis Edible Boulevards facebook page.

Heart of the Beast Shaping Change Workshops
January 22 - February 26
Online or at The Avalon Theater
1500 E. Lake St
Free

Registration is now open for Heart of the Beast’s 2023 Art Shaping Change puppetry workshops! These annual workshops are taught by local creatives and explore social justice themes through art. This year’s focus is on climate justice. Virtual workshops will be taught by artists Ifrah Mansour and Graci Horne, and in-person workshops by Sofia Padilla and Davey Steinman of Paradox Teatro.

Workshops will be held throughout January and February, and participants of all ages and experience levels are welcome. Kids will need an adult with them to assist for both virtual and in-person workshops. Workshops are free, but registration is required. To see a schedule and to register, go to hobt.org/virtual-workshops or hobt.org/inperson-workshops. Please email info@hobt.org if you have questions.



Paradox Teatro puppetry workshop

Heart of the Beast events



through these upcoming workshops being offered in partnership with Journalism of Color. While we’re still scheduling local in-person trainings, we do have a few Zoom trainings already on the books. Trainings are always FREE and always open to members of the Phillips community. You can attend one training or more (each training will have similar content). RSVP by emailing ciriens@journalismofcolor.com

Organ Recital by Katelyn Emerson
Sunday, January 8
4 PM
Mount Olive Lutheran Church
3045 Chicago Avenue South
Free

Organist, lecturer, and pedagogue Katelyn Emerson is internationally renowned for performances throughout North

Free Community Journalism Trainings Coming Up! Entrenamientos de Periodismo Comunitario Gratis!

Hello Phillips Community!

As we mentioned last month, *the alley* will soon be offering a few community journalism trainings as part of an ongoing partnership.

While we’re still scheduling our in-person trainings, we do have a few Zoom trainings already on the books. These are always FREE and always open to members of the Phillips community. RSVP by emailing ciriens@journalismofcolor.com. Here are the dates:

- **Zoom Training 1:** Jan. 5 at 4 - 5pm
- **Zoom Training 2:** Jan. 19 at 6 - 7:30pm
- **Zoom Training 3:** Feb. 2 at 12 - 1:30pm

You can attend one training or more (each training will have similar content).

These trainings are a wonderful way to potentially get involved with *the alley*’s work and to receive free, professional community journalism trainings.

We hope to see you there!

Cirien Saadeh will be leading trainings.
 Cirien Saadeh estará dirigiendo entrenamientos.

Hola a la Comunidad de Phillips!

Cómo escribimos el mes pasado, *the alley* ofrecerá unos entrenamientos de periodismo comunitario con el apoyo de nuestra asociación colaborativa.

Planeamos, para el futuro, entrenamientos de cara a cara, pero ya tenemos unos entrenamientos “Zoom” disponibles. Siempre son gratis y están abiertos para todos los miembros de la comunidad Phillips. Por favor, RSVP a ciriens@journalismofcolor.com. Las fechas y horas del Zoom son:

- **Entrenamiento Zoom 1:** el 5 de enero, de 4 a 5pm
- **Entrenamiento Zoom 2:** el 19 de enero, de 6 a 7:30pm
- **Entrenamiento Zoom 3:** el 2 de febrero, de 12 a 1:30pm

Puedes ir a uno entrenamiento o más (cada tiene contenido similar).

Estos entrenamientos son una manera para verse envuelto con el trabajo de *the alley* y para recibir entrenamientos de periodismo comunitario gratis y profesional.

¡Esperamos verte allá!



Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

Finding Peace

By MARTI MALTBY



Marti Maltby

With one day before the deadline for this article, I can’t think of anything to write about. So, I ask one of Peace House Community’s members what topic I should tackle. “How do you find peace?” he responds. Philosophers, sages, mystics, and self-help gurus have been pondering that question for centuries, and I’m supposed to cover it in 500 words?!

It’s a good question though. Peace, tranquility, stillness ... whatever word you want to use, it is an elusive but vitally important quality. We all need to experience it at some point to stay healthy. Many of us need a lot of it, while others seek it out only when they have a migraine, but either way, it is indispensable.

I think humanity has spent so much time thinking about peace, in part, because finding peace is such an individual endeavor. Each person has to discover their own ways of settling themselves. More than that though, each person has to develop new ways as their situations change. Sometimes finding peace involves sitting quietly and meditating, but sometimes, ironically, finding peace involves raising your fist and yelling (as Alice Cooper sang)

either. Each individual, in each different situation, must find their own way to peace, hold onto their peace as long as they can, and then find their way back to peace when it disappears.

Obviously, finding peace is easier in some situation than others. It’s almost impossible when another person deliberately provokes you, wanting you to share their misery and turmoil. When one faces a significant life loss, peace may take a vacation and not leave a forwarding address. But even though peace and good times are transitory, we have the hope that turmoil, suffering, pain, and loneliness also pass. At some point each one of us will have the chance of finding peace again, even if only for a few minutes.

or gloriously losing one’s temper under the right circumstances (as June Callwood wrote). Keeping things in, denying one’s feelings, saying the turmoil isn’t there, doesn’t lead to peace. But expressing those feelings in destructive ways doesn’t do it

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS

“My first job was working for a weekly newspaper in a town of about 8,000 people. The newspaper did a lot to connect the town’s residents. I was deeply sorry a couple of years ago when the paper folded. I am thankful that the Alley has been able to keep going all these years and has been able to represent its neighborhood so well.”

Marti Maltby, Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

Continued from page 3... Animal, cont.

guards were on the way. When a real mess hits the fan behind this and they could wind up serving longer sentences, possibly life, Earl and Ron hatch an escape plan.

While adaptation necessitates alterations to accommodate the medium, brought to screen life Bunker’s story loses none of its impact. Indeed, putting faces to the names in a stark picture of their purgatory hits all the harder. Deftly directed by Steve Buscemi (*The Sopranos*, *Homicide: Life on the Street*), who’s done more than his share

of acting (*Boardwalk Empire*), the cast lists an indies’ who’s who in Willem Dafoe, Edward Furlong, Danny Trejo (co-producer), Bunker, Tom Arnold and Mickey Rourke in an uncharacteristic, veritable tour de force as flaming queen Jan the Actress, expanded from about a page in the novel.

The Animal Factory is no formulaic, gratuitously blood-letting moral tale of nobly heroic convicts versus evilly corrupt officials. It is a saga of man ensnared by a system that breeds inhumanity, hence the title. It is also a candid look at a reality with which no one wants to come face to face.

Continued from page 1...

Urban Farm, cont.

in order to proceed to trial. The City requested the judge impose a bond of \$4.5 million. This is an unheard of and outrageous amount.

EPNI lawyers argued that the City’s situation is of its own making. The City continues to appropriate and spend money on their maintenance facility expansion despite being fully aware of legal questions posed by the 2008 Environmental Justice Law. The City continues to reject opportunities to work WITH the neighborhood, so the City alone is responsible for the need for a trial.

Speaking at the rally fol-

lowing the court hearing, Evan Mulholland from the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy called the impossibly high 4.5 million dollar bond amount tantamount to “putting a padlock on the courthouse!”

Other events to watch for in January:

▶ A Community Meeting at East Phillips Park Center.

▶ A City Council Meeting to accept bids and authorize demolition. We don’t have the date yet, but follow East Phillips Neighborhood Institute on social media and on the epnifarm.org website.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

What Does It Mean To Be a Community Newspaper?

By ALLEY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The first issue of *the alley* was produced in January 1976, making this small but mighty community newspaper 48 years old! Alley Communications is the community-governed non-profit (501c3) organization which publishes the paper. Neighborhood residents are the publication's reporters and writers telling their stories in their own words. *the alley* is made available free to readers, a reflection of the commitment to providing barrier-free access to information and provide space for covering events and articles specific to the Phillips Community.

THE NEWS OF 2022...

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

East Phillips Needs Harm Reduction Solutions for the Drug Problem

New Council Brings New Hope for Environmental Justice in East Phillips

Why I Voted to STRIKE

Giga-Waabamin Neen-Goo-Way-We-Dun

Uncle Hugo's Bookstore to Open in New Location

Interview With Local Artist Noelle

Minneapolis Edible Boulevards is Looking for Participants!

Philipp Neighborhood History Book Wins Award

Settler Colonial City Reclaims Its Past

Phillips Community Listening Session Focused on Encampments

Neighbors and Harm Reduction Groups Explore Overdose Prevention Site in Phillips

Interview With Sha'Vontie Rose Juneau Jackson Hosfield

CONGRADUATIONS Phillips' Class(es) of 2022!!!

JANUARY

Interview With Musician Andrew Naranjo

Wondering what's next?

Celebrating 200 Tales from the Cemetery

Tale of the Tapes: GBA with Sue Hunter Weir

More than Decoration

Minnesota Nurses Association Announces Strike

Two Rivers Gallery Prepares for Renodel

Nurses Putting Patients Before Profits

Allina Builds Abbott Northwestern Hospital Utility Plant Before Getting Air Emissions Permit

Urban Farm, Not Toxic Harm: City Planning Steps to Demolish Roof Drains Building

They're Back! The Return of the Uncles

Edee the Sweetie

Introducing Emmett

Restoring George Morrison's "Turning the Feather Around: A Mural for the Indian"

Hospitals Ignore Nurses' Pleas for Security after Strike

Museum Exhibit Presents One Woman's Journey of Discovery Exploring Her Family's Past

Call Out to Our Neighborhood Artistic Youth!

Prepare for Higher Heating Costs this Winter

American Indian Flag Library at Franklin Library

JULY

FEBRUARY

Why I Voted to STRIKE

Giga-Waabamin Neen-Goo-Way-We-Dun

Uncle Hugo's Bookstore to Open in New Location

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SEPTEMBER

FROM THE ALLEY!

GET INVOLVED!

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

visit us online to find out more: <https://alleynews.org/volunteer/>

JOIN THE BOARD your perspective matters!
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!
ADVERTISE -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.

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DECEMBER

Continued from page 3...

Tales, cont.

a visit to the cemetery but, then again, maybe not.

When the cemetery reopens in the spring you might want to stop in and see some of these treasures for yourself.

Sue Hunter Weir is chair of Friends of the Cemetery, an organization dedicated to preserving and maintaining Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery. She has lived in Phillips for almost 50 years and loves living in such a historic community.

Hunger Crisis in East Africa: What can we do?

By BRUCE MAGNUSON

According to the World Food Program, there is a huge crisis of hunger in Africa, the Middle East, and other parts of the world. For one example, we might look at Somalia. In Somalia, a September report on reliefweb.int states that 6.7 million people across the country were expected to face "high levels of acute food insecurity" from September to December of 2022. Of those, 2.2 million were projected to be in "Emergency" and 300,000 people in "Catastrophe." Many of those are children.*

There are apparently a couple reasons for this awful situation. One is that there have not been good rains in areas of Somalia for about four years. If this situation were to happen in Minnesota, maybe we could get our food from Illinois or Ohio, for example. The federal government would likely help out. It would be devastating, but probably most people would survive. However, in a situation such as Somalia's there may be lack of infrastructure to transport food, and food may be so expensive that people do not have the financial resources to buy it from another country. We cannot even hardly imagine what this is like. Think about

waking up on a certain morning, and there just is no money for food. You just don't have it; your children (and you also) may be hungry, and the food may or may not be out there, but if it is, it's so highly priced that there is simply no way to make a purchase. What does a person do in a hunger situation? A person suffers. Children may be the worst hit, because they are still growing. Their weight drops, they could become listless, and be vulnerable to diseases that healthy children would not have.

A second reason for this huge crisis (in reference to the worldwide situation of hunger) is war. When a country or a group in a country goes to war, people are pushed off their land. That means they can't plant, or if they have planted, they cannot harvest. Peaceful resolution of conflict is therefore very important. But some conflicts rage on.

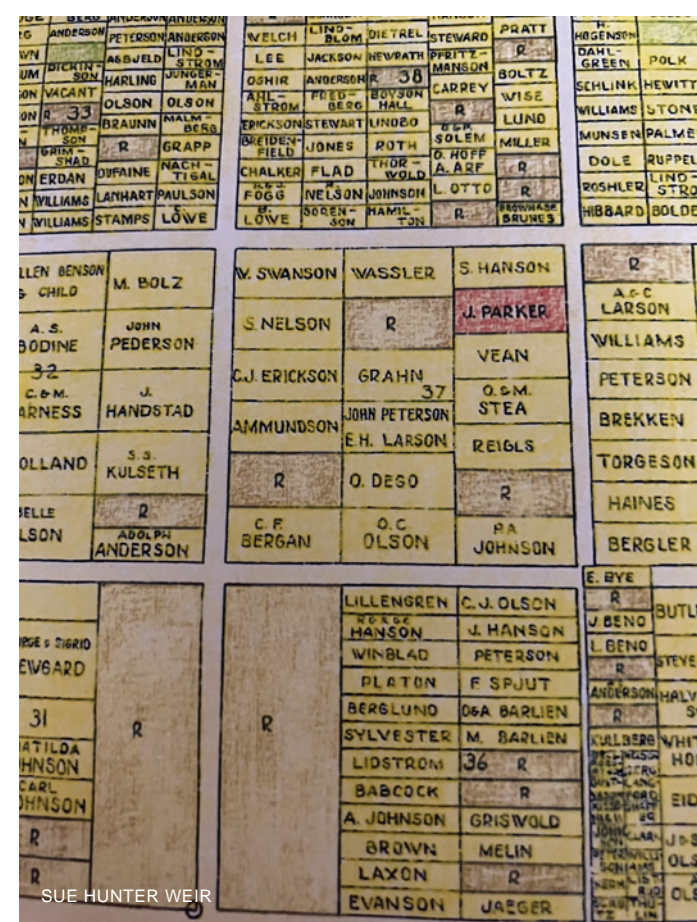
What can we do? Awareness and support are two things we can do which really make a difference! Just keeping track of what's happening is good, without becoming too depressed about the issue. It's not good to spend too much time focusing on something that is extremely bad. Your mind cannot handle it. But a little information can be

helpful. Support can be helpful because we in some ways are really blessed here in the U.S. Not everyone has a small donation to spare to help alleviate hunger, but many of us do. Many of us live in luxury, compared to how certain people in other countries live. We take clean water for granted, sometimes. We take a full meal for granted! I often do, anyway. But my attitude is wrong. I should be grateful for everything. Then I can see things in perspective—a little help to the right organization will go a long way toward helping someone else, and also toward helping myself.

Which organizations are good for us to help? Look at the organization's website. Use a watchdog agency's website also; for example, charitynavigator.org. Just one individual taking one small step makes a very, very large difference. I can't explain this phenomenon. But it's exciting to think that just one individual can really be an effective agent for change for the better!

*https://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/somalia-acute-food-insecurity-and-malnutrition-snapshot-1-june-december-2022

Bruce Magnuson has lived in Phillips for 12 years. He works and attends church in Minneapolis and is proud to call Minneapolis home.



A small section of Block G from the cemetery's plat book.

The Life of a Leaf

By SHELIA BLAND

Nibbled on
Rained on
Wind tossed
Chilled
Scorched
Uprooted
Disoriented
Fallen
Downtrodden
Besmirched
Disintegrated

Shelia Bland lives in Midtown Phillips. She has been writing most of her life to help herself understand the experiences and people in her shared world.

Continued from page 1...

Norway, cont.

with tension cables—looking like sailing ships anchored in a harbor.

Wood is an important element with the new wood-clad entrance to Norway House, designed with a tower reminiscent of a Norwegian stave church. It provides a bridge to the older structure of Norway House, also painted in the iconic indigo blue. The new structure also enables Norway House to have a pedestrian-friendly entrance from Franklin Avenue.

And then there is Norway House's contribution to the neighborhood's public art landscape, the pine cone sculpture "Seeds," designed by sculpture artist Finn Eirik Modahl from Bergen, Norway. At 16.5 feet tall and patterned after Minnesota's State Tree the Norway Pine, the sculpture makes an impressive statement. The sculpture provides a focal point in relation to Mindekirken, the historic Norwegian-speaking church which is located at the diagonal corner of the plaza. The sister sculpture "Konglo" to "Seeds" can be found on the island of Sotra outside of Bergen.

But while "Konglo" was crafted in copper, "Seeds" has



Artist Finn Eirik Modahl shakes hands with Queen Sonja, as Norway House Director of Exhibitions Max Stevenson and Executive Director Christina Carleton stand by.

been executed in a polished steel. "This is built to last," said Modahl. The reflective quality of the material means that you never experience the sculpture in the same way, depending on the light and what is being reflected.

You can see both what is around you and your own image in the sculpture, with a perspective that is constantly changing. Standing as an open sculpture, it is a magnet for children to run around and takes on a living quality.

"This sculpture builds toward the future," said Modahl. "Always changing and evolving, the sculpture goes right into the core and idea of Norway House."

Norway House is pleased to

welcome all its Ventura Village and Phillips community neighbors to come visit both its outdoor sculpture and its indoor spaces, which include an art gallery, cafe, gift shop, and spaces for meetings and events. Hours are Tuesdays 12 to 4, and Wednesdays through Saturdays 10 to 4. Except for special events, it is closed Sundays and Mondays. As the Norwegians would say, "Velkommen!"

Source: "A new place for gathering and a new landmark" by Lori Ann Reinhall, *The Norwegian American*, 11/3/22. See www.norwayhouse.org and www.norwegianamerican.com for more information.

MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC

www.midtownphillips.org | info@midtownphillips.org | f midtownphillipsminneapolis

SAVE THE DATE! ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, February 28, 5:30pm

LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED.

Check our website for details closer to the event date at www.midtownphillips.org

January Events

Board Meeting:
Tuesday, January 10, 5:30pm

Community Meeting:
Tuesday, January 24, 6:30pm

All meetings take place on Zoom

JOIN THE MIDTOWN PHILLIPS ASSOCIATION!

Candidates must live, own property, or represent a business or organization within the neighborhood boundaries (see description at www.midtownphillips.org)

For more information, email info@midtownphillips.org

For agendas and links to join meetings via Zoom, visit www.midtownphillips.org

Like us on facebook @midtownphillipsminneapolis

Community meetings every 4th Tuesday EXCEPT IN JULY AND DECEMBER

Subscribe to our newsletter at www.midtownphillips.org

THANK YOU! A HUGE THANK YOU TO THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO ALLEY COMMUNICATIONS, PUBLISHER OF the alley!!!!!!

anonymous, Peter and Jane Eichten, Wendy Gaskil, Susan Gust and Harvey Winje, Peggy Korsmo-Kennen, Vicki Mahoney, Dave Moore and Linnea Hadeway, Ruth Olkon, Leon Oman, Cathy Strobel-Ayres, Jane Thomson

This financial support matters SO MUCH to help this community-governed media source make ends meet. It also helps the staff and volunteers know that our efforts matter and to produce *the alley* and to serve our community. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

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alley cat friends, from drawings done by Open Streets visitors

Movie Corner

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II

Bones and All



Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures 2022 Horror/Romance/Drama

How do I describe Director Luca Guadagnino's film Bones and All? Icky. Unique but macabre. Achingly prosaic. Presents an anemic romance that seems to be not natural. The chemistry between the two lovers is mostly tepid. And cannibalism is the theme where the main characters deliberately prey on other humans for food. Yes, this horror-romance-drama will not be pleasing to your palate.

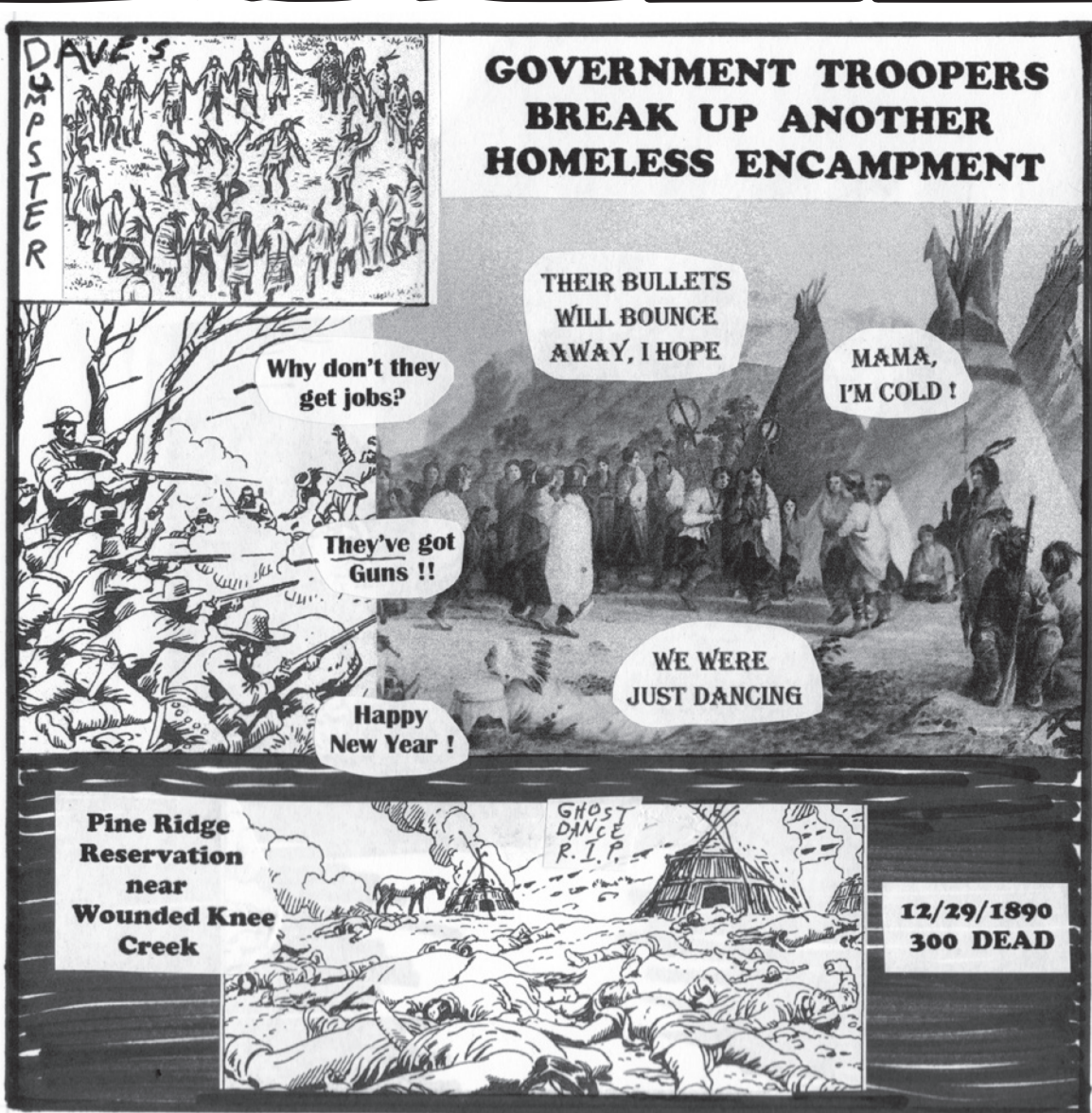
A young woman, Maren (Taylor Russell), realizes she has a need for human flesh (not just blood like vampires). Her propensity for snacking on human flesh gets her in serious trouble at a slumber party when she bites off a girl's finger. Her father (Andre



Howard McQuitter II

Holland, Moonlight [2016], Passing [2021]) is aware of her affliction and immediately leaves with her to an undisclosed place. Soon he abandons her. Maren is 18 years old and has to fend for herself. She wanders through back country roads, perhaps for miles on end.

She stops in a convenience store to shoplift when she sets eyes on Lee (Timothée Chalamet), an outcast like her, also an "eater" of humans. But shortly before meeting him, she's spotted by a strange older man called Sully (Mark Rylance), who claims he can smell an "eater" like himself. Sully will become a nuisance later on in the film. He's a stalker, something she will come to realize. But with Lee, she goes to various states (Nebraska, Ohio, Minnesota, etc.) to find her mother she's never known. Looking for her mother is one of the few redeeming things in the movie. Think



about a child with a father who abandons her and a mother who she's never seen. Lee has a sister and mother in Kentucky he doesn't visit much. But the two young people thrive on murdering and eating people. Lee leads by finding unsuspecting victims they both can chew on. At the end of the film I have had far too much for my mind, spirit, body and, last but not least, my palate.

Guadagnino directed Timothée Chalamet in another film, Call Me by Your Name (2017), about forbidden love set in the 1980s in Italy.

Cast: Timothée Chalamet (Lee), Taylor Russell (Maren), Mark Rylance (Sully), Andre Holland (Maren's father), Ellie Parker (Jackie), Madeleine Hall (Kim), Chloé Sevigny (Janelle).

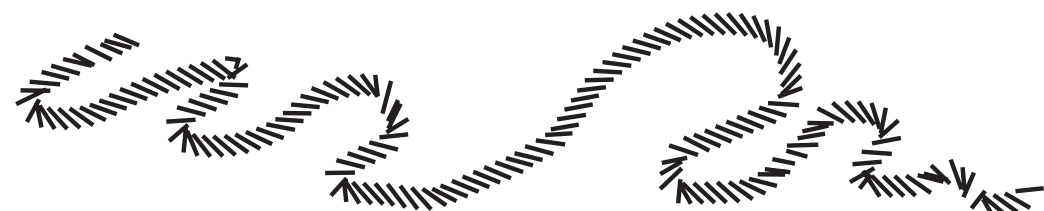
Director: Luca Guadagnino. Running time: 131 minutes. (R)



Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS "The theme of the Alley Newspaper is not only to survive, but thrive in a media juggernaut." Howard McQuitter II, Movie Corner

FROM OUR CONTRIBUTORS "We really enjoyed the young artist features. Ms. Kaluza's financial advice was also spot on, as well as Ms. Fenner's Covid commentary." Dave Moore + Linnea Hadaway, Spirit of Phillips and Dave's Dumpster



RETURNING CHAPTER 27: Light Bends to the Heart

By PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL



Patrick Cabello Hansel

Luz and Angel, with Angelito in tow, stood in front of the day care where they had last seen their daughter Lupe. It seemed like days since they were last there—no, much more than that: years, scores of them, more than a century they had traveled. And yet, in our cold benighted age, it was but a few hours. They still had the scrap of paper that read: Don't worry. We have your light blessing. You will know where she is. They took it out and looked at it again. This time, they noticed the marks on the bottom of the page. There were two arrows ^ ^ pointing up, and a vertical straight line. next to it. Luz took the note from Angel's hands, held it to her face, and said: "There's something missing here." Angel peered at it. "Or we're

missing something," he said. They stared at it for a long minute, trying to figure it out. Then their 4 1/2 year old son spoke, the one who always seemed to find the way: "Look, papi," he said. "There's a bit of the note still stuck to the door." When Luz took the scrap and held it to the note in their hands, the initials became clear: ML. "ML!" Angel shouted. "Does that mean Mother Light?" "What else could it mean?" Luz said. "We don't know anyone with those initials." "But we don't know who she is this time, Luz!" Angel said, his voice breaking. (Readers will remember that in the first story "Searching", Mother Light saved and healed Angel after he had been severely

beaten. Then she was present in the body and life of an African-American woman who had lived and healed in the neighborhood for decades. But that soul had passed on over two years ago. Mother Light was like a Phoenix, one who rose again, not out of the ashes of a flaming nest, but in a humble heart chosen as a guide for searchers. She had inhabited Dakota elders, a 101 year old Swede, a child of ten. Luz and Angel had caught glimpses of her in the past few years, but could never say: This is her. This is where she resides.) "How will we find her?" Angel asked Luz. Luz was still for a moment. She could feel something moving inside of her, some wind of hope that had been crowded out by the darkness of that day, the darkness she had carried for many years. "Remember," she began slowly, and as she said the word it realized its power. So she repeated it. And then again. "Remember. Remember, Angel," she began. "That's what the Pastora at the church said the night we had the vigil at the mural. Remember?"

"The night after the mural was vandalized?" Angel said. "Yes!" Luz said. "It happened to be February 2: Candelaria or Groundhog Day, one of those turning points. We lit candles and sang and promised to restore the mosaics and paint. And to be the light wherever we were." "Of course!" Angel said. "And there was a little girl, maybe 5 or 6 named Sofia, who said that she could feel the light in her heart. But how will that help us?" Luz shook her head. "I don't know," she said. "But we have to keep searching for the light." Angel looked at her and then at his young son. A light seemed to shine from the boy's eyes, a light that could not be extinguished. "What do you think, mi'jo?" Angel asked him. "I think there are a lot of hearts in this place," he said. His parents nodded, not really understanding. "I know where there is one," Angelito shouted. "Follow me!" As the boy started marching north on Cedar, his parents had no choice but to follow.

Continued from page 1... Nurses, cont.

labor. Further guarantees of patient and employee safety could be laid out in legislation at the state capital. The Minnesota Keeping Nurses at the Bedside Act is a vital piece of legislation that needs to become law. It would recruit and train nursing students to Minnesota, retain experienced nurses, and review hospital safety data. In May 2022, the act passed the State House, but stalled in the State Senate. With the new senate session next year, there may be enough support to finally make these essential provisions to healthcare the law of the land.



Raise Your Voice

Consider the Time

By PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

The Amazon organizing campaign, seen here greeting workers during a shift change, initially rallied from CTUL headquarters, George Floyd Square.

As per the familiar Big Bang, the age of our universe is said to be 13.772 billion years (give or take). However, for old timers such as myself, this estimate is disconcerting. For heaven's sake, what time was it before the beginning of time? Dear astronomers, please consider the possibility that time has no beginning nor end, and therefore, the dimension of time is cyclical in nature. Then please, consider the corollary: our universe will continue to expand but only to a maximum limit, after which, it will (again) contract to its minimal size limit. In other words, the phenomenon of the Big Bang is itself infinitely

cyclical in nature. It seems we ponder such things as Christmas and the new year approaches! Is it normal for the 'philosophical materialist' to commend the life of Jesus? Well in fact, Jesus actively opposed the exploiters and oppressors of his day. So, the answer is: yes. But, is the "materialist" allowed to believe in God, if he or she believes consciousness is a product of the evolution of matter (i.e., believes in the 'primacy of matter')? Well, that depends... right? Consider, however, that the associated 'theory of reflection' illuminates the content of consciousness, while failing miserably to demystify the 'essence of consciousness'.

At the very least, it follows then that Marxism must share the road with the liberation theology which stems from Christianity. A reminder note: At some point in time in the not so distant future, our collective existence will become unsustainable lest the capitalists forfeit their ownership of the means of production. Such an historical moment is referred to as a 'revolutionary situation'... during which 'democracy' will (at this juncture) impose its will in order to establish a socialist society. May we all live to see the day!

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