

Victory for the East Phillips Urban Farm

Outstanding Leaders Advance Community Vision for Roof Depot & Hiawatha Expansion

By H LYNN ADELSMAN

In a flurry of last minute negotiations before the end of the state legislative session, community and city leaders, state legislators, and the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) brokered an agreement that will allow the Urban Farm at the Roof Depot site in East Phillips to move forward. The City has agreed to sell the site for an urban farm, in exchange for \$4.5 million from the State to build the needed water distribution facility at another location, plus \$2 million from the State as a deposit on the sale of the Roof Depot property. EPNI will need to raise an additional \$3.7 mil-

lion for the property purchase by September 8, 2023. Learn more about plans for the East Phillips Urban Farm in future issues of *the alley*.

The month of May saw concerted activity to get the Urban Farm funding across the finish line before the legislative session wrapped up by May 22. At a planning commission meeting city staff brought a zoning change proposal including conditional use permits to limit the Hiawatha Expansion Development. Lively debate and testimony led to a majority vote against the conditional use permit and zoning changes. Three

no votes by Koski, Campbell and Olson, were offset by the five yes votes for postponement by Alper, Haxley, Conley, Ford, and Marwa. It's unusual that staff recommendations were rejected at a planning commis-

sion meeting.

Tuesday morning May 9th in the 5th floor meeting room of the State Office building there was an exceptional amount of support from many including

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A broad coalition of labor, environmental, and Indigenous activists and organizations rallied at the Roof Depot site in East Phillips for the International Workers' Day March on May 1.



BEN HEATH

Meet Your Neighbor: Edric Knight

By LAURA HULSCHER

I was tabling for *the alley* at the Phillips West Fall Festival when I met Edric, a retired financial analyst and resident at Ebenezer Tower Senior Apartments. As we discussed our interests and involvements, what stood out to me most was his gift for connecting people. It was through Edric that I first discovered the Phillips treasure that is the Ebenezer Tower resident community. A short interview can't begin to cover all his organizing activities there (Sample Night at the Apollo talent show, anyone?), but it gave me the opportunity to learn more about him.

Where did you grow up?



Edric at an APA league tournament in 2022

How did you land in these parts?

Edric: I grew up in Springfield Missouri, Queen City of the Ozarks, a few miles from Branson. Jobless



Photos of local murals painted in response to the murder of George Floyd, taken by Edric.



and divorced in St. Louis, a high school friend persuaded me to come to Minneapolis in 1990. My first apartment was in Corcoran for a couple of years, then I moved to Powderhorn Park and ultimately to reside here Phillips West.

You're retired, tell me about some of the ways you spend your time?

Edric: Well, I volunteer for

Mid Minnesota Legal Aid, I'm a board member and treasurer. And I work with the residents here [at Ebenezer Tower] and serve as IT support. I also shoot pool, through leagues. It's like I'm always studying, trying to learn.

What do you appreciate about Phillips?

Edric: Phillips at large is *Continued on page 7...*



PROVIDED BY MINNEAPOLIS EDIBLE BOULEVARDS

Here, one of the South High students is learning the proper way to plant a fruit tree at the May 18 Garden Party. Jim Embry will be the special guest at our Youth Juneteenth Celebration at the South High Food Forest.

"Our Growing Season is Here!"

By MICHELLE SHAW, Minneapolis Edible Boulevards

Are you interested in being part of a community that listens to what you and your neighbors have to say? Minneapolis Edible Boulevards is a small initiative, we create partnerships in both Green Zones and adjacent neighborhoods so that we can listen to the concerns of the community. As a part of our volunteer team, we are looking for folks who are willing to share their input, problem-solve, help us share our events more effectively, and identify the best ways to get community input. Perhaps that's attending a bi-monthly or quarterly meeting. Perhaps it's something else. We can't do it without you. If you're interested, please reach out to minneapolisibleboulevards@

gmail.com.

This was our best year for applications! 55 applications! Clearly, there's a demand for growing our own food, sharing fruit with one another, and being in community with others, and we're excited to learn and grow with you. Thank you so much for taking the time to apply! We'll be going through the applications and reaching out to everyone who applied. The great news is that even if we're not able to gift you resources through our funding, you'll still be able to plant food on your own with the recent revelation that the 2014 ordinance change made it possible to grow fruits and vegetables in the city. One

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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:
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Governed by Directors: Steve Dreyer, Susan Gust, Rico Morales, Ciren Saadeh, Cathy Strobel-Ayres

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

Managed by: Sonya Ewert

Facilitated by: Graphic Designer and Coordinator, Mattie Wong

Page Coordinators: Steve Dreyer and Daniel Dorff, VV News; EPIC News, J Randolph, PWNQ; Roberta Barnes and Susan Ann Gust, Back Page. Social Media: Lindsey Fenner, Jessie Merriam, Susan Gust

June contributors to the alley: H. Lynn Adelsman, Roberta Barnes, Danette Billups, Shelia Bland, Celluloid Dreams, Cultural Wellness Center and CWC Health Hub, Marco Dávila, Daniel Dorff, Steve Dreyer, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Lindsey Fenner, Susan Gust, Linnea Hadaway, Patrick Cabello Hansel, Ben Heath, Hennepin County Libraries, Hennepin History Museum, James Henry, Dwight Hobbes, Kala Hotakainen, Laura Hulscher, Sue Hunter Weir, Destiny Jones, Mary Ellen Kaluza, Edric Knight, League of Women Voters Minneapolis, Lutheran Social Service Pan-African Employee Resource Group, Marti Maltby, Tim McCall, Howard McQuitter II, Jessie Merriam, Midtown Global Market, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Assoc., Minneapolis Edible Boulevards, Dave Moore, Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Carz Nelson, Peter Molenaar, Native American Community Development Institute, Open Eye Theatre, Open Streets Minneapolis, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Kali Pliego, Radicle Land Collective, J Randolph, Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts, Michelle Shaw, Soomaali House of Art, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ventura Village Neighborhood Organization, Derrick Vorpahl, John Charles Wilson

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

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.

Submissions due the 15th day of the previous month



Library News

By LAURA HULSCHER

All information listed here is accurate as of May 15, 2023. 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

MOVIE MATINEE

Watch popular films biweekly with your Franklin Library friends and neighbors!

Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings (PG-13)

Franklin Library
Thursday, June 1 at 1 to 3:30 PM

Creed (PG-13)

Franklin Library
Thursday, June 15 at 1 to 3:30 PM

TECHNOLOGY HOUR

One-on-one help with computers, smartphones, tablets, and e-readers. Library staff are available to assist you on your own devices and library computers.

Franklin Library
Sundays and Tuesdays at 1 to 2 PM



Welcome Back, Transit!

As I'm fairly sure most people who use Metro Transit, or at least read this column, know, Metro Transit service has been severely curtailed in the past few years, first due to the pandemic, then due to a driver shortage.

Finally, there is good news on that front: some of the service we lost is being restored as of the next pick, effective Saturday, 17 June 2023. While

URBAN 4-H

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

Franklin Library
Tuesdays at 4-5:30 PM

YARD GAMES & OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Come enjoy the summer outside on Franklin's lawn. Youth are invited to explore the outdoors surrounding the library with nature backpacks and identification guides, and to play a variety of yard games, including bean bag toss, badminton, soccer, and more!

Franklin Library
Mondays and Fridays starting June 23 at 1:30 to 3 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
Tuesdays at 4 to 5:30 PM

ANIME CLUB

Anime Club for adolescents.
Franklin Library
Wednesdays 6:30 - 8 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
Fourth Thursday of the month at 2 - 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 kind of books you like, and what kind 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.

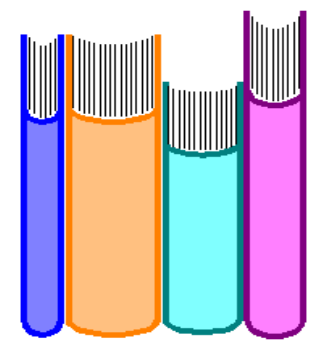
ASK THE LIBRARY

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.



fic conditions.

Route 5 will also have minor schedule adjustments for construction on Osseo Rd.

Route 9 will be restored to run once every half hour on weekdays during the midday period, rather than once an hour.

Route 67 will have minor schedule adjustments, and will run on Robert St. rather than Cedar and Minnesota in downtown Saint Paul.

The most obvious benefit will be to those alley readers who use the Orange Line on I-35W and/or Route 9 along Franklin Ave. While Metro Transit has a long way to go to restore the good service it provided before the pandemic, these schedule improvements plus the safety

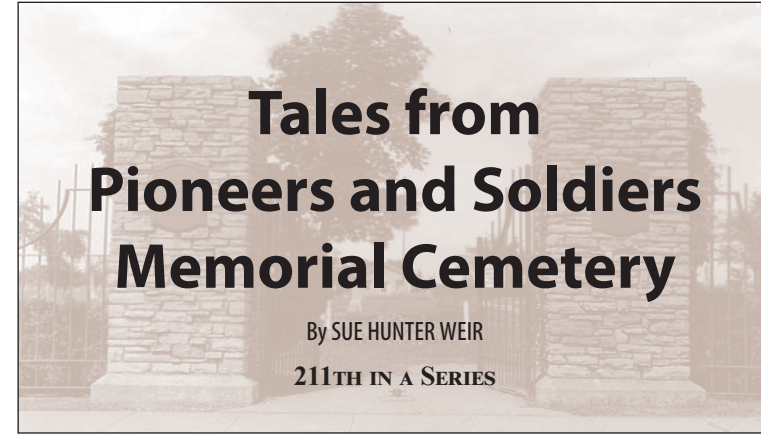
improvements are happening throughout the system, the following changes most directly affect *the alley* readership area: The Orange Line is being restored to run once every 15 minutes rather than every half hour on weekdays during the midday period.

The D Line will have minor schedule adjustments for construction on Osseo Rd. In North Minneapolis and to match traf-

initiatives that have been highly publicized on the TV news, may finally make transit use feasible again for more people.

Though we are often quick to complain about Metro Transit's shortcomings, we often forget to praise them when they are doing something right. Perhaps a sincere, positive word of encouragement to our transit drivers is in order.

John Charles Wilson is a transit enthusiast who has been interested in this field since the 1970s.



No Justice for Martha

Gilbert Seashore, the Hennepin County Coroner, ruled Martha Rossa's death as an "intentional homicide." But despite the fact that Nick Piritano, the man who shot her, confessed, her case never went to trial. Instead, the county prosecutor devoted his efforts to prosecuting Piritano for killing Nick Bruno, a man who was in the same house as Martha on the night that she died.

The transcripts of Piritano's trials, both of them for the murder of Bruno, appear to no longer exist. And newspaper

accounts about what happened on the night of May 5, 1913, are confusing and contradictory at best.

What is known is that on that evening she was at the home of Nick Piritano. The papers referred to her as his housekeeper but suggested that there was more to their relationship than that. They referred to Piritano as a "jealous slayer." Martha was referred to not as Miss Rossa or even Martha but as "the Rossa woman," a term that reporters often used to suggest that a woman was of questionable



On September 9, 2012, the University of Minnesota hosted a dedication ceremony to honor the 250 adults who served as research subjects for medical students in the years 1914-1916. The University provided a marker in their memory.

character. She had also worked as Bruno's housekeeper and whether there was more to their relationship is not known.

What is clear is that Martha was at Piritano's home at 308 Fillmore Street Northeast when Bruno showed up at the door with a pistol. Martha had spent some time with Bruno earlier in the day, and Piritano stayed

home from work that night because he was afraid that Bruno would show up at the house. He was right. Bruno showed up at the door around midnight and told Piritano that he had gotten into a fight in a bar and was hiding from the police.

Newspaper accounts about what happened next varied widely. According to the Minneapolis

Journal, Bruno entered the house and Piritano grabbed a shotgun and killed him. He fired a second shot that hit Martha when she stepped into his line of fire. The bullet struck her in the head and she "received part of the discharge in the face."

The Tribune's account said that Piritano allowed Bruno to enter the house and waited until Bruno and Martha were in a bedroom separated from the rest of the house by a curtain. Piritano fired through the curtain and killed Bruno who was lying in bed asleep. The lights went out and Piritano fired a second shot, the one that struck Martha.

Piritano walked out of the house and turned himself in to two policemen who were passing by. He was taken to the police station where he signed a confession.

Bruno died immediately but Martha did not. She was taken to the city hospital around midnight and died there three hours later.

Continued on page 9...

Food is the Great Unifier

By DANETTE BILLUPS

Outside, a woman sits on a bench and has her wagon. She is waiting for this week's free meals to be delivered. She feels fortunate to be part of the program offering the meals. When her food box is delivered, she quickly opens it to see what is inside: Swiss chard, ground turkey, canned beans, grits, tomatoes, and bell peppers! What a lovely surprise! And she received a bonus: there are two recipe cards in the box as well! She hurries inside with her food and tells everyone in sight about what she has received for the week.

At the community meet and greet, community members come together to see who is new in the neighborhood. There is a nice spread of food on the tables. Across the street, there is a city bus, covered with pictures of food.

It is the Twin Cities Mobile Market! The Mobile Market visits different locations in the Phillips neighborhood, bringing the grocery store to the community. People shop for their weekly food and chat afterwards about what's for dinner.

Whether shopping for groceries, receiving free food or sharing a meal with a friend, food is the great unifier in the Phillips neighborhood.

Information on the food resources mentioned:

The Appetite for Change/Community Cooks program is open for applications in May of each year and food is distributed from June through November of each year. Interested parties would contact them through their Facebook Page, and would receive a link to apply. Unfortunately, the application process closed quickly this year.

Sister's Camelot is at the American Swedish Institute located at 2600 Park Avenue on the fourth Monday of the month at 2:00 PM. There is no need to sign up, just show up.

The Twin Cities Mobile Market is currently parking at Ebenezer Park Apartments (2700 Park Avenue) on Mondays from 2:05 PM – 4:30 PM. There is no need to sign up. They accept payment for the food by use of cash, credit/debit card, or EBT.

Something I Said

Juneteenth

By DWIGHT HOBBS



Dwight Hobbes

This month, across America and a few other places around the world, black folk plan to jump for joy at Juneteenth celebrations of freedom from slavery. There's a bittersweet aspect to that.

The sweet, of course, is liberation. Early revelry presented opportunities for political rallies to give voting instructions to newly freed African Americans. Also, baseball games, fishing, rodeos, street fairs and, of course, cookouts. Much later, black people tied the holiday to fighting for civil rights. In 1968, called by Dr. Martin Luther King and, after his assassination, led by Rev. Ralph Abernathy and Coretta Scott King, the Southern Christian Leadership

Conference made June 19 the Solidarity Day of the Poor People's Campaign. Nowadays, in addition to a good time outdoors, there's teaching African-American heritage, arts and literature showcases, and more. As Karen M. Thomas intoned in Emerge, "Community leaders have latched on to [Juneteenth] to help instill a sense of...pride in black youth".

The bitter is how it came to be named. Abe Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation was issued January 1, 1863 (in Delaware and Kentucky slavery remained legal for another six months). There was no mass media except newspapers, which slaves had been forbidden to read. Consequently, most, still illiterate, had to get the news by word of mouth. Texas owners, slick as sin, pulled a fast one and simply didn't let their slaves know. They went right on conducting business as usual, brutally abusing them. Typical conditions in which slaves subsisted, like the other chattel, were unsanitary. Nutrition was poor, the labor ceaseless. This environment rendered them susceptible to human disease which went inad-

equately treated. Texas had an estimated 250,000 slaves in 1865 when, on June 19th, Union Army Major General Gordon Granger marched his troops into Galveston, Texas and ruined the scam, liberating the last of the enslaved men, women and children. It bears noting that while historical propaganda claims legendary defenders at the Alamo were valiant freedom fighters, one of the principles they were standing for against Mexico was the right to own slaves.

So, Texas was dragged into civilized society. Well, you take the good any way you can get it, even if it was two and a half years after the fact. Accordingly, why not see if you can make time to join in on one of the many Juneteenth jubilees. There's bound to be one near you. This is an opportunity to echo the joy of those who, way back then, finally saw the freedom no black person should have ever been denied in the first place.

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

Hey, you read "the alley"!



Contribute!

Want it to grow, improve, and land at your doorstep or on a newsstand as a "free newspaper" each month?

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



MIDTOWN PHILLIPS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC.
COMMUNITY MEETING
KULANKII XAAFADA
REUNIÓN DE COMUNIDAD

FOOD! FARXAD! ¡COMIDA!
FUN! DAMAASHADI! ¡DIVERSIÓN!

INTERPRETACIÓN A ESPAÑOL
TURJUBAANO KU HADLA AFKA SOOMAALIGA!

Meet your neighbors, talk about the issues facing our community, and participate in the election of the Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association board!

If you live, work, or own property between Lake Street and 24th Street, Bloomington Avenue and Chicago Avenue, you are already a member of MPNAI.

Want to serve your community, get to know your neighbors, and gain skills in nonprofit and community work? Run for the MPNAI board! To learn more or declare your candidacy, email us at info@midtownphillips.org.

¡Conozca a sus vecinos, hable sobre los problemas que enfrentamos la comunidad y participe en la elección de la Asociación de Vecinos de Midtown Phillips!

Cada persona que vive, trabaja, o posee una propiedad entre calle Lake y calle 24, avenida Bloomington y avenida Chicago, es un miembro de MPNAI.

¿Quiere servir a su comunidad, conocer a sus vecinos y adquirir habilidades en el trabajo comunitario y sin fines de lucro? ¡Corre para la organización de MPNAI! Para obtener más información o declarar su candidatura, envíenos un correo electrónico a info@midtownphillips.org.

Si aad wax uga ogaataan xaafadaha, deriskaaga kala hadasho arrimaha soo wajaha bulshadeena, iyo ka eybgalka doorashada gudiga maamulka.

Qof kasta oo deggan, ka shaqeeya ama guri ku leh inta u dhaxeysa Wadooyinka Lake iyo 24, Bloomington, iyo Chicago waxa uu xubin ka yahay Ururka Xaafadda Phillips (MPNAI).

Ma dooneysaa in aad u adeegto bulshadaada, deriskaaga aad is barataan, oo aad wax ka ogaato sida ay u shaqeeyaan hay'adaha aan faa'iido doonka aheyn iyo adeegga bulshada? U istaag doorashada xubanaaha loo doorto maamulka MPNAI! Si aad wax uga ogaato ama u cadeeyso in aad u tartameysa xubin maamul, iimeyl u soo dir info@midtownphillips.org.

SUN, JUNE 4, 1-3PM
STEWART PARK, 2700 12TH AVE S

EL DOMINGO 4 DE JUNIO, 1-3
STEWART PARK, 2700 12TH AVE S

AXAD 4TA JUUN, 1-3 GALABNIMO
JARDINADA STEWARD, 2700 12TH AVE S

Dear Community Members,



Thank you for coming to the Partners in Prevention (PIP) free clinic and allowing us to serve you. It was an honor to spend time with you as we talked about your health concerns, provided health screenings and clinical hand massages. Below are results data that demonstrated the success of the PIP clinic.

Fall 2022 & Spring 2023

- Over 15 weeks, nursing students and nurse faculty served 217+ community members from 34 zip codes on Thursdays between 11 am – 2 PM. The following services were provided:
- Blood pressure checks
- Pre-diabetes screening
- Oral health screening
- Stress reduction: clinical hand massage
- Health coaching
- HIV testing/education
- Flu/Mpox/COVID 19 vaccinations
- Resource/service referrals as needed
- Medication reviews and consultations for seniors
- Depression screening
- PT consultations
- 96% reported the services were very helpful.
- 100% reported they were referred to a service/resource for an unmet health need.
- 100% reported they felt respected.
- 98% reported they would refer a family member/friend to the clinic.
- Gift cards were given to all individuals at their first clinic visit.

Next fall we will be back in mid-September, every Thursday, between 11am-2pm, before, during and after, the free community lunch. Please spread the word!

In the spirit of health and wellness,

Your Partners in Prevention team: Dr. Debra Eardley's nursing students, Clarence Jones, Fred Evans, Jack Rainey, Nancy Wilson, Mary Lundquist, Pang Cha, Bisharo Farah, Dr. Manisha Sha, Lisa Behr, Michael Manning, & the Phillips West Neighborhood Organization



Right to Vote Restored to 55,000 Paroled Felons

By THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNEAPOLIS

On March 3rd Governor Tim Walz signed into law legislation that restores the vote to more than 55,000 formerly incarcerated Minnesotans. In the largest expansion of voting since 18-year-olds won the right to vote in 1972, Minnesota joins 22 other states to give felons their voting rights, once they have completed their prison term. Previously anyone serving on probation or parole had to finish that extended sentence before voting rights were restored. Walz called this “a good day for democracy. We’re a country of second chances... and the idea of not allowing those voices to have a say in the very governing of the communities they live in is simply unacceptable.”

After two decades of advocacy, a large coalition of groups sued the state for this constitutional right under the principle of no taxation without representation. One of the plaintiffs, Jennifer Schroeder, had served one year for a felony drug charge – but was given a 40 year probational sentence on her release. The language in the lawsuit pointed out that “the Plaintiffs have been deemed safe to live in their communities where they raise their children, contribute to Minnesota’s economic, cultural, religious, civic and political life, and pay taxes...but Minnesota denies plaintiffs an essential indicium of citizenship, the right to vote.” The Supreme Court ruled against the plaintiffs saying the law didn’t violate

the state’s Constitution and sent it back to the Legislature. In response, Senator Bobby Joe Champion (DFL-Minneapolis) and Representative Cedrick Frazier (DFL-New Hope) sponsored the Restore the Vote Act which successfully passed. Secretary of State Steve Simon is working with the Department of Corrections to spread the word about this new voting right. The bill requires that a written notice and a voter registration application be given to each of these individuals on their release from prison, and to alert them that as of July 1 they can register to vote in this year’s elections.

Why is this Act so important? According to the organization, National Voter Registration Day, felony disenfranchisement disproportionately represents Black, Latino, and Indigenous residents who are already over-represented in the criminal justice system. It has played a role in disengaging future generations, as children are more likely to vote if their parents do. “People who are prohibited from voting, they have to pay their taxes, they have to obey all the laws...but they don’t have any choice in who represents them” said Attorney General Keith Ellison. “Now they do.”

A recent Commentary article in the Minnesota Reformer points out that restoring the vote will make Minnesota safer. “Many victims and survivors of violence want to disrupt the ongoing cycle of harm, punishment and isolation.” Having been “locked out of democra-

cy...studies show that having the right to vote immediately after incarceration improves public safety. Community engagement can reduce future arrests for justice-impacted citizens... and reduce one’s perceived status as an ‘outsider.’” According to Christopher Uggen, a U of M professor of sociology who has made a study of felon voting rights: “This would really reduce the multiplier effect... where the pronounced disparities in criminal justice are leading to pronounced disparities in political power.”

For help getting the word out to family, friends, church and community groups, contact Secretary of State Steve Simon at steve.simon@state.mn.us. Help ensure that all those eligible to vote know about this right. Please check the Secretary of State website mnvotes.gov for updates on the guidelines for eligibility.

For information on voter registration and eligibility, voting deadlines and locations, questions about Ranked Choice Voting, and more, go to: vote.minneapolismn.gov. For education on this new law and to develop a voting plan contact vote@lwvmppls.org.

This is the second article in a series of six articles about the 2023 Minneapolis City Election, brought to you by the League of Women Voters Minneapolis. All articles available at lwvmppls.org/for-voters.

Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

Which is Worse: A Viper, a Cobra, or an Adder?

By MARTI MALTBY



Marti Maltby

(Sorry for the implied sexism of that story. If I had a female supervisor, I’m sure it would have been a choice between a jackass, a mule, or a donkey.)

My supervisor’s comment keeps coming back to me when I recognize a situation with no “good” options, just options that hopefully are less harmful than others. One such situation came up at the April City Council meeting when the City reported that it has spent between \$5.5 and \$7.5 million since 2020 to close the various homeless encampments that have sprung up, migrated, disappeared, reappeared, and generally confounded everyone.

Decades ago, I heard my supervisor speaking with a friend about their respective marital troubles. They had very different challenges in their marriages, but they understood each other’s struggles. Being young, single, and stupid, I made some naïve comment that was meant to be helpful. My supervisor laughed at my ignorance and commented, “When it comes to our wives, it’s a question of whether you want to face a viper, a cobra, or an adder.”

won’t offer any solutions. Like most other people, I can say what I would do if I had the power to change the system, but my solution would fail, just as all the other proposed solutions would fail. If I choose to face an adder, I’ve avoided the dangers of the cobra and viper, but I’m still in danger. If I choose one way of dealing with the encampments, I avoid the weaknesses of other approaches, but I still have to deal with the weaknesses I have chosen.

The Council meeting and the report by City staff illustrated this dynamic. Do you close camps, forcing those who are already homeless to go through a period of even greater instability? Do you leave the camps there, and let the residents deal with the dealers, traffickers, and predators who prey on the

campers? What do you say to neighbors who are affected by the camps, and how do you compare the inconvenience they experience from the camps with the inconvenience the camp residents experience from being homeless?

I’m sure many people have balked at the amount of money the City has spent on closing encampments rather than housing the people living in the camps. Unfortunately, \$7 million isn’t enough to build enough housing to solve the problems that create the encampments. While \$7 million is enough to pay the rent and provide support services for the campers for some time, this is a Band-Aid solution. As long as the num-

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- Ebenezer Park Apartments** | 2700 Park Ave.-- 612-879-2233
- Ebenezer Tower Apartments** | 2523 Portland Ave.-- 612-879-2243
- Ebenezer Loren on Park** | 2625 Park Ave.-- 612-871-4574

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June is National Homeownership Month

By MARY ELLEN KALUZA

Are you thinking about buying your first home? The first step in the process is learning what that process is. Homebuyer education has been around for some time but really came into focus after the housing bubble of 2003 - 2006 burst and we were plunged into the Great Recession in 2007. During the bubble, mortgage loans were handed out like candy with predatory loan terms. Borrowers did not understand the terms and the consequences of that lack of knowledge. Some 3.8 million homeowners lost their homes to foreclosure between 2007 and 2010. (Not all were first-time homebuyers, there was plenty of ill-advised refinancing of mortgages going on, as well.)

First-time homebuyers are now strongly encouraged to take

homebuyer education, required or not. (Most special loan programs or down payment assistance programs do require it.) I regularly hear from homebuyers how valuable the class is - they feel much more confident going forward on the homeownership path.

And that is my advice to you, dear Hopeful Homeowner: Take the class. Now. Really. June’s the month. Many agencies who provide the classes offer it free of charge during National Homeownership Month. Find providers and schedules on the Minnesota Homeownership Center website: <https://www.hocmn.org/>.

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

Whether we close the encampments, support them, police them, provide services to them, or ignore them, we still face the choice of the viper, the cobra, or the adder. No matter what we choose, we will not succeed, at least not in the short term. Until we somehow overhaul our entire system, we will only have less bad options, not good ones.

As long as the num-

ber of people who need homes exceeds the number of homes available, we will have homeless people, and we will have encampments.

Whether we close the encampments, support them, police them, provide services to them, or ignore them, we still face the choice of the viper, the cobra, or the adder. No matter what we choose, we will not succeed, at least not in the short term. Until we somehow overhaul our entire system, we will only have less bad options, not good ones.

Marti Maltby is an avid cyclist, Director at Peace House Community, and an obnoxiously proud Canadian.

JUNE EVENTS

Four Sisters Farmers Market

Thursdays
11 AM - 3 PM
1414 E Franklin Avenue
Free

The Four Sisters Farmers Market kicks off with a big opening day June 1st from 11 AM - 3 PM and will continue every Thursday at that time until October 26th. The opening day will include live music, a raffle, and tons of new vendors! We hope you can make it by! SNAP/ EBT benefits, Market Bucks, Gus Produce Market Bucks, cash, and cards are welcome. nacd.org/four-sisters-farmers-market.

Shalay, Maanta, Berri:

Artists as Archivists
Through June 18
Soomaal House of Art
2200 Minnehaha Avenue
Free

Shalay, Maanta, Berri: Artists as Archivists is a project that brings together four artists of various localities and artistic backgrounds to consider, explore and share the archival nature of their artworks; The resulting exhibit will provide a framework for the complimenting practices between artists and archivists. Artists are Hodan Farah and Bashir Billow from Copenhagen, Denmark, and Jowhara Sheikhomar and Wasima Farah from Minnesota, United States. Gallery hours are Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, 1 - 5pm.

The Bond Between Us

On view through Spring 2024
Hennepin History Museum
2303 3rd Avenue S
Pay As You Can

In *The Bond Between Us*, local artist Daren Hill reflects on the past through an exploration of three generations of photographers. This exhibit will feature a large collection of images of Minnesota's Black community as well as new original digital artworks by Hill that honor his family and celebrate their bond. For visitor information, go to hennepinhistory.org.

Convergence /

Convergencia: A Community Celebration
Sunday, June 4
12:30 - 2 PM
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
2742 15th Avenue S
Free

Join us for a community celebration and the big reveal of our exterior installation of community portraits from the series on "belonging" by photojournalist John Nolmer. Over the past six

months we've been gathering portraits from members of our community and neighbors while asking: "Tell me about a time you felt a sense of belonging." Come enjoy music and food and see thirteen of the portraits as 12-foot-high banners on the exterior of our building facing 28th Street.

Music of J. S. Bach

Saturday June 10
4 PM

Mount Olive Lutheran Church
3045 Chicago Avenue
Free

In association with its Sixteenth Annual "Bach Tage," or "Bach Day," Mount Olive Music and Fine Arts presents organist Joseph Trucano in a recital of works by Bach. Trucano is Organist & Ensemble Director at Westminster Presbyterian Church and the Artistic Director of Skäl Chamber Collective. More information at mountolivechurch.org.

Open Streets East Lake Street

Saturday, June 10
11 AM - 5 PM
E Lake Street:
2nd Avenue S to 22nd Avenue S
Free

Join Our Streets Minneapolis and the City of Minneapolis in a celebration of community at Open Streets East Lake in 2023! Play, eat, bike, walk, dance, sing, and more at this free, family-friendly event. More than a street festival, Open Streets East Lake allows neighbors to experience city streets as public spaces where communities thrive.



The Bond Between Us Celebrates Three Generations of Black Photographers

◀ **Daren Hill. Portrait of Dawn, 2023. Digital collage, copper leaf, paper on canvas. Main image taken by Gregory Hill.**

▼ **Photo taken by Forest Hill, c. Unknown.**



darkroom. Hill says *The Bond Between Us* "shows life through a lens of grandfather to father to son."

Million Artist Movement

Juneteenth Quilting
Saturday, June 17
1 - 3 PM

Hennepin History Museum
2303 3rd Avenue S
Free

Million Artist Movement is hosting a quilting session on HHM's lawn to celebrate Juneteenth! Make a quilt square to send a message of power, love, and support to the community. All materials and art supplies are provided. Free for all ages. No reservations required.

Youth Juneteenth Celebration

Monday, June 19
10AM-12PM
South High School Food Forest
Free

Join us for a Youth Juneteenth Celebration at the South High Food Forest, sponsored by the South High Garden Club, CEED, Minneapolis Edible Boulevards, and the Minneapolis host committee for Jim Embry's Joy and Justice Journey 2023. Discuss the history of Juneteenth and learn about urban agriculture jobs available to youth. Food will be served. Open to ages 14-24. Register at the edible gardens facebook page, or email minneapolisedibleboulevards@gmail.com for more information.

Southside Semilla Celebration

Sunday, June 25
4-7 PM - and beyond!
Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts
2742 15th Avenue S
Free

The Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts invites you to

a celebration of our Southside neighborhood, and a chance to plant beauty in the community. Come and make art that can become Semillas or Seeds of Hope! Learn how to make lanterns for a procession this fall on Lake Street!

Local professional artists will be teaching art making; there will be live music by local musicians, an open mic, and great food. Free and family friendly celebration runs from 4-7 pm, followed by an outdoor puppet show by Open Eye Theatre. More information at semillacenter.org.

Full Moon Puppet Show

June 22-24
7 PM
Open Eye Theatre
506 East 24th Street
\$18 (\$10 economic accessibility)

Full Moon Puppet Show has been performing puppet slams throughout Minneapolis since 2008. This summer, innovative puppetry artists will perform 10 minute original puppet shows that invite audiences to participate, howl at the moon and cheer on each show. Two years ago we tried an outdoor model with three stages and a rotating audience. It was a great success so we're bringing it back! Please dress for the weather and bring a chair if you like, otherwise, if you're comfortable standing, we'll be rotating around quite a bit. This show is geared for adults and not recommended for children. A limited number of \$10 Economic Accessibility tickets are available at openeyetheatre.org.



VENTURA VILLAGE

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

Community Inreach: Add Your Voice!

By: Kala Hotakainen, Our Saviour's Community Services

Our Saviour's Community Services and Our Saviour's Lutheran Church are working together on an intentional process to engage our community and listen to our neighbors' hopes and dreams for the area. In addition to building relationships within the community, we hope to gather your ideas for the next stage of our property reimagining project.

We are co-located on Chicago Avenue, between E. 22nd Street and 24th Street. On this block, you'll find the church, permanent supportive housing units, our emergency shelter, our food shelf, the English Learning Center, and more. We'd love to hear what other spaces or resources you would like to see on our block!

If you'd like to connect with us and be part of our community conversations, please contact Robin@oscs-mn.org.



The 4 Sisters Farmers Market in the parking lot of the Pow Wow Grounds Coffee shop at 1414 E. Franklin will be kicking off the 2023 season on Thursday, June 1st. It will be open every Thursday 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM through October 26th. The opening day will include live music, a raffle, and new vendors! *By: Destiny Jones*

Ventura Village News

- **Join us at our June general membership meeting.** Wednesday, June 14th at 7:00 PM. Our committees will meet Thursday, June 29th at 5:30 PM. Both meetings are held at the ICCM Life Center, 1812 Park Avenue, and also be accessible via Zoom.
- **Our Neighborhood Association has been alarmed** at the way Minneapolis has been rewriting its zoning ordinances as part of its 2040 plan. Many of the changes it is proposing will bring us back to the problems and conditions our neighborhood and others close to downtown had a generation ago. Go to our website for more information about our concerns. We would appreciate your comments also!

Continued from page 1...

Edric, Cont.

one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the metro. Where else can you find such a celebration of cultures, cuisine, arts and traditions? Midtown is fabulous. This is the 5th and longest state I've lived in, and I never experienced such diversity until I came to Minneapolis.

Tell me about a spot in the neighborhood that's special to you.

Edric: There are so many. I'm into the arts, so I have MIA right around the corner, and after George Floyd's murder, I went around admiring and taking pictures of all the artwork all throughout the city. I mean just incredible graffiti. I won't call it graffiti, it was artwork. I like to go down to the river. I'm an avid biker, so I like to tour the city, both sides, not just Minneapolis, but Minneapolis and St Paul. I love it all, the architecture, wherever the arts are. There's not really one spot [in Phillips]. I've seen many changes since I've been here.

What changes are most striking to you?

Edric: Well, how Lake Street has been developed. When I got here, there was a lot of violence, much more than there is now. People don't realize how bad it was back in those

days. And Sears is gone. The Family Dollar, that of course is gone, the one across from the Sears building. It burned down [during the unrest in 2020]. That used to be the art center where the Throne Plaza was built. The city had donated the space.



Detail from the Throne Plaza Gateway at the northeast corner Peavey Park.

Are you referring to the Throne Plaza grand entrance at Peavey Park?

Edric: Yes! When the Throne Plaza gateway [installed at Peavey Park in 1992] was constructed [at Artspace on E Lake St], the Family Dollar store didn't exist, it was a vacant building for a long time. [Artist] Rafala Green turned it into Artspace for the community. I volunteered to help support the program by getting donations from the company I worked

for, (i.e. typewriters, chairs, and food) and provided transportation for volunteers to pick up other donations.

With all the things you've done and the territory you covered, is there something you'd still like to do in the future?

Edric: I'm looking forward to creating a workshop. I'm an artist. Before I went to school, I was a welder. I had a shop in the past, in St. Louis, making artistic wrought iron furniture, and I just love working with metals, creating things, ever since I was a teenager. Still got the equipment, it's all sitting there...


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Sun - Mon closed

Event rental inquiries:
JGrodahl@NorwayHouse.org

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On Wednesday, April 26th, I hosted a Block Leader Network Workshop at East Phillips Park Cultural and Community Center. I asked the attendees to come prepared to tell me and each other what gifts they can offer to their blocks and neighborhoods. Within the framework of Asset Based Community Development, this question "What are your gifts?" is divided into three parts.

• What are the gifts of your head? (Knowledge, expertise, etc.)

• What are the gifts of your hands? (Skills, hobbies, etc.)

• What are the gifts of your heart? (Passions, advocacy, etc.)

The listing of all the gifts we shared filled up a poster paper! There is a richness in breadth and depth of interests, skills, and passions within our community!

I encourage every block, neighborhood association, community-based organization, or however you define your neighbor community, to survey the gifts represented in and by your people. The list you come up with will be a starting point for how you think about building upon these gifts, or assets, to develop a community where people feel valued and a sense of belonging.

What other assets are in our community? What businesses, parks, schools, faith institutions, agencies, non-profits would you include in an Asset Directory for the four Phillips neighborhoods (Ventura Village, East Phillips, Midtown Phillips, Phillips West)? Send me referrals with contact information for my collection, which will become a hardcopy directory soon!

Keep an eye out for the next Block Leader Network Workshop coming in July. Send me a note if you want to be on the invite list. Kali.pliego@minneapolismn.gov

For a deeper dive into Asset Based Community Development, visit <https://resources.depaul.edu/abcd-institute>

• **Need tools, soil, seeds, or ideas for projects** in your yard or garden? Contact our website for help. We can also help you find space to grow some vegetables or flowers if you don't have room but still want to garden.

• **Events happening in June include Block Club Parties** at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1901 Portland Avenue, Friday, June 16th at 5:00 PM, and at the Pentagon Highrise, 1415 E. 22nd St., Friday, June 30th at 4:00 PM.

• **Hope Community invites you to help out** every Tuesday, 4 PM - 7 PM at their community garden at 1900 Portland Avenue.

Tell me about the picture of you at the pool table.

Edric: One of my hobbies since retiring is pool. I joined leagues at Jimmy's Pro Billiards on Central Ave, sanctioned by the APA (American Poolplayers Association). This picture is for placing first at a number 3 ranking for the individual appreciation tournament in November 2022.

A final question. Which pool game has more balls, 8-ball or 9-ball?

Edric: Which game has more balls? You don't shoot pool, do you? 8 ball! It has 15, 9-ball has 9.

Laura is lucky to call Phillips one of her many second homes. She has learned so much helping to produce the alley in the last couple of years.

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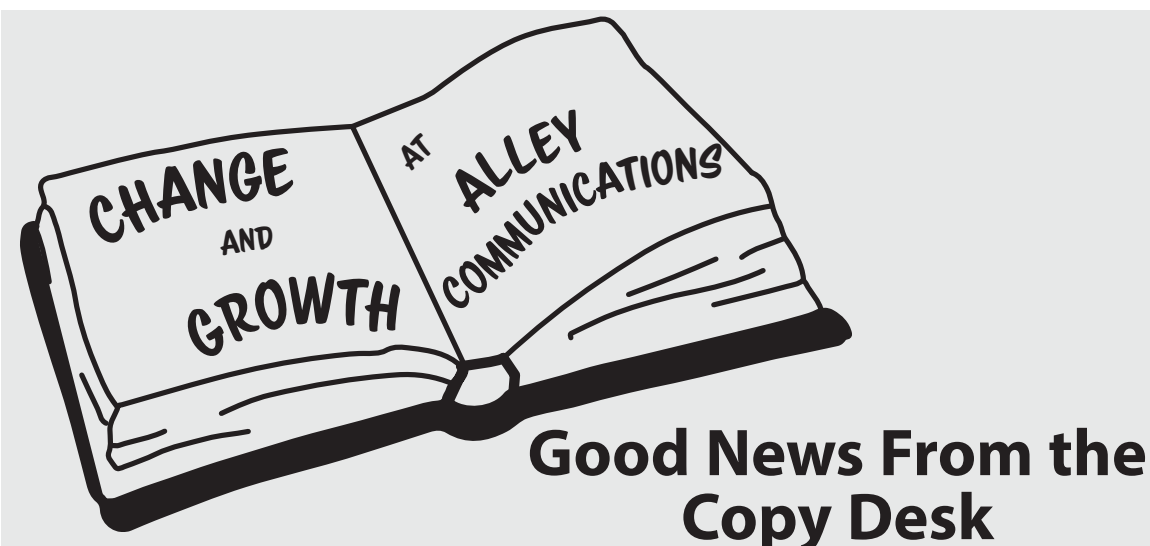
 

 **Reading CORPS**

 **Math CORPS**

 **Early Learning CORPS**



Good News From the Copy Desk

If any of *alley* readers and contributors have sent an email to copydesk@alleynews.org over the past few years, they've received a response from Lindsey Fenner. Lindsey took on the immense task of sifting and sorting the mountain of email as a temporary stopgap measure, volunteering her time. This was in addition to her other volunteer tasks as a member of *the alley* Editorial Leadership Committee (ELC), and as a beloved contributor. During this time Lindsey got us through the worst of the pandemic with her very informative COVID updates. We also got a glimpse of her love of the natural world, including in our own backyards. She searched out and reported on important community news. Aspiring writers saw their names in *the alley* thanks to Lindsey's encouragement and coaching.

It has been a LOT for one person, and we are happy to report that Lindsey is stepping back from the Copy Desk to practice what she has preached - not taking on too much. She's not abandoning the paper, but taking a long overdue break. Lindsey plans to continue with *the alley* doing what she so enjoys - writing, investigating, and encouraging others.

This is not a goodbye, but a warm and sincere Thank You to Lindsey from all of us - the Board of Directors, the ELC, our contributors, and our readers. ♥

For Service Through Snow, Rain, Heat, Gloom, and Covid----

Thank You, Peter Molenaar and Jeff Matson

As readers of *the alley* newspaper's hard copy, you may have guessed at the amount of dedication and work taken to amass the words and photos that go into *the alley* each month for you to enjoy. Well, all that would be for nothing without the effort and dedication that goes into delivering each issue of *the alley* into your hands.

In-person hand delivery of *the alley* began in 1976 with 50 volunteers delivering 3,000 newspapers each month to every door in the Phillips Neighborhood (Phillips was a single large neighborhood at the time). Eventually, door-to-door delivery became a paid contracted position. Years later, bulk drops of *the alley* were introduced, whereby bundles of papers are delivered to willing stores, libraries, apartment buildings, and organizations. Various people have held these paid positions over the years.

For about a decade, Peter Molenaar has steadfastly made monthly bulk drops of newspapers to approximately 160 businesses and organizations, and Jeff Matson has delivered 3,000 copies of *the alley* door-to-door each and every month. Beginning with this June issue of *the alley*, the delivery of the paper and bulk drops will change hands yet again.

Thank you, Peter Molenaar, for your consistent and dedicated delivery of 2,700 newspapers to places spread across the Phillips Community, and the 10-15 percent of papers that go to scattered sites in the surrounding eight neighborhoods. We look forward to reading your continued insightful commentary column in *the alley*.

Thank you, Jeff Matson. If you live in one of the four neighborhoods of the Phillips Community, you have probably seen Jeff, or Kathy, his mother, as they walked every street and avenue in Phillips for the last decade placing a newspaper at doors, porches, or front gates of 3,000 households. Carriers like Jeff and Kathy, indeed, are our 21st Century town criers, giving presence on our streets, avenues, and alleyways.

Big THANKS to Lee Leichentrit, Departing Alley Communications Board Member!

Lee joined the Board of Alley Communications, the community governed nonprofit organization that publishes *the alley* newspaper during one of its biggest transition periods of 2018-2019. This was a time when, in Lee's words, "It was unclear whether the organization would be able to weather the transition and keep the organization together while also continuing to get a newspaper out each month that would continue to serve the community. Another dedicated volunteer and Board member who had managed the finances for 20+ years had just retired. We were also counting down the months to making the decision of whether to fold or to keep going. But we all pulled together and got through that transition with both an organization that was beginning to professionalize several of the positions formerly held by volunteers while continuing to be an independent voice for the community."

In a recent conversation, Lee expressed some of the things that he holds the greatest hopes for Alley Communications. He lauds the addition of Rico Morales and Ciren Saadeh as new board members to build the organizational leadership. And to take steps to greater diversity on the Alley Communications Board through community journalism training efforts led by Cirien as part of the Journalism of Color Training Center. Lee also sees the potential for greater engagement with people in Phillips. By continuing to build on these efforts, Lee believes *the alley* will continue to be a vital vehicle to raise the voices of the people in the Phillips Community.

Thank you, Lee, for your service on the Board of Alley Communications and your encouragement and belief in the future of *the alley*.

What Purpose Would an Immigration Reform Serve?

OP-ED

By MARCO DÁVILA

Why should the US pass comprehensive immigration reform? Here some reasons:

1. Immigrants, apart from paying their respective "fines" and fees to obtain permanent residence or citizenship, would also contribute more resources to the economy of the United States. They would have access to better jobs, would have the opportunity to buy their own home, and many would become professionals and/or entrepreneurs in various areas. As legal workers, they could develop greater skills and make bigger contributions to the economy.

2. There would be no need to lock people up in detention centers. Detention centers, in addition to not solving anything, create suffering and disorder and cost millions of dollars in public spending. Unnecessary and unfair deaths during these lockdowns would be avoided.

3. Millions of people would avoid suffering the psychological damage of seeing their family members humiliated and locked up, and living in fear of authority at all times. Children and American youth would not suffer the stress of having undocumented fathers or mothers.

4. The work environment would improve and workers would have more time for recreational activities. Entry would be expanded to areas of work that are currently off limits for many immigrants, such as the health sector, education, the armed forces, and so on. Immigrants would benefit from more stability and time to spend with their families.

5. The US, apart from its obligations, also offers its citizens great benefits. With immigration reform, current undocumented immigrants would formally take part in these obligations and benefits. They would stop being "lawbreakers"-- those "without rights" or "ineligible."

6. Immigrants would have the opportunity to earn better wages, thus contributing more to the US economy. Employers would not be able to take advantage of the situation of the undocumented by paying miserable wages.

This would help raise wages for all workers in the US.

7. Immigration reform would even benefit countries that currently export migrants. Mexico would be one of the main beneficiaries, since remittances alone have historically been very important for millions of families and for the economic development of Mexico itself.

8. Undocumented immigrants would stop being seen as a "threat." Conservative politicians could no longer hang onto the misfortune of these people, nor make use of the "immigrant card" in elections. In other words, they would no longer have reasons to dehumanize people at every opportunity.

9. Many immigrants' fears would disappear; fears such as requesting government help, calling the police in an emergency, even going to the doctor when a health problem arises. This would certainly benefit public health in general.

10. Comprehensive immigration reform would bring more order to the US/Mexico border, thus preventing hundreds of deaths that currently result from people seeking to reach US soil every day.

11. Immigrants would have much more loyalty to the US as a nation, since they would finally be able to proudly and unhesitatingly call the US their home. Many would even feel freer to comment on American public life and be part of the important discussions that concern all the inhabitants of this nation.

12. There would be access to driver's licenses for all, and with this the roads would be safer for everyone.

Specifically, the approval of an immigration reform would be a noble act of justice, it would dignify the US government, and I dare say that the US would be a happier nation.

Marco Dávila lives in Minneapolis with his family, and writes about immigration in his free time.



Tales, cont.

Continued from page 3...

A grand jury indicted Piritano on two counts of first-degree murder, one for Bruno, the other for Martha. The cases were set to be handled separately. The first trial, which began on May 27, 1913, focused only on Bruno's death. Piritano pleaded self-defense. He described Bruno as a bully who had offered to sell Martha to him and threatened Martha with a razor when she objected to his presence in the house. After deliberating for 24 hours the jurors were deadlocked: Six in favor of conviction and six in favor of acquittal. They considered a lesser charge of manslaughter but couldn't reach agreement on that charge either: Eight were in favor of conviction, four for acquittal. On June 5th, the judge declared a mistrial.

The second trial began almost immediately and ended on June 14th, after the jury, having deliberated for only two hours, found that Piritano had killed Bruno in self-defense. The county attorney told the court that Piritano would likely claim that Martha's death was unintentional and he believed that since the jury failed to convict Piritano, that a jury would not convict Piritano in the case of "the Rossa woman" even though she posed no threat to anyone.

Little is known about Martha (whose name was also recorded as Maritia Roosa), other than that she was born in Finland and that the coroner estimated that she was 25 years old. Her body was unclaimed and was, as required by law, turned over to the Anatomy Department at the University of Minnesota to be studied by medical students. This was a time when few, if any, people willingly donated their bodies for research. Bruno's body was claimed by his family and he is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Martha is buried in a common grave with 249 other adults who served as research subjects. In September 2012, the University of Minnesota honored them during a dedication program. Their marker is located in Lot 44-60, section H of the cemetery.

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.



Call for copyediting volunteers!

Use and improve your skills, make a meaningful contribution to your neighborhood newspaper, and get to know other community members.

Time commitment: 3-5 hours a month.

Email: copydesk@alleynews.org



June 19 - July 20

Free five-week summer program for youth completing K-7th grade and within our service area. Program runs Monday-Thursday from 12:00-5:00pm.



Contact Banyan Community for more information.
612.722.8512
mail@banyancommunity.org



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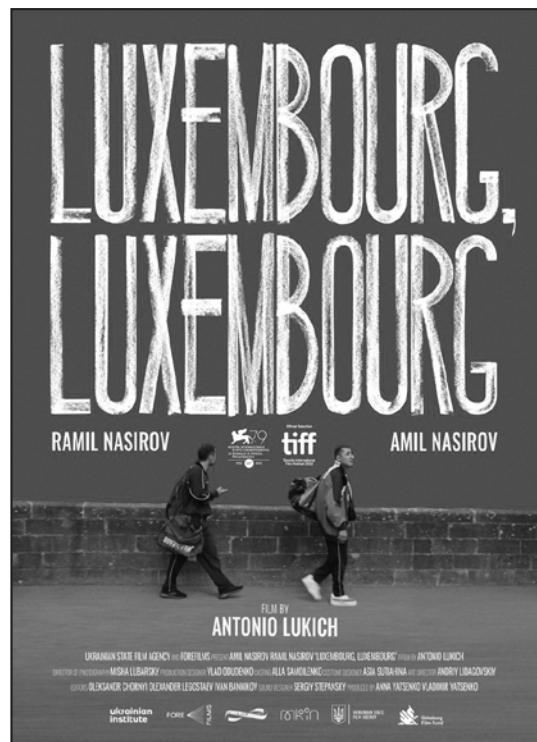
Movie Corner

Luxembourg, Luxembourg



Celluloid Dreams 2022 Comedy/Drama/Adventure

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II



Celluloid Dreams



Howard McQuitter II

Luxembourg, Luxembourg is one of the 50 plus films I saw at the 2023 Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival...

Luxembourg, Luxembourg starts out with two identical twin brothers Vasya and Kolya (Ramil and Amil Nasirov) as kids playing risky pranks in the train yard...

are twins, Vasya looks like our mother, I look like my dad." Fast forward twenty years, the dad is absent from the picture. His abandonment from their lives (no clear reason is given why he left) impacted both brothers, but Kolya is much more interested in his father's whereabouts than Vasya is.

These twin brothers couldn't be more different. Vasya is in law enforcement, looking for a promotion, married to Masha (Karina Cherchevych) and just had their firstborn. On the other hand, Kolya is a van driver (a job he hates) who picks up mostly retirees, but also is a low-level drug dealer. He lands in legal trouble when he accidentally pulls the van away causing a bread factory worker trying to get into the van to fall and break both her arms.

Seemingly out of the blue, the family receives a call from the Ukrainian consulate in Luxembourg that the father is in the hospital in Luxembourg and

cannot speak. Kolya is eager to go find him thinking this could be his last goodbye; Vasya is more reluctant to go, but eventually concedes. They get into their car hoping to find him before he dies. Kolya ends up stuck in Luxembourg because he faces arrest if he returns to Ukraine.

Cast: Ramil Nasirov (Vasya), Amil Nasirov (Kolya), Lyudmyla Sachenko (Larysa Petrivna), Adrian Suleiman (7 year old Kolya), Damian Suleiman (7 year old Vasya), Anna Alsheva (Receptionist).

Director and Screenplay: Antonio Lukich. Cinematographer: Misha Lubarsky.

Composer: Maria Nesterenko. Country: Ukraine. Language: Ukrainian. Running time: 105 minutes.

Howard McQuitter II is a longtime movie critic. He has been reviewing movies for the alley since 2002.

RETURNING

Chapter 32: Be Not Afraid



Patrick Cabello Hansel

Mother Light followed Agnes or Agnes followed Mother Light, and Angel and Luz and Angelito followed them all. Instead of travelling through time, it felt like time was travelling through them. The winter dawn had begun to paint the sky a cacophony of colors: pink, red, purple, fuchsia, blood orange, red. As they walked, they heard the mating call of a cardinal—the first time one had been heard that early in February. Agnes led them back to the senior apartment building; the same one where she had led

them into the trap Brian Fleming had set. As they got closer, Luz and Angel could feel their bodies tighten. "We're not going back into that building," they said, simultaneously. "No," Agnes said. "But I have to." That was all she said, and then quickly zipped in. Attafe (aka Mother Light), took their hands in hers and said, "Agnes will not tell you, but she was forced to help the man who is trying to destroy you. He has held one of her beloveds hos-

tage, under threat of death or worse. She has chosen to risk everything in order to reunite you with little Lupe. It cost her terribly to betray you. It may yet cost her even more." Luz opened her mouth to speak, but Attafe cut her off: "I know you have a lot of questions," she said. "You will learn much in the days ahead. But on this new day, the one thing you need to hear is this: Do not be afraid." As she finished these words, a van screeched around the corner and came to a stop in front of them. Luz and Angel must have jumped three feet. The passenger door flung open, and Agnes said, "Get in, quickly!" They all climbed into the van and sped off. "I'm Lefty," the man driving the van said. He was a short stubby man, with one arm missing—his left.

Windows on the North Side POETRY

Cave living Windows on the North Side Dim light Dim vision. Errant sounds from Invisible noise makers-- Brick walls, other windows Block these Windows on the North side. Perpetual twilight. The life-flow Outside these windows Passes by Leaving the cave life Inside this cave Like cave drawings - Perpetual, Yet, frozen in place.

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.



ATTITUDES TOWARDS TOBACCO STUDY

Researchers at the University of Kentucky are looking for 15-24 year-olds for a 6 month study about tobacco ads and attitudes towards tobacco. You can earn up to \$156 for participating and sharing your time and experience!

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE IF YOU: • Are between 15 and 24 years old • Have parental permission if under the age of 18 • Live, work or go to school in Minneapolis, Minnesota • Have a smartphone you can use for answering questions for the study

WE WILL ASK YOU TO: • Complete a phone survey • Complete mini surveys • Complete 2 and 6-week follow-up surveys

WANT TO LEARN MORE? Contact: REACTstudy@uky.edu



Scan or go to: bit.ly/REACTmn to learn more.



This study is funded by a grant from the National Cancer Institute (R01CA251478).

"Where are we going?" Angel asked. "Lefty's brother is a retired FBI agent," Agnes said. "He's going to try and help us." "FBI?" Angel asked. "Shouldn't we go to the police first?" "The police are the last people you want to see," Lefty said. "Didn't you ever wonder why Brian Fleming has never been arrested, never even been charged, even though everyone knows he is the one whose hand is in drugs, in prostitution, in all kinds of stuff?" "He's bought off the police?" Luz asked. "He didn't need to," Agnes said. Angel and Luz both said, "But how..." before Attafe cut them off. "We are not dealing with simple human powers," she said. "There's a lot more evil here

Continued from page 1...

Growing, cont.

way or another, let's grow some food! By the time this went to press, we were still lining up our two Southside and two Northside Minneapolis cooking class locations. Check out our Instagram and Facebook pages to find our schedule. They'll be livestreamed on Facebook too, just in case you can't get there in person. We're also awaiting news from the city on the grant we wrote with the South High Garden Club and the Corcoran neighborhood to create a community food forest at South High. In the meantime, we created an Edible Boulevard and

put in three fruit trees: apple, cherry and plum, at the May 18 Garden Party with the support of Tree Trust and the City of Minneapolis. This is a shared community space, and we especially want our South High youth involved in the creation of these garden spaces. If your youth currently attends South High and wants to learn more about urban agriculture though participating in the creation of the food forest, they can contact Mrs. Peterson or myself. Finally, if you're between the ages of 14 and 24, join us for the Youth Juneteenth Celebration at the South High Food Forest on June 19. The event is sponsored by the South High Garden Club, CEED,

Minneapolis Edible Boulevards, and the Minneapolis host committee for Jim Embry's Joy and Justice Journey 2023. Jim is from Lexington, Kentucky, where he has built an impressive resume: winner of the 2023 James Beard Leadership Award, a co-founder of Lexington's first co-op, and a board member of the Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance. He'll discuss the history of Juneteenth and how it's gotten us to the food injustice we see in so many of our neighborhoods today. The Ujamaa folks are always excited about turning youth on to urban agriculture jobs they take part in right now as well. Food will be served; have your youth register on our Facebook or Instagram

pages. Questions? Please reach out to minneapolisedibleboulevards@gmail.com. As a Northeaster, Michelle Shaw joined the City's Community Environmental Advisory Commission in 2017 and became a fierce advocate for the Northside community to be included in creating Upper Harbor Terminal. After spending time with community members in both Green Zones, the area she knew she could best partner with community (and you can find her subbing at a Southside school!) was food injustice; Minneapolis Edible Boulevards was born in 2019.

Continued from page 1...

Victory, cont.

representatives of the Native American business community, AIM activist Rachel Thunder, the Somali business community including National Small Businessman of the year Abdirahman Kahin, Northside activist Al Flowers, representatives of Ward 9, and numerous legislators including bill authors Rep Samantha Sencer-Mura who is the leading legislative organizer, Reps Frank Hornstein, Rep. Noor, Rep. Fue Lee, DFL House Majority Leader Jamie Long, Repdelete Hodan Hassan and Sen. Omar Fateh, and former representative Karen Clark, City Council Member Jason Chavez, AICDC Exec Director Mike Goze, EPNI Community Organizer Joe Vital, EPNI Board Members Dean Dovolis and Steve Sandberg, and East Phillips activist resident Daniel Schmidt all gathered for the purpose of finding a way to support the community development of the 7.6 acre Roof Depot property. Thanks to all who support a healthier less toxic environment in Phillips in opposition to city proposals to increase traffic related air pollution in Phillips - where asthma rates are the highest in the city currently.



Raise Your Voice

See the Eagle Dancing in the Sky

By PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

The U.S. is one of only six countries in the world without paid family leave... not for a newborn baby, not for any reason. With Mother's day in mind, this fact is especially heartbreaking. May 13th and 14th, 2023, Cedar Field Park... Keep in mind: Little Earth's Mother's Day Pow Wow is an annual event. Despite the threat of rain this year, it was especially the 'fancy dancing' of the younger women which

lifted the spirit of one and all. Yes, the practice of this physical grace reflects the drum, yet is on a par with the ballerina... the tasseled regalia swirled like an eagle playing with the currents of the sky. Speaking of the eagle... If the Republican Party maintains its refusal to lift the debt ceiling, our country will default on it's debt for the first time in history. This might mean the slashing of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, while

imposing economic instability here and across the globe. Alternatively, might they consider increased taxation of the super-rich and a decrease in military spending, in order to make the world safe again? Meanwhile... Our oceans have absorbed nearly 90% of the energy trapped by global warming, such that this April's global sea surface temperature was the highest in recorded history. So, what? So, as the La Niña/El Niño cycle shifts again, the upwelling of warm water (El Nino) is expected to raise global temperatures to record levels, while severely impacting the lives of millions of people. Any thing else? Probably, most of our neigh-

bors are familiar with the loopy exit off Cedar, the one we use to access a stretch of Hiawatha en route to a traffic jam on Highway 94. Recently, I was slated to speak at a meeting of the Minneapolis School Board and I thought I'd be late! Thankfully, all went well enough. I made mention that my daughter is outwardly and inwardly African-American. Tammy has done well in life. Thank you, public schools! I went on: however, I am concerned that there is a right-wing conspiracy bent on diminishing public education, thereby converting our children to a source of cheap labor again. See the eagle? Is it a sacred one, or merely a bird of prey?

Dave Moore & Linnea Hadaway have lived here since the Reagan 80s and became life partners while originating the cartoon series "Spirit of Phillips."

WELNA HARDWARE ACE Thank you 48 Years of advertising! KEYS MADE LOCKS RE-KEYED 5 GALLON PAINT EXCELLENT PRICES RUG DOCTOR RENTAL TRAILERS FOR RENT: OPEN & ONE ENCLOSED EXPERT WINDOW/SCREEN REPAIR Welna in Phillips 2438 Bloomington Ave. 612-729-3526 Welna in Robbinsdale 4140 West Broadway 763-533-2758 Covid-19 Customer Service Curbside Pick-Up and Delivery Available. Call each store for most up to date Open Hours OPEN AGAIN: 2438 Bloomington Av. 612-729-3526

Where Should We Stick our new 3rd Precinct CopShop? Put It Where We Can Breathe, Chauvin-ists !! GHOST OF GEORGE FLOYD

ELDER ATUM AZZAHIR

Founder and E.D. of the Cultural Wellness Center, an African American nonprofit centered on the idea that when culture and community knowledge are studied and valued, they are powerful tools for health, healing, community building, and economic development.



ROBERTA BARNES

Director of the CWC's Community Health Hub, BN, MBA, - which offers a full calendar of health events and programs related to exercise and motion, natural self-care and culinary wellness taught by certified instructors, community experts and local leaders connected to the Cultural Wellness Center.

**DARRYL SELLERS
Zumba**

11:00am to 12:00pm
Tundra Center Stage



Re-enactment of the Proclamation & Vocal Selections

12:00 to 1 pm
Tundra Center Stage
Rex Isom & Jamela Pettiford



**REHTI MEKHA
Integrative Somatic
Pilates**

1:00pm to 2:00pm
Health & Wellness Lab

**LOIS FIELDS
Aromatherapy (Candles)**

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Outside the Health & Wellness Lab



**BEVERLY PENDLETON
Blood Pressure**
10:00am to 12:00pm
Outside the Health & Wellness Lab



**ADDIE BRUNER
Blood Pressure**
2:00pm to 6:00pm
Outside the Health Lab



**RYAN BARNES
Integrative Somatic
Personal Life Training**

2:00pm to 3:00pm
Health & Wellness Lab



**BLACK BODIES IN MOTION:
The Ultimate Expression of Freedom**

**JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION
SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023**

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.



Cultural Wellness Center
Health · Heritage · Harmony

MIDTOWN GLOBAL MARKET
920 E LAKE ST,
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55407

COME AND CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH LIKE YOU NEVER HAVE BEFORE!!!

JOIN US FOR A FAMILY SLOW ROLL AROUND SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS,

SEE THE REENACTMENT OF THE PROCLAMATION,

HEAR THE BEAUTIFUL VOCAL SOUNDS OF JAMELA PETTIFORD, DRUMMING AND MOVEMENT WITH BROTHER GHANA & A SOMALI ARTIST,

PARTICIPATE IN ZUMBA, YOGA, PILATES, PERSONAL TRAINING, STEPPING, AND AN ADULT NIGHT GLOW ROLL



**ROBERT TAYLOR
Culinary Heritage Taste Testing**

1:00pm to 3:00pm
Culinary Heritage Kitchen Lab



**ALVENA RICHBURG
Stepping Into Wellness: Line
Dancing**

2:00pm to 3:00pm
Tundra Center Stage



**MIKKY DAUB
Integrative Somatic Yoga**

2:00pm to 3:00pm
Health & Wellness Lab

**BROTHER GHANA MBAYE
Live African Drumming Session
and Somali Poetry**

1:00pm to 2:00pm
Tundra Center Stage



**CASPIAN WIRTH-PETRIK
Craniosacral Therapy**
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Health & Wellness Lab



**LADONNA FUNDERBURKE
Meditation, Breathing, and Sound Therapy**

4:00pm to 5:00pm AND 5:00pm to 6:00pm
Health & Wellness Lab



**ANTHONY TAYLOR
Slow Roll Family Biking**

10:00am to 12:00pm
Outside on the Greenway



Glow Roll (Adult Night Biking)

7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Outside on the Greenway



Cultural Wellness Center
Health · Heritage · Harmony

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



Like Us on FACEBOOK

The Community Health Hub is here for you!
Call (612) 249-9568
with any questions!