

2 JOIN THE BOARD! **3** NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH **6** MOVIE REVIEW: TWISTERS **7** SMITH QUILTS SMOKING

Mailing Label Space

Register Now for Free Community Journalism Training Series This Fall!

Certificate and Honorarium for registered 5 to 8 participants

By CIRIEN SAADEH, PhD

Community journalism is an accessible tool each and every one of us can use to tell stories that matter to our communities. Community journalism is stories about us, for us, with us - reported stories that help us make deeper meaning of the issues impacting our communities and give us

lisher of *the alley*, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, and the Journalism of Color Training Center, with funds provided by the City of Minneapolis - will culminate in a certificate in anti-racist community journalism, an honorarium, and a published article for each participant this November.

The training series will be held in-person every Saturday morning from 9:30am - 11:30am, beginning Sept. 7 and running through Oct. 12. Training locations will be shared with registrants as we work to confirm them.

Participants will have a chance to plan and lead interviews with

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

- Week 1: Introduction to Community Journalism
- Week 2: Ethics + Pitching
- Week 3: More Journalism Ethics + Interviewing
- Week 4: More Interviewing + Research + Fact-Checking
- Week 5: Writing + More Fact-Checking
- Week 6: Editing, Publishing, and Promoting

the chance to celebrate and/or contextualize events.

This fall, folks will have the opportunity to participate in a community journalism workshop series. The training series - brought to you by Alley Communications, pub-

Registration and attendance at all 6 workshops is required.

We are seeking 5-8 folks ages 16 and up to register and participate in the entire series of FREE trainings. Preference will be given to people living in the Phillips Community.

community leaders, participate in the journalistic process from pitch-to-promotion, and publish at least one story in *the alley*.

Each week, we'll delve into a different element of the journalis-

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Something I Said

FREE LEONARD PELTIER

By DWIGHT HOBBS



Dwight Hobbes

Leonard Peltier was railroaded for FBI agents Jack Coler and Ronald Williams' 1975 murder at the historic Pine Ridge Indian Reservation gunfight in South Dakota. Don't take my word, look it up.

You'll find some interesting information. Peltier's attorney, former Tennessee U.S. District Judge Kevin Sharp, told *Native*

News Online in June, "Leonard did not shoot the agents, and the FBI knew this but withheld evidence. The court of appeals acknowledged this but couldn't overturn the conviction due to legal standards". During his trial, Darlene Nichols said Peltier told her about committing the crime. She later acknowledged receiving \$42,000 from the FBI in connection with her cooperation on the case. No investigation looked into whether the testimony was perjured. FYI. She's now married to a former FBI Chief Agent. At the trial, FBI agents changed their statements that they'd searched for a red pickup truck and instead said they were looking for an orange and white van, like Peltier's. That contradiction was highly contentious evidence in the trial that put him away. These are a few facts behind Leonard Peltier's being set up by the criminal injustice system and

locked up this past half-century, sentenced to consecutive life terms, one for each of the agents someone else killed.

This is not only justice denied one man. It marked an opportunity to deal AIM (American Indian Movement) if not a death blow, certainly a telling one. AIM, it bears noting, is no stranger to these parts. In Minneapolis, in 1968, Clyde Bellecourt with Dennis Banks, George Mitchell and, later, Eddie Benton-Banai, founded the organization. Like the Black Panthers, AIM took a stand against police harassment (along with other community issues, i.e. discrimination in school, poor housing, and disproportionately high unemployment. Both groups were on J. Edgar Hoover's hit list of targets to be wiped out whatever it took, including infiltration, which fac-

Continued on page 2...

OP-ED

Zero Burn Coalition Requests Help to Close the Hennepin County Trash Incinerator

By ZERO BURN COALITION

The Zero Burn Coalition, comprised of over 30 organizations and hundreds of individuals, is working on all fronts to shut down the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) trash incinerator located in downtown

Minneapolis by the end of 2025.

One big next step is to get the city of Minneapolis to pass a resolution calling for Hennepin County to close HERC, which we're hoping the City Council will be taking up this month.

Why is shutting down HERC an urgent priority, and how can it be shut down by 2025?

Contrary to what Hennepin County argues, HERC has been poisoning communities closeby

Continued on page 6...

Semilla Youth Leaders Add Beauty and Community to Phillips

By CAROL LEE CHASE and MARY ELLEN KALUZA

CAROL LEE CHASE



The mural nearing completion.

CAROL LEE CHASE



Youth Leaders collaborating, working, and building friendships.

Over the summer a group of Youth Leaders ages 11-15, working with Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts, painted a mural on the doors and the steps of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church sanctuary at 2742 15th Avenue South in the Phillips neighborhood. Lynda Grafito, an active Twin Cities community artist and printmaker from Colombia, guided this project which wrapped up at the end of August. We asked Lynda what excited her most about this project:

I am very excited about how much the youth have been involved in this project. I feel that they have learned a lot, have become familiar with the materials, painting, creating and installing mosaics, and memorizing each step to follow. But the most important thing about this whole experience is that they are making new friends and having fun!

The alley spoke to a few of the talented and enthusiastic Youth Leaders (Allison, Alexia, Byran, Cristian, Theo, and Esteban). We learned that this is their first time painting a mural and that it has been a "cool experience". They echoed Lynda about learning a lot - collaborating on design, handling mate-

See the events page for information on *Latina and Latinx MN: Re/claiming Space in Times of Change* exhibition this fall. Lynda Grafito and several other artists with strong ties to the Phillips Community will be featured.

rials and tools, the importance of the process. Many of the youth are interested in art and all of them especially enjoyed the group design process for the mural. Alexia said her favorite aspect to the project was "planning it out and bringing it to life".

Lynda also added, "Almost all the youth leaders are Latinxs and speak Spanish. They learned about the different cultures of Latin America from each other. Some of the places where they or their families come from are Guatemala,

Continued on page 2...

thealley

Alley Communications is a Not-For-Profit organization.

The Mission of Alley Communications is

- promoting art and culture,
- advocating for issues,
- building healthy community,
- facilitating deliberation,
- lifting every voice,
- documenting history,
- agitating for change,
- giving truth and democracy a jog forward.

Guided and Informed by:

Phillips residents

Governed by Directors:

Steve Dreyer, Susan Gust, and Ciriën Saadeh

Operated by Editorial Leadership Committee:

Mara Brooks, Laura Hulscher, Mary Ellen Kaluza, and Harvey Winje

Business Facilitated by:

Erick Boustead

Production Facilitated by:

Graphic Designer + Coordinator, Mattie Wong

Page Coordinators:

Steve Dreyer and Daniel Dorff, VV News; EPIC News; MPNA News; Roberta Barnes and Jessie Merriam, Back Page.

Social Media:

Jessie Merriam, Susan Gust, Ciriën Saadeh

September contributors to the alley:

All My Relations Arts, American Swedish Institute, BareBones Productions, Roberta Barnes, Catherine G. Murphy Gallery, Carol Lee Chase, Cultural Wellness Center, Steve Dreyer, Four Sisters Farmer's Market, Julie Graves, Linnea Hadaway, Dwight Hobbes, Zach and Betsy Howard, Laura Hulscher, Sue Hunter Weir, In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, Mary Ellen Kaluza, Katherine E. Nash Gallery, Latino Economic Development Center, Howard McQuitter II, Midtown Global Market, City of Minneapolis, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Kay Carvajal Moran, Native American Community Development Institute, Open Eye Theatre, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Pillsbury House Theater, Ciriën Saadeh, Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts, Seward Neighborhood Group History Committee, Faiza Sheikmohamed, Amanda Theisen, Universal Pictures, Ventura Village Neighborhood Organization, Zero Burn Coalition

DONATIONS

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

the alley is delivered to homes, businesses, places of worship, institutions in Phillips and in nine adjacent neighborhoods.

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

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

Opinions in the alley newspaper and its social media are those of the authors and artists and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Alley Communications, its Board, Editorial Leadership Committee, or other neighbors or writers.

Alley Communications P.O. Box 7006

Mpls., MN 55407

submissions: copydesk@alleynews.org

ads: businessmanager@alleynews.org

Submissions due the 12th day of the previous month

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SIS, cont.

tored in the trumped case against Peltier.

Leonard Peltier doesn't paint himself as some sort of sainted martyr. He freely admits taking up arms against the FBI in his memoir *Prison Writings: My Life Is My Sun Dance*. The man was a warrior at war. Which did not make him guilty of something he didn't do.

He recently requested parole on the grounds of: advanced age (79); a nonviolent record in prison; and crucially, failing health due to, among other factors, diabetes and hypertension. He's partially blind after surviving a stroke.

Letting Leonard Peltier languish, likely until he dies, is not due process, but entrenched, institutionalized persecution.

Free Leonard Peltier.

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

continued from page 1...

Journalism, cont.

tic process, moving participants hands-on through the various elements of journalism towards publishing a story with *the alley*.

To register, folks should email Ciriën Saadeh at ciriens@journalismofcolor.com - let us know your name, your commitment to attend ALL of the 6 trainings (which we are asking that each participant do), your interest in community journalism, and your preferred contact information.

The project will culminate with a community-wide launch on Thurs., Dec. 5, 6pm - 7:30pm.

Registration is due by Thursday, September 5 at the latest - the first session meets Saturday, September 7.

continued from page 1...

Semilla, cont.

Ecuador, Mexico and Honduras." She wanted to be sure to highlight all the youth involved: Alan, Alexia, Allison, Austin, Bryan, Cristian, Emmanuel, Esteban, Eric, Inaki, Jonathan, Jorge, Jhostin, Kevin, Theo, and Victor. Additionally, Lynda feels that it

is super important to preserve the Youth Leaders program at Semilla Center. The youth and the community benefit greatly! She wants to thank volunteer Ellie, assistants Eric and Eh Soe, and Semilla co-directors Sofia and Heather who managed the project. Special gratitude to Pastor Hiald and the Church Council for maintaining a place where youth can play, have fun, learn, and feel like themselves!

Carol Lee Chase is a recently retired Professor of Art and a big fan of the alley.

Mary Ellen Kaluza lives, works, and gardens in Phillips. Her love of the alley goes back 45+ years.



COMMUNITY JOURNALISM TRAINING SERIES GET PUBLISHED AS A JOURNALIST!

Who: We're seeking 5-8 participants for the entirety of the 6-week training. Open to all with preference given to those who reside in the Phillips community. Registration required.

Email ciriens@journalismofcolor.com

Where: All trainings will be held in and around the Phillips community. Locations to be shared with registrants.

When: Trainings will be held every Saturday morning, from Sept. 7 - Oct. 12, from 9:30am-11:30. There will also be a project celebration on Dec. 5 from 6pm - 7:30pm.

Why: Because journalism should not just be about our communities, it should be "about us," and with us. This is a chance to tell stories about our communities, to uplift community perspectives, and to contextualize and celebrate our communities.

Questions, or to register, email: ciriens@journalismofcolor.com



The Board of Alley Communications has a seat at the table for YOU!

the alley newspaper is moving into its 50th year! While that is amazing news, the work of lifting the many voices of the Phillips Community to represent their own narratives needs to happen beyond the confines of a newspaper. There are so many more ways to communicate, deliberate, provoke and inform. Be a leader of that change and growth by joining the board of Alley Communications.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Attendance of one monthly 90 minute meeting
- Volunteer your available time to work on an activity you are passionate about
- Believe in collaborative governance
- Represent your cultural community and/or your people
- Cultivate new community-driven communication strategies with others

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- Build your leadership skills within collective space
- Try on new ideas or bring them to fruition
- Build your resume

Want to talk more?

Email Susan at susanannngust@gmail.com to set a time to talk together!

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Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

By SUE HUNTER WEIR

226TH IN A SERIES

Family Drama Plays Out in the Press

PHOTO COURTESY SUE HUNTER WEIR

FAMILY "LAUNDRY" AIRED IN PUBLIC

Many, perhaps most, families have secrets—stories that go unspoken. That's what makes the story of the Westling family so strange. The dispute between Olof Westling and his second wife, Agnethe, over the custody of their children played out in the press for a period of three weeks. Each used the newspapers to plead their case.

Olof Westling was born in Sweden in 1869. He married Karin (Carrie) Andersdotter in June 1891. Their first child, Hilda, was born in 1890, and their first son, Valfred, was born in 1892. In May 1893, Olof left Sweden for the United States. Karin and their two young children followed two years later. The family settled in Minneapolis where Olof initially found work as a laborer and later as building contractor. Their daughter, Florence, was born in 1897 and another daughter, May (May) was born in May 1899; she died in September from cholera infantum at the age of four months.

Karin died from tuberculosis on February 12, 1900, at the age of 29. A little less than a year later, on December 24, 1900, Olof married Agnethe Johanson, a Norwegian immigrant. Their first child, a daughter named Wilhemina, was born the following spring. A second daughter, Dagnie, was born in March 1904.

Julie Klamm's Caveat to Stories

"Your most cherished family stories are, I hate to break it to you, almost certainly at least somewhat false. I'm not calling anyone a liar, this is simply how it goes—stories degrade (or improve, depending on your perspective), details are lost, tweaked, censored, sensationalized. I don't mean to disillusion you; I say this in the spirit of encouragement. The story only really gets going once it begins to unravel." from, *The Most Legendary Morris Sisters*.

FATHER'S POLITICS INFLUENCED NAMES OF SONS

On October 10, 1905, 15-year-old Hilda, Olof and Karin's daughter, died from tuberculosis and was buried next to her mother. Less than two years later, Dagnie, the daughter of Olaf and his second wife, Agnethe, died from pneumonia at the age of two. Twelve days later, Agnethe gave birth to their son Darwin. Another son, Voltaire, was born in 1908.

The names of their last two sons offer a clue as to the ten-



On August 3rd, the Pioneer and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery served as a classroom for members of a class offered by Rethos*, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving Minnesota's history. The class focused on exterior painting. Students prepped, primed and painted two sides of the Cemetery's garage. Thanks to Rethos for playing a part in preserving the Cemetery's history.

*At Rethos, we practice

The New Preservation.

Traditionally historic preservation has been associated with efforts to capture a building or a place, arrest its ongoing evolution, and prevent new uses or modern interpretations of how it can serve today's needs. That model doesn't work and we need to move forward.

Historic preservation needs to be every bit as much about the future as it is about the past. We save buildings and places not for the structures themselves, but for their importance to us. We save them to tell our stories, to remind us of our histories, and to serve as cultural touchstones. But we also save buildings and places so they can be transformed into useful and beneficial tools to meet the needs of today's communities, and those of tomorrow.

That's the New Preservation.

Continued on page 7...

September is National Preparedness Month

Are your finances ready for an emergency?

By AMANDA THEISEN, Sunrise Banks

A financial emergency can strike anywhere, any time. Your car or a home appliance breaks down. A fire or natural disaster damages your home. You or someone you love suffers a medical emergency or life altering diagnosis. The list goes on and on.

During National Preparedness Month in September, organizations encourage us to look at our finances and see how we can better shore them up in case the unthinkable were to happen. Yet, countless surveys show most Americans are not prepared to handle unexpected finances.

According to Bankrate's latest Annual Emergency Savings Report, 27% of U.S. adults have no emergency savings. More than half say they aren't comfortable with the amount of money they do have in emergency savings. And more than 1 in 3 Americans have more credit card debt than emergency savings.

The prospect of what to do next may feel overwhelming should you find yourself in a financial emergency. There are things you can do to get through this crisis.

Work With What You Have

The first step is to restructure your current budget. While some expenses are difficult to change, such as mortgage or auto loan payments, there are plenty of areas that you can easily adjust to cut back spending and save money.

Drawing from long term savings, vacation funds, and other savings accounts can help bolster your finances in a pinch. Similarly, if you're really in a bind, you could consider cashing in on investments. Even if returns may not be as high as you would like, that money could help address your current emergency.

You should only withdraw early from retirement accounts, like a 401(k) or IRA, if absolutely neces-

sary. Unless you meet certain criteria for an approved hardship, there is a 10% penalty for early withdrawals. Draining these accounts can also greatly set you back for retirement.

Supplement Your Income

If your current assets just won't cover it, look for ways to get more. Consider selling valuables that you don't need. Things like art, jewelry or antiques may be hard to part with, but that money can carry you through a rough patch. Online marketplaces make selling valuables easy to do.

If selling won't make a big enough difference, try to boost your income by picking up extra work. Additional part-time or variable hour work can help you quickly boost your cash flow. You could also ask your employer if it can offer an advance on your paycheck to help cover your expenses.

Get Help

You don't have to face an emergency alone. There are several programs available from the government or local nonprofits to help protect you and your dependents should you need it.

Tools from Sunrise Banks

Sunrise Banks offers several tools to help people of all ages navigate a financial emergency. This includes a budget calculator, a financial wellness assessment and various account options to help you build an emergency fund, when you need it again. Find the budget calculator and other useful tools at <https://sunrisebanks.com/financial-wellness-tools> to learn more.

Amanda Theisen is the communications manager for Sunrise Banks (Member FDIC)

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SEPTEMBER EVENTS

Arikara Proper
Through October 5
All My Relations Arts
1414 E Franklin Avenue

Free
Arikara Proper is a solo exhibition featuring a collection of paintings from artist J. White (Arikara). A self-taught painter, White shares and celebrates her Northern Plains culture through the lens of an urban Indian, relying on personal experience to feed her creativity and prescribe identity, and expressing passion on her canvas in a way that's palpable. An Opening Reception will be held on Saturday, August 3rd from 6-9pm. For gallery hours and additional programming, visit allmyrelationsarts.org.

2024 BareBones Community Builds and Workshops
September 3 - October 26
Various sites and venues
Free

The BareBones Annual Halloween Outdoor Puppet Extravaganza is a community vehicle for collectively honoring and mourning the dead, and a cult favorite throughout the Twin Cities. You can participate in the Extravaganza by building puppets, co-creating, or being part of the show when you join in on BareBones' annual community builds, rehearsals, and workshops from mid-September through October. Email volunteer@barebonespuppets.org if you are interested in being involved! Find more information and dates at barebonespuppets.org/community-calendar.

Four Sisters Farmers Market Thursdays
11 AM - 3 PM
1414 E Franklin Avenue
Free

Enjoy local food, handcrafts, and community at the Four Sisters Farmers Market every Thursday through October 31st! Four Sisters is an Indigenous-focused farmers market that strives to celebrate Indigenous pride, health, and well-being. We welcome and accept SNAP/EBT benefits, Market Bucks, Gus Produce Market Bucks, cash, and cards. In partnership with Hunger Solutions, Four Sisters can match up to \$10 of SNAP/EBT benefits. Visit our facebook page to learn about weekly programming as the season progresses!

Lake Street Art Drop with Daniela Bianchini
Thursday, September 5
6 PM
Starts at Midtown Global Market
920 E Lake Street
Free

Head to Lake Street for a free monthly scavenger hunt featuring photo clues on social media and local artwork prizes! June will feature artist Daniela Bianchini of DB Mosaics. Here's how it works: Follow @VisitLakeStreet on Facebook and Instagram. On the evening of the Art Drop, head to Midtown Global Market; we'll start posting photo hints of the hiding places for these art trea-

sures at 6pm! If you're the first person to find one, it's yours to keep (one art piece per household, please). Lake Street Art Drop will be held every first Thursday through October with different featured artists. For details, go to visitleakstreet.com/artdrop.

Music Thursday: Luftl Thursday, September 5
6 - 7 PM
American Swedish Institute
2600 Park Avenue
Free

Duo Luftl sings rich vocal arrangements of European folk songs in the tradition of lineages of women's group singing. Journey through Bosnian ballad songs, Yiddish lullabies, Hebrew devotional and festival tunes, and Ladino songs of longing and loss, while the real-life struggles and longing embedded in the lyrics of the songs are illuminated through translation and storytelling. ASI First Thursday concerts are included as a part of ASI's Free Thursdays After 3pm. Note: performance will be outdoors, weather permitting!

Moonwatchers
September 5 - 22
Open Eye Theatre
506 E 24th Street
\$15-\$30

Inspired comic clowning, live music, and all manner of lunar lunacy abound in this sci-fi vaudeville show that was a runaway hit of the 2022 MN Fringe Festival. Created & Performed by Corey Farrell and Nigel Berkeley. For tickets go to openeyetheatre.org/moonwatchers.

Latina and Latinx MN: Re/claiming Space in Times of Change
September 7-December 8
Catherine G. Murphy Gallery
St. Catherine University Art Building
2004 Randolph Avenue
St. Paul
Free

Latina and Latinx MN: Re/claiming Space in Times of Change is a comprehensive survey exhibition that centers and celebrates a diverse group of Latina and Latinx artists from across the state and seeks to honor the contributions of Latina women and non-binary Latinx Minnesota-based artists to our state's shared past, present, and future cultural heritage. For more information, related events, and gallery hours, go to gallery.stkate.edu/exhibition/latina-and-latinx-mn-reclaiming-space-times-change.

Art and Artifact: Murals from the Minneapolis Uprising
September 10 - December 7
Katherine E. Nash Gallery
Regis Center for Art (East)
405 21st Avenue S
Free

The Katherine E. Nash Gallery, in association with Memorialize the Movement, presents *Art and Artifact: Murals from the Minneapolis*

Uprising. The exhibition showcases a selection of the numerous murals created by artists, protesters and members of the community on boarded up windows in the spring and summer of 2020, during the unrest in response to the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police. The boards' powerful messages honored the memory of George Floyd and transformed the urban landscape into a living chronicle of a movement. This exhibition encourages people to reflect on where we are now, as we approach the fifth year since George Floyd's murder. A public program and reception will be held on Saturday, September 14, from 6 - 9pm. For gallery hours and additional programming, visit cla.umn.edu/art/galleries-public-programs/katherine-e-nash-gallery



GUSTAVO ROSSO
Enjoy music, activities, and of course tacos, at the 2024 Lake Street Taco Tour on Sept. 14th from 11am - 4pm.

2024 Lake Street Taco Tour
Saturday, September 14
11 AM - 4 PM
Lake Street, between Clinton & 19th Avenue S
Free

The Lake Street Taco Tour celebrates one of Minnesota's treasured and thriving multicultural communities, enriched with Latino food and culture. Come support local taquerias, enjoy self-guided tours, family friendly activities, and cultural events featuring Latino-owned businesses on Lake Street in South Minneapolis! The Taco Tour is sponsored by the Latino Economic Development Center (LEDC). For more information, go to ledcmn.org/tacotour.

Celebrating the 120-year history of Bethany Lutheran Church
Sunday, September 15
1 pm
Bethany Lutheran Church
2511 E Franklin
Free

The final worship service of the Bethany Congregation was held in September 2021. Join the Seward Neighborhood Group and History Committee for a program to celebrate the rich history of the Church, from its Norwegian Lutheran beginnings to its time as the home of Soup for You Kitchen in recent years. The event will be held in the sanctuary and will focus on the history of the church and congregation, community outreach, and cultural contributions and programs, with photos and memorabilia on display.

This event is free and open to the public and all are welcome. Refreshments to follow. For more information, contact history@sng.org



Hineni, by Lys Akerman-Frank. From the exhibit *Latina and Latinx MN: Re/claiming Space in Times of Change*, showing at the Catherine G. Murphy Gallery from Sept. 7-Dec. 8.

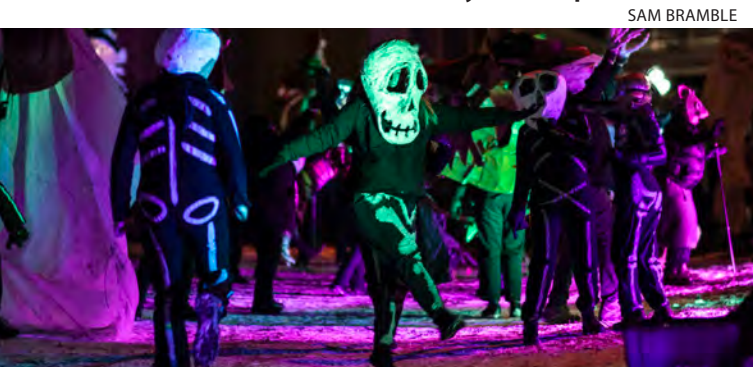
Puppet Making Workshops
September 18
11 AM - 1 PM
Midtown Global Market
920 E Lake Street
September 21
10:30 AM - Noon
Avalon Theater
1500 E Lake Street
Free

Join In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre for free Puppet Workshops! On Wednesday, September 18, make marionettes from recycled kitchen materials with artists Spencer Arevalo and Kate Foley at the Midtown Global Market. On Saturday, September 21, artists Ifrah Mansour and Kate Foley will be creating Birds of Hope at the Avalon Theater. All are welcome and no registration is required! For more information, go to hobt.org or contact ekotlyar@hobt.org.

A Wallcess Church: The Black Woman's Guide To Creating God
September 19 - October 13
Pillsbury House Theater
3501 Chicago Avenue South
Sliding Scale \$5 - \$30

AriDy Nox's *A Wallcess Church* is a Living Room play/ritual/lecture where three godlings give insight into how one creates the divine. While three godlings - Oru, Nona, and Mo - struggle to create a God worthy of creation, they also struggle with the various black women they haphazardly embody, all of whom are struggling to see the God within themselves. But our godlings are persistent and they refuse to fail. At least, not without a fight. For tickets and more information, go to pillsburyhouseandtheatre.org/homepage/a-wallcess-church.

Puppet performers at the 2023 BareBones Halloween Extravaganza.
Participate in the creation of this year's Extravaganza through BareBones' annual community workshops.



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PHILLIPS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

FALL COMMUNITY MEETING

NEIGHBORHOOD LAND DEVELOPMENT PART 2

SEPTEMBER 5, 2024 // 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

PHILLIPS COMMUNITY CENTER, 2323 11TH AVE SOUTH

Our Fall Community Meeting will feature representatives from neighborhood development projects who will provide updates and answer questions. Come here about the Roof Depot project, the Ebenezer building, and more! Food will be provided

PHILLIPS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

email: info@phillipswest.org
call/text (English): 612-424-0786



Alley Oops!

The July issue of the alley included Dwight Hobbes' review of *Deeper Blues: The Life, Songs, and Salvation of Cornbread Harris* by Andrea Swenson. We did not note that a longer version of the review first appeared in the June 2024 issue of *Blue Monday Monthly Entertainment Magazine*. We regret the unintentional omission of crediting such a great resource of our rich local music scene.



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Movie Corner

Twisters



Action/Adventure/Drama
Universal Pictures

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II

I had a wild dream shortly after I retired that turned into a storm (tornado) chaser dream. I thought a tornado chaser had to be a more fun, more dangerous and more frenzied job than an ambulance chaser. I haven't seen a tornado touchdown since I was a kid grow-



Universal Pictures

Twisters

Cast: Daisy Edgar-Jones (Kate), Glen Powell/Tyler, Anthony Ramos (Javi), Brandon Perea (Boone), Sasha Lane (Lily), Maura Tierney (Cathy), Harry Hadden-Paton (Ben).

Director: Lee Issac Chung.
Screenwriter: Mark L. Smith/Joseph Kosinski.
Cinematography: Dan Mindel.
Original Music: Benjamin Wallfisch.

Running time: 122 minutes. (PG-13)

ing up in Minneapolis. (I have seen the aftermath of that violent, twirling mass of nature, though.)

Remembering that dream, I went to see director Lee Issac Chung's, (director of *Minari* 2020, *Munyrangabo* 2007), *Twisters* - a spinoff of director Jan de Bont's *Twister* (1996) starring Helen Hunt, Bill Paxton, and Philip Seymour Hoffman. *Twisters* is such a high octane affair at certain times, it leaves one hyperventilating from what's up on the screen. (In the original *Twister* a cow floated across a truck's windshield during a tornado.)

Kate (Daisy Edgar-Jones), born and raised on an Oklahoma farm, does what she loves best - graduate work in physics and meteorology with the idea that in the near future ultra-absorbent polymers, similar to the material used to make diapers, will counteract tornadoes. Kate will never forget five years earlier when a horrific tornado did extensive damage in her home state of Oklahoma and she nearly lost her life in the process. She moves to the big city out East where there are tons of concrete buildings, countless vehicles moving to and fro, and expensive restaurants. Her friend Javi (Anthony Ramos - *In the Heights* 2021, *A Star is Born* 2018, *Hamilton* 2020) persuades her to come back home because he and others have a device that can present three-dimensional imag-



Howard McQuitter II

ery of upcoming storms, possibly able to eventually save lives.

Shortly after she returns she meets some indefatigable storm chasers led by Tyler (Glen Powell), a former rodeo rider and presently a YouTube personality, who's the ultimate extrovert. They go out when a storm approaches (from a safe distance) and set up three of Javi's devices named Scarecrow, Tin Man and Lion*, that hopefully will reduce the amount of destruction the tornado causes.

What's even more amazing, beyond the already phenomenal special visual effects, is that *Twisters* comes in 4D as well. The scene when the tornado rips through a movie theater where people are huddling for safety from the tornado's deadly force is as stunning as it is frightening.

There's only a bare minimum development of any of the characters, although Tyler stands out the most as a daredevil on the loose. It's the special effects that keep *Twisters* afloat. I went for the ride of enjoying one of the most entertaining summer movies of 2024.

*Characters from *The Wizard of Oz*

Howard McQuitter II is a long-time movie critic. He has been reviewing movies for *the alley* since 2002.

Raise Your Voice

Jim Brown's Ghost

By PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

Jim (a.k.a. Jack) lived much of his later years at 2517/2519 17th Avenue. He was a descendant of the Sami people, the reindeer pastoralists of Norway and Sweden, who had fled north as per an influx of landholding farmers. Naturally, Jim identified with the indigenous people of the Americas.

Note: our Norway House and the American Swedish Institute are local sources of Sami history in the Phillips Community.

Some 25 years ago, Jim found me turning soil in the 17th Avenue Community Garden. The time had come for us to distribute the *People's World*, a product of an entity affectionately referred to here as the "Community Party".

Hey, as a skilled mechanic, Jim served in two theaters of the war to preserve democracy against the forces of fascism. Were he still alive, would he support Trump's plan to burn the planet under a fossil fuel dictatorship... a plan where their offspring survives and ours does not?

So, I have returned now from a convention of the "community party" (i.e., CPUSA) wherein I played a role in mitigating a split between the elders and the youth who implore: how can we possibly cast a vote for a man who does not hear the whimpering of babies beneath the rubble? Hey,

Nanyahu is Trump's bosom buddy! Moreover, do you want Social Security trashed in favor of tax breaks for billionaires? Do you want all avenues of resistance shut down? (*Note: I wrote this article before Biden stepped down as a candidate.*)

Dear neighbors, I implore you. Cast your vote appropriately and then move on to the next phase of struggle. Jim Brown's ghost is watching! Socialism is our future.

Peter Molenaar advocates a broad united-front, even as he describes socialism as the future solution.

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HERC, cont.

ever since it began burning trash in 1989. Nurses, teachers, parents, bus drivers, and other neighbors have attested to the fact that asthma rates and other health issues are higher in neighborhoods near HERC as opposed to neighborhoods farther away. Scientists now back them up. And regulations cannot keep up with the industry; HERC is burning chemicals that we don't know the health effects of.

The good news is that Zero Waste USA has developed The People's HERC Transition Plan, which shows that HERC can be shut down by 2025. This will move us much faster towards reducing Hennepin County's waste.

What would happen to our waste?

In order to catalyze momentum around zero waste initiatives, we must first close the door on burning trash as an option. As long as HERC is in operation, it needs a steady stream of waste to keep flowing in. This stream currently includes substantial amounts of organic waste like food scraps that could be composted as well as materials that could be recycled and reused.

Therefore, a great deal of the waste currently going to HERC will be diverted into more productive uses like composting and recycling. The rest will go to landfills that are currently in operation and have much lower impacts on health. Strong incentives against landfills will also force governments to prevent waste.

How would this affect Phillips?

Shutting down HERC would improve the air and people's health in Phillips. According to MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) climatologist Greg Spoden, quoted in an October 1996 article in *the alley* by Maggie Sullivan and Sue Rich, neighborhoods south and southeast of HERC are downwind from November to April. Phillips residents inhale the most intense concentration of poisonous substances during those months.

We are also working to make sure that any effects of this shut down on the Phillips Transfer Station would benefit the community. We encourage Phillips residents to get involved to help determine what a zero waste system will look like for Minneapolis.

For the air we breathe, for the next generation, join us in shutting down HERC by 2025!

Visit <https://linktr.ee/zeroburn> to learn more, read *The People's HERC Transition Plan*, view a full list of coalition members, and sign up to get involved.



VENTURA VILLAGE

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

National Night Out Highlights

Several National Night Out Events were held Tuesday, August 6th in Ventura Village. Here are some highlights from those events:

- National Night Out is designed to promote community spirit and strengthen neighborhood connections. It's an annual opportunity for residents to come together for fun, engaging activities, and meaningful social interactions. Its goal is to build positive relationships within the community creating safer and more connected neighborhoods. Project for Pride in Living hosted an event in partnership with Norway House in their parking lot at 21st and Elliot. Families enjoyed good food, played games, and got to know new neighbors. *Reporting and photo by Faiza Sheikmohamed.*
- At the Pentagon Highrise, 1415 E. 22 St, residents and neighbors shared food, and played Bocce Ball and other games. Habitat for Humanity representative Preston Powless gave updates about their project across the street. 6th Ward councilman Jamal Osman visited as did the Minneapolis Police Department to make connections. *Reporting and photo by Steve Dreyer*
- Zach and Betsy Howard hosted an old-fashioned potluck dinner in their backyard on Elliot Ave. So many people attended they ran out of paper plates. (A neighbor came to the rescue with more plates!) *Reporting and photo by Zach and Betsy*



Summer Youth Showcase

Every summer Pillsbury United Communities offers an array of activities and learning experiences for young people. Some classes teach skills that can help youth start careers in broadcasting, coding, and developing small businesses. Other classes look into special interests like photography, food systems, gardening, and cultural styles. Field trips and projects are part of the classes through the summer.

Classes met at the Brian Coyle Center and Waite House. Then in August everything came together at the Summer Youth Showcase

Program. More than 75 youth who participated met at the Pillsbury Theater on Chicago Avenue and showed off their varied projects. Pictured are the Food System interns with their work - *Photo by Julie Graves*



Our next **General Membership meeting** is September 11th at 7:00pm. See website for more info and Zoom link.

**Make a difference!
Become a member
Join our Board
Go to venturavillage.org
for more information.**

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Tales, cont.

she told reporters: "I love my husband as much as ever and I should welcome him back gladly, but I love my children better."

On August 3rd, the papers reported that Westling had indeed turned up in Chicago. He reported that the children were well and that he intended to send for his 15-year-old daughter Florence, who had been out of town when he left, as soon as he settled in. Florence wrote to the *Tribune* that she had no intention of joining him, that she loved Agnethe "as much as...my own mother."

A week later, the *Tribune* reported that they had received a letter from Westling saying that he would return the children only if his wife agreed to a divorce to put an end to the "fiasco" of their marriage.

On August 15th, Chicago police notified Minneapolis authorities that they had arrested Westling. He appeared in municipal court charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. The judge agreed to drop the charge if Westling would allow the children to be returned to their mother. Westling agreed.

Westling also returned to Minneapolis where he continued to work as a carpenter and building contractor, but it is unclear whether he and Agnethe reconciled. Agnethe died in 1916

and by 1920, Westling and the children were living together. He remained interested in politics and in 1917 ran, unsuccessfully, for a seat on the City Council. In 1920, he ran for a seat in the Minnesota legislature, again unsuccessfully.

Whatever problems their parents had did not appear to have had a long-term effect on Westling's relationships with his children. At various times up until his death in 1952, Olof lived with one or more of his then-adult children.

Karin and Hilda Westling are buried in Lot 2, Block 3. Maj and Dagnie are buried in Lot 19, at the south end of Block 2. None of their graves are marked.

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

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



HERC NOW

STOP HERC LET PHILLIPS BREATHE!

IT IS TIME TO CLOSE THE HERC TRASH BURNER. Send a digital postcard to your representatives urging them to support the Minneapolis resolution!

Scan QR code for more info and the postcard form

GONE TOMORROW!

GET MORE INFO AT bit.ly/hercactionalley (scan QR code)

ZERO BURN COALITION

MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

MIKKY DAUB: YOGA



YOGA: Mon 6pm Weds 6pm Sat 2pm



DARRYL SELLERS: ZUMBA

ZUMBA Mon 7pm Weds 7pm Thurs 6:30pm Sat 9:30am

MEDITATION & SOUND THERAPY Mon 5pm Weds 5pm Sat 4 & 5pm



LADONNA FUNDERBURKE: MEDITATION

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