



Participants in previous May Day parade in south Minneapolis

Mayday Parade, Tree of Life Ceremony, and Festival coming to Minneapolis this May

by MAYDAY MINNEAPOLIS



The Mayday Parade, Tree of Life Ceremony, and Festival to celebrate the return of spring and to help us heal from our cold and ICE-Y winter will continue on Sunday, May 3, 2026, down Bloomington Avenue and into Powderhorn Park. The Parade starts at noon, and the Tree of Life Ceremony follows the parade around 3 pm. The community is invited to volunteer, apply for

paid positions, donate funds, and attend to support this extravaganza of creativity, art, and love, for each other and the planet. Visit our website to sign up for our newsletter and learn details on how to get involved: maydaympls.org.

Going forward, Mayday will be a community-organized event managed by Mayday Minneapolis, which is operated by a 501(c)3

Continued on page 3...



NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CLINIC

Construction at the new NACC. Want to see how such a large crane is dismantled? See page 5!

Where Health and Home Meet

Native American Community Clinic

By ERIK KELLY

The Native American Community Clinic's new building at 1213 East Franklin Ave. reflects years of vision, planning, and community partnership. Construction began May 2025 and it will open Fall, 2026.

More than simply a larger clinic, the project is a different way of thinking about health and wellness. It will bring expanded health services together with affordable housing in the heart of the American Indian Cultural Corridor. By placing health care below and stable housing above, the project recognizes something Native communities have always understood:

Continued on page 5...

Sign up for a free copy of *the alley* each month by scanning

this QR code or visiting:

<https://alleynews.org/delivery-and-communication/>



Renovation Set to Start Spring 2026 at South High

by IAN POWER, Staff Writer at *The Southerner*

The main entrance to South High is many things, but safe and welcoming is not, at least according to the guidelines set by MPS. Foregoing the more stereotypical high school entrance on the west side of the building, students are funneled through a glorified hallway with only a desk for security, but that's all

about to change early this spring. In March of 2026, construction will begin on a multi-million dollar renovation of the school's entrance, the newest of several similar projects in the Twin Cities, according to lead architect Mauricio Ochoa. In addition to reworking the entrance to

Continued on page 10...



New entrance to the high school.

Renter Support Fund is Excited to Announce Improved Grant Expansion

by POWDERHORN NEIGHBORHOOD

The Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA) is humbled by the opportunity to expand our Renter Support Fund (RSF) to help keep Minneapolis residents housed in the coming months. Over \$300,000 has poured in from across the city, state, and around the world to respond to the high-pressure and violent tactics used by ICE agents in the past couple of months, as the world watched our community's bravery in protecting our most vulnerable neighbors.

To reallocate these funds directly and promptly to our neighbors in need, we are thrilled to announce that our new expansion program is effective immediately. In February 2026, we launched our grant expansion plan and provided direct aid to 57 individual Minneapolis renters, up to \$1200

per renter. This is the highest level of support we have provided to our community members in crisis since the program started in 2019.

We express our deepest gratitude to the nearly 3,000 individuals and organizations who donated in the past three months. Thank you to the Women's Foundation of Minnesota, Stand with Minnesota, Edina Realty, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association, the Singing Resistance, the cover band Viva Knievel, followers of astro-goblin on YouTube, St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, and so many more who have empowered us to expand relief to more cost-burdened Minneapolis renters through low-barrier cash assistance.

PPNA will continue to fund

Continued on page 9...

NEWS FLASH: Allina Health is planning to join Sutter Health out of California to consolidate into a larger nonprofit health care system. The merger is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

ICE Encounters: Sharing Our Stories

the alley is offering space to share anonymous stories of encounters with ICE. These stories will not be easy to read; however, we know that they are important for all of us to witness now, and for those in the future to read of what happened and is continuing to happen here. See Page 9.

In order to promote anonymity and veracity, we ask that stories are shared and then submitted by a trusted neighbor of yours. We may not be able to publish all stories. Please review submission criteria and have your neighbor submit at alleynews.org/submissions.

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 jolt forward.

Guided and Informed by: Phillips residents

Governed by Directors: Steve Dreyer, Luke Gannon, Susan Gust, and Natalie Mazey.

Operated by Editorial Leadership Committee: Mara Brooks, Mary Ellen Kaluza, and Harvey Winje.

Business Facilitated by: Erick Boustead

Production Facilitated by: Mattie Wong

Page Coordinators: EPIC News; MPNA News.

Social Media: Susan Gust, Anais Lowe

This month's contributors to the alley:

A24, Atlas of Blackness, Better Things, Steve Dreyer, East Phillips Improvement Coalition, Phillips Neighborhood Institute, Linnea Hadaway, Hennepin History Museum, Dwight Hobbes, Laura Hulscher, Sue Hunter Weir, Mary Ellen Kaluza, Erik KellyLake Street Council, Marti Maltby, Mayday Minneapolis, Tim McCall, Howard McQuitter II, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Minneapolis Art Institute, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Peter Moleenaar, Dave Moore, Native American Community Clinic, Norway House, Open Eye Theatre, Phillips Oral History Project, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Powderhorn Neighborhood, Ian Power, Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts, Somali Museum of Minnesota, Harvey Winje

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 1st Wednesday 8:30 -10:00am.

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

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talk with us: connect@alleynews.org

Submissions due the 12th day of the previous month



Franklin Library News

1314 E. Franklin Ave. | 612-543-6925 | www.hclib.org

M, F, SA 9AM-5PM • TUE-THURS 12PM - 8PM • SUN 12PM-5PM

Compiled by Christina Smith, librarian, on March 12th, 2026.

PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH + FAMILIES

No programs the week of March 30th - April 4th for Spring Break

LET'S READ!

Tuesdays/Thursdays: 4 - 7:30 PM Saturdays: 2 - 5 PM

Free in-person reading support for K-5 students. Students and trained volunteer tutors meet weekly one-on-one to work on grade level reading skills.

HOMEWORK HELP

Tuesdays/Thursdays: 4 - 7:30 PM Saturdays: 2 - 5 PM

Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advanced sign-up needed.

STEAM WORKSHOP (AGES 8+)

Wednesdays: 5 - 6 PM

Drop in for fun and creative STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) experiments and projects! Materials provided. Led by Franklin Library's Teen Tech Squad.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, 12:30-2 PM

Join Franklin Library staff for free coffee & conversations with neighbors.

ADULT TUTORING

Every Saturday, 10 am-12 pm

Are you an adult looking to improve your literacy skills? Would you like help with homework? Are you studying for your GED? Adult Tutoring is a drop-in program for adults seeking 1:1 help with basic level reading, writing, math, and English language. Adults will work with trained volunteer tutors at the library during tutoring hours. Drop-ins are welcome on a first-come, first-served basis.

EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC

Wed., April 15th :12:30 - 4:30 PM

Having a criminal record can make it difficult to obtain work, housing, or professional licensing. However, in certain cases a person can request that the court seal their record through a process called expungement. In this session, learn more about the criminal expungement process (who is eligible, what is sealed, how to apply, etc.) and have general questions answered by an attorney.

SISTER'S CAMELOT FOOD SHARE

Thursday, April 16th 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Stop by for free pre-packed bags of produce and organic groceries provided by Sisters Camelot. While supplies last.

HIV/STD TESTING AND WOUND CARE

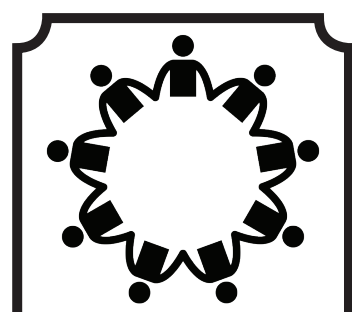
Friday, April 24th 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Drop in and for free HIV/STD testing from Native American Community Clinic and wound care provided by the U of M's Mobile Health Care Initiative. No registration required.

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 nyem ntawv ntawm 612-385-0886 txais kev pab hais lus Hmoob. Soomaali/Somali: Caawimaad Soomaali ah, soo wac ama goraal (text) usoo dir maktabada 612-235-1339.



Join the Board of Alley Communications and help other volunteers grow the organization to more fully fulfill its mission "to inform and engage the Phillips Community". Email susananngust@gmail.com to discuss and learn more!

How to write a LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor are always welcomed. Three important criteria: no foul language, do no harm to an individual, must be "signed" by the author. Short and succinct is better - under 300 words if possible. Letters may be edited for length.

email your letter to copydesk@alleynews.org no later than the 12th of the month, by 5pm SHARP.

PHILLIPS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Phillips Voices:

Rico Morales

The Phillips Community Oral History Project aims to document, amplify, and empower the multicultural and multi-generational voices of those in the Phillips Community to tell their own stories on their own terms.

This month's feature is from Rico, who spoke with the Oral History Project team about his experience moving to Phillips and what he thinks makes the neighborhood unique.



Could you just introduce yourself, tell me your name, your pronouns if you would like, and which neighborhood in Phillips that you live in?

I am Ricardo (Rico) Morales and I live in Minneapolis, Minnesota, right here on 23rd Street and Elliot Avenue. I live in the Ventura Village part of the Phillips neighborhood in Minneapolis. I use he/him/his pronouns and I'm a lifelong Minnesota resident, ever since 1972.

...I moved up here due to the many opportunities and resources of employment, education, I wanted to get out of the small town that I was born in in southern Minnesota, a very small rural town. Not a lot of employment, not a lot of lifelong career services or opportunities that I had for myself personally and I just felt like I needed to do something else, something different and I've been pretty independent ever since I was about 14 years old so I just happened to graduate from high school in 91' moved up here in 92' and I've been living here in Minneapolis and in this neighborhood specifically off and on but primarily mostly in Phillips neighborhood.

I think you can make more mistakes in Phillips. I think people are more forgiving in Phillips, more accepting and welcoming in Phillips, because we need, we see each other as neighbors and as people who add value to our lives. We may not like or agree with everything we see of course, but we see each other as dependent on each other. And we are all codependent.

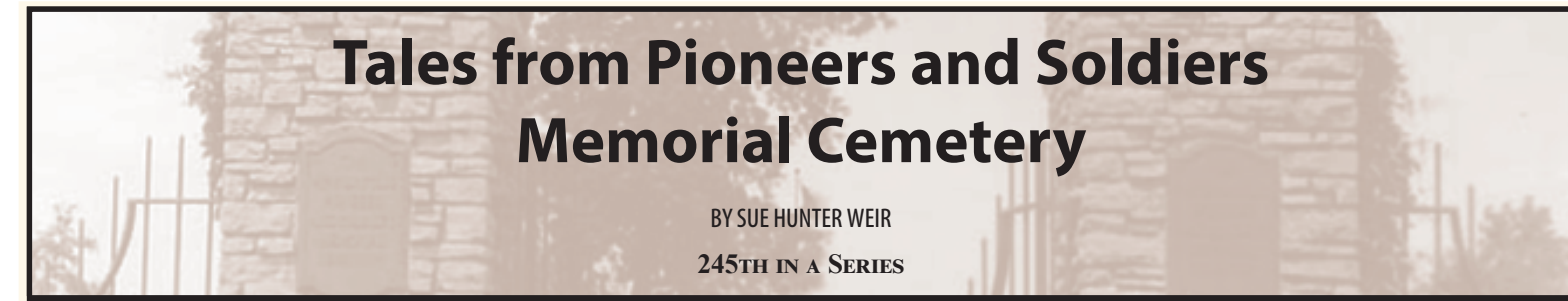
We can be hurt and we can be in pain and we can also have joy at the same time, that that we still need to do the work. The work still needs to go on.

In other neighborhoods I don't see a lot of the diversity. Here in Phillips we are way more diverse and we've always been diverse ever since Phillips was created, ever since Minneapolis was created Phillips has been one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the entire country speaking dozens of languages and being the main central point for new arrivals into this country has always been Phillips and that's, that's on every category in the state of Minnesota - the different cultures and communities that come here and it's not easy but it's easier than other communities.

...there's huge investments from the Somali culture and then the bakery here, the, one of the largest Somali malls and mosques in the country is right here on 23rd Street and 10th Avenue and 11th Avenue...it's a great place to go where I can walk into that building and my shoulders drop down right away. I relax just automatically. It's just a different world where all I see is Black and Brown people and that's all I see. And it's not necessarily about safety but it's about familiarity and it's about their struggle is my struggle and my struggle is their struggle.

And we do often band together whether it's Black Lives Matter, whether it's the responses to George Floyd's murder. I was working at Cub Foods when George Floyd was murdered and it was difficult helping the store rebuild and board up the windows while I was also watching the crowd go down to the 3rd Precinct. And I watched it and recorded it. It was pretty difficult but we hold space both in many worlds sometimes. We can be hurt and we can be in pain and we can also have joy at the same time, that that we still need to do the work. The work still needs to go on.

the phillips community oral history project is a joint effort by alley communications and the united phillips coalition, including phillips west neighborhood organization (pwno), east phillips improvement coalition (epic), and midtown phillips neighborhood association, inc. (mpnai).



Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery

BY SUE HUNTER WEIR

245TH IN A SERIES

Agnes Frier

Unwanted? Or Family Couldn't be Found?

Agnes Frier's story has been a challenge to research. She was one of the 250 adults (only eight of them women) buried in the cemetery whose remains were unclaimed by family or friends and became the property of the county coroner. He, in turn, was required by law to turn them over to the University's Anatomy Department to be studied by medical students. When Agnes died in 1915, very few people, primarily for religious reasons, donated their bodies for research.

Agnes died in Anoka State Hospital on September 5, 1915. She was born in Germany around 1860 and emigrated with her husband Joseph in 1887. Their oldest son, Sam, was born in New York in August 1887. They had five more children: Mollie was born in Pennsylvania, Alma was born in Illinois, Daisy in Minnesota, George and Frank were born in Wisconsin.

Agnes' death certificate listed her occupation as "gypsy," which at first seemed like a reference to her having run away (which she did) from the hospital in Fergus Falls. She had been declared insane and institutionalized around 1909. When the 1910 Federal Census was taken, she was described as one of the hospital's "inmates." Sometime in 1913, she was transferred to Anoka State Hospital which is where she died.

It turns out that Agnes was not the only member of her family who was described as a "gypsy." When the 1905 Iowa State Census was taken, her husband was identified as a gypsy. And when their daughter Alma married in 1909, local papers referred to her as a "gipsy [sic] bride." When Agnes' mother-in-law died from heatstroke in 1910, the papers reported that she had "spent almost her entire life in the camp of the Gypsies, and during the great number of



The marker placed by the University of Minnesota on the grave of Agnes and 249 other adults in September 2012.

years only had the wagon of the Gypsy as her home."

A common stereotype about "gypsies" in the early part of the 20th century was that they were a carefree band of people who traveled the countryside in colorfully painted wagons, stopping along the way to tell fortunes. But over time, the term became associated with untrustworthy behavior and became an ethnic slur.

The Real Story

Joseph Frier was a horse broker, traveling throughout the Midwest buying and selling horses. There is no record of him being involved in any kind of dishonest dealings. They appear to have been simply a family that was always on the move.

Their nomadic lifestyle is part of what makes Agnes and her family difficult to trace. Even with the on-line resources that we have today, it's difficult to track them, and in some cases, technology not only doesn't help, it adds to

the confusion when family members or volunteers post and repost incorrect information. One family tree on ancestry.com attached an obituary claiming that Joseph was a member of a Cherokee band in Oklahoma when his other records show that he was born in Germany and became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1899. His age at the time of his death matches other vital records, and the names of his surviving children match the names of his and Agnes' children, so it is unclear where the idea that he was Native American came from. Joseph and four of their six children are buried in Hunter's Creek Cemetery, Lapeer County, Michigan.

While it is possible that Agnes' family didn't claim her because of the stigma of mental illness, it is also possible, perhaps even probable, that the county coroner was unable to locate her family. She was among those who were buried on June 20, 1916, in the paupers' section, Lot 44/60,

Block H of Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery. The University of Minnesota placed a beautiful marker on the grave of those, who like Agnes, made a contribution to medical science. There was a dedication ceremony to honor them on September 9, 2012. (See https://alleynews.org/2012/09/reparation-for-350-in-potters-field-sept-9th-130-pm/) 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.

Something I Said...

Pouring Gasoline on the Fire

By DWIGHT HOBBS



Dwight Hobbes

ICE's approach in South Minneapolis has been to douse the fire by pouring gasoline on it.

In the aftermath of Renee Good's murder by agent Jonathan Ross, instead of reining ICE in, more were dispatched. Just as prone to gunplay. Two of whom, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer Raymundo Gutierrez and Border Patrol agent Jesus Ochoa, assigned to Operation Metro Surge, killed Alex Pretti.

To make things worse, both deaths were falsely accounted for. Department of Homeland Security Secretary DHS Secretary Kristi Noem claimed Renee Good "attempted to run a law enforcement officer over [in] an act of domestic terrorism." Video footage shows Good simply trying to wend her way through chaos as Ross shoots her through the driver's window as he stands next to the car, in no danger of being hit at all, much less run over.

Alex Pretti was helping a woman to her feet when an agent shoved them both to the ground. Unprovoked, several agents held him down, one confiscating his legal firearm. Whereupon for no apparent reason an agent shot the unarmed man at point blank range. Then shot Pretti three more times. Another two agents fired 10 shots. ICE cleaned up a report, but witnesses and BBC footage attest the shooting was completely uncalled for. Department of Homeland Security at the time, Kristi Noem called Renee Good and Alex Pretti "domestic terrorists" before the Senate Judiciary Committee. She spun the stilted narrative in perfect keeping

Continued on page 4...

MayDay, cont.

from page 1...

non-profit organization, Peer Education Health Resources (PEHR) DBA Mayday Minneapolis.

The mission of Mayday Minneapolis is to enliven the Twin Cities community by producing the annual Mayday Parade, Tree of Life Ceremony, and Festival.

The founding volunteer board members of Mayday Minneapolis are artists and organizers who have deep roots in the history of Mayday: Zee Sommers Haas, Heather Hinrichsen, Catherine

Jordan, Dan Newman, Sofia Padilla, Chris Lutter-Gardella, and Vienna Wilson.

At its best, Mayday has magic. Now, more than ever, the south Minneapolis community wants and needs an annual ritual to reclaim its power and solidarity with all who live here. The sun will return, and the Tree of Life will rise!

50 years of **the alley**

Please keep it going with any amount!

Mail a check to Alley Communications, PO Box 7006, Mpls, MN 55407 or visit tinyurl.com/donate2alley

Gasoline, cont. from page 3...

with President Trump's penchant for rationalizing his actions from whole cloth. This was before he threw this faithful follower under the bus with an unceremonious firing. Following Renee Good and Alex Pretti, Alberto Mondragon's skull was shattered. ICE agents tried to palm off the claim that he fled custody and deliberately ran into a brick wall. Hennepin County Medical Center staff ascertained that couldn't account for bleeding and fractures throughout the man's brain.

As if all this isn't bad enough, immigration agents now can break and enter your home without a warrant. And the administration initiated U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for 2025-2029, to the tune of billions of dollars without a word about reforming ICE.

You solve this problem by instituting respectful law and order, not by ruthless, federal occupation. But that makes too much sense. Way to go, President Trump. Keep dousing the fire with gasoline.

DWIGHT HOBBS is a long-time Twin Cities journalist and essayist.



Hey, you read 'the alley'!

Contribute!



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UPCOMING PWNO EVENTS

COFFEE ON THE CORNER

APRIL 10 // 9AM - 12PM
2400 PARK AVENUE SOUTH

Get some coffee and talk with us about things going on in the neighborhood and what you'd like to see PWNO do for the rest of the year!

PHILLIPS WEST CLEAN UP

APRIL 11 // 10AM
2400 PARK AVENUE SOUTH

Celebrate the warmer weather by getting out and cleaning up the neighborhood with us! Snacks and equipment will be provided

PWNO COMMUNITY/BOARD MEETING

APRIL 20 // 6-8PM
512 EAST 24TH STREET

Join us to hear about the organization's current status and then bring your ideas about what you want to see in the organization! Food provided.



Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

The Food Desert is Expanding

By MARTI MALTBY

Food Deserts are neighborhoods where residents lack adequate access to food. Residents of a country as wealthy as the United States shouldn't have to worry about getting enough to eat. In other words, we shouldn't have Food Deserts.

Unfortunately, in a country where economic statistics carry more weight than human need, things don't run as they should. In the last six months, two feeding sites that served take out dinners in Ventura Village closed. Between them, they were serving over 700 meals a night. I don't know the situation in the other neighborhoods covered by *the alley*, but I suspect many residents there rely on feeding sites or food shelves to meet one of the most basic human needs. Economics says that the United States is still the wealthiest country in history. The number of people going hungry say that economics is measuring the wrong things. Understandably, a lot of the people going hungry would probably say something much more graphic about any economics that claims things are as they should be.

Of course, it's easy to say that everyone should have enough food. There's no controversy there. The challenge is distributing the food properly when the most basic assumptions that drive political decision-making focus on abstract concepts rather than concrete details. The Invisible Hand, Gross Domestic Product, and Average Household Income have their place in explaining how money moves from one place to another, but they don't consider



Marti Maltby

how many blocks someone has to walk to get groceries for their family, or even if they can get groceries. Yes, there are statistics to measure those sorts of concerns, but they get less attention and don't affect decision-making as they should.

Which brings us back to Food Deserts. South Minneapolis is facing greater challenges in feeding itself. Inflation is going up, making it harder for people to afford the necessities. Therefore, more people need food assistance, but the food assistance is disappearing. And so, the Food Desert expands. Block by block, the situation is getting worse.

There won't be an easy solution to this, but there does need to be a solution. A group of nonprofits and other neighborhood organizers are already working to get more food into south Minneapolis. We have contacted the County Commissioner, the Mayor, and the Council Member for this area to emphasize the need for action and additional resources. Neighborhood and business associations also have their role to play. We will see if together we can put human needs before statistics.

MARTI MALTBY is an avid cyclist, Director at Peace House Community, and an obnoxiously proud Canadian.

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COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY HEALTH CARE CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Clinic, cont.

from page 1...

wellness is shaped by the environments we live in and the relationships that surround us.

Health care for NACC has always been about more than treating illness. It's about restoring the balance between body, spirit, family, and community. The new clinic reflects those values. Relatives will find welcoming spaces that connect to culture, tradition, and the natural world. People will feel grounded and at home with the cultural design elements, and gathering spaces inside and outside.

The expanded Clinic will grow the services it already provides, including medical, dental, behavioral health, and community-based care. Just as importantly, it will create a place where people feel seen, supported, and connected.

The new structure is a sign of the future taking shape. It will expand access to care, strengthen community stability, and create a lasting home for Indigenous healing rooted in both ancient wisdom and modern medicine.

How Do You Move A 120 Foot Crane?

by STEVE DREYER

For nine months the 120-foot high crane at the Native American Community Clinic helped the workers build their 6 story clinic and apartment complex. When it was time to remove the crane, Franklin Avenue was closed for 3 days beginning February 27th. Two other cranes were set up in the street, the crane was taken down in pieces, and hauled away on flatbed trucks. Here is the last section being loaded onto a flatbed truck.



Cranes on cranes! Dismantling one large crane with several small cranes!

EAST PHILLIPS COMMUNITY ACCEPTS CITY'S HALF-SITE OFFER

Roughly 30 East Phillips community members and allies convened on March 11 to review the city's half-site proposal.

The neighborhood voted to accept the half-site proposal, with two important conditions:

- 1) EPNI actively fights to keep the full Roof Depot building intact for at least one year, and
- 2) Define a clear pathway for the community to pursue ownership of the entire site in the future.

Half-site proposal reminder:

City is selling 4.2 acres of the site for \$6.12 mil.

The city has agreed to:

- **Deconstruction** of the city's half of the site (No Demolition and no arsenic exposure).
- **Brownfield grant collaboration** to remediate the entire site.
- **Short term lease agreement** so EPNI can farm this summer and has site access while a new purchase agreement is worked out.
- Assistance so EPNI can purchase **greenway land** to east of building

With the Little Earth Protectors, we are working to return the land to the residents of Little Earth of United Tribes

Let your House Representative or Senator know that we will not accept broken promises, and expect support for this community-led vision.



APRIL EVENTS

The alley recommends confirming all events beforehand.

Mosaic Mondays Mondays 6 - 8 PM
Semilla Center for Healing and the Arts
 2742 15th Ave S
Free

Does non-directed community creativity bring you joy, strength, relief - or any other soul-lifting benefit? Then you should know about Semilla Open Studio Mondays. This weekly open studio welcomes everyone to work in community company on mosaics or linocut prints (materials and basic instruction provided) or on a personal project from home. Check the Semilla Center Facebook page for details and occasional schedule changes for the upcoming week!

You Belong Here Cash Mobs Wednesdays 4-7 PM
Lake Street
Spend what you can

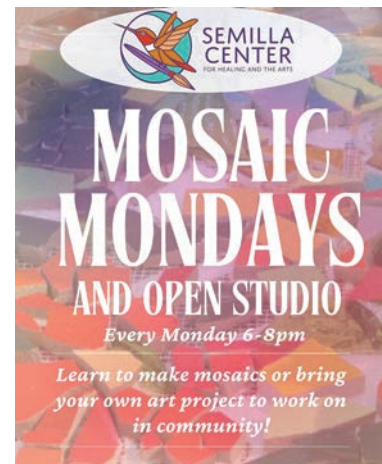
Federal actions in Minnesota are attempting to break communities through violence, division, and economic pressure. We cannot let that happen. If you are in a position to spend, join neighbors for Cash Mobs to gather as a community and support small businesses that need us. Check visitlakestreet.com/youbelonghere for the dates and locations of upcoming Cash Mobs!

In Plain Sight Creating Change Gallery April 2, 4, 10 and 11 Noon - 4
2929 Chicago Avenue Suite 100

Featuring the work of Atlas of Blackness' Documenting MN journalism fellow Precious Murray, *In Plain Sight* explores the St Paul intersection of Dale St and University on a human scale. Though black and white photography and ambient soundscapes, Murray's work is deeply concerned with documenting and ethically representing unhoused and under-resourced black Minnesotans living in and around transit hubs. For additional viewings by appointment, see article on page 11.

Mayday 2026 Parade and Ceremony Sunday, May 3
Builds and rehearsals throughout April
Semilla Center, Powderhorn Park and other locations
Free

Mayday Minneapolis is now a decentralized community-run celebration encompassing the beloved annual Mayday Parade, a Tree of Life Ceremony, and a



Community Festival. Free drop-in workshops will be held throughout April for anyone who wants to help build puppets for the parade and ceremony; there are also opportunities to participate in the parade and ceremony! Visit maydaympls.org for workshop schedules and location details.

Circle of Water: Puppetry as an Agent of Change Through Fall 2026
Hennepin History Museum
 2303 3rd Avenue S
Pay as you can

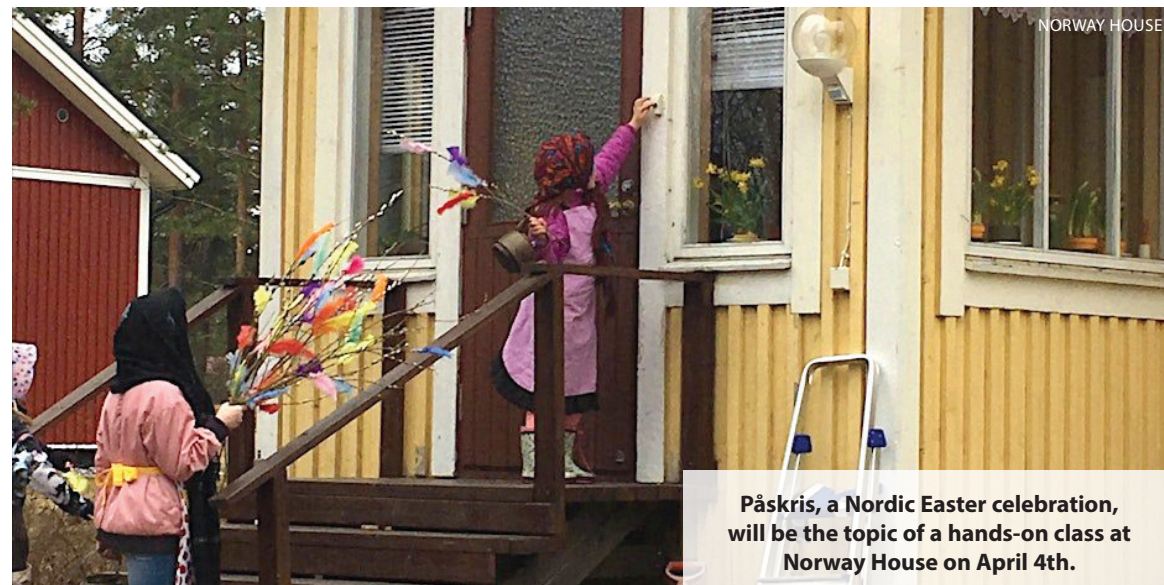
In 1983, thirty people and two dogs travelled down the Mississippi River to spread a message about the importance of water. Their performances explored the history of the Mississippi River, combining the entertainment of the circus, the pageantry of puppetry, and the call to action. *Circle of Water: Puppetry As An Agent of Change*, pays tribute to this unique example of artistic activism, showcasing puppets alongside footage of the original show, and presenting the experiences and perspectives of the performers. For visitor information, visit hennepinhistory.org.

Winston: A Woman's Fight for Freedom in Minnesota
Through October 2027
Hennepin History Museum
 2303 3rd Avenue S
Pay what you can

This exhibit tells the story of Eliza Winston, the first and only enslaved person to successfully fight for their freedom in a Minnesota courtroom. Featuring artifacts from the museum's permanent collection, it is based on the scholarship of co-curator Dr. Christopher P. Lehman and features a newly commissioned artwork depicting Eliza. For visitor information, visit hennepinhistory.org.

Decorate Påskris (Easter Switches) with Kari Tauring
Saturday, April 4
10 - 11:30 AM
Norway House
 913 E Franklin Avenue
\$7.40 - Children 7-12
\$23.88 - Adults

Christians in southern climates traditionally use palm tree fronds



Påskris, a Nordic Easter celebration, will be the topic of a hands-on class at Norway House on April 4th.



Threads Dance Project will perform at MIA on April 9th.

to adorn their Easter celebrations but in the north, where green leaves are not available in early spring, some cultures use woody shoots instead. In this class, participants will learn about the Nordic Easter tradition of påskris, decorated pussy willow switches, while making their own unique version of one. Learn more about the class and get tickets at norwayhouse.org/event-calendar/decorate-pskris-easter-switches-with-kari-tauring.

Better Things 5x5 Reading and Open Mic Tuesday, April 7 7 PM

Moon Palace Books
 3032 Minnehaha Avenue
Free

Better Things March 5X5 reading features 5 fantastic writers: Sagirah Shahid, Suzanne Locke, Isavela Lopez, Ben Westlie, and Nick Metcalf. A community open mic hosted by Davi Gray and Erin Sharkey will follow, and ASL interpretation will be featured for the entire event. Please note that masks are required at Moon Palace Books. To learn more about this month's readers, visit reentrylab.org/better-things.

Meet at Mia: Art in Motion with Threads Dance
April 9
5 - 9 PM
Minneapolis Art Institute
 2400 3rd Avenue S
Free

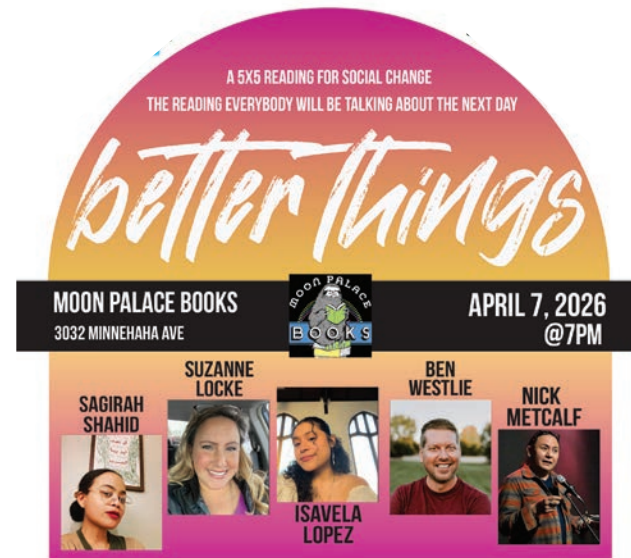
At this Meet at Mia event, South Minneapolis' own Threads Dance Project will perform in

Mia's Regis Court. Afterwards, participants will be invited to create a unique artwork that taps into your own sense of movement, and DelSur Empanadas food truck will also be on hand if you feel like a bite! Meet at Mia is an ongoing series of free Thursday evening events for adults. Learn more at artsmia.org/event/meet-at-mia.

Puppet Lab Festival of New Work
April 10 - 19
Open Eye Theatre
 506 E 24th Street
\$15 - \$18

Puppet Lab is a 2-week festival of imaginative and visually dazzling new puppet work, the culmination of a 6-month development residency for emerging puppetry artists. This year's residency program is led by Co-Artistic Directors Oanh Vu and Sofia Padilla. For tickets and more information, visit openeyetheatre.org/puppet-lab-festival.

Continued on page 7...



Somali Weaving Workshops
April 11 and 14
2 - 4 PM
Somali Museum
 2925 Chicago Avenue
Greenway Basement (ground) Level
Free

Learn traditional weaving techniques used to create intricate and vibrant artworks with no tools other than your own hands! While practicing the technique, participants will hear stories and experiences that shape this beautiful craft from the Somali Museum's Weaving Instructors. Check the Somali Museum Facebook page or contact the museum at info@somalimuseum.org or (612) 886-3723 for more information.

EAST PHILLIPS BIKE REPAIR EXPO!

Free Bicycle Repair for East Phillips Residents
April 25 at EAST PHILLIPS PARK (2307 17th Ave S)
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Residents of East Phillips! **SIGN UP** to bring your bike to the East Phillips Park Gym on April 25 for **FREE** basic repair.

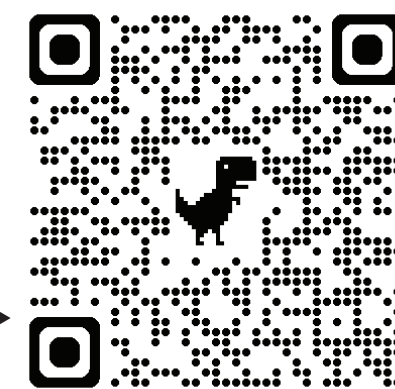


The Bike Repair Expo will also feature "How to Fix a Flat" workshops and free giveaways.

The first 100 people to attend the Expo will receive a free bike pump! There will be free water bottles, patch kits, and other prizes too!

Use the QR Code to Sign Up your Bike!

You can also sign up at the Expo to get credit at Venture Bikes for Free Bike repair!



The East Phillips Bike Repair Expo is made possible through the generous support of the Minneapolis Foundation. Special thanks to Venture Bikes, Free Bikes 4 Kidz MN, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board for their support.



Events, cont.
 from page 6...

Somali Dance Workshops
April 11 and 18
5 - 7 PM
Somali Museum
 2925 Chicago Avenue
Greenway Basement (ground) Level
Free

Experience the beauty of Somali performance and learn various Somali dances and their cultural significance from knowledgeable instructors with a deep understanding of Somali cultural dance. Find out more about each class at somalimuseum.org/events. Note that capacity is limited due to space, so arrive early if you can. Questions? Contact info@somalimuseum.org, or call (612) 886-3723.

Peavey Park Neighborhood Day
Saturday, April 18
11 AM - 2 PM
Peavey Park
 730 22nd Street E
Free

Come celebrate our neighborhood at this year's Peavey Park Neighborhood Day event! Connect with neighbors and unwind while enjoying delicious food and comfortable seating under the covered pavilion,

or unleash your creativity with art-making activities for all ages. Everyone is welcome!

Book Launch & Concert: It Wasn't Meant to Be Perfect
April 30
7 PM
Open Eye Theatre
 506 East 24th Street
\$16.50

Gaelynn Lea—folk musician, Broadway composer, and disability advocate will give a musical performance and discuss her new memoir, *It Wasn't Meant to Be Perfect*. She will be joined in conversation by Matthew Sanford, who is a nationally recognized author and pioneer in adapting yoga for people with disabilities.

Open Eye Theatre is wheelchair accessible, and ASL interpretation will be provided. Get tickets at openeyetheatre.org/book-launch-concert-gaelynn-lea.



Introduction to Orienteering
Saturday, May 2
10:30 - 12 PM
Norway House
 913 E Franklin Avenue
\$5 (free for 8 and under)

Want to learn more about orienteering, the sport of navigating with only a map and compass? This class will provide an introduction and get you started with basic skills, including map reading and compass navigation, approaches to decision making and strategy, and information on how to find orienteering events. The class is appropriate for anyone ages 6 and up! Register at norwayhouse.org/event-calendar/introduction-to-orienteering.

Somali Tales & Family Night
Saturday, May 2
3 - 7 PM
Somali Museum
 2925 Chicago Avenue
Greenway Basement
Free

Bring your kids to the Somali Museum for a special family night, which will include a vibrant and engaging storytelling session designed to spark the imaginations of young explorers! Questions? Contact info@somalimuseum.org, or call (612) 886-3723.

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East & Midtown Phillips

Upcoming Events

The proposal is back on!

EPIC & MPNAI organizational merger was approved (again) on March 12th. Now, each community votes whether to ratify this marriage (merger). **Voting period opens at the virtual community meeting at 5:30pm on April 9th and closes on April 16th.**

A little history...

EPIC asked MPNAI out back in 2023, just to chat. They quickly found out the interest was mutual and later that year partnered together on a staff team. Since 2024, board meetings have been combined and the relationship has been going strong. Now they are ready for commitment! [unitedphillips.org/merger](https://www.unitedphillips.org/merger)



We'll be hosting our monthly community meeting on **April 22nd from 6:00 PM -7:30 PM**. As always, food is provided, but you are welcome to bring something to share.

6:00 | Food + Meet & Greet
6:30 | Community Discussions

For more details, please scan the QR code or visit the events calendar on: www.unitedphillips.org/



Community Support

Last month, the EPIC & MPNAI boards approved the addition of a new fiscal sponsorship to support mutual aid efforts in the neighborhood. In partnership with neighbors and Phillips Community Free Store, Phillips Support LLC was established. With 501(c)(3) backing, we've received over **\$320,000** in donations for rent support to supplement the incredible fundraising and mutual aid efforts of dedicated volunteers in our neighborhoods. To support these efforts, scan the QR code below or visit <https://www.unitedphillips.org/supportneighbors>



Urban Agriculture

The **Phillips Tool Library** focuses on providing free access to high-need gardening-oriented tools.

More details are available at: www.unitedphillips.org/phillips-tool-library



The **East Phillips Community Garden**, located at 2428 17th Ave, has open plots for the 2026 growing season! We prioritize residents of the East Phillips neighborhood to join, but anyone can apply.

Contact us at garden@eastphillips.org for more information or stop by the office for a printed application. Learn more and apply at www.unitedphillips.org/east-phillips-community-garden.



ICE Encounters

Neighbors Taken on January 7th

By ANONYMOUS

Our family had a major experience with ICE beginning with the December 2025 surge. We attended information sessions on how to prepare our neighborhood for the violence and terror that happened in other cities, like Chicago, at a local church. We started helping share with neighbors any sightings we had of the heavily armed presence of these masked men in our area. My other sister-in-law and her husband and three other families, related to us, that live in South Minneapolis all stopped going to work and church due to the fear and threat created by ICE.

On January 7, 2026, you may remember as the day Renee Good was murdered, we had three people close to us who were abducted. Two of the men were taken in the morning from Menard's parking lot in Saint Paul, our neighbor and his cousin who lived with him. They lived four houses down from us on our block and we had known them for over 20 years. They had a plumbing business and had helped several neighbors with house repairs. The father of the family had all of his work authorization papers on him, because he had been stopped under the previous Trump administration and was released because he had

no prior criminal record and was here "legally." The ICE agents didn't care and, if his nephew had not been with him, we would not have known that he was taken. The agents allowed him to leave his truck keys and all the cash he had on him with his nephew, who was too young to drive. We had to help our neighbor's wife get his truck back from Menard's.

We didn't hear from our neighbor for 4 days. ICE claimed they did not know where he was. His immigration attorney who had been working with him since he got his work authorization and applied for a green card could not get any information. Finally, we found he had been flown to Texas the same day he was detained. ICE is still holding him in detention and as he said the officers told him, "Your work authorization means nothing. We do not have to acknowledge it and the only people we have to release are citizens." His cousin was released after 2 weeks, when ICE found out he was here on a U visa. He had to pay for an attorney in Texas and his flight back to Minnesota. We are working with various food shelf programs, churches, and other groups to keep our neighbor's family fed and assisted with

their mortgage payments.

The third person close to us was my husband's cousin's uncle. He was flown to Texas and after weeks of being detained and using all of his savings, even though he had work authorization, he opted to self deport. The living conditions were too severe and he feared he would not live through the detention. He is working on coming back to Minnesota where his US citizen children and wife are still trying to survive.

We have been active with our local block club and neighborhood volunteer groups. Through this activity we have found that there are 3 other families on our block that have lost a family member. All of these people had work authorization and no criminal background. Their only crime was living in an area terrorized by ICE and not being white. We have other friends who are Somali and they have had family members made to stand outside in sub-zero weather of January with little or no warm clothing on for hours while ICE ran background checks to determine whether they were lying about being citizens. We have also found that there are at least 6 families on our block who have not worked or gone to school in person, because of this terror in our community. That is only on my block. So many people have lost days that they could be working, income, and had so much stress going about their daily business. One neighbor who was an

Iraq veteran said the only time he has seen masked men driving around waving guns like Ice is doing here, was when he saw ISIS members in the war.

If I had one request, it would be to call your congress person, the mayor, senators, and governor to beg them to disband ICE as an organization. ICE has only existed since 2003. Immigration offenses are a civil paperwork offense. It does not need to be enforced by armed, masked people who terrorize entire neighborhoods of my city. Our democracy is crumbling and will never return to what it once was. But, we can try to somehow reduce the terror and possibly get some sort of normal back if we join together and let our officials know that body cameras and training are not going to

change anything. Many of these officers have had years of training. Only eliminating ICE completely will eliminate the risk they pose to our community. We will never be able to regain the sense of peace and safety in our community, but we can try.



Renter Support, cont.

from page 1...

rental assistance to Minneapolis residents throughout the year and will increase the number of grants based on continued fundraising. Please find us on GiveMN, through our website, or through your donor-advised fund. PPNA is a 501(c)(3) and all donations are tax-deductible.

RENTER SUPPORT FUND

Overseen by the Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association, the Renter Support Fund is a Minneapolis-based program that provides low-barrier cash assistance to households under financial strain. Operating since 2019, we've served over 600 households, families, and residents. This program has been a vital resource for many renters due to skyrocketing living costs and the recent Operation Metro Surge targeting our immigrant neighbors. Learn more at ppna.org/renter-support-fund

How to submit to the alley

1. Find and write about a topic relevant to the Phillips Community.
2. Stick to these general rules: 500 words for an opinion piece and up to 700 for a feature piece, and no profanity or harm!
3. Ask a friend to proof-read!
4. Send in your article and any images, permissions, and captions in their final and best form to copydesk@alleynews.org, or upload at alleynews.org/submissions, by 5pm SHARP on the 12th of the month.

accepted submissions: photos, neighborhood news, feature articles, interviews, profiles, fiction, cartoons, opinions, artwork, poetry

5. Copydesk may follow up with clarifications, any image issues, etc.

6. The Editorial Leadership Committee selects what goes in *the alley* each month. Articles may be edited for length and clarity; news and stories that focus on Phillips and are timely will be prioritized!



Immigration Resources

ICE agents have been terrorizing our neighborhoods. Below are some immigration resources for both vulnerable neighbors and people who want to support them.

This is also a great time to meet your neighbors, offer a friendly face, and support our immigrant-run businesses.

Monarca
Hotline: 612-441-2881
Posters for businesses:
<https://monarcacmn.org/resources>

Immigrant Law Center of MN
Know Your Rights, Family Preparedness, and Legal Clinics:
<https://www.ilcm.org/immigration-resources/know-your-rights/>



HENNEPIN COUNTY MINNESOTA

Happy April Neighbors!

HCMC/HHS

Hennepin Healthcare is a Level I adult and pediatric trauma center, a teaching hospital, and the largest Medicaid provider system in Minnesota. It is at risk of closing due to cuts to our healthcare system. My colleagues and I have been testifying to our legislatures on the potential negative impacts if we do not find a solution.

Small Business Support

The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners established a Small Business Recovery Fund, administered by the Hennepin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HCHRA).

The fund will reallocate resources to provide up to \$2 million in direct grants, supporting small businesses and residents facing financial hardship after the recent federal immigration enforcement surge.

National Public Health Week: April 6 - April 12, 2026

Public health has improved our daily lives, safeguarded our families, expanded our life spans, and strengthened our communities.

Hennepin County Public Health recognizes racism as public health crisis, has committed to reducing health disparities and advancing health equity.

Hennepin County envisions a community where all people are healthy, all people are valued, and all people thrive.

- World Health Day - Tuesday, April 7th
- Earth Day - Wednesday, April 22nd
- Arbor Day - Friday, April 24th



Angela Conley
District 4
Commissioner
District 4 Office
612-348-7884

A-2400 Government Center
300 South 6th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55487

Leadership Positions on Board Committees
Intergovernmental Relations
Co-chair
Public Health
Chair
Hennepin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority
Chair

Sign up for District 4 Newsletter
hennepin.us/angelaconley
Keep up to date with on socials



Please reach out with questions, comments, or to learn more about how to get involved.

This space paid for by Commissioner Angela Conley

Movie Corner

Marty Supreme

★★★★★
 2025
 ****1/2 of 5 stars
 Drama/Sport/Romance/Thriller/
 Period Piece
 A24

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II



Howard McQuitter II

Josh Safdie's film *Marty Supreme* is about a young man's feverish passion to be the best ping pong player in the world. Timothée Chalamet plays Marty Mauser (loosely based on the real-life American ping-pong champion, Marty Reisman, in New York City in the 1950s). Mr. Supreme needs to scrounge as much as he can to take a flight to Tokyo for the world championships. However, he gets entangled in some get-rich-quick scams that lead down the path of intrigue and danger before his trip to Tokyo becomes a reality. His love interest, Rachel Mizler, unfortunately gets tied up in the fray.

ject for a movie. Ping pong is hard to find in filmography except perhaps in a fleeting scene or two or three in *Forrest Gump*.

It's not easy to make or memorize the moves on a ping pong table. It is Diego Schaaf and his wife, Wei Wang, an Olympic player, who worked with Chalamet in the summer of 2024. Visually Chalamet and his ping pong opponents are stunning. Moviegoers should watch for Oscar nominations for Timothée Chalamet, Odessa A'zion, and the movie itself.

HOWARD MCQUITTER II is a longtime movie critic. He has been reviewing movies for *the alley* since 2002.



A24

Cast: Timothée Chalamet (Marty Mauser), Odessa A'zion (Rachel Mizler), Gwyneth Paltrow (Kay Stone), Larry Ratsos (Murray Norkin), Ralph Colucci (Lloyd), John Catsimatidis (Christopher Galanis).

Director: Josh Safdie.

Writers: Josh Safdie and Ronald Bronstein.

Cinematography: Darius Khondji.

Original Music: Daniel Lopatin.

Running time: 150 minutes.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

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

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

copydesk@alleynews.org
 or at alleynews.org/submissions

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

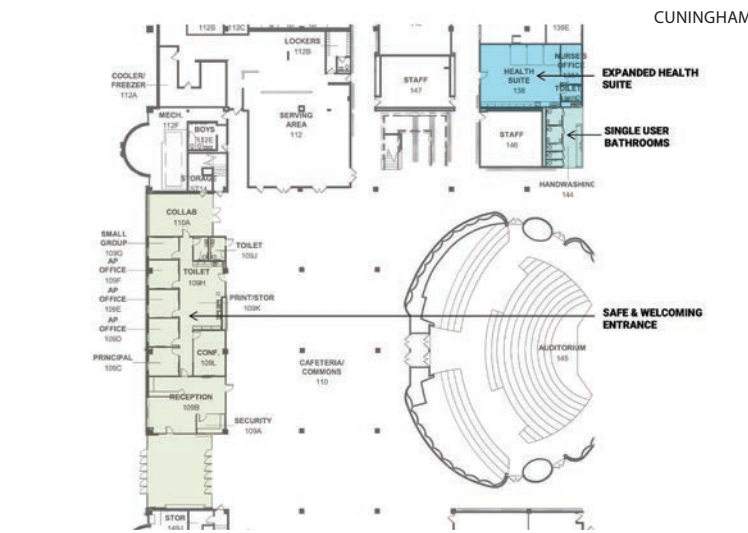
South High, cont.

from page 1... improve efficiency and security, the renovations will also rework a large section of the balcony and relocate the main office.

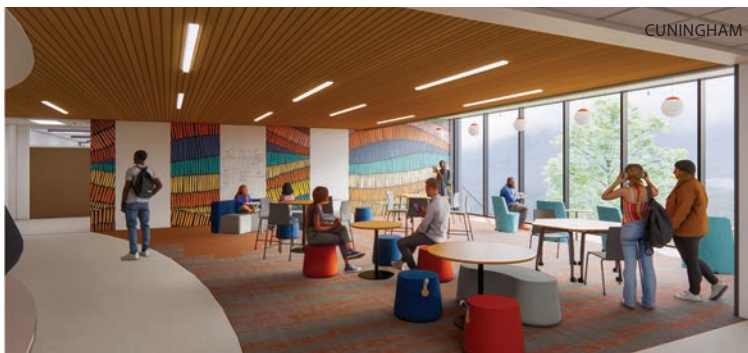
Of the changes being made to South, maybe the most anticipated is the relocation and upgrades to the main entrance, with an entirely new entryway being built at the location of door 6 on 19th Avenue. Once completed, students will enter directly into the main commons. When closed, the two layers of doors will form an antechamber with a security window manned by the newly relocated office, where the identities of students or visitors can be verified before being allowed through the second set of doors. In theory, these changes will create a sort of 'bubble security' allowing the school to maintain a greater level of security at its entrance.

According to Ochoa and South High Principal Ahmed Amin, not just the doors, but much of the western side of the main commons will be receiving a rework. As stated before, this will include the relocation of the office and connected admin offices to the area underneath the balcony, with a security window allowing access to the isolated vestibule in the new entrance. According to Amin, the relocated office will be easier for parents, visitors, and new students alike to find.

All along the segment of the balcony above the new office and entrance, planned upgrades will include floor-to-ceiling windows, bringing natural light into the commons to make the school feel "less like a prison," as jokingly admitted by Amin. In this newly lit segment of the balcony, there will be space for a new lounge area equipped with chairs



Blueprints that show the plans for the new office, entrance, bathrooms, lounge area, and more. (Mauricio Ochoa)



Render of the planned lounge area.

and tables, where students can eat or work during lunch times.

All in all, the projected renovations aim to improve the South High experience for both visitors and students. The new entrance will enhance the level of security that can be maintained by the school. The relocated office will be easier to find and over-alls closer to the entrance. New windows, along with a lounge, will introduce sunlight and new spaces to enhance the lunch experience for students. Over the coming years, we'll see how these changes alter the environment of South.

HOME | FOOD | CULTURE

1601 EAST LAKE ST MPLS, MN
ingebretsens.com



POETRY

A Flash of Green

by BRAD TROM

A flash of green on a day of grey,
 When winter's grip begins to fray,
 The fiddle's cry, a joyful sound,
 On this day, no sorrow's found.
 A river runs a viridian hue,
 Reflecting skies of hopeful blue.
 The shamrock crest, a simple sign,
 Of faith and luck, and passing time.
 From Dublin's streets to shores afar,
 Beneath the same cold, morning star,
 A spirit shared, a hearty cheer,
 That echoes softly, year by year.

The Women's Environmental Institute



Environmental Justice

Certified Organic Produce

Since 2003, WEI has led initiatives in East Phillips that improve human health and the environment. From our farm in North Branch, we offer weekly produce boxes spring summer and fall!



Support a farm with a mission beyond the field
 Learn more: <https://w-e-i.org>

In Plain Sight

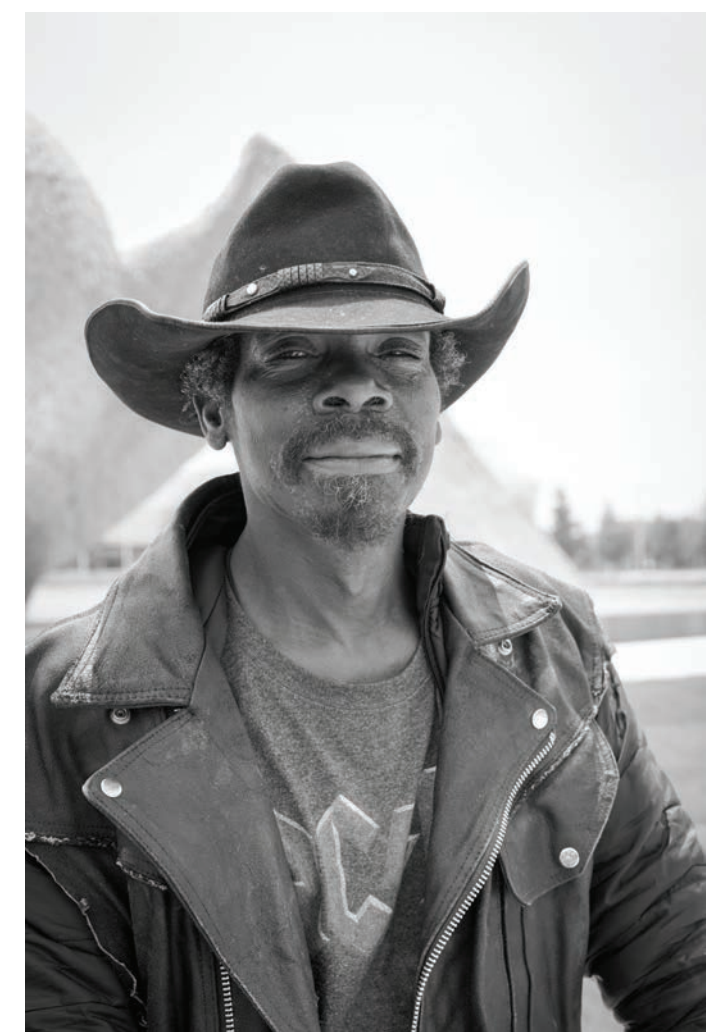
by ATLAS OF BLACKNESS

Atlas of Blackness presents "In Plain Sight" at the John and Denise Graves Foundation's Creating Change Gallery, an intimate exhibition featuring Documenting MN's journalism fellow, Precious Murray. Precious Murray is a documentary photographer, writer, and student currently pursuing a degree in Human Services with a focus on Social Work. As a Photojournalism Fellow with Atlas of Blackness's Documenting MN program, Precious brings a grounded, relational approach to visual storytelling, centering communities that are often misrepresented or ignored.

Her project, *In Plain Sight*, focuses on the intersection of Dale Street and University Avenue in Saint Paul, Minnesota, a corridor shaped by overlapping crises related to public transportation, housing insecurity, addiction, and mental health. Through black and white photography and ambient soundscapes, Precious documents the lives of unhoused and under-resourced Black Minnesotans living in and around transit hubs. As

a social work student, Precious is deeply aware of the ethical responsibilities of documentation and representation. Her work challenges viewers to go beyond voyeurism. It asks what it means to see someone clearly and what obligations that entails.

Curated by Lucina Kayee and Patience Zalanga, "In Plain Sight" invites the public to consider how Black people are rendered visible or invisible in urban spaces and what it means to create work that resists erasure. This showcase is made possible by the generous support of the John and Denise Graves Foundation and the voters of Minnesota. "In Plain Sight" invites the public to consider how Black people are rendered visible or invisible in urban spaces and what it means to create work that resists erasure. This showcase is made possible by the generous support of the John and Denise Graves Foundation and the voters of Minnesota, through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



A portrait from Precious Murray's series *In Plain Sight*.

View In Plain Sight at: 2929 Chicago Avenue South, ste 100 Minneapolis, MN 55407

From 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM on the following dates:

- Friday, April 3
- Saturday, April 4
- Friday, April 10
- Saturday, April 11

And viewings by appointment, which can be scheduled via email at Frank@atlasofblackness.org or by phone 763-898-0766



- The world's longest skyway crosses 28th Street and ends at Abbott-Northwestern—823 feet!
- Allina Health's new building is **10 stories -- 174 feet**. Two times taller than the building at 27th & Chicago Ave which was to be the maximum for new buildings in the original Covenant with the Neighborhoods. Institutional Memory and Compliance is so short!
- The City of Mpls spends **250K clearing encampments** annually.
- Meanwhile Children's Hospital MN has **four large buildings vacant** on the entire block west of Block 5 that could have been used temporarily for housing while preparation is made for demolition and future site planning.
- The Ebenezer building at 26th & Portland **was used temporarily by Our Saviour's Housing** while their building was being expanded; using creative partnership & financing.

Meanwhile:

- *Allina Health has been purchased by Sutter Health from CA pending federal regulatory approval.
- * Hennepin County Health Center, many small metro clinics, and out-state clinics and hospitals are struggling to stay open due to federal funds being withheld!

Raise Your Voice Dear MAGA

by PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

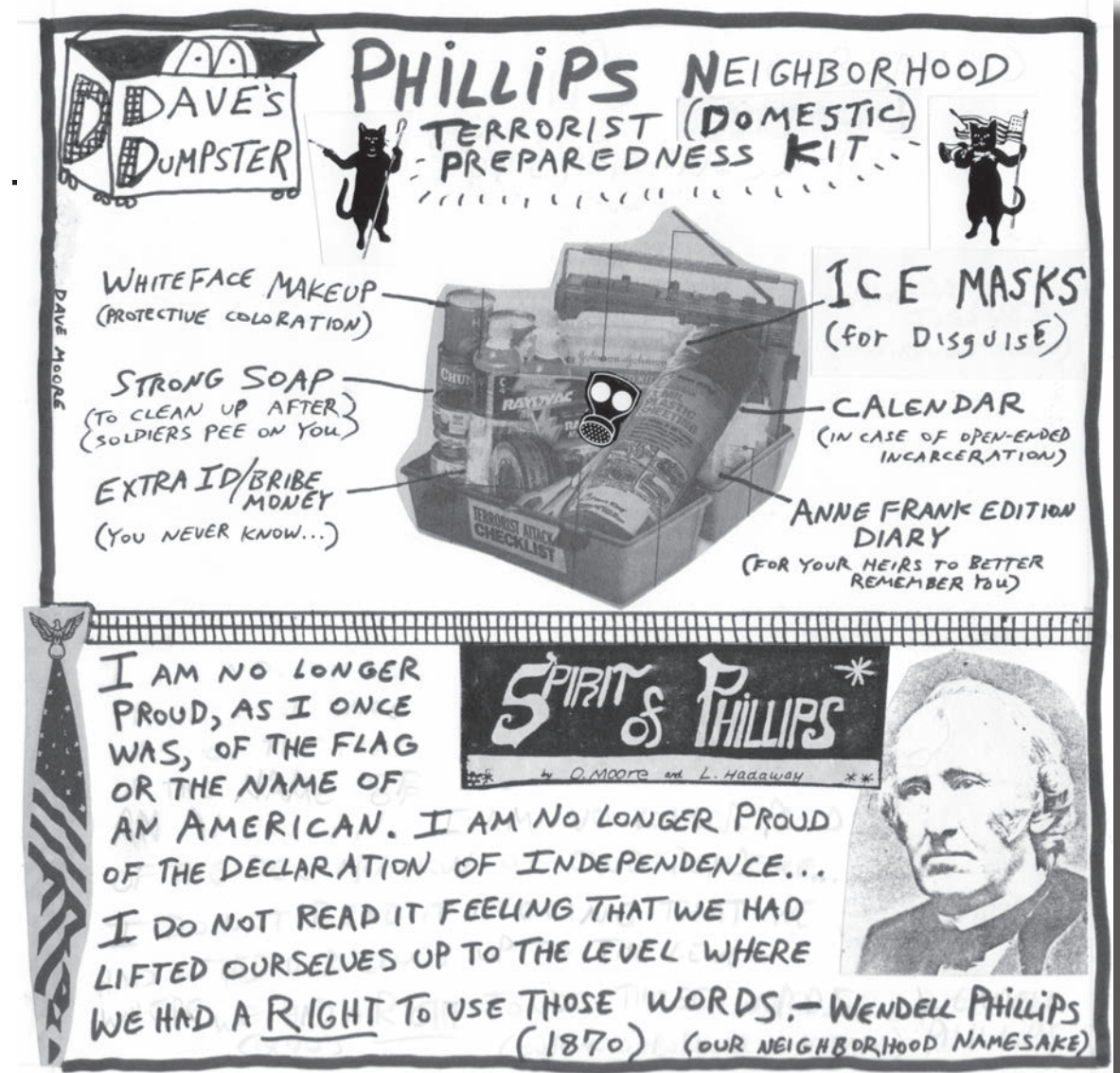
Dear MAGA, why do the oceans now rise against our shores... and whence, the destruction of hurricanes? Do you not honor the one crucified in retribution for his rebuke of the capitalists who occupied the temple? (Note: Matthew 21:12-13)

Dear MAGA, do we not all descend from communal peoples who, after foraging, returned to their villages to receive the honored sharing with those in need? (Note: The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State, a book written by Friedrich Engels, can be purchased from May Day Books in the not-faraway land known as the Cedar-Riverside Neighborhood.)

Yet, you call us "garbage" and "losers" when, cast in time, our collective labor is the source of value in your commodities! Moreover, feel free to cast light upon the spirit of the original beholders of the land we share, and note: our national parks are not for sale!

Oh, dear MAGA, we now cry out: did you protest when your bombs killed over 160 school-girls in Minab, Iran? Must we make another revolution to make America good again?

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



DAVE MOORE & LINNEA HADAWAY have lived here since the Reagan 80s and became life partners while originating the cartoon series "Spirit of Phillips."

Gallery of Loss & Light

By HARVEY WINJE

Continued from March...

PART 6

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty; Power is ever stealing from the many to the few!"
-Wendell Phillips

In one word: Imperialism. In two words: Manifest Destiny. Nations conquered, Dakota Land stolen, settler colonialism in Mpls before and after WWII, WWII, Messiah Congregation vs the American Indian Movement, betrayal of a Covenant in Phillips Community, institutional expansion, trust of leadership and neighbors, production of disguised military bombs locally, and institutional ruse-philanthropy; are all instances of power to the few and imperialism at different levels.

"You are Lucky to be in the Belly of the Beast!"

U.S. attacks Iran! Our losses in Phillips pale in comparison to the devastation, depravity, and negative impacts of innumerable assaults on humanity locally and internationally this last year! Imperialism happens in many ways.

*"Ah, the wars they will be fought again
The holy dove, she will be caught again
Bought and sold, and bought again...
While the killers in high places
Say their prayers again!"*

Wars in Iran, Ukraine/Russia, and by ICE Surge fulfill Leonard Cohen's words above from "Anthem."

Life on Phillips Block 5

Life on the block later named 5 began one year after I was born at Northwestern Hospital 2627 Chicago Ave. in 1940 (to be demolished soon in \$2 Billion Allina Health/Abbott-Northwestern campus changes).

My family moved to 2514 Chicago Ave. My Mother returned to Glen Lake Sanatorium, 16 months after my birth, for her third and last hospitalization for tuberculosis treatment. She died 9/8/1945, after the 8/6 & 9/1945 atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Nation United

A "Serving Our Country" banner was in her hospital window; a proud sign that her oldest son was a Marine in the Pacific theater of WWII.

She wouldn't have known he was in the Battles for the Mariana Archipelago Islands, Saipan, Guam, and Tinian, 6-10/1944 where tens of thousands of troops fought to conquer islands from Japan and build airstrips for 500 Boeing B-29 Super Fortress bombers including Enola Gay and Bockscar, bombers of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 8/6&9/1945.

FDR 'Fireside Chat,' news reels, and paraphernalia were to maintain civilian patriotism, support, and boost troop morale.



Banner in window of author's mother's hospital room



'Navy' suit worn by author at his mother's funeral.

Razed, Blazed, and Moved

Also a symbol, the wool "Navy" suit I wore to my Mother's funeral at Albinson Mortuary, 1701 Chicago Ave.; demolished for I-94.

That Mortuary and 35 other buildings are my List of "Razed, Blazed, and Moved" Phillips buildings nostalgic for me.

Some losses are personal. Losses caused by imperialism affect us all.

Belly of the Beast

"I envy you. You North Americans are very lucky. You are fighting the most important fight of all. You live in the belly of the beast."
-Dr. Ernesto "Che" Guevara

Che Guevara's phrase "the belly of the beast" (more often "heart of the beast") refers to the U.S., which he viewed as the center of imperialism, capitalism, and global oppression.

Imperialism is often hidden behind other veils.

Rev. Peter Erickson, Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church Congregation-MELCC Pastor 1969-1977;

Took Aim at AIM

Peter Erickson opposed the American Indian Movement. Apparently, he feared AIM advocacy and activism against imperialism of Indigenous people and land:

7/28/1968: AIM fd. by Dennis Banks, Clyde Bellecourt, & George Mitchell; office at 1337 East Franklin Ave.

1968: Fd. AIM Patrol to monitor police brutality.

7/29/1969: 7 detailed demands to the Nat'l Board of Luth. Churches: See "Thunder Before the Storm," pg. 72 for complete list.

1969-1970: helped fd. first urban Indian Health Board.

11/20/1969-6/11/1971: Occupation of Alcatraz Island, CA. to highlight injustices and treaty violations.

1970: AIM peaceful takeover of

a Naval Air Station building at Fort Snelling, to use for a school; "Dakota Treaty of 1805: any territory the U.S. abandoned would go back to the tribe." Signs read: AIM for Unity.

1970: AIM helps fd. the Legal Rights Center.

1972: Creation of Little Red School House & Heart of the Earth Survival School.

Oct.-Nov. 1972: "Trail of Broken Treaties" March on Wash., D.C., & occupation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

2/27/1973-5/8/1973: 71-day armed occupation of Wounded Knee, SD.

1974: Key leaders, Banks & Means go on trial; charges dismissed for government misconduct.

1975: AIM chosen to sponsor "Little Earth of United Tribes," the first Indian-run HUD housing at 24th St & Cedar, Mpls.

1978: The "Longest Walk" from San Francisco to Washington, D.C., protest to support tribal sovereignty.

Erickson repudiated the legitimacy, credibility, morality, and appropriations of AIM. He demanded that MELC and the national LCA disapprove and deny contributions or endorsement.

AIM, LCA, ALC in Phillips

In a Sunday Worship Service, Rev. Erickson vehemently degraded AIM while wearing the clergy robe and vestment that symbolized his words as "ex cathedra"-with authority.

He was probably angered by Clyde Bellecourt writing later, "While we didn't get everything we wanted from the Churches, we did start a new kind of relationship with them, particularly when it came to the obliteration of American Indian families. We were pleased—shocked—by the forceful response to our Challenge by the NCLC," in his autobiography, "The Thunder Before the Storm," (MN Historical Society Press, 2016).

They made strides in reversing the mantra of "Manifest Destiny" that explorers, countries, churches and governments had used as license for stealing land, obliterating Indigenous languages and culture, and separating families with boarding schools and forced adoptions.

"Elder Alberta Downwind wanted 'Indian' to be at the core of telling the world who we are," according to Clyde Bellecourt. "She said, 'Indian is the word they used to oppress us, and Indian is the word we will use to gain our freedom.' From then on we were the American Indian Movement."

A thorough AIM history is "We Are Still Here," by Dick Bancroft and Laura Waterman Wittstock, MN Historical Society Press, 2013.

The American Lutheran Church strongly endorsed and supported AIM initiatives; national ALC offices were in Mpls. Our Saviour's Lutheran Congregation at 24th and Chicago was ALC. Perhaps, this different attitude to Indigenous people was a factor in the dissolution of the Our Saviour's Congregation and LCA-Messiah Congregation merger talks that had been discussed for several years.

I was at MELC the Sunday

when Erickson spoke against AIM. I sat in the balcony to be less obvious wearing carpenter bib overalls; it was an afterthought to attend while on my way to work. I contradicted those intentions when I stood up and spoke near the end of the Service. The Liturgy gives opportunity for members to speak additions to the closing Prayers of the Church. I rose and requested, "that we ask to be forgiven for the times when our means were within acceptable norms but our morals were lacking."

Wendell and Ann Phillips

I may have been emboldened, that Sunday, by having recently read "Wendell Phillips: Prophet of Liberty," by Oscar Sherwin published 1958 I saw it at ORR Books, 31st & Hennepin Ave; \$1.50.

I was enlightened and questioned why those attending Wendell Phillips Jr. High School (since demolished! Against the campaign of neighbors!) weren't told of this remarkable couple, Ann Terry Greene Phillips and Wendell Phillips. Their decades-long campaigning for justice of many causes were legendary and could have formed the entire curriculum of the school. A missed opportunity by educational and political leaders except for the large oil painting of Phillips in the Lobby! All subjects could have been taught within that focus including industrial arts. Wendell's mother said, "A good carpenter was spoiled when Wendell became a lawyer"

Also a worthy namesake of the Phillips Community that included the extremely wealthy business owners of Mpls. and the workers in grain mills, railroads and builders; the "working class" in the same neighborhood as was Wendell and Ann's neighborhood in MA near Boston Commons; comparable to mansions near Peavey Field.

The context of U.S history with protests, assassinations, a Presidential resignation & pardon, etc of the late 1960s and 1970s is crucial to understanding Erickson's leadership and the decisions by MELC during his tenure and after.

Peace Through Strength and Bomb Production Disguised

Honeywell International Corp. world headquarters on the west Phillips border, sponsored many philanthropic efforts of housing, employment, and education through its Honeywell Foundation including "Prospects for Peacemaking" advocating against nuclear arms. Their significant contributions were appreciated and successful in making positive public admiration and media attention.

An article in *Twin Cities Business Monthly* by Ann Bauer about Honeywell CEO Michael Bonsignore said, "Probably no legitimate business could survive in Phillips without Honeywell."

Clearly an insult to hundreds of legitimate Phillips area businesses that existed on their own merits and financing without Honeywell or any other philanthropy. That CEO moved Honeywell to New Jersey and merged with Alliant Corporation before he was termi-

nated with a "golden parachute, firing.

Not all attention was positive, however, there were annual protests against military artillery production by the Honeywell Project for decades. Honeywell rationalized in "peace through strength."

Four blocks south on Columbus Ave. there was a small start-up business called Phillips Works (PW) that initially collated, punched, and bound pamphlets and booklets such as annual reports. Employment was targeted for hard-to-employ Phillips rodents and especially Indigenous people. Ironically, PW also made campaign buttons. For expansion, PW rehabbed a building directly across from the first small factory. Similar production was planned for a space in the new American Indian Business Development Incubator 1400 East Franklin Ave.

Settler Colonial City

It was accidentally discovered that the parts being made by "hard-to-employ Phillips residents" were for fragmentation bombs! Not incongruous, since the Board President of PW was the Vice-President of Honeywell's Defense Division. For further detailed explanation of this read *Settler Colonial City: Racism and Inequity in Postwar Minneapolis* by David Huggill University of Minnesota Press, Publisher, 2021.

"Bibles" for Land

Archbishop Desmond Tutu frequently illustrated the historical collusion between European colonialism and Christian missionary work in Africa. His quote summarizes how foreign powers used religion to facilitate the expropriation of Indigenous land.

"When the missionaries came to Africa they had the Bible and we had the land. They said 'Let us pray.' We closed our eyes. When we opened them we had the Bible and they had the land."

-Desmond Tutu

"You are Lucky in the Belly of the Beast"

Dr. Ernesto "Che" Guevara's words describe the opportunity to dispute Imperialism we have had in MN and here in Phillips.

"I envy you. You North Americans are very lucky. You are fighting the most important fight of all. You live in the belly of the beast."

We have had imperialism by settler colonialists, missionaries, state and national leaders, corporations, small and large non-profits, and by real estate speculators. We have also had imperialism by religious organizations, hospitals, smaller non-profits, and speculating neighbors.

Who may we trust?

"We are in the 'belly of these beasts.'"

"Eternal vigilance is the price of peace."