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the alley

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Land and Ownership
The Saga Continues

Part of the mission of Alley Communications is to provide a forum for people in the Phillips Community. In this November issue, we have devoted space to the discord in the community surrounding the EPNI issue. There are many viewpoints surrounding this important issue. Please share yours! Contact connect@alleynews.org for more info or send submissions directly to copydesk@alleynews.org or upload directly via the alleynews.org website.

Notes and Quotes: Community Meeting Oct. 7th About EPNI

By DAEMEAH KARBEAH

The purpose of this community meeting was to address 3 main questions and to provide opportunity for questions to and answers from the EPNI Board. Questions: (1) How City has the Mpls. & Board negotiations progressed? (2) What's the Roof Depot deconstruction timeline? (3) Is the Urban Farm being built?

The meeting began by highlighting EPNI's achievements, including grants such as a $120,000 grant from the Department of Agriculture.

However, as of October, there is no purchase agreement for the Roof Depot. The City of Minneapolis plans to deconstruct part of the building starting in December. Communication regarding this deconstruction has reportedly been inconsistent.

A former staff member discussed the internal rift between the board and staff, specifically after the alleged, abrupt termination of the Interim Executive Director. A representative from EPNI's Sustainable Community Investment Fund (SCIF) and community advisory council also said the SCIF council voiced concerns about board dynamics in a letter to the EPNI Board.

A SCIF Council member said so many times, Phillips neighbors have attacked each other over money once the money starts coming in, and now is not the time to be divisive. In the past 6 months, we have noticed the dysfunction and turmoil that has led EPNI off course. Board dysfunction does not allow for the critical thinking that is necessary for course correction; this is not the end but rather the beginning.

Another former staff person provided a document outlining EPNI's recent turmoil. Afterward, community members raised questions and frustrations, particularly about the lack of attendees from East Phillips and EPNI's overall state. Despite the tensions, an EPNI community leader pledged $2,000 for mediation between EPNI's board and former staff.

continued on page 5...

Toward Future EPNI Success

Honor Efforts of the Past and Work Together

By JOAN VANHALA

Statement read at October EPNI Community Meeting.

Too many times, in the past, I have witnessed Phillips neighborhood folks attack each other when the money starts to land. Now is not the time for pointing fingers, but it is the time to honor the efforts of the past and work together for success.

I am a 35 year East Phillips resident and am a strong supporter of the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute's (EPNI) efforts over the years. I have also made a commitment to be on the EPNI Community Advisory Committee. Many, many people, neighbors, and organizations, including Little Earth, have supported EPNI in powerful ways and led, against all odds, to successful achievements. Without this broad support we would never have been able to achieve what we have.

In the past 6 months, the Community Advisory Committee members and many others, have been noticing dysfunctional board practices that are leading EPNI off course:

continued on page 5...

A New Chapter in East Phillips

Returning to Roof Depot

By ALONDRA CANO

Returning to the Roof Depot project feels deeply personal. As a former Minneapolis City Council Member, I saw firsthand the power of East Phillips residents who organized, advocated, and refused to let their neighborhood be overlooked. Today, I'm proud to return to this work as Strategic Development Director for the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI).



The Roof Depot has always represented more than a building or a piece of property. It represents a community's vision for its own future—a future rooted in environmental justice, economic opportunity, cultural connection, and the well-being of the people who call East Phillips home.

For years, residents have made their voices heard about the need to address environmental harms and invest in solutions shaped by the people most affected. Their persistence is a reminder that meaningful community development begins with listening, building trust, and recognizing the leadership that already exists in our neighborhoods.

In this new role, I look forward to helping EPNI strengthen partnerships, advance its development goals, and turn community vision into lasting opportunities. That means working alongside Little Earth families, residents of the East Phillips neighborhood, public partners, and supporters who want to build on EPNI's strengths and endurance.

I know this work takes patience, collaboration, and a willingness to navigate challenges. But I also know what this community can accomplish when people come together around a shared purpose.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to return—not as someone bringing a vision to East Phillips, but as someone joining a community that has been building its vision for years. I look forward to listening, learning, and working with our neighbors to help move the Roof Depot project forward.

The future of Roof Depot should be shaped by the people who have fought for it. I'm honored to be part of that next chapter.

Letter to the Editors

Call for Dialog and Mediation

By STEVE SANDBERG

I am writing to call for support of a formal, transparent dialogue and mediation process between the board of the East Phillips Neighborhood Institute (EPNI) and the Community Advisory Council.

Recent termination of staff positions and subsequent staff resignations have led to concerns about the EPNI board's commitment to community governance and ownership. Such a commitment, over the past many years, was an essential part of the success and financial support that has brought the project within reach of a purchase agreement for the southern half of the Roof Depot property.

As a result of the upheaval surrounding this rapid loss of EPNI staff, financial backers are taking a wait-and-see approach. This puts the entire project in jeopardy.

Community involvement in the decisions being made is essential. Community stakeholders have offered mediation services, and the board of EPNI needs to accept and thereby establish a new roadmap to community governance and ownership. Such a roadmap had been developed by staff and needs to be implemented.

Community ownership has been the driving force behind the years of effort and dreams by so many! EPNI board; take the step of entering into dialogue and mediation so that the community led Roof Depot project can continue to move forward with the support that it needs!

Thank you,
Steve Sandberg
East Phillips resident and former EPNI board member

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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE
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10 AI AND FILM

the alley

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, 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: Natalie Mazey, Mattie Wong

Page Coordinators: EPIC News; MPNA News.

Social Media: Susan Gust, Anais Lowe

This month's contributors to *the alley*:

All My Relations Arts, East Phillips Neighborhood Institute, Emily Jarrett Hughes, Hennepin History Museum, Dwight Hobbes, Laura Hulscher, Sue Hunter Weir, Mary Ellen Kaluza, Daemeah Karbeah, Marti Maltby, Howard McQuitter II, Midtown Global Market, Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Norway House, Peter Molenaar, Dave Moore, Native American Community Clinic, Open Eye Theatre, Pillsbury House + Theatre, Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, Re-entry Lab, Steve Sandberg, Abby Taylor, Brad Trom, Joan Vanhala, Walker Church, Harvey Winje

DONATIONS

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***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 Team1st 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.

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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

CLOSURE: VETERANS DAY, WED NOVEMBER 11

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

YOUTH + FAMILIES

LET'S READ DROP IN!
(Grades K-5)
Tues and Thurs: 4:00 – 7:30 pm
Saturdays: 2:00 – 5:00 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
(Grades K-12)
Tues and Thurs: 4:00 – 7:30 pm
Saturdays: 2:00 – 5:00 pm
Free in-person tutoring for K-12 students. No advanced sign-up needed.

STEAM WORKSHOP
(Ages 8+)
Wednesdays: 5:00 – 6:00 pm
Drop in for fun and creative STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) experiments and projects! Materials provided. Led by Franklin Library's Teen STEAM Squad.

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.

EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC
Wednesday, Nov. 18th
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, Nov. 19th
2:30 - 3:30 pm
Stop by for free pre-packed bags of produce and organic groceries provided by Sisters Camelot. While supplies last.

NEURODIVERSE CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP
Tuesdays until November 10th
1:00 – 3:00 pm
Join our 5-week creative writing workshop for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This class is open to anyone who uses words in any way. This program allows students to express themselves through their own words and provides an opportunity for others to read creative works from their unique perspective. Traditional reading and writing abilities are not required! Students will also have the opportunity to publish and share their work at the end of the session. Registration required. Collaborator: Cow Tipping Press. This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Registration required, go to www.hclib.org/events to register.

ADULT TUTORING
Every Saturday
10:00 AM – 12:00 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.

BEADED KEYCHAIN WORKSHOP
Thursday, Nov. 5th
3:00-4:30 pm
Create a beaded turtle keychain while learning the story of Turtle Island. Learn basic loop style beadwork. Receive take-home instructions and supplies to finish the project if you do not finish during class. Materials provided. Led by Alicia De La Cruz, Minneapolis-based Ojibwe artist from the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. Collaborator: ArtStart. This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hennepin County Library is looking for volunteers for our Adult Tutoring Program. Volunteers will provide tutoring and assistance to adult learners with basic level reading, writing, math, and English language. The service helps adult learners achieve their literacy and Adult Basic Education goals through one-to-one assistance. Adult Tutoring takes place at Franklin Library every Saturday from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Apply online at www.hclib.org/volunteer

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!

PHILLIPS ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Phillips Voices:
Mary Ellen Kaluza

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, ***Mary Ellen Kaluza*** *talks about organizing a neighborhood credit union.*

> *Then a group of us got together to organize a new credit union that went into Art's Bar. That was the Wendell Phillips Community Development Federal Credit Union.*

The South Side Federal Community Development Credit Union that was organized for Lake Street and originally had been in a building near Abbott, across the street from Abbott. Abbott bought that property and the credit union had to move. It moved next to Robert's Shoes. I was a volunteer for that and eventually came to be on the staff.

It was closed, that was during the Reagan years so the National Credit Union Administration got very conservative. Plus it was the savings and loan crisis. I can't even describe it. So banks and credit unions were closing. That was community-owned and it could have survived if there had been the will on the federal regulator's part.

Then a group of us got together to organize a new credit union that went into Art's Bar. That was the Wendell Phillips Community Development Federal Credit Union. We had to include the 'Community Development Federal Credit Union' part. The part we wanted was Wendell Phillips, to highlight who our namesake is and why.

[Wendell Phillips Credit Union] was born because we didn't have a bank in the neighborhood. We had to go to Seward or the other side of Nicollet or something for banking. We set up tables everywhere and went to churches, just talking about the credit union…People did join because they liked the cooperative. It was local. And you could walk there.

*I loved working at Southside because, again, it was people who lived around their neighbors. You saw them regularly, you got to know them. There was one couple, they were a young couple, they had some kids, and they both worked at McDonald's…I would see their rent check come through and I knew that that was their payday and they were going to be in later. So I hung on to that check until they made their deposit. I did finally get called to the carpet on that. *laughs**

One thing about Wendel Phillips [Credit Union] is at that time there was a pilot program. It was a matched savings program, an asset-building program. It was still a pilot. We worked with Karen Clark, our rep, and probably Linda Berglund to get matching money from the state to run this program. People who enrolled saved money and their savings were matched 3 to 1 by the Federal funds and State funds. Those funds could be used to develop assets - buy a home, start a business, or go back to school.

City County [Credit Union] kept that program running so that was great, and it still exists. In Minnesota it's called FAIM (Family Assets for Independence in Minnesota) and it's statewide.

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

253TH IN A SERIES

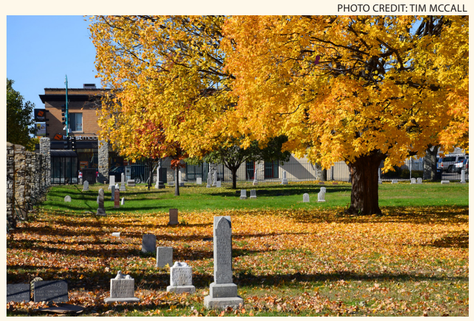
Presidential Politics in the Black Community of Mpls. in 1872

On August 24, 1872, the Minneapolis Tribune printed an announcement signed by 74 members of Minneapolis' African American Community endorsing Ulysses S. Grant's bid for a second term as President. Black men in Minnesota had won the right to vote on November 3, 1868, two years before the 15th Amendment which granted suffrage to all men regardless of race was passed. But the 1872 election was their first opportunity to vote for a president. The group said that they had sent a letter to the Republican State Central Committee repudiating candidate Charles Sumner, who challenged Grant for the Republican nomination and declared their intent to follow up the letter "by ballots [for Grant] at the polls in November."

Black men in Minnesota had won the right to vote on November 3, 1868, two years before the 15th Amendment which granted suffrage to all men regardless of race was passed. Women of any race could not vote until 1920 when the 20th Amendment to the Constitution became law.

Seventy-four might not seem like a large number, but, according to the 1870 Federal Census, there were only 750 Blacks living in the State of Minnesota. Many of those who signed were the movers and shakers in the Black community—entrepreneurs, political activists, founders and participants in various social and civic organizations. Ralph T. Grey, signed. Although he is buried in Lakewood, his father-in-law, William Goodridge, who ran the Underground Railroad in York, Pennsylvania before locating to Minnesota is buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery. William's grandson, Toussaint, the first Black child born in St. Anthony is buried next to him; so is his son, Glenalvin Goodridge, founder of the longest running, Black-owned photography business in the United States. Slade Robinson, a gardener, was one of the founding members of the Zion Good Templars Lodge. Horace Carlisle, another signer, is not buried in the cemetery but his daughter is, and so is his brother-in-law, John Cheatham, Minneapolis' first Black firefighter and nine other members of the Cheatham family.

PHOTO CREDIT: TIM MCCALL



The cemetery trees are in peak color. The cemetery closes for the season on October 15, 2026, and will reopen on April 15, 2027.

At least nine of the signers are buried in the cemetery and there may well be others. Many of the names on the list are likely misspelled. Three of the nine signers, (Woodford Anderson, Alonzo Brown, and Jerry Bruce) were soldiers, veterans of the U. S. Colored Troops. Stories explaining Grant's appeal to Black voters most often refer to his record on passing civil rights legislation and his record of prosecuting Klan members which was certainly true. Curiously, though, those stories do not mention the fact that he is widely regarded as the winning general of the Civil War, something that would likely have appealed to Black veterans who fought for the Union.

The first two male signers of the letter were Sanford Lewis and his son David H. Lewis. Sanford Lewis was born in Pike County, Ohio, which became a major stop on the Underground Railroad. Although he was born in a free state, long before the Civil War began, his mother, Jane Lewis, was not. She was an early arrival to Pike County, but she was born in Kentucky sometime around 1802 and was almost certainly enslaved before she fled to Ohio. She arrived there sometime before 1825, the year that Sanford, her oldest son, was born. All of her children were born in Ohio as were Sanford's sons (her grandchildren).

In 1870, Sanford Lewis, his wife Anne, and their son Charles were living in Cincinnati. David, their oldest son, had already moved to Minneapolis and set up shop as a barber. David married Priscilla Bruce, who is related to Civil War veteran Jerry Bruce and his mother Catherine, but the connection is not clear. Perhaps she was a sister, a niece or a cousin. David died in 1882, and Priscilla married her second husband Henry Grimes in 1884. Priscilla was one of the founding members of St. James A.M.E. Church. When Catherine Bruce could no longer live independently, she moved in with, and was cared for, by Priscilla and Henry Grimes. Catherine died on August 7, 1894, at the age of 93. Henry died on June 15, 1911, at the age of 64, and Priscilla Grimes died on September 23, 1914, aged 72.

The experience of several other families is similar to the Lewis-Bruce-Grimes family and shows how interconnected the Black community was. Some had professional ties, especially members of the barbering community. Others attended the same church or belonged to the same lodges. It was a close-knit community and one that apparently took great interest in politics.

As for President Ulysses S. Grant, he went on to win in 1872 with 61% of the popular vote. The exact number of Blacks who voted for him is not known, but it is believed that the majority did. Grant won several Southern states despite his role in the Civil War. Women of any race could not vote until 1920 when the 20th Amendment to the Constitution became law.

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...

Absence of Accountability

By DWIGHT HOBBES



Dwight Hobbes

An absence of accountability is the core evil at the heart of ICE's nightmarish assault on humanity, driven by President Donald Trump's ruthless abuse of power. He has never taken responsibility for any wrong doing, most conspicuously egging on, then pardoning the January 6, 2021 White House rioters who committed wanton violence against law enforcement and everyone else in their wake of wholesale destruction. Accordingly, ICE heeded his lead, beating, locking up, even killing citizens with impunity.

The worst of it is this stemmed from a legitimate, quite lawful premise. Even affirmative action icon President Barack Obama oversaw upwards of 3 million deportations over his two terms - 400,000 in 2012. It wasn't, however, characterized by atrocities, but carried out via due process not persecution. Importantly, it was a matter of diligently pursuing illegal immigrants, not outright xenophobic bigotry typical of the present administration. Trump passes relentless racism off as contentious, stalwart safeguarding of national security.

Immigration agents falsified statements during Operation Metro Surge, the campaign that notoriously scandalized America before the world. They lied to hide culpability, taking a page out of the president's playbook. They did this because higher-ups had their back. Video footage documented that Renee Good was framed after her murder, labelled a domestic terrorist. After which Border Patrol Commander at the time Gregory Bovino told prosecutors "We're going to pacify this place, we're going to roll 'em up. We're not going to wait on the local PD, we're not going to piss with it." Within weeks the Department of Homeland Security claimed Alex Pretti had presented an aggressive, armed threat to federal agents. But, he was held down, unarmed when he was shot. Agents said detainee Alberto Castañeda Mondragón ran himself headlong into a brick wall. Hennepin County Medical Center staff testified that could not account for eight skull fractures. Not one ICE agent has answered for these actions.

Such callous disregard for life came from the top down. Because Good and Pretti stuck up for people of color and Mondragón was one – all three targeted in a push to purge the US of as many Mexicans as possible however it could be done. Consider this in the same light that saw Trump authorize the expedited resettlement of thousands of white South Africans en masse. Complete with gift bags.

None of the senseless brutality was necessary. And wouldn't've happened had Operation Metro Surge been conducted with tactics in keeping with responsible enforcement of law. Instead, it was an irresponsible, bloodthirsty headhunting expedition countenanced by the president of the United States of America.

DWIGHT HOBBES, *a long-time Twin Cities journalist and essayist, is the author of Let Me Tell You About Al Flowers.*

How to submit to *the alley*

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

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.

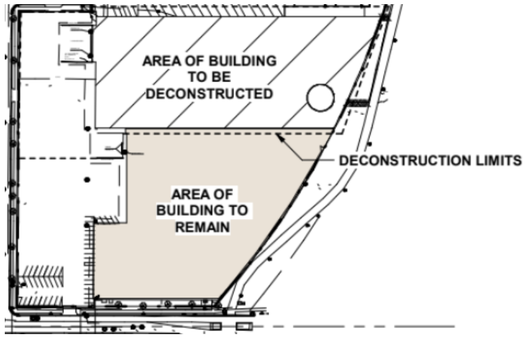
5. Copydesk may follow up with clarifications, any image issues, etc.

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!



What's New At Midtown-East Phillips

Roof Depot Updates



City Plans - The City still owns the entire lot, and is planning to start deconstruction in December of the northern half of the lot. The community is raising concerns to undertand more about the difference between demolition and deconstruction to ensure the safety of residents and the well-being of the remaining building.

EPNI has been a long-time partner and steward of this project and fight for community ownership. Community members have raised concerns about their ability to continue their stewardship of this project in light of recent staff terminations and perceived conflicts of interest. Neighbors and community members have urged mediation to resolve these concerns. Midtown-East Phillips is lifting up transparency and community dialogue as an important means of building unity, working through tough issues, and bringing our community vision to life.

To learn more about recent community meetings, City planning documents, community statements and letters, and more, visit this resource document.

We're Hiring a Community Organizer! Learn more at midtowneastphillips.org



Pictures from last month's Phillips Clean Sweep

Conversa: November 6 | 6- 7:30 PM

Every other Friday, you can learn and practice Spanish in conversation with neighbors, while they learn and practice English! All levels are welcome!
Free dinner and childcare will be provided.

Saint Paul Lutheran Church (2742 15th Ave S.)

MPNAI + EPIC Midtown-East Phillips

Peace House Community - A Place to Belong

Stay Healthy

By MARTI MALTBY



Marti Maltby

I recently spent five days in the Hennepin County Medical Center, starting out in the Surgery Intensive Care Unit before moving to a regular patient bed. My experience reinforced one simple idea: take care of yourself and protect your health, because hospitals are lousy places to get healthy.

This isn't a criticism of HCMC. The staff were uniformly professional and caring, doing their best to make sure I knew what was happening and what to expect next. If you're going to have a significant health crisis, HCMC is a pretty good place to wind up.

The problem was simply that you can do most "healthy" activities in a hospital. All the advice on how to take care of your body and mind goes out the window when you are recovering in a hospital bed. For example:

Get eight hours of sleep a night – This is almost impossible. Depending on what brought you to the hospital, the staff may be required to wake you as often as once an hour to make sure your conditions are stable. Even if the staff leaves you alone, you have monitors beeping and giving off light all night. The room has other lights too, to ensure the staff can see what they're doing when they come in. You usually have various cords, cables, and tubes attaching you to the monitors and IV drips, which makes rolling over to get comfortable a logistical challenge similar to untangling the Christmas lights before you put them on the tree. If things are really bad, your roommate will snore.

Get plenty of exercise – I think I was the only patient that ventured out of my room for fun during my stay. Every other patient I saw was in their bed for their entire stay, other than one gentleman whose ability to walk was being assessed by a physiotherapist. For most patients, leaving their room meant being wheeled down the hallway in their beds. All those cables connected to the monitors made getting out of bed a challenge. Other than the physiotherapy clinic, there is no exercise equipment in a hospital, but most patients are in no condition to use exercise equipment. On day four I spent an hour walking laps of my floor because I couldn't stand being in bed anymore

Keep your mind active – Apart from a television, the hospital didn't provide mental stimulation. There's no library or book cart. You can't do jigsaw puzzles on the tiny meal table in the room. They keep a curtain between you and your roommate, which discourages conversation. A television was the only mental stimulation available, and flipping through the channels reminded me of why I don't watch tv. Hours a day of Judge Judy, game shows, home shopping channels, and talking heads discussing which football team to bet on is a great recipe for brain rot.

Practice good hygiene – This is my one real complaint about HCMC. Patient hygiene didn't exist. I wasn't given a toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, or other basic hygiene products. I came in wearing contact lenses, and the staff was taken off guard when I said that my eyes were drying out after wearing them for 24 hours. Since they didn't have a stock of contact lens solution or eyedrops, they wet my eyes using some saline solution that is normally injected into your arm. By the end of the second day, I simply threw the lenses away. I eventually took a shower, but only because I let them know I had been wearing the same shorts and hospital gown for four days, and that even I was starting to notice a smell. The shower itself was an interesting experience. It had no space to change or hang up clean clothes, and it opened directly into the hallway. I think it may have been a converted broom closet. In the end, they placed a chair in the shower to keep my clothes and towel off the flower and told me to be careful not to get them wet while I showered.

To be clear, I'm thankful that I got treated at HCMC, and it looks like I'll make a full recovery. But if there's anything you can do to avoid needing hospital treatment, do it, because once you're in the hospital, the road back to good health can be a rocky one.

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

Joan Vanhala EPNI Statement, cont.

from page 1...

1. 300 community members who have signed on to a letter outlining grave concerns about the lack of stewardship of the community vision with the current EPNI board of directors.

● We have been watching and now is the time to speak up!

2. There is a serious breach of trust by community members with a series of sudden staff layoffs:

● The community doesn't know who the board is! The staff were the primary relationships that the community had with EPNI. I never heard a bad word about them. As far as I can see they are a group of dedicated workers fulfilling the community vision, whose hearts are in the right place, who have good community relationships and were doing this work with minimal job security. We don't treat our workers this poorly.

● These sudden staff layoffs have created a lack of continuity in day-to-day operations leading supporters and the public to question the organizational viability.

3. There is board dysfunction that:

● Does not allow for critical thinking necessary for course correction.

● Lacks open communication, transparency and accountability back to the community and the supporters.

● Lacks an open bidding process for EPNI contracts leading to perceived self dealing within the board.

● Struggles to maintain East Phillips and community representation on the board and community voice.

● Jumps to litigation instead of mitigation and mediation.

Now is not the time to falter in our resolve to bring EPNI to success. With the legislation passed to support the purchase of the property, this a significant beginning to implement the vision as was planned with the East Phillips residents and supporters.

We have a letter with up to 300 community and supporter signatures recommending actions in moving forward. We are willing to make a commitment to work together for the future success of EPNI by participating in mediation with the current board of directors along with setting up a meeting with the Little Earth Residents Association Board.

Quotes and Notes, cont.

from page 1...

The meeting lasted over three hours and included discussions on East Phillips history with organizing, equity, and inclusion within the community.

Questions gathered from attendees were:

What is the Board's perspective?

What is the main point of the meeting?

Where do we go from here?

How will EPNI operate without staff?

Where did all the money go?

Here are a few statements from attendees:

-People do not engage with Little Earth, and few people in the community meeting actually reside in East Phillips. I felt as though the staff letter was threatening, and none of the staff are East Phillips residents.

-A Midtown-East Phillips Association member said, Phillips used to be one neighborhood before 2002. Pollution does not recognize Bloomington Av as a boundary. We are Little Earth's Neighbors.

-Another community member said, I respect the work that has been done and worked with Little Earth when they shut down the garbage transfer station. I was there when Jack Kemp, the Secretary of Housing, gave you guys your Indian preference status. I've been there. I respect your work and your leadership.I do not want this to be us against you or you against us. That's not what this is about.

—A resident of Little Earth: So, you know, I know a lot of people are feeling 'cause I said, East Phillips, but I'm gonna tell you this. When our battle came, we stood alone. And Little Earth makes up a third of East Phillips' population. We fought long and hard for this... We're right here at the finish line, and trouble is busting loose. Why can we not get to the finish line before you start trouble. I say, you guys, because it wasn't the board who started trouble. The board let one person go, and the whole staff sent a letter and got ugly with them, and they stood their ground.

—-An organizer for climate justice: I know that everybody here was instrumental in stopping demolition, but I want people to really understand: it was the Native community that was strategic and stopped the demolition. So, if the Native community is saying you got a problem, you got a problem. And you gotta listen. If you go the standard nonprofit organization route, you're going to have some of this stuff that's going on. The way this community meeting was organized, it was like, 'Oh, we are gonna speak from one microphone', but that is not the way we went and organized to stop the demolition. We went into Little Earth. You do not dictate how the community's gonna respond to that kind of stuff. The enemy is the City of Minneapolis trying to take over the Roof Depot again. Be clear: the strategic segment of the society is the Native community. You do not get that; you got nothing.

—Community member: One of the things that I am most surprised about is that, in the packet that we got, the timeline starts in May of this year. The inner conflict has been brewing slowly and is now boiling over. The reason why it is all boiling over is that a lot of us kept our mouths shut for a long time. We wanted to make sure this internal conflict did not boil over and spill out into the community because we did not want the project to be at risk. In the packet, if you read it thoroughly, you saw that there was ample opportunity to have discussion, to have mediation, to have these conversations, and each and every time it was shut down. We already have our food justice system. We already have our decentralized ways of continuing to fight for food, fight for our right to have land to grow on, have our rights to, you know, be in a gathering community. We have the East Phillips Community Garden. We have the Little Earth Farm. We have the Tamales y Bicicletas. We have all of these efforts that are community driven that need money. It is up to our community to tap in.

—A community elder: I began organizing in East Philips with others in 1985. A community divided cannot heal. I want to acknowledge publicly and appreciate one of those colleagues' efforts to connect and bridge that divide.That is work; that is work we all need to do. It is not her responsibility; it is our collective responsibility. And in the same way that fingers got pointed here tonight, we each need to take responsibility for stopping the finger-pointing and start to be the one who crosses the body.

I have had several moments in my own organizing career where the vibe has impacted what is happening in this community and what's happening in my own life. So when People Of Phillips was created, we were some of the early staff; it was created because the earlier community organization got destroyed because of some conflict, because that community organization did not know how to bring the community together. People of Phillips then got killed because there was some money that disappeared, and nobody knew where that money went. , .

We have to take lessons from our history in this community, and we have to recognize a few things happening. One, the community governance ecosystem has to be organized. Two, we have to train all of our members of the community how to lean in from an economic and environmental justice lens. Because until we do that, we are going to continue to be displaced and going to continue to be gentrified.

EPNI Board Chair is a manifestation of a dynamic of technical expertise taking power and control over the community. And on some level, we, in the broader community, let that happen; we have to take lessons about how we do not let this happen in the future. We have to heal our relations and not diss the people who are not coming. We have to bring them to the table. What does it look like? How can people in this room figure out how to close that body?

DAEMEAH KARBEAH *is Communications Manager at Midtown-East Phillips & Community Connector at Alley Communications*

NOVEMBER EVENTS

The alley **recommends confirming all events beforehand.**

THE MEXICAN BAND OF 1886

Through Feb 2027
Hennepin History Museum
2303 3rd Avenue S
Pay what you can

Minnesota's first large-scale Mexican musical performance took place 140 years ago at the Industrial Exposition in Minneapolis. Learn more about this historic example of cultural diplomacy and the celebrated Mexican band who performed in this special display produced in partnership with the Minnesota Latino Museum. For hours, visitor information, and information on other exhibits at the museum, go to hennepinhistory.org.

ROOTS

Through Dec 12
All My Relations Arts
1414 E Franklin Avenue
Free

The first in a series of juried exhibitions examining how art can bring healing by reasserting connections that US colonial policy attempted to sever, *Roots* focuses on the Midwest region and artists residing or having tribal connections to it. To learn more about the artists and for gallery hours, visit allmyrelationsarts.org/exhibitions-events/exhibitions/roots.

DIAS DE MUERTOS CELEBRATION & MOVIE NIGHT

Monday, Nov 9
6 - 9 PM
Stewart Park
2700 12th Ave S
Free

Youth ages 5 - 17, celebrate Dias De Muertos (Day of the Dead) at Stewart Park by decorating Guagas de Pan (An Ecuadorian bread), drinking Colada Morada (a berry drink), enjoying face painting and games, and dancing to Ecuadorian Music. After the celebration, stay to watch the Disney movie, Coco! Questions? Call the park at (612) 370-4932

FULL MOON PUPPET SHOW

Nov 12 – 14
Open Eye Theatre
506 E 24th St
$19.80 - $33

Howl at the moon and enjoy a series of 10-min original puppet shows at this annual rowdy adult puppet slam featuring performances by some of the most innovative Twin Cities puppetry artists. Tickets at openeyetheatre.org/full-moon-puppet-show.

GINGERBREAD COMMUNITY BUILD DAYS

Nov 14 & 15
1 - 3 PM
Norway House
913 E Franklin Ave
Free

Roll up your sleeves and help create whimsical houses and winter scenes that will become part of the beloved Norway House Gingerbread Wonderland display. Supplies will be provided, just bring your imagination! To register, go to norwayhouse.org/event-calendar and click on the event.

2026 NAKED STAGES PERFORMANCES

Nov 12 - 21
Pillsbury House + Theatre
3501 Chicago Ave
Pick your price: $5 - $45

Experience a program of raw, real, and completely original performances by this year's PH+T Naked Stages Fellows: Sayge Carroll, J.H. Shuǐ Xiān, and Carol Trindade. Purchase tickets and read about the performers at ppillsburyhouseandtheatre.org/naked-stages/naked-stages-performances-2026.

CALM CONVERSATIONS: CONVERSATIONS ON ACCESS TO LETHAL MEANS

Thurs, Nov 19
1 - 2:30 PM
Online
Free

This workshop is designed to provide friends, family, and others with information on how to recognize and respond to suicide risk with an additional focus on increasing lethal means safety. The goal is to make the environment safer for the at-risk individual until their mood state improves. CALM Conversations is intended for a general audience and requires no prior training in mental health or suicide prevention. Register at namimn.org/event/calm-conversations-conversations-on-access-to-lethal-means-6/

KIDS YOGA, MOVEMENT & MUSIC

Sat, Nov 21
10:30 - 11:45 AM
Midtown Global Market
920 E Lake St
Free

Start the youngsters' weekend screen-free with this free monthly program for kids at the Midtown Global Market. The fun begins with Miss Lydia's Kids Yoga class, followed by a short break then Rockin' Robins Music & Movement class. Kids' menus are available, so stick around and enjoy a meal at the Market after!



PHOTO CREDIT: VALERIE OLIVEIRO



2026 Naked Stages performance fellows: Sayge Carroll, J.H. Shuǐ Xiān, and Carol Trindade.



WALKER CHURCH HOLIDAY ART FAIR

November 21 & 22
10 AM - 4 PM (Sat)
Noon - 4 PM (Sun)
New City Center
3104 16th Ave S
Free

Discover or revisit this decades-long Southside holiday tradition. Browse a wide array of locally made art, crafts, jewelry, and more, all reasonably priced, then enjoy a delicious lunch of homemade soup, bread, and baked goods. You may just run into someone you know!

FRIENDSGIVING AT STEWART

Wed, November 25
5:30 - 8 PM
Stewart Park
2700 12th Ave S
Free

Gather with neighbors at Stewart Park for a delicious meal in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. All neighbors are welcome, including younger ones - games and activities will be provided!

HANDMADE HOLIDAYS MAKERS MARKET

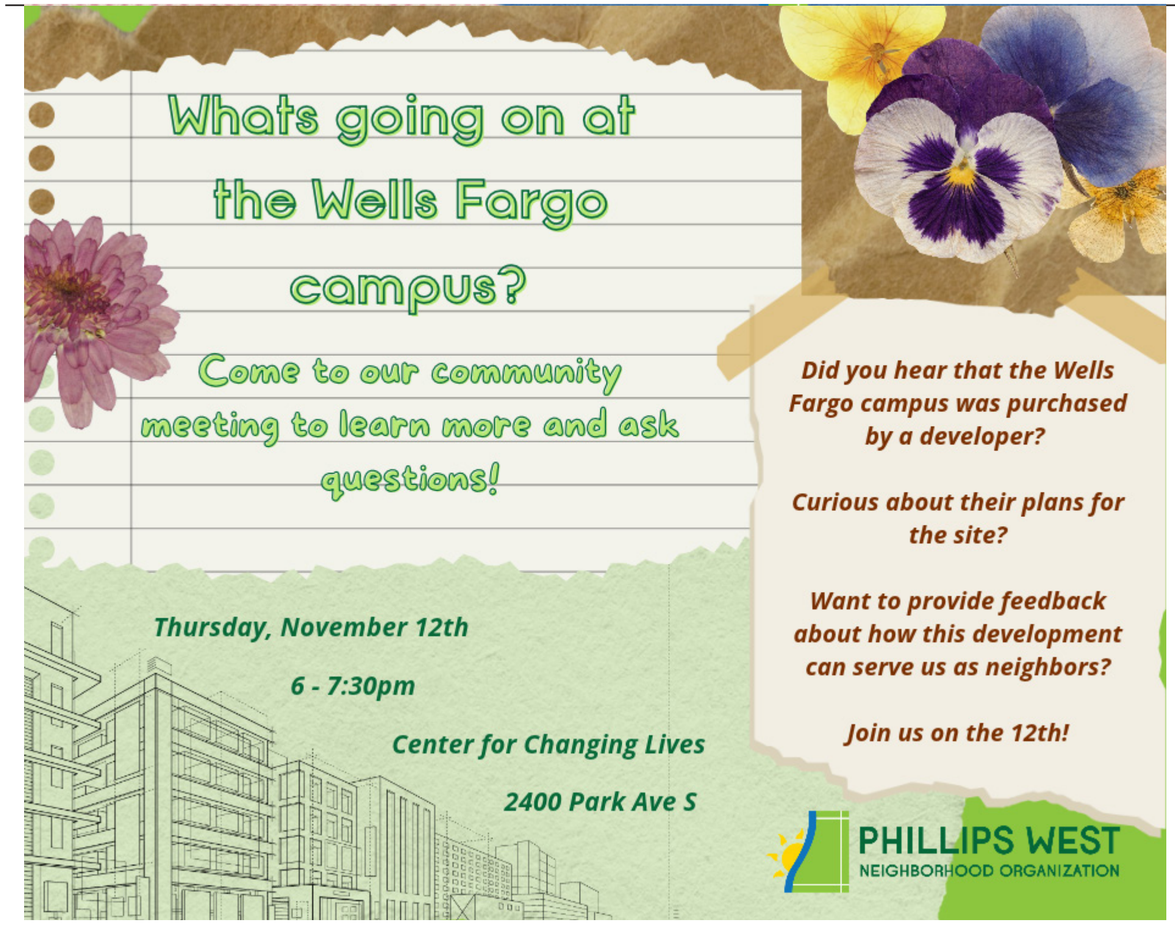
Nov 27 - 28
10 AM - 6 PM
Midtown Global Market
920 E Lake St
Free

Get ahead of your holiday shopping this year with one-of-a-kind, locally made holiday gifts from the Midtown Global Market's Makers' Market. It's the perfect way to launch the holiday season, right here in our own neighborhood!

BETTER THINGS 5X5 READING AND OPEN MIC

Tues, Dec 1
7 PM
Moon Palace Books
3032 Minnehaha Avenue
Free

Re-Entry Lab's last reading of the year features 5 fantastic artists: Aurora Masum-Javed, Anaïs Deal-Márquez, Lucas Alan Dietsche, luna rey hall, and Zambi. Davi Gray and Cecily McMillan will host a community open mic following the reading, and ASL interpretation is featured for the entire event. Read more about Better Things and this event's readers at reentrylab.org/better-things.



EPNI Vision and Facts

compiled from multiple sources

In 2014, while the East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC) was trying to relocate two major polluters, Bituminous Roadways and Smith Foundry, they learned the owners of the Roof Depot across the street, were going to sell their 7.6-acre site including the iconic 230,000 sq. ft. former Sears Warehouse built in 1947, arc shaped to easily unload freight from railroad cars. EPIC and the community realized that they and especially their children could not tolerate another polluting entity moving into the neighborhood. In an effort to prevent that and create something positive for the community, they came together and created the East Phillips Indoor Urban Farm project..

In 2016, the City of Minneapolis purchased the property using eminent domain contradicting City efforts for the neighborhood to develop jobs and sustenance. The East Phillips community had envisioned ways to use the vacant Roof Depot warehouse to bring year-round fresh food, good jobs, and long overdue environmental justice to the neighborhood.

After a long and complex campaign to stop the planned demolition of the Roof Depot warehouse by Mpls- EPNI is now stewarding the transformation of this vacant warehouse into a multi-use community hub and indoor urban farm with community care at the core.

Ever since EPNI - and a broad coalition of supporters - successfully stopped the demolition in 2023, EPNI has been working to turn the community's dynamic vision into a tangible reality through fundraising, intensive community outreach, fostering community partnerships, and developing a novel community ownership structure that puts power in the hands of the people in East Phillips.

ROOF DEPOT COMMUNITY VISION:

To develop the abandoned warehouse into a multi-use community hub and indoor urban farm with community care at the core (see epnifarm.org/vision).

PROJECT SITE STATUS:

EPNI is in purchasing agreement negotiations with the City of Minneapolis for a price of $120,000 to cover closing costs. Purchase is for the southern half of the building and its parking lot.

Northern half of property is planned for deconstruction starting in December 2026.

HIGH-LEVEL COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

Neighbors & community members are concerned about the City's deconstruction plans.

Neighbors & community members are concerned about the EPNI Board's ability to manage its organizational and governance responsibilities to carry forward the community vision.

KEY TERMS:

Roof Depot - Historically contested Roof Depot abandoned warehouse at 1860 E 28th St in the East Phillips Neighborhood. Owned now by the City of Minneapolis, and in purchase agreements with EPNI.

EPNI (East Phillips Neighborhood Institute) - A 501(c)3 non-profit founded in 2017 to steward a community-led effort to convert the Roof Depot warehouse in Minneapolis into an indoor urban farm and climate resiliency hub. See epnifarm.org

East Phillips - One of 4 Phillips Community neighborhoods, housing approximately 4800 residents in 1473 households; location of the Little Earth community. See map for its geographic boundaries.

Little Earth - A 9.4 acre, 212-unit American Indian/Native preference housing complex founded in 1973, with about 1000 residents, which comprises about 20% of the East Phillips households; instrumental in developing and fighting for the Roof Depot project vision. https://www.littleearth.org/

Midtown-East Phillips (Midtown and East Phillips Neighborhood Association) - A neighborhood association dedicated to cultivating relationships, bridging access to resources, and organizing collective action for neighborhood justice, sustainability, and well-being for the Midtown Phillips and East Phillips neighborhoods; it is the result of a merger of two independent neighborhood associations from Midtown (MPNAI) and East Phillips (EPIC) after neighborhood votes in April 2024.

SCIF (Sustainable Communities Investment Fund) - A newly formed vehicle for community-driven financial investment in the Roof Depot project and other just and sustainable business developments.

EPNI Community Advisory Council (EPNI CAC) - An EPNI initiated group of community members who are committed to supporting EPNI and the Roof Depot project. They met in 2025, and staff were tasked with re-recruiting original and additional members in summer of 2026.

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NACC Welcomes Community to New Clinic for Open House and Health Fair

By ABBY TAYLOR

On Friday, October 2nd, Native American Community Clinic (NACC) welcomed over 475 community members to its new clinic for their Fall Harvest Health Fair and Open House. Held from 2 to 5 p.m., the event marked an exciting milestone as the first major community gathering in NACC's new home, which officially opened its doors to patients on September 15th.

Guests gathered throughout the new clinic, including the community room, lobbies, and traditional medicine garden, to celebrate NACC's new space and learn more about the services available to patients and families. Throughout the afternoon, staff led group tours of the clinic, giving attendees an inside look at the different departments and spaces designed to support NACC's integrated approach to Whole Person Health Care.

Informational tables throughout the clinic highlighted NACC's wide range of services, including medical, dental, behavioral health, traditional healing, spiritual care, substance use treatment, and resource navigation and wrap-around services. The event offered community members an opportunity to meet NACC staff, ask questions, learn about available resources, and experience the new clinic firsthand.

Food and wellness were also an important part of the celebration. Maria's Café provided meals for attendees, while Dream of Wild Health brought fresh produce to give to community members.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was the new community garden, located just outside NACC's community room. Attendees were invited to help plant traditional medicines and learn more about the role of plants, culture, and community in Indigenous approaches to healing. The garden will continue to provide a space for patients, staff, and community members to connect with traditional plant medicines and cultural knowledge.

The event also featured NACC's new fundraising T-shirts, featuring artwork by Dakota artist Marlena Myles. Community members could receive a shirt with a $40 donation supporting NACC's new health and housing campus. T-shirts can still be purchased online at: Marlena Myles Star Gifts Collection | Bonfire

More than simply an opportunity to tour a new building, the Open House was a celebration of the community that made the new clinic possible. The gathering reflected NACC's commitment to creating a space where healthcare, culture, connection, and healing come together.

As NACC begins this new chapter, the Fall Harvest Health Fair and Open House offered a meaningful first opportunity to welcome the community into its new home and celebrate the possibilities ahead.

PHOTO CREDIT: SUSAN GUST









The Native American Community Clinic (NACC) held a grand opening on Friday, Oct. 2, 2026, of its brand new building and grounds on Franklin Avenue. The event welcomed all from the Community to tour the space, participate in culturally significant activities, and learn about existing and expanded NACC programming. Many activities were available to learn about NACC and its program partners. One of these activities included the opportunity to dig and install plantings to the exterior of the building. Dream of Wild Health coordinated this activity.



Hennepin County
District 4 Updates

Truth in Taxation

Do you want to share your thoughts on the 2027 property tax levy with your Commissioners?

Do you need help understanding your 2026 property taxes?

Join us at our annual Truth in Taxation event next month!

Residents are invited to express their opinions on the proposed budget and property taxes. Hennepin County staff will be available to assist people in answering questions on their property tax statements.

The following methods for making public comment are available:
- **In-person at the Truth in Taxation meeting**
- **Pre-record a comment:** Call 612-688-3545 on Monday, November 30th
  - Leave a voicemail message with your comments.
  - Comments are limited to less than two minutes in length.
  - Only your name and city will be shared at the meeting; your phone number will be redacted and will not be played.
- **Submit pre-written comments** by email to budgetcomments@hennepin.us

Truth in Taxation Meeting Details:
Date: Tuesday, December 1st
Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: Hennepin County Government Center
A-2400 County Board Meeting Room
300 South 6th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55487

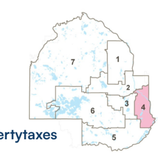
More information about property taxes can be found at **hennepincounty.gov/propertytaxes**

Homeowners may qualify for a homestead market value exclusion.
Learn more and apply online at **homestead.hennepin.us**



Angela Conley
District 4
Commissioner
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

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hennepincounty.gov/angelaconley

Stay updated with us on socials
@D4Commish

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

This space paid for by Commissioner Angela Conley

Prevention and Care for the Community

BY EMILY JARRETT HUGHES



Peer Recovery Support Specialist Davontre Snoddy engaged visitors at the IPTF clinic space.

Wellness resources were a highlight of activities at the October 2 Grand Opening celebration of Indigenous Peoples Task Force's Mikwanedun Audisookon Center for Art and Wellness.

"What is U=U?" After spinning a wheel, people had a chance to answer questions such as this to win a candy. It sparked conversations about a principle that motivates HIV services: Undetectable = Untransmissible.

If someone is HIV positive, they can take a viral suppressant medication (ART) that makes the virus undetectable in their blood and also untransmissible to others. U=U is one of the key components of IPTF's commitment to getting to zero: zero HIV transmission, zero AIDS deaths, and zero stigma. Case managers at IPTF can also help people at high risk of contracting HIV find access to Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP).

Knowing one's status is critical so that those who are positive can get the care they need. That's why IPTF offers incentives for testing – available 5 days a week, and not just for HIV but also for other STIs. Scheduling is recommended (call 612-463-6502) although walk-ins are welcome at 2313 13th Ave S.

People can also pick up a home HIV test kit if they prefer more privacy. IPTF also distributes Naloxone (NARCAN), condoms, dental dams and more. The syringe exchange is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1-5 at the wooden building at 1335 E 23rd Street.

Indigenous Peoples Task Force is known for its comprehensive programming including food, cultural teachings, youth and so much more – and it all began with HIV care and prevention.

MARY ELLEN KALUZA



Community members filled the rotunda at Mikwanedun Audisookon.

PRESS RELEASE



OCTOBER 5TH, 2026

Twin Cities artist seeks untold fishing stories to illustrate for *Fishing in America*

MINNEAPOLIS–ST. PAUL, Minn. — A fishing story does not have to be about landing the biggest fish.

It might be about a grandmother's pickled pike recipe. A first fishing trip after arriving in America. An unexpected adventure when things went wrong. An old boat, an early morning. Humor, triumph, wonder.

Twin Cities artist **Sam Robertson** is looking for those stories for *Fishing in America*, an ongoing illustrated art-book project that collects real fishing memories from people across the country and transforms them into original, avant garde acrylic paintings.

The goal: 47 true stories, approximately 55,000 words, and a richly illustrated 8-by-10-inch art book that offers a more expansive portrait of fishing culture in the United States.

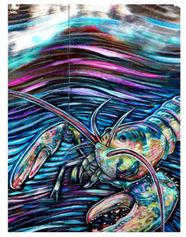
"I'm not looking for the familiar male-dominated sports angler conquest perspective," says Robertson. "I want the whole human world around fishing: immigrants, elders, first-timers, lifelong enthusiasts, Indigenous community members, urban fishers, people who fish for food, and people for whom fishing is only one small part of a much larger story."

A submission can be funny, moving, strange, reflective, adventurous, or deeply personal. Fishing may be central to the story — or simply the setting in which something memorable happened.

Accepted contributors will receive either **$25 or a print of their finished illustration**, **along with a copy of the completed book when it is published**. Completion is planned for **fall 2027**.

Fishing in America is intended to become more than a book. It is a growing public archive of stories and artwork: a place where readers can encounter the humor, philosophy, resilience, family traditions, cultural memories, and unexpected beauty that exist around water in America.

Local newspapers, community publications, arts outlets, outdoor writers, and cultural reporters are invited to help spread the word by running a community callout, interviewing the artist, or featuring the project and its participants.



HOW TO SUBMIT

Send a written story by email to **fishingillustrated@gmail.com**. Or leave a voice recording or voicemail at **(612) 552-2361**.

Submissions do not need to be completely polished. A few paragraphs, a long memory, a voice memo, or a fully formed story are all welcome. Word count should be be between 500 and 1500 words.

For project information, artwork, and updates, visit **FishingInAmerica.com**.



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Namesakes of Streets, Schools, Parks, Neighborhoods & newspaper publishers

matches for NQEQ on page 12...

□ **Hiawatha** 12th or 15th c. aka Ayenwatha or Aiionwatha, cofounder of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Great Lakes; Leader of Onondaga people, the Mohawk people, or both; a literary character in poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow; **Hiawatha Av, Lake and Park**.

□ **Minnehaha** 1855 portrayed as a Dakota maiden & the tragic lover of Hiawatha in "The Song of Hiawatha," by Longfellow; **Minnehaha Av & Falls.**



□ **Benjamin Franklin** 17 Jan. 1706 [O.S. 6 Jan.1705]–17 April 17, 1790 drafter & signer of the Declaration of Independence, 1st postmaster general; newspaper editor and publisher; scientist; inventor; univ. pres.; cartologist; diplomat & writer of 30,000 letters & documents **Franklin Av and Library.**

□ **Joseph Nicolas Nicollet** 24 Jy 1786 –11 Sept 1843 aka Jean-Nicolas Nicollet French geographer, astronomer & mathematician mapper of the Upper Mississippi River basin in 1830s. Nicollet led 3 expeditions between the Mississippi & Missouri Rivers; **Nicollet Av.**

□ **John Cheatham** Mpls 17 Ma 2022. St. nine-blocks btwn 34th St. & 43rd St.So. Mpls Dight Av was renamed Cheatham Av; removing ties to eugenics, ableism, & Naxi Party and honoring John Cheatham; **Cheatham Av.**



the alley Feb. 2005, Ap. 2022 Tales from Pioneer and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, Sue Hunter Weir

□ **Christopher Columbus** btwn. 26 Aug & Oct 1451–20 May 1506 Italian explorer & navigator; 4 Spanish transatlantic voyages, opening European exploration & colonization of the Americas; 1st European contact with Caribbean & Central & South America; **Columbus Av.**

□ **Clinton Morrison** 21 Jan 1842-11 Ma 1913 prominent businessman; son of Dorilus Morrison, the 1st mayor of Mpls & one of 1st park commissioners. School: 2603 Clinton Av; demolished in 2014; **Clinton Av, Clinton Elementary School**.

□ **James Madison** 16 Ma 1751 [O.S. 5 Ma 1750]–28 Ju 1836 4th president of the U.S. 1809 to 1817; "Father of the Constitution" for pivotal role in drafting & promoting & Bill of Rights; family owned enslaved people. **James Madison Elementary School** oldest public school (1887) in Mpls. reused as apartments with historic status in 1982; 501 E. 15th St.

□ **John Quincey Adams** 30 Oct 173–4 Jy 1826 1st Vice President and 2nd president of the U.S. 1797 to 1801. **Adams Elementary School** btwn 15th & 16th Av on East Franklin Av; 1st first South High School in 4 attic rooms; closed in 1972 for demolition.

□ **Washington Irving** 3 Ap 1783–28 Nov 1859 short-story writer, essayist, biographer, historian, and diplomat; wrote "Rip Van Winkle" (1819) & "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" (1820).; served as the Amer. ambassador to Spain in 1840s. **Irving Elementary School** 2736 17th Av; demolished in 1976.

□ **Horace Greeley** 3 Feb 1811–29 Nov 1872 newspaper editor and publisher, founder & editor of the New-York Tribune. **Greeley Elementary School** 2602 12th Av. demolished in 1978-79.

□ **Hans Christian Andersen** 2 Ap 1805–4 Aug 1875 Danish writer; plays, travelogues, novels, and poems, literary fairy tales–156 stories across nine volumes; most famous: "The Emperor's New Clothes", "The Little Mermaid", "The Nightingale", "The Steadfast Tin Soldier", "The Red Shoes", "The Princess & the Pea", "The Snow Queen", "The Ugly Duckling", "The Little Match Girl", & "Thumbelina." **Hans Christian Andersen United Community School**: 2727 10th Av & 1098 Andersen Lane.

□ **Wendell Phillips** 29 Nov 1811–2 Feb 1884 abolitionist, labor reformer, temperance activist, advocate for Native Americans, Chinese enslaved laborers, equal pay for women, & other injustices. "Power is ever stealing from the many to the few," prophetically predicted the blatant political & bureaucratic repudiation of public opinion when they trashed the school building. **Wendell Phillips Junior High School**, 2218 13th Av So was demolished in 1982 in spite of voracious local protest to be a community center, housing, businesses, or a hybrid. The 1972 pool & gym was kept due community activism; although no heat from the 1926 furnace in the demolished building. Only a lobby oil painting of Wendell kept his life and words from being a total secret. The words spoken & written by Ann Terry Greene Phillips & Wendell Phillips from Boston challenging settler colonialism, racism & other injustices were not spoken in those classrooms. "Peace if possible, justice at any rate." should have been the school's slogan; **Phillips Community, Community Center East Phillips, Midtown Phillips, Phillips West and United Phillips**

□ **Laura Elizabeth Ingalls Wilder** 7 Feb 1867–10 Feb 1957 writer, teacher, & journalist; best known for Little House on the Prairie, 1932 & 1943, based on her childhood in a settler and pioneer family. **Wilder Complex** 3345 Chicago Av.

□ **Levi Merrick Stewart & David Dinsmore Stewart.** Levi 1827-1910 moved to Mpls., made fortune as a real estate lawyer; built the Stewart Library Building in Corinna, ME. He and David donated land for **Stewart Park and Cedar Field.**

□ **Frank H. Peavey** 1850-1901 grandchildren donated the 1st 3.44 acres for **Peavey Park**; aka "Elevator King", in MN, IA and Dakotas. Fire danger to wooden elevators prompted him & Charles Haglin to build concrete elevators.

□ **Joseph Elliot**, Mpls. physician, donated farm land in 1893 for **Elliot Park**

□ **Charles Mathews Sr.** Seward Neighborhood activist, resident campaigned to have a park thus renamed **Matthews Park**.

□ **John Harrington Stevens** 13 Ju 1820–28 My 1900, "Father of Mpls", 1st non-Native settler on west bank of the Mississippi River; built the first wood-frame house 1849–1850 (Fort Snelling military reservation) in exchange for operating a public ferry across to St. Anthony. It was community hub, courthouse, early polling place & founding site where Mpls was named & HN Cty's government began. The home was moved in 1896 (pulled 6 miles by 10,000 Mpls schoolchildren) & located at Minnehaha Regional Park 4901 S. Minnehaha Park Dr. **Stevens Square Park and Neighborhood**

□ **Henry Wadsworth Longfellow** 27 Feb 1807–24 Ma 1882 poet & educator: "Paul Revere's Ride", The Song of Hiawatha, & Evangeline. **Longfellow Park, Neighborhood and Community**

□ **John Greenleaf Whittier** 17 Dec 1807–7 Sept 1892 poet, remembered for anti-slavery writings. **Whittier Park and Neighborhood**

□ **William Wilson Corcoran** 27 Dec 1798–24 Feb 1888 banker, philanthropist & art collector; fd the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Wash. D.C.; complicated reputation as Confederate supporter; enslaver; loaned to free the enslaved; banker to members of Congress & the governments; exceptional philanthropist and collector of art. **Corcoran Park and Neighborhood**

□ **Swan Johan Turnblad** 7 Oct 1860–17 My 1933 newspaper manager of the Svenska Amerikanska Posten, a Swedish newspaper in Mpls, bought it becoming publisher, donated 2600 Park Av. mansion & money to help create the American Swedish Institute.

□ **Cecil Earl Newman** 25 Jy 1903–7 Feb 1976 civic leader & prominent Minneapolitan; member of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, union of major strides against segregation 1930s & 1940s; civic leader & fd, editor & publisher of the Minneapolis Spokesman and the St. Paul Recorder.

□ **John Cowles Jr.** 27 My 1929–17 Ma 2012 editor and publisher; on Associated Press and Columbia University's Pulitzer Prizes boards & CEO of Cowles Media Company, fd by grandfather & until 1998; the parent of the Star Tribune; grew up at 2318 Park Av. in the home his parents owned from 1939 to 1983. Past publisher of MN Star Tribune

□ **Herschel V. Jones** 30 Aug 1861–4 My 1928 school dropout, publisher, editor, patron of literature & the arts, & book collector. At 15, he was a staff of the Jefferson Courier in NY; bought it for $700; at 24 sold the Courier profiting $700 & went to Mpls. as a reporter on the Mpls Journal. In 1901 founded The Commercial West, a financial and grain news weekly; 1908 bought the Mpls Journal for $1,200,000; publisher; a director of the Associated Press. Remembered as a book-collector; bought and resided at Alonzo Linton 1891 mansion 2505 Park Av; owned 1906-1940; half block including garden. Jones' widow sold the house, garage & garden to the Messiah congregation for a parish center; it was demolished in 1953 to build a modern parish center. The Messiah congregation planned to build a senior's hi-rise on the south end later but never did. A decade after the Messiah Congregation moved to 2400 Park Av., it sold the old church building and the half block fronting on Park Av to Children's MN Hospitals. Ironically btwn Columbus and Park Avenues that mansion's American Colonial Revival style continues settler colonialism on that block as Children's MN Hospital destroys 4 last buildings; & elsewhere the City of Mpls eminent domain theft of 1/2 Sears/Roof Depot property on the east side of Phillips; continuing other institutional colonialism that has run rampant in Phillips Community for decades between Interstate Interrupter 35W on the west & diagonally, culturally prominent Hiawatha and Minnehaha Avenues on the east border.

Movie Corner

On A.I. And Film and Television

Written/Compiled by HOWARD MCQUITTER II



Howard McQuitter II

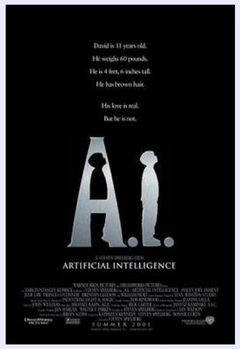
On the horizon--if not even closer--is what has become known as artificial intelligence, or "AI", is being met by the public in the United States and abroad with various degrees of apprehension and appreciation. At my age of 78, I've lived through the marketplace of wonderful technologies, e.g. transistors, satellites, microwave ovens, three-point seat belts, velcro, lasers, VCRs, color televisions, polio vaccines, organ transplants, improvements in remissions for childhood leukemia, computers, cellphones, vaccines for measles and mumps, and more. Now I and the world are faced with the international use of AI from billionaire Bill Gates' article, "The turbulent AI era is here". The choices we make now are critical" to Pope Leo XIV's encyclical Magnifica Humanitas translated "Magnificent Humanity" have weighed in on AI. Frankly, I remain a profound skeptic of AI.

Hollywood has depicted AI characters in the movies at least since the 1950s

(if not earlier) as walking, talking, thinking and being able to make bourbon, such as Robby the Robot. On television in the animated series The Jetsons, which debuted 1962), Rosie the Robot was tersely funny and a part of the Jetson family. Perhaps the most famous and fickle AI is HAL 9000 (voice of Douglas Rain) in Stanley Kubrick's 2001: Space Odyssey (1968). See the list of some of the movies depicting AI subjects. Perhaps the most famous and fickle AI is HAL 9000 (voice of Douglas Rain) in Stanley Kubrick's 2001: Space Odyssey (1968).

1) Alex Garland's Ex Machina (2014)
2) James Cameron's The Terminator (1984)
3) Lana Wachowski and Lily Wachowski's The Matrix (1999)
4) Gerald Johnston's M3GAN (2023)
5) Creators Bill Kelsay and Al Martin's My Living Doll (1964-1965) (Television)
6) John Badham's War Games (1983)
7) Donald Cammell's Demon Seed (1977)
8) Spike Jonze's Her (2013)
9) Alex Proyas' I, Robot (2004)
10) Steven Spielberg's AI. Artificial Intelligence (2001)
11) Steven Spielberg's Minority Report (2002)
12) Joseph Kosinshi's Oldivion (2013)
13) Ridley Scott's Blade Runner (1982)
14) Andrew Stanton's WALL-E (2008)
15) Fritz Lang's Metropolis (1927)
16) Robert Wise's The Day the Earth Stood Still (1951)
17) Caradog W. James' The Machine (2013)
18) Wally Pfister's Transcendence (2014)
19) Gabe Ibanez's Automata (2014)
20) Herman Hoffman's The Invisible Boy (1957)

WARNER BROS. PICTURES AND DREAMWORKS PICTURES



This science fiction film was written and directed by Steven Spielberg based on a 1969 screen story by Ian Watson who adapted the short story Supertoys Last All Summer Long by Brian Aldiss.

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

Raise Your Voice

ABOARD the TIME-SHIP

By PETER MOLENAAR



Peter Molenaar

Please note:
The following is a patchwork piece which reflects a local story in conjunction with a scholarly article published originally in the June 26 issue of the Monthly Review magazine, purchased from Mayday Books (301 Cedar Ave. S.)

Let's step into a future we can all thrive in! So read the call to an UNIDOS event held on 9/26/2026 at the All Nations Indian Church (1515 E 23rd St.). Indeed, the space provided a time-ship experience with flashing lights and other such delights, all of which served to invoke an ancient indigenous code: plan ahead now for the seven generations yet to come! But why was this labor of love attended mostly by members of the "boomer" generation? Was there also an AI Robot whispering: you have now entered the Anthropocene!?

Hey, the emergence of a new historical epoch, dubbed the Anthropocene in the late 1940s and '50s marked a historical shift, as humanity became the principal geological force in Earth system change. Ecologists warned that operations of the capitalist system were threatening the conditions of life, including human survival. The culminating danger is evident in the ongoing transgression of the environmental limits within which humanity must operate to maintain its own existence.

Indeed, we have already crossed seven of the nine planetary boundaries, including those connected with climate change, ocean acidification, biodiversity, etc., etc., etc. Moreover, contemporary ecological science is explicit that the roots of this problem are connected to "business as usual" – namely the logic of capital, given its economic growth imperative focused on the endless accumulation of private riches.

So, given the global capitalist system, plus the conclusive scientific evidence, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has called for a radical transition in the socio-economic system! No, this is not a hoax, folks.

Meanwhile, the super-rich maintain fleets of private jets with flight plans to luxury resorts in the foothills of the Argentinian Andes, even as Mother Earth demands public ownership of the means of production to implement the infrastructure needed for survival in a post-fossil-fuel world.

So, dear neighbors, all aboard the time-ship. See you next year at the All Nations Church.

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



The Inescapable Legacy: GOP Candidates Struggle to Distance Themselves from Trump

POEM

The Scent of the Ballot

BY BRAD TROM

A decade of leaning, of holding the nose,
Of bathing in sulfur where loyalty grows.
They welcomed the spray for the favor it brought,
Content with the aura and power they sought.
Now polls start to sink and the autumn winds blow,
And candidates scramble to bury the show.
They scrub at their websites, erase all the names,
And silence the echoes of previous flames.
They think a quick rinse or a profile update
Can wash off the marc they wore to the gate.
They hide the red caps as the midterms draw near,
And whisper new slogans to mask the fear.
The Records Remain: A ninety-percent vote for the agenda stays true.
The Residue Shows: No ad can erase what the past brought to view.

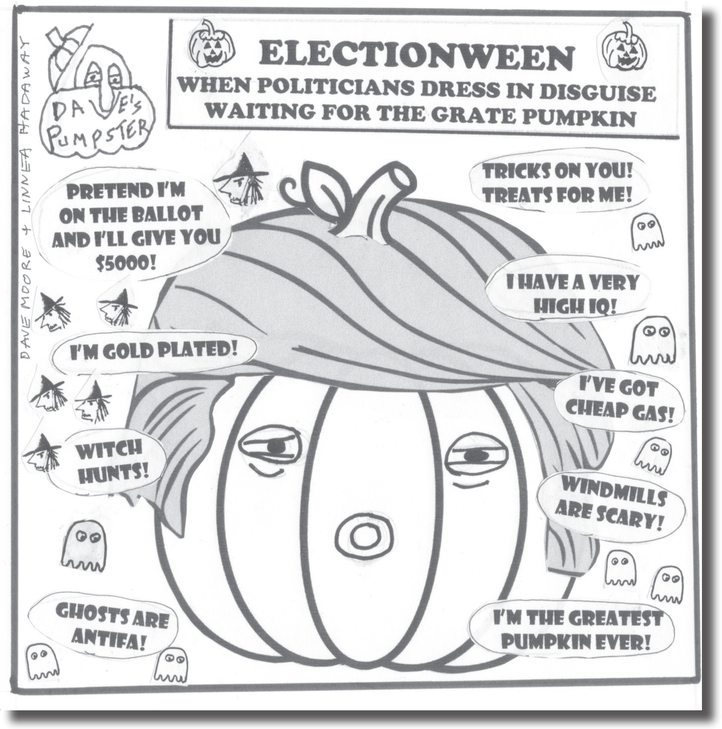


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▲ DAVE MOORE & LINNEA HADAWAY *have lived here since the Reagan 80s and became life partners while originating the cartoon series "Spirit of Phillips."*

the alley
Quote Quiz: Who said it?

BY HARVEY WINJE

Some streets, parks, lakes and neighborhoods in Minneapolis are named after people from history. Each quote below is by one of those people. Read a quote, guess who said it, write the letter by that name in the correct box on page 10 and see the place with that name in Mpls.

There are 26 names to match. When the 26 letters are matched correctly, they will spell a sentence that uses every letter only once; that is a perfect pangram.
*A perfect pangram is one where all the 26 letters of the alphabet are used without repeating any.

Example: D "Peace if possible. Justice at any rate",quoted by Wendell Phillips. Place "D" in the box by his name on page 10. (Phillips Community Center).

M

Introduction

"As we travel about the City of Minneapolis, most of us never stop to think about how easy it is to arrive at our destination. It's only when we travel to cities where streets are laid out in a less orderly manner that we have reason to appreciate that our avenues are neatly laid out to run north and south and our streets laid out to run east and west. The man that we have to thank for that is Charles Christmas. [Except for streets naturally left following wild-life and Indigenous paths from water to water sources; Hiawatha and Minnehaha that don't conform to parallel and perpendicular uniformity.]

"In May 1851, _____, who is widely regarded as the founder of Minneapolis, commissioned Christmas to survey and plat 100 acres in what is now downtown Minneapolis. When the federal government conducted its own survey in 1854, they found Christmas' measurements so accurate that none of them had to be altered. Nonetheless, Christmas and _____ were criticized by some of their contemporaries who believed that Minneapolis would never have more than 50,000 people; they thought it was wasteful to design a city with 100-foot wide avenues and 80-foot wide streets.

"Christmas was also the chief engineer of all of the territorial roads leading out of Minneapolis and St. Anthony. He surveyed much of the land in and around Excelsior where Christmas Lake was named in his honor."

Modified From Tales from Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery by Sue Hunter Weir the alley Ma. 2004.

R

"There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, and of unspeakable love."

"Great minds have purposes; others have wishes."

J

"I had this idea in mind when I first began to build the home. I wanted it to endure for a hundred thousand years."

O

"Thus it was they journeyed homeward;
Thus it was that Hiawatha
To the lodge of old Nokomis
Brought the moonlight, starlight, firelight,
Brought the sunshine of his people,
_____, Laughing Water,
Handsomest of all the women
In the land of the Dacotahs,
In the land of handsome women.

C

"There are two types of education…how to make a living, and …how to live."

"I read my eyes out and can't read half enough…the more one reads the more one sees we have to read."

K

"The real things haven't changed. It is still best to be honest and truthful; to make the most of what we have; to be happy with simple pleasures; and have courage when things go wrong."

T

"He had laissez-faire dynamism and left a big wake. His competitiveness, commercial reach and risk-taking gave him advantages as a skilled "networker," nurturing and cultivating connections beyond class and kinship relationships; moving between economics and politics;Washington and Wall Street; Whig or Democrat; Southerner or Northerner. His charity in education; infrastructure (helping build the Washington Aqueduct, complete the Washington Monument and landscape the White House and Capitol grounds and the expanse that became the National Mall); and rebuilding the South post-Civil War. He left scant explanations for his philanthropic choices, a step ahead of more famous philanthropists—Carnegie, Ford, Rockefeller, Morgan. His art gallery did the most to establish him in the public mind."

V

In a letter dated November 17, 1903, written during his tenure managing The Commercial West, he outlined his vision of a fair and educational press to railroad magnate James J. Hill: "I could give the Northwest the paper it needs, broad and educational and work out the commercial features we have discussed, and be a genuine help to the situation on a platform of fair treatment to all interests and to all individuals."

Q

An early pioneer and physician. He and his wife donated the original land in 1883 to establish a park in Mpls. He and family played a notable role in early Mpls. civic and park history.

U

"The advancement of science and the diffusion of information [is] the best aliment to true liberty."

"The purpose of separation of church and state is to keep forever from these shores the ceaseless strife that has soaked the soil of Europe in blood for centuries.

"The truth is that all men having power ought to be mistrusted."

I

No quotations are available except his letter donating his family's estate to the park board in 1911, which became the site for the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

Z

"Peace hath higher tests of manhood than battle ever knew."

"For of all sad words of tongue or pen,
The saddest are these: "It might have been!"

P

"Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing."

"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."

H

He may have been heard to say, " My success as a real estate lawyer and entrepreneur is only exceeded by my love of books and creating a library for them in my hometown in Maine."

D

"Common sense doesn't ask for an impossible chessboard. It takes the one before it and plays the game."

"Peace if possible. Justice at any rate."

"I'm on fire because there are mountains of ice before me to melt."

B

"A torn jacket is soon mended; but hard words bruise the heart of a child."

"There is no grief like the grief that does not speak."

We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing, while others judge us by what we have already done.

Critics are sentinels in the grand army of letters, stationed at the corners of newspapers and reviews, to challenge every new author.

A

"The river penetrates upstream into an open flat country of most cheerful appearance. The [difficult] section we have just traveled since we left the Crow River … was created, as it were, to prepare our eyes for the agreeable surprise we experienced when we reached the plain. Here the river is no more than thirty to forty feet wide, but it is deeper, more serene, easier and safer to navigate. It meanders every five or ten minutes across open prairies hemmed by woods. The water is extremely transparent. Its characteristics of freshness and excellence of taste are a valuable compensation for the hardness and warmth of the Mississippi water which has grown tiresome after several days of use.

G

"As soon as I arrived in the Indies, in the first island which I found, I took some of the natives by force, in order that they might learn and might give me information of whatever there is in these parts. And so it was that they soon understood us, and we them, either by speech or by signs, and they have been very serviceable."

"My desire was not to pass any island without taking possession, so that, one having been taken, the same may be said of all."

S

"Every human longs for peace and love."

"All the other chiefs and tribes have accepted the Great Law of Peace. They now live in peace with one another."

F

Chief Tyner helped Corey Webster, a great, great, great-nephew of him, pull down the old street sign.

"It's so important to be recognized," Webster said. "For a family that has been in Minnesota since about the 1850s, and all the strife and trials and tribulations that we've been through, it's finally good to see something that we are proud of and something that means a lot to the city."

E

"The whole world is a series of miracles, but we're so used to them we call them ordinary things."

"Everything you look at can become a fairy tale and you can get a story from everything you touch."

W

"Strengthening the cultural organization and life of the Twin Cities was not only going to make life more interesting and attractive for our families, but was going to attract business and keep business here in town and it was going to be just plain good business."

"Every human longs for peace and love."

I

"There is a higher law than the Constitution."

Y

He was a neighborhood resident active in the community; particularly campaigning for the park. Until the park was officially named it was named for the adjacent elementary school.

N

"Go West, young man, go West and grow up with the country."

"Journalism will kill you, but it will keep you alive while you're at it."

"Common sense is very uncommon."

X

"This case is not the case of [Edith and Arthur] Lee alone. It is a case of the people, white and black, who believe in the fundamental laws of the country and the state. It is a case of right against wrong. It is the concern of any man, be he Jew or Gentile, white or black, Protestant or Catholic. This country will never be safe until the rights of every citizen are safe."

"Now that our pride and joy is wearing a uniform, getting ready we hope to do our best, for the greatest nation on earth, our personal approach to the war and victory is no longer academic …"

"It's a task to talk to a Negro boy who has been south and who has seen how people of his race are treated, or who is cognizant that democracy means one thing for whites and another thing for Negroes, though America hypocritically contends the same democracy embraces all its people. Attempting to give a Negro boy headed for the Army or Navy … a pep talk filled with platitudes that sound empty, that are empty, is a task which is great …"

"Sure, son, we don't expect you to fight for what your people are receiving today, but fight, pray and hope that the sacrifices you and others will make will help raise our common country in reality to the lofty heights described and prescribed in our Bill of Rights, our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution."

ANSWER

A perfect pangram is sentence using every single letter of the English alphabet, each of 26 only once.

"Mr. Jock, TV quiz PhD., bags few lynx."

The public debate surrounding **colonial street signs, slaveholder statues, and toxic namesakes** frequently centers on the deep irony of forcing communities to live alongside symbols of their own historical oppression. Writers, activists, and historians often critique this incongruity, noting that monuments and infrastructure do not simply record history—they signal civic veneration.