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the Alley NEWSPAPER

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NEWS & VIEWS OF PHILLIPS SINCE 1976 • SEPTEMBER 2008 • VOLUME 33, NUMBER 7

Fifty Tales "Unearthed" from Buried History

We celebrate this month's Tale from Pioneer and Soldiers Cemetery which is the 50th in this Series published exclusively by The Alley and then subsequently on the website FriendsoftheCemetery.org and a link at pnn.org. Sue's research and story telling have enriched the lives of relatives, friends, and the whole community with her gift of intimate tales set within the context of their times so that we may better understand and appreciate the past. Thank you, Sue, for your continued, dedicated quest telling us these Tales. Ed.

It's hard to believe (at least for me) that this is the 50th piece that I've written for The Alley. I was asked to choose a few of my favorites for reprinting. It was easy to do, not necessarily because they were the best written but because there is something about each of these stories that is part of our much bigger story.

The story of the **Wonderland Babies** is not only one of my favorites but is a story that people love to hear. If I am asked to tell just one story, this is the one. The story has a number of things going for it. There is the element of surprise—premature babies being cared for in an amusement park who were not treated as sideshow freaks but as treasures. They were loved by their parents, their caregivers and the people who spent their hard-earned money to look at these tiny folks in the shiny new incubators. There is a sweetness about this story—a story of simpler times when technology was not intrusive or annoying but had the power to save lives. And, even though that technology couldn't save every baby, it worked an estimated 85% of the time. While we take this kind of healthcare for granted today, in 1906, it must have seemed like a miracle.

The story of **Jacob Ela, a Civil War veteran**, is one that remains unfinished. I originally intended to write about him as an "unknown soldier." There are still many personal details of his life (e.g., what brought him to Minneapolis?) that remain unknown. But the really important things about his life can be filled in from biographies of his family members and by historical accounts of events that he participated in. His family fought in the American Revolution and clearly believed in the principles promoted by the Founding Fathers. Jacob came from a long line of staunch abolitionists, so it was not surprising that he enlisted in the 11th New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry at the age of 18. There

Tales from Pioneers & Soldiers Cemetery

SUE HUNTER WEIR
50th in a Series

was nothing in his farm-boy upbringing that could have prepared him for the horrors of the Battle of Fredericksburg. Of the fourteen 18-year-olds in his company, only two mustered out in good health at the end of their term of service. Of the others, five died and seven (including Jacob) were wounded or discharged for disability.

My favorite story is the one about **Mary Prescott**, the only full-blooded Dakota buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery. I love the story precisely because it is a love story about two complex people living in very difficult times. It would be easy to look at the marriage between Mary and Philander Prescott as just one of the many marriages of convenience between fur traders and Native American women during Minnesota's territorial days, but that would diminish them both. She was courageous and resolute; he was honest and forthright. There was plenty about each of them worth loving.

Although Mary did not leave us her story in her own words, Philander's love for her is evident in his reminiscences. It isn't that he wrote about her at any great length, but she was always there, always a part of his story. He loved her from the moment that he saw her, and they were together for almost forty years. They argued and they separated, but they always came back to each other.

Philander Prescott was one of a handful of honest traders. In 1856, six years before the outbreak of the Dakota Conflict, he wrote a scathing letter to his employer, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, in which he warned the Bureau that continued mistreatment of the Dakota people

Fifty Tales
see page 5

A stunning Native mural replaces decades old eyesore

After



"...Before I built a wall I'd ask to know
What I was walling in or walling out,
And to whom I was like to give offence..."

These lines, out of context, from Robert Frost's Mending Wall gave no offense to the many artists who have painted the murals in this issue. They took things in their own hands to make them works of pleasing art so the walls will give less offense. – ED

Before



STORY & PHOTOS BY ROBERT ALBEE,
VENTURA VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD

Combine a City of Minneapolis graffiti elimination grant, a strong desire to remember victims of a long-ago serial killer; add in what some downtowners call a "cowboy" neighborhood; then mix together with a headstrong artist. The result is a stunning 40-foot mural that has come to life in South Minneapolis. Situated with an oblique background view of downtown Minneapolis' towers is a scene depicting a traditional Ojibwe drum group surrounded by jingle dress dancers and elder women preparing a feast—all in a grassy meadow that runs somewhere under Highway 55—perhaps even sharing space with the Light Rail Maintenance Depot. Say that again? Well that's how it appears when you stand at the intersection of South 16th Avenue and East 18th Street. You'll just have to see it for yourself!

This mural is Ventura Village Neighborhood's effort to eliminate a longstanding eyesore blighting a hidden corner of the neighborhood that has been the taggers' bulletin board for decades. Ventura Village wrote two grants—one to the City of Minneapolis and another to the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council (MRAC) to secure the funds to hire artist Lisa Brown to paint this mural. Others kicked in as well: Joe Selvaggio and the Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center. Blessings for this project were offered by the Red Lake Nation, Northland Native American Products, the Wolves Den and Famous Dave's LifeSkills Center for Leadership.

The painting honors the memory of Angie Whitebird, a young Bad River tribal member who became a victim of a serial killer very near to the spot where the mural is located. Ms. Brown spoke with family mem-

bers and received their blessing to honor Angie's memory with this painting. Two other Native women were killed by this lone madman and another was gravely wounded. Angela Green was another victim. Years ago, her mother, Kathy Houle, quietly planted three pine trees where Anishinabe Wakiagun now stands; builders of the facility never knew. This mural remembers all of victims of the serial killer, but also honors more than 55 homeless Native people who died in this vicinity during the past two decades.

Brown, a former Minneapolis College of Arts & Design student who once worked at the Minneapolis American Indian Center in the early 1990's, exhibits a painterly style completely different from the recently completed

Native Mural
see page 8

the Alley NEWSPAPER

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Ann Greene Phillips (18__-1885)
Wendell Phillips (1811-1884)

"The bigger the information media, the less courage and freedom they allow. Bigness means weakness."

Eric Sevareid, "The Press and the People," television program, 1959

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PHILLIPS WHAT WHERE? CONTEST



photo by Harvey Winje

SEPTEMBER HINT:

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August Contest Results

Sandi Mason Burns, Jeanette Clark, Becky Lohnes, Brenda Morrow, and Pamela Rivera all knew the correct location of the August photos.

The August PWW photos were of wall murals designed by Jose Corbello; one beneath the pedestrian bridge over and adjacent to Cedar Avenue at Little Earth of United Tribes, and the other on the walls of the ramps leading to the bridge. There are actually two along Cedar Avenue. The one pictured in August was the one on the east side of Cedar which depicts a history of people and events. The one also pictured this month is relatives of Clyde and Peggy Bellecourt.

Robert Albee coincidentally sent along the following description of the mural that had just been started in August PWW photo at the ramp to the Cedar Little Earth Bridge showing the beginnings of "Waconia Waste." "As The Alley was going to press, another incredible mural is taking shape along the Little Earth walkway crossing Cedar Avenue at 25th Street. This mural is being created by Bobby Wilson, (Sisseton Dakota), of "Juxtaposition" in conjunction with 20 Little Earth Youth. Unlike Lisa Brown's mural at 16th Avenue and 18th Street that uses traditional brush work, Wilson's artwork is entirely spray painted."

The WINNER of the \$10.00 Gift Certificate drawn at Welna Hardware is Brenda Morrow.



photo by Bob Albee

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Want to enjoy receiving The Alley Newspaper at your doorstep each month? Or, better yet, do you want to be part of a growing number of vigilant, ALLEY Allies that help to sustain the paper through subscribing, donating and critiquing?

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How you give to these groups couldn't be easier. Simply fill out a pledge form on which you specify how much you want to give from each paycheck—even a dollar makes a difference. Your donation is then automatically deducted at payroll time.

Our work as a federation—and your donation—makes it possible for our member groups to focus on the task at hand rather than spend their time fundraising. There are economies of scale at work as well—we have a low management, administration and communication fee of 11% for our work, under the industry average and far below the amount needed if each group were creating their own materials.

If our fall campaign isn't in your workplace yet, you can still support the work we do. Contact us at staff@communitysharesmn.org.

What's Up at the Franklin Community Library

BY ERIN THOMASSON

Children's Programs

Celebrate Fall!

Friday, Sep. 19, 4-5 pm

Join us for fall-themed stories and crafts.

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:30 am

For children ages 4 to 6. Help your preschooler get ready to read. Enjoy stories together and build language skills.

Teen Programs

Make a Mirror for Your Locker

Thursday, Sep. 4, 5-7 pm

Create your own magnetic mirror to hang inside your locker. Supplies provided.

Teen Advisory Group (TAG)

Wednesday, Sep. 10, 5-6 pm

Are you a leader? Do you want to decide what happens at the Franklin Teen Center? Join the TAG to meet new friends and use your voice!

Game On! Gaming Fridays

Fridays, Sep. 12 & 26, 4:30-6 pm

Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!

Teen Book Club

Tuesday, Sep. 16, 6-7 pm

Get together to talk about great books with other teens! Pick up a copy of the book at the information desk.

Movies for Teens

Thursday, Sep. 18, 6:00 pm

From lit to film, enjoy movies based on classic literature, great plays and fun novels. The movies are projected onto the wall for big-screen viewing. Bring a friend!

Adult Programs

Seniors Play Reading Group

Friday, Sep. 12, 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Join us for a stimulating morning of reading and discussing some of the great plays of our heritage. Sponsored by University of Minnesota's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. To register call: 612-624-7847.

Nonfiction Book Club for Elder Learners

Friday, Sep. 12, 1-3 pm

Join us for a stimulating discussion of nonfiction books. Sponsored by Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. To register call: 612-624-7847.

Senior Surf Day

Wednesday, Sep. 17, 10 am-12 pm

Get hands-on computer experi-



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Wed, Fri & Sat: 10 am - 6 pm

ence from representatives of the Senior LinkAge Line®. Learn computer basics, how to navigate and search the Internet and how to access websites of interest to seniors. Held in Phillips Technology Center on lower level.

Spanish Language Book Club for Adults

Saturday, Sep. 20, 11 am-12 pm

Participate in the Spanish-Language Book Club and read the greatest Latin American novels written by Latinos. For more information, call 612-630-6425.

People, Culture and Politics of Somalia Republic

Thursdays beginning Sep. 25, 12:30-2 pm

8-session series presented by Dr. Badal W. Kariye of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the U of M. To register call: 612-624-7847.

Franklin Learning Center: 612-630-6830

The Franklin Learning Center (FLC) is an adult literacy program housed in the Franklin Library with one-to-one tutoring and small group work for ELL, math, GED and citizenship studies. The hours are Mon. 12 to 8, Tue., Wed. & Thu. 9 to 3, Fri. 10 to 6 and Sat. 1 - 5. We are also looking for volunteers.

All about College Presentation

Thursday, Sep. 25, 1:00 pm

It's never too early to start planning for college. An admissions counselor will tell you what to prepare for, how to apply for admission and financial aid and describe the student life experience. Q & A will follow.

Finding her inspiration in community, culture, and children, Erin Thomasson is a mother, musician, gardener, and long-time resident of the Phillips Community.

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Will The Real Minnesota Lynx, Please Stand Up!

BY RAYMOND JACKSON

In last month's edition of The Alley, we discussed The Lynx first three quarters of the 2008 season, and featured words from Lynx point guard, Lindsey Harding.

Some thought I was too optimistic in my appraisal, but as avid Lynx fan, Landon Alexander stated, "Your analysis was right on the nail head. The Lynx have been most inconsistent at the point guard position. They do, however, have the overall ability to make the WNBA playoffs, and Lindsey Harding is the key!"

The three games prior to the Olympic break, greatly support his and my sentiments, in that Harding seemed to be regaining her rhythm, and doing the things that made her the number one draft selection out of Duke University in 2007.

She longed to make the 2008 Olympic team and played with the National team in China earlier this year, of which she said, "Playing in China on The USA National team was a lot of fun. You learn about different cultures and customs, and basketball is played on a whole different

level. It is the ultimate level of competition and it is the ultimate honor to represent your country,"

Harding has plenty of good years ahead of her on and off the basketball court as she showed in last years WNBA playoffs, as a color analyst.

Alexander

stated, "Not being on the final team chosen for this year's Olympic Team, is for sure a let down for any player, but, as far as Harding and the Lynx go, this could all be a blessing in disguise for their season. I feel that the Olympic break came at a great time for them. They are 13-13 with 8 games remaining after the break;



Lindsay Harding

the pre-season favorites have little distance between themselves and the Lynx. These same teams have two and three players in the Olympics, while the Lynx only have Seimone Augustus, allowing them time to heal and gel. I foresee them overtake-

Real Minnesota Lynx
see page 6

Minneapolis Urban League

Programs

Mind, Body and Soul (MBS) – is enrolling students now!

MBS is a competency-based adult diploma program that partners with the Minneapolis Public Schools and North Hennepin College to provide 18-20 year-old students with help gaining their diploma, developing a plan for their futures and transitioning to responsible adults and citizens. MBS is located inside the Minneapolis Urban League Academy High School at 2201 Blaisdell Avenue S. For more information about the school, contact Julie Austin, the program director at (612) 252-1146, or jaustin@mul.org.

The Minneapolis Urban League Academy High School offers open enrollment!

The Minneapolis Urban League Academy High School is offering open enrollment now through September. To enroll students in 9th -12th grade, contact John Ross at the Minneapolis Urban League Academy High School at (612) 874-9667. The Minneapolis Urban League Academy High School is located at 2201 Blaisdell Avenue S., Minneapolis, MN 55404.

PHILLIPS COMMUNITY

HOUSING RESOURCE GUIDE

This resource guide is a "one-stop" source of programs and agencies that are available and how to take advantage of them to improve your housing situation. Find out about great local resources like non-profit loan counseling, free legal advice and advocacy, home repair grants, homebuyer education and subsidized mortgages. To get a resource guide (free! obviously), or with questions or suggestions call or email:

Clementine Brown

(612) 455-5195

clementine.brown@ppl-inc.org

Or stop by the PPL Service Center at the corner of Franklin and 11th Ave.

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If you are a HOMEOWNER and your house is in foreclosure or if you are at all concerned about your mortgage, call a counselor—the earlier you get in touch with a counselor the more options you will have.

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- Twin Cities Habitat: 612 330-4090
- Neighborhood Housing Services: 612 521-3581
- ACORN Housing: 651 203-0008

If you are a RENTER whose apartment or house is in foreclosure, call for free legal advice:

- Minneapolis Housing Services: 612 673-3003

Premature babies were displayed at Lake St. amusement park

Reprinted from *The Alley* July/August 2004

BY SUE HUNTER WEIR

Premature babies would seem to be the least likely people to be part of a world-wide movement. Yet, the Wonderland babies were precisely that. They were among the 80,000 premature infants who were treated in amusement parks and fairs in Europe and the United States between 1896 and 1944. Wonderland Amusement Park, which was located at Lake Street and 31st Avenue, was in operation from 1905 until 1912.

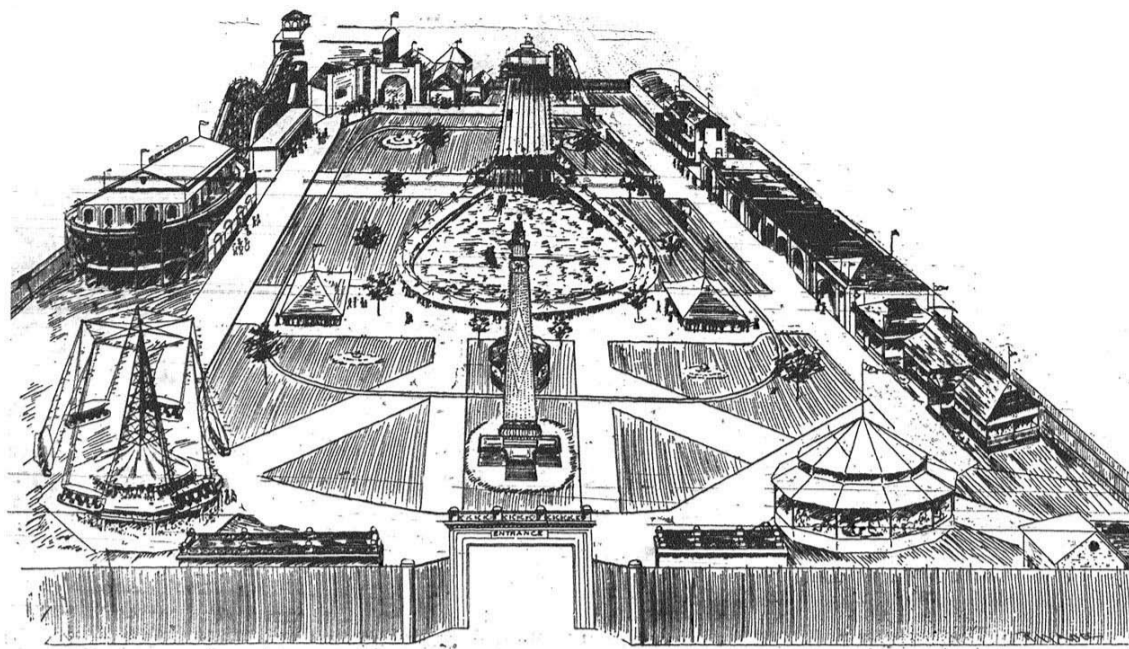


Wonderland, and other parks like it, were part of America's love affair with technology and provided fair-goers with the opportunity to see the wonders of modern science in a carnival atmosphere. One of those wonders was the Infantorium, a hospital-like facility filled with incubators inhabited by tiny babies who were born prematurely.

The babies were not billed as entertainment but rather as a "scientific exhibit of the modern method of saving the prematurely born babies." For a small fee, fair-goers could see this wonder

of technology—a shiny glass and chrome incubator. At a time when fewer than 5% of all babies were born in hospitals, the opportunity to see a premature infant in an incubator was something worth paying to see. And ticket sales were important because they paid for staff salaries and the cost of supplies. Since parents were not charged, any child referred to the Infantorium by a physician was eligible for treatment, a novel idea in itself.

This novel approach to treating premature infants started when Dr. Martin Couney, gave his first



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF WONDERLAND.

demonstration in Berlin 1896. The movement spread throughout Europe and arrived in America in time for the Pan American Expo in Buffalo, New York, in 1901. In late May 1905, just before Wonderland's Infantorium opened, Dr. Couney was in Minneapolis, offering his advice to the doctors in charge of it. The nurses, specially trained in Paris or Berlin, had not yet arrived.

Dr. Couney's treatment reg-

imen did not work for all of the babies, and eleven of those who did not survive are buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery. Nonetheless, it is estimated that 85% of the children who were treated using Dr. Couney's methods did survive. The principles that he espoused—filtered air, regulated temperatures, strict hygiene, and adequate nutrition—are common practice in neonatal

wards today.

Wonderland closed in 1912, a casualty of bad weather and slow ticket sales. The only part of the park, which once spanned 20 acres, that survives is the Infantorium. It has been converted into an apartment building and is located at 31st Avenue and 31st Street.

"...a notion that the Union ought to be kept together." and 160 Veterans were Buried in the Cemetery at Lake Street and Cedar Avenue

Reprinted from *The Alley* May 2007.

BY SUE HUNTER WEIR

In the second act of Thornton Wilder's play, "Our Town," the fictional Stage Manager* walks through the cemetery in Grover's Corner, New Hampshire pointing out the graves of various townspeople. He directs the audience's attention to a section of the cemetery where the Civil War veterans are buried and remarks:

"Over there are some Civil War. Iron flags on their graves... New Hampshire boys...had a notion that the Union ought to be kept together, though they'd never seen more than fifty miles of it themselves. All they knew was the name, friends—The United States of America. The United States of America. And they went and died about it."

Although the characters in Wilder's play are fictional, he could easily have been describing Jacob Ela, one of the 160 Civil War veterans buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Cemetery. Fortunately, Jacob was not one of those who "died about it."

Jacob and his family members, with one exception, were the kinds of people that our high school civics teachers hoped that we would all grow up to be—they were the very definition of civil responsibility and good citizenship. From the 1650s through the Civil War, a member of the Ela family seemed to have been at every major event in American history—from the Salem witchcraft trials to the Battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill, to

Gettysburg and, finally, to the surrender at Appomattox.

The first member of Jacob's family to live in what was to become the United States, and the closest thing that the family had to a black sheep was Daniel Ela. In the mid-to-late 1600s, he was arrested for public drunkenness and domestic abuse. He was sued by one of his neighbors for suggesting that the neighbor in question might be a witch; it was the kind of loose talk that got people hanged.

"Over there are some Civil War. Iron flags on their graves... New Hampshire boys...had a notion that the Union ought to be kept together, though they'd never seen more than fifty miles of it themselves. All they knew was the name, friends—The United States of America. The United States of America. And they went and died about it."

...the Stage Manager in the play

"Our Town" by Thornton Wilder

The rest of the family was considerably more respectable, and considerably less flamboyant. Six of Jacob's relatives served in the militia during the American Revolution, including one who rode out to warn the countryside that the "Regulars" were coming. The family was related by marriage to John Greenleaf Whittier, a Quaker poet and abolitionist. Richard Ela, another family member, worked with the Underground Railroad movement in Wisconsin. At least twenty



photo by Sue Hunter Weir

members of the Ela family served in the Civil War; four of them died while in the service.

Jacob was only 18 years old when he enlisted. He only served eight months, but that was long enough for him to witness one of the bloodiest battles of the war, the Battle of Fredericksburg. Shortly after that, he was discharged for a disability. He lost the use of his legs for three years; he got better but he never fully recovered. He returned to his parents' farm, was married and (presumably) divorced.

Jacob moved to Minneapolis in 1885 and worked as a traveling

salesman, selling farming implements in Minnesota and North Dakota. Other than that, little is known about him. He seems to have gone about his life like so many other members of the Ela family, quietly and responsibly. He died 102 years ago, on May 5, 1905, at the age of 71. At the time of his death, the name of his military unit was unknown, so he was buried in an unmarked grave. We now know that Jacob served in Company G of the 11th New Hampshire Infantry, and he is now eligible to receive a military marker.

* The principal actor is the

Stage Manager, who remains on stage the entire time explaining much of the action. He is aware of the present, and privy to both the past and the future. He knows the characters' feelings, and alternately takes on the roles of narrator, philosophical druggist, host, master of ceremonies, commentator and friend to the audience.

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Mary Prescott: Daughter of Man Who Flies, "Spirit of the Moon," Buried Here with Son and Husband

Reprinted from *The Alley* December 2004

BY SUE HUNTER WEIR

Mary Prescott is the only known full-blooded Native American buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery. The exact date of her birth was not recorded, but she is thought to have been born in either 1804 or 1806. Her father, Man Who Flies, was a subchief of the band of Dakotas who lived by Lake Calhoun. The name that Mary was given by her family was Nah-he-no-wenah, or "Spirit of the Moon." In 1823, she became the common-law wife of Philander Prescott, one of the first traders to provide provisions to the soldiers at Fort Snelling. Prescott had arrived in territorial Minnesota in 1819 and later worked as a government interpreter and agricultural agent.

In 1823, Prescott approached Man Who Flies to ask for permission to marry his daughter. In keeping with the custom of the times, Prescott brought Mary's father gifts including ten blankets, a rifle, a pony, and five gallons of whiskey. Man Who Flies took three days to agree to the marriage but it took another ten days before Mary consented.

There are several descriptions of Mary in histories that were written by territorial pioneers. She was known to have understood French and English although she was only heard to speak Dakota. She was pictured as a gracious hostess, but one who always stood silently in the background. The marriage between Philander and Mary Prescott has been portrayed as one of the great romances of Minnesota territorial pioneer history, and in many ways it was.

Those descriptions of Mary Prescott, with one notable exception, seem to have been derived from territorial pioneer Colonel John Stevens' recollections of her. In his memoirs her husband, Philander Prescott, described her as a far more complex person. He depicted her as a resolute woman who remained close to her family and continued to share their values. Mary left him on at least one occasion over a disagreement about how to raise their bi-racial children in 1830's Minnesota. In turn, Philander left his wife and children and went South in search of business opportunities; two years later he



photo by Sue Hunter Weir

returned to them. At a time when it was not uncommon for traders to live with, but later abandon, their Native American wives and children, Prescott observed, "Little did I think at that time that I should live with her until old age." The Prescott's marriage lasted almost 40 years.

Philander Prescott was one of the casualties at the Lower Agency during the 1862 Dakota Conflict. He was brought back to Minneapolis and buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery. After his death Mary moved to Shakopee to live with their daughter, Lucy

Pettijohn. Mary died there on March 29, 1867. She was buried next to her husband and their son, Lorenzo Taliferro Prescott, a Civil War veteran. Lorenzo died from ulcers on January 2, 1869, at the age of 30.

Fifty Tales
from page 1

would lead to violence. Whether he resigned or was fired from his position with the Bureau is not clear, but his anger and despair was evident. It is particularly tragic that he was one of the casualties of the Dakota Conflict.

Frank Mayers, an artist from New York, visited the Prescott home near Minnehaha Falls in 1850. He poked fun at Prescott, describing his as a "pursey little man." Mayers couldn't quite understand Philander's quiet modesty and self-effacing demeanor. Mayers chalked it up to Philander's having lived so

long among the Dakota people, a point that may have been well-taken. For Mayers, "home" and "civilization" were still out East. For Philander Prescott, home and civilization were here with Mary.

There are almost 21,000 people buried in Minneapolis Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery, so there are many stories left to be told. It will take awhile. In the meantime, stop by the cemetery and pay your respects. The cemetery is open Wednesday through Sunday, from 8 to 4:30, from April 15 to October 15.

OPEN ARMS Groundbreaking for 7 Million dollar building at 25th Street and Bloomington Avenue September 11th at 11:00AM

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Right On Lake Street

Lake Street "The Great Street" News Briefs & Coming Events

BY CHRIS OIEN & JOYCE WISDOM

E Lake St

BY CHRIS OIEN

Lake Street the Great Street News Briefs and Coming Events

- At a recent Lake Street Council's **gang awareness meeting**, Officer Francisco Porras shared his expertise on the gangs in Minneapolis, where they operate, what signs to look out for, and when to call 911 or 311. Other police officers, Council Member Gary Schiff, and other local community leaders also shared their experiences and asked insightful questions. The notes we took from that meeting are now on our website, and can be browsed or downloaded.
- **Phillips West** and the Midtown Greenway Coalition are looking for public input on a proposed walkway along the street level rim of the Midtown

Greenway from Chicago Ave. to Portland Ave. To that end, they're hosting a **barbecue** from 6 - 8 PM on **August 27th** at the top of the Columbus Ave. stairway to the Greenway. They'll take your ideas and create drawings of the proposed walkway, and later have a public comment period with designs and images hosted at the Greenway Coalition office. Everyone who lives and works in Phillips West is encouraged to participate.

Lake Street Calendar - Upcoming Events:

Beginning September 12th:
Bad Jazz in Tickled Pink, at [Open Eye Figure Theatre](#)
506 E. 24th St.
"Conceived on the banks of the Mississippi River in 1983, Tickled Pink, serves up the old familiar with three men play-

ing to the best of their abilities, both rare and well done."

September 14th: **Mexican Independence Day Celebration** 12:00 - 6:00 PM, 4th & Lake An 11:30 parade from Bloomington Ave. to 3rd Ave. followed by a celebration featuring many local Latino businesses, food vendors, schools, churches and nonprofit organizations serving the Latino community. 20,000 - 25,000 people are expected to attend.

Chris Oien graduated from Macalester College in 2004 and has been working at Lake Street Council for 2 years. He is also on the board of the nearby Pangea World Theater. He lives just across the river from Lake Street in St. Paul.

Step Brothers & Pineapple Express



John C. Reilly & Will Ferrell in *Step Brothers*

Step Brothers
(07/13/08)

Genre: Comedies

Starring: Will Ferrell, John C. Reilly, Mary Steenburgen, Richard Jenkins, Adam Scott

Director: Adam McKay

Screenwriter: Will Ferrell, Adam McKay

Composer: Jon Brion

Running Time: 95 minutes

Rated: R

★☆☆☆☆

Stepbrothers Will Farrell (Brennan Huff) and John C. Reilly (Dale Doback) acting like 40 somethings in an adolescent fashion. Blah. Blah. If I didn't know it, I'd think the two men were home schooled but not potty trained. Both Reilly and Farrell have done capable work in other movies, even perhaps playing buddies in "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby" (2006), though that's debatable. Plain and simple, "Step Brothers" is unapologetic meanness in the name of humor.

The mother of Brennan Huff, Nancy Huff (Mary Steenburgen) marries Dale Doback's father, Robert Doback (Richard Jenkins) and Dale and Brennan have to share the same room. Then the childish egos clash. Such open hostility with mean pranks between the two would be even off limits in ultimate fighting. I still can't find anything remotely funny about a child – and in this case – adult children – swearing at or disrespecting a parent.

Humor cloaked in utter meanness like in "Stepbrothers" is not only regrettable, there is something moviegoers should be warned of – movies like "Stepbrothers" are hazardous to your (psychological) health.

Pineapple Express
Lagoon (07/15/08)

★★★★☆

Genre: Comedies

Starring: James Franco, Seth Rogen, Amber Heard, Danny McBride, Gary Cole

Director: David Gordon Green

Screenwriter: Seth Rogen, Evan Goldberg

Producer: Judd Apatow, Shauna Robertson

Producer Judd Apatow has to be laughing in the background of "Pineapple Express". I know I was. One too many tokes, being in the wrong circumstances, that's all it takes for two male acquaintances to have to go on the run. Two goofballs: a pudgy Dale Denton (Seth Rogen), deliver court subpoenas and is dating a high school girl, Angie (Amber



HOWARD MCQUITTER II
Movie Corner

you can reach Howard at hamll@hotmail.com

Heard), barely a legal relationship, and buys weed from Saul Silver (James Franco) whose only purpose I think, is to sell and buy weed. Dale is stressed out about his job and rationalizes that smoking pot calms him down. Saul wants Dale to buy a specialty of pot – Pineapple Express – and hangout at Saul's crib. Saul believes in his Pineapple Express to the point of telling Dale, "It's almost a shame to smoke it; it's like killing a unicorn."

All doesn't go well, though, as Dale is smoking a joint in his car and looks up at a picture when drug lord Ted Jones (Gary Cole) and a female cop, Carol (Rosie Perez) have murdered a man.

The chase is on once Ted realizes a joint Dale leaves behind is connected to Saul. Ted's henchmen Budlofsky (Kevin Corrigan) and Matheson (Craig Robinson) go after Dale, Saul and Saul's turncoat friend Red (Dan McBride) get in the mix after being tied to a chair with duct tape by Matheson and Budlofsky.

The cat and mouse comes with a price – smashing heads, groin kicking, stabbing, and 'ick' cutting off of an ear. Oh my, haven't seen that I think since Quentin Tarantino's "Reservoir Dogs". In spite of the scores of rough and tumble, a lag lingers towards the end, but later that breaks for playfulness.

From Pineapple Express' 1937 black and white prologue the audience is being setup for playfulness in a sort of Laurel and Hardy except for the language and periodic violence.

Howard McQuitter II, a native of north Mpls., (Henry High) living in south Mpls., and even to St. Thomas in St. Paul. His writing passion, yielding volumes of journals and movie reviews, is only exceeded by a passion of faith and hope. If not at a movie screening, he's at a coffee house writing the next "Movie Corner." Howard may be reached at hamll@hotmail.com check out his web www.howardsmoviecorner.com

"PIECES of the PAST"

written, produced and directed by Ijnanya Amina Akamgbe

PREVIEW BY RAYMOND JACKSON

On May 31 and June 1, 1921, one of the most if not the most catastrophic occurrences ever in American history took place in Tulsa, Oklahoma's Greensboro district. This part of Tulsa was inhabited by Black Americans and was one of the richest Black Townships ever.

Approximately 50 years after the end of slavery Blacks had begun mass migration to the north and Oklahoma was set aside by our government to be a Black and Indian state. The government rebuked on this after Oklahoma was discovered to be rich in oil, but by then thousands of Blacks had made Oklahoma their home. Many whites were living there as well and most cities were strictly segregated under Jim Crow Law.

The Greensboro district, later dubbed Black Wall Street, was a 38 square block section of Tulsa, where Black American businessmen had successfully created jobs and opportunities that even included International commerce. These men owned six private planes, an oil field, a hospital, bank, post office, a library and even had their own bus system. At the turn of the century, America became engulfed by White race riots, because of the hatred that still carried over from the slavery era and many whites were falling upon hard economic times. These riots were intended to put Blacks back in their place from a White perspective. Blacks were living too well in many parts of America as far as they were concerned and this could not continue. Over a ten year period thousands of Blacks were murdered and maimed, as city governments joined ranks with the Klu Klux Klan to destroy these places of prosperity. In some of the riots the National Guard was sent in to protect the Black people, but joined in the killings with the townspeople.

'Pieces of the Past', a play written,

produced and directed by Ijnanya Amina Akamgbe, is based on true events surrounding the bombing and burning of the Greensboro District of Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1921. Over 3,000 Black Americans died in that 12 hour period, and over 600 successful businesses were lost. Police flew over the district and dropped nitroglycerin and dynamite, before angry mobs of white folks set fire to the district. After the riot, the Greensboro District



Riot in the Greensboro District

resembled a nuclear blast, you could see from one end of the district, clear to the other end, with no obstruction. Three miles of nothing left standing! The Greensboro District had a population of 15,000, unarmed and unprotected Black people, many who were scattered to the hills with nothing but the clothes on their backs. This piece of history has been constantly ignored in our history books and teachings.

On Friday, September 26, 2008, 'Pieces of the Past' will play one show only at The Sabathani Community Center, 310 East 38th Street, in Minneapolis, at 7:00pm.

The story is told by Aunt Tabby, played by Vy DeShields, and features real characters of The Greensboro District, including, California Taylor; played by Rita Powell. California

Taylor was married to a Black banker and, in addition, her father owned the largest cotton gin west of the Mississippi River. She would take several cruises each year and shop for clothing in Paris

Director and writer, Amina Akamgbe. Was born in Nigeria, and spent time in the Caribbean and New York, before locating in the Midwest said, "I wrote this based on true factual history. People always only look at African descendants being nothing but slaves. It is extremely important, especially for our young people, to realize we are much more than that! We were not always slaves and in poverty, we were people of great wealth. Most people don't know about Black Wall Street, as the Business section of New York City, called it."

Other true characters in this production are; Zolly, played by Denzel Reason; Suzzie played by Fahti Robinson; Bertha played by Marsia Barnes; Big Mabel played by Venita Johnson and Ole Smiley Jefferson played by Raymond Jackson. Others in this great production include Rajel Johnson as Sun; Lina Reason as Little J; Kisha McLain as Nyla and Constance Styles as the server. Dance choreography is by Aarica Coleman and the Assistant Director is Tom Hendricks.

"It is a great honor to be presenting this work, this huge part of history that has been avoided for so long, and to be doing it with all local talent is just special," states Amina, "We hope to be able to continue this work, 'Pieces of the Past', so that many will get a chance to view this homespun

Memory drama based on a true story. It has comedy, drama, music and dance, all set in Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1921, The Greensboro District, Black Wall Street."

For tickets and more information call: (651) 230-1212 or (612) 822-0802.

Real Minnesota Lynx
from page 3

ing some of the teams ahead of them, and making the playoffs. Harding, however, must play very well."

Harding, born in Houston, Texas, did not dribble a basketball until the age of 13, which she did at that time just for fun. She attended Cy-Fair High School, which is a 5A school in Houston with a student body of approximately 4,000.

"I favored track in high school," Lindsey said, "yet it was in high school that I realized I was pretty good at basketball too. Even with the high level of competition I felt I stood a good chance of getting a full basketball scholarship to college. I would not let anyone tell me I couldn't, and I focused on developing my game over those four years, which included summer AAU leagues. I still did not receive much personal recognition until my senior year, when several division I schools recruited me. I chose Duke University because of their high academic standards, and I wanted to get the best education possible."

Harding graduated from Duke with majors in Sociology and Markets Management.

She has shown a great fondness for youth, and has been a shining

participant in the Lynx 33 Days of Augustus community outreach program, taking place during the month of August.

"A true point guard must understand the game and be able to teach the game." Lindsey Harding

Harding has conducted a lot of basketball clinics throughout the twin cities metro area and she puts heavy emphasis on the importance of girls' athletics.

"I like to encourage young people to reach high, never except a, 'you can't', and always realize that yes you can! You must understand the game. Know the rules to the game, especially as a point guard in the WNBA. It is not enough to just know the game; you must be able to teach the game."

Her inspiration she states, "Kim Perrot, the late Kim Perrot. I loved her style on and off the court. Her modest approach, to the game. Right now, I must say, I like Chris Paul, of the NBA New Orleans Hornets."

(Perrot played for the WNBA three time champion Houston Comets, and she died of cancer several years ago. Paul propelled the Hornets to the NBA playoffs last year and is currently part of the 2008 USA Olympic squad.)

For the Minnesota Lynx to make the WNBA play-offs and more, the

real Minnesota Lynx team must show up and stand up! There is little that says they cannot repeat their fantastic 2008 season start. With a total of eight games left, three at home, they can and must finish 6-2 to have a 19-15 record, which should be good enough to earn a play-off spot in the tough Western Conference. It will take a couple of things to achieve this:

1: Excellent play at the point guard position from Lindsey Harding; she must score double figures and average 5 or more assists. Even though she shown herself to be tough on the boards as well, Lindsey, let Anosike, Houston and Johnson do that.

2: Fans, we must come out to the remaining home games in full force. If we pack the house, the Lynx will make us proud.

In closing, I hope to bring you a play-off Lynx report and a descriptive, of Lindsey Harding, in my mind is; Weather/Climate: On the court she is Weather, flashing, pouring and bringing the heat; Off the court she is Climate, soothing, calm and serene, yet serious!

Raymond Jackson can be e-mailed at: rayjack49@yahoo.com, for comments. For more Lynx information call The Lynx offices at, 612-673-8400.

Commentary

YWCA Responds to Critique on Daycare Closing

BY BECKY ROLOFF

As the August issue of The Alley Newspaper reported, the YWCA of Minneapolis recently made the difficult decision to integrate the children and families we serve at the nationally accredited YWCA Phillips Children's Center into our three other Children's Centers and cease programming on Aug. 15.

Earlier this year the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities decided not to renew its lease with Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board. As a result, the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board moved its current programming to Peavey and Stewart Parks and closed the building for public programs. The YWCA's sublease with the Boys & Girls Clubs ended in August.

The Phillips Community Center requires significant capital investment in maintenance, repair and systems. It was clear that the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board, which owns the building, was not in a position to make the necessary capital investment to provide reliable basic comforts and services.

In addition, our Children's Center occupied approximately 10 to 15 percent of the Phillips Community Center. A

Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board executive informed us that a building-use request for proposal to fill the space would not be released for approximately a year. We believe this lack of guaranteed occupancy for the remaining 85 to 90 percent of the building would compromise the ongoing safety of the children and staff.

Supporting the Families

We remain dedicated to providing high-quality early childhood education to all the children and families we serve. We worked diligently to help transition the children who attended the Phillips Children's Center and gave the 25 families (41 children) enrolled in the center preference for available openings at our other centers. We are pleased that 85% children are continuing their education and care with us.

Few people realize that we already serve the families of the Phillips neighborhood at all of our early childhood education locations. Two of our centers are within a mile of the Phillips Center. Therefore, the children and their families will still be able to receive services in their neighborhood.

Relocation of Staff

Our goal was to continue employment for each Phillips employee. We worked individually with the 15 employees directly impacted by this decision to retain them as YWCA of Minneapolis employees. On Aug. 18, 75% of the employees were ready to move with the children to their new YWCA classrooms. We are very grateful that we could accomplish this goal, particularly in the current challenging economic times.

The YWCA of Minneapolis has been serving Minneapolis children and families through early childhood education and care for the past 30 years and we remain deeply dedicated to this cause. We are fortunate that we had quality options for families and staff to consider and choose.

Becky Roloff is the CEO of YWCA of Minneapolis

Art Fair Forever

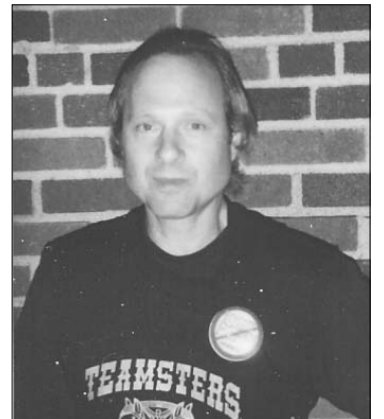
August 2 and 3, 2008...

"Ephemeral" is an adjective which indicates a fleeting transitory existence, as is the case for the adult phase of certain insects.

The Powderhorn Art Fair has again come and gone. It was and will remain an exemplary expression of the "free market". But does it commend the present stage of capitalist development? No, no. It appears as a reflection of the medieval bazaar manifested in the fashion of a grand Gypsy caravan. It was and will remain a marvelous site.

Like a bumble bee flowing between flowers on the vine he would hover occasionally; then land for a taste.

There it was, a mixed media composition, the red sun constrained within a room (white speckled with black) peering through an open window (black speckled with white) to contemplate the remainder of the uni-



PETER MOLENAAR
Raise Your Voice

verse. The piece resides now in an ensemble with a bronze bust of V. Lenin and multiple spikes of lavender-tinted quartz crystals protruding from a bed of milky quartz. Nice.

But where was the Phillips Community in relation to the fair? Actually, mostly absent. Perhaps there was deficient "come one, come all" promotion of the event, but more significantly there was inhibition due to a lack of purchasing power. All of which begs the question as to how artistic production might be brought forward to enrich the lives of working class people.

Years ago, there were impoverished socialist governments which could support only the "cream of the crop" among artists. The artists were in turn asked to glorify workers and peasants through their work. Art was to occupy museums and other public spaces since no viable private market existed. Can we in this country do better? I suggest we can.

First, even without eliminating capitalism with its attendant class divisions, the sales tax on arts and crafts (cottage production) should be scrapped immediately. This would open some windows but by itself would not elevate the working class to the level of significant market force.

So, to continue, why not institute a network of "art barns" with rent-free sales stalls as one way of sustaining an enlarged pool of talented (no longer starving) artists? Then, in addition to raising workers' wages, why not some remuneration in the form of vouchers designated for the purchase of art? The point being: With a degree of state intervention, the arts community might be expanded, strengthened, and then transformed as a result of workers' power in the market. Workers and artists unite!

Like the mayfly which emerges from the nymph year after year after year...

In centuries yet to come, the Powderhorn Art Fair might well be described as eternally ephemeral! As for the "present stage of capitalist development" (i.e. monopoly capitalism in the era of modern imperialism), that whole mess will be described simply as terminally defunct.

Peter Molenaar is a perpetual student and activist within politics, gardening, art, and the labor movement. He works at Smith Foundry in Phillips Community and lives in Powderhorn Park Neighborhood. He is a member of the Teamster's Union.

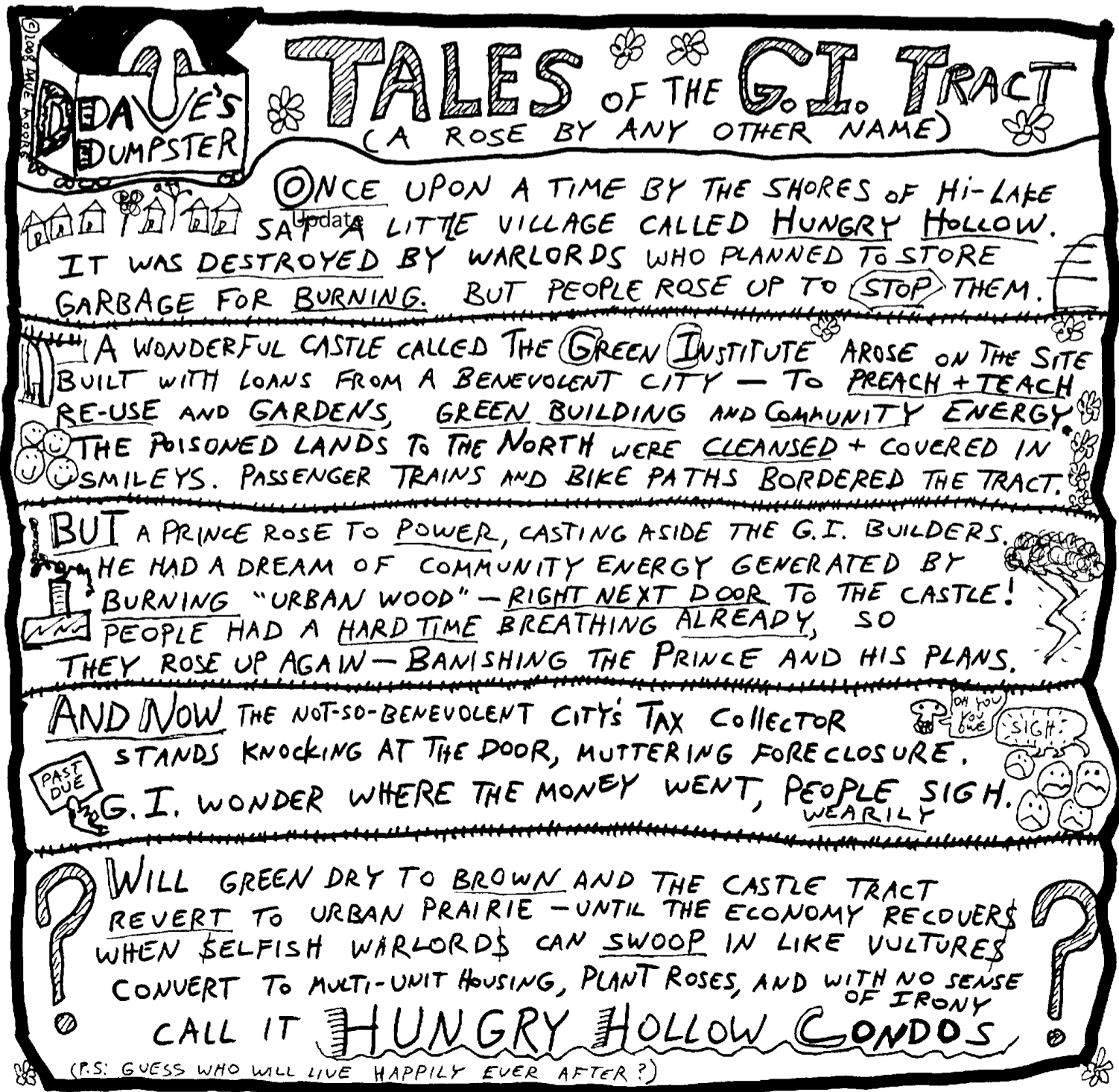
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- The letters are signed.
- No swear words are used.
- No intentional, personal harm for an individual is exhibited
- Racist or prejudicial language or opinions directed at any cultural group will not be published. Letters are more likely to be published if they either affect people, events, or organizations, in all or some part of the Phillips Community. Letters can be sent to:

Alley Communications, P.O. Box 7006, Mpls., MN 55407 or e-mail alleywinje@aol.com. Letters become the property of The Alley Newspaper.

Pick up a pen or punch those keys TODAY!



South Minneapolis Midtown Farmers' Market



The Midtown Farmers' Market has been having a great season! Thanks to all of our shoppers for continuing to make the market "the place to be" in South Minneapolis! Join neighbors and friends from 8:00 am -1:00 pm every Saturday and, Tuesdays from 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm. The Midtown Farmers' Market currently has: a variety of produce, greens and herbs of all kinds, artisan bread, cheese, meat, eggs, maple syrup, honey, and many other products including delicious food and coffee from local vendors. Everything sold at the Midtown Farmers' Market comes from Minnesota or Wisconsin. Find more information at: www.midtownfarmersmarket.org.

Midtown Farmers' Market also accepts EBT (food stamps), VISA & MasterCard. To use EBT or your VISA or MasterCard at the market, visit the Market information tent to purchase market tokens and use them like cash throughout the market! The Midtown Farmers' Market is proud to be the first and only market in Minnesota to serve the community with this technology.

Ongoing Events:

Every Saturday 11:00 - 11:30 am - Storytime with the East Lake Library

Every Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Master Gardeners

September events:

September 6 - Ron Huff Cooking Demo

September 13 - Scandinavian Day Festival - celebrating the traditions of Scandinavian countries (Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Norway and Sweden)

September 20 - Preserving the Harvest Day - complete with multiple canning workshops

September 27 - Native American Celebration Day - showcasing the rich and vibrant culture of Native Americans
For other events during the month check out our website.

Location: Lake Street & 22nd Avenue South

The Midtown Farmers' Market

is located at the intersection of East Lake Street and 22nd Avenue South, between the Midtown YWCA and the Hiawatha Line Lake Street/Midtown light rail station. You will find the market in the southeast corner of the intersection in the parking lot of the Anishinabe Academy School.

What's For Sale At The Market

The Midtown Farmers' Market currently has a variety of produce as well as herbs of all kinds, artisan bread, cheese, meat, eggs, maple syrup, honey, and many other products including delicious food and coffee from local vendors. Everything sold at the Midtown Farmers' Market comes from Minnesota or Wisconsin.

If you have more questions about any of the above activities please see our website, www.midtownfarmersmarket.org, call the market director, Laura Wolff, at 612-724-7457 or email her at manager@midtownfarmersmarket.org.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Now that you have had the chance to enjoy the sights, sounds and shopping at the market have you ever wondered what is involved in keeping it running? If you have an interest in the behind-the-scenes working of the market we have a great opportunity for you. The Midtown Farmers' Market Advisory Committee will be holding elections for new committee members at our September meeting. Serving on the committee gives you a great opportunity to help with developing the future of the market as we continue to grow. Without a dedicated advisory committee the market would be impossible to run. The Advisory Committee meets the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Corcoran Neighborhood Organization office at 3451 Cedar Avenue South. If you would like to see how the committee works please feel free to attend a meeting and observe the meeting. Other volunteer activities include helping the day of the market to set up, tear down and a variety of other tasks. Also available is to serve on our Marketing and Events Committee to help plan events, cooking demonstrations, and marketing materials. If you would like more information on any of these volunteer opportunities please contact Laura Wolff at 612-724-7457 or email her at manager@midtownfarmersmarket.org.

The second-annual Minneapolis Bike Tour will take place this year on Sunday, Sept. 14, 2008. Pre-registration has begun and will continue until Sept. 5. Additionally, on-site registration will be available Sept. 13 and 14. We encourage riders of all ages and experience levels to join us for the upcoming tour. Last year, more than 4,700 riders participated.



ARTS ACTIVISM in the Alley by St. Paul's Youth at Kaplan Bros. 1414 East Lake St. in the alley and across the street from In the Heart of the Beast stage entrance.



ARTS ACTIVISM on the Street by Waite House Youth from 15th and 13th Av in conjunction with youth from Hope Community in the Oakland to Portland and Franklin Avenue area who painted this mural on the 13th Avenue side entrance of New York Plaza at East Lake St



ARTS ACTIVISM by Youth Farm (a member group of Community Shares MN like The Alley) on 5 walls of Falconers Cleaners at 13th Av South and East Lake St

Native Mural from page 1

Nicollet Avenue murals, created by the Wall Dogs, a group of highly-regarded professional sign painters. For days on end, Brown chose to operate her one-woman art studio out of the trunk of her parked Pontiac Grand Am declining any formal support. She preferred simply working alone and maintaining her vision and execution of the mural.

Painting from sun up to sundown, Brown hurried to finish her mural by Saturday, August 16th, when it was unveiled at a public ceremony attended by several White Bird family members from Wisconsin. Angelina Green's mother only accidentally learned of the unveiling because her husband, a City worker, happened to drive by the mural during its creation. For the event, Native singer/songwriter Michael Bucher traveled from Wisconsin to offer his composition, Don't Forget About Me. Following a discussion of the mural's meaning by artist Lisa Brown, Angie Whitebird's daughter Tammela Whitebird offered a poem she had written honoring her much missed mother. Angie's sister Cathy Whitebird Jackson then bor-

rowed Bucher's guitar and shared two songs fondly loved by her late sister. Kathy Houle, mother of Angela Green spoke about the heartbreak that losing her daughter had brought to her and her planting of the three pines.

Formally accepting the mural for the City of Minneapolis was City Council Vice Chairman Robert Lilligren (himself a member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe), who represents the Sixth Ward where the mural is located. Over his shoulder, Lilligren pointed to the City

Hall's clock tower where he works. He noted that many times the role of government must be to set some good things in motion and then get out of the way. To him, this mural represents the best of that spirit and is a great effort at bringing a new level of healing to the Native community.

Additional photos document the mural's development and unveiling. Got to: <http://gallery.me.com/robertralbee#100112>

ARTS ACTIVISM

BY PATRICK CABELLO HANSEL

During the spring and summer, youth from Waite House and St. Paul's Lutheran have been looking critically at their neighborhood and exploring ways of expressing their hopes through various artistic mediums. The project, called "Arts Activism", is part of a larger effort of Phillips youth organizations that are working together to promote Youth Civic Engagement.

The youth received personal instruction and encouragement from a wide diversity of community artists, including photographers, muralists, banner and poster makers, puppeteers and potters. Then the youth unleashed their own talents to both document our community and share their vision of hope.

Some of the artistic creations were featured in a celebration of community on August 1, which included the dedication of the mural done by Waite House youth in conjunction with Hope Community. The mural is located on the New York Plaza building at 13th and Lake. For more info on Waite House's youth programs, call Julie Graves at 612-455-0365.

It has truly been a summer for murals in our community! Youth Farm dedicated their mural on Falconers Laundry on August 14, and St. Paul's youth are working on their mural on the alley side of Kaplan Brothers, on 15th Avenue just north of Lake. A September dedication is planned—for more information, contact Pr. Patrick at 612-296-2231.

For more information on the Phillips Youth Civic Engagement Project, check out www.Phillipsyouth.org. As the project continues, you can see videos of the wonderful work being done by our youth!

Patrick Cabello Hansel and his wife, Luisa are pastors of St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 28th Street and 15th Avenue in Midtown Phillips. He is also a writer of poetry and short fiction.

PHILLIPS CLEAN SWEEP IS COMING SAT. OCTOBER 11, 2008

On the 11th of October join the hundreds of people of East Phillips, Little Earth, Midtown Phillips, Phillips West, and Ventura Village will be involved in the most concerted organizing occasion of the year...

Phillips Community Clean Sweep....

promises to be an enjoyable half day starting with Breakfast at Welna Hardware on 25th & Bloomington OR Messiah Lutheran Church on 25th & Columbus and continuing up until lunchtime Noon at Stewart Park/27th and 12th Ave.

Community Litter Pick up follows breakfast from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

There will be city garbage trucks that will come through and pick up items, so opportunity to clean out excess from house or garage. We will also send around a garbage truck for tires and for household construction items.

Organizing meetings are happening now. Call #952-996-6490/Phillips Hotline for more info and to find out how you can join in.

Sponsored by Phillips Weed & Seed, a project of the U.S. Dept. of Justice through the MN U.S. Attorney's Office.

Pedestrian Master Plan public meeting

Minneapolis is already an active, walkable community, but there is more to do to make our city a better place to walk to work, to play or just to stay active.

You can help the City improve walking in Minneapolis by attending an open house to hear more about the City's Pedestrian Master Plan, and to share your thoughts and ideas on walking in Minneapolis.

Thursday, Sept. 18, 2008, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Minneapolis Central

Library. 300 Nicollet Mall

Discussion topics include draft capital improvement priorities and best practices for designing and maintaining the pedestrian environment. This is the second public meeting on shaping the city's first Pedestrian Master Plan. More than 100 people attended the first Pedestrian Master Plan open house in March.

The City Council directed the preparation of a citywide Pedestrian

Master Plan, which will be completed by the end of 2008. The plan will include recommendations on policies, projects and procedures related to pedestrian facilities and programs. To learn more about Minneapolis' Pedestrian Master Plan, visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/pedestrian.

For more info please contact Shaun Murphy at (612) 673-2335 or shaun.murphy@ci.minneapolis.mn.us before Sept. 11.