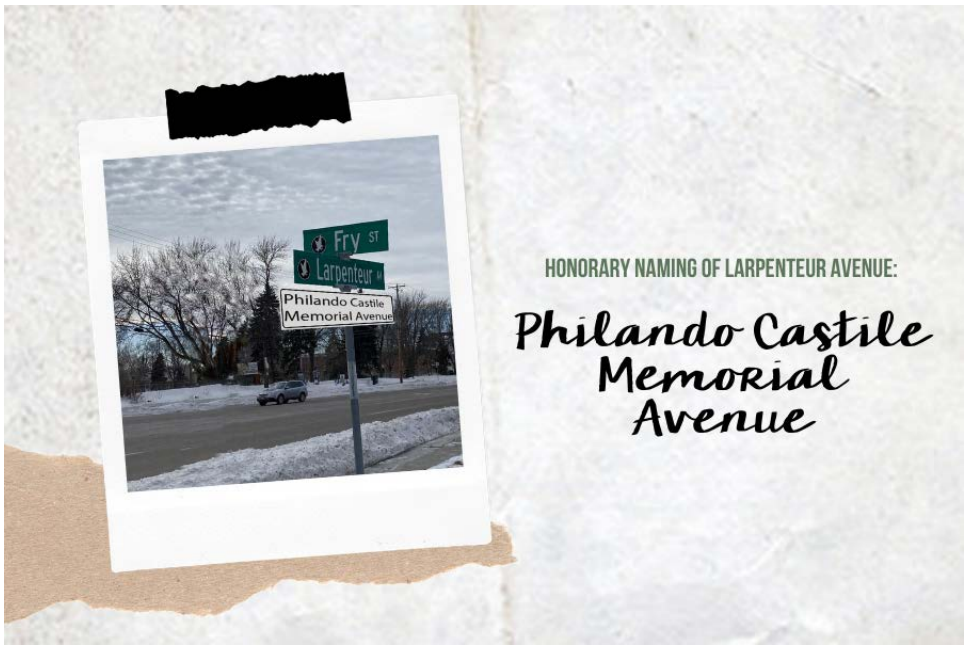


An invitation to bring healing and community change in response to tragedy

Making the Dream a Reality



Installation of the Philando Castile Memorial Avenue Street Signs

On Wednesday, June 9th at 5:00 PM The City of Falcon Heights unveiled the street signs marking the honorary name of the section of Larpenteur Avenue where Philando Castile was killed by a St. Anthony police officer just 5 years ago. Signs marking Philando Castile Memorial Avenue were placed among the existing signs at the intersection of Larpenteur Avenue and Fry Street in Philando's memory.

The introduction of the honorary name came as a result of a community petition which gained over 20,400 signatures in support of Philando Castile Memorial Avenue. Results from an online survey administered by the City of Falcon Heights showed community support of the initiative.

Philando's Mother Valerie Castile noted, "The community has worked so hard over the past five-years to get a street sign and I am so happy it is finally happening along with a lot of other blessings this year. I have prayed so hard to preserve my son's name and good work."

Trista MatasCastillo, Ramsey County Commissioner, D3 took immediate interest in memorializing the street and continuing the legacy of similar incidents throughout the county and metro. After learning that street naming is left up to the cities, Commissioner MatasCastillo focused on advocating for this possibility with officials at the City of Falcon Heights and ensuring policies prohibiting the memorial name change would not be adopted.

Once Commissioner MatasCastillo took up the issue, she made connections to clarify the process and express her support to other local officials. The process of surveying residents and non-residents reflected the City of Falcon Heights' commitment to community engagement and inclusion, leaving her feeling very hopeful.

The first sign to be installed was at the garden entry located on Larpenteur Avenue and Fry Street. Mayor of Falcon Heights Randy Gustafson spoke on behalf of the City. City Council Member Melanie Leehy also gave an address at the event, who has been quoted saying, "The Philando Castile Peace Garden is a place where a life changed, and a community changed."



Gourmet Popcorn Fundraiser

Support the Philando Castile Peace Garden by buying popcorn through our 4 day fundraiser! From June 21st - 24th, use this link to purchase gourmet popcorn and help us reach our fundraising goal; all of the proceeds support the garden.



Call for Artists: The Philando Castile Community Peace Garden is designed to feature and preserve art pieces created and placed there by community members in the wake of Philando Castile's tragic death, and to allow families and community members, law enforcement, and local, state, national and international leaders to join together in the search for peace and justice. You are invited to be a part of making this vision a reality by participating in the Peace Garden Mini Art fundraising auction.

Here is how it would work:

1. Artists who are interested will be mailed postcard sized art paper auction kit.
2. Artists create artwork around the theme of “Peace in your Community”
3. Artists donate and send their work in a pre addressed stamped envelope to the Peace Garden committee for the online auction
4. Artists names and artwork are promoted on our social media channels and the auction website
5. Items are auctioned off and all money is donated toward the building and maintaining of this unique gathering space

Would this be something you would participate in? If so, please email hgoulet@modandco.com or send us a message on social media.



Thank you to all of those who continue to give each month to the Philando Castile Peace Garden, your generosity does not go unnoticed!



Save the date for the 5th annual Candlelight Vigil in honor of Philando Castile. The vigil will be held at the Philando Castile Peace Garden at 8:00 PM on July 6th, marking 5 years since his passing.

Please mark your calendars for July 6 and consider making a donation to the garden prior to the event.



Save the date for the Unity Day BBQ at Falcon Heights City Hall. Please join us from 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM on July 7th, 2021 to encourage unity, conversation, and peace in our community.

DONATE NOW

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