North News Relaunches
Pillsbury United Communities is now at the helm.  Page 2

From Worst to First
A Polars player reflects on his championship path.  Page 7
Welcome to North News!

Owner | Pillsbury United Communities
Chanda Smith Baker, President and CEO. PUC seeks to create choice, change and connection through social ventures.

Welcome to the new North News. Pillsbury United Communities saw the purchase of North News as an opportune moment to support a platform for more accurate, unbiased storytelling about North. As a lifelong North Minneapolis resident, I realize there is a media-driven narrative about North that often misses the mark. Grassroots journalism is on the rise, especially here in North. Individuals are telling their stories as they happen. People want to be heard, seen, and recognized. They want to make meaningful contributions to the overall vitality of this place. PUC seeks to support this work and momentum with North News and looks forward to the community pride and revitalization we believe our platform will showcase.

In order to understand where we are going, we must honor where we have been. Margo and Kerry Ashmore have left a reputable 25-year legacy, which cemented our decision to purchase North News. PUC has listened and will continue to listen to the community in order to bring the vibrancy of North Minneapolis to our pages for those who have a deep and invested interest here. Without reservation, this paper still belongs to the community. Though PUC owns it, we will support it as an independent journalistic endeavor, and it will be as unbiased as humanly possible in its examinations.

In everything, leadership matters. Therefore, PUC believes it has hired the right leader to take North News into its next legacy. Kenzie O’Keefe comes to us with a wealth of experience matched with a passion for people telling their own stories. As part of its new direction and promise, North News will authentically engage community and provide career exposure in journalism for our youth.

As we move forward in creating space for the people of North to declare their truths, we invite you to tell us yours. As the new North News intends to bring forth critical conversations, examine disparities, and lift up what’s working, we implore you not to silence your thoughts. As we work to meet you where you’re at with the information you seek, we welcome your feedback.

Under PUC’s ownership, North News will see four big changes:

1. **New Format**
   - Our brighter 11” x 11” paper and news magazine format will make the paper more accessible for a broader swath of Northside readers.

2. **New Delivery System**
   - To ensure quality home delivery, we’ll be building our own delivery team over the next few months. We’ll be back on your doorsteps this summer.

3. **The Content You Want**
   - News & Notices will remain, and Neighbors (positive spotlights) & North News & Notices (positive coverage of one major issue, every issue) have been added.

4. **Youth Voices**
   - Beginning this summer, we will engage Northside youth in the production of the paper. Stay tuned for more details on this exciting endeavor.

Warmly,

Chanda Smith Baker, President + CEO, Pillsbury United Communities

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Editor + Publisher Kenzie O’Keefe
A Saint Paul native and current Northeast resident who comes to North News with a decade of experience as a writer and editor.

Greetings! I am excited to welcome you to my first issue as Editor/Publisher of North News. I would be remiss if I did not begin by thanking those who have supported this transitional process. My gratitude goes out to Margo Ashmore, Vince Brown, Vanan Murugesan, Adair Mosley, Brenna Brelie, Chanda Smith Baker, and the Northside community leaders and residents whose voices were essential in envisioning the new North News.

As I’m sure you have already noticed, new ownership has brought changes to the paper. Though our devotion to fair and unbiased journalistic coverage will not waver, a month of deep community listening has shaped many evolutions to the publication. In particular, we know you want to see more coverage of positive happenings on the Northside (for example, our story with Tyler Johnson on P. 7) and more deep, exploratory coverage of the thematic issues that are most important to you. As we work to meet you where you’re at with the information you seek, we welcome your feedback.

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I look forward to serving you out and about in North, on your doorsteps, and eventually online. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kenzie O’Keefe, Editor/Publisher, North News

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**WE’RE HIRING!**

**Are you a charismatic sales person with passion for the Northside?**

We’re looking for a part time (20 hrs/week) Advertising Sales Representative to join our team! This person will be responsible for forming business connections with local businesses, organizations, and individuals. Flexible hours. Hourly wage + commission on all closed sales + full benefits. Experience selling ad space and meeting sales quotas strongly preferred. A North Minneapolis resident or person with strong ties to North is preferred. If interested, please send your resume to okeefek@puc-mn.org.

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**ADVERTISING**

**RATES**

**April & May 2016**

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**RATES**

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Discounted rates apply until home delivery begins this summer.

To book an ad, email: okeefek@puc-mn.org or call 651-245-2647

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**To get North News on your doorstep each month?** If you live in North, FREE home delivery begins summer 2016. If you’re not a North resident and would like to subscribe, please email okeefek@puc-mn.org. Subscriptions for non-residents are $30/year.
What would you like to see in the new North News?

Over the past month, we’ve asked over 30 community leaders and residents to weigh in on what they’d like to find in the paper.

MK Xiong, Old Highland Resident

North Minneapolis is bigger, broader, stronger, and richer than most people believe it to be. There is so much good stuff happening on the Northside. I’d love to see even more of that covered. Janet Zahn, PCYC/Capri Theater

I’m looking for that positive story. Something that will inspire the community. Something that will show that we have good things here in North. MK Xiong, Old Highland Resident

I’d like to see more forums for businesses here in North. There are not a lot right now. There are more and more assets being developed in our community, including restaurants and entertainment, that need to be highlighted. Marcus Owens, Northside Economic Opportunity Network

MK Xiong, Old Highland Resident

I’d like to see more of what North News has done well. Fair and unbiased stories that cover the life of our community. I’d like to see more voices and a willingness to be edgy. Sondra Samuels, Northside Achievement Zone

Sondra Samuels, Northside Achievement Zone

I would like to see positive stories about the great strengths of the North Minneapolis community. Barb Johnson, Minneapolis City Council

We need North News to tackle relevant issues here in North, controversial or not. A community paper should have free space for event listings and other announcements. That was a value that North News brought. Ariah Fine, Cleveland Neighborhood Association

When I heard the paper was going to have a youth component, I thought that was fabulous. I think it’d be exciting to hear a high school perspective on some of the issues here. Batala McFarlane, Insight News

Marcus Owens, Northside Economic Opportunity Network

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Blong Yang, Minneapolis City Council

As a Hmong person, I’ve been surprised at how invisible we are on the Northside. We’ve lived here for 37 years; folks don’t know what we’ve contributed. I want to see more than a black and white paradigm, more of a rainbow paradigm. Blong Yang, Minneapolis City Council

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JOIN OUR COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD!

Come take part in envisioning each issue of North News.
At the beginning of each month, we’ll invite 5-10 members of the Northside community to our newsroom for a 1-2 hour meeting to discuss relevant issues we should consider covering in our next edition. We welcome people of all ages, experiences, and cultural backgrounds, and we will take care to assemble a diverse group of Northside community members. Meetings will be the first week of each month and will begin in May 2016. These are not paid positions. Coffee and snacks will always be included. We hope you’ll consider taking part. We look forward to collaborating with you!

If interested, email okeefek@puc-mn.org (subject line: “community advisory”) or call 651.245.2647.

Inside our “O” Each issue we showcase a different piece of a North Minneapolis scene.

On this month’s cover:
We bring you Billie Holiday from Charles Caldwell’s “Can You Hear Me Now” mural on the side of 4th Street Saloon.

Just like Caldwell’s mural welcomes people to North, we welcome you to our first issue!
Polars capture state

On March 12, the North Community High School Polars won the MN State Class 1A Boys Basketball Championship for the first time since 2003. Since their history-making win, the team has been honored by the City of Minneapolis and the MN State House of Representatives. Back in North, the Lowry Ave. bridge was lit up in white and blue in celebration. For more on the Polars, head to P 7 for an interview with the longest playing member of the team - senior guard Tyler Johnson - about his four year journey to the championship. Photos: Nikki McComb

Public safety forum turns tense

Northside community members and members of the Minneapolis Police Department’s 4th precinct gathered in the North Commons Gymnasium on Tuesday, March 8 for dinner and public safety discussion sponsored by City Council Member Blong Yang.

Yang believes continuing the public safety conversation is important but thought the event had some shortcomings. “At some points there wasn’t order in the room. There was a lot of commotion happening that took away from the conversation,” he said.

The program began with 4th Precinct Inspector Mike Friestleben and four MPD members each giving an overview of a day in their lives as police officers. Afterwards, Yang facilitated a Q&A session between community members and the police, who were seated at a table in front of the crowd.

Questions from the audience revolved around rebuilding community trust in law enforcement. The discussion erupted in discord several times. Audience members expressed disappointment, anger, fear, and frustration with police and Yang’s behavior on the Northside.

Friestleben appreciated Yang’s efforts to create dialogue. “We can’t get to the root of the problems we face as communities if we don’t communicate. We often have the same goals, and we need to work together to achieve them,” he said.

Community members expressed critical feelings about the forum’s format “I think the cops should be on our level and there should be a few community members up at the tables with them. That would be real dialogue,” said Lisa Clemons, a former Minneapolis Police Department member and Northside community member who was in the audience.

Yang said he will host his next public safety forum on May 10. “I want it to be productive. I think we’ll have to change the structure, but I don’t know what that will look like yet,” he said.

Youth weigh in on policing

Nearly 150 Minneapolis youth participated in Minneapolis Police Chief Janee Harteau’s first Youth Summit on Tuesday March 22 at the Minneapolis Police Activities League Building on Dupont Avenue North. The event was motivated by Harteau’s desire to bridge the gap between youth and police. The four-hour program involved group discussion on gun violence, presentations on body cameras and social media use, and a traffic stop simulation that allowed students to see that situation from a police officer’s vantage point. According to the Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board’s March newsletter, Harteau’s goal is to make the summit an annual event in order to, “provide a platform of opportunity for our youth to be leaders in the community, and decision makers to listen and learn from them.”

Photo & Compiled by Kenzie O’Keefe
Welcome back
North News!

Martial Arts Classes, Personal Training, & More!
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FREE ESTIMATES
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LICENSED • INSURED • BONDED
Certified Arborist
Tree-mendous Spring Savings!
10% OFF ARBOR TREE SERVICES
With coupon. Coupon must be presented at time of estimate. Not good on stump-only jobs.
(763) 560-0666
Offer Expires 4-28-16

15% OFF SENIOR DISCOUNT
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SAVE THE DATE
THURSDAY MAY 12TH
JOIN US FOR A CONVERSATION ON
HEALTH & WELLBEING
5-8pm
North Regional Library
1315 Lowry Ave North Minneapolis
Dinner will be served & childcare is not available
RSVP
BY MAY 6 TO:
HAWTHORNE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
2944 Emerson Ave N
612-529-6033
ksnoddy@hncmpls.org

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RESOURCES
Farmers markets will soon open, and the City of Minneapolis has an online interactive map that makes it easy to locate them: www.minneapolis.gov/farmersmarkets. Most of the 40 markets accept EBT.

Get your organics recycling questions answered and a free kitchen organics collection container at one of the city’s Organics Recycling Training Sessions. Two sessions will be held on 4/9, 9-11am at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park and 1-3pm at Folwell Park, 1615 Dowling Ave. N. Details: www.minneapolismn.gov/organics.

Free computer/laptop repair and technology support will be offered by the city and community partners at an upcoming “Fix-it Tech” event, 1-5pm on 4/22, at Twin Cities RISE, 1301 Bryant Ave. N. First come first serve. Details: www.minneapolismn.gov.

EVENTS + ENTERTAINMENT
North United Methodist Church at 44th & Fremont will host their annual sandal luncheon on 3/30 at 12pm. The Mellow Fellows will entertain at 1pm. $9 for adults, $4 for children 5-11, free for children under 5. Details: 612-522-4497.

The Rose Ensemble will present one of its popular touring programs – Slavic Wonders: Feasts and Saints in Early Russia, Poland, and Bohemia – at 7:30pm on 3/31 at Church of the Ascension, 1723 Bryant Ave. N. $15 for adults, $10 for seniors 65+ and students with ID, free for children under 12. Details: www.roseensemble.org.

MX8 Design (owned by Northside resident MK Xiong) presents Fancy Floral Fashion – an evening of pure entertainment: fashion, live music, dance and art. 4/22, 8-10pm at Muse Event Center, 107 3rd Ave N. General seats $35. Details: www.mx8design.com.

Legends at the Capri Theater presents: “Superstitious Thriller,” a jazzy tribute to Michael Jackson and Stevie Wonder. 7pm on 4/23 and 3pm on 4/24, $25 tickets. 2027 W Broadway Ave. For details and a complete list of upcoming events: www.thecapritheater.org. 612-343-3390.

The Church of St. Bridget’s Parish Community Rummage Sale will be held at the St. Austin Campus, 41st St N and Thomas Ave N. 9am-7pm on 5/5, 9am-5pm on 5/6. 6pm -12pm on 5/7. Last day is “bag day” - $3 per bag or two bags for $5.

Join the Northside Achievement Zone for food and family-friendly fun as they celebrate some of their amazing families. 5/26, 6-8pm at Patrick Henry High School Auditorium, 4320 Newton Ave. N. Details: www.northsideachievement.org.

ACTION
Friends of the Mississippi River is currently looking for groups of 20 or more to participate in their Storm Drain Stenciling Program. All supplies are provided. Contact Kate Clayton, kclayton@fmr.org, 612.222.2193x23 for more information.

Help clean up our parks on Earth Day. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and City of Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling have collaborated to designate sites for cleanup efforts. Just show up with a pair of gloves on 4/23 from 9:30-12pm at one of the sites. A complete list can be found at www.minneapolisparks.org/activities_events/events/earth_day_cleanup.

DISCUSSION
The sixth annual Minneapolis Youth Violence Prevention Week, sponsored by the city and community partners, runs 3/31 – 4/9. It’s part of a national public education initiative to raise awareness of youth violence, identify strategies to combat it, and promote positive roles that make communities safer. Details: www.minneapolismn.gov/health/youth/yvvp/week.


Save the date for Hawthorne Neighborhood Council’s Health and Wellbeing conversation. 5-8pm on 5/12 at North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Ave. N. Dinner is included. Childcare is not. RSVP to ksnoddy@hmnclps.org.

BUSINESS & DEVELOPMENT
The West Broadway Business and Area Coalition and the Hawthorne Neighborhood Council invite you to join them for a lunch meeting with Council Member Blong Yang to discuss current and future economic development in North. Lunch will be provided. 3/31, 11:30-1pm, Plymouth Christian Youth Center, 2210 Oliver Ave. N.

Northside Economic Opportunity Network’s (NEON) Business Incubator hosts “Connect and Unwind” business networking events every first Thursday of the month. Get to know other entrepreneurs and incubator members over wine and refreshments. The next one is 4/7, 4-30pm, 1007 W Broadway Ave. For a full list of NEON events: www.neon-mn.org/events.

EDUCATION
Anyone may apply to fill one of the six community member positions on the Minneapolis Superintendents Selection Committee. Applications can be found at bit.ly/1o2Dbvh and at all school sites and the Davis Service center at 1250 W. Broadway. They must be received by 4pm on 4/1.

Free parent education nights will be offered by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Children’s Challenging Behaviors will be held at Sumner Library, 611 Van White Memorial Blvd, 9am-3pm on 5/7. Register: http://CCBmpls5-7.eventbrite.com or call 615-645-2948x109.

BE AWARE
Street sweeping begins in Minneapolis on 4/13, weather permitting. Drivers should watch for “No Parking” signs to avoid a ticket and tow. Details: www.minneapolismn.gov/publicworks/streetsweeping.

OPPORTUNITIES

PROFESSIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
Camden Care Center, a nursing and rehabilitation facility, welcomed Lawrence J. Kerzner, M.D., as new medical director on 3/9. He is a nationally renowned leader in geriatric medicine.

ACADEMIC ANNOUNCEMENTS
DEAN’S LIST
Fall 2015 unless otherwise specified
Concordia College, Minnesota
Justin Haeg (55430)
Joshua Kelley (55411)

UW River Falls
Tyler Moore (55411)
Edward Otteson (55430)

University of Dubuque, Iowa
Nkenge Bokela (55412)

Baylor University, Texas
Josiah C. Bender (55412)

Columbia College, Missouri
Teng Her (55411), Oct/Dec 2015 & Jan/Mar 2016

President’s List
Minnesota State Community and Technical College, Minnesota
Molly Lund (55412)

Honour List
Minnesota State Mankato
Keneisha Gilmer (55411)
Jessica Staples (55430)

Ploua Thao (55412)

Dan Vue (55412)

GRADUATIONS
Juan-Ita Efliom (55412) – UW Madison, School of Education, Master of Science-Occupational Therapy + Occupational Therapy
Edward Otteson (55430) – UW River Falls, Bachelor of Science, Political Science
Joseph Dobbert (55412) – UW River Falls, Master of Business Administration
Gau Lee (55411) – St. Cloud State University, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Studio Art
Darrius Hubbard (55411) – University of Northwestern, Minnesota, Bachelor of Science, Ministries + Certicate, Christian Counseling
Amit Mehra (55412) – University of Northwestern, Minnesota, Master of Organization Leadership

NORTHNOTICES
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Lg Studio,1&2 BR, 650-850, Quiet Bldg Lots o closets, Ht Pd, Lndry room, off-st. prkg, on bus line 952-203-0926

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Sun School/Adult Class 9:30 am Worship 11 am. Nursery provided
Wednesday Youth Group 6:30 pm Pastor Dale Hulme
www.stolaflutheran.org and on Facebook
We are LGBT affirming.
Diversity thrives here!

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Prayer & Praise 10:30-10:30 am Sunday
Worship 10:30 am Sunday
After School Program 5 pm-7 pm, Tue & Thur.
Pastor Kelly Chatman

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CALL 612.245.2647 or EMAIL: okeefek@puc-mn.org

ABOUT THIS SECTION
Contribute your notice
Email: okeefek@puc-mn.org, subject: NOTICES
Mail: North News, 125 W Broadway, Suite 130
Call: 612.245.2647

North News cannot guarantee that every notice sent to us will be published in the paper. We reserve the right to make these editorial decisions.
Congratulations on the big win! We understand it has been four long years in the making. It feels crazy and unreal. Time flew by. It still hasn’t hit me that we’ve accomplished so many goals. This past season we put all the pieces together and finally solved the puzzle. We are brothers. We’ve had a lot of fun together, and we’ve had a chance to go down in history. We didn’t want to let North Minneapolis down – a lot of people were counting on us.

At what point in the championship game did you know you were going to win? I knew that we were going to win right from the beginning of the second half. Right before the second half started, the starting five huddled up on the court, and we were like, “let’s go. Let’s pick it up!” We scored right away. From that moment I just knew that my teammates were awake and alive and that this was ours. We wouldn’t let Goodhue take that away from us.

How did you feel at the end of the game? The crowd gave a standing ovation to each of us as we came off the court. We all looked at each other and said “finally.” We finally got what we wanted to let North Minneapolis down – a lot of people were counting on us.

Who inspires you? My parents. They push me a lot and made me the person I am today. I’m the oldest of five kids, and I have a lot of responsibilities. I want my little brother and three sisters to be like me or better than me. I want people in the community to look at my family and say, “That kid Tyler, he’s a heck of kid.”

Where do you see yourself in ten years? I’d like to have a nice family with a nice job. I’d like to come back to the North games and watch them play and look at the banner that me and my brothers just got. I’d tell people the story of that, the history.

Compiled by Kenzie O’Keefe
Photos: Nikki McComb
NORTH NEWS congratulates the North High Polars basketball team!

Players

#4 JaQuan Sanders-Smith  
#5 Marquis Hollerman  
#10 Tyler Johnson  
#11 Nasir El-Amin  
#12 Jamil Jackson Jr  
#13 Pat Dembley  
#15 Tylor Johnson  
#20 Marshaun Downey  
#21 Eli Campbell  
#32 Odell Wilson IV  
#34 Jamire Jackson  
#35 Isaac Johnson

Coaches

Larry A. McKenzie  
George Ellis  
Trent Witz  
Sherman Patterson  
Nagashia Jackson  
Michael Shelton  
Brandon Mitchell  
Richmond Tweh  
Greg Smith  
Kenneth Johnson  
Carlita Hanson

Spring has sprung!
If you feel bent up, we’ll straighten you out!

We’re working to serve you better at
NORTHSIDE CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

Chiropractic is about more than re-aligning the spine and neck. Talk to us about work injury, car accident, headaches, tingling in limbs, and range-of-motion limitations, we can help. Loosen up and enjoy spring!

3107 PENN AVE. N. (Across from ALDI)
(612) 522-0440

Let YOUR VOICE be heard!

Join our community advisory board!

Monthly meetings to discuss what matters most to North Minneapolis. Details P. 3