"I’m proud of staying true to myself in order to find myself."
— AZHAELA HANSON

"It’s better to try and fail than not try at all."
— KEATON CLARKE

Onward and Upward

The valedictorians of North and Henry High Schools discuss their success and plans for the future.

Neighbors Page 22

ALSO INSIDE

The revitalization of Juneteenth Page 4

Business owners have mixed feelings about road construction Page 6
Congratulations to our graduates!

Letter from the Editor

Several new seasons are upon us. Summer is finally here, and with it brings celebration of our community’s graduates – both at the high school and college level. It’s also, as Cirien Saadeh notes in her story about transit development on Page 6, construction season. Whether you’ve been inconvenienced by the street being torn up on Penn Ave. or you’re ready to read some success stories about Northside students, this edition has everything you need to start the summer on an informed note.

Special congratulations to this year’s high school graduates who have been part of North News’ youth journalism program – Dajia Triplett, Ashley Powell, Tong Vang, Josh Mendez, Tayler Johnson, Monique Wooten, Azha’la Hanson, Damon Brown, Bryana Thomas-Butler, Marshefani Tyler, Gianna Villarreal-Griffin, T’Nia Riley, Tipassion Osborne, D’Angelo Raymond, Zadir King, Carter Johnson, Christopher Johnson, Destiny Fennell, De’Khyshia Ford, Jeremiah Green, Precious Greer, Ky’Mari Love, and Breya Dillon. If your contributions to community news are any indication, you’re headed toward amazing futures.

My letter this month is short – a testament to how much information is packed into this paper. As always, thank you for your support in its many forms.

Kenzie O’Keefe
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Letters to the Editor

HOUSING ISSUES NEED TO BE ADDRESSED

Dear Editor,

Minnesota has a crisis of a lack of affordable housing. The cost of housing is rising faster than incomes, and the number of cost-burdened households has risen 65% since the year 2000. This includes Minneapolis. Due to the lack of affordable housing, 5,834 children and youth experience homelessness in Minneapolis; 8.2 percent of Minneapolis enrolled students experience homelessness; 27 percent are preschool children who are more likely to experience homelessness than older children. Many students in the community believe their housing instability has set them up for failure.

Thousands of families, seniors, and single people pay more for house payments or rent than they can afford. When this happens, people are forced to make difficult choices about buying food or going hungry, buying needed medications or letting health problems get worse, or having safe children or not.

When families pay more than 30 percent of income on housing and can barely feed their children, when they are in school, it is hard for them to focus on learning with an empty stomach and receive a proper education. It is hard for them to stay positive when they are going to school with a lot of stress in their mind and on their body.

These are some of the poor and miserable conditions that exist when renters or homeowners are paying too much of their income on housing alone. It is difficult to acquire the other needed resources to live a stable, balanced and centered life when the median standard of living is above or at 30 percent. These are all the things I have to be concerned about as I advocate for more affordable and sustainable housing.

I urge Council Members Jeremiah Ellison (who sits on the Housing Committee) and Phillipe Cunningham to address issues related to housing and hunger as it affects many of our youth and families in North Minneapolis.

Kendrick Hall, Homewood native and current resident, housing advocate

DOES NORTH MINNEAPOLIS NEED ITS OWN “COMP” PLAN?

Dear Editor,

The City of Minneapolis has released its 2040 Comprehensive Plan and it is available for public comment on the City’s website. Unfortunately, the City’s Comp Plan is full of rhetoric about equity but short on steps to achieve equity, especially when it comes to North Minneapolis. Although the comp plan does document the intentional racist policies that have been inflicted upon North Minneapolis, there appears to be no intentional, quantifiable action plans specifically designed to apply an equity lens to all City goals and directives. Some of the stated goals of the comp plan include “reduced disparities,” “affordable housing,” but nowhere is there any intentionality toward equity either via policies or approaches.

I believe that North Minneapolis needs and deserves its own “comp plan.” This plan would lay out the needs of the Northsiders and list tangible, equitable, time sensitive, quantifiable action steps to meet the outlined goals. We would hold our elected officials accountable. I ask that all Minneapolis residents review and comment on the City’s plan but I also ask that you ponder whether the issues specific to the Northside warrant its own comp plan. We need action now!

Catherine Fleming, Northside resident and community leader

North News welcomes letters to the editor. Please send to kenzieo@pillsburyunited.org or to North News, 125 W Broadway Suite 130, Minneapolis, MN 55411. They must be signed, under 300 words, and relevant to life in North Minneapolis.
927 Broadway is up for development

Plans for 927 W Broadway Ave, a currently mostly vacant building, are taking shape. As part of a City RFP process, five proposals were submitted for the site this Spring. One has emerged as a clear contender due to its technical proficiency, alignment with the West Broadway Alive Plan, and its ability to be fully leased with “credit worthy” tenants right from the start, said Jim Terrell of CPED. That proposal was jointly submitted by the Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation, New Rules, and TRI-Construction. Following CPED approval which is expected within the next few weeks, the proposal will go in front of the City Council for approval of exclusive development rights later this summer. Short term, the project proposers hope to remodel and add on to 927, creating an artist market and event space on the street level and offices above them. Longer term they hope to support Appetite for Change in taking over offices above them. Longer term they hope to be parking not on-the-street,” said D’Angelos Jones, Daporsha Space, Xzoria Mukes, and Destiny Fennell pose together outside Privé downtown Minneapolis where North High School’s prom was held on Saturday, May 19. Photo by Javon Smith

THOR building set to open in July

Construction for the new THOR Companies headquarters is set to be complete within the next few weeks. Retail and office tenants have begun to set up their spaces and the building, which sits at the Southeast corner of Penn and Plymouth will be open to the public starting the weekend of July 4. It boasts a parking garage and retail and office space. New retailers include the second Sammy’s Avenue Eatery location, Build Wealth MN’s new office, and Me & I Fitness (an African-American owned fitness center and gym). Hennepin County has bought the entirety of the building’s top floor. NorthPoint Health & Wellness and Target will have offices in the building too. The Metropolitan Economic Development Agency will be moving from downtown to the building too. “We are trying to create a vibrant community there and it takes all of its stakeholders being present there. And there will be parking not on-the-street,” said D’Angelos Svenkeson, Vice President of Development for THOR Companies.

NEON looking for new leadership

Marcus Owens left his position as the Northside Economic Opportunity Network’s (NEON) Executive Director officially on May 30 to become the new Executive Director at the African American Leadership Forum. “Marcus has been an invaluable asset to NEON – building partnerships, making connections in and outside of the community and building NEON to what it is today,” said Lynn Farmer, NEON Board Chair in a press release announcing his departure in early May. A search for the organization’s next leader is currently underway.

Glenwood is getting a brewery

La Doña, Minneapolis’ first Latino brewery, is on track to open in the Harrison Neighborhood this July, according to the City Pages. They report that owner Sergio Manancero is currently overseeing construction of his 10,000 square foot “cervecería” at 241 Fremont Ave. N. It will have a large taproom, production space, and patio.

Northside youth's painting finds a home in the Mayor's office

At ten years old, Northside resident Jayden Goldsboro is already a successful artist. Earlier this year, Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey purchased a painting by Goldsboro at an Art is My Weapon exhibition at Homewood Studios in North Minneapolis. Art is My Weapon decommissions weapons and gives them to local artists to create messages about gun violence in the community. On May 9, Frey invited Goldsboro and his family and friends to his office to see the painting installed.

DFL endorsements

In May, Northside resident Irene Fernando secured the DFL endorsement for the District 2 Hennepin County Commissioner seat. Kimberly Caprini was endorsed for one of the two at-large Minneapolis Public School Board seats.

Prom 2018: North Minneapolis high school students went all out for their end of year celebrations

Seniors and good friends (from left) Precious Greer, De’Khyshia Ford, Ideaasa Hill, Breya Dillion, Simiya Jones, Daporsha Space, Xiaoria Mukes, and Destiny Fennell pose together outside Privé downtown Minneapolis where North High School’s prom was held on Saturday, May 19. Photo by Javon Smith

North High seniors Bryana Thomas-Butler and Da’Koi Hines express their black pride through Black Panther themed prom outfits. Photo by Brandon Roiger

De’Khyshia Ford, a senior at North High School and Rory Purnell, a senior at Washburn High School, stand outside of Privé where North High’s prom was held. “We didn’t come to play, we came to slay. OK?” said Ford. Photo by Sam Wilbur

Continued on Pages 10 & 12
One of the largest celebrations of freedom, and triumph amidst trauma, will be held in Bethune Park.

Kenzie O’Keefe | Editor

Since early this Spring, a large group of community members has been meeting to revitalize North Minneapolis’ Juneteenth celebration.

The holiday – which commemorates the day in 1865 when the last of America’s slaves were freed in Galveston, Texas (a full two years after the Emancipation Proclamation) – has been an important part of Northside life since the 1960s. Despite its historical significance, Twin Cities Juneteenth (or “Freedom Day” as it’s also been called) has seen a sharp drop in attendance in recent years – from 15,000 people at the height of its popularity to just 300 last year.

Community leaders believe the celebration will be able to return to its previous popularity, beginning with this year’s reimagined event, which will take place on Saturday, June 16 at Bethune Park, outside Phyllis Wheatley Community Center, which has historical significance as a cultural hub for African American community in the city. It will be called “Juneteenth: A Celebration of Freedom Day.”

“The event means a lot to our community,” said activist Al Flowers, who is helping organize this year’s event. “Elders kind of let it get away. The generation before me taught me all about civil rights. I know it’s important for us to tell that to our young people, so then they’ll understand some of the racial injustice that’s going on,” he said.

“It’s important to be able to recognize where we’ve been, how far we’ve come, and how far we have yet to go,” said T Williams, interim executive director of Phyllis Wheatley.

Juneteenth: A Celebration of Freedom Day will start with a parade. Beginning at the Davis Center at 10am, it will wind through the streets of the Northside and end at the park. Food vendors, live music (headlined by Sounds of Blackness), a car show, and historical reenactments will all be part of the day’s activities. Other performers include Grammy-winning artist Jovonta Patton, storyteller Nothando Zulu, and local dance groups.

A TIME FOR TRANSITION

For decades, Twin Cities Juneteenth has been led by Mary Pargo. Under her leadership, the event moved from Oak Park Community Center, to Theodore Wirth Park, and finally to North Mississippi Regional Park, where it has been held for the past several years.

Many blame the North Mississippi location for dwindling interest. “I wasn’t going up to the Mississippi River to celebrate anything black,” said community member Kelley Hardeman. Others complained about the lack of accessibility – it’s difficult to reach the park by bus or on foot, and parking was far from the activities for some attendees.

Community member Ambreasha Frazier was born and raised in North Minneapolis and now works at the Minneapolis Urban League. She says she hasn’t attended Juneteenth since it moved to North Mississippi Regional Park, but she remembers the celebration as a “staple of our community.” Though she hasn’t felt it to be “anchored in community” in recent years, she’s hopeful that this year’s event will help younger generations better understand African American history. “Our history and culture isn’t as talked about. It’s been detached as a part of American history. Juneteenth should serve as the part to bring that back,” she said.

This year, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) has stepped in to sponsor Juneteenth, fundraising for it and offering staff time to coordinate logistics. “In the last few years I’ve become very concerned about Juneteenth,” said MPRB Interim Superintendent Mary Merrill. “The community connection wasn’t there at Mississippi Regional Park. There were just not very many people showing up. There was no connection because people weren’t there.”

Continued on Page 14
Juice bar launches on Lowry

Sierra Carter (left) and Tierra Armstrong mix up a "Jamakin' Me Crazy" and a "Respect Your Roots" at Got the Juice inside New Rules at 2015 Lowry Ave. N. Photo by Cirien Saadeh

North Minneapolis has a brand new juice and smoothie bar. Got the Juice opened up on Monday, May 14 inside New Rules, a Black-owned co-working space on Lowry Ave. It’s serving up organic and vegan smoothies and juices, while honoring Black culture and promoting wellness and self-care throughout the community.

Got the Juice is a collaboration between New Rules and The Zen Bin, a Black-owned mind-body-soul health and healing business which operates out of New Rules. The Zen Bin hosts a number of healthy living and mindfulness events through New Rules, including yoga, dance, and painting classes, while honoring Black culture and promoting wellness and self-care throughout the community.

Got the Juice is a partnership. For us, it was about covering the health and wellness component of the ecosystem. Healthy food is something that the community asked for; what better way to introduce healthy food than juice and smoothies,” said New Rules President and CEO Chris Webley. According to Webley – and Got the Juice’s other owner Sierra Carter (owner & CEO of The Zen Bin) – they also have big plans to expand their menu and their number of locations.

“We’re bringing intentional awareness about indulging in healthy living to North Minneapolis, an awareness of self-care and intentionality,” said Carter. According to Carter, Got the Juice has plans to add soups, sandwiches, and salads in the future. Their hope and goal is to work with local farmers and growers to eventually source their ingredients from North Minneapolis. Right now, all their products are sourced from Minnesota growers. They temporarily shut their doors on May 18 following a soft opening and will reopen on June 1.

Got the Juice’s current menu includes a number of smoothies and juices which are named after and meant to cultivate Black culture. Webley recommends the Wakanda North and the Just Green. Carter recommends the So-Fresh-So-Green smoothie, which she says has been their most popular drink thus far.

According to Webley, “social media manifested a really good opening day” on May 14 as Northsiders posted their excitement about North Minneapolis’ newest small business. Webley and Carter credit Sammy McDowell, owner of Avenue Eatery on West Broadway Ave. with mentoring them through the process of opening a food business in North Minneapolis. They will be open Monday - Saturday during the summer once they reopen.
It is often joked that construction is one of Minnesota’s annual seasons. And while the City of Minneapolis is no stranger to this phenomenon, transit-related construction can have special meaning in North Minneapolis, which has been historically under-resourced.

North Minneapolis is currently undergoing extensive transformation along Penn Ave through the Penn Ave Improvement Project and C-Line bus rapid transit (BRT) development. In the future the Northside will see a second BRT line, the D-Line, constructed down Fremont Ave and 44th Ave. There has also been recently completed construction on 44th Ave and on Glenwood Ave, and ongoing construction at the intersection of Emerson Ave & W Broadway.

But transit improvement and development alone is not the end-all and be-all of what North Minneapolis needs, according to elected officials, local business owners, and other community members. They want to see transit development that counteracts the historical inequities that North Minneapolis has faced, as well as transit development that supports current and new small businesses.

“Any time you are doing any kind of fixed development like new transit stations there is a real opportunity to talk to the real experts in the community, which is the residents, and talk about how they want to use and invest in the line and how do they see generations involved in the line,” said Malik Holt-Shabazz who works for the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) and used to be the economic development organizer with the Harrison Neighborhood Organization. These transit-related opportunities that Holt-Shabazz discusses are called transit-oriented development. This development can include supporting small businesses and using transit development as a space to support new, locally based small businesses.

Still, there is disagreement on the final vision for this construction. The goal for many is transit-oriented development that catalyzes deeper and more expansive economic and small business development in the Northside. What that looks like and how that vision becomes reality is where things get even more complicated.

North End Hardware and Rental owner Darrell Weivoda is a long-time resident of North Minneapolis. During the road construction on Lowry Ave in the early 2000s, Weivoda says he lost 40% of his customers with no noticeable difference in profit or customer numbers before and after. While it is too early to tell whether the current Penn Ave. construction will have the same impact, he says the numbers do not look good. What Weivoda wants to see is more support for current and future small businesses in North Minneapolis.

“When you have a business and people can’t get to your business and your goal is to keep nine people gainfully employed, it’s so tough,” said Weivoda. Weivoda had even asked the city for a small discount on his property taxes because the business is less successful during periods of construction. He was told, he says, that the city cannot give him a discount, because every business impacted by construction would need the same discount.

“They need to get off their butts, come down themselves, not send someone else, see what the impact is, and talk to the businesses owners, not guess what the impact might be,” said Weivoda.

Some other businesses are more optimistic, though they recognize that the construction process itself will be a challenge to their business and their capacity to draw in customers.

“It’s annoying, but the construction traffic is actually allowing more people to see our business,” said...
KB Brown of Wolfpack Promotions, whose business is just down the street from the intersection of W Broadway and Penn Ave. "I’m concerned about other small businesses though. I do a lot of outreach, but others might struggle. I want to see the city support these businesses financially, but I don’t think it’s going to happen."

According to Gary Cunningham, President of the Metropolitan Economic Development Agency (MEDA) and District 7 (North Minneapolis, Downtown Minneapolis, South-Central Minneapolis, and Robbinsdale) representative to the Metropolitan Council, support for small businesses is a priority of all stakeholders, but economic development generally and constitutionally falls under the purview of the City of Minneapolis.

“Our hope is not only a better ride and better ridership, but also improved foot traffic for small businesses and other amenities,” said Cunningham.

Basically, the Met Council, Metro Transit, Hennepin County, and the City of Minneapolis work together to ensure that a community is aware of and kept updated on the construction and that businesses do not suffer the consequences of any transit construction for too long. But any opportunities provided by construction for new small businesses or growth for current small businesses is the responsibility of City, as well as neighborhood stakeholders.

Neighborhood stakeholders include organizations like the Northside Economic Opportunity Network (NEON) which works with small businesses across North Minneapolis. Currently they are reaching out to businesses up-and-down Penn Ave and offering their assistance in developing contingency plans so they can sustain themselves and come out of this construction period stronger than ever. One of the businesses they are currently working with is Wirth Coop. Wirth Coop has been temporarily closed since April 2018. The transit development project is just one reason for the organization’s hiatus. NEON is working to help Wirth Coop develop its own construction-related plans and are hoping to support other businesses across Penn Ave.

“There’s not one thing that [we] can say to these businesses that will replace the income lost,” said D’Wayne Morris, a Business Advisor with NEON. “I’m from South Minneapolis. I see the impact of the Blue Line. You see the businesses along Hiawatha that were impacted but you also see the businesses that sprouted up after something like that. I presume something similar in North Minneapolis. It’s our intention to make sure these businesses are fully equipped with enough information and enough relationships in order to make sure their businesses survive as long as they want it to.”

Sebastian Rivera is an organizer with La Asamblea de Derechos Civiles and a coalition organizer with Alliance for Metropolitan Stability who organizes around transit and transit development. Rivera notes that Blue Line, Red Line, and Green Line construction resulted in businesses being shut down and/or displaced, but that new businesses – many of them owned by people of color - were also able to open up in those spaces. According to Rivera, who lives in North Minneapolis, for current businesses to thrive in North Minneapolis and new businesses to succeed, the community has to take an active role in ensuring their voices are heard and that transit development directly benefits them.

Ward 4 City Councilmember Philipe Cunningham agrees. He says it is crucial that the City of Minneapolis and neighborhood stakeholders be invested in these conversations, because transit development done right can be an anti-gentrifying force that helps to provide a stable housing stock and access to new locally developed, small businesses. However, if done incorrectly, it could leave residents of the Northside out and give up Northside spaces to gentrifying outsider forces. In Brooklyn Center and Brooklyn Park, as well as in Apple Valley, and down University Ave., for example, community organizing and engagement focused on ensuring that new businesses were owned by current community members, rather than outside newcomers.

“As I look at the massive transit developments that are in motion or coming up at some point in the near future, it all has to go back to the folks that are already here rather than making a really pretty road and then plopping down really beautiful but completely distant development – whether it’s commercial or mixed,” said the councilmember.

Cunningham mentions the two vacant lots at the corner of 44th Ave. and Penn Ave., an intersection which will cross two BRT lines in the next few years. He hopes the lots are transformed into some form of transit-friendly development, possibly a shophouse (a building with a business(es) on the ground floor and housing on higher floors).

This is a concern to some including Weivoda, whose business at the intersection of Lowry Ave. and Penn Ave. is also across the street from two other vacant lots. “Businesses would like to see more businesses and less housing, not mixed use buildings. We are fighting for parking as it is. How do businesses survive without parking?” asks Weivoda.

According to Weivoda, who grew up near that intersection, there were 47 businesses up and down Lowry Ave. but he says the City of Minneapolis and Hennepin County failed to support those businesses and the businesses shut down or fell into disarray. Weivoda wants to see the City step up and help the local businesses.

“The City needs to partner with small businesses so they have the opportunity to own their space and be viable,” said Weivoda.

Holt-Shabazz believes now is the time for the community to get organized. He recommends that the neighborhood organizations and community members come together and require that Metro Transit, Met Council, the City, and the County conduct strategic planning as a way of measuring and holding transit construction accountable to the potential opportunities for economic development brought on by construction.
Hair removal is something that many have to deal with, but rarely is it pleasant. Waxing can be painful and shaving is often cumbersome. Facial threading, however, provides a safe and sometimes-nearly-almost-painless opportunity for hair removal. It is an art that has been around for centuries and while it’s less popular in the US, it is still commonly practiced in Asia and the Middle East.

Enter Tiffani Washington, or as she is known, “The Black Threadist.” According to Washington, she is the only Black facial threadist in the State of Minnesota. A long time esthetician, Washington has been designing eyebrows – using specialized razors – since her pre-teen years. She learned how to do facial threading two years ago and is now offering threading services through her business based out of Wilson’s Image Barber and Stylists on West Broadway. She is also the author of a book *The Art of Eyebrow Threading*, published in April 2017.

“When I went to school, I actually just went for makeup, because I just wanted to enhance the skills that I did have. There was a lady who went to school with me from India who owned a shop and one of her employees, Priya, trained me in the technique and art of threading. I taught her the art of the arch though,” said Washington. Washington grew up in the suburbs of Chicago. She still offers aesthetician services at a salon in Blaine, MN and while Washington is not a Northsider, she says she loves it here.

“It’s different from Blaine versus being over North. When I go over North, I see people that look like me, who go through things that I go through. Not to say that one place is worse than the other, but it feels like my community,” said Washington, a mother and grandmother who received her aesthetician license after her children grew up.

Washington also trains young up-and-coming threadists. She had originally planned on charging $500 for the training, but given some of the realities of North Minneapolis – Washington mentions both poverty and teenage pregnancy – she also offers the training for free for women ages 16-24.

“That’s the thing about North Minneapolis. It’s about making things easy, making them legal, with integrity, making things accessible, so that these kids don’t have to make the hard choice,” said Washington.

*Continued on Page 16*
All are Welcome at UROC’s Neighborhood U Financial Capabilities Open House

Want to learn how to better manage money, establish good credit or just generally improve your financial situation? Or maybe you’d like to get some tips about how to help your child graduate from high school and consider what’s next, including college? All of these topics, and many more, will be the focus of a Northside Financial Capabilities Open House being held at the Robert J. Jones Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC) on Friday, June 29, 2018.

Part of UROC’s family-friendly Neighborhood U event series, the Open House is free and open to everyone and runs from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. University of Minnesota statewide Family Resilience Extension educators Sharon Powell and Sylvia Alvarez de Davila will be the event’s featured presenters. Both have spent years working with families on how to improve their finances and support kids through challenging times.

In addition to speaking about finances and education from a family perspective, Powell and Alvarez de Davila have several fun, interactive activities planned for the evening. The Spinning Wheel, for example, gives parents and kids an opportunity to spin the wheel and land on any number of conversation starters that can help strengthen relationships. “Studies show that youth who connect with their parents or caregivers do better in school as they find support and encouragement to overcome difficulties they face, but parents and caregivers have busy lives and limited time, so this game is helpful because it offers ideas to get conversations going,” Alvarez de Davila says.

For the Wants Versus Needs exercise, Powell distributes cards with pictures representing different types of expenses and asks people to designate whether they consider each one a want or a need. Afterwards, she focuses the discussion on questions like: Was this activity difficult? Why or why not? “As we talk, I bring up the fact that wants and needs really vary depending upon the person,” Powell says, explaining that individual values and the context people live in are the two things that primarily influence whether something is considered a want or a need. Whatever people’s circumstances might be, Powell enjoys helping people learn about important financial concepts that can make a real difference in their lives. “I can tell you that most of the families I work with are good money managers. They’re just stretched for money because there isn’t enough money. That’s the problem.”

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Two Simple Ways to Boost Your Credit Rating

- Powell advises everyone to check their credit report. “About 25 percent of the time those reports include mistakes and you have to be the one to point them out and ask credit bureaus to remove them,” she explains.
- Need to establish credit or repair a credit rating? Making just one small purchase a month on a credit card and paying it off promptly is a great way to do that without incurring interest or going into debt, Powell says.

Helping Kids Overcome Educational Challenges

- Navigating the complex world of researching colleges, obtaining financial aid and filling out college applications can be confusing and overwhelming. Alvarez de Davila suggests that parents start setting expectations and talking about their children’s future at early age. “When parents and caregivers set the expectations and start looking at resources to make informed decisions, children feel supported and confident,” she says.
- Parents and caregivers can also provide children with educational opportunities and a chance to learn about different careers by doing things like identifying role models within or outside the family and visiting museums, theaters, zoos and local exhibits.
Northside students celebrate prom

We asked you to share your prom photos with us. Here are your submissions! See more on Page 12.

Dealing with end of school year blues

Dalvin Crockett | North High

The end of the school year is a struggle for everyone. Finals, figuring out summer and college plans and getting ready for prom all create stress for high school students and their teachers. Student and staff are tired at the end of the year and feel like giving up. Students strive to find motivation at the end of the year because at many times it seems like those last two weeks aren’t worth it.

North High sophomore Daeron Freeman says that these last few weeks of school have been stressful for him because he’s trying to study for finals to get his grades up. “The end the year is the hardest for me because finals stack on top of each other, and it’s hard for me to keep up with them. I can’t wait to get summer started, then I won’t have to worry about school for another two months,” he said.

Some teachers have a totally different view. Tenth grade teacher Lars Lindqvist says for him the end of the school year is kind of a mix of stressful and not stressful. “For me, at the end of the month, students do a big project, so planning isn’t stressful.” He has to always be ready during the end of the year, because that’s when students are tired the most. “The last month is the hardest, because that’s when the lack of motivation starts. You don’t want to be in school taking a test on the last day of school when everyone is out enjoying their summer. You have to just find the energy to finish.”

Carter Johnson senior at North High says he is trying his hardest to push himself to finish his senior year strong. “I get stressed during the last month of school because the teachers will still give you school assignments on top of your final projects and tests. Also I have to think about college during this time, what best fits my schedule, and getting ready for that new chapter in my life. [Once] I graduate, I feel like this high school stress is going to go away, and I’ll feel ultimate relief.”

Motivation seems to be the most important key to success in these situations. It is important to be self motivated and to also keep supportive people around you. Get lots of sleep these last few weeks and take off if you have to, because they hit hard. Good stress relievers are taking time outdoors, getting fresh air, keeping a schedule, and being organized.
A North High student opens a bank account and her life changes.

**Ashley Powell | North High**

How much money do you lose cashing your checks each time you get paid? Since September 2017, I’ve spent about $560 cashing my checks at Unbanks in North Minneapolis. I use Unbanks because, in my experience, they deduct less than other check cashing places.

I’m a normal human being who works part-time cashing at Raising Cane’s. I put in about 32 hours a week — after school and on weekends.

One of the most rewarding parts of working is getting a paycheck every other week. Losing money to Unbank wasn’t a choice. After a while, I knew how much it would cost to cash my check every other week. It was a consistent amount of money. The bigger my check would be, the more worried I would be to cash my check because it meant I would lose more money.

It took me a while before I realized that I needed a bank account. Check cashing is free if you have one. I was a regular teenager just cashing my checks because my mother wouldn’t make me a bank account — she didn’t feel I was ready quite yet. My mom does not have a bank account because she does not trust the system. I always hated the traveling part to go and get my check and then cash it. But it was something I lived with for months. The last time I cashed a check, Unbank took $40 of it. This was my last straw, and I knew I needed a bank account. I grabbed a bus, and I went straight to Wells Fargo because it was close and there are many near me. It was an easy first time to walk into the bank. I asked to open up a bank account. All I needed was a state ID, social security number, and $50 to put into my new checking and savings accounts. I had a few questions and concerns such as how long would it take for my direct deposit to go through, and they said two weeks, and it actually happened even faster.

Since opening my bank account, I’ve already saved money. I set up direct deposit with my job, and it’s been helpful because I instantly get my check to my card. I do not have to take the trip I used to take to pick up my check and cash it. I no longer get money taken out of my check because its goes directly to my checking account and there are no fees for that. Also, I even save money by having my bank account take money out my checking to put in my savings on the 26th of the month. That also prevents me from bank fees.

Overall, I’m glad I opened a bank account because I have saved a lot of money in such short time.
Northside students celebrate prom

We asked you to share your prom photos with us. Here are your submissions!

North High senior Breya Dillon and her prom date Kowan matched their outfits and their car. Photo courtesy of Ashli Henderson

Lauryn Lumpkins and Xavier Goodman enjoyed North High’s prom. Photo by Brandon Roiger

Aja Wheeler and Phaizon Scott step out of their car and into North High’s prom. Photo by Javon Smith

North High seniors Odell Wilson IV and Azhae’la Hanson took their prom photos on the Stone Arch Bridge. Photo by Brandon Roiger

Jordan Week of Kindness

Saturday, June 30, 2018
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Irving Ave North
(between 30th Ave. N. and Lowry)

- Neighborhood celebration
- Activities for kids
- Free food
- Resource fair
- Free giveaways
- Local performers

Vendors should email andrea@jordanmpls.org or call 612-886-4539
Volunteer should email volunteer@tchabitat.org or call 612-305-7114
Houston White writes: the importance of having a hobby

Houston White | Contributor
“Hobbies are often thought of as activities for people who lead quiet, relaxed lives. However, people with full, busy, even stressful lives may need hobbies more than the average person, and benefit greatly from having hobbies in their lives. Hobbies bring many benefits that usually make them more than worth the time they require.” – Elizabeth Scott, MS

I didn’t fully realize this fact until I was 33 years old, dealing with a career change and all that entailed. I started gardening which was something I never thought I’d be interested in because as a young boy in Mississippi, we had to work in the garden in the 90-degree heat. I vowed I would never do this by choice as an adult. However, years later, the sight of a perfectly manicured yard with beautiful flowers blooming gave me great pleasure, even though it took quite a bit of work.

What I hadn’t realized is the amount of relaxation and joy gardening brought into my life. I didn’t think about work, I felt calm; I was outdoors enjoying the sun.

One day it struck me – though you love your work, you must find ways to decompress. In the barbershop, I tell young fellas all the time to find a hobby. Though I enjoy many activities, golf is by far the game I love the most. When I first started I was awful and it was the most humbling experience of my young adult life. I can laugh about it now, but boy it was a tough game to learn.

I would go to the range everyday and hit balls for hours and hours. My home course was Theodore Wirth right here in North Minneapolis. I used to see the legendary Eddie Mandiville in his cart riding around always teaching us pupils the lost art of ball striking.

The golf course is a haven for me. It’s a game for life. I have seen men as old as 90 out on the golf course having a blast. It keeps you young, and it’s forever a mental challenge. The golf course is where you network, it’s where business deals are done, and the 19th hole is what we all look forward to – hanging out and rehashing our good, and not so good, shots on the course.

Appearance is also a big part of the game. When you show up on the first tee sharply dressed, it can be intimidating to your opponents. Like Tiger Woods and his signature red shirt, when he wore it, you knew he came to play. This is where the King Kunta Golf Club, my line of golf attire, was formed. I believe in looking the part, but I also believe in wearing clothes that represent the culture of Black Excellence. Our 2018 HWMR Golf Collection officially launches June 16th at the Father’s Day Kick Back.

No matter what you do, find a hobby, preferably something outdoors and active that you can enjoy for years and years to come.
Merrill said MPRB became involved to keep the celebration from disappearing in Minneapolis altogether. “It’s too important of an American holiday. We can’t let this die,” she said.

Though there’s been some confusion about how Mary Pargo will participate in this year’s event, MPRB and Mary Pargo say they have been working together to determine how Pargo’s event can be incorporated into the new celebration.

Though MPRB is taking logistical and financial responsibility for this year’s event (led by Corky Wiseman), the vision for it is coming from community. People of Color Union Members (POCUM) and KerryJo Felder have also assumed a leadership role, organizing behind the scenes, petitioning to move the celebration out of North Mississippi Regional Park, convening community leaders in early Spring, and taking a strong stance that Juneteenth needs to be revitalized or it risks losing its relevancy for good.

“I hope that the community realizes the importance of the holiday. It’s our Independence Day, our 4th of July, in America. We have a great historical foundation. We have great leaders who kept it going,” said Felder. Merrill says that if this year’s celebration is successful, the park board is likely to continue supporting it in the future.

Williams sees the possibilities in that. “This is an opportunity for Juneteenth to get on its most solid footing ever,” he said.

SECURITY

Security has always been an important topic of conversation when it comes to Juneteenth. According to a 2008 Pioneer Press article, three people were injured in a shooting at that year’s Twin Cities Juneteenth celebration. At the 2006 event, North High basketball player Brian Cole was killed in a drive-by shooting.

“We hope for the best and prepare for the worst,” said MPRB Police Chief Ohotto at a Juneteenth planning in May. In addition to committing six park police officers to the event, MPRB is working with MADDADs, street outreach teams, and other community partners to keep the peace.

Community member and POCUM Bernadette Robinson has helped organize entertainment for the event year. She says she is excited for it but concerned about violence.

“We need something of strong visual purpose that says ‘if you’re going to do your stuff, don’t do it here,” she said.

HISTORY

From the late 1960s to mid-1980s, Freedom Day was celebrated on Plymouth Ave, led by leaders, including Spike Moss, at The Way community center.

Moss says the day was about celebration and serious reflection: “It was black people putting everything on the table for black people. …We focused on the fact that our people were let go. We have to look back to remember not to go back there again.”

By the late 80s, it had changed form. It was called Juneteenth and celebrated in the backyard of Oak Park Center. Michael Chaney, who currently leads Project Sweetie Pie, was one of the leaders of that era’s festivities.

Chaney sees this year’s transition as just another opportunity to make Juneteenth bigger and better. “This is just another growing pain. There is always room to grow. …Everybody I think has good intentions. Everybody is concerned about the celebration. The fact that everyone is showing up in the room demonstrates its value,” he said.

Moss has words of caution: “I hope they slow down and get it right. It’s more than we’ve allowed it to become. It’s important now because we have so much coming at us. We really truly need this,” he said.

For more information visit www.mprb.org/juneteenth.

OTHER CELEBRATIONS

In addition to the large community celebration each year, Hennepin County Libraries also organizes Juneteenth events at neighborhood libraries. This year, festivals will be held at North Regional Library on June 10 and Sumner Library on June 14. Learn more at www.hclib.org/events.
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EVERY Friday at Broadway & Logan!
June 15 - October 5
3:00-7:00PM

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Everyday from 7 am to 9pm
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Harvest Network of Schools announces big changes for next year

Cirien Saadeh | Staff Reporter

The Harvest Network of Schools (HNS) has announced several big structural changes as it moves into the 2018-2019 school year. According to a May 23 press release, the Harvest Network of Schools will cease operations and Harvest Preparatory Academy, a K-6 school founded in 1996, and Best Academy, a K-8 school founded in 2008, will merge into one school. The Mastery School, founded in 2012, will continue to operate under separate management and its own board of directors, though a partnership with the Harvest-Best school is expected to continue.

According to Eric Mahmoud, founder and CEO of HNS, the decision was not made lightly. HNS had announced an expansion plan in 2013, but the focus on expansion hurt the three school’s academic quality. Rather than continuing to risk test scores and student learning, Mahmoud says they chose to stop their expansion and reorganize.

“Our emphasis will be adult culture and school culture, making sure that the adults are fully engaged with the students and making sure the students know why they are here and are excited about learning,” said Mahmoud who anticipates having a leadership role in the new structure.

The reorganization which was voted on and approved by the HNS Board and school parents in April, was announced during an annual breakfast honoring the network’s 43 partners and 250+ volunteers.

According to Mahmoud, parents and students should not feel the impacts of the reorganization, though staff layoffs are expected. The merger will be completed by July 1 in time for the 2018-2019 school.

HNS is currently celebrating its 25th year of operating in North Minneapolis. During the breakfast, which took place in the The Mastery School’s gym, Mahmoud and HNS were honored by Sondra Samuels, President and CEO of the Northside Achievement Zone. NAZ has been an HNS partner for years.

“What we’re doing together – volunteers, staff, partners – we’re building something. We’re building something in the middle of Minneapolis so our students can sail into a limitless future,” said Samuels.

...Threading continued from Page 8

Washington also recommends eyebrow threading for those who prefer a natural beauty routine. “Waxing contains a lot of chemicals, as most things are, a lot of ingredients that are not good for your skin. If you have problems with acne or bad skin, waxing is taking off a layer of skin every time you do it. Waxing thins the skin as you age,” said Washington. “Threading is only cotton, it’s the most natural thing. It takes each hair from the follicle to remove it. We’re not using any chemicals that burn you or anything. It lasts longer, as well. Threading is the best for your skin.”

Washington hopes to have her own storefront and a threading training center here in North Minneapolis in the near future. Currently, she offers threading services on Monday through Friday at Wilson’s Image Barbers and Stylists from 9am-1pm and all-day on Saturday and Sunday. She can be reached at 952-687-9888. Washington charges $7 for eyebrow threading and $5 for lip, chin, and cheek threading.
The dwindling school year has not slowed down for Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) even with only days left on the academic calendar. This month, in honor of the end of the school year, I’ll highlight summer programming and student achievement.

Graduations for North Minneapolis schools are June 11. Check your individual school calendar for more details. The last day of school for MPS is June 8.

The summer months can often be detrimental to a student’s reading skills. MPS has launched MPS Strong Reads which is focused on preventing this summer slide. MPS recommends letting kids choose what they want to read, reading together, and attending literary events. For more tips and details on programming, check out: http://www.mpls.k12.mn.us/read

Students from Loring Elementary School’s Irish Dance Team headed to Canada Feile 2018, in Winnipeg, on May 25 to compete, thanks in part to community fundraising.

And in other news: Governor Mark Dayton spent the last several weeks advocating for $138 million in emergency school funding which would have helped Minnesota school districts cover the cost of their deficits. Dayton did not specify where that money would come from, but he wanted it to be new money. Republicans attached $225 million in funding to the omnibus tax bill, but only $50 million would have come from money owed to schools by the Department of Natural Resources for using school land. The remaining money would have come from community education and teacher development programming dollars, which the teacher’s unions found unacceptable. Dayton vetoed the tax bill in a surprise announcement just days after the legislative session ended for the year.

Several members of the MPS Board are up for re-election. Rebecca Gagnon lost out on a DFL endorsement earlier in 2018 for the District 62B House of Representatives seat. Following that loss, she announced that she was re-running for an open seat on the MPS Board.

Other candidates for the two open seats are Kimberly Caprini, Josh Pauly, Christy Caez, and Sharon El-Amin. Boardmembers Jenny Arneson (District 1), Siad Ali (District 3), and Nelson Inz (District 5) are currently running unopposed for their school board seats.

Melodee Strong grew up in St. Francis, MN, a rural Minnesota community, wanting to be an artist. A graduate of the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Strong has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration. She has published nine children’s books and her illustrations can be found in 18 children’s books. Strong has taught at Franklin Middle School since its re-opening in August 2015. Her murals and her student’s artwork can be found all over the school and all over North Minneapolis. Strong has lived in North Minneapolis for the last 22 years.

Tell us about yourself. I’m a community teaching artist. I include community and their voices, that is very important to me. I’m a catalyst for community to express themselves in a way that they probably can’t. I think that is where my illustration background comes in handy. I am used to getting a problem and then expressing that visually.

Why does your classroom matter? It’s not just about finding a career in the arts. Some of these kids are infused with trauma when they walk into the building, from police brutality to bullying to poverty. There is trauma in their life and they have been exposed to it since they were little. And if I can give them an outlet where they can just come into my room and just relax for an hour, just get some peace from the world, that is valuable to me.

What is your favorite thing to teach? I’ll tell you which one I don’t like to teach. Perspective. It’s the hardest thing to teach, because people get lost in all the guidelines and they just have to understand that they are guidelines.

Why teach at Franklin Middle School? I don’t want to be anywhere else. I want to be here, because it’s in my neighborhood. I’m a Northsider. It’s really important to me that Northside kids get what other schools get that they haven’t gotten here in a long time. I think North Minneapolis is undervalued, underappreciated, disenfranchised, labeled, and I think our kids are too. We had a conversation about this today in the classroom. I asked my students, “How do people react when you tell them you live on the Northside?” A lot of them had really negative responses, and I was like, “well is that true?” and of course they all say “no.” And I tell them, that is exactly why I have such high expectations for them, because they need to be representing 110% on their best game all the time, because however they interact with you in the classroom is what they are going to tell the rest of the world when they leave the room. And even if they are just being normal kids, they are still going to be labeled. Is it fair? No. But unfortunately it’s the situation we are in.
GRADUATION
Kansas State University
Nicole Bauknight
Minnesota State University - Mankato
Fernata Amara
Nancy Guar
Miranda Hanson
Odalde Oridota
Joseph Siewro
Valerion Bradley
Eamon Brodek
Frank Furwi
Karlona Gregory
Jamie Hedlin
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Naomi Molloy
Samantha Robinson
Jessica Staples
Maly Xiong

ATHLETICS
Graceland University Men’s Basketball National Championship team
Jordan Dembley

HONORS LIST
Bates College
Quinn Kiernan
Iowa Lakes Community College
Ratana Kleis

RESOURCES
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Abdi Salah, Phi Kappa Phi

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT
6/2 & 6/3 – Homewood Studios will present the student work of Meiko Yamazaki. Yamazaki’s Japanese calligraphy will show at a gallery opening on 6/2 and a public reception on 6/3. Both events will occur from 1pm – 3pm at Homewood Studios (2400 Plymouth Ave).

6/2 – Juneteenth Story Stroll. 10am - 4pm. Stroll and read “Juneteenth for Mazie” along the trail outside the library. Come inside to borrow books about Juneteenth and to participate in a writing activity about freedom. Held at the Webber Park Library (4400 Humboldt Ave)

6/3 – 9/16 – Local preservation group Preserve Minneapolis will be hosting a Prince-related history walking tour this summer in North Minneapolis. Tickets are $10 and pre-registration is required. For more information, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/princes-side-of-the-street-north-minneapolis-landmarks-walking-tours-tickets-45411267323

6/6 – 6/23 – Homewood Studios presents the new work (photography and paintings) of Dan Tran. The opening reception will be 6/8 at 5pm and the gallery talk will be 6/16 from 2pm – 3:30pm. Both will be held at Homewood Studios (2400 Plymouth Ave).

6/9 – Brotini Comedy Magic Show. 2pm - 3pm. Magician Grayyn Morris will raise spirits and test kids’ powers of concentration as he manipulates ropes, scarves, balls, and other magician’s props in a perplexing “now you see it, now you don’t” performance! Held at the Webber Park Library (4400 Humboldt Ave)

6/11 – Beyond Category: The Music of Duke Ellington. 1pm - 2pm A master of American jazz composition, Duke Ellington broadened the sound of jazz music through his leadership of swing bands, musical composition, and promotion of individual jazz artists. Join MacPhail Teaching Artist Andrea Leap in this music appreciation seminar as we learn about the sounds of jazz and how they were transformed by this Pulitzer Prize winning composer. Collaborator: MacPhail Center for Music. Funded by Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Held at the Webber Park Library (4400 Humboldt Ave)

6/16 – Webber Natural Swimming Pool will open this summer. Currently the water is undergoing an additional 30 days of circulation through the pool’s regeneration basin, where thousands of aquatic plants act as a filtering system.

6/20 – Youth Benefit Garage Sale. 9am - 5pm. Call 612-529-7726 or stop by St. Olaf Lutheran Church (2901 Emerson Ave N) for more details.

6/29 – The North Minneapolis Children’s Day Block Party will take place from 11am - 4pm between the Webber Park Library and North Market with some activities at Webber Park itself. Activities will include musical performances by Hopewell groups, games and crafts, light refreshments, and a neighbor-

EDUCATION
Teen Tech workshop is held every other Thursday. North Regional Library, 5pm - 7pm. Get creative and make music, videos, animation, and other projects using high- and low-tech tools, everything from iPads and 3D printers to synthesizers and sewing machines. More information at http://www.hclib.org/about/locations/north-regional.

MN Comeback and Great MN Schools – sister organizations building a community of great schools – have launched Minnesota School Finder. This resource for parents provide objective, relevant information on schools across Minneapolis so parents can find schools that are the best fit for their kids.
The YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities presented Naimah Muhammad, Diego Vasquez, and Anisa Ali with Youth Thrive awards that recognize their impact on the community while demonstrating a commitment to the Y’s core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. The 39 2018 Youth Thrive honorees from across the metro area strengthen the Twin Cities as volunteers, peer leaders and Y team members. This year’s award winners all demonstrated they play a role in the change they want to see in the world.

The board for Hennepin County’s Housing and Redevelopment Authority has approved $2.2 million in funding for seven transit-oriented development (TOD) projects. Projects include a mix of infrastructure, housing, retail, and services — all located within walking distance of transit. These projects will create 1,045 housing units, more than 52,000 square feet of commercial space and 97 jobs. Among the many benefits of TOD, the program helps reduce disparities through greater mobility and access to places to live, work, and play; decreased household spending on transportation; increased walkability for a healthier lifestyle; and diminished pollution and environmental destruction.

June is National Healthy Homes Month. National Healthy Homes Month reminds people to check their homes for potential health hazards and make their homes the healthiest possible for their families. Minneapolis offers resources to help Minneapolis residents take action on making their homes healthier. The City of Minneapolis offers: free soil testing for lead and free testing for children under 6 for lead exposure. Find information at http://minneapolismn.gov/health/homes/lead/ soil-testing or call 612-673-2710. CenterPoint Energy would like to remind the public of the following important natural gas safety tips when there is severe weather. Following a severe storm, be alert for leaking natural gas. If you smell, hear or see a natural gas leak, leave the area immediately on foot and tell others to do the same. 1) Do not drive into or near a natural gas leak or vapor cloud. 2) Once safely away from the area, call the CenterPoint Energy emergency natural gas leak hotline at 1-800-296-9815 and 911 to report the location and description of the leak and CenterPoint Energy will send a trained service technician immediately. If the pipeline operator is not known, call 911. 3) If natural gas is leaking, do not turn the lights on or off, smoke, strike a match, use a cell phone, drive a car or operate anything that might cause a spark including a flashlight or generator. 4) Do not attempt to turn any natural gas valves. Improper operation of valves could make the situation worse.

A draft of the City’s comprehensive plan is now public and for review. The online plan, called Minneapolis 2040, is a draft framework of interdependent policies, topics, actions steps and maps intended to drive a citywide conversation about how Minneapolis will grow and change over the next two decades so all residents benefit. Comments will be collected at public meetings as well as online through 7/22/18. That feedback will be taken into consideration as City staff revise the plan for City Council consideration. Comments can be made at minneapolis2040.com or shared on Twitter: #Mpls2040.

The City of Minneapolis will add to its home visiting nurse program for pregnant women and infants; later this year, it will also reach out to the fathers with services such as connections to education and job training, employment skills, mental health and parenting skills. The program provides home nurse visits for families at high risk for premature births, low birth weight, infant mortality, child maltreatment, childhood injury, and maternal low education and income and high unemployment. The City will partner with the Minnesota Visiting Nurses Association (MVNA) and the Goodwill-Easter Seals FATHER Project to deliver home nurse visiting services and fatherhood advocacy work.

Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey and Council Members Jeremiah Ellison and Philippe Cunningham are urging the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to step up enforcement of pollution standards in the area surrounding Northern Metals Recycling in North Minneapolis. The letter from the lawmakers follows reports that the levels of air pollution – including the dangerous airborne particulates (PM10) – near the shredder are again exceeding the federal standard. If particulate levels continue to exceed the federal standards, MPCA is allowed to take additional enforcement action prior to the company’s 2019 relocation.

The City of Minneapolis can help renters who want smoke-free housing, and it can help property owners make their buildings smoke-free. For immediate rental housing help, renters and property owners and managers can call 311 or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/smoke-free. The City Council has approved the creation of a new division in the City Coordinator’s Office to help drive the City’s work to reduce and eliminate racial inequities throughout City government. The Division of Race and Equity will include staff of the City’s equity team who will engage with City departments to set goals and expectations around race equity, assist in accelerating the City’s efforts and progress around racial equity goals and create accountability.

Minneapolis has joined a statewide program to help reduce homelessness among veterans. Since the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs launched the Minnesota Homeless Veteran Registry in 2014, it has housed 1,218 homeless veterans – 613 in Hennepin County. Minneapolis’ and Hennepin County have the highest concentration of homeless veterans in the state. Anyone who served in the U.S. armed forces, Army Reserve or National Guard can join the registry regardless of the type of discharge. Homeless veterans or their representatives are encouraged to call 1-888-LinkVet (1-888-546-5838) or complete the application online at the website for the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs Homeless Veteran Registry.

The City’s Municipal Minimum Wage Ordinance took effect 1/1/2018. There will be a tiered phase-in period for small and large businesses. Large businesses that employ more than 100 workers will be required to pay employees a minimum of $10 an hour beginning 1/1/2018. Small businesses with 100 or fewer employees will be required to pay workers at least $10.25 beginning 7/1/2018. Large businesses have until 7/1/2022 to reach a minimum wage of $15 an hour and small businesses have until 7/1/2024 to reach $15 an hour.

Through its 311 service, the City of Minneapolis has opened a new hotline for reporting hate crimes. Which are harassing behaviors motivated by prejudice. The hotline number is 311 for anyone calling from within the city of 612-673-3000 statewide. The 311 hotline will be answered 7am-7pm weekdays and 8am - 4:30pm weekends. Those with a report to make can also call the Department of Justice at 612-664-5600. As always, in the case of immediate physical violence, property damage, or threats, people should call 911.

For planting season, the City of Minneapolis urges all Minneapolis gardeners, landscapers and farmers to protect pollinators. That means avoiding pesticides that poison bees, butterflies and other pollinators: avoiding applying pesticides and avoiding buying plants that were already treated. Protecting pollinators also means landscaping or gardening with the kinds of plants that nourish pollinators. Find more resources and more information about how to protect pollinators here: www.minneapolismn.gov/environment/bees.

The Minneapolis City Council and Mayor Jacob Frey have set goals for Minneapolis to move to 100 percent renewable electricity: for municipal facilities and operations by 2022 and citywide by 2030. These goals serve as a strategy to meet the City’s aggressive greenhouse gas emission reduction and climate change goals by moving away from fossil fuels. The City of Minneapolis is committed to ensuring that all residents and businesses, no matter their race, income, wealth or credit history, can access and benefit from renewable energy and energy efficiency. Find more information about Minneapolis’ action on climate change in the resolution and the City website.

Following Minneapolis fire laws will help keep our neighborhoods safe and livable; outdoor fires are permitted 9am-10pm, fires must be less than three feet in diameter and two feet high, and a fire must be completely out before being abandoned. Illegal open burning or recreational fires could result in fines that start at $200. For more information on recreational fires or to register a complaint about a recreational fire, call 311 or email Minneapolis 311@minneapolismn.gov, or to register a complaint about a recreational fire outside 311 hours, call 911. The Fire and Police departments are authorized to extinguish a fire immediately if it is hazardous.

The City Council has authorized the City Attorney to initiate a lawsuit against manufacturers and distributors of opioids. The proposed litigation will seek to recover monetary damages incurred by the City in responding to the opioid crisis in Minneapolis and injunctive and other relief. The City of Minneapolis joins a number of states, counties and cities across the country that have filed similar lawsuits against drug makers to help recoup costs associated with fighting the opioid epidemic.

The Minneapolis City Council has passed an ordinance prohibiting discrimination against Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher holders. Under the ordinance, landlords will only be obligated to consider to renting to voucher holders. That means a landlord cannot refuse to rent, impose unique standards, or otherwise treat HCV holders differently from tenants without vouchers. Landlords retain their ability to screen the voucher holders like other tenants using legal criteria.

The Minneapolis City Business Portal is a new online platform designed to connect entrepreneurs and small business owners to the information and resources needed to plan, launch and grow a business. The online portal, available at business.minneapolismn.gov, is updated on a regular basis.

6/16 – The NEON Thinking About Business Workshop designed for pre-venture entrepreneurs who consider going into business for the first time. Connect with an expert business advisor who will educate you on the many facets of business ownership. While you’re here, learn how to design a business model as you transition to starting a business of your own. 9am - 1pm at 1007 W Broadway Ave. Free. More details at: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/thinking-about-business-workshop-tickets-57817470765

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Shayze Tanjealix Alexander
Tajae Unique Allen
Freddy Alonso
Jocelyne Alvarez-Maldonado
Jordan James Anderson
Nathaly Johanna Ayavaca
Barreto
Serena Tomore Bady
Ti’anna Marie Baker
Catherine Camery Monay Leno
Baermon
Camille Alexandra Becker
Jacques Novak Coleman Beech
Munira Berhe
Nathan Blaine Bernhardt
Misakara Borner
Eliana Rebecca Branch
Donessa Anita Brown
Errion Brown
Howard Antonio Burton
Chah Cha
Chue Tong Chang
Nou Choung
Pa Ying Chang
Brittany Sakira Chiankhamphet
Keaton Emmon Clarke
Frances Lynn Louise Cloutier
Thalia Evans
Andrew Marie Davis
Jesse Allin Downing
Colin Easley
Edwin Efrain Espinoza
Erin Estrada Popoca
Thalia Evans
Bianca Eden Rose Fillman
Nautica Gennette Finch
Irwin Flores
Davion Alvis Ford
Ashlee Nicole Freeman
Dajone Laria Freeman
Guadalupe Garcia Marin
Brynda Garner
Jada Catherine Tamia Joie
Gibbs-Lemma
Jervonne Gibson
Mariah Marie Givens
Monica Lashay Givens
Lashonta Godfrey
Shantelle Jane Gofan
Xavier Michael Goodman
Rayshawn Allen Gravdal
Kaytron Devon Gray
Daeton Allen Green
Marciano Juwan Guyton
Ajoyia Ja'frya Hand
Divya Rennea Hardin

Je'mareya Marjaneae Harmon
Cynthia Princess Harmon-Robinson
De'Monice Taisean Harris
Fariyous Hassan
Ismahan Mohamed Hassan
Shantasia Shontrell Haynes
Jet Z. Her
Daniela Hernandez Hernandez
Eunice Hines
Bennett Hinton
Brandon Maurice Hood
Maurice R. Hughes
Erreon Tenise Moenay Deloise
Hurrd
Angel Lee Iguanoven Hernandez
Olivia Anastasia Insinsingmay
K’onte Orby
Akrum Abdil Issaak
Davion Marquise Johnson
Devon Antione Johnson
Ronald Lee Johnson
Kenneth Pao Her Kelvington
Roghnot
Chou Neng Khang
Phung Khang
Kyle James Kleven
Kailyn Ann Kolodjiski
Carolina Brenda Kue
Justin Hu Kue
William Douglas Laabs
Lisa Lim Tiasao Lao
Persia Reann Larkin
Cadren Mouachie Lee
Cynthia Panonghlee Lee
Gaocha La Lee
Jason Daenoo Lee
Keng Lee
Nylitc Muachi Lee
Pahpuoa Lee
Rocky Lee
Tacierrey Romelo Lee
Vang Cha Lee
Kou Andy Lo
Jacqueline Lopez Lopez
Chieg F. Lor
Pada Lor
Vaun Morgan Macia-Lee
Naidelyn Selene Marquez
Castrejon
Malik Rayshun Martin
Tatyonna Shrese Martin
Jarmell Raymond Mayweather
Shawntia McCanery
Savannah Joy McCullough
Deshaun Omar Mcgee
Lacia Olivia McGee-Shinnick
Kariyah McKinney
Cardell Tajuan Alonzo McKizzie
Blair Marie McLaughlin
Josha Mendez
Njel J. Meux
Armonie Montreal Miller
Semao D. Moore
Nicole Lexus Morales
Ebelin Guadalupe Morales
Benites
Gaochia Moua
Kou Moua
Vithaya Moua
Xzoria Nicole Mukes

Shadzia Aidarus Munye
Theodore Rex Neils
Kayara Neville
Kathy Nguyen
Grace S. Nurnberger
Duron Parent
Heze’k’yah Ann’marie Parker
Rak’enyra Parker
Cheyanne M. Patrick
Shamar Payton
Valeria Perez Trujillo
Zyana Teneale Perkins-Goode
Max William Aalid Rainville
Viviana Ramirez-Santana
A’marea Randle
Demetrieus Lee Ratterl
Kimberly Recarte Santos
Jasmine T. Richardson
Heavenly Dajeanas Rodgers
Estefany Elizabeth Rodriguez
Moreira
Cesea Rubin
Anthony Michale Rudolph
Brandon Curtis-James Selmon
Isiah Simma
Syria Shaniee Sims
Christopher Gene Sparkman
Alisa Alex St. Jean
Josiah Sutton
Damarcio Swinney
Marcus Twain Ya’Thads-Turner
Bill Sourya Thammavongska
Moa Thao
Nou Ciree Thao
Suab Thao
Tou Yeu Keng Thao
Tou Thao
Levedeun Ledrew Turner
Robert ER Turner
Alexander Moua Chie Bustamante
Bao Vang
Bobi Vang
Cheng Yong Vang
Chimeng Vang
Christina Doua Chee Vang
Davee Vang
Geno Justin Vang
Jenna Patao Vang
Jet Li Vang
Keau Chuey Vang
Lee Vang
Lucky Paathowg Vang
Mai Tong Vang
Michael Yong Vang
Michelle Vang
Mindg Vang
Nou Chee Vang
Pao Vang
Shawn Vang
Tong Vang
Christopher Vara Barreto
Pedro V. Cantero
Jacob Andrew Voight
Daniel Vue
Maiyer Vue
Noah Lee Vue
Sia Vue
Xai Vue
Louie Wang
Shaviece Kaprice Watkins

Elekus M. Wilson
Quintin A. Wilson
Betty Xiong
Blong Xiong
Candis K. Xiong
Choua Xiong
Christiana Elie Xiong
Chue Yee Xiong
Kenji Coupid Xiong
Lucy P. Xiong
Mai Bao Xiong
Pa La Ixong
Pahoua Xiong
Viang Xiong
Ahna Precious Yang
Chaling Yang
Chang Yang
Diana C. Yang
Kong Xiong
Lisa Cua Yang
Mai Huu Xiong
Meng Yang
Peter Ger Yang
Sorena Yang
Tia Yang
Toi Lee Yang
Sophie Zahiran
Alexander James Peter Zuehlke

Minnesota Internship Center

Abidashakur Abdi
Di’andre Mcgee
Justin Miller
Kevin Paredes
Maris Peters
Rayal Robertson
Rayshawn Stanley
Andrew Young
Creativity Allah
Maurisha Bivings
Terria Blackman
Ch’Amarla’Marie Barreto
My’Kita Bowden
Cauris Burgos
Reyanna Bursey
Michael Butler
Ronelle Caldwell
Darius Collins
Deshnaw Culver
Rami Farrow
Penelope George
Tynisha Ivy
Johnny Mobley
Iftisan Mohamed
Ayan Mohamud
Shani Mohamud
Delajuanie Moore
LaDarius Moran
Chantisci Myles
Nimo Osman
Miguel Pinney Valtierra
Shawnice Price
Tseemntshiab Thao
Dominique Tucker
Periciana Turner

Darrell Walker
Imani Warmsley
Heaven Williams

North Community High School

Asha Aideed
Clairissa Arnold
Aiyanna Avent
Serena Ballard
Kaylinn Barnes
Cyrus Beck
Martrreece Bell
Kaireon Bellfield
Clarence Benford
Jakilah Bridges
Damon Brown
Annastasia Bryant-Hopkins
Timaria Callender
Kayana Childs
Brittany Childs
O’Shey Cole
James Combs
Danisha Crockett
Omarrie Cross-Henderson
Demonta Davis
Niyana Davis
Sherod Dillard
Breah Dillon
Samuel Dolopaui
Marshun Downey
Drake Eichhoff
Dev’ion Ewing
Destiny Fennell
De’Khyshia Ford
Jeremiah Green
Precious Greer
Mattyao Goodman
Taliyanna Gross
Jonathan Gutierrez-Oliver
Althea Hadley
Azha’e’la Hanson
Deja Hatcher
Davonte Haynes
Alexes Hefflin
Ideaasha Hill
Da’koi Hines
Lacajia Hines
Devonte Jackson
Stephen Jackson
Shaniya Jackson-Haynes
Carter Johnson
Christopher Johnson
Sa’Niah Johnson
Taylor Johnson
Tiara Johnson
Brandi Jones
Capri Jones
Zadir King
Tzakeyia Lee
Eefeng Lee
Mali Lewis
Laurny Lumpkins
Carlon Manning
Azjaya Martin
Khadjah Masud
Tipassion Osborne
China Osby

Deandre Perkins
Austin Poley
Lauren Porter
Ashley Powell
Corleone Powell-Smith
Steven Rawls
D’Angelo Raymond
Jordan Reed
T’Nia Riley
Zion Sanford
Phaizon Scott
Ebony Singleton
Antonio Smith
Jaz’sminia Smith
Daploni Spates
Charmion Strickling
Bryana Thomas-Butler
Marshafani Tyler
Samira Tyler
Gianna Villarreal-Griffin
Jevon Walker
Xavian Walker
Jarriya Warren
Mikel Williams
Ricquel Williams
Oddell Wilson
Monique Wooten
Manie Yang

Plymouth Christian Youth Center Arts & Tech High School

Kalynn Barnes
Jakilah Bridges
Rikylale Buckley
Nasir Bussey
Timaria Callender
Ullises Castro-Espirito
Brittany Childs
Diamond Childs
Diamond Davis
Sherod Dillard
Ya Kai’ana Donald
Marshun Downey
Keyonsha Gibson
Al Harper
Anavia Hodges
Erreon Hurd
Brandi Jones
Shaquece Lucas
Linda Maciel Tirado
Salma Nur
China Osby
La’Tavius Reeves-Crittenden
Ezzi Stevens
Dahmond Thigne
Genou Vang
Ja’Karrie Washington
Shaviece Watkins
Larry Webb
Mikel Williams
What’s next in their lives?

Tayler Johnson
“I’m going to the University of Northern Iowa to play football. I took a visit and loved the feeling while I was there. I am probably going to major in sports management or journalism.”

Phaizon Scott
“I’m going to Mesabi Range to play football. I chose Mesabi because I want to be something and make my family proud. I will major in business management.”

Serena Ballard
“I’m going to Barry University. I’m working to get money and getting ready for college. I chose that because that’s the best option for me. I’m majoring in social work.”

Odell Wilson IV
“I’m going to North Dakota State University to play basketball. I chose that because the campus was amazing and I felt welcomed. I’m majoring in business.”

Ricquel Williams
“I’m going to Mississippi Valley State. I chose that because I would like to go that extra mile and be the first in my family to go. I’m majoring in education or business.”

Steven Rawls
“I’m going to North Dakota State College of Science. I chose that so I won’t sit around being bored and have a career to look back on. I’m majoring in computer technology.”

Takyezia Lee
“I’m going to Prairie View A&M University [for] psychology. I chose it because it is one of the number one HBCUs for psychology, and Texas is a bomb state.”

Lauren Porter
“I’m going to Bethune-Cookman. I chose that because I think I would have fun and be more successful. I’m majoring in nursing.”

Bryana Thomas Butler
“I’m going to Silver Lake College. I chose that because I’m basically going for a full ride they support me really well. I’m majoring in arts and education.”

Zadir King
“I am going to St. Cloud State. I chose that because I love music and want to learn about it everyday. I’m majoring in new music technology.”

Davonte Haynes
“I am going to North Dakota State College of Science to play football. I chose that because I feel like a juco would help me with my football skills. I’m majoring in graphic design.”

Monique Wooten
“I am going to North Dakota State College of Science to play basketball. I chose that because I went on the campus multiple times and I saw their boys and girls play basketball. I’m majoring in health under liberal arts which will eventually be sports management.”

Hard working, successful and motivated Northside seniors are going to different colleges to study new subjects and play sports. North High reporters Monique Wooten and Gianna Villarreal-Griffin asked seniors about their plans for after graduation. Here’s what they heard.
You've had a very successful high school career. What has kept you motivated to succeed? I don't like letting people down. My mom has super high expectations of me for my education. So do my grandma and my uncles. I know I can do it, and I don't want to let myself down either.

Why have you decided to go to Xavier University in New Orleans for college? It's an HBCU. I didn't want to stay in MN. I wanted to get away from the weather. I needed a change for my life – an escape. I just want something new and different. I don't know what it's like to be down South; I think going down there will be nice as a black woman. New Orleans is a very historical place and I'm kind of a history junkie. Move in day at Xavier is Aug. 11. I wish it was tomorrow.

Tell us some fun facts about you. I have six siblings, and I live with my mom. I've been all over the country, most recently D.C for the protest. I left the country twice last year: Paris, France with Project Success and Ecuador for volunteer work. This June, I'll be going to New York to visit Wall Street. My hair is natural, and I only shop at thrift stores. I am learning guitar.

Tell us about a high school accomplishment you are particularly proud of. Being on the A Honor roll since I was a freshman and being a student athlete. I've been playing volleyball since I was in eighth grade. I missed Xavier's tryouts. I might do a walk on if they let me. I'm not, I'll try to be a manager. I think in high school you can get lost in drama and cliques and crowds. Being myself allows me to be friendly with everyone. I'm proud of staying true to myself in order to find myself.

What has challenged you the most in high school? Sometimes I procrastinate. Sometimes I let my own brain get in the way of how I function. I just got a planner – I think that'll help me be more organized in college. I have had a couple of life setbacks outside of school. Pushing through that has been kind of difficult.

What advice do you have for next year's class of incoming freshman at North? High school is what you make it. If you go in telling yourself it'll be difficult, it will be. It's all about your approach. If you try to be like everyone else, you'll fail. People pay attention to your individuality. I think kids can get lost in just getting good grades to go to college. You need to be able to have a mind outside of that. People need to think about life situations and different aspects of that too. Don't kill yourself over school. It's ok to fail. It's a lot easier to get into college than you think. Kids put so much pressure on themselves.

Who do you look up to? I've been struggling with that my whole life. My mom is a big role model, but she's always told me that I can be better than her. I take a piece of everyone I meet with me and use different aspects of them as motivation of who I want to become.

What are your professional goals? I don't know. I'm hoping to get more established in photography. I was thinking about double majoring in college – in mass communications and business. I want a business foundation in case media doesn't work out. I want to have a side hustle of photography in college. I want to provide photography for people who can't necessarily afford it. You don't see a lot of diversity in stock images. Photography isn’t accessible to people without a lot of money. I want to take on the responsibility of providing that.

Describe your dream media project. I love visual arts with messages behind them. I just watched Childish Gambino's video – the perspective of the camera is insane. I would love to work with someone that brilliant who can convey a message without actually saying it. That's my goal with photography. I want people to get my message without being directly told the message.

What message do you want to get across? Beauty in general. Recently, I was supposed to take this girl's pictures, and she canceled because she found out I was over North. That was heartbreaking. It just sucks when you're the butt of the joke. I think people discredit the Northside's beautiful things because it's the Northside. We have a lot of success around here and people brush it off because we're here. I believe it's because we're a low income community of color. A lot of times people are like "you live on the Northside" and I say "Yes I do, but it's not terrible. Buildings aren't on fire like you think they are. We're just normal people." I've been working on a project about single mothers with my friend Damon. We're trying to change the narrative about teen mothers in North High School now. I'm still discovering what I want to say about that, but it's about love. I want people to be empathetic. It's so easy to be like "oh my god she’s pregnant" and tear her down. But they're moms with kids, and it sucks that people are so judgmental.

Where do you see yourself in ten years? I graduate in 2022. Then I might pursue a Master's. I'll probably just be trying to get a job. If I love Louisiana, which I'm probably going to, I might stay there for a few years. I've also always been drawn to Atlanta. I know a lot of people in Minnesota; maybe I'll be back there.
You’ve had a very successful high school career. What has kept you motivated to succeed? I guess just getting things done. My success has boiled down to planning, prioritizing, and proportioning. Those three things have allowed me to get everything done on time, not feel rushed or stressed about it. I break projects down into smaller things. Then I can get everything done, and I can get it done well. One of my goals is to be a Renaissance man, to learn as much as I can about anything I can.

Tell us some fun facts about you. I love mountain biking and just biking in general, especially at the Theodore Wirth Trails. It looked cool, so I got a mountain bike and started biking. I do a lot of winter biking as well. I run. Anything outdoors really. I play saxophone. I enjoy doing that.

Who supports you? My family. My grandparents especially. I get along with my grandparents really well. They were extremely helpful in helping to weigh out my future decisions, like college. I was debating going to the U of M or Dunwoody. I chose the U because I got a scholarship – pretty much a full ride.

Tell us about a high school accomplishment you are particularly proud of. Two come to mind. During my summer engineering internship, I was tasked to learn a new software that no other engineer had – Autodesk CFD. I taught it to myself and then I taught another engineer to use it. Then at the end of my internship on the last day I presented it to the office and corporate managers, trying to convince them to buy the program, and they eventually did. [The other is my] tenth grade personal project. It was unique project because you could literally do anything you wanted. I built a work table, essentially two different work tables that come together in an L form. I learned a lot from it about carpentry and video editing, because I recorded [the process]. I reorganized my room to make it fit. For the second portion of the project I attempted to make a pencil container out of bacteria Kombucha. Unfortunately, I made a physical substance, but I wasn’t able to form it into anything.

What has challenged you the most in high school? I came [to Henry] from Jefferson Community School in South Minneapolis when I was a freshman. Getting to know everyone here was somewhat of a challenge. Academically speaking, my hardest class was AP calculus AB, but the most challenging thing for me was Spanish because language doesn’t come as naturally to me as I want it to.

What advice do you have for next year’s class of incoming freshman? Grades, GPA, and ACT scores, are not the end of the world. One number does not define you at all. That has been a struggle for me at times. I didn’t do as well as I wanted to or anticipated doing on the ACT. There is more than one way to get to your goal. From my experience so far, intelligence does not define who you are. I think it really boils down to work ethic. This isn’t my advice, but I was at a Target scholarship event and the MC said: “you are a product of the people you place in your presence.” If you hang out with kids who don’t want to do anything with school or achieve their goals, you’re most likely going to do the same things. If you want to learn from others, if you want to progress in a subject, maybe spend more time with your teachers.

Who do you look up to? There are many people I look up to and admire. I rely on my grandmother the most. I’m comfortable talking to her about anything, especially when I have family problems. Sometimes it’s been rough at home – not awful, but just challenging. My grandmother has been influential. I’ve learned a lot from her.

What are your plans for this summer? I have an internship at Leo A Daly. It’s only part time. I hope to get another part time job to earn a little more money. I want to move in with my grandparents. There are a lot of things I want to build this summer, like a PC – I’ve been wanting to do that for a while. I’ll be doing the Rugged Maniac in September, a 5K obstacle course race. I have yet to figure out my schedule for it, but I hope to at least volunteer at least 30-50 hours a month as one of Jehovah’s Witnesses, telling others about the Bible.

What role does faith play in your life? It has defined much of who I am, my moral beliefs, my standing, and my personality. It’s been a very important part of shaping who I am today.

Where do you see yourself in ten years? I probably will be married but no kids. It would take a lot of convincing for me to have kids.

What has your experience been like at Henry? This is one of the only schools I know that has Engineering and IB. Coming to a school with an engineering program was nice to have. I’ve also learned a lot of life lessons here. Henry gave me the opportunity to go into jazz. Jazz was one of my very first experiences of seeing the product of hard work. [It also taught me] that it’s better to push yourself and hold on by a thread then fall back on something easy. The last one is to not make excuses. It’s better to try and fail than not try at all.
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