SUSTAINING SUCCESS

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The latest project to lift up Northside voices is a podcast produced out of Redeemer Center for Life: “Due North.”

Recent college graduates, Bex Klafter and Dylan Walker, who are serving at Redeemer through the Lutheran Volunteer Corps, have launched the show as a storytelling platform for influential and inspirational community members to tell their stories.

“We believe using long form interviews allows people to have their stories heard....our big goal is to let people speak for themselves,” said Walker.

Find the first two 30-minute episodes of Due North, featuring artist Joe Davis and community organizer Denetrick Powers, at duenorthpodcast.com. buzzsprout.com and everywhere podcasts are available, including iTunes and Spotify.

By Kenzie O’Keefe

A copy of Resmaa Menakem’s lauded book My Grandmother’s Hands has sat on my bookshelf since I bought it while working with the Trauma Troopers. Since the Pollen event, I’ve found myself making a nightly routine of returning to its pages. It has shown me, and continues to teach me, that our bodies are the vessels for our entire stories—our ancestral histories swirled up with our individual lifetime of experiences. White supremacy lives in our blood; we won’t be able to decolonize our stories and our society unless we decolonize our bodies.

“Don’t forget your nervous system,” urged Serita Collette, a yoga instructor, activist and panelist at Pollen’s Work Redux event. She said she likes to remind her clients of this. Later on, she urged the crowd to shift from thinking about “self-care” to “collective-care,” imploring us to recognize that

self-instigated relief (bubble baths, vacations, vegetable-based diets and yoga) will not be enough to make us healthy us if we continue living in systemically toxic environments. Humbly, I plan to spend the summer thinking more intentionally about my nervous system, how my own stories impact the way I work with others to tell their own, and to ask how we can create environments of collective care and resiliency in journalism.

On a different but just as important subject: we are at the end of another school year teaching our journalism classes at North and Patrick Henry High School. I’d be remiss if I didn’t send out a special congratulations to the high school seniors who have contributed substantially to North News during their high school careers: Myesha Powell, Talina Hill, Alanna Smith, Eddie Beamon, Pa Nhia Moua, and Blessing Kasongoma. We are a better publication and a better community because you’ve let your voices be heard and stories be known. Join us in celebrating all of the community’s graduating seniors (or at least all the names that we could get a hold of), listed on Page 21.

Until next month,
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The Hennepin County Child and Teen Checkups (C&T) program is free for children, teens, and young adults 20 and younger who are on Medical Assistance, including young parents.
North Minneapolis at a glance

Juxtaposition Arts and a New York graffiti crew bring a bold new mural to W Broadway Ave.

UROC hosts evictions exhibit and conversation

In Hennepin County, nearly half of eviction filings take place in two North Minneapolis zip codes despite containing just 8% of rental units in the city. Nationwide, single black mothers face the highest rate of evictions. On May 30 from 3:30-6:30pm, "The Illusion of Choice: evictions and profit in North Minneapolis," an art exhibit opening and research presentation, will take place at the University of Minnesota Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center (UROC) at 2001 Plymouth Ave. N. Led by Dr. Brittany Lewis of the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), and featuring the work of community artist Nikki McComb, and youth from Juxtaposition Arts, the event is intended to "answer the question of why and how evictions are taking place from the perspectives of tenants and landlords themselves," according to CURA's website.

Thor has folded

On April 28, the Star Tribune reported that Thor Construction, which built its multi-million dollar headquarters building on Penn and Plymouth Ave. N last year, is shutting down amidst financial ruin. Thor Founder Richard Copeland, who grew up in North Minneapolis, confirmed the Star Tribune's reporting to North News. "It's been difficult to hold it together and to try to be positive. There is a lot to be thankful for. There are a lot of positive things that have happened because of my efforts in the community. It's a lonely spot where I am. I can't wait for it to get behind me. I don't know how much one person is supposed to take," he said on April 29.

WBC searching for next leader

The West Broadway Coalition (WBC) has named former WBC Board member DeVon Nolan as its interim Executive Director. Nolan, who also worked as a WBC staff member for several years before leaving the organization and then its Board of Directors, takes over for John Bueche who was named Executive Director in April 2018. "I am really committed to North Minneapolis. I was born and raised here. I learned the power of business when I worked here and it really compelled me to say 'what trends are happening, and how do we make sure we're not left out?'" said Nolan.
Numbers count: North Minneapolis prepares for the 2020 census

By Cirien Saadeh Staff Reporter

In 2010, North Minneapolis lost nearly $1 million in funding and a city council seat because 7000 Northsiders were not counted in the census that year. That’s because each person counted in the census leads to approximately $1500 each year in funding from the State of Minnesota for a variety of initiatives, according to data from the Minnesota State Demographer’s office. From 2010-2020 that has added up to $850,000.

Monicá Hurtado, a North Minneapolis resident and organizer with Voices for Racial Justice, is concerned about inaccurate counting. "They are not real numbers. These people lived in North Minneapolis, but they were not counted,” she said.

With the 2020 census launching in less than a year, community organizations from North Minneapolis and beyond are organizing to make sure all voices are heard and counted in this next census. They want to make sure Northsiders understand the census, why they should be filling it out, and how to do so.

"Food access, access to health, access to clinics, poverty, education, all those things are driven by numbers, and the census is the way of getting an accurate count. And so, if everyone’s not counted, if a community is under-counted, then your community may not get the support or development that it needs,” said Anika Robbins, an organizer with Black Votes Matter (BVM).

This is echoed by Isabela Alesna, a community organizer with the Asian American Organizing Project (AAOP), based in North Minneapolis. “A full count in the census determines how many resources come to a community and how [that community] is also represented," said Alesna.

Alesna and Robbins are part of a 14-member co-creation table, alongside organizations like Voices for Racial Justice (VRJ), that have been organizing since late 2017 and early 2018. Their goal is to make sure that the census accurately counts every individual in North Minneapolis and in other historically "undercounted" communities across Minnesota. This is despite the fact that in 2010 Minnesota had the second highest turnout across the nation.

"Because Minnesota has been doing a great job around the census each time, Minnesota has less funding than the rest of the nation," said Hurtado. “Minnesota does pretty well in terms of turnout, but not when you go to Black and POC neighborhoods.”

That decreased turnout in communities of color and low-income communities can be due to fear or a lack of understanding about the census and what is used for. Undocumented communities, for example, may fear being detained if they complete the survey. Other immigrant communities, including Asian and Asian American immigrants, also have concerns that if they fill out the census, they might be setting themselves up for trouble.

“A lot of people fled from government persecution, and they don’t have a lot of trust in government institutions, and therefore don’t have a lot of trust in the census,” said Alesna.

The census count will begin in April 2020. Organizers with the co-creation table are still awaiting word on additional funding from the State Legislature in order to continue census engagement and training activities. For the first time ever, individuals will have the opportunity to complete the census online. You can also mail a census ballot or wait for a census-taker to knock on your door.

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Happy Pride Month, Neighbors!

As an out and proud trans man, I wanted to share with all of you some of the history behind the month of Pride, and share some incredible events happening right in our city celebrating this wonderful month. This year marks the 50 year anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, which took place at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, Manhattan, New York City in the early morning hours of June 28th, 1969 following a police raid. The legal system was even more repressive of LGBT people in the 1960s than present day. That by no means is to say that we have reached a point where it is acceptable—we still have plenty of work ahead—but more so to call attention to the incredible momentum the Stonewall Riots had in mobilizing the fight for LGBT+ rights. Stonewall Inn was one of only a handful of bars that served openly gay patrons, and the LGBT+ community of Greenwich Village quickly organized and used the momentum of the riots, a result of targeted policing, to gain community support for taking a stand and defending safe spaces and rights for the marginalized community.

June was originally chosen for the LGBTQ+ Pride month to commemorate the Stonewall Riots, which, as I mentioned earlier, happened at the end of the month. Despite the sadness of which the month of Pride has derived from, I feel the most incredible testament to the impact of our community is how Pride has grown to represent our impact, our resiliency, and our joy of living, despite marginalization. Cities across the US host events throughout the month of June to commemorate Pride.

Here in Minneapolis, we are lucky to have the Twin Cities Pride Festival, a free event that is hosted at Loring Park, which takes place this year on June 22-23. Twin Cities Pride hosts a month full of events both here, and in St. Paul with our favorite neighbors. Here are a few other events you may enjoy!

To name a few, there will be:
- a Pride Night at MN United FC on June 2nd, from 3-5 PM
- a Pride Night at the Lynx on June 14th, from 7-9 PM
- a Pride Family Fun Day at Como Park East Pavilions on June 16th, from 11 AM – 2 PM
- a Beer Dabbler at Twin Cities Pride at Loring Park on June 21st, from 5:30-9:30 PM
- a Beyond Pride at the Minnesota Science Museum on June 22nd

You can take a look at the Twin Cities Pride calendar on their website, https://tcpride.org/. There you can also buy tickets for events that require them, and find ways to get involved if you’d like!

Wishing everyone a happy and joy-filled Pride month!

Minneapolis City Council members Phillipe Cunningham (Ward 4) and Jeremiah Ellison (Ward 5) were inaugurated in January 2018. We have invited them to keep in touch with the community through this monthly column in our newspaper.
Under new leadership, McKinley neighborhood makes a comeback

By Kenzie O'Keefe Editor

For the past three years, McKinley Community (MC), the city-recognized neighborhood association for the McKinley neighborhood, has been quiet. A handful of beleaguered board members and fluctuating part-time staff and contractors have kept basic operations going since a former executive director was accused of embezzling MC’s funds in 2015.

But as pressure on the neighborhood mounts—from having one of the “hottest housing markets” in the Twin Cities (according to Zillow) to the dramatic changes the Upper Harbor Terminal Development will bring—to the lack of adequate programming for youth and seniors—a few devoted residents are trying to recenter MC as a genuine voice for the neighborhood’s people.

“We are undergoing a big transformation right now,” said new Executive Director Markella Smith who joined McKinley staff in late 2018 to help “straighten out” the organization’s paperwork and finances. “It started there and kind of grew,” she said.

Reflecting on her childhood growing up in the Victory neighborhood, Smith says she remembers a more “close-knit community.” She hopes to bring that back through her new role. As the parent of three boys, she says her motivation is to “show my kids something different and make some changes on the Northside that positively impact the people that are here,” she said.

On June 2, McKinley will host its annual board elections at the MC building from 5:30-7:30pm. They hope to fill seven board seats.

“All McKinley residents are encouraged to attend [and are] eligible to be on the Board,” said MC Board Chair Lane Cunningham, who has been in his position since last fall. Cunningham is married to Ward 4 City Council member Phillippe Cunningham.

With the new leadership in place, Smith hopes to collaboratively dream up new programming and purposes for their building at 3300 Lyndale Ave. N (which has been home to the soon-to-shutter Serendipity Spot Coffee Shop) and new ways to build community power, while exploring community members’ capacities to engage in organizational work. “There’s tons of creativity on the Northside,” she said.

When Serendipity Spot will permanently close and when MC will bring new programming in remains to be determined.

“I think it helps to see someone of my complexion and background actually doing the work and setting things into motion.”

Markella Smith, Executive Director for McKinley Community

“We’re one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the entire city. …It’s a gift and it’s something that hasn’t been harnessed in a way that’s beneficial or resourceful,” he added.

Smith says people are surprised but comforted to see her knocking on their doors. “I think it helps to see someone of my complexion and background actually doing the work and setting things into motion,” she said.

As she leans into her new leadership role, she says she is “taking a lot of notes from Victory, Folwell, and Cleveland” neighborhood organizations. “They’re amazing. They took me under their wings… I’m truly able to call on them,” she said.

Cunningham is confident MC can overcome the struggles of recent years. “In the past, the organization was taken advantage of by a criminal. The organization and the community’s trust were taken advantage of through the actions of a previous administrative staff. This led to a period of hardship for the organization—financially and in terms of morale. Since then the organization has struggled to regain its sense of identity. Now we’re doing it,” he said.

Smith agrees: “We come from a good place. There’s passion here. There’s really a need and a want to see good happen, not just in McKinley, but in North Minneapolis in general,” she said.
Controversial Neighborhoods 2020 framework passes council vote

By Kenzie O'Keefe Editor

A disputed framework intended to guide the future relationship between the City of Minneapolis and the 70 independent non-profit neighborhood associations that exist within it, passed the city council vote it needed on May 17 to move toward implementation. Both Northside city council members voted against approving it.

The vote came after a May 6 meeting of the City Council’s Public Health, Environment, Civil Rights, and Engagement (PECE) Committee, chaired by Ward 4 Council Member Phillipe Cunningham. At the meeting, the City’s Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department Director David Rubedor presented his office’s final framework recommendations.

According to Rubedor, the recommendations reflect “a significant change” in how the city will support neighborhood organizations during the next decade. The plan’s potential for decreased funding and new accountability measures around diversity, which are perceived to be hypocritical, were among the reasons several neighborhood association leaders and supporters from the Northside passionately disapproved of the framework.

Danielle Tietjen, Folwell Neighborhood Association (FNA) staff member and chair of the Northside Neighborhoods Council took to Facebook to express her concern on May 7: “The NCR framework never mentions Power. To me this highlights that Neighborhoods and NCR and the city are not having the same conversation. N’hoods are a highly local entity that allows residents to advocate for themselves. To generate and foster their own power. The city wants to over regulate N’hoods and use them as engagement tools. THIS IS NOT THE SAME.”

During the more than an hour of public comment period that followed Rubedor’s presentation on May 6, Tietjen and many others spoke out against the recommendations, imploring the committee to hold off on voting to approve the framework and asking NCR to go back to the drawing board in partnership with the University of Minnesota’s Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA).

Mysnikol Miller, former FNA board member, said, “What I know to be true is you cannot mandate compassion. You cannot mandate humane behavior. That has to come from the grassroots. There has to be a lot of intentional relationship building that happens so that those people can feel strong and supported. A lot of those people come with challenges that other people don’t have to deal with. It takes a lot of work to do this...I want us to take our time and do this right or not do it at all and keep doing what was working, because we’re finally to the point where we’re getting things to work,” she said.

C. Terrence Anderson of CURA also urged a more complex understanding of diversity goals: “Goals around diversity are absolutely important but we also have to recognize that they’re not the destination. One way to say it is: diversity shouldn’t mean ‘how do we get people who look different to do the same things that we’ve always done?’ But how do we bring people with different sets of experience, relationships, tensions and good work to bring fullness to the work that we’re doing?” he said.

Cunningham was steady in his opposition to approving the framework. “It focuses on holding bad actors accountable without clarity about how it will uplift and support high functioning neighborhood organizations. For example, it cuts 25% off the top of their funding automatically. Additionally, it lacks high level program goals and outcomes as well as a racial equity analysis. It is incredibly challenging to develop program guidelines without these foundational elements included in the framework,” he said on May 17.

Despite the Council vote not going in his favor, he promised community concerns would be addressed as the 2020 neighborhood work progresses. “This is not the end of the road. This framework will be tightened up,” he said.

Cunningham added: “It’s backwards to ask for marginalized communities like ours to have faith that we’re going to course correct, but I’m at the table and I’m going to do everything that I can to make sure that this is course corrected and that the concerns that are addressed by the well, high functioning neighborhoods in North Minneapolis, that your leadership is represented here in the framework as we move forward.”

MPS attracts community fervor with proposed re-design

By Cirien Saadeh Staff Reporter

Staff members with Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) recently presented a draft of the district’s Comprehensive District Design (CDD) to the MPS community for public comment. The 2019-2022 CDD will guide district decision-making for the next several years. Read the two-page version of the CDD at https://mpls.k12.mn.us/uploads/4_24_19_one-pager.pdf. The plan discusses student retention, program development, and district sustainability.

MPS parents reacted strongly to the proposed re-design, with some worrying that their children would be shuffled to other MPS schools or that a favored program would be cut.

“The proposals that have been put forth are and continue to be very unclear and we have many questions that continue to be unanswered. We will not achieve equity in our district if we continue to cut the most marginalized families and communities out of opportunities that we deserve,” said Stephanie Gasca, an MPS parent, during the May 14 MPS Board Meeting. Gasca has a daughter at Anwatin Middle School and a daughter at Emerson Spanish Immersion.

“We will not achieve equity by further segregating our schools which these proposals are doing.”

According to MPS Superintendent Ed Graff, during a May 14 presentation on elements of the CDD proposal, his top priority is improved academics for MPS students.

“For me, and for my time, [improved academics] is actually the most important component of the design proposal. Whether or not we move forward with change, we will find ways to invest in improving our academic design, so that all of our students have equitable access to high-quality instruction and academic career success,” said Graff. “Part of the goal of the district design is to ensure that all MPS graduates have a well-rounded education and are equipped with the academic, social-emotional, and technical to be successful in college and career.”

MPS Board member Kerryjo Felder, who represents North Minneapolis, has been concerned about the proposed plan. She worries it would push Northside students to non-Northside schools with possible shifts in academic and extracurricular programming across the district.

“We farm out 2,335 students to other Minneapolis public schools and that is not including the children who go to charter school, because we don’t have that information,” said Felder. “That is around $13 million, per year, that leaves North Minneapolis to go to other schools.

Hmong International Academy (HIA), for example, has lost over 500 students to other Minneapolis Public Schools, with only a handful of those students attending another Northside public school. Why HIA and other schools have lost so many students is unknown, but Felder believes it’s because of a lack of resource investment by the district in schools like HIA.

Public comment was taken throughout May and a final vote on the updated CDD will be taken in August once the MPS Board of Directors comes back from its summer recess. Learn more about the CDD at https://mpls.k12.mn.us/comprehensive_district_design_2.
The school board report
Our education reporter brings you the latest news from MPS

By Cirien Saadeh Staff Reporter

This is what’s up with Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) this month: Minnesota State legislators have passed a provision to make May 14 Hmong Lao Veteran’s Memorial Day. Superintendent Ed Graff took time during the May 14 Board meeting to discuss the proposed holiday, which has not been made official yet, and to the service of Hmong and Lao soldiers.

The district has presented a draft of its Comprehensive District Design (CDD). The CDD was drafted over the last 18-months and would be valid from the start of next year’s school year through 2022. The proposed plan has elicited many strong reactions. Read more on Page 7.

The district is continuing to discuss its budget for the next school year. The budget will be voted on in June and the first presentation of the proposed budget happened during the May 14 meeting. Next year’s budget is still being shaped as the district awaits word from the Minnesota State Legislature.

According to a recent announced from the Minnesota Department of Education, the overall MPS graduation rate in 2018 was 69% for students graduating in four years. The average seven-year graduation rate was 76%. MPS leaders also acknowledged that more work had to be done to increase graduation rates, both district wide and in different schools across the district.

Both North High and Patrick Henry High School will be holding their graduation on June 6. North High’s will be held on 1pm and the PHHS’s graduation will be at 4:30pm. Both will be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center (1301 2nd Ave S).

The next Board meeting will be held June 11 at 5:30pm. Committee of the Whole will be held June 25. Meetings will be held at the Davis Center (1250 W Broadway Ave.).

The blue Polars visit the purple palace

By Taylor Tidwell-Bennett North High

Minneapolis North Highs Arts Programs were invited by FAIR School Downtown to tour Paisley Park to witness Prince’s legendary home. FAIR Downtown got a hold of the tickets and happened to have extras, so they invited North High.

When you walk into Prince’s home in Chanhassen, you are going to feel eyes staring into your soul. You’ll look up and you’ll notice that a giant painting of Prince’s eyes are watching you, inviting you into his home. Prince is also telling you that he wants you to keep your phones away and enjoy the experience. When we walked in, the staff told us that we could keep our phones but we had to keep them in the locked pouches they provided because the experience is for you to live in the moment.

Proceeding through the entryway, you will notice steps that are closed off that lead you upstairs and plaques, golden records, and Grammys all over the multi-colored walls. When you make it to the open spaced living room, you will notice the doves that were just above the stairs that you noticed when you walked in. Prince had many rooms and even a diner style kitchen right off of the open space. The tour guide took us to many other rooms, including Prince’s recording studios, his office, and to places where you can see his special artifacts. Prince had a club in his home that gave off jazz movie vibes. It was gorgeous and very intimate.

“The Paisley Park experience for me was very interesting and was something that I never really thought would be in someone’s home. The club was something serious! I really liked the club it was dope,” said Jenelle Sanner-Robinson, one of the North High students on the tour and also a member of the North News journalism class.

North High students are so very thankful that FAIR shared the amazing experience with them and very thankful that Prince allowed us to be able to enjoy his royal palace.

Graduation

By Talina Hill North High

This year at North High’s graduation there will be no tickets because the venue is big enough for the entire Polar family. The location did change this year; graduation will be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center at 1301 2nd Street Ave S at 1:00pm on June 6.

There will be students from other schools graduating at the convention center on the same day, but the ceremonies will be spread out throughout the day. North High’s valedictorian this year is Miguel Rodriguez-Jimenez. Typically valedictorians give a speech at graduation. The valedictorian is the student with the highest rank and GPA at the school.

North High counselor Ms. Patience has advice for this year’s seniors: “Don’t be afraid to go after your dreams! Move away, try something new. Get out of your comfort zone. The world is so much bigger than North Minneapolis...go explore it!”

North High senior Greg Marshall says graduation is “coming way too fast, but I am ready for it!” He said he’s excited but “I might shed a few tears.”

Marshall said, “in the past people would bring lots of people to North and it’ll be to packed, so knowing that it’ll be at the Convention Center this year. I know it’s going to be big and live. Starting drumline was my best high school experience. I started it and the beginning it was during all football season, to basketball games, and just all around performing for school events and more even drum battles. North prepared me for high school, such as Black Culture class and College Possible, especially during my whole senior year. The difference between freshman me and senior me is freshman year I didn’t know what I wanted to do as far as college and what I wanted to do in high school as well, now it’s senior year. I started drumline and I want to go to an HBCU.”

A senior at North High School, Kenija Wallace is very nervous for after high school. “I wasn’t expecting high school to end this fast but I’m prepared, I’m going to Augsburg College. North did teach some social skills as far as life lessons. The scariest part to me would be that I have to actually grow up and start being independent. My best high school experience was when I joined the choir. I love that graduation will be at the Convention Center this year because I can bring my whole family, but if it was at North I could only bring eight people. Freshman me and senior me are two different people because I was slacking freshman year, but senior year I’m on top of everything, people know who I am, and I made a good name for myself.”

We strive for greatness!

By Jenelle Sanner-Robinson North High

How many times out of your high school career did you make the A or B honor roll? What did you do in order to make the honor roll at your school?

There are 435 students in North High. Third quarter of the 2018-2019 school year, 49 students made the A honor roll, 18 of those students were freshmen, 15 were sophomores, nine were juniors, and seven were seniors. 117 students made the B honor roll. More students made the B honor roll then the A.

Junior Taylor Tidewell-Bennett makes the A honor roll every quarter. “I make sure that I turn in all my work on time so that I don’t play catch up, because I figured out that the teachers aren’t on our time. We are on theirs.”

Another honor roll student, freshman Andrianna Bynum said “I stay on task and finish all my work, I also do extra credit work to help raise my grades which is how I made the B honor roll.”

Other students offered more tips to make the honor or in generally have good grades. A junior, Jasmine Jackson said “To concentrate, stay focused, and influence other people to follow you.” They say you should come to class on time, focus, engage in lessons, and have good time management.

Now that you have read this exciting story, maybe this will encourage you to make the honor roll for the last quarter of the school year!

Continued on Page 14
SUSTAINING SUCCESS

Making money and connecting with community
North Minneapolis business owners reflect on their success

By Cirien Saadeh Staff Reporter | Photos by David Pierini Contributor

North Minneapolis is home to dozens of successful businesses: from food vendors that win citywide awards to large companies that help build long-term infrastructure. These businesses pay their bills and profit; they’ve sustained their work for years, and many have expanded. This is despite a reputation that businesses in North Minneapolis cannot and do not succeed.
Top: Joanne Goddard runs her seasonal garden center, Goddard’s Gardens, out of the parking lot in front of the Goddess of Glass in Victory neighborhood. Bottom: Darryl Weivoda has owned North End Hardware for 18 years.

However, despite their many successes, North Minneapolis businesses do face unique challenges. Decades of systemic oppression—like redlining and unjust transit development—have ensured that people of color and indigenous communities, including North Minneapolis’ historic Black community, could not build wealth. Today, business owners say they struggle with bureaucracy and red tape, the stigma of being in North Minneapolis, and a consumer base with less disposable income than populations in other parts of the city.

Despite the struggles, Northside business are building partnerships, expanding their reach, and succeeding because of their unique knowledge and understanding of what the Northside consumer wants.

For example, Sammy’s Avenue Eatery, one of the community’s best known cafes, sells more than just breakfast sandwiches and coffee. In many ways, the Northside coffee shop, which was opened by Sammy Mcdowell seven years ago, sells a feeling.

“When I started, I wanted what it is now,” said Mcdowell. “I wanted a community space where everybody is themselves and where everybody could honestly be themselves regardless of their stature, where people feel part of a family, feel welcome, and where people find a gathering space for healing, for solace, and to communicate in a non-threatening environment. Where people can get awesome service and food. That feeling has actually carried us through thus far.” Mcdowell is currently in the process of opening up a second Sammy’s Avenue Eatery location.

Mcdowell has been intentional in his decision-making to pace the growth of his business, in order to ensure success, and to price his products in an accessible way. He’s done this without having had access to any loans, though the redevelopment of his W Broadway Ave. shop was funded by the Episcopal Church of Minnesota, who owns the building that the coffee shop is in.

“I want us to really challenge ourselves to serve at the highest quality. That’s tough as a small business. ...We don’t serve the cheapest product,” said Mcdowell.

Mcdowell has also been well known for the support he has shown other Northside businesses. According to Wendy’s House of SOUL owner Wendy Puckett, Mcdowell has even gone so far as to walk people to her restaurant, which is inside K’s Grocery down the street from his own shop. Puckett launched her own business a few years ago with a $300 gift that she received from her son.

“Owning my own business is amazing. Sometimes I get overwhelmed with being grateful. When I sit back to look at it, all the hard work has paid off for something that I am passionate about. The only regret I have is not starting earlier. I just want this to grow,” said Puckett.

Across the street from Sammy’s is Les Jolies Petites School of Dance, owned by Sharon Cook. The dance school is celebrating its 22nd anniversary on June 1 and June 2. Cook moved to Minnesota from Nebraska to attend school at the University of Minnesota in 1984. She says she spent time in North Minneapolis and quickly learned that the community did not have a real connection to or understanding of dance and, specifically, ballet and modern dance. Cook, a former dancer, launched her dance school and was donated the building she is currently in (next door to her original studio) ten years later by the building’s former owner.

“In the last 22 years, we have had between 1500-2000 students. 85 students are currently registered for dance classes,” said Cook.

WHAT IT TAKES TO SUCCEED

The Thirsty Whale, a bakery at 4149 Fremont Ave N, has had phenomenal success on the Northside. The business just celebrated the first anniversary of its brick and mortar store opening, but it has been around for several years, selling at farmers’ markets and baking in a shared kitchen.

“I would say that our success is coming from a lot of different places right now. When we started our bakery, we 100% worked for it,” said Megan Baker, who co-owns The Thirsty Whale with her husband. “We don’t put out anything that we would not be proud to give to our mom, basically. That’s kind our rule of thumb.”

The bakery has also had its fair share of struggle. “Being in the Northside and making this happen has definitely been a challenge. There were a lot of people, when we chose to have our storefront here, who said: ‘what the hell are you doing? No one is going to come,’” said Baker. Those people, alongside a ton of other people, were there opening weekend and are there every single day and it shows. I think it’s because people want to have cool stuff in the Northside and, in part, because we put out really awesome products.”

Joanne Goddard, owner of Goddard’s Gardens, a seasonally open garden shop that operates in the parking lot in front of the Goddess of Glass in Victory neighbor-
Do you consider your business successful?

Houston White  HWMR
“We are a successful business. We opened during the recession and we succeeded as a high-end and upwardly mobile business. We are sustainable; we are becoming a space where creatives want to meet. And, in the end, the numbers work.”

Joanne Goddard  Goddard’s Gardens
“There’s a lot of ways to measure success. It hasn’t been a complete monetary success. I’ve paid the bills, I’ve been able to live, I don’t have the money to invest in more business stuff yet. But it’s hard to get a business going.”

Darryl Weivoda  North End Hardware
“We’re not making a lot of money. We’re here to support the neighborhood and the community. I grew up here and know most of my customers as friends. And so, do I want to see the numbers that they see at a Home Depot or Menards? No. But, I want to be able to support my business and pay my employees and so on and so forth. And right now we can do that.”

Sammy Mcdowell  Avenue Eatery
“Being in a different location, we would be busier. I think there is a more established communities and because they are more established, they would support more. In North Minneapolis we are still figuring our thing out; we’re up-and-coming. We’re actually having to be the trust anchor, a lot of the time, for the Northside.”

Sharon Cook  Les Jolies Petites
“Yes, we are successful. I define success as, not just the dollars, though those matter too, but the main thing is seeing the lives of young people change because they found their passion.”

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“Yes, we are successful. I define success as, not just the dollars, though those matter too, but the main thing is seeing the lives of young people change because they found their passion.”

Continued on Page 12
has not traditionally worked out. “Many MEDA clients have expressed lost confidence in being certified at all due to lengthy paperwork requirements and processes. Many EOCs who are certified say that there is little to show for their efforts in terms of actual contracts from the City. This is particularly true of the non-construction and professional services City contracting,” said Cunningham in the same email to Korbel. “These are not new issues.”

According to Jeremiah Ellison, Ward 5 Councilmember for the City of Minneapolis, the City of Minneapolis has failed in its minority procurement contracting.

“I would say, and I know that this might be a little harsh, that procurement is historically and currently a space where the City has actively failed, when it comes to buying from diverse sellers and diverse businesses,” said Ellison.

Northside business owners say the city presents other barriers to success.

“The City makes it very challenging. Last year when we were under road construction we had seen a 30% hit in our business and, for anybody to take a 30% hit, that is more than what our profits were in a year,” said Darryl Weivoda, owner of North End Hardware. “The thing that I would request most is, leave me alone. I’ve been doing the business long enough. I know how to do the things that I need to do.”

Weivoda purchased North End Hardware 18 years ago, but he has worked for the business, which opened in 1929, for 42 years. “I grew up in the neighborhood. This was the hardware store I came to when I broke a window as a kid,” said Weivoda.

Puckett is also experiencing challenges, including some with city bureaucracy. “Finding the dollars. We don’t work out for loans, but we do reach out for grants. The challenge is access to capital, needing that, and then not having to go through 1,000 steps to get it,” said Puckett. “Somedays I wish I could clone myself. I get exhausted, but I’m not a quitter. I would really love to meet and shake hands with the people who trust me with their event. Another struggle right now is the space that we are in, we’ve outgrown it. I love the space, and we make it happen, but we’ve outgrown it.”

THE AREA’S IMPACT ON BUSINESSES

According to Puckett, it’s her love of North Minneapolis that has allowed her the success she has had.

“I live and breathe in the Northside. All my children went to school in the Northside. All my children went and graduated from North High. It’s important to me to be vested in the community. We don’t plan on leaving. And I believe my business is successful because of the love of North Minneapolis,” said Puckett.

Cook, who owns the dance studio on W Broadway, says that having a business in North Minneapolis provides both unique challenges and unique opportunities.

“On one hand, the majority of my students are African-American. On the other hand, 60% of my students do not come from North Minneapolis. But if I was in an affluent area, would they be as open to an African-American dance teacher? I would say it’s probably best for me to be right where I am, because I’m a role model for a lot of kids, I have a legacy, and an impact on children who see someone by themselves,” said Cook.

According to Houston White, owner of HWMR—a barber shop, coffee “place” in White’s words, and community gathering space—North Minneapolis is in many ways an up-and-coming neighborhood. He advises new businesses to know the neighborhood and their customer.

“I think my business could be successful anywhere, but the richness of its story would not be there. North Minneapolis’ uniqueness is important,” said White.

Megan Baker, co-owner of The Thirsty Whale, agrees. “Absolutely what it takes to own a business in the Northside is what it takes anywhere else. There’s nothing different here. If you can look past the media, because the media eats North Minneapolis, you’ll love it,” said Baker.

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Sunday, June 9, 1-3 p.m.
North Regional Library
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Minneapolis

Tuesday, June 18, 5-7 p.m.
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Minneapolis

One of the many ways to celebrate Juneteenth in the Twin Cities

www.hclib.org/events
**Educator spotlight** Nafeesah Muhammad

How did you get into teaching? I majored in psychology and minored in Afro-Studies while in college. That is when I gained a better understanding of how illiteracy perpetuates slavery and traumatic poverty. I also had a professor that lectured on how children of color who attend urban schools need teachers who are psychologists as well. So, I decided to become an English teacher with a psychology degree.

**What is your favorite memory as a teacher?** This is my fifth year teaching at North High School and every day, every month, every year brings so much joy and laughter. There are way too many beautiful memories to pick just one.

**What do you love about teaching at North High?** I moved to Minneapolis from California 8 years ago and feel completely welcomed by the community. I love that North Minneapolis feels like a small town within a big city. It has its own history and culture and continues to promote excellence among its community members.

**Do you have an educator that you look up to?** Yes! I look up to my former teacher peers Courtney Bell and Edairra McCalister. We taught at North High School together for three years and watching them teach was nothing short of amazing. They pushed students to be and do their best, by any means necessary. I watched them fight for social justice within and outside of the classroom, which I believe every teacher should do. Although they no longer teach here, they continue to carry North High School students in their teaching spirits.

**What make you passionate about this work?** Malcolm X once stated, “Because we are forced to live in the poorest sections of the city, we attend inferior schools. We have inferior teachers and we get an inferior education. The white power structure downtown makes certain that by the time our people do graduate, we won’t be equipped or qualified for anything but the dirtiest, heaviest, poor-paying jobs. Jobs that no one else wants.” He said this in 1963, and in 2019 it remains to be true. This fact makes me passionate about providing all young people with an adequate education, regardless of who they are or what neighborhood they come from. I try my best to make all students aware that the public school system was set up to fail them so that they know how powerful getting an education can be. They have to know that studying and thinking critically about the world they live in is a revolutionary act.

**What is your teaching style?** Culturally responsive, period. Whenever people ask me what subject I teach, I tell them I teach everything. I teach whatever it is my students need and/or want to know academically, historically, culturally, socially, and emotionally. I am a history teacher, an English teacher, a reading teacher, a psychology teacher, and a science teacher. I am motivational speaker teacher. I also try my best to set supportive high academic and behavior expectations. Young people need rules and boundaries, but they also need to be heard, loved and understood. So, I try to create a sense of balance within our classroom community.

**How does teaching affect your life at home?** Being a mother and a teacher is a gift and a curse. Since I was a mother before I was a teacher, my own children have taught me how to be considerate and compassionate toward the needs of young people. In this way, it has been a gift. It is curse because I must share my love with a hundred or more young people every day. Giving love takes time and energy, and there are times when I feel as if I have nothing left for my home. I, therefore, try to include my children in my teaching life as much as possible. When my son was really young he would call me “Ms. Muhammad” instead of mommy. I am very grateful for my children’s support and understanding.

North News launched this column to highlight the work of Northside educators doing innovative and socially just work in our North Minneapolis classrooms. If you have a recommendation for our upcoming spotlights, email ciriens@pillsburyunited.org. Please include contact information for the person you are recommending.
Can Elizabeth Warren keep all her promises?

By Timya Carlisle North High

Elizabeth Warren is running for President in 2020, and she wants to get rid of college debt and legalize marijuana.

Warren is an American politician and an academic currently serving as a United States Senator from Massachusetts since 2013. She was born on June 22, 1949 in Oklahoma City. She got her education at Rutgers Law School in 1976. Warren has made 21 political books. Warren’s first book The Law of Debtors and Creditors: Text, Cases, and Problems was published in 1986. It talks about bankruptcy and how to handle cases.

Warren’s plan to try and forgive student debt is a serious matter that has to be taken into good hands and bring higher education debt is a serious matter that has to be taken into good hands and bring higher education.

When it comes to college, a lot of students have to pay over $16,000 and up to stay in college. Students in college are struggling to pay their college costs because of how high the prices are and how much money they are going to have left after paying all that money. Warren has made big promises and some people don’t think she can make them all happen.

Sports create a path to college

By Zachary Yeager North High

Minneapolis North has had a high level of success with getting their students to college in the past. Especially student-athletes who are receiving athletic scholarships to further their education. Lots of players on the football and basketball teams are getting huge opportunities to go to college and play a sport. Some of the players are on partial scholarship and others are on full ride scholarships, getting everything paid for. The Polars had a solid football season this year and also very good basketball seasons from the boys’ and the girls’ teams.

I had the chance to interview the Polars’ star wide receiver and basketball player, Nasir El-Amin. When I asked El-Amin about his experience playing sports for North High, he said “Overall, it was a great experience and I got to play in a lot of big games because of it.” El-Amin has been to four state championship games: three in basketball and one in football. He and his teams have won three out of those four state championship games. El-Amin has not yet chosen where he will be attending college, but whoever he does choose, is getting a great two-sport athlete. Two other examples of student-athletes at Minneapolis North are Ar’mon Dalton and Kehyan Porter. They both committed to the University of Mary in Bismarck, ND. They will be able to not only continue their education at the next level but they will also be able to play the sport that they love in college: football. Another big time athlete at North is Eli Campbell, who hasn’t announced his college commitment for basketball yet. Minneapolis North has a lot of underclassmen coming through the program who look to be in the same position as these players when they become seniors.

The school’s athletic director Kale Severson plays a big part in helping these kids getting prepared for academics and athletics at the next level. He helps connect with coaches, make sure grades are right, and has all of the student athletes eligible for their sport. Another helping hand in these kids recruiting process is Head Football Coach Charles Adams. He meets with tons of coaches and puts in good words for his players. Larry McKenzie, head basketball coach for the Polars, has been getting North Minneapolis athletes to college since 2013. With all of these people helping these student-athletes getting to college there is a pretty good rate of success with these student-athletes.

Depression

By Amoaea Brown North High

Mental illness is a problem. These disorders affect your mood, thinking, and behavior. When people hear about someone being mentally ill, they usually think about things like Bipolar Disorder and Schizophrenia. Depression and anxiety are often swept under the rug because you’re still in your right mind, and they look like regular emotions intensified. When you suffer from things like depression and anxiety those are regular feelings that people face everyday. When it actually becomes a serious issue is when these feelings don’t seem to go away as easily and it starts to affect your everyday life, sometimes beyond your control. Most are still able to do what everyone else does, which causes it to be overlooked.

People often don’t take depression in particular seriously because “you can stop being sad.” Depression is curable but its not something that’ll happen overnight. Depending on how severe it is determines how long your treatment will take. A lot of people claim to have depression when in reality they are just sad temporarily, and that’s okay, but it’s so important to get checked and not to self-diagnose yourself. There’s a difference between a heartbreak after separation with a loved one and being sad for two months because of a chemical imbalance that makes it harder for you to be happy.

There are multiple forms of depressive disorders, and they’re all manageable. Depression is often rooted in some sort of pain in your life. To face the problem is your first step to fixing it. Untreated (even if it’s mild at first) depression will get worse and harder to live with everyday.
Loppet! Summer Adventure Camps are back at a new location — The Trailhead! Enroll and learn more at loppet.org/adventure-camps

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New homes being built on Russell Ave. N

Here in the community, it can be hard to find affordable housing. Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity (TCHH) is working to change that. The organization is currently building three new houses on Russell Ave N. The families that will live in them will only have to pay 30% of their monthly income for mortgage payments. Families work alongside volunteers to complete their homes. Photos and reporting by Myesha Powell

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To learn more, visit MSPtravelstudy.org or call 1-888-476-6157
TRI-Construction is making a lasting mark on North Minneapolis

By Cirien Saadeh Staff Reporter

TRI-Construction is everywhere in North Minneapolis. Even if you think you don’t know the Northside construction firm, you’ve likely stood inside a building they built.

The Northside construction firm was founded nearly two decades ago. They have had a hand in over a dozen projects in North Minneapolis, including Five Points, the Capri Theater’s lobby, the garden at Gethsemane Church, a few Devean George projects including the Commons at Penn (which is also home to NorthPoint’s food shelf), Avenue Eatery’s 2018 renovation, the Northside Cookie Cart building, the Episcopal Church’s headquarters at 1101 W Broadway Ave, Sanctuary Church, and Summit Academy. Outside the community, they have also notably had a hand in the construction of every single Minneapolis-St.Paul stadium, including the Target Center renovations and the St. Paul Saint’s new stadium.

TRI-Construction was founded by Lester Royal and Calvin Littlejohn. Both have a long history in the union construction trade, and they were once brothers-in-law. Littlejohn is a Northsider and Royal lives in Robbinsdale, though he got his union career started through the Minneapolis Urban League.

“There’s a reason why we chose North Minneapolis,” said Littlejohn. “Our passion is to grow a business right here in North Minneapolis. Business does not have to leave the community.”

TRI-Construction is more than just about construction; they are also all about community. The choice to headquarter in the 1200 W Broadway building above Breaking Bread Cafe was a “no brainer.”

“Neighborhood-based business has been the cornerstone of communities of color. We can thrive within our community,” said Calvin Littlejohn.

Royal echoes Littlejohn. He says that while the idea for TRI came from Littlejohn, they wondered about what they could do to strengthen the idea and to really build a business that was founded in community.

TRI-Construction will be moving its headquarters to 927 West Broadway Ave, in partnership with the Phillips Foundation and New Rules. Photo by Datelle Straub and Danae Lawson

“We asked, how do we empower people and offer economic opportunity? Where do we add value?” said Royal.

Mentorship is built into TRI’s business plan. According to the two co-founders, they have both been mentored by other construction firms, including including M.A. Mortenson, Watson-Forsberg, Ryan Companies, Knutson, and Thor Companies.

“We have learned to be patient, to not forget where we came from, to stay grounded in community,” said Littlejohn.

Kenya McKnight Ahad is the President and CEO of the Black Women’s Wealth Alliance; she shares building space with TRI-Construction at 1200 W Broadway Ave. She says that the construction firm is a quiet-but-mighty Northside business. They are so low key, not wanting to promote themselves, they stay focused on their work and are now experiencing pressure since the Thor deal. They are now one of the largest Black-owned construction companies in MN, born on the Northside 18 years ago,” said McKnight Ahad. “They’re one of my favorites and they’re ALWAYS finding a way to give back to community.”

They are currently working on 927 West Broadway Ave, a development project alongside New Rules and the Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation. The future space will be used to provide a cohabitation and coworking space for Northside entrepreneurs and small businesses, and TRI-Construction plans on using it as their new headquarters. In a blog post for the Phillips Foundation, Littlejohn and Royal, alongside Chris Webley at New Rules, and Patrick Troska, President of the Phillips Foundation discuss the development:

"Not only will we renovate the existing building, an addition to the south will nearly double its footprint. Our three entities will be the primary tenants, with offices on the second and third floors. The street level will be retail and cool, dynamic rental space for personal and community events, including flexible gallery/food pop-up space. A rooftop deck will provide private and public event space with outstanding views of downtown Minneapolis and the Mississippi River. The basement will be built out and refinished to accommodate a small music venue and shared makerspace."

Additionally, TRI-Construction and New Rules have plans to eventually buy out the development from the Phillips Foundation. The Phillips Foundation provides funding for North News. They have no editorial control over the newspaper or this article.
GRADUATION

University of St. Mary
Darrious Denson
Edvonte Copeland

Minnesota State University-Mankato
Femata Amara
Alexis Slavik
Marie Cato
Shayla Henderson-Thomas
Kellie Rusch

Southwest Minnesota State University
Rumen Hulmequist

DEAN’S HONOR LIST

University of St. Mary
Darrious Denson
Edvonte Copeland

RESOURCES

The Census Bureau is hiring temporary employees for the 2020 Census. The jobs offer weekly pay, competitive pay rates, flexible hours, and paid training. By joining the 2020 Census team, you can support your community while getting paid to do it. Learn more here: https://2020census.gov/jobs/

Neighborhood HealthSource hosts free and reduced cost mammograms for eligible women every month at one of their three Northside clinics. Call 612-287-2433 or visit neighborhoodhealthsource.org for more info.

Northside Boxing Club (1704 33rd Ave N) offers free lessons to kids ages 9-21. Training includes boxing drills, technique work, running and strength conditioning. Each session ends with a healthy meal. Hours are Monday-Thursday from 4pm-5:30pm and Thursday 4pm-7pm. On Fridays, youth open boxing is offered from 4pm-7pm.

Hennepin County funding assistance for lead paint – Homeowners and landlords may be eligible for a free home test and as much as $8,000 in lead reduction costs, such as new windows.

Pillsbury United Communities’ Oak Park Center (1701 Oak Park Ave N) hosts free community dinners on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 5pm-7pm.

If you live in Hennepin County and have a desire to improve the child protection system, consider volunteering for the Citizen Review Panel. The panel meets the second Monday of each month at the Health Services Building (525 Portland Ave). Panel members serve for a two-year term. Email Mary.Doyle@state.mn.us for an application packet and more information.

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Ongoing Thursdays – Community Coffee & Conversation, 11am-1pm. Get to know neighbors and enjoy complimentary beverages. All are welcome at Mykonos Coffee & Grill (4171 Lyndale Ave N).

Mondays – Sign up for a weekly 30-minute session to practice reading and do literacy activities with a teen mentor. 2pm – 5pm. Visit or call the Webber Park Library to register. 612-543-6751. Sponsored by the Webber Park Friends. For kids entering grades K-3.

Mondays – Sign up for a weekly 30-minute session to practice reading and do literacy activities with a teen mentor. 2pm – 5pm. Visit or call the Webber Park Library to register. 612-543-6751. Sponsored by the Webber Park Friends. For kids entering grades K-3.

Goddess of Glass or viewed online at victory-camps.org for more info.

Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling customers who have not signed up to participate in the organics recycling program may do so at any time by visiting www.minneapolismn.gov/organics. There is no extra cost, but you have to sign up.

Tuesdays – The Twin Cities Mobile Market delivers affordable and healthy food weekly to locations across North Minneapolis and the Twin Cities. A wide variety of fruits, vegetables, meat, dairy products, and staples like rice and dried beans are available at below-market prices. Cash, all major credit cards, debit cards, SNAP/EBT, and Market Bucks are accepted! Questions? Call 612-280-2434. Their delivery schedule does change. For schedule and map information, check out: https://www.wilder.org/Programs-Services/tcm/Pages/default.aspx.

Do you live in Near North or Willard/Hay? Then your block could be eligible for a mini block club grant through the Northside Residents Redevelopment Council. Funds are available for a project or event you want to create. For more information call 612-335-5924 or email contacts@nrrc.org.

The Northside Residents Redevelopment Council is partnering with Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid to connect residents of Near North and Willard Hay with free attorneys. If you are having legal troubles that relate to your home or business and live in the Near North or Willard Hay neighborhood visit their clinic at the NRRC office Mondays and Tuesdays from 10am-3pm or set up an appointment by calling 612-335-5925.

The City of Minneapolis offers free energy efficiency home visits and 0% financing on recommended energy-saving upgrades while funding lasts to qualified households with a family income less than $94,300. Homeowners and renters can call 651-328-6220 or visit mncee.org/hes-mpls to schedule.

Get help with your broken stuff and learn repair skills at an upcoming Fix-It Clinic. Bring in small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices and more and receive free guided assistance from volunteers with repair skills to disassemble, troubleshoot and fix your items. Fix-It Clinics teach valuable troubleshooting and basic repair skills, build community connections and reduce the number of repairable items that are thrown in the trash. 1pm-5pm at Utropolis Brewing (225 Thomas Ave NE Suite 700). For more information, visit http://www.hennepin.us/fixitclinic.

6/1 – Shop your way through the Victory Neighborhood. There will be dozens of garage sales with art, plants, food, clothing, household goods and more. Maps can be picked up at The Goddess of Glass or viewed online at victory-neighborhood.org, 8am-4pm.

6/8 – The Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church will be hosting “Growing and Blooming” at 4pm at the Salem Church (42nd Ave and Dupont Ave). Free food, live music and an open mic.

6/15 – The Northside Residents Redevelopment Council will kick off their Water Conservation Program with a Rain Barrel Ambassador workshop. Ambassadors will learn different water conservation techniques and how to lower their water bills. Upon completion, ambassadors will receive their own rain barrel installation for free! For more info and workshop registration, email contacts@nrrc.org.

6/21 – Welcome the arrival of summer with a bonfire and festive treats during a special evening at the Garden in Theodore Wirth Park. Bring a friend to revel in the evening air while searching for fireflies in the prairie and learn more about this magical time of year. 8pm – 9:30pm in the park. To register for a program, call the Visitor Shelter at 612-370-4903 or visit minneapolisparks.org/ebwg.

May 28, beginning at 6pm at the Davis Center, 1250 West Broadway Ave.

What’s Up 612! Is an online resource for children and youth, ages 5-21, where citywide after school activities can be found. More information can be found at: http://www.whatsup612.com.

Project for Pride in Living (PPL) seeks volunteers interested in mentoring and tutoring youth in grades K-5th grade who are living in supportive housing in Camden. Volunteers are matched 1:1 with a youth to build a strong relationship, tutor in literacy concepts, and engage in enrichment activities like arts & crafts, games, creative play, etc. To apply, visit www.ppl-inc.org/volunteer or contact Volunteer Coordinator Caitlin Dougherty at caitlin.dougherty@ppl-inc.org | 612-455-5108.

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. Led by the library’s Teen Tech Squad. More information at http://www.hclib.org/about/locations/north-regional.

MN Comeback and Great MN Schools launched Minnesota School Finder. This resource guide for parents provide objective, relevant information on schools across Minneapolis so parents can find schools that are the best fit for their kids.
HOUSING
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity has developed a new program to help first-time homebuyers who have faced barriers to buying a home through traditional mortgage lenders. Under the program, homebuyers can buy on the open market using Habitat’s affordable, fixed-rate mortgage. They can even work with the Realtor of their choice, complete Habitat’s homeownership education and buy a home in their preferred neighborhood or city. The new program reaches a broader income range, including those who may think their income is too high to qualify. Households earning $40,000–$80,000 have successfully bought a home in Habitat’s redesigned homeownership program. The program revolves around an “unbeatable mortgage,” a 30-year fixed-rate with monthly payments set to no more than 30 percent of income. Down payment assistance may be available. Interested individuals can find more information about the mortgage program at www.BuyWithHabitat.org or by calling 612-540-5660.

Northpoint Health and Wellness has announced an eviction prevention pilot program. This program is open to anyone who lives in Hennepin County, lives in a rental unit, and is concerned about being evicted or being unable to pay rent. Mediation services, legal help, and housing case management is available for renters; services are also available for landlords interested in assisting their tenants. To enroll in the pilot contact NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center at 612-767-9159 or visit 1315 Penn Ave N.

The City of Minneapolis can help renters who want smoke-free housing, and it can help property owners make their buildings smoke-free. For smoke-free rental housing help, renters and property owners and managers can call 311 or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/smoke-free. Landlords and renters will be able to learn energy information about a Minneapolis home or apartment before they sign the dotted line. In February, the Minneapolis City Council approved three policies that combined touch all housing types in the city: residential energy Benchmarking, time of rent energy disclosure, and time of sale energy disclosure. The goals of these policies are to reduce overall housing costs, ensure homeowners and renters have reliable information about their energy costs when deciding where to live, and reduce carbon emissions. These policies are recommended in Minneapolis’ Climate Action Plan and will help the City make progress toward its community-wide greenhouse gas reduction goals. Minneapolis joins nearly 20 other cities in adopting residential energy benchmarking for large buildings.

The City Council passed a measure on Nov. 2 reforming the way the City works with landlords and renters when complaints are made about disruptive criminal and nuisance conduct to provide more protections for tenants and resources for landlords to resolve problems. Highlights of the amendments to the City’s Conduct on Licensed Premises ordinance include: 1) A violation of the ordinance cannot stem from 911 calls reporting domestic violence, domestic abuse, a health-related emergency or any other similar tenant assistance response. 2) When a Minneapolis Police Department crime prevention specialist determines that an incident at a rental property requires City intervention after reviewing a police report, a letter is sent to both the landlord and the tenant about what needs to be done to resolve the problem issues. 3) A new interdisciplinary panel convened by the City’s Regulatory Services Department will review the issues and help determine a community-centered approach that encourages landlords and tenants to resolve problems with a goal of discouraging unnecessary tenant displacement.

The City Council approved a Renter First Housing Policy, a framework that affirms the City’s commitment to advancing renter protections and developing new tools to support affordability and stability in rental housing. The implementation of the Renter First Housing Policy will include both early intervention and safety-net strategies. Highlights include strengthening enforcement measures to ensure repair issues are addressed quickly while minimizing negative impacts on the renter; targeting inspections efforts toward properties in disrepair or with a high volume of renter complaints; and creating financial opportunities for property owners to maintain housing conditions and affordable housing without increasing rents.

Starting over the next few years, homeowners and renters will be able to learn energy information about a Minneapolis home or apartment before they sign the dotted line. The Minneapolis City Council approved three policies that combined touch all housing types in the city: residential energy Benchmarking, time of rent energy disclosure, and time of sale energy disclosure. The goals of these policies are to reduce overall housing costs, ensure homeowners and renters have reliable information about their energy costs when deciding where to live, and reduce carbon emissions. These policies are recommended in Minneapolis’ Climate Action Plan and will help the City make progress toward its community-wide greenhouse gas reduction goals. Minneapolis joins nearly 20 other cities in adopting residential energy benchmarking for large buildings.

BE AWARE
The Upper Harbor Terminal Concept Plan (approved March 1, 2019) will serve as the starting point for the next phase of planning: creating the more detailed Coordinated Plan. The City of Minneapolis and Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) staff and the master development team are now preparing to launch this next phase of planning. To ensure an inclusive planning process that includes input from a diverse set of community stakeholders, the City and MPRB are establishing community committees that will be actively involved in the next phase of planning. In addition to seeking applicants, staff is preparing for the review/appointment process and initial meetings. Get the latest news and updates on the Upper Harbor Terminal site by following the City of Minneapolis on Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor or by signing up for the UHT email subscription list.

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) is excited to announce “Parks for All,” a new comprehensive planning process that will set its priorities and policy direction for the next decade. Parks for All will engage Minneapolis residents and park users, along with MPRB staff and commissioners, over the next two years to shape the future direction of Minneapolis’ park and recreation system. Visit http://www.minneapolisparks.org/parksforall for more information.

Carbon monoxide (CO) exposure incidents increase during the winter months and CO is often called the silent killer. It is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas that when inhaled, enters the blood stream preventing proper absorption of oxygen, leading to illness and even death. For more information about natural gas safety, visit CenterPointEnergy.com/BeSafe or call 612-372-4727 or 1-800-245-2377.

Just like eating greasy food can clog people’s arteries, grease and fat can build up in drainpipes in homes and restaurants and out under the streets. Clogs in the pipes can cause sewage backups into basements and call for expensive repairs. The City is hoping to raise awareness about the impacts that grease can have on plumbing at individual properties and in the City’s sewer system. Visit http://www.minneapolisparks.org/parksforall for more information.

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Congratulations NORTHSIDE GRADUATES!

Armstrong High School
Rachel Burbach
Yer Lee

Edison High School
These students are eligible graduates but will not be officially confirmed until May 31.

Hodo Ahmed
Rahma Hussein
Obsa Mohammed
Abdirizak Muse
Nasro Said
Adey Abdi
Nesrin Abdi
Abdi Ahmed
Nimo Ahmed
Catherine Belfiori-Carey
Hailie Bennett
Shayla Charleston
Velissa Clarke
Tyshaun Claypool
Liobaan Dahir
Nadia Dillon
Shayon Downs
K’ventae Funche
Farhan Hassan
Sharmake Hassan
Poul Her
Jahniesha Hill
Lareaa Jones
Hani Kadiye
Malee Lee
Eric Love
Evelyn Luna Duran
Ivan McGill
Jada Merritt
Tyrisa Milton
Salah Mohamed
Rahma Mohumed
Solomon Montgomery
Randry Mugisha
Mohamed Muhumed
Lt’avius Mun
Haybe Muse
Mohamed Muse
Najmo Noor
Ashrafa Omer
Ralphon Owens
Wilfredo Pablo
Erica Pacheco-Tenesaca
Anamaria Ponce Ponce
Brian Ponce Sanchez
Josue Ponce Sanchez
Xitlali Ramirez Morrow
Najmo Said
Bakar Shariff-Hassan
Juan Silverio-J
Aaliyah Simmons

FAIR Downtown High School
A'Migh Armstrong-Walker
Bessie Clark
Eric Dubose
Queen Mecca Earth
Tezara Forrest-Menakem
Neveah Hamilton
Olivia Haney
Mercedes Jameson
Brooklyn Jones
Khali Jones
Cate Line
Kariyah Maceno
Blayne Macain-Lee
Zane Murff
Azalea Robins
Lizbeth Ruiz-Bautista
Kea Spurgeon

Samuel Jacob Charles
Donny Chiqui
Tyson Rashaun Clark
Rachel S. Clifton
Asia Renee Conley
Nicole Alexis Cooper
Wanya Ladarin Corey
Freddie Cortez Espejel
Adryauna Marie Crawford-Townsend
Da Montae Lamar Curry
Tiyanah Tychelle Darden
Joshua Aaron Davis
Tyriq Larenz Demry
Evan Cole Drake
Tyrell D. Dunlap
Maurio Antonio Edwards II
Jamin Evan Eisenberg
Ivan Fiero Dominguez
Christopher Finch
Tanishay Freeman
Eddie James Freeman III
Ty’shala Lameice Frelix
Ceciro Jairo Garcia
Carolina Garcia Alvarado
Michel Gonzalez Hernandez
La’Mesa Averonna Gray
Lawrence Daylan Green
Althea Gunderman
Amirah Joy Guthrie
Malaya Nicole Guyton
Thomas James Halfmann
Nancy Hang
Lacey Rose Harlan
Alonzo Jaquan Harmon
Eric Harris
Morris Harris
Rafa Hassaan
Trinity Loretta Hawkins-Lyles
Madelyn Hnub Hli Her
Kielce Hill
Bradley James Hooper
Jahmez Howze
Kaitlin Antoinique Hughes
Daje’ Sherie Asia Hunter
Terrell Jacquez Hunter
Amina Ismail Ibrahim
Skyler Timothy Ihejirika
Chrisshaun D. Jackson
Quintin Keshau Jackson
Dion James
Janet Elizabeth Jara
Jerry C. Jiles
Chad Camarie Johnson
Sayid Mehari Kibrat Heard
Arane Mauri Jones
Jarbar Jones
Blessing Kasingoma
Perla Lizeth Kegan
Marcus Kennedy
Jaikel Keys-Castilleja

Gaojoua Cherchien Khang
Gaolee Cherchien Khang
Katie A. Khang
Tou Bee V Khang
Cheyanne Dominique King
Tyrell Davin King
Graham Smith Kirwin
Jania Kloepel
Cheyenne Kocourek
Ricky Kounlabouth
Joseph Larliviere
Amacion Tsia Lee
Daeng Lee
Jennifer Lee
Koua Neng Lee
Lisa Pajzoo Lee
Ma Viang Lee
Melanie Lee
Payton Kong Chia Lee
Susan Lee
Tejlim Lee
Tommy B. Lee
Choua Lo
Mikerri Azazi Logan
Luis Lopez
Ena Lor
Priya Tuesday Lor
Tengchi Lor
Jamarrious Ali Martin
Michelle Matthews
Joshua Aaron McCullough
Estella Jonnette Niss Mcgee
Jordan Kate Mitchell
Abdi Khadar Mohamed
Munira Mahamud Mohamed
Adam Morales
Alisron Y. Moreira
Aaron Morgan
Mayla Moua
Pa Nhia Moua
Larry Neal
Lieana Lray Neal
Vachon Michael Ogoti
Desmond T. Parks
Jiannah Ashish Patrick
Darriuna Patterson
Britta Jean Pearson
Tong Pha
Tremika Tremaya Pickford-Person
Moises Pozos-Cuevas
Tony Rathphomy
Frankie J. Reed
Tyrone Rice
Amari Roberson
Kevin Robinson
Tierra Robinson
Jaime A. Rodriguez
Luis Manuel Rodriguez
Yoana Rojas Lopez
De’Shawn Marquetta Roland
Rashaud D’avallo Rollins

Hopkins High School
Raniya Sheikh

Patrick Henry High School
Yusuf Ahmed Abdiqadir
Alexus I. Ableiter
Luis F. Aguilar Gomez
Leonard Alexander Jr.
Pavel J. Alvarado Gomez
Vasthy Anang
Jamarcie Sienna Aron
Anthony Arroyo
Nico Awad
Kendall La Tre Bady
Kendrix Lamont Bady
Arturo Balbuena Perez
Laura Elizabeth Bates
Jonay Dayton Beck
John Paul Becker
Maria Rose Benavidez
Kyle Armani Blanton
Angel Bocardo
Sabrina Boddy
Ronald Dariel Borquez Mejia
Nicholas Joel Botello Roberts
Lesly Briones
Quinlan Lawlor Brogdon
Dalarrovy Brown
Dayvion Tyrone Brown
Daivon Tyree Brown-Jameson
Tiffani Lynay Burton
Fatima Campos
Rosario Cantor Alarcon
Miguel Angel Cazares Tapia
Mariela Cerezo Aguilar
Kongmeng Chang
Laoouu Chang
Mai Nhia Chang
Mai Seng Chang
Nhia Chang

Moises Pozos-Cuevas
Tony Rathphomy
Frankie J. Reed
Tyrone Rice
Amari Roberson
Kevin Robinson
Tierra Robinson
Jaime A. Rodriguez
Luis Manuel Rodriguez
Yoana Rojas Lopez
De’Shawn Marquetta Roland
Rashaud D’avallo Rollins
NEIGHBORS

Jonathan Rubio
Maslah Ahmed Sahal
Munstaz Abdullahi Salad
Marshavia Scott
Kevin Scefield Jr.
Alexis Danielle Shinaul
Justin Singleton
Kelis Infinitz-Devilear Smith
Rah’Quel Smith
Quinn Michelle Smolik
Andy Danyel Soue-Nguyen
Sanyah Rhyn Spates
Devone Tom Stinson
Timothy Dale Streeter
Raven Alexis Sykes
Angle Gao Shoua Thao
Chai Thao
Couv Thao
Houa Thao
Keng Thao
Linda Thao
Nouci Thao
Toulyvong Thao
Gregory Darrell Thomas
Kyah L. Thompson
Alma Yesenia Tlaseca
Tyeshi Miracle Towns
Timothy Tran
Hope Tomorrow Trotter
Chang Chang Leroy Kim Vang
Ezakiel Vang
Ike Muajtsim Vang
Joseph Tsuipheng Vang
Kao Hoo Vang
Kobnag Vang
Kongxeng Vang
Ladani Vang
Mai Doua Vang
Nhia Vang
Nooshilon Vang
Shina Vang
Weewan Vang
Wong Vang
Yengkongchee Vang
Melody Pangnou Vaungh
Nelso Villa Penalosa
Ahista Ihnee Vue
Lina Vue
Peter Vue
Pheng Vue
Shia Vue
Solen Vue
Suyi Padee Vue
Ryu Vwi
Demara Wallace
Amir Terrell Walton
Alieon Alontay Washington
Shuan Braxton Washington
Joaquin Lavarro Lajaun Wellner
Jadakiss Judy White
Stagiana Katraya Whiting
Ka’Nya Mon’e Williams
Danoz’ja Williams-Mack
Gerald Lee Woods III
Jacqueline R. Wooldridge
Ollie Wren

PYC Arts & Tech High School

Seth Aden
Darshaun Barron
Daniel Carey
Sha’Kirra Dansby
Ivy Davis
Olivia DeLaRosa
Misael Dos Santos
Maurio Edwards
Aaliyah Evans
Eddie Freeman III
Sabrina Gagnon
Kamesha Gibson
Demariea Guffie-Jones
Sayid Heard
Bounmee Her
Anthony Hollmon
Jataejah Hubbard
Christopher Jefferson
Kahin Kadiye
Charley Lewis
Jacques Lloyd
Joime Rodriguez
LaTroya Ruford
Mikaela Terry
Darryl Tiggs
Johnson Vue
De’Saun Whitfield
Arriana Williams-Lynch
Aubrey Williams

Perpich Arts High School

Malachi Adams
River’s Edge Academy
Malcolm D’Aivilor
Sadrea Dobkins

St. Louis Park High School

Leensa Ahmed

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North Community High School

Bradran Adan
Ireyana Baptise
Edward Beamon
Omar Brown
Elijah Campbell
Demetrius Carter
Glen Carter
Ryan Cole
Cashmo’naey Coleman
Daniel Crandall
Da Shantae Curry
Armon Dalton
Corshon Davis
Cyncere Davis
Deshawn Davis
Donvieve Davis
Shardeja Dickson
Nasir El-Amin
Abla Essiomley
Jontyle Faulkner
Ta’Juania Favors
Tokyra Fortney
Keantae Gaskin
Israel Glenn
Michael Harris
Shequila Harris-Anderson
Vincent Haynes
Keshuna Haywood
Alexis Hendren
Amamaria Hernandez-Rodriguez
Talina Hill
Joshua Hodges
Heaven Holmes
Djon Howze
Simone Hunter
Kawntel Jackson
Christopher Jefferson
Christopher Jennings
Tiyana Jordan
Savion Kinchelow
Chue Lee
Jacques Lloyd
Gregory Marshall
Cherrish Maxon
Niambi Maxon
Tiffany McNeill
Jy’Mar Mitchell-Ryines
Julian Morris
Khaliq Muhammad
Elijah O’Neal
Jaylon Ogleby-Jackson
Vivian Olmeda
Kehyan Porter
Tamere Powell-Ross
Myesha Powell-Williams
Britney Price
Lori Price
Jamea Purifoy
Marlon Riddley
Miguel Rodriguez Jimenez
Ezekiel Rogers-Knox
Kiara Ross
Farlanders Ross-Cunningham
Jaron Ross-Hawkins
Aliyah Russell
Jasmine Salter
Carlos Sherman
Alanna Smith
Jeremiah Stewart
Makeiyen Thompson
Brandon Tucker
Imari Vaughn
Asiah Velasco
Taquarius Wair
Amaya Walker

Zya Walker
Brandon Wall
Ke-Nija Wallace
Rayana Wallace
Jahlee Waller
Jaiyen Watson
King White
Johntai Wiley
Maydison Yang
Izaiah Yeager

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Maydison Yang
Izaiah Yeager
North High School's valedictorian, Miguel Rodriguez Jimenez, will be graduating with a 3.8 GPA and 26 college credits. He will be heading to St. Thomas University to major in business management and retail. He is a first generation college student. He is a self-described quiet, shy and outgoing person. He has taken classes at both North High and MCTC as a PSEO student since his junior year, and he also manages to work at Wallgreens to earn money for his family. “Never take your downfalls as failures; take them as examples. In the end, some of the downfalls could take you to an open path,” he said.

By Zach Yeager, Alanna Smith, Jenelle Robinson

What are your plans for after high school? I'm planning on going to a two year college at St. Thomas downtown. Once I graduate from there, I'll go to a four year.

How does it feel to be awarded valedictorian? It's a huge honor, having that kind of opportunity given. It's a huge representation as well; you have a lot of students viewing you. They see you as a role model, and as an example. It's a huge privilege to have the title as a valedictorian.

Who has been the most influential person in your life? I'll say my sister, Isabel. I see her as a hardworking woman and how she has given the opportunities on us on achieving in our academics. Right now I see her struggling; she wants to go back to school. I don't want to disappoint her.

Where do you want to go to college? I'm going to St. Thomas. It wasn't my first or my third choice. It was actually the U of M. Unfortunately I was rejected. My full confirmation is at St. Thomas. It was very challenging at first. I take it like it's all my fault, like it's all on me, like I didn't take the opportunities, like checking out my application on what I'm missing to make the full confirmation like I did at St. Thomas.

You're a PSEO student. How do you balance taking college classes and trying to manage your classes here? I started taking college classes at MCTC my junior year, spring semester. It was very challenging. During my first semester I was just first time, seeing how I would end up, but at least trying to get my general classes out of there. At the end, I'm taking classes I'll need for my major.

What steps have you taken to become the valedictorian? I mostly focus[ed] on grades as that's number one in high school to get you at that level. Honestly, being valedictorian wasn't my goal at first.

What tips would you give other students to help them with school? Mostly, I say, always have communication with your teachers. Communication is the most important. In college, your teachers are not going to hold your hands—I've been there. Planning. Have a planner.

What is it like for a high school student who spends little to no time on your actual high school campus? It's kind of fun, having college courses and getting to choose what classes you want to do.

What is your life like outside of North? Mostly it's just school and work. I take full dedication at school, getting the grades that I need. For work, I help out my family. I am in charge of food, and I pay at least one bill. I work as a CSA at Walgreens. I've been there two years. I'm getting a promotion as a manager.

How would you describe yourself? Quiet, shy but outgoing, and courageous. I wish I was more open.

What are life challenges that you feel like have hurt your motivation for school? With schoolwork and homework and essays, after I started working, I kind of felt this huge procrastination. Not wanting to do any school work. At the end, I looked at myself and kind of said: my parents went here to help their family back in Mexico. I'm not taking the advantage and opportunity that's given here. It really hurts. I managed to get up.

How do you feel like you developed as a person from being a student at North High School? I feel like a big family man. I've been here for four years, and it feels like family now.

What are three things that you feel like have contributed to a successful high school experience and education? Not giving up, pursuing your dream, and not to be a quitter. What I heard from my mentors, they said: if you start on something, finish it 100%. Don't give up at 50%.

What do you do to psyche yourself up to do things that are outside your comfort zone, like giving the graduation speech as the valedictorian? I seek guidance and help from him and see how he managed to talk to people.

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What do you do to psyche yourself up to do things that are outside your comfort zone, like giving the graduation speech as the valedictorian? I seek guidance and help from him and see how he managed to talk to people.
Jamin Eisenberg is Patrick Henry High School’s 2019 valedictorian. The 17-year old is a full-time PSEO student with a 3.98 GPA who will be attending Northeastern University in Boston next year. Eisenberg is an aspiring computer scientist who is co-captain of Herobotics, the PHHS award-winning robotics team.

By Datelle Straub, Danae Lawson

Patrick Henry High

Valedictorians

What does it take to be a valedictorian? It takes a lot of internal motivation. A lot of people are not motivated in the same way by their parents and their friends to do well. School is kind of my thing. It’s a lot of what I do. That focus, and wanting myself to do well has gotten me pretty far.

What activities are you involved with? I am the co-captain of Herobotics. I do Boy Scouts. I got Eagle Scout earlier this year.

How do you find time to study? It helps doing PSEO, because you’re in class a lot less. Some of that time I do extracurricular activities and sometimes I study. It helps to not be in class all day.

How did your parents react to learning you are valedictorian? I just live with my mom and sister. My mom was excited. She had known I was number two for 3.75 years.

Was it a competitive edge to keep your grades up or was it a personal reason? It was more about getting into college, and a college I knew I would want to go to.

What’s your plan after high school? I’m going to Northeastern which is in Boston. I will be majoring in computer science and computer engineering. Northeastern has a co-op program: you do two extended, paid internships at companies that really want you for your skills and they have a lot of focus on experiential learning. They also have a five year Bachelors-Master’s program. I can graduate at 22 with my Master’s hopefully.

Why computer science? It started freshman year. It has a lot to do with robotics. I took Intro to Java, first semester. That’s a programming language. I took a secondary course too. Originally I wanted to focus on electrical engineering, but I got more into computer science this year.

Who do you look up to? My Scoutmaster Ted McLoughlin. I look up to Ted because he goes with the flow, and he’s really committed to us, the Scouts; Scouts are his entire life. He is just a really good person. I also look up to Mr. Braaten; he’s one of the math teachers here. He’s really smart, and I’ve heard from other teachers that he’s very socially there; a lot of math people aren’t. He’s an outstanding teacher. For most of high school I wanted to be a math teacher, in part because of him.

What would you say to freshman who want to be in the position you are now? You just have to put the effort in. If you really focus on school primarily, you are very likely to be in the top couple of people.

What are your passions? I’m sort of an electronics hobbyist. At my house, I have bought and received as gifts and accumulated lots of wiring and microcontrollers to make little projects.

What was your hardest class? I took a secondary computer science class: introduction to program development, algorithms, and data structures. It was tougher than I expected. I did not do very well on the first midterm, which I’m not used to. Going in, I didn’t even study. I expected it to be easy because the course content had been easy. I learned to take advantage of the possibilities.

What do people not know about you? I’m kind of obsessed with the 80’s. I only listen to 80’s music. My mom grew up in the 80’s, so that’s probably where some of that comes from. I wear tie dye every day. That’s also pretty weird. I also read Ready Player One, which is one of my favorite books, and it has a bunch of 80’s references. The tie dye? I don’t know. I was born of a sperm donation. There’s a bunch of papers that describe the donor; one of his passions was abstract art. It might even be somewhat of a genetic thing.

Long term life dream? I want to become a professor in something—math, computer science. My interests change kind of quickly. They’ve always been in the STEM field.

Do you see yourself living in North Minneapolis when you’re older? I live Northeast now. I see myself moving back to Minneapolis as an adult.

Why did you choose Henry High? Robotics. PLTW, the engineering program, was a big draw too. It has tools and materials for me to do the things I like to do. There’s only so much of a workshop I can build up in my basement on my desk. I’ve also made friends in robotics that I’d like to keep.
INNERCITY TENNIS

NEW!

KIDSPEED CAMPS FOR AGES 8 - 11
4 hour camp every weekday for 5 weeks • June 17 - July 26 (No classes July 1 - 5)
$500/player • Full scholarships available for all families in need
For more information visit: www.innercitytennis.org or email: dilcia.pederson@innercitytennis.org

SUMMER TENNIS IN THE PARKS

FITNESS, CHARACTER & TENNIS FOR AGES 6 - 17
Hourly lessons every weekday for 5 weeks • June 17 - July 26 (No classes July 1-5)
$125/player • Full scholarships available for all families in need
For more information visit: www.innercitytennis.org or email: dilcia.pederson@innercitytennis.org

2 Convenient Locations
Webber Park 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Martin Luther King Jr. Park 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

- 4 hours of physical and educational activities including tennis, other sports, nutrition, math and reading
- Camps staffed by experienced tennis coaches
- Curriculum designed by ICT’s Education Programs Manager
- Opportunity to compete in a grand tennis tournament involving 21 parks on July 27 at InnerCity Tennis
- Lunch and rackets will be provided for those participating
- T-shirt included

Multiple Nearby Locations
- Group drills and games get kids learning the volley, groundstrokes, overhead and serve
- Build teamwork, confidence and hand-eye coordination
- Learn healthy nutrition habits and develop a life-long love of physical fitness
- Rackets provided
- T-shirt included

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<tr>
<th>NORTH MINNEAPOLIS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bohanon Park</td>
<td>Webber Park</td>
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<td>10:30 ages 6-11</td>
<td>9:00 ages 6-7</td>
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<td>11:30 ages 12-14 &amp; 15-17</td>
<td>10:00 ages 8-10</td>
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<td>Victory Park</td>
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<td>8:00 ages 6-11</td>
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JUNETEENTH
CELEBRATING FREEDOM DAY

BRIDGING THE GAP

SATURDAY, JUNE 15
11AM-6PM
BETHUNE PARK, 1304 NORTH 10TH AVENUE

A COMMUNITY-LED CELEBRATION
ENTERTAINMENT HIGHLIGHTED BY CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS!

MINNEAPOLISPARKS.ORG/JUNETEENTH

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