ENOUGH!

Police killing of George Floyd sparks worldwide outrage; becomes catalyst for change

Photo by David Pierini
B
MINNESOTA

Tutoring in reading or math, and be the difference! Earn while you give back. Community members better understand how to use data as a tool for positive change. The Foundation supports a wide range of projects. The Foundation has helped bring hundreds of low-wage workers together in a mighty making table through this model. New legislation is pending. This new generation of action researchers who can use this model is ready to launch. Prof. Miko’ will seek coaching skills and study new visualizations to demystify complex ideas.

Dr. Lewis was the principal investigator for research called “The Illusions of Choice: Evictions and Print in North Minneapolis.” His work explored the relationships between Black women and eviction. He was interested in the role that eviction plays in the Twin Cities potential for growth and development. His influence as an educator was also felt in her hometown of St. Paul, where she was elected to the St. Paul Board of Education. Earlier this year, her fellow members elected her board chair.

When “her spirit and her passion for student inclusion and achievement live on in each of us,” board members said in a joint statement. “She made light shine on in what we do for our students and how we treat these people.”

A GoFundMe page (www.gofundme.com/home) with our help to her family with medical expenses.

North Minneapolis’ Dr. Brittany Lewis wins prestigious fellowship

Dr. Brittany Lewis, a senior research scientist at Pillsbury United Way’s Research and Evaluation Division, was recently named one of 24 Bush Foundation “Emerging Leaders” in the Midwest. Lewis is a North Minneapolis resident and CEO of Research in Action, and other homes and more than 75% of the people who applied. The fellowship provides leaders with $25,000 to pursue 24 months to pursue formal and informal learning experiences to strengthen their leadership.

The fellowship program is open to leaders who want to expand their skills and knowledge in the community. The fellowships are designed to strengthen the leadership skills and knowledge of leaders, government officials and community members.

Coronavirus claims life of Hmong International Academy’s Justin O’Reilly

Kenny O’Reilly, the administrative manager at Hmong International Academy in North Minneapolis, died on June 8. The Academy’s Athletic Director David Pierini, the live exclusive interview to the reporting and photography of Britton Lewis wins.

In our printed publication and on our broadcast of Floyd’s memorial, we have offered an opportunity for citizens to share their stories with the viewers and the world. The Academy’s admin manager in our printed publication and on our broadcast of Floyd’s memorial, we have offered an opportunity for citizens to share their stories with the viewers and the world.

Additional food benefits, mental health resources offered by the Minnesota government’s COVID-19 response

The Minnesota Children’s Cabinet released resources to ensure residents can obtain food and access health care. To make it easier for families and youth to get health information, the Minnesota Department of Health is offering families up to $325 per child if buying groceries poses stress, the MDH is offering families up to $325 per child for food assistance. For families already receiving food assistance, the MDH is offering families up to $325 per child for food assistance. If you need help with health care, you can find resources at your local community health center. If you have questions about the food assistance program, you can call the P-EBT hotline at (800) 657-3698. For more information, contact the P-EBT hotline at (800) 657-3698.

For families already receiving food assistance, the MDH is offering families up to $325 per child for food assistance. If you have questions about the food assistance program, you can call the P-EBT hotline at (800) 657-3698. For more information, contact the P-EBT hotline at (800) 657-3698.

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WE STILL CAN’T BREATHE

By Henry Coble, Jr. Editor-in-Chief

My head hurts.

I vacillate between screaming in rage and crying in agony. Pain radiates through my body and yet I am numb. But I’m alive.

George Floyd died in exactly the same way as Eric Garner: his last words were eerily familiar, as they were repeated as he begged for his life to be spared. “I can’t breathe,” he gasped. “I can’t breathe.”

There was something uniquely different in the last words of Eric Garner before life was slowly suffocated. “I can’t breathe,” he gasped. “I can’t breathe.”

At this moment, details are sketchy as to what transpired before citizen videos rose to the occasion and began taping videos while at the same time pleading with officers to halt the process of killing a man in front of their eyes — and their camera lenses. What we do know is once the videos began streaming Mr. Floyd was handcuffed,defenestrated, fully under the control of Minneapolis officers — one with a knee in his neck, Mr. Floyd lay prone on the ground begging for air — begging for his life... begging for his life...

And that’s maybe what disturbs me the most. To that officer, it seemed that taking the life of Mr. Floyd was no more significant than capturing a fly in a jar and watching it slowly suffocate.
By James Elam

The names of those killed by police form a larger, sobering list on Chicago Avenue, near the spot where George Floyd was killed.

On July 4, 2020, a gunman walked into a bar on Chicago Avenue and killed four people before running outside and killing another. The gunman then turned the gun on himself.

The gunman, a man named Jermaine Elam, was armed with a .45-caliber semi-automatic pistol and had already killed four people inside the bar.

Elam, who was known to have a history of mental health issues, had been arrested multiple times for violent crimes.

His guns were obtained illegally from a straw purchase. The straw purchase was made by a friend of Elam who had been arrested for other offenses.

Elam's death has raised questions about the legal gun sales process and the need for more resources to help people with mental health issues.

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As the grief and anger over the death of George Floyd in police custody leavens a new generation of activists, a forefather of the Civil Rights Movement in Minneapolis quietly passed away in Charlotte, NC.

The life journey of Randy Staten wound through professional football, three terms in the Minnesota House and two churches as a prominent North Minneapolis pastor. Along the way, he championed important legislation as the only Black congressman at the time, fought systemic racism and gave his knowledge generously to some of today’s most important leaders.

Staten was living with family when he passed away May 29 at the age of 76.

“I watched him work and he was fearless,” activist Al Flowers said. “That’s the one thing I learned; be fearless and don’t think twice about it.”

In three terms, stretching from 1981 to 1986, Staten led efforts to get the state to divest from South Africa (whose government then enforced apartheid), to have the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday declared a state holiday and sponsored the Minority Child Heritage Protection Act. The law was the first of its kind in the U.S. and required child protection agencies to place minority children for adoption or foster care with relatives, followed by families with the same race or ethnicity.

“I’ve always believed that politics is one area where involvement can lead to necessary changes,” Staten said in a 1980 interview for a legislative publication featuring newly elected legislators. He was the only African-American member at the time. “I don’t want to ever be considered a ‘Black’ legislator. But the viewpoint of a person of color is necessary.”

Randolph Wilber Staten grew up in Charlotte and came to Minnesota, recruited to play football for the Golden Gophers. He excelled his junior and senior years and was considered one of the team’s fastest lineman. After graduating with a degree in communications, Staten played the 1966 season for the Scranton Miners, a minor league team. He was signed by the New York Giants in 1967 and played 14 games before a leg injury ended his career.

Afterwards, he returned to Minneapolis where he worked for Cargill and rose as a leader in the local Civil Rights Movement. Staten was involved with the 1988 start of Pilot City, a one-stop center in North Minneapolis for health care, employment assistance, educational programs, food assistance and housing services. It later became NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center.

He was also active at The Wity Community Center, which was dedicated to cultivating racial pride among African-American youth. The building later became the Minneapolis Police Department’s Fourth Precinct headquarters.

He was only the third African-American elected to the House. After politics, he went into the ministry, serving as the pastor of two of the Northside’s most prominent churches, Zion Baptist Church and New Salem Missionary Baptist Church.

“He was a gentle giant and rock solid,” said the Rev. Jerry McAfee, pastor at New Salem. “One of the greatest things he instilled in a lot of us is to always make sure to negotiate before you protest. If negotiations break down, do not protest until you ask one fundamental question, ‘What do you want?’

“I used to be really gung ho and he would irritate me. I had a lot of zeal but I didn’t have the knowledge. This current generation could use a lot of his wisdom.”

Former city councilman and pastor, Brian Herron, who now heads Zion Baptist Church, remembers being a young father in need of a job when Staten helped him find employment.

Later, when Herron was elected to the city council, Staten instilled in him the value of working well with other people, sticking to the issue and never making it personal. Herron said he wasn’t the only one who benefited from a door opened by Staten.

Herron remembers having a series of meetings with Staten before he moved out of state a few years back. In those meetings, he gave advice and shared stories about North Minneapolis from when he was a young activist.

“He was a good negotiator but he was firm enough to stand on what he believed.” Herron said. “There was a power in Randy’s voice when he spoke, and as he moved into the ministry, that power was even more apparent. He used to tell me to quit being timid. He said when you believe something, stand on it and be strong on it. That’s something my father used to tell me.”

Northside activists remember a "gentle giant" of the local civil rights movement

By David Pierini staff reporter

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In Minneapolis, as elected officials, we have been called on to catch up with our times and treat violence like a disease that all the years of police reform and treatment. We can achieve this goal by thinking of the problem as an equation of evidence-based prevention, intervention, enforcement, and reentry. The immediate aim of this new system is to stop violent offenders, not our Ward 4 Conversation, “Reimagining Mental Health and Wellness,” on June 25, 2020. It is a conversation that is challenging the status quo and the traditional ways in which we think of public health. For our part, we sought out to “do everything possible” to make it home because of the Minneapolis Police Department. In that pursuit, we have developed and shared resources to support families. This Thursday, June 25, 2020, the NorthPoint Clinic 1313 Penn Ave. N., Minneapolis will launch its COVID-19 Mental Health and Wellness Clinic. The clinic will serve to provide behavioral health resources during COVID-19, mental and substance use disorder treatment, and telemedicine resources (which replace clinic visits) during pandemic, unrest and economic reopening.

The COVID-19 pandemic was already an unprecedented event in our lives and anxiety for many people and now for our city’s children, parents, teachers, and school staff. It is only in the past few months that we have come to realize how much the community and our children are dependent on schools. For more information about the public health approach to public safety and the Minneapolis Office of Violence Prevention, check out the recorded Zoom video from our Ward 4 Conversation, “Reimagining Mental Health and Wellness,” on June 25, 2020. It is a conversation that is challenging the status quo and the traditional ways in which we think of public health. For our part, we sought out to “do everything possible” to make it home because of the Minneapolis Police Department.

You can also visit the NorthPoint Center’s website at www.NorthPointClinic.com.

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ENOUGH!

George Floyd’s senseless death, killed by Minneapolis Police officers on May 25, touched off several days of protests locally and sparked a movement across the globe to end police brutality.

North News journalist David Pierini captured these provocative images.

Clockwise from top:
- A man stands on top of a burning car, posing with a sign for a friend to take a picture.
- Lux Thunberg connects with another protester at the memorial for George Floyd.
- Protesters kneel with hands raised as they are enveloped in tear gas.
- A Minneapolis police officer aims a riot gun at protesters outside the third precinct.

On the first day of the uprising following the police killing of George Floyd, protesters march from the memorial site to the Minneapolis Third Precinct headquarters.
Clockwise from top left: Isabella DeBerry, 4, rests on the shoulders of Teresa Torres as the two listen to the funeral service for George Floyd outside the North Central University sanctuary. The Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr. (center) offers up a bouquet of yellow roses at the memorial site for George Floyd. Jaiden Yamoah, 8, stands by a mural of George Floyd near the intersection of 38th Street and Chicago Avenue. Marc O. sits armed outside Sammy’s Avenue Eatery as part of a group organized by the NAACP to provide a presence in front of Northside businesses. A pawn shop on Lake Street was one of several buildings burned Thursday night. A gold casket carrying the body of George Floyd is wheeled out of the sanctuary at North Central University Thursday following a memorial service. A pallet shop on Lake Street was one of several buildings burned Thursday night.
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NAACP hosts memorial for community healing

By Cameron Downey Intern Reporter

The Minneapolis branch of the NAACP, religious leaders, community members, and even the chief of the Minneapolis Police Department held Shiloh Temple on West Broadway Avenue to collectively mourn and heal.

Speakers including the Bess of Al Flowers, Minneapolis Police Chief Medaria Arradondo and various religious and community leaders gathered the podium on June 12, being sure to wipe its microphone down and peel off their masks between each word of hope and reflection. While an audience sat divided by two chairs per person, Flowers spoke of honoring those who came before; Arradondo shared his need for prayer and to be with his family, spiritual and otherwise. Shiloh Temple’s own youth choir intoned the lyrics, “Rescue me” over climbing gospel chords.

“Shiloh Temple’s own youth choir intoned the lyrics, ‘Rescue me’ over climbing gospel chords.”

By Harry Colbert, Jr.
Editor-In-Chief

Though the killing of George Floyd occurred on the Southside of Minneapolis, the affects and emotions reverberated on the Northside as well.

To convey the oneness of community in Minneapolis, artist Payton Scott Russell erected identical murals of Floyd on both sides of town — one at the site of Floyd’s killing at 38th Street South and Chicago Avenue and the other on the Glenwood and Newton Avenues North. A Northsider now, Russell grew up just blocks from the site of the May 25 killing of Floyd, 46, at the hands of Minneapolis police.

“When this (killing) happened it touched me differently,” said Russell. “Watching the video (of the killing) it sickened me. This (the painting of the murals) was my approach to healing.”

Russell said the identical 12 feet by 12 feet murals took only three days to complete and erect with the North Minneapolis installment going up June 3.

George Floyd mural goes up on the Northside

By Harry Colbert, Jr. Editor-in-Chief

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• Medical care and equipment
• Medication

hennepin.us/covid-19

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KEEP YOUR CHILD HEALTHY
"Shiloh Temple’s own youth choir intoned the lyrics, ‘Rescue me’ over climbing gospel chords.”
COVID and color: Minneapolis City Council’s representatives talk about the virus’ impact on communities of color

The novel coronavirus COVID-19 does not discriminate, but the impact it has on communities of color is undeniable.

Elevated infection rates and cases across communities of color highlights the effects of discrimination and structural racism at play. Yet, the rate at which neighborhoods are dealing with the virus is not a reflection of the desire to avoid the infection, but rather a reflection of the lack of access and resources that are necessary to prevent contamination.

Mary Hisinger, and broader Asian communities, are organizing street outreach teams—said Moua. “People still call us (COVID).”

If, during a June 21 rally in Umo, Dakota, the Minneapolis Urban League Twin Cities have all been utilizing the Opportunity Network (NEON) and the Urban Research and Outreach-Engagement Center to engage one’s community, said Bailey. “Cell phones have become the people’s camera. It’s an act of survival. “Haile Gerima spoke this truth.”

Meanwhile, for the Urban League, weekly Zoom calls act as the conference platform to engage one’s community,” said Bailey. “We are shut down” said UROC executive director, Makeda Zulu-Gillespie.

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) recently announced that it is awarding $50,000 Our Town Grant from National Endowment for the Arts to support the Minneapolis Urban League Twin Cities.

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Chairma...
CREDIT RECOGNITION
The City of Minneapolis Division of Renters’ Rights investigates and mediates every community survey with you and asks that you provide feedback about the experience and opinions of the tenants and employees of rent- controlled housing. To help you determine whether you are entitled to be named to the Dean’s List at Bethel Denison Quizhpi was named to the second students with ties to the area. They Henry graduate, Kristopher Fitzhenry, Larson, English Education; and Henry History; Alison Phleger, Animal Science; Jackson, Pharmacy; Nathan Klemann, Arts; Emma DuPont, Psychology; Journalism; Dylan Burns, Mechanical Haytham Aziz, Architecture; Camille Arntson, Natural Resources Management; Zach Noah
GRADUATION
June 26, 2020

PHOTOGRAPHS
June 26, 2020

laughs and jokes with his other friends as he

FARM ASSISTANCE
Many food local stores are modifying their inventory to individuals who are suffering

FOOD ASSISTANCE

Hamming turns 21 million

The Rotary Club of North Minneapolis has converted its Little Free Library into the

The Twin Cities Mobile Market delivers affordable and healthy, locally sourced, ready-to-serve food to the Twin Cities. A wide variety of fruits, vegetables, meats, and dairy products are available and delivered directly to you.

The City Council approved a Renter’s

The City of Minneapolis is now accepting applications for the 4th Affordable Housing Incentive Program, which helps property owners obtain produce from the Twin Cities Habitat for Health Insurance Plan.

The City Council wants residents to call the City at 612-348-9660 or email Renter%20First%20Policy%2003.01.19.

The City of Minneapolis can help centers who want smoke-free housing, and it can help renters

The City Council will be coordinating with priorities of Black people living in Minneapolis.

Dirty Soles is a Minneapolis based

The Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity has joined forces with the Minneapolis police force to help reduce the number

If you live in a rural area, visit http://www.

NORTH NEWS
June 26, 2020

This survey is in English, Spanish,

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There is no deadline to apply. Priority

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Minneapolis-based US Bank is rolling out new investment initiatives to expand support for Black-owned businesses and rebuild areas damaged during the recent unrest over the death of George Floyd. US Bank announced it will provide an additional $100 million annually for loans to businesses owned or led by people of color. The company's businesses owned or led by people of color. The company’s foundation is also establishing a $15 million fund for grants to support initiatives to expand support for Black-owned businesses and to rebuild areas damaged during the recent unrest over the death of George Floyd. US Bank employees will get an additional 10 hours of paid time over the next two months to volunteer for recovery efforts in the areas where the events happened.

“We are steadfast in our commitment to placing equal value on every employee’s contributions, unique leadership skills and creativity that come with the Black experience,” said US Bank CEO Andy Cunningham. “It was a wake-up call for US Bank. It’s been a wake-up call for everyone. We need to do better. The events of the last year have brought into focus the reality of systemic racism and economic inequities in small business, affordable housing and workplace development. We have a wake-up call for us, for US Bank.”

Cunningham, US Bank’s current CEO, said the event had “broad-based injustices” that “would have been impossible to understand the economic disparities. What could we do in response to that?”

Cunningham said US Bank is in discussions with community leaders now to determine needs and to develop strategies that will remove barriers to resuming loans. He also said it will help small businesses – including those that are not US Bank customers – navigate the application process, for equal value on every employee’s contributions, unique leadership skills and creativity that come with the Black experience.

“We are so grateful for the commitment of the entire US Bank organization to placing equal value on every employee’s contributions,” said US Bank CEO Andy Cunningham.

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“The destruction, how ‘this isn’t the way we do things’ was organized by community members in the community it has served for more than 40 years. The events a wake-up call for us, for US Bank. It’s been a wake-up call for everyone. We need to do better. The events of the last year have brought into focus the reality of systemic racism and economic inequities in small business, affordable housing and workplace development. We have a wake-up call for us, for US Bank.”

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“US Bank hopes to bolster Black-owned businesses with increased lending.

US Bank hopes to bolster Black-owned businesses with increased lending.

By David Pierini Staff Reporter

More than 40 years.

“With the commitment of the franchise of equal value on every employee’s contributions, unique leadership skills and creativity that come with the Black experience,” said US Bank CEO Andy Cunningham.

“We are so grateful for the commitment of the entire US Bank organization to placing equal value on every employee’s contributions,” said US Bank CEO Andy Cunningham.

“We understand where the protests are coming from because we’ve taken care of Black-owned businesses for more than 40 years,” said US Bank CEO Andy Cunningham.

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“When we opened, it was a wake-up call for us, for US Bank. It’s been a wake-up call for everyone. We need to do better. The events of the last year have brought into focus the reality of systemic racism and economic inequities in small business, affordable housing and workplace development. We have a wake-up call for us, for US Bank.”

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Statement in Support of Police Reform and Chief Arradondo

The death of George Floyd was a chapter in a story that is as old as our nation and is, sadly, still being written in communities across the country. Philando Castile, Breonna Taylor, Rayshard Brooks... These names serve stark notice that policing across the United States needs transformational reform.

The problems with policing are deeply rooted in the structural racism that permeates our society and its institutions. The current rallying cries around “defunding,” “dismantling,” or “abolishing” the police are grounded in a basic truth that sweeping and visionary reforms are needed.

The answer is not to simply defund or dismantle the police. We need to address societal racism and rebuild our infrastructure so that we can reduce our reliance on policing. Minneapolis receives more than 400,000 calls for police services every year. Housing, education, health care, mental health and the environment are key fronts for enhancing safety.

Without a doubt, the Minneapolis Police Department needs transformational reform but we oppose the current proposal to amend the Minneapolis City Charter to remove the police department. This Charter amendment will not advance the transformational reform that is needed. In fact, it is a distraction from the necessary work at hand.

We believe we have a leader in place who can bring about the much needed change in the police department if he has adequate support. Chief Medaria Arradondo is an ethical, professional and compassionate leader. He knows our city and loves its people. He has a reform agenda, but has experienced opposition from the Police Union and has lacked support from the City Council. We call on our citizens to support Chief Arradondo in his effort to transform our police department.

We have an opportunity brought about by tragedy but it is an opportunity we can’t waste. Minneapolis can become a model for the nation by rethinking the mission of policing. Only then can Minneapolis fulfill this moment and develop a new, bold model for a safe, inclusive community.

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Friends of Minneapolis