

NORTH NEWS



March 26, 2021

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Sign o' the Times

Five years after
the passing
of Prince, his
presence still
looms large

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Jason Peterson DeLaire, Esther Osayande and JD
Steele pose in front of "Purple Raindrop" sculpture.
Photo by David Pierini



Letter from the Editor Harry Colbert, Jr.

NORTH NEWS

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I remember the day vividly.

It was a dreary Thursday with light, but continuous rain falling. Just another day in April in Minnesota. I wish it had remained “just another day.”

I was driving on Interstate 94 headed to Brooklyn Park when I got the call.

“You gonna be able to put something together on this,” asked my former boss and mentor, Al McFarlane, editor-in-chief of Insight News.

The question wasn’t a question; more like marching orders. But I was confused. We had put the paper to bed and it was off to the printer. What was that “this” of which he spoke?

I admitted I was oblivious, and I felt a bit embarrassed that I didn’t know the latest breaking news. After all, that is my job.

“Word is Prince died,” said Mr. Mac (as we affectionately called him). “I got the printer to hold the paper. I need you to get something.”

I didn’t have time to process. I immediately stepped into work mode. I turned the car around and went back home, opened up my laptop, scanned a few reports and began making calls.

Being both a reporter and a concert producer I had close connections to Prince. He even came to one of my shows but I never got to meet him. I talked to Paris Strother of the group KING, with whom Prince was mentoring and to Ricky Kinchen of Mint Condition. I tried to speak with Jellybean Johnson of The Time but he was too distraught to speak. I put my story together and emailed it in.

Then I cried.

It wasn’t until the work was done that I had time to truly process what had happened. What the world had lost.

I was in work mode when four months earlier I covered the police killing of Jamar Clark. For three weeks straight I was on the scene reporting on the loss of life of a 24 years young man who within the matter of a 61-second encounter with police was dead. Three weeks prior to the death of Prince, Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman announced there would be no charges filed against the officers responsible for Clark’s death. Following the announcement, I walked out into the hallway and, yes, I cried.

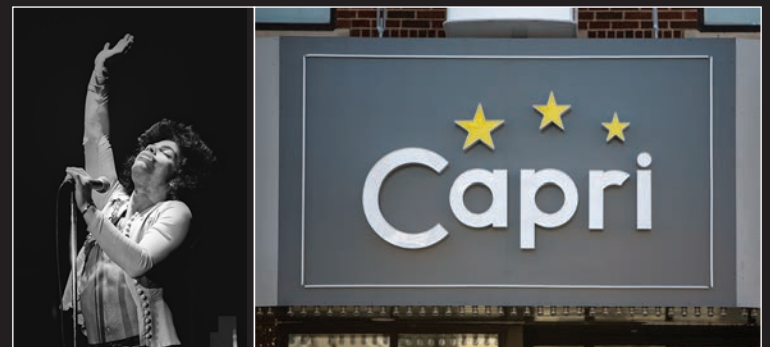
Depending on what day you’re reading this, it’s five years to the day – March 30, 2016 for the Freeman announcement and April 21, 2016, the day we lost Minnesota’s (and music’s) greatest treasure.

In this edition of *North News* we look back to that pivotal time in North Minneapolis and world history, hoping that lessons from the past can better shape our future. After all, what good is history if we don’t learn from its lessons?

INSIDE OUR "O"

How could we have a cover story on Prince and not mention the Capri?

You’re right, we couldn’t.



Left: Photo by Greg Helgeson, Right: Photo by David Pierini

Shuttered for more than a year due to extensive renovations and delayed construction due to COVID-19, the Capri is gearing up for its 2021 coming out party. Recently the new marquee went up on the historic theater at 2027 W. Broadway Ave.

Originally known as the Paradise Theater, renamed in 1967, the Capri may be best known for hosting the first ever solo performance of an up-and-coming artist who would forever alter the landscape of music, entertainment and Minneapolis. Of course, we’re talking about Prince Rogers Nelson ... or simply Prince.

Prince performed his first solo show on Jan. 5, 1979 at the theater.

With the recent upgrades, the venue will double as a performance hall and meeting and entertainment space thanks to an expanded interior that includes a community room and rehearsal space.

Operated by Plymouth Christian Youth Center (PCYC), the new Capri comes in at 20,000 square feet. The cost of renovations to the property totaled nearly \$12.5 million.

North Minneapolis at a glance

The Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Minnesota and the Minneapolis Foundation announced an operating partnership

Under the agreement, the Phillips Foundation will receive administrative and impact services from the Minneapolis Foundation while remaining an independent philanthropic entity. According to an announcement, the Phillips Foundation anticipates continuing its current initiatives while working with the Minneapolis Foundation.

"Since its founding in Minneapolis in 1944 by Rose and Jay Phillips, our foundation has pursued a mission of combatting discrimination, addressing inequities, and supporting the unmet human and social needs of communities," said a group of members of the Phillips Foundation Board of Directors. "During these challenging times for our country and community, we are thrilled to partner with one of America's premier community foundations and inspired by the promise of increased ideation, collaboration, and innovation."

R.T. Rybak, CEO and president of the Minneapolis Foundation, said, "These two foundations have been collaborators for many years, and we agree this new partnership will help us do even more to create a more just community. We have deep admiration for the work of the Phillips Foundation, which aligns extremely well with our focus on bringing an equity lens to criminal justice reform, economic op-

portunity, education, community health, climate, and more."

Since 2016, the Phillips Foundation has been focused on education efforts, specifically student-centered learning and parent engagement, and supporting a thriving local economic ecosystem and BIPOC wealth creation in North Minneapolis.

Among its marquee projects and programs are the Phillips Scholars Program and Eddie Phillips Scholarship for African American Men, in partnership with the Minnesota Private College Fund; Village Financial, a black-led credit union; public school improvements at Patrick Henry High School and Olson Middle School; the Commercial Land Trust; and The 927 Building rehabilitation project in North Minneapolis. Phillips Foundation is also a funder of North News.

PCYC names new executive director

Christopher Campbell has been named executive director at Plymouth Christian Youth Center (PCYC) in North Minneapolis.

He succeeds Anne Long, who served PCYC for 47 years, including more than two decades as executive director. Campbell most recently served as the Department of Defense division chief for Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) at Fort Detrick, Md. While at CYSS, he was awarded the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, and the Commander's Award for Civilian Service for demonstrating outstanding qualities of leadership.

Campbell earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from the University of Memphis and is currently pursuing a master's degree in organizational leadership and policy development at the University of Minnesota.

"The PCYC board and I are very pleased to welcome Mr. Campbell as our new Executive Director," said Karen Polzin, PCYC board president. "He's a very talented, thoughtful leader who

comes to PCYC with a fervent passion for youth, education and the arts. We're excited to work with him as PCYC moves forward in ever more effective and creative ways, building on the legacy of Anne Long's leadership."

"I have a deep respect for PCYC's 67-year history of service to youth and families on the Northside, and for its extraordinary vision for the new Capri," said Campbell. "It will be a joy and honor for me to work with the PCYC board and staff, with the community, and with artists and audiences as we develop the next chapter of this remarkable agency together."

As executive director of PCYC, Campbell will oversee the operations PYC Arts & Technology High School, a contract alternative program managed in partnership with Minneapolis Public Schools; Bright Futures: K-5 Enrichment at PCYC and the newly renovated and expanded Capri Theater.



PCYC Executive Director,
Christopher Campbell



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Two Northside thoroughfares being considered for light rail line

By David Pierini, Staff Reporter

Light rail trains could zip in and out of North Minneapolis by 2024 under two proposed Blue Line extension routes recently unveiled by the Metropolitan Council and Hennepin County.

The Bottineau line would run through Brooklyn Park, Crystal and Robbinsdale, with stops in North on its way to Target Field. The two proposed options would lay track on either Lowry Avenue or West Broadway Avenue.

A previous proposal for a Bottineau Line that was scrapped last year would have by passed North Minneapolis.

Light rail access would bring a much needed transportation option to North and be part of a once neglected part of the city that is currently seeing the launch of new development projects, including the controversial Upper Harbor Terminal.

Hennepin County Commissioner Irene Fernando, whose District 2 includes North Minneapolis, said light rail in North would “change the trajectory of what’s possible for residents,” connecting Northsiders to greater access to education, jobs and healthcare. But Fernando tempered that excitement with concerns over possible gentrification.

“To pursue this work equitably, we must recognize that large-scale public investments can accelerate patterns of residential and economic displacement

and work together to ensure this investment benefits corridor residents, builds community wealth, and meaningfully addresses decades long patterns of disinvestment,” said Fernando, who also chairs the Regional Railroad Authority.

“We need community input from all of our neighbors and businesses because while these routes begin the discussion, there will be more questions than answers at this early stage,” Metropolitan Council Chair Charlie Zelle said. “Met Council is determined to deliver a project the community feels is an investment that directly benefits those who currently live and work in the corridor cities.”

Proposed routes through North Minneapolis for the Blue Line light rail transit



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Sen. Tina Smith calls for end of filibuster to pass 'important' civil rights legislation

By Harry Colbert, Jr., Editor-in-Chief

With jury selection wrapping up in the murder trial of former Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin, a bill with the name of the man who died with Chauvin's knee on his neck has made its way to the Senate.

The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020 would lower the criminal standard of intent to prosecute a police officer for misconduct, limit qualified immunity as a defense in civil cases brought against officers and authorize the Department of Justice to issue subpoenas in investigations of police departments for a pattern or practice of discrimination. It would also create a national registry to compile data on complaints and records of police misconduct and establish a framework to prohibit racial profiling at the federal, state, and local levels.

If passed into law, the bill establishes new requirements for law enforcement to report data on use-of-force incidents, obtain training on implicit bias and racial

profiling, and to wear body cameras.

While the Senate Democrats are on board, it has no support from Republicans, and though Democrats are the majority, a Senate filibuster rule could require 60 votes to pass the legislation. That doesn't sit well with Sen. Tina Smith (D-MN). Smith is pushing to rid the Senate of the filibuster to pass the transformative legislation.

"It's not right that a minority number of Republican senators could stop this," said Smith in an interview with North News. "(The filibuster) is an arcane Senate rule rooted in Jim Crow and slavery."

Though adopted in 1806, the filibuster was most widely used in the time leading up to, during and immediately following the Civil War. Smith said Republican senators no longer in the majority cannot hold up a bill so important.

"This bill is a big step in holding police accountable," said Smith.

The junior senator from Minnesota is also pushing forth a bill she cosponsored to make Juneteenth a national holiday.

She said that bill has bipartisan support in both chambers of the legislature and a pretty impressive name as one of the original cosponsors. The bill, which was re-introduced in the Senate on Feb. 26, was cosponsored by Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ) and former California senator, now vice president, Kamala Harris.

Juneteenth is the national celebration of the last slaves in Galveston, Tex. being told they were freed on June 19, 1865 even though President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863. The 13th Amendment officially outlawed slavery Jan. 1, 1865.



Sen. Tina Smith

MAD DADS seeks new executive director

By David Pierini, Staff Reporter

The street outreach group MAD DADS has begun a search for a new executive director to replace its retiring founder, VJ Smith.

John Turnipseed, who chairs the board governing the Minnesota chapter of Men Against Destruction - Defending Against Drugs and Social Disorder, will serve as interim director.

In a written statement released on March 18, Turnipseed said Smith, who founded the local chapter in 1998, was retiring to care for an aging mother and pursue other interests.

"We want to thank VJ for his dedication, 23 years of partnership to the community and the oversight and delivery of over 1.5 million hours of delivered services to the city of Minneapolis and its residents," Turnipseed said. "VJ has shown the power of doing the hard work in our community and the power of transformation. He has shown the human side of being human; namely, the power of allowing those who have fallen by the wayside to rejoin the community and the power of those who have done wrong to seek forgiveness and better lives."

Smith was suspended earlier this

year after a FOX9 story alleged Smith coerced two former employees into inappropriate relationships. Smith denied wrongdoing. Smith also lost his position as the nation president for MAD DADS, which has 10 chapters nationwide.

A spokesman for MAD DADS said the group continues to cooperate with an outside investigation, but that Smith's departure is not related to the allegations.

"MAD DADS leadership believes it is time for the next generation of leaders to continue the good work of the organization," the spokesman said.

MAD DADS provides security and outreach to stop and prevent violence and provide resources and support for people who want to overcome addiction or a life of violence. Smith and his green-shirted volunteers spent countless hours this past year trying to quell unrest in the wake of the police killing of George Floyd and marching with neighborhood leaders in response to fatal shootings.

MAD DADS workers provide security for city transit services and stood guard at homeless encampments in city parks. MAD DADS also speaks in local schools, offers life-skills coaching to the incarcerated and helps resolve conflicts in neighborhood hotspots.



VJ Smith, left, led a rally this past summer outside a convenience store where a drive-by shooting injured a boy. Photo by David Pierini

Northside homeless camp faces eviction from city land

Photos and text by
David Pierini, Staff Reporter

Twenty homeless people sheltering at a Northside tent encampment face eviction after the City of Minneapolis cited a growing number of health and safety risks.

The community known as the Near North camp avoided a first eviction attempt on the morning of March 18 when protesters supporting the homeless clashed with police as they were taping off the intersection of Second Avenue and Girard Avenue North to begin closing the nearby camp.

Anger and anxiety spiked earlier when the city posted an eviction notice at the camp less than a month after officials told campers they would not forcibly close the camp to allow the community time to find stabling housing.

The camp remained in place as of press time.

"We're going to have to secure our belongings, find storage and try to block this eviction again," said Mandla Xaba, one of the camp leaders.

Erik Hansen, the city's director of Economic Policy and Department, said the camp sits on contaminated soil from a petroleum company that once occupied the city. He said fire hazards and other unspecified safety risks necessitate the camp's closure.

"The closing was delayed after city staff and outreach teams met on Feb. 24 with people at the encampment, who told staff they needed additional time to secure more permanent housing," Hansen said. "The city did not establish a new closing date at that time, but staff communicated that the camp will be closed in the near future due to public health risk of site contamination, and that the closure could happen sooner if conditions at the site changed."

Xaba believes the eviction notice



The Near North camp has been on Girard Avenue North since last fall. Minneapolis officials want the camp closed.



A city eviction notice posted at an entrance to the camp.



Two Bibles sit outside a tent.

was posted after police responded to a domestic violence incident at the camp “that was handled appropriately.”

“We protected the woman and the guy who attacked her is no longer allowed to stay here,” Xaba said. “If there was domestic violence in an apartment you wouldn’t kick out everybody in the complex.”

The community first arrived on Girard Avenue North last October. The camp is made up of mostly Black and Indigenous people who were relocated to the city-owned property after officials disbanded homeless encampments at B.F. Nelson and Powderhorn parks.

It is a tight-knit group that formed an alliance with local volunteers and organizations that have been assisting the unhoused camp residents with food, clothing and other necessities. The Minneapolis Northside Mutual Aid raised several thousand dollars online to assist the camp.

To address the growing number of encampments, the city is part of a \$55 million homeless response program to expand emergency shelter and create low-barrier housing

in Hennepin County. Hansen said government and non-profit partners were able to secure permanent housing for more than 2,000 people who were homeless.

He said there are enough shelter beds available for the 20 at the Near North camp. But Xaba and others said the shelters are not for everyone and can feel unsafe to some of the more vulnerable people.

Those at the camp had hoped to find a stable solution that would allow the community to remain together.

“As much as we try to push them back, it’s kind of inevitable,” said another camp leader, a woman named Moon who has lived unhoused for four years. “I’ve got 12 people here that I need to help because they didn’t give us any other solution. There’s not enough housing for everyone, there’s not enough programs for everyone. We’ll just pick up and shift to another spot.”



Nightwolf gathers items to prepare for the closure of the camp.



Mandla Xaba, center, is one of the leaders at the encampment who has met with city officials to allow the camp to stay open until all have stable housing.

MINNESOTA WOMEN'S PRESS



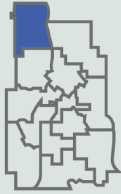
Addressing the Crisis

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First-person stories about transforming justice, equity, and leadership

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catch up with our Council Members



WARD 4:
**Phillipe
Cunningham**



Neighbors,

We have a multitude of transportation projects in the works that are moving forward for better roads and improved safety on the Northside.

252/I94 environmental review

MNDoT has started to review this stretch of highway because it needs improvements and repairs as both roads are deteriorating. This project is in the environmental impact statement phase. This phase is examining how a project like this could impact the surrounding environment including people and plants. Community engagement has started and I encourage you to be involved. They are looking to expand the stretch of Interstate 94 along Ward 4, so we need to be unified and present for this conversation. There is a wealth of information that you can access by visiting www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/hwy252study/index.html.

Osseo Road reconstruction

Hennepin County will be reconstructing Osseo Road from Penn Avenue to 49th Avenue. Last month the road design was approved by the city council. Design features include curve design and request for barriers, raised pedestrian and bicycle crossings, and incorporating features for Metro Transit. I was able to make sure that your voices were heard in regards to safety around the curve that leads up to Penn Avenue, working in conjunction with Commissioner Irene Fernando. The layout can be found at the project's website www.hennepin.us/osseoroad.

Webber 44 corridor reconstruction

If you live along 44th Avenue and Webber Parkway you may have heard and seen this work getting started. Hennepin County is making safety improvements that include turn lanes, traffic signals, replacing curbs and gutters, and adding Americans with Disability (ADA) compliant ramps at intersections. Another safety feature will be on Lyndale Avenue that will allow for an off-street bicycle path. You can read up on the project at www.hennepin.us/webber-44.

METRO Blue Line extension light rail transit

This project will extend the current Blue Line from Target Field to Brooklyn Park. As of right now the route is being discussed. There are two routes under consideration, both would leave Target Field Station. The routes that link leaving out of Target Field Station can be seen in detail on the project website. Here's what is under consideration for the Northside:

- **Lowry Route:** the train would take one of the suggested links to get over to Washington Avenue and the train would run north on Washington and go west on to Lowry Avenue to Bottineau Boulevard (County Road 81)
- **West Broadway Route:** the train would take one of the suggested links then go west on Broadway to Bottineau Boulevard (County Road 81)

You can learn more at tinyurl.com/metroblrt.

Lyndale Avenue North pedestrian safety improvements

Along Lyndale from 22nd to 40th the proposed project will add pedestrian safety improvements. Some ideas about what those are is pedestrian crossing medians, upgrades to traffic control devices, and new ADA compliant ramps. Public engagement is just ramping up. You can watch the presentation from our March 20th Coffee w/ Cunningham on the ward Facebook page tinyurl.com/ward4fb.

Using public roads safely is a part of the bigger picture of public safety. I continue to fight for all of that for us.

In community,
Councilmember Cunningham
ward4@minneapolisismn.gov
612-673-2204



WARD 5:
**Jeremiah
Ellison**



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.

The state recently expanded vaccine eligibility to Minnesotans with specific underlying health conditions, food processing plant workers, and Minnesotans with rare conditions or disabilities that put them at higher risk of severe illness.

Providers will now have the flexibility to provide available appointments to other eligible Minnesotans. If you are eligible to get vaccinated, you do not have to wait for information from the Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector before you get your shot. You can connect with your primary health care provider or use the Vaccine Locator map to find a vaccine appointment near you. If you are an essential frontline worker, your employer may be reaching out with information about vaccination opportunities. Find more information about eligibility and how to make an appointment at mn.gov/covid19/vaccine.

As vaccine supply increases, it will become easier than ever to get a shot. Until then, it's important to take easy steps to slow the spread of illness. Wear your mask, stay 6 feet away from others, wash your hands, and get a COVID-19 test if you need one. More information can be found at mn.gov/covid19/get-tested.

Spring break for Minneapolis Public Schools is April 2-9. If you're looking for ways to keep your kids active, check out some of the many activities hosted by the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board, like open basketball, tie dye crafts, wiffle ball, movie matinees, and more. Check out all the offerings at www.minneapolisiparks.org.

The City of Minneapolis is mov-

ing forward on a pilot project that will serve as an alternative to police response to support people experiencing a crisis. This pilot project will send an unarmed, highly trained and empathetic team to properly assess their needs and provide appropriate care or support while avoiding unnecessary hospitalization and criminalization. Behavioral health response teams will include behavioral health providers and may include emergency medical technicians or emergency medical services. Learn more about this work on the City's website at www.minneapolisismn.gov.

The Community Action Partnership of Hennepin County (CAP-HC) is a federally sanctioned agency that partners with the community to reduce the impact of poverty. They provide a wide range of services that include assistance for paying rent, utilities, and vehicle repairs, applying for health insurance, and filing taxes. Find more information at www.caphennepin.org.

As always, there are several ways to be in touch with me, so don't hesitate to reach out. You can sign up for the Ward 5 newsletter, RSVP to my weekly virtual office hours (Saturdays at 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.) or request a one-on-one meeting with me at www.minneapolisismn.gov/ward5.

Lessons learned (or missed) with the 2015 police killing of Jamar Clark

By Harry Colbert, Jr., Editor-in-Chief

History repeats.
But does it have to?

As we are square in the midst of the trial of Derek Chauvin, the Minneapolis police officer accused of murdering handcuffed and unarmed George Floyd, the questions many are asking is why did the killing have to happen and what could have been done that would have prevented it. Sadly, we've been here before in Minneapolis.

Sometime after midnight on Nov. 15, 2015, 24-year-old Jamar Clark fell victim to Minneapolis police. Like Floyd, Clark was unarmed. He was not subject to an active criminal investigation. He was a worried young man checking on a friend who was just loaded into an ambulance with a broken leg. Clark got into a brief verbal confrontation with Minneapolis Police Officers Mark Ringgenberg and Dustin Schwarze. Ringgenberg grabbed Clark from behind and pulled him to the ground – as seen in video released by Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman. Moments later Clark was shot in the head. He died two days later.

Prior to the release of video multiple witnesses said Clark was not the aggressor and never posed a threat to officers. In scenes eerily reminiscent to the aftermath of the George Floyd killing an outraged community took part in an 18-day encampment at the Fourth Precinct police headquarters and multiple protest ensued. Like the protests of the Floyd killing, white nationalist extremists attempted



Twenty-four-year-old Jamar Clark, killed Nov. 15, 2015.

to blend in with those seeking justice for Clark and cause mayhem. Outed by legitimate protesters, Allen "Lance" Scarsella opened fire and wounded five people. He was later convicted of assault and sentenced to 15 years.

Further protests erupted on March 30, 2016 when Freeman announced he would not bring charges against Ringgenberg and Schwarze.

Community activist said the killing and their believed lack of justice left them hurt, but not broken and strengthened their resolve to fight for justice and against police violence.

But were lessons learned from the Clark killing and subsequent uprising?

"I'm not sure," said Minneapolis City Councilman Jeremiah Ellison,

who is part of the council now calling for a defunding and reimagining of police. "But accountability matters. Writ large, we have an accountability problem with the MPD (Minneapolis Police Department). What police do on the ground won't change unless there's accountability."

In part it was the killing of Clark and subsequent protests that led to him running for public office. In particular – in an image that was shared globally – it was Ellison with hands in the air and his head inches from a police weapon, the officer fully clad in tactical gear.

"I saw that (police pointing weapons at protesters) dozens of times while I was out there," recalled Ellison. "That photo blew up because of my privilege of my dad being in office, but that happened dozens of times during those 18 days."

Ellison's father is current Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison, then a representative in the U.S. House. The elder Ellison's office is handling the prosecution of Chauvin.

The killing of Clark also sparked something in Teto Wilson.

Wilson had exited the Elks Lodge at 1614 Plymouth Ave. N. on Nov. 15, 2015 when he and friends noticed police activity across the street. Within seconds Wilson said he saw police pull Clark to the ground and then shoot him in the head.

Wilson said the memories are haunting, but doing nothing would haunt him more.

"With Jamar Clark's death, what it sparked in me was an upfront recognition that Black men's lives are seen as invaluable and I needed to use my voice and talents for Black people as a whole," said Wilson, owner of Wilson's Image Barber and Beauty and who since started

a scholarship for Minneapolis high school students.

Wilson said judicial action against Ringgenberg and Schwarze may have brought about policy changes within the department that could have saved the life of George Floyd, but their punishment alone would not have been enough.

"Had they (city officials and prosecuting attorney) paid attention maybe ... just maybe ... we wouldn't have had the killing of George Floyd," said Wilson.

In the wake of the Floyd killing, changes are occurring. Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey and Police Chief Medaria Arradondo announced new recruitment priorities for incoming recruits including assigning greater weight to applicants who have experience in social service and reside in Minneapolis. The changes also include assigning greater weight to volunteer experience and substance use disorder counseling.

"Having grown up in Minneapolis, I know first-hand the value of having officers who are familiar with, and deeply invested in, the communities we serve," said Arradondo.

Last fall MPD overhauled the use of force and no-knock warrant policies. An



Chain link fencing and barbed wire recently went up at the Fourth Precinct headquarters on Plymouth Avenue in anticipation of unrest during and after the Derek Chauvin murder trial. Photo by Harry Colbert, Jr.

example of the new policy played out in January when police encountered a suspect with a gun at Dowling and Vincent avenues north, who fired upon officers. While police initially met the threat with lethal force, nonlethal rounds were later deployed and the suspect, though wounded, was taken into custody alive.



This now infamous photo captured the moment Jeremiah Ellison stood face to gun with a Minneapolis police officer following the police killing of Jamar Clark. Photo courtesy of the Minneapolis Star Tribune and Renee Jones Schneider

PRINCE REMEMBERED

Five years after Prince's passing, North Minneapolis musicians share their stories of working with one of the world's greatest musicians



Price from the iconic album cover and movie poster, "Purple Rain." Photo credit Warner Bros.

By **Maurice Hudson**, Intern Reporter

"He was a true inspiration to so many people and gave so many of us opportunities to go for our dreams."

Reminiscing on his experiences with the late Prince, Jason Peterson DeLaire, musician from the famous musical family, "The Petersons", said he will always remember Prince and the things he has done for Minneapolis.

Flashback to April 21, 2016, the day that stunned the world. The day that Prince died.

Prince's death shook the world and

left those connected to him with a duty to carry on his legacy that was built in the community.

DeLaire said he first found out about the horrific event when he was on tour in Glasgow, Scotland with Michael Bolton and it didn't fully process until the everyone on tour was at a standstill.

"We all just were completely in shock and crying," DeLaire said. "I mean, you know, whether you are from North Minneapolis or not, his loss was felt by the entire world and he was such an inspiration, such a genius and his music touched so many people's lives that it was a com-

plete shock."

DeLaire worked closely with Prince for more than three decades and Prince served almost as a mentor to DeLaire.

"It was about 1991, I was working in a band in California in Palm Springs, and I got a call from the Prince camp to join the Paisley Park house band," DeLaire said. "Prince started working with the band by producing and preparing us to be his opening act on the 1992 Diamonds and Pearls tour. So, I got a chance to go out on tour with Prince, and that was really a dream come true for me because I always loved Prince and I always wanted to work

with him," DeLaire said.

DeLaire said the opportunity and the knowledge obtained from Prince himself was pivotal on his musical career.

"Just being around Prince, his mastery of music and his work ethic, and just being around him in general, I learned so much by osmosis of just having the opportunity to be in his universe," DeLaire said.

DeLaire said Prince served as a catalyst for connection between the Peterson Family and the Steeles in the sense of both families being incorporated in the music scene and the bond was heightened through Prince's presence.

"Even before Prince, the Steeles and the Peterson family have known each other and worked with each other for probably over 35 years," DeLaire said. "So even before Prince, our families were very interconnected in the music and basically we were family with each other."

"Prince has been a kind of a conduit or a connector for so many in the musical community," DeLaire said.

J.D. Steele, singer, songwriter and member of the Steeles, recalled his personal experiences befriending the musical talent Prince. Steele said the first encounter occurred when Prince asked if the Steeles could contribute to the movie "Graffiti Bridge."

"In 1989, he asked us if we wanted to sing on the 'Graffiti Bridge' soundtrack so we did one song and we had such a blast doing it, he asked us to do another song and then he asked us if we would be in the movie," Steele said.

Steele said being included in the movie jumpstarted a chain of events for the relationship between Prince and the Steele family.

"I signed a publishing deal with Paisley Park Music, which was being administered by Warner Chappell and I started living at Paisley Park," Steele said. "We would literally be there from sunup to sundown to sunup again."

"He would be in Studio A recording and I would be in Studio B and I could just record anytime I had engineers available and, for some reason I felt like if he was at the studio

Continued on page 18

Popular musician shines light on systematic racism

By **Maurice Hudson**, Intern Reporter

Systemic racism.

People of color can dialogue it, but the reality is white people have to act as well to solve it.

J.D. Steele, singer, songwriter, and creator added another facet to his expertise; filmmaking. Steele, best known for his musical career, as a member of the Steeles and for his work with Prince, George Clinton, Donald Fagen, Mavis Staples and many other artists, debuted his first film "Listen! Please!" on Feb. 8 on Facebook and YouTube. The documentary tackles the issue of systemic racism that people of color face on a day-to-day basis.

Steele said he ultimately went with

the idea for the documentary when a friend of his, a 90-year-old philanthropist, Penny Winton, told him that he should make this a reality.

"She called me out of the blue after the George Floyd killing and she said, 'I think you should do a documentary on systemic racism' and my first thought was that I have some friends of mine who are filmmakers and I could refer one of them to her because I've never made a film," Steele said. "However, the next morning, I woke up and had an epiphany and I thought I could do this."

"Listen! Please!" was born.

The documentary is presented through a series of interviews by prominent Black elders in the Minneapolis community including beloved professor and

author Mahmoud El-Kati, Bill English, founding member of the Northside Job Creation Team, Dr. Josie Johnson, Minnesota civil rights icon, and Steele's mother, Sallie Steele Birdsong.

Steele said originally, he wasn't planning on including his mother in the documentary, but she provided some major elements that enhanced the project as a whole.

"I wasn't going to interview my mother at first, because I just thought, since I had a camera crew that I would interview her just so the family would have an archive film of Mom, but she told some stories that were so compelling that caught me by surprise," Steele said.

The four experienced housing discriminations, racial profiling, police intimidation and microaggressions throughout their lifespan in what El-Kati calls "a series of little 'meannesses' that come at you every day." Steele said the documentary makes it clear that solving systemic racism is not up to people of color but up to white people as well. "When you have a diverse, what I call the circle of be-



JD Steele

nevolence, it broadens your perspectives and you understand things more clearly," Steele said. "So that's the number one thing is, I want people to start talking and having multicultural dialogues."

Through the lenses of the four octogenarians, the viewer gets a sense of what they go through for just being Black by hearing about their constant struggle with discrimination and that many instances throughout their lives that almost cost them their lives.

Tribute to Prince stands tall in North Minneapolis

Esther Osayande never met Prince, but she loved him just the same.

When the city's Public Art Advisory Council selected artists for the 26th Avenue North Bikeway renovation Osayande had been chosen to create a sculpture but the idea hadn't yet emerged. But with the shocking and untimely passing of Prince, Osayande was walking past the famed club First Avenue and thousands of people were outside singing "Purple Rain." Osayande had her marching orders.

"Prince deserved a permanent monument in an area he knew well and where the people knew him," said the artist.

Thus the "Purple Raindrop" was born. The large hollowed out sculpture stands tall at the opening to Fairview Park at the intersection of 26th and Lynedale avenues north. Osayande designed the sculpture to be a functional piece of art where residents can come, sit and reflect.

"When people come here and see this art I hope it will pique their interest in him (Prince); especially the young people," said Osayande, while seated inside the sculpture she designed.



"Purple Raindrop" sculptor Esther Osayande
Photos by David Pierini



Jason Peterson DeLaire

Walrus wants to be a resource for North Minneapolis artists

Photos and text by David Pierini, Staff Reporter

An old brick building that once housed a machine shop at 4400 Lyndale Ave. N. begins a new life as a space for launching art careers, especially those who live in North Minneapolis.

Walrus is an art gallery and consignment shop that opened on March 4. While it shares a name with the large flipped mammal, owner Michelle Courtright chose a name that nods to the type of art curated within the gallery's three rooms – only pieces meant for hanging on a wall.

When Courtright signed the lease on the former Machine Specialties Manufacturing Company, she framed her business model with three pillars; feature framed art, curate to make art accessible and affordable and give a generous amount of space to artists from the neighborhood.

"We appreciate being a part of the Northside and we want to prioritize artists from the Northside," Courtright said. "We want art that is completely attainable to the average person but we also want to support the artist and their need to pay the bills. We are reaching out to people and now, artists are starting to find us."

Walrus is open Thursday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and artists can send queries via the website www.walrus.style.

The gallery works with the artist to set the price, which could range from \$25 for a small canvass to \$2,500 for a large painting. Walrus works with artists on a consignment agreement of 50 percent or 70 percent, if the artist is willing to volunteer.

Among the first North Minneapolis artists to show at Walrus is Ron Brown, who describes his painted portraits as "Afro anime illustrations." Brown has volunteered to organize events at Walrus.

One event being planned will address some of the biggest costs to artists, framing. A frame has the power to elevate a piece, but the cost can often keep an artist from showing in a gallery. To frame 10 or 12 items could cost hundreds of dollars. The workshop could bring in seasoned artists who know affordable workarounds, such as DIY framing or using thrift store frames for repurposing.

Another Northside artist and resident, gallery coordinator Madison Rubenstein, said her email inbox has been flooded with queries from artists who are excited about connecting with Walrus.

"For some of the artists, this is going to be maybe their first experience," Rubenstein said. "I think we can fill a gap where people don't know how to necessarily get their work out for it to be seen by people on a consistent basis. We are trying to be a resource in this space."



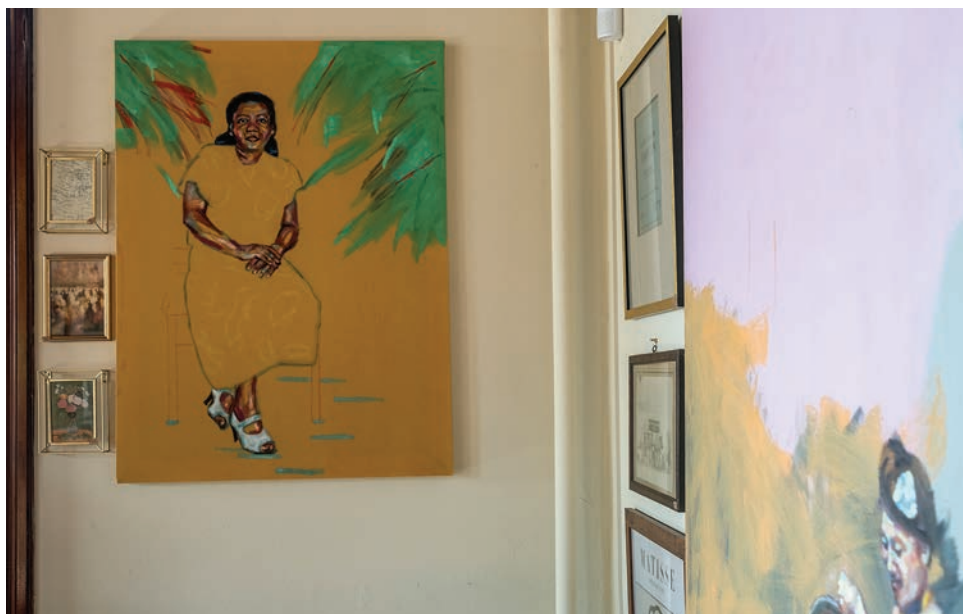
An old machine shop on Lyndale now has new life as a shop promoting the works of local artists.



Katherine Story-Sutter is an artist and Walrus volunteer.



Walrus is loaded with work from local artists, but wants to prioritize the work of North Minneapolis creators.



Walrus has three rooms full of art and the shop's name is a nod to the kid work it exhibits - pieces that hang on a wall.



Gallery manager Madison Rubenstein and Walrus owner Michelle Courtright price a print for the shop.

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Black Minnesotans work through righteous distrust to get COVID-19 vaccines

Story and photos by David Pierini, Staff Reporter

Blenda Smith prayed herself to sleep the night before and resumed her appeals to God the next morning as she rolled up her sleeve.

Fifteen minutes after her COVID-19 vaccine, Smith said she was feeling fine.

"It was a really hard decision for me," Smith said on the morning she received her first dose at Sanctuary Church in North Minneapolis. "I was nervous when I came through the door, but I shouldn't be nervous now because I'm prayed up on it."

"Hopefully the shot is going to do what it's supposed to do."

A year after the deadly coronavirus first arrived in Minnesota, health officials are accelerating a vaccine rollout that should reach every eligible adult in the state sometime in May.

Even as vaccines became available, public health officials and community leaders were mounting a campaign to convince skeptical African-Americans like Smith to receive the vaccine.

Black Americans' have justifiable distrust with health care because of several historical examples of medical exploitation. Many cite the infamous Tuskegee Study, where 600 men were misled into participating in a decades-long syphilis research project that purposely withheld treatment. Several participants died and passed the disease onto family members.

The study only came to halt after a whistleblower came forward in 1972.

"Mistrust is not a stereotype," said Anna Babington-Johnson, who served as a navigator at a recent vaccine event at Shiloh Temple International Ministries. "The reality is people died in the Tuskegee project. But we have to communicate that this isn't a white virus, it's a world virus. There are underlying conditions in our community, which means if they get the virus or the various, they could die. Mistrust is not something we can afford."



After Audrey Smith received her vaccine at Shiloh Temple International Ministries, her husband, Bob, rolled up his sleeve for his shot.



Pastor Bettye Howell hugged her husband Bishop Richard Howell as he sat down to receive his final vaccine dose.

Vaccine data based on race and ethnicity compiled by the Minnesota Department of Health show significant gaps for people under 45. However, the gap shrinks significantly with older Minnesotans. As of mid-March most Black residents over the age of 45 have received at least one vaccine.

NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center, the largest healthcare provider in North Minneapolis, has received a steady number of requests for the vaccine, averaging about 1,000 per week, said Dr. Kevin Gilliam II.

"Things are going extremely well for us at NorthPoint," Gilliam said. "There does continue to be some hesitancy in the community but I believe that hesitancy is decreasing. I believe this is due to people becoming more comfortable with the idea of being vaccinated after seeing their friends and family become vaccinated."

Babington-Johnson gives much of the credit to Gov. Tim Walz, who early on sought out meetings with Black community faith leaders. Her husband, the Rev. Alfred Babington-Johnson, runs the StairStep Foundation, which helped organize COVID-19 testing and has since hosted vaccine events at churches around the Twin Cities.

The StairStep Foundation has had a 15-year partnership with M Health Fairview to bring flu shots to the community. M Health Fairview works with more than 100 organizations to lower the barriers to flu shots in communities of color. The COVID-19 vaccine was a

Continued on page 18



Bonnie Jean Smith readied herself for a dose during a vaccine event at Sanctuary Church.



June Dean was hesitant to receive a vaccine, but she felt comfortable once she learned she could get one at her church, Shiloh Temple International Ministries



"I feel relief that I have at least a measure of protection and that if I get (COVID-19) it will not be as bad," said Thaloyce Johnson, pictured here at Shiloh Temple International Ministries about to receive her final dose.



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Returning to school

In-person learning begins for high and middle school students

By **Ameyir Freeman**, Student Reporter
9th grade, North Community High School

In the middle of the year and still in a pandemic, students are returning back to in person school.

Many students, teachers and parents are excited about returning back to in person school.

North High School will be taking its students back on April 12.

Parents of students like Mauri Friestleben, who is also the principal at North, are welcoming the idea of students returning to in-person school. Friestleben said she is excited for students to come back and she is eager to get her daughter out of the house and for her to meet her teachers and other classmates.

With excitement come concerns.

Friestleben is concerned because her daughter has never been to North and also

concerned that she will maintain the practice of physical distancing. As a staff member, Friestleben is looking forward to the building having its energy again, the seniors graduating and meeting the freshmen she doesn't already know.

Students are excited as well. Samiah-Sy'more Sims said she is ready to go back to school in person. She didn't think she would be returning any time this year. She is less excited about wearing a mask all day, but she is prepared for all new changes.

"Honestly, I didn't know this was going to happen. I thought we were going back next year," said Sims. "I am prepared for the new changes."

Taylor Flandrick, health teacher at North, is telling her students coming back to school is going to look different than anything we've ever seen before. As the



Health instructor Taylor Flandrick said she and the rest of the staff will do everything they can to keep students and staff COVID free. Photo courtesy of Taylor Flandrick

health teacher at North, she will be doing her best to make sure students are staying safe and that her classroom will be a safe place.

"It is going to be weird and maybe even uncomfortable at first," said Flandrick. "The best thing we can all do is be flexible and adaptable."



Samiah-Sy'more Sims is looking forward to a return to in-person learning. Photo courtesy of Samiah-Sy'more Sims

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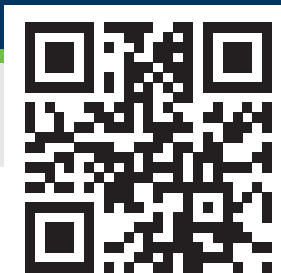
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Story and photos by
Harry Colbert, Jr., Editor-in-Chief

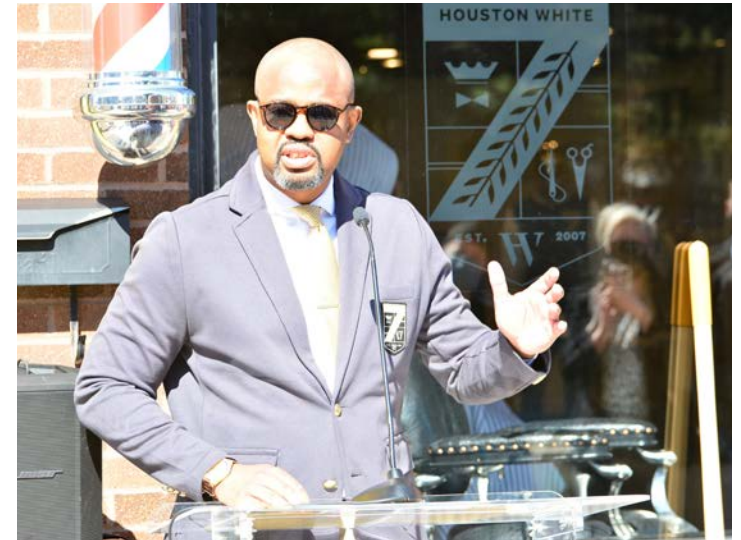
It seems the earth beneath Houston White's feet is constantly moving.

Well this time that movement is literal as construction has begun on the expansion to his social and civil enterprise, HWMR. The corner of 44th and Humboldt avenues north will soon be home to the outdoor seating of White's Get Down Coffee Co. Outside partons can sit in the expanded café and sip of one of several blends of java while inside they can browse one of White's custom clothing brands (Black Excellence, Be the Change, King Kunta, Viictory and HWMR) or get a haircut and shave from one of the shop's barbers. White may even cut hair from time to time (if the visionary entrepreneur can sit still long enough).


Mayor Jacob Frey and other dignitaries were on hand for the March 19 groundbreaking for the Get Down. Frey praised White for his forethought and follow through in reimagining the Webber-Camden neighborhood and North Minneapolis.



With ceremonial gold shovels in hand (left to right) Ward 4 Councilmember Phillipe Cunningham, Houston White, Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey, Peter McLaughlin, executive director at Twin Cities LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corp.) and Pillsbury United CEO Adair Mosley toss dirt outside of the soon-to-be expanded HWMR/Get Down Coffee Co.




An emotional Houston White harkened back to when he was 13 years old first plying his craft as a barber to now achieving greater entrepreneurial success.




3 COVID-19 vaccines


are now available in Minnesota.



Johnson & Johnson



Moderna




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Each are nearly 100% effective against hospitalization.

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ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES, MINNESOTA



Prince Continued from page 9

until six in the morning, then I needed to be at the studio until six as well," Steele said. "So, I wanted to be like that."

Steele said he and Prince bounced musical knowledge off of each other and help propel one another to the next level together.

"He (Prince) would teach me different perspectives on how to create the music and then we were both a lot alike in that," Steele said. "He's singing all of his background parts and a lot of times I would sing all the background parts (for the Steeles) and then give it to my family to learn and I don't take that gift for granted at all."

Steele said he found out about Prince's death on the radio, and he was in a state of denial.

"I was really in shock and the grieving didn't really begin until a couple days later, because I remember channel 11 (KARE 11) calling me that evening and asking if they could do an interview with me," Steele said. "That's when I really began to grieve about

it, but the more I talked about it, the more people that asked me to do interviews, the better it made me feel to talk about it."

Steele and DeLaire shared various experiences and accomplishments with Prince, and both said they would never forget what he did for the city of Minneapolis and the world.

"I just feel extremely blessed that I had a chance to work with what I consider the greatest musician to ever walked the planet," Steele said.

As for the next generation of musicians, the legacy of Prince will be carried throughout their musical endeavors.

"As artists, we have to be leaders," DeLaire said. "That's what I would say is the most important thing I took from Prince is to put a good message out to the world and use my vehicle of music to do that."

Vaccine Continued from page 14

relatively easy pivot. M Health and Stair-Step have scheduled 15 vaccine events

across the Twin Cities.

Walz, M Health Fairview officials and Alfred Babington-Johnson appeared together at a press briefing in early March at Shiloh to tout the partnership to reach communities of color.

"Our governor made decisions that I am grateful for," Anna Babington-Johnson said. "He understood the community is already plagued with challenges and so he came and met with the pastors. He didn't say, 'I know everything.' He said, 'Tell me what I can do.'"

The churches are key because people are more likely to trust the vaccine when they see their pastor and fellow churchgoers get the vaccine, said Bishop Richard Howell of Shiloh Temple.

June Dean, who passed up on receiving the vaccine at her senior citizen complex, changed her mind when she saw Shiloh, her church, was a vaccine site.

"The faith place is the safe place," said Howell, after receiving his second dose. "There are a lot of conspiracies swirling around the vaccines. People look up to their faith communities and when they see their pastor get a shot and the congre-

gants follow behind, they say, 'If they can do it, I can do it too.'"

Priscilla Scott, who received her shots at Sanctuary Church, said she was looking forward to the freedom the protection the vaccine would bring her, especially on visits with family and friends who are also vaccinated.

Scott said she did her own research on the vaccine and concluded it was safe to take.

"If you ask my opinion, that stuff (Tuskegee) happened in the 1940s and we had no control; we were controlled," Scott said. "That was barbaric and American doesn't work that way any more. So I tell people. Inform yourself before you go way back there."

Francine Watson, who also received her vaccine at Sanctuary, said doctors in her family gave her the assurance she needed to receive a shot against the virus.

"I'd rather take my chances with the side effects than with the COVID," she said.



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GRADUATIONS & OTHER ACADEMIC HONORS

Christina Dogbey, of Minneapolis, was a fall semester graduate of *Bethel University* in St. Paul. Dogbey earned a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work.

Michael Miller, of Minneapolis, earned a degree in Physical Education this past fall at *University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point*.

Several students with local ties were named to the fall semester Dean's List at the *University of Minnesota-Twin Cities*. They are: **Abigail Boyer**, College of Sci and Engineering; **Allison Xiong**, College of Education/Human Development; **Kevin Yang**, College of Liberal Arts; **Aisha Abdulahi**, College of Education/Human Development; **Quin Alexander**, College of Liberal Arts; **Lucia Allen**, College of Liberal Arts; **Genaro Andrade Rivera**, College of Design; **Daniel Banker**, College of Design; **Sucdi Bashir**, College of Liberal Arts; **Tanner Beckstrom**, College of Food, Agriculture and Nation Sciences; **Ashlyn Behrman**, College of Liberal Arts; **Emmanuel Blabuh**, College of Education/Human Development; **Eliana Branch**, College of Liberal Arts; **Elizabeth Bush**, College of Liberal Arts; **Jack Callahan**, Sophomore, College of Liberal Arts; **Marlisha Carter**, College of Design; **Murphy Cauble**, College of Design; **Kenneth Clungeon**, College of Science and Engineering; **Nolan Clyne**, Carlson School of Management; **Karla Cortes Miguel**, College of Liberal Arts; **Jonathan Delgado**, College of Design; **Jacob Dommer-Koch**, College of Design; **Yahye Egal**, College of Liberal Arts; **Isabella Gold**, College of Liberal Arts; **Gregory Gronseth**, College of Contin & Prof Studies; **Rae Guntzel**, Medical School; **Redwan Hassan**, College of Contin and Prof Studies; **Mitchell Hockenberry**, College of Science and Engineering; **Fadha Ibrahim**, College of Liberal Arts; **Logan Igherighe**, College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Science; **Julian Kinneavy**, College of Science and Engineering; **Michael Lambert**, College of Science and Engineering; **Makenna Larson**, College of Design; **Majestic Lasky**, Senior, College of Liberal Arts; **Chieng Lor**, College of Contin and Prof Studies; **Xai Lor**, College of Education/Human Development; **Carly Madden**, College of Liberal Arts; **Regina Markert**, College of Liberal Arts; **Meylani McCorvey**, College of Design; **Henry Meeker**, College of Science and Engineering; **Quinn Morris**, School of Nursing; **Ethan Nevalainen**, College

of Design; **My-Ly Nguyen**, College of Education/Human Development; **Matthew Ogbeifun**, College of Liberal Arts; **Joseline Pacheco**, Carlson School of Management; **Christina Pender**, College of Liberal Arts; **Vanessa Pesantez**, College of Education/Human Development; **June Roettger**, College of Liberal Arts; **Ruby Roettger**, College of Liberal Arts; **Rachael Rogers**, College of Contin and Prof Studies; **Randi Rogers**, College of Biological Sciences; **Colt Schiller Olson**, College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Science; **Johnathan Schocker**, Carlson School of Management; **Amaal Shire**, College of Education/Human Development; **Rebecca Skelton**, College of Liberal Arts; **Abigail Smith**, School of Nursing; **Caroline Smith**, College of Liberal Arts; **Kevin Smith**, College of Liberal Arts; **Zihan Tang**, College of Liberal Arts; **Megan Vandewalle**, College of Liberal Arts; **Christina Vang**, College of Education/Human Development; **Mai Ka Vang**, College of Education/Human Development; **Anna Von Kampen**, College of Liberal Arts; **Mouakong Xiong**, College of Education/Human Development; **Lisa Yang**, College of Education/Human Development; **Juweeriya Yaseen**, College of Education/Human Development; and **Sofia Yunis**, Carlson School of Management.

Several local students were named to the fall semester Dean's List at *Minnesota State Mankato*. There are: **Kehinde Ajayi**, **Sarah Freese**, **Gaoyee Xiong**, **Tra Carter**, **Maxwell Gruidl**, **Makiyia Harvey**, **Samuel Jorgenson**, **Victoria Lynch**, **Znia Richmond**, **Bee Thao**, **Elizabeth Wilson-Sandberg**, **Gomomon Wonosikou**, **Chong Xiong**, **Jer Yang**, and **Jaelon Young**.

Two Minneapolis students were recent graduates of the *University of Wisconsin-La Crosse*. There are: **Jeffrey Belteton**, Bachelor of Science, Marketing; and **Kirill Shumilov**, Master of Science, Clinical Exercise Physiology.

BE AWARE

Vaccine connector: Residents who have not been vaccinated are encouraged to sign up for the COVID-19 Vaccine Connector website. Sign into mn.gov/vaccineconnector to get alerts on eligibility status and make an appointment for vaccines in your area.

Vaping impact on health: The Northside Urban Coalition Meeting will host a meeting on April 30 for a discussion of professionals and community partners about vaping, why people do and don't vape, and vaping's effect on underage smoking.

To register in advance for the Zoom meetingi follow this link: https://zoom.us/join/join?jvceGhajtG9L_AOC2dKR4hJlJ1oUA148- After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Home improvement help: Rebuilding Together Twin Cities is accepting applications for home improvement projects for low income residents. If you are interested in no-cost home repairs and modifications, call 651-776-4273 or visit <https://rebuildingtogether-twincities.org/>

The MN Energy Assistance Program can help by providing financial assistance: to pay past due energy bills to avoid disconnection, to purchase fuel for delivery in emergencies, and to repair or replace homeowners old or malfunctioning furnaces. Learn more by visiting <https://mn.gov/commerce/eap.jsp>

Food distribution: The Camden Collective and the Sanneh Foundation sponsor a weekly free food pickup each Wednesday

from 4-5:30 p.m. in the Salem Lutheran Church Parking Lot, 4150 Dupont Ave. N. Each box contains a meal kit, that includes produce, proteins, spices and recipes. Walk-ups are welcome.

Grocery delivery: The Northside Residents Redevelopment Council will continue a weekly "Northside Nice" grocery delivery service. The service is available to senior citizens and single-parents who are unable to get groceries on their own. Visit www.nrrc.org for more information.

North Minneapolis Pet Resource Center, 1401 44th Ave. N., is a program created and operated by My Pit Bull is Family to keep them in their homes by providing resources, referrals and pet supplies to families in need. It is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 8 p.m. but you have to place a pick up order on the group's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NoMiPRC/>

Radio updates in your language: Tune into Minneapolis's cultural radio programs for COVID-19 updates. The city is broadcasting updates on KMOJ 89.9 FM (English), La Raza 95.7 FM (Spanish), KALY 101.7 FM (Somali) and WIXX AM 1590 (Hmong).

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