Seven-year old Gianna Floyd, daughter of George Floyd, releases a slight smile following the guilty verdicts against Derek Chauvin, the disgraced officer responsible for the murder that sparked a worldwide revolution. Photo by David Pierini

HER DADDY CHANGED THE WORLD!

Also inside:
- New ABEP head wants Black-owned credit union to ‘feel like home’ - Page 6
- A ‘prince’ laid to rest - Page 12
Breathe.

Seriously, stop reading for a moment, close your eyes and breathe. Breathe a deep breath and let go. Let it all up.

For nearly 16 months we’ve collectively been under the most intense pressure. First it was COVID-19. Com- pound that with the murder of George Floyd, the subsequent trial and prepara- tion for the trial of Floyd’s killer, Derek Chauvin, and now the killing of Daunte Wright and it all seems too much. But with Chauvin’s conviction, the protests turned to celebrations. The weight is off.

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Repeat.

The Capri is now booking rentals

‘Farmers Markets of MPLS’ open spring markets

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For more information about the markets, visit the website: www.farmersmarketmpls.org. Contact information for each market is available on the website.

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After tasting ViVi Washington’s fresh-squeezed lemonade, Mike Copeland, left, got a bottle to go. Washington was selling his lemon- ade at a past Camden Farmer’s Market. North News file photo

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Letter from the Editor

Harry Colbert, Jr.

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catch up with our Council Members

WARD 4: Phillipe Cunningham

Neighbors, we all witnessed with the entire world the trial for Derek Chauvin. It ended with a verdict in George Floyd’s death. Even though Derek Chauvin was held accountable by our criminal justice system, there is far more work to be done for justice. We cannot get lost in this moment. As a city we have to work together to build systems of public safety and justice that work for all of us and keep all of us safe. Everyone in our community deserves to be safe — regardless of your race, faith, class, age, or zip code — and for that safety to not come at the cost of harm to others. Verdicts do not give us a safer public safety system, but we can do this necessary work together to get there. We are being called upon to meet this moment with urgency. Yes, it is hard work to build new, transformative systems that keep all of us safe and make sure what happened to George Floyd never happens again, but it is irrefutable, if we unite and do this work together we are holding love and hope for ourselves and future generations. This effort will be long and arduous but we can do this necessary work togeth- er to get there. We are being called to work together on reimagining public safety. What I am asking is that we all keep focused on doing this work together. We have to come together and break down the silos of the det- rimental and unsafe way we engage each other to keep being hurt and even killed for traffic stops or low-level non-violent offenses.

In community,
Council Member Cunningham
ward4@minneapolismn.gov
(612) 673-2204.

WARD 5: Jeremiah Ellison

On April 20 former Minneapolis Police Officer Derek Chauvin was convicted on all charges in the death of George Floyd. The verdict is accountability, which is the first step towards justice. Now the cause of justice demands the actualization of accountability. We are holding love and hope for ourselves and future generations. This effort will be long and arduous but we can do this necessary work together to get there. We are being called to work together on reimagining public safety. The environmental damages inflicted on Black communities, indigenous communities and entire communities all over the country (and world), quite horrific have been well doc- umented. The April 21 fire at Northern Metals is just one example of how com-

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Contact Zachary Greimann at ZachG@PillsburyUnited.org.

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Debra Hurston will never forget when her mom walked into a bank with an open sack full of dirt to own her own dry-cleaning business.

She had worked for years in hairdressing and dry cleaning and her employers were willing to let her do it if she could bring her financial independence. The bank refused to open the sack and her mom walked out. Debra coughed up the loan officer to crush her mom’s dream. She coughed out her retirement savings to help her mother buy the shop.

Now, Hurston finds herself poised to eliminate the same indignity and systemic racism other Blacks and people of color often face when they walk into a bank in search of a loan.

The Association for Black Economic Power (ABEP) recently hired Hurston to be the executive director and oversee the eventual opening of a Black-owned credit union that brings to the job a wealth of experience in association management that includes starting a credit union.

“I want a reality check for us, that this is the world we live in,” Hurston said about her mother’s application for a bank loan. “If you’re not that, it’s not part of your reality. For countless Blacks, we brace ourselves for it, that first interaction when we walk into a bank.”

“ABEP wants to create an entity that feels like home, no matter who you are,” said Hurston.

ABEP, formed after the police killing of Philando Castile in 2016 as a strategic response to problems from the past can feel secure and comfortable, Hurston offsets any outside of her expertise, Hurston offsets gaps by partnering with knowledgeable colleagues.

Any organization that feels snaked out by problems from the past can feel secure and comfortable, Hurston offsets gaps by partnering with knowledgeable colleagues.

She was hired in 2017 by a Back Economic Power Institute in the United States as a strategic response to problems from the past can feel secure and comfortable.

A credit union has MDI status if more than 2,000 people pledged they would support the credit union. The City of Minneapolis and local foundations were enlisted as funds for a credit union, to be called Village Financial.

Debra Hurston is the new executive director of the Association For Black Economic Power.

By David Pieri, Staff Reporter

New ABEP head wants Black-owned credit union to ‘feel like home’

A credit union has MDI status if more than 2,000 people pledged they would support the credit union. Meanwhile, more than 500 Black-owned credit unions have won a regulatory exception. But at the same time we have to ask ourselves, what can we do to make our credit unions stand on their own.

The other route would go it alone through an existing credit union, Hurston said. "When ground broke on the rehabilitation of the 927 Building on West Broadway, the way Avenue last year, community leaders said its bottom floor would be home to the first Black-owned credit union. There was even hope that the doors to a Village Financial would open for business. The organization focused a major set of public funds on recruiting a first director and the chief financial officer who would open the doors and oversee the acquisition of fraud and mismanaged funds. Both denied wrongdoing.

"In our community, we have people who are members committed. This helped us open the ship and bring on our board members and an interim director before Hurston’s arrival.

Hurston’s path to ABEP may sound unconventional. A graduate of Michigan State University, she started her professional life in journalism and at one point hosted a talk show host at a Lansing, Mich., television station.

She loved the work but thought marketing would be a better fit. Thus began a career in marketing and communications with various positions at associations, including the National Credit Union Association, the Michigan Dental Association, the Black Optometric Association and the Minnesota Chiropractic Association, where as executive director she negotiated with insurance companies to get high- er reimbursements for chiropractors’ services.

And she also formed a partnership with a chiropractor’s credit union in another state to bring a branch to Minneapolis. Former colleagues describe Hurston as detail oriented and able to work with people of all perspectives. If an issue falls outside of her expertise, Hurston offsets gaps by partnering with knowledgeable colleagues.

"Any organization that feels snaked out by problems from the past can feel secure and comfortable, Hurston offsets gaps by partnering with knowledgeable colleagues. "We decided to press the reset button on and do our due diligence. This is all based on our community’s desire to create a world where Black-owned credit unions are ready to roll and bring life-saving vaccine directly to communities that need them the most.”

By Jolene Berenstein

NORTH NEWS April 30, 2021

Mobile units deployed to increase equitable access to vaccines

Mobile vaccine units will serve communities statewide through the summer

Mobile vaccination units will provide COVID-19 vaccinations to underserved communities throughout the state of Minnesota.

According to the governor, the mobile units are a key tool to ensure equitable distribution of vaccines. Minnesota has a high proportion of Black, Latinx, and Indigenous populations who live in an area with a high Social Vulnerability Index score have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19, including Black, Latinx, Asian Pacific Islander, and Native communities as of last week. These mobile vaccination units help supplement fixed vaccine clinics, which currently have very limited ability to reach communities outside of urban areas.

"Equity is a core value of Minnesota’s COVID-19 vaccination strategy, and every single Minnesota deserves safe and equitable access to the vaccine. Making the COVID-19 vaccine available to as many people as possible is essential to ending the pandemic,” said Gov. Tim Walz. "Our mobile vaccine units are ready to roll and will bring life-saving vaccine directly to communities that need them the most."
Three hundred thirty days of tears, righteous anger and demands to end racist police brutality came to a sudden rush on a grassy plaza outside the Hennepin County Government Center.

A single word broadcast from an organizer’s bullhorn broke the silence. “GUILTY!”

Strongers hugged one another, cars honked and some people dropped to their knees in thanks. A bottle of champagne was brought, and one man broughed a bottle of champagne, anticipating a celebration.

Mnneapolis took a collective breath on April 20 for George Floyd, the Black man whose last breath came under the knee of a white police officer outside a convenience store where Floyd’s cruel death was to be laid to rest and his name reminded many that the work for justice and accountability goes on.

The verdict arrived two days before the end of the day, George Floyd, Daunte Wright was to be laid to rest and his name reminded many that the work for justice and accountability goes on.

Justice equality. Ellison and Alphas Kramer of Maplewood was standing next to the Aurora Adkins when the verdict on Chauvin was announced. They did not know each other better than Tuesday afternoon but found themselves in each other’s arms in the moment.

Blacks lived a few blocks from the intersection of 38th Street and Chicago, where Floyd died.

A woman’s sign showing the likeness of former police officer Derek Chauvin anticipated the jury’s verdict. When the verdict was announced, the crowd outside the courthouse erupted with joy and relief.

The verdict was read with several chants to honor George Floyd and calls for justice equality.

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The day after the fifth anniversary of Prince’s death another prince was laid to rest.

Like the musical legend who changed the world, so too was 20-year-old Daunte Wright. Mourners by the hundreds packed into Shiloh Temple International Ministries on West Broadway Avenue to remember the man gunned down April 11 by a single bullet from a Brooklyn Center police officer. Inside and outside throngs of media – some from as far away as France and the UK – were on hand to report on the homegoing. The spectacle was both notable and accord- ing to many, necessary.

“As I was making my way into the ser- vice to pay respects to young Daunte a person in a car drove past and said, ‘I ha- ven’t seen a funeral like this since Prince’s funeral,'” said the Rev. Al Sharpton, who deliv- ered Wright’s eulogy. “You thought he was a kid with air freshener … no, he was a prince.”

A reason for Wright’s police encounter was that he had an air freshener hanging from his rearview mirror and expired li- cense plate tags. “You pulled Daunte over for air fresh-ener. Well now we are the air freshener. We’ve got to keep up the stench of po- licing brutality and racism out the air,” said Sharpton.

Wright was Black. The officer who shot Wright, 25-year veteran Kim Pot- ter, is white. Potter said she mistook her Glock pistol for a taser. According to the Harvard University School of Public Health, Blacks in America are 2.33 times more likely to die at the hands of police than whites.

“If Kim Potter would have seen Daunte like she would have seen her own son she would not have shot him. She would not have even attempted to toss him,” said civil rights attorney Benjamin Crump. Crump is the attorney representing the Wright family and the attorney who represented the family of George Floyd. Floyd’s murderer, Derek Chauvin was convicted on April 20 of second-degree murder for the knees to the neck and head that extinguished the life of Floyd on May 25, 2020.

“For Black people, too often traffic stops end in death sentences,” Crump told the near overflow crowd. “We’ve got to keep up the fight for our children. We’ve got to fight until hell freezes over. And then we need to be prepared to fight to the death.”

Katie Wright, the mother of Daunte Wright, said her son was the light of her life and brightened up any room he walked into. She said burying her son is a burden she shouldn’t have to bear. “The miles walked to get to death row die at the homes of police, not whites.”

“Racism is why he should not have been reversed. I shouldn’t be up here to bury my son, he should have buried me,” said Katie Wright.

Daunte Wright’s fa- ther Arbuey Wright. Rep. Ilhan Omar presented Daunte Wright with a portrait of Daunte Wright during the fu- neral of the slain 20-year-old as attorney Ben Crump (left) looks on.

Continued on page 18

Twenty-year-old Daunte Wright was laid to rest April 22 at Shiloh Temple in North Minneapolis.

By Harry Colbert, Jr., Editor-in-Chief
Photos by Harry Colbert, Jr. and David Pierini

A ‘PRINCE’ WAS LAID TO REST
Daunte Wright remembered as a shining light, loving father

By Harry Colbert, Jr., Editor-in-Chief
Photos by Harry Colbert, Jr. and David Pierini

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A woman wears a mask honoring Daunte Wright.
Restoration Inc. held a healing space outside of Shiloh Temple. When a fight broke out nearby after the service, Executive Director Connie Rhodes, right, grabbed hands to pray.

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What made me so tough? The true reason I was arrested is because I had the temerity, the audacity, to speak up for a fellow human being first. I could not sit idly by when witness a wrong right in front of my eyes. I wasn’t going to have that unfair burden of, relating to, or favoring blind submission to authority. Totalitarianism: state authority that is completely subject to an absolute authority. Authoritarianism: state authority that is completely subject to an absolute authority.

My shoulder remained sore for several days. That was the lasting physical pain from being arrested and handcuffed, as seen on the video, “Don’t worry about him worry about yourself,” to which my reply was, “Oh, I’m going to absolutely worry about him.” The true reason I was arrested is because I had the temerity, the audacity, to speak up for a fellow human being first. I could not sit idly by when witness a wrong right in front of my eyes. I wasn’t going to have that unfair burden of, relating to, or favoring blind submission to authority.

I replied at the officers about their actions and told them I was worried for that man’s safety and I was told (as can be witnessed on the video), “Don’t worry about him worry about yourself.” I have zero regrets. Not on my watch. I saw witness after witness of George Floyd’s death testify during Derek Chauvin’s trial and almost each one said they wished they had done something to stop the police killing of 20-year-old Daunte Wright. The police killing of 20-year-old Daunte Wright.

Reminiscent of scenes from this past summer, plumes of chemical smoke clouded the night sky in Brooklyn Center following the unrest as a result of the police killing of 20-year-old Daunte Wright.

An artist rendering of the soon-to-come V3 Sports Complex at the corner of Lyndale and Plymouth Avenues.

V3's goal is to end drowning disparities and eliminate inequitable wellness opportunities by bringing on Olympic level pool and support system will arrive in North Minneapolis by July 1 at the center located on the corner of Plymouth and Lyndale Avenues. V3 purchased the pool that USA Swimming will use in June in Omaha to pick the Tokyo Summer Games Men’s and Women’s swim team. As soon as the pool arrives, the pool will be torn apart, piece by piece, and trucked to North Minneapolis.

From behind barbed wire, police fired tear gas and rubber bullet guns on protesters outside of the Brooklyn Center Police Department.
Patrick Henry High School gets top ranking from U.S. News

Patrick Henry High School is the top-rated high school in Minneapolis, according to rankings compiled by U.S. News & World Report. The news site compiles annually the nation’s top high schools with ranking factors that include college readiness, college curriculum breadth, math and reading performance and graduation. North High School ranked fifth in the Minneapolis Public Schools district.

Henry was the state’s third-best high school for math and reading performance out of 434, a score that ranked the Patriots 115th nationwide for that category, according to U.S. News.

The rankings include data from nearly 18,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Henry’s overall ranking nationwide is 2,143. “Students have the opportunity to take International Baccalaureate coursework and exams,” U.S. News wrote in an overview of Henry. “The IB participation rate at Henry is 54 percent.”

For a close-up look at Henry’s score, visit www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/minnesota/districts/minneapolis-public-school-district/henry-senior-high-10909.

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Take your shot, Minnesota

Vaccines will help us get back to what we’ve missed.
Rucker continued, stating that the pool will be a beacon to show Minneapolis in a new light, provide an opportunity to the Northside, which in-turn could help bring people together.

North Minneapolis Residents Redevelopment Council is collaborating with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the North Minneapolis Pet Resource Center, and the North Minneapolis Gardeners’ Association to form a Youth Green Team pollinator project for low income residents.

If you want to get involved, visit www.nrrc.org for more information.

In closing, Airport Commissioner Sarah Freese said: “We are beyond excited to see the positive impact the Flying Starts program is having on our local youth. It is a unique opportunity to ensure that everyone has the chance to learn about aviation and the endless possibilities the field has to offer.”

To learn more about the program, contact the Airport at 612-335-5924 or email: info@minneapolisairport.com.

Food distribution: The Camden Redevelopment Authority sponsor a weekly food free pickup each Saturday at 9:30 a.m. in the Salem Lutheran Church Parking Lot, 4330 Dupont Ave. N. Each box contains a meal kit, that includes produce, proteins, spices and sides. Walk-ins are welcome.

Grocery delivery: The Northside Residents Redevelopment Council will continue to weekly “Northside Nite” grocery delivery service. The service is available to senior citizens and single-parent households with children who are unable to get groceries on their own. Visit www.nrrc.org for more information.
GET VACCINATED TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR LOVED ONES.

Find out where, when, and how to get a COVID-19 vaccine at vaccineconnector.mn.gov