Lion’s Den Station:
A pastor buys a gas station as an extension of his ministry
Page 8

ALSO INSIDE
Local election results
Page 5
Henry student zine authors flourish
Page 13
Tutors in short supply, high demand
Page 16

Bishop Larry Cook and Dr. Sharon Cook stood proudly on the corner of Broadway and Fremont, excited about the future to come for their church and their newly procured business. Photo by Azhae la Hanson.
The women cut small squares of cake, careful to not slice into the face of the guest of honor, which had been printed on edible icing paper and placed on the top of the cake. The words read, “This is not only a new beginning in my life, my family’s life, but it is also a new beginning in the family of our city and of our North Minneapolis.”

The women cut small squares of cake and shared them with the guests. The cake was decorated with an impressive record of reform and trust in the police department. The cake had the words “Reformer” and “Reimagining” printed on it, along with the logo of the Baltimore Police Department. The cake was topped with a heart and a star, representing the importance of community and solidarity.

The ceremony was attended by many well-known individuals, including Peppler, Forcia, and other community leaders. The atmosphere was electric, with everyone united in their hope for a better future. The event was a reminder of the power of collective action and the importance of working together to create positive change. The cake served as a symbol of the community’s support and commitment to the new chief, who had been hired to do what seemed impossible.

Expectations and hope for NORTH News at a glance

NORTH Minneapolis at a glance

The Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ) will move into a building it purchased at the corner of West Broadway Avenue and North Second Street. According to its new CEO, Craig Warren, “I believe this will be a paradigm shift.”

NAZ’s mission is to end generational poverty by building a culture of achievement. It collaborates with parents, schools and community organizations to prepare for a career.

Craig Warren, Washburn Center names new CEO

Craig Warren was recently named the CEO of the Washburn Center for Children, 1100 Glenwood Ave. in Minneapolis. The agency provides outpatient services for children ages 5 and older. Warren will be responsible for expanding the agency’s programs and services for children with mental health challenges.

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Senator Champion
makes history and other election outcomes

There is a lot to unpack from the 2022 Midterm Elections, so we’re keeping it local. Below are results involving Northsiders who appeared on the ballot.

That’s Senate President Champion:

State Sen. Bobby Joe Champion may not have had an opponent on Nov. 8, yet his uncontested bid for a fourth term turned historic.

A Blue Wave swept Minnesota, meaning the DFL won control of the House and Senate for the first time since 2013. Two days after the election, the Senate DFL caucus elected Champion Senate President. He is the first Black person to hold that role and he will lead a state Senate where diversity is the norm.

Champion was one of several candidates who ran unopposed and then went on to be nominated by the Senate Majority to serve as Senate President.

Champion is the first Black person to lead the chamber and he will lead the most diverse Senate in Minnesota history. This includes the youngest member, the first Muslim woman, the first Black woman and the first majority-woman caucus. “I am proud and honored that the Senate DFL majority has nominated me to serve as the next Senate president,” Champion said in a statement. “I will be the first Black Senate President to preside over this esteemed Chamber, and I promise to serve with distinction and integrity.”

Minneapolis Public Schools Board of Directors:

Despite strong backing and key union endorsements, Northsider KerryJo Felder lost her bid for an at-large seat on the MPS Board of Directors Tuesday.

Felder finished third in a four-way race for two at-large seats. Collin Beachy was the top vote getter with 68,058 votes. Sonya Emerick, a disability advocate who wants to lobby the state to fully fund public education, narrowly defeated Felder 52,355 to 51,857. Lisa Stajduhar totaled 31,830 votes.

Felder seemed a shoe-in for a seat but then faced calls to back out after the ex-wife of her husband accused Felder in a Facebook post of being intoxicated and “assaulting” her children during a recent family trip to Maryland.

Education advocates called Felder unqualified for office and held a news conference to encourage her to back out and press her endorsers to drop their support.

Felder told North News she would stay in the race. The Minneapolis Federation of Teachers continued its support of Felder through the election.

In a statement to SW Voices, Felder admitted some of the things Vann Daley said on Facebook were “valid” and alluded to a possible addiction to painkillers because of chronic pain caused by osteoarthritis.

Hennepin County Attorney:

Mary Moriarity, the former chief of the Hennepin County Public Defender’s Office, will now be the county’s top prosecutor after a big win over Martha Holton Dimick, a Northsider, former judge and prosecutor.

Moriarity won with 57.6 percent of the vote to Dimick’s 42.8 percent, according to unofficial totals. The vote total was 254,418 to 184,739.

Moriarity is part of a growing group of public defenders in the United States who win prosecutor jobs on campaigns of reform and a philosophy that violent crime is a public health crisis. Dimick was the establishment candidate with a tough-on-crime stance and won endorsements from several law enforcement groups and mayors across the county, including Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey.

Moriarty will succeed Mike Freeman, who is retiring at the end of the year.

Incumbent Keith Ellison, a resident of the Lyn Park neighborhood, won a second term and in what appeared to be one of the closest statewide races. Ellison defeated Republican challenger Jim Shultz 1,253,690 to 1,232,837 (50.4 percent to 49.6 percent).

The margin was not narrow enough
Happy November, Northside! It’s hard to believe the elections have been finalized and we are nearing the end of the first year of this term. Our office hosted a people’s assembly on November 18th which was great. We talked about public health and safety on the streets, public housing, and centered what we as neighbors want for our community. We plan to continue to hold these events throughout the next year and would love to see you at the next one.

To stay up to date on these events, be sure to sign up for our monthly newsletter, as we are finding ways to ensure that the budget season during this biennial is a success. We are excited to see community members interested in seeing the city’s budget process and how these events can be meaningful to them.

We’ve been working on our monthly newsletter where we’ve been sharing updates, events, and resources. You can find the full report at www.minneapolismn.gov/government/mayor/issues-and-priorities/public-safety/operation-endeavor-public-report/.

Thank you for your continued support of community organizing and action. Please reach out to our office at ward4@minneapolismn.gov or 612-673-3411. We welcome you to join us for our monthly newsletter or any of the events. You can find more information about these events and updates at minneapolismn.gov/government/city-council/ward-4/operation-endeavor-public-report/.

Continued on page 23

By David Pierini, Editor

Kristel Porter missed being a member of Minneapolis City Council by less than 100 votes. Rather than dwell on disappointment, however, that election turned Porter into the Volunteer for the Less fortunate, an organization she founded and executive director of MN Renewables, a solar panel company for Northside homes and businesses. For some time, she has been working on giving back to the community that has supported her.

She has held positions with two neighborhood associations, co-founded the United Black Legislative Agenda with Al Flowers and her fast-growing solar energy non-profit has brought renewable energy to more than 150 Northside homes and businesses.

Porter now heads an organization that has been working to support local businesses and growing the West Broadway Corridor into a thriving economic hub.

“I think Kris tel is the right person for the job at the right time,” said Martin Small, executive director of the Northside Redevelopment Council, a fellow leader in the community. “I think Kristel has the intelligence to rise as a grassroots leader. This belief has served her throughout her life. It enabled her to move through the fear and trauma of being a teen-aged mom who was left to raise her son on her own. From those lessons, came empathy, resilience and the emotional intelligence to rise as a grassroots leader.”

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New gas station owners fill the tank with gas and hope

By Azhae’la Hanson, Reporter

Bishop Larry Cook grew tired of the criminal activity at the gas station next to his church, Real Believers Faith Center. So he and his wife, Dr. Sharon Cook, decided to buy it.

The Cooks became the new owners of the gas station, which was then a car wash, opened its doors in 1998. He believes Northsiders should have a real stake in economic power and prayed to one day own the property.

Along with bringing financial wealth to the church, Cook wants to use his new economic power not to push crime doing on out there, when they come here, they feel a sense of security.”

When Cook sees people committing crimes on the property, he doesn’t see the enemy. He sees someone who doesn’t have hope.

He doesn’t want anymore failures to hit the church and he doesn’t want drug dealers to sell on his property. He also wants to see those people make it because some of his church members were once like them.

“Some of his church members were once like them. And I look at those guys and I say, ‘God, how many responsibilities used to rob houses. One of the deacons used to sell drugs and another church member Cook trusts with many responsibilities used to rob houses. These guys are not throwaways,” he said. “We need ministries that are willing and not scared to engage in our community, and not too judgmental when you’re looking at people that don’t have any hope.”

Kameron White, a member of the church for 10 years, is currently being trained to work at the gas station.

“Bishop Cook is being that light for people,” White said. “Do they come in here, you know whatever they have going on out there, when they come here, they feel a sense of security.”

That sense of security is what White sought when he felt he had no direction when he came across the church as a teenager. He’s looking forward to making people feel welcome, and improving the gas station’s reputation.

New gas station owners fill the tank with gas and hope

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NorthPoint's campus expansion: how community engagement led to community investment of the Northside

When leaders at NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center initiated the campus expansion project, community engagement was at the forefront of the development process. For Ken McCleary, owner of KMS Construction, it’s also an opportunity to show that minority contractors can deliver high-quality projects and become a blueprint for how to package projects to include MBEs.

For JE Dunn Construction, a big part of their work is with health care facilities. JE Dunn’s guiding philosophy is that the principles aligned with NorthPoint’s mission. “First of all, it’s doing the right thing, second, it’s to be good to others, and health and well-being,” McCleary says. JE Dunn’s Healthcare Vice President for Minneapolis, says NorthPoint’s new building will be among the best-in-class facilities we have worked on and will give access to a state-of-art facility that many community members previously never had a chance to visit. Mr. McCleary believes it will be a very welcoming space that brings pride to the community.

Engaging with community

While JE Dunn Construction is not based in Minneapolis, Mr. Igel points to the Minneapolis office made up of all minority contractors and subcontractors as an example of direct investment in the community. One way the project set out to increase the business sector of the African American community was by creating a welcoming space that brings pride to the community.

Ms. Delmarie Nelson, 51, on the NorthPoint construction site. Photo courtesy of NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center

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Connect to more of what you love with FREE Xfinity Internet at home.

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When the Minneapolis Public Schools strike ended in March, students grumbled when administrators extended the school year into this summer.

Ambers and Vang did not complain. Instead, they used the time to work on the first volume of a comic zine that by next Spring is on track to get released as part of a four-volume book. Already, Ambers and Vang have published four volumes of Destin Tale, a story line that starts when villagers chose away a young person who then falls down a hole into a magical forest with monsters and other village custums.

“No you never want to underestimate a project like this. I tell kids that you can do this thing out in the real world and get paid to do it.”

Alex Conover, Henry Digital arts teacher.

Monsters and humans fight and the main character’s journey through the forest is one of self-discovery as they try to get monsters and humans to stop fighting. Ambers wrote a non-gender specific character to give the reader the opportunity to give them their own identity, sort of how a video game allows the player to create the character.

“They’re trying to figure out how to get people to do this art as well,” said Ambers, a senior. “Part of the storyline is to help people by giving them self-discovery. That’s where problems come from. To me, comics and stories do this well, to have some kind of message and to tell people to look at these things and come together.”

Ambers and Vang came together earlier this year through a mutual friend. Their friends had seen Vang draw characters in a Japanese black-and-white comic style and introduced them to lunch. Ambers loves Manga and is often seen walking the halls with colorful shirts adorned with whimsical Japanese comic characters. He was already playing with a story and knew he wanted someone to illustrate.

When Vang showed some drawings to Ambers in the cafeteria, they clicked. Vang is a self-taught artist who never thought his “comic doodling” would go beyond idle time at home. Ambers wrote and provides Vang the direction to draw, he said. Vang likes to do with the story before adding his own personal touches such as looks and actions before turning to Ambers for concrete help.

“Drawing for me is inspired from things I watch on Netflix,” Vang said. “I love video games, I love space, things like that. I didn’t really know how to express this other than to draw. As I got older and inspired by other things I continued. I’ve developed a habit of just drawing.”

To gain an audience for the Destin Tale series, the young authors got a big assist from digital art teacher Alex Conover, who was able to use printing privileges at an art college to produce a small batch of each zine. The second volume dropped in October.

Conover was always intrigued when he saw Ambers walk the halls in his colorful shirts and came to appreciate his creativity and organizing skills when he finally had him in a class.

Vang would show up to see Ambers and Conover found himself arrested when he looked over Vang’s shoulder and saw him drawing.

“I stopped me in my tracks,” Conover said. “I had never seen anything like it. He was making the best art I’ve ever seen from a student at the school.”

(During the 10-day extension of last year’s 8-foot tall mad print) the first zine a project, Vang learned how to digitize his drawings and with the first printing, a path, not so different than the one of self-discovery in Destin Tale, unfolded before them.

Both are interested in some sort of art program after high school. Ambers would like to study art and creative writing.

Vang says he would love to one day run a production company that produces animation.

“No you never want to underestimate a project like this.” Conover said. “I tell kids that you can do this thing out in the real world and get paid to do it.”

“Typing I know they have the interest and the talent. Art school could genuinely be a good fit for them. They’re kind of built for it.”
Mentoring spirit of late coach opens doors to new Northside gym

By David Pierini, Editor

Joe Brown had walked into gymnasiums countless times, but the one in the building for sale on Thomas Avenue North felt different. In it, he saw himself welcoming Northside boys and girls. He would offer them a safe space to play and a lively and dedicated coach and mentor with firm guidance and unconditional love.

Brown passed away from a heart attack in February on the very day his church, New Oil Christian Center Church, purchased the former charter school. His pastor, Bruce Carpenter, was about to leave for Brown’s house to give him the keys when he got the call that the beloved dean and basketball coach at Anwatin Middle School had died.

At a dedication ceremony for the gym on Oct. 22, family and friends vowed to infuse his spirit and legacy between its walls.

In the lobby of the gym is a large photo of Brown surrounded by banners and gear for his favorite football team, the Green Bay Packers. His eyes are focused and muscles around his mouth show no signs of a smile. "Yup, that’s him," one observer said. "He has that look like, ‘I see you and I’m not playin’.”

Inside, was a banner proclaiming the gym "Joe's Place."

"I was here when he came to see the gym," said church member Portia Stringer, who organized the dedication ceremony. "And he was like ‘Oh yeah.’ He saw it as something that would be really good for our young people.

"Joe just liked being with young people. He would introduce himself and just start talking. He liked being with young people, trying to steer them on a straight path and keep them away from the foolishness.”

Brown was a larger-than-life figure at Anwatin Middle School for 22 years. Students and staff were so grieved by his sudden passing and wrote messages to him on the walls of the hallway leading to his office. The walls became so filled up, some mourners found ways to get their message to him on the ceiling. Carpenter said there were countless times Brown reached into his pocket to buy a school lunch for a student who had nothing to eat. When he learned a student didn’t have a ride to school, he’d drop by to pick them up.

"Somebody’s child is successful today because Joe went outside the box and took an extra step or go an extra mile in order to serve our children," Carpenter said during a prayer that preceded the ribbon cutting. "He and I talked about it. He was going to do what he does best and that’s love our children, be the big uncle, the big brother, whatever he could do, in order to enhance the lives of children. With this building we can always remember the sacrifice that he made.”

He is a 1989 graduate of Henry High School who went on to play college basketball at Rainy River College. Brown eventually earned a Bachelor’s degree in Education and he was in his 30th year as an educator with Minneapolis Public Schools. He is survived by his wife, Nakisha, six children and three grandchildren. Over the years, the Browns fostered eight children.

The gym is just part of a larger New Oil Christian Center Empowerment Center that will include childcare, health services, a food shelf and senior housing services. New Oil Christian Center Church is a small congregation coming up on its 25th year. It moved from south Minneapolis to a church building next door to the empowerment center before the COVID-19 pandemic arrived.

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COVID’s impact on local schools includes shortage of tutors

By David Pierini, Editor

As schools in North Minneapolis rebuild teacher ranks and student growth lost by two years of COVID-19 restrictions, one shortage is particularly troubling to principals – tutors.

From small charters to long-established public schools, North Minneapolis began the 2022-23 school with 32 openings for tutors, according to Ampact, which partners with schools across the state to provide tutors for reading, math and early learning.

Low-income and communities of color around the country were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. In North Minneapolis schools, the scramble to convert to remote learning and struggles to keep students engaged online by lone inequalities in resources and a glaring achievement gap. A three-week strike in March by Minneapolis Public Schools disrupted the long-awaited return to the classroom and set students further adrift.

Nationwide, two decades of growth in reading and math were wiped out when COVID-19 shuttered classrooms, according to the Institute of Education Sciences, which publishes a yearly study called The Nation’s Report Card.

“Some kids have to put in the extra time that a teacher or parent at home can’t provide them,” said Kendra Halbert, Ampact’s program manager. “Tutors are just that extra kick we know some scholars need.”

Northside schools need tutors: Ascension Catholic School, Bethune Arts Magnet, Cityview Community School, Franklin STEM Magnet Middle School, Fraser-PICA Head Start, Hall Stem Academy, Hmong International Academy, Loring Community School, Lucy Coffee Community School, North Star Early Childhood, Sojourner Truth Academy and Way to Grow.

Julie Guy, principal of Sojourner Truth Academy, uses what her school calls scholar coaches from kindergarten through third grade. These are tutors that spend every day in the classroom, supporting teachers and working with students one on one.

Of the eight positions needed to be fully staffed, the Northside charter school is trying to make due with three.

“The hot topics are learning loss and the regression that kids had during COVID,” Guy said, referring to ongoing conversations with teachers and other colleagues. “It is critical that kids get as much individualized academic and social/emotional attention they need and to have those tutors, especially in the early grades is critical.”

Guy said younger tutors are likely to leave for higher-paying jobs or take that first teaching job.

Pay and benefits vary based on hours. A tutor working 35 hours per week gets a

Continued on page 23

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Polar community asks for help with student safety

By Asha’a Hanson, Reporter

Parents and staff of North High School are urging government officials for safety solutions amid a slew of threats made against students.

North has lost at least one student per year to gun violence since 2010 and the school now students this school year have been shot, injured, followed, threatened or harassed.

“Deshaun Hill Jr., Keimonte White, and Demonte Wallace. Sadly, they are not the only students...lost in recent years,” Lindqvist said. “And they don’t fully account or speak to the experience of students who have been shot, injured, followed, threatened or been in worse conditions. “It’s the reality which our students and staff live in. I should not be used to this.”

Principal Mauri Friestleben said students were too triggered on the subject to talk to officials. Friestleben remarked officials that North High isn’t just dealing with the aftermath of one incident. Students deal with traumas every day.

“We recently spoke to a ninth-grader who was shot and still chose to come to school the next day. “Our children deserve just as much compassion and protection as anybody else’s children in any other place,” Friestleben said. “And I think we constantly get held accountable for the outcomes and we realize that we’re working with children that have not been given a proper upbringing and we don’t want to lose on the other side of this fight I would have here.”

“We need help. We need support”

Randy Jackson, Student Council president

At the meeting, parents asked that officials commit to providing safer options for students.

Minneapolis Public Schools interim Superintendent Rochelle Cox and school board Director Shern El-Amin said the board will look at an Equity and Diversity Impact Assessment around transportation for the district schools including North.

“We need our support from our community, from our mayor, from our senator, and from our state representatives,” El-Amin said. “This is a collective effort that we have to continue not only just show up today, but hold us accountable because our children don’t deserve this. Our families don’t deserve this.”

MPS plans to spend $1.2 million for safety in the coming year.

To that end, school officials will be ready to respond to any future calls from North High. He said he hoped new gang-related strategies for controlling crime on West Boulevard. Avenue will help students feel safer.

“Black Lives Matter police are currently working on redirecting a partnership with school resource officers,” he said. “It sounded good but when will it manifest?”

Community activist Lynne Crockett. “Our kids are in trouble right now. My problem is that everything takes too long.”

English teacher Lars Lindqvist listed the names of three students who were murdered of the school provides very limited service to

“[I]t’s the reality which our students and staff live in. I should not be used to this.”

Principal Mauri Friestleben said students were too triggered on the subject to talk to officials. Friestleben rema...
Jamil Jackson got a second chance and makes it count for others.

By Azhae’la Hanson, Reporter

Jamil Jackson outside what will soon be the CEO Center for Change. Photo by Azhae’la Hanson

As a young man with no parents and no one to give him clear direction in making life decisions, Jackson found himself taking care of himself and his younger siblings the only way he knew how— hustling. He ended up in jail, but nothing could make him give up. He found a way to make a difference, and he knew he could show them a different path.

Very quickly, he became the person the school called to mediate behavioral situations with all of the young boys on his team. He coached for 13 years, and he knew he could show them a different path.

When I was a young man I had no clue where I was going and my community wasn’t supporting me in terms of allowing me to be free and open about how I felt or what I was going through,” Jackson said. “I wanted to help guide them through those goals and how they can get from point A to point B instead of just aimlessly wandering.”

So Jackson set out on a mission to create spaces for young men, again meeting them where they’re at and helping them discover what it is to be a man.

Today, the organization has grown from one site to over 15, with a mission to mentor youth from ages 12 to 25 in the areas of education, employment and life skills. Today, the organization has grown to branch into various schools across the state including Minneapolis Public Schools, the Run and Shoot basketball league at Fairview Park and CEO Academy.

Jamil Jackson wears many hats. In addition to CEO he also serves as the head basketball coach at Patrick Henry High, basketball coach at Patrick Henry High, and the commander of the Minnesota Freedom Fighters.
Help with homework: St. Olaf Lutheran Church is offering school tutoring with an "expert mathematics" on hand. Sessions run 3 to 5 p.m. Mondays and Thursday and 3 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The church also offers a Youth Club for grades 6 through 12, on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. Transportation available. Call 612-829-7726 to email in tutoring or the Youth Club.

State through the winter: North Commons Park is offering figure skating lessons and a youth hockey program beginning Nov. 1 at a low cost. Sign-up on Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. beginning Nov. 1. Transportation is available. Call 612-588-5174 for more information.

Free legal advice: Legal Aid takes on civil cases, such as housing, family, consumer tax, immigration and public benefits. The nonprofit organization now has a clinic in the office of the Harrison Neighborhood Association, 151 Glenwood Ave. Services are free for those who qualify. Must be 200% of federal poverty guidelines or age 60 plus. Hours are Tuesdays and Thursday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Appointments are preferred. Call 612-746-3611 or text 612-348-3526 for more information.

Election outcomes continued from page 5

Kristel Porter Continued from page 4
despite homeowners.

She recalled a successful Zoom meeting she organized in 2020 about the hazards of plastics getting into the ocean. "How she set it up was really meaningful," Jackson said. "She actually had several state legislators, community leaders... a nice mix of people. That's a real skill to get all of those people together in the room." Porter is known for her charisma and developing something they want as it relates to the environment and climate change. Conversation, for her, and with her, is easy. Call it a soft skill, but for Porter is a meaningful conversation or just a place to sit. Every conversation or just a place to sit. Everyone is welcome.

Free Dinners: The Cambridge-Edison Community Foundation sponsors a weekly free food pickup at Salem Lutheran Church, 2134 12th Ave. N., Saturdays from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 612-521-3644 for more information. Walkups are welcome.

Food Distribution: Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, 3335 4th Street N., will donate food by the fourth Saturdays of each month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (unless sold out). There are no pre-qualifications. Everyone is welcome.

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Community Dinner: Pillsbury United Communities offers free dinners every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Oak Park Community Building, 3613 Oak Park Ave. N. Meals are currently to go during the pandemic, but PLLC hopes to reopen its indoor sit-down space soon.

Pet supplies: Any and all pet supplies are welcome at Pet Supplies, 821 East Ave. N. It is committed to providing a free food pantry for pet owners helping to break the cycle of oppression. It’s a safe space if you need a prayer, a conversation or just a place to sit. Everyone is welcome.

Free Reiki updates in your language: Tune into Minneapolis’s cultural radio programs for COVID-19 updates. The city’s international media department distributes free Reiki updates on KMMP 90.7 FM (English), KALY 101.7 FM (Somali) and WQMO AM 1590 (Hmong).

Minneapolis Ward 4 contact info: If you live in Ward 4 and want to reach City Councilwoman LaTrisha Vetaw, contact Maggie Kohl via email: maggie.kohl@minneapolismn.gov or cell: 612-258-3982.

Minneapolis Ward 5 contact info: For assistance in Ward 5, contact Bill Emory at 612-348-3526 or at bill.emory@minneapolismn.gov.

Tutor shortage Continued from page 16

$900 stipend every two weeks and gets up to an additional $8,000 for tuition or student loan. Other benefits conclude student loan forbearance and interest repayment, health insurance and child care. At Ascension Catholic School, Principal Brenda Matties has his fingers crossed. “We are so happy that she teaches as a part-time tutor for the school’s two eighth-grade classes. Before COVID-19, we only had two tutors. “If there are self-esteem issues in our programs, they’re not smart enough,” Matties said. “They blame themselves when they’re struggling academically. There’s so much more than just having someone to talk to. A productive conversation can speed up a bit of time with a scholar to help us improve their math or reading. There are so many other components (tutors) can help on.” There is a waiting list to work with students at least to some level of normalcy. ‘It’s not going to happen overnight.”

Amputee continues to look for people interested in tutoring. “It may not happen overnight,” Foster said. “I am looking to this year and planning on a tutor. To apply, visit https://www.readingisnighestvalues.com/”

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