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19, 1968; eventually lasting 31 sea-

Readers Since 1976
alleynews.org

Juneteenth Freedom Day was proclaimed on Tuesday, June 15, 2018 by Governor Mark Dayton in the State of Minnesota. Juneteenth Freedom Day is an annual remembrance of the ending of slavery that promotes the celebration of freedom and justice for all Americans through an emphasis on continued education, achievement, and tolerance.

“The United States of America is a nation founded on the principles of liberty and justice for all. The Civil War was fought to ensure that freedom would be shared by all Americans, Communities throughout Minnesota and the United States; unite on this day to honor freedom, and to encourage respect, tolerance, and acceptance of all cultures.” — Gov. Dayton’s proclamation.

On January 1, 1863, former President Abraham Lincoln officially signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which gave freedom to slaves. On June 19, 1865, two-and-a-half years later, freedom became a reality for all remaining slaves in the State of Texas.

“I like you just the way
you are.” “Won’t You Be My Neighbor?”
Fred Rogers, 1928-2003

as producing a primetime special
that spoke directly to children about
Robert F. Kennedy’s assassination.

It was a bold move by Rogers for
that day when most programmers
would have shied away from telling
children about an assassination or
any other such devastating event.

The documentary “Won’t
You Be My Neighbor?” at the
37th Mpls-St. Paul International Film Festival began locally at the Uptown Theater on June 15, 2018.

By HOWARD MCMICHTER II

“Won’t You Be My Neighbor?” is
one of the kindest titles given to
any film. It is a benevolent, heart-
felt, energetic portrayal of Fred
Rogers, a man of exemplary sta-
tus who revolutionized children’s
programs on television. Rogers,
an ordained Presbyterian minister,
took a route, not to a church pulpit,
but to PBS (Public Broadcasting
Service) with a new method of
programming for children.

He brought children into his studio
from different races and back-
grounds engaging them by speak-
ing in ways up to the time, circa
1968, unheard of on children’s pro-
grams which usually concentrated
on using cartoons and superheroes.

Soon, young and not so young
were glued to TV’s “Mister Roger’s Neighborhood”, starting on February 19, 1968; eventually lasting 31 sea-
sons and 912 episodes. He did not
shy away from certain topics, such

“My Neighbor?” … you are. “Won’t You Be
My Neighbor?” at the
Uptown Theater on June 15, 2018.

Cast: Joe Negri (Himself),
François Clemmons (Himself),
Kailyn Davis (Herself),
David Newell (Himself),
Francois Clemmons (Himself),
Yo-Yo Ma (Himself).

Director: Morgan Neville (“20 Feet from Stardom”) presents a real
treat to a man who loved all, espec-
ially children. (PG-13) Running
time: 94 minutes.

“To love at all is to be vulnerable.” — C.S. Lewis

3 Thoughts for July by Thomas Friedman

“In the future, how we educate our
children may prove to be more
important than how much we
educate them.”

“Pessimists are usually right
and optimists are usually wrong but
all the great changes have been
accomplished by optimists.”

“Guantanamo Bay is the anti-Statue of Liberty.”

How green is your clean?

How green is your clean?
Continued on page 3

How green is your clean?

How green is your clean?
Metro Transit
The squeaky wheel gets the grease.

By John Charles Wilson

Another slow month in the transit world... However, there was one interesting piece of news for Route 2 riders. I went to an "open house" in June regarding proposed improvements to Franklin Avenue bus service, including cutting back on the number of stops to make the bus go faster, installing new (presumably better) bus stops, and adding signal priority, which is a system that allows buses to request a green light sooner than would normally be the case. Unlike signal preemption, which is used by emergency vehicles to demand a green light immediately, signal priority requires a computer to make a judgment call as to whether granting an early green to the bus is better or worse for the overall movement of people through an intersection.

The most controversial aspect of this proposal was the bus rider perception is probably the stop spacing. Metro Transit is proposing to have a stop once every four blocks, which would be an improvement over the current every two blocks. That will indeed improve the speed of the bus, but will also mean a longer walk to or from the stop, especially if your origin or destination isn't a major intersection or transfer point. Some people, however, have trouble walking long distances and would prefer a slower ride with less walking at either their origin or destination. This is one of those trade-offs that the public should make their voices heard on, no matter which side they support. (Personally, I support less stops and more speed, largely having mobility issues.)

Design a Skateboard
Thursday, July 17, 2-4 PM
Cedar Riverside Community Center (505 15th Ave S)
Registration required. Using permanent markers & templates, create art on a skateboard deck.

Materials provided, including a skateboard deck. Collaborator: Rivard Art. Funded by Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

ADULTS
Race on the Brain: What Black Love Gets Wrong About the Struggle for Racial Justice
CLE Class
Friday, July 13, 12:15-1:15 PM
This program takes place at Hennepin County Government Center, Jury Assembly Room C-2401. This 2-hour (Continuing Legal Education) series is geared towards topics that judges in the Fourth Judicial District indicated would be particularly useful for law clerks. However, CLEs are open to anyone. Each CLE will be one credit. For more information, contact Becky Breyten at 612-348-7960 or becky.breyten@hennepin.mn. Presented by Johnathan Kahn, J.D., Ph.D.

Franklin Learning Center:
612-543-6954 or fic@hclib.org
Free, one-to-one tutoring for adults learning English & math, preparing for the GED or college entrance exam & gaining life skills. Community volunteers welcome! We provide training & materials.

Untamed Mushrooms: From Field to Table
Thursday, July 19, 6-8:30 PM
Also Ingebretsen’s at Norway House (913 E Franklin Avenue)
A celebration of wild mushroom foraging... beautiful edible mushrooms & VR – play or learn a new one.

OPEN TO ALL AGES WITH PLENTY OF ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE!!!! Event will be held along 27th Street between Columbus and Portland Avenues! A variety of FREE picnic food including snow cones, popcorn, hot dogs, water, cookies, & ice cream! There will also be a variety of entertainment including: a Mariachi band, dance contest, open mic rap contest with opportunity to win grand prizes, salsa dancers, 3 clowns, 2 bounce houses, a puppet show, face painters, fish pond, children’s games, McGruff the Crime Dog, twinkle the Mascot, Mickey Mouse & a giant inflated slide! Information on dozens of community resources will be available in a resource fair. Please bring this information table or would like to get involved contact Crystal at 612-879-5383 or email pwno2005@ yahoo.com

Editor’s note: From Wigwam - The origin of this phrase is disputed. The current form is attributed to American humorist Henry Wheeler Shaw, whose pen name was Familiar Quotations. He credited the poem to various authors, anonymous or otherwise, and in pronunciation has never been verified. The first full publication of the poem was traced only to 1910. For earlier references, in 1837 Bartlett’s Familiar Quotations attributed the poem to Henry Wheeler Shaw, whose pen name was Jack Allilie.
How green is your clean From page 1

Improve air quality; limit health risks, loss of work, worker costs, & cleaning costs plus marketing benefits

There are many benefits to switching to safer cleaning products:
- Improve air quality for customers and residents by limiting harsh chemicals and air pollutants.
- Protect employees from health risks such as respiratory system issues and aggravated asthma that can come from exposure to unsafe chemicals.
- Limit loss of labor and reduce insurance and worker compensation costs through creating a safer work environment.
- Lower cleaning costs by replacing aerosols with reusable containers and reducing the cost of hazardous waste disposal.
- Use as a marketing tool, by showing your commitment to sustainability and earning green building credits.

It is a great way to continue to improve your community, while helping address the important issues of pollution and community health. A small change can make a big difference. If you are interested in getting involved, consider setting up a meeting with MnTAP, to schedule a free consultation and sample new cleaning products, please reach out to Emily Worman at worma007@umn.edu, 952-567-0445 or 612-435-1682.

Emily Worman is a MnTAP Intern at Hope Community

Some fallen markers, obscured from sight, were uncovered...

...and reset upright to keep memories above ground!

Five AmeriCorps, Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps workers reset and cleaned 150 markers at Pioneers and Soldiers Memorial Cemetery utilizing their historic restoration training and using MN Legacy Funds. Friends of the Cemetery paid for supplies with proceeds of Cemetery Cinema and Tours like Buster Keaton’s movie, “The General”, on May 25th – audience and “Peanuts, Popcorn, and Preemies” Tour for 40 people on June 10th, respectively.

RHEA HARVEY, NORTHERN BEDROCK HISTORIC PRESERVATION CORPS

![Some fallen markers, obscured from sight, were uncovered...](image)

![...and reset upright to keep memories above ground!](image)

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East Phillips SummerFest
What a way to kick off summer!

East Phillips and surrounding neighborhoods are filled with incredibly talented people, young and old. SummerFest’s Main Stage Event, once again, was privileged to feature awesome local members of the performing arts in song, dance and rap.

Also featured at East Phillips SummerFest 2018 were:
- Many fascinating resource tables including the Park Board’s Entomologist
- 6 bikes provided by Tamale’s Bicicletas were raffled
- Kids Games, piñatas and two giant inflatable fun houses
- Delicious food from Sherrod Kordin’s Papi Fresco, the volunteers of Holy Rosary Church and East Phillips Park youth and staff

East Phillips SummerFest 2018 is brought to this community by the collaboration of the East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC), the East Phillips Park Staff, Holy Rosary Church & volunteers and the great artists, vendors, volunteers and friends.

Thanks all for a GREAT DAY!!!

For Your Calendar:

EPIC Board of Directors meets on the FIRST Saturday of the month – Next Meetings:
Saturday, 7/7/2018 and 8/4/2018 at 10:00 AM at 2433 Bloomington Ave.

EPIC Community Meetings are on the SECOND Thursday – Next Meetings:
Thursday, 7/12/2018 and 8/9/2018 at 6:30 PM the East Phillips Community Center – 2307 17th Ave S

Agenda includes Neighborhood Industrial Pollution, Crime Initiatives, and EPIC project updates.

The Phillips Community Clean Sweep is Saturday October 13th with free breakfast in the Welna Parking Lot followed by cleaning the “hood and free lunch at Stewart Park.

The East Phillips 17th Ave Community Fall Harvest Party is Saturday, October 20th starting at 4:30 PM. Join us for a pot-luck, a pumpkin carving Contest and S’mores by the fire.

The East Phillips 17th Ave Gardener’s meet on the SECOND Saturday – Next Meeting:
Saturday, 7/14/2018 and 8/11/2018 at 9:00 AM in the GARDEN located at 2428 17th Ave. S.

* East Phillips Residents wanting a 2018 Garden Plot, contact Brad Paz at 612-916-8478

Designed and Paid for by East Phillips Improvement Coalition
Wellness, Gardening and Greening News

Need help with your garden or lawn? Ventura Village has a variety of tools available for you. They include tree pullers, a string trimmer, a sod cutter, wheelbarrows, shovels and rakes. We also have canopy tents for your events. If you have a problem we have access to a Minnesota Master Gardener and we also have free wood mulch. Contact Mary Watson at 612-871-7973. Our neighborhood beehive was reinstalled in June. In fact this year we have 2 beehives and those bees will soon be hard at work on flowers in your vicinity. Our neighborhood is helping the Pentagon HighRise at 1415 E. 22 St. develop community gardening. 3 raised beds donated by Waite House have been put on their grounds and tomatoes, peppers, onions, cucumbers and other vegetables and herbs are growing in them. We hope to expand in the near future!

Mashkiikii Gitigan News

Wednesday “Grow Your Own” classes continue throughout July (except the 4th). They meet at the 24th St. Farm (1316 E. 24 St.) starting at 5:30 PM. Food will be served. Class topics include growing, harvesting, preparing and preserving food, traditional Native American methods, foraging, sacred tobacco, wild rice, nutrition,diet and heart disease prevention and diabetes screening. Classes are hands-on and taught by different teachers each week. Healthy Living Starts with Healthy Eating!

For more information contact: 24thStFarm@gmail.com.

“Fruits, flowers, mushrooms and vegetable forest being grown at 2313 Chicago Ave. South Minneapolis, MN. Next door to Our Saviour’s Housing, between 24th Ave and 22nd Ave. Through a generous grant by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and a collaboration with the Minneapolis Health Department and the University of Minnesota, the 24th Street Urban Farm Coalition welcomes the community to the new fruit farm. This three year funded project will be researching carbon sequestration, soil health, Eco-system services and local economics. We are experimenting with ways to provide income for interested community members, by teaching them how to care for and market the perennials grown on this space. We will be starting classes in mid-July and are planning a community potluck in late July. Stay tuned for dates. Please reach out to: Michele@pillsburyunited.org, EthanN@pillsburyunited.org, the Waite House on 24th St and 11th Ave or Mashkiikii Gitigan Urban Farm for more information. Financial support for this urban perennial farming system, was provided by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s Sustainable Agriculture Demonstration Grant through the Agricultural Growth, Research and Innovation (AGRI) Program. The AGRI Program awards grants, scholarships, and cost shares to advance Minnesota’s agricultural and renewable energy industries.”

Community Celebrates Forty Years of HOPE

The Staff and Board of Hope Community expressed deep appreciation to all who joined them on Saturday, May 19th, for their final 40th Anniversary Event! Joined by over 150 of our community of residents, program participants, funders, donors and partners, we explored Hope's Campus, connected with some of the many people who have shaped Hope over the last 40 years, and built new relationships as we enter a new era.

UPCOMING VENTURA VILLAGE JULY 2018 MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11TH: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY, JULY 11TH: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 7:00 PM
TUESDAY, JULY 24TH: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 6:00 PM
TUESDAY, JULY 24TH: WELLNESS, GARDENING & GREENING: 6:30 PM
THURSDAY, JULY 26TH: HOUSING & LAND COMMITTEE: 5:30 PM
THURSDAY, JULY 26TH: CRIME & SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6:30 PM

Ventura Village Meetings are upstairs in the Phillips Community Center at 2323 - 11th Avenue South - Minneapolis - 612-874-9070
Is the horror genre improving?

By HOWARD MCQUITTER II
oldschoolmovies.wordpress.com

Over the last few decades, I generally have distanced myself from the horror genre because of the gratuitous violence and absence or weakness of plots. I still can say with conviction that the modern horror genre (circa 1980 to the present) is almost totally geared toward the adult audiences. Is the horror genre improving? I think it is in a number of respectable, intelligent and interesting horror flicks out in theaters. That doesn’t necessarily mean the modern horror genre is completely out of it’s rut yet. It means there’s hope for a lot better movies ahead.


43rd Season begins September 21 mixedbloodcom

BY MIXED BLOOD THEATRE

Speaking truth to power and upending the status quo through theater via provocative programming in which comedy, drama, satire, and extravaganzas take on Me Too, automation, Black Lives and the aim for the half-dozen shows that populate our offerings before Memorial Day, 2019

IS GOD IS

September 21 – October 14, 2018

By Aleshea Harris, directed by Lavina Jadhwani

Mixed Blood’s Response to the Mid-Term Election. Three, full-length plays by African American Provocateurs performed in rotating repertory: glued together by an African American male prism, through contrast, and via Second Amendment violations.

HOODED or Being Black for Dummies

By Terrence Arvel Chatisholm, directed by Thomas W. Jones II

HYPE MAN, a break beat play

by Jared Goodwin, directed by Shawn LaCount

TBA

March 15 – April 7, 2019

Pending rights discussions prohibit the announcement of this great new play headed to Broadway! This will be your play of choice for the season.

AUTONOMY

“Drive Through Theater”

May, 2019

By Ken LaZebnik, with music

BY MIXED BLOOD THEATRE

Mixed Blood Theatre Six-Show 2018-19 Season!

Transforming the impossible to the probable

By Eric Mayson, directed by Jack Reuler

World Premiere, 152 Wheels, 300 cylinders, 50 tailpipes, and 25 actors led by Artistic Director (and car guy) Jack Reuler will reinvent storytelling, re-tool the audience-performance relationship, enhance standard auto sound technology into semisensory immersion, and personalize what a theatrical venue can be. For performers, it will give new meaning to auto parts!

ZEALOUS HELLIONS

Conversations with Rebels, Renegades, and Rascals

Mixed Blood will host on-stage conversations with thought leaders of their fields.

Eric Hudson inspired the founding of Mixed Blood in 1976. He has had a successful Hollywood career, currently a regular on Grey’s Anatomy and Franklin, and best known as Ghostbuster Winston Zeddmore. From Taxi to Oth to St. Elsewhere to Grey’s to Twin Peaks to Blue Bloods, Eric has been a TV fixture.

Oskar Eustis is a Minneapolis native who has gone on to be artistic director of the Eureka Theatre (San Francisco), Trinity Rep and the Labyrinth Theater Company.

KFAI Remembers “Balcony” beginnings 40 years ago with documentary

“Little City in Space” directed by noted Czech Republic director Miroslav Janek (Citizen Havel) is a rare, special screening co-presented by: KFAI Radio and Sound Unseen celebrating KFAI’s 40th Anniversary. Wednesday, July 11, 2018 | DOORS AT 6:30pm/ SHOW AT 7pm at The Trylon Cinema, 2820 E. 33rd St, Mpls., MN 55406 Cost: $10 in advance / $12 at the door.

In 1983, documentary filmmaker Miroslav Janek became involved with a group of volunteers running a tiny community radio station out of the belfry of a Walker Methodist Church in South Minneapolis. Operating at humble 4-watts, “KFAI has a mouthful of characters pumping out blues, progressive rock, foreign language programming, and absurdist radio programming up the signal. The result of a year’s Worth of footprint, Janek’s “Little City in Space” documents the early days of KFAI radio, which celebrates its 40th year-on-air this year. The film highlights some of the station’s disparate volunteer DJs, including Chicago bluesman Lacy Bill Lucas, accordion player/bar- horn Helge Lamo, and Minneapolis blues mainstay Willie Murphy. Dir. Miroslav Janek, 1984, USA/Czech Republic, 60 min., Digital.

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Thank you 43 Years of advertising!
Mixed Blood's "Transformation" at transformed fire station

(Rhode Island), and The Public Theater (NYC). He commissioned and directed a dozen shows that Hamilton, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, and Sweat.

Representative Ilhan Omar was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 2016, making her the first Somali American elected legislator in the U.S.

The Land Stewardship Project

Mission: The Land Stewardship Project (LSP) is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1982 to foster an ethic of stewardship for farmland, to promote sustainable agriculture and to develop healthy communities. LSP is dedicated to creating transformational change in our food and farming systems development. At the core of all our work are the values of stewardship, justice, and democracy.

Vision: The Land Stewardship Project wants more successful stewardship farmers raising both livestock and crops on the land.

Values: LSP believes that by working together, culturally and racially diverse rural and urban people can take practical steps that result in greater stewardship of the land, more family farmers, healthy food for all, and resilient, racially just communities.

We have a history of separating children from their parents. We did it during our nation’s “original sin,” slavery. We separated Native American children from their parents and put them in boarding schools. Stealing their land was not enough, we also had to steal their children. We imprisoned Japanese American families during World War II and we turned away a cruise ship, the S.S. Louis, with hundreds of Jewish people from our shores in 1939 fleeing Nazi Germany, all forced to return and most died in Nazi death camps. Hopefully we can take action to break this cycle of national child abuse.

Today, I sent a post card to Kirstjen Nielsen, the Secretary of Homeland Security, because the only way to contact her that I could find is by snail mail and I wrote: “Do you hear the babies crying in the middle of the night?” Her address is Homeland Security, Washington D.C. 20528. Perhaps she should receive a shower of such post cards.

– Donna Neste, Citizen of Phillips, Minneapolis, Minnesota, the USA and Humanity

Letter to the Editor

Separating children from parents? “This is exactly who we are!”

BY DONNA NESTE

I have been glued to MSNBC, writing letters, and emails to the Justice Dept., Homeland Security, the White House, and calling law-makers in Washington; since the horrendous, immoral and, frankly, evil Trump policy was put in place; of separating children from their parents at the southern border. While watching this unbelievable darkness descend upon our nation (again) and unfold on cable television, I heard the talking heads say time and time again, “This is not who we are.” Really? This is exactly who we are.

We have a history of separating children from their parents. We did it during our nation’s “original sin,” slavery. We separated Native American children from their parents and put them in boarding schools. Stealing their land was not enough, we also had to steal their children. We imprisoned Japanese American families during World War II and we turned away a cruise ship, the S.S. Louis, with hundreds of Jewish people from our shores in 1939 fleeing Nazi Germany, all forced to return and most died in Nazi death camps. Hopefully we can take action to break this cycle of national child abuse.

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– Donna Neste, Citizen of Phillips, Minneapolis, Minnesota, the USA and Humanity

Raise Your Voice

Soil & water & spirit

BY PETER MOLENAAR

From time to time, some of us venture south of Lake Street to visit the Powderhorn people. Should you turn west from Bloomington Avenue onto 35th Street, look to the right to view their lovely park. Glance left, as you approach Chicago Avenue and you will spot the old fire station which houses their neighborhood association. But, how many know that this old station houses another splendid organization?

Via a side entrance, offices of the Land Stewardship Project (LSP) can be found on the second floor. These dedicated folks believe that, in conjunction with family farmers, culturally and racially diverse rural and urban people can promote responsible stewardship of agricultural land, along with healthy food for all. To take one example, as Congress attempted to pass the 2018 farm bill, LSP was tuned in to defend the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Of course, issues regarding land stewardship have been with us for some time. It was in the mid-19th Century that Karl Marx observed: “All progress in capitalist agriculture is a progress in the art of robbing the soil.” Yes, our Minnesota River is now so silt laden as to spoil the Mississippi’s Lake Pepin with accumulating deposits. What soil remains has become a repository for chemicals which spoil our water. “All progress in increasing the fertility of the soil for a given time, is progress toward ruining the lasting sources of that fertility,” said Marx.

Fred Engels would then add: “Let us not flatter ourselves over much on account of our human victories over nature… for each such victory, nature takes its revenge on us.” To which Karl responded: “Nature is [the] body [through which] man’s physical and spiritual life is… linked to itself.”

Marx and Engels both argued that a sustainable society would require the “abolition of the antithesis between town and country.” For practical purposes, the Land Stewardship Project is our developing link between urban and rural existence. Indeed, the LSP gives stimulus to the progressive forces which continue to exist in the countryside.
The BYI began with Allina Health engaging in many conversations with community stakeholders in early 2008. In December of the same year, Allina Health made a 10-year commitment to partner with the Cultural Wellness Center, a Minneapolis-based community organization to design and facilitate the community engagement process. Our work is grounded in a simple premise—that active community engagement and inclusion are the foundation of good health.

This remarkable partnership began with a commitment between the partners to sustain this unique initiative for 10 years. The year 2018 began the final year of this partnership in its current form, largely funded by the financial contributions of Allina put alongside of the power of culture, connections and the substantial social capital of many residents, what is known as the 3 C’s: Culture, Connections and Capital. This will not hearken the end of the Backyard Initiative. Instead, work began in earnest at the end of last year to transition to become a community caregiving cooperative—yet to be named.

Many meetings are taking place within the leadership teams of the Backyard Initiative to thoughtfully discuss, design and implement a model that moves away from a non-profit model where funding has to be secured to produce products and activities to a cooperative venture where those products and activities become the means to sustaining this enterprise. The 10 years of leadership skills that have been developed within the Backyard Initiative will be used to establish and govern this cooperative. The social connections, cultural knowledge and caregiving expertise will all be incorporated into this new, economic enterprise. Stay tuned for more details later this year about this exciting endeavor! Or if you have questions, please call or stop in and talk to Ms. Roberta Barnes at the BYI Resource Center in the Midtown Global Market. 612-353-6211.

...And MORE activities of the Backyard Initiative!

Diabetes Prevention Program

Another partnership held by the BYI is with the City of Minneapolis and the MN Department of Health is called the Diabetes Prevention Program or DPP. People with pre-diabetes have a blood sugar level higher than normal, but not high enough to be considered diabetic. One in three Americans have pre-diabetes and don’t even know it. The DPP helps people eat better and be more active in an effort to reverse pre-diabetes or prevent diabetes.

The Backyard Initiative also hosts a Triple D’s dinner each month—Dinner and Dialogue on Prevention and Diabetic Maintenance. Triple D’s dinners typically occur the first Thursdays of the month and will resume August 2, 5 to 7pm, at the Midtown Global Market in the center area.

STEP-UP Discover

The Backyard Initiative also hosted STEP-UP youth interns during the summer of 2017 and has 9 STEP-UP Discover interns this summer. Their job responsibilities will include planting and growing herbs in contain-er planters at the Midtown Global Market. They will also participate in Slow Roll Biking activities along the Greenway, carrying key messages that create awareness around the adverse health effects of large and consistent consumption of sugar sweetened beverages. Interns will enhance or gain skills in: customer service, leadership, communication, computer, financial management, project development, and entrepreneurship. They will also assist in reTHINK Your Drink summer activities within and around the Midtown Global Market.

STEP-UP Discover offers entry-level internships for youth 14 and 15 years of age. These internships are intended to reach out to youth with limited work experience and are designed to develop skills and explore interests in preparation for more challenging opportunities, including STEP-UP Achieve. The STEP-UP program is directed by the City of Minneapolis’s office of Community Planning and Economic Development.

VISIT the BYI Resource Center at the Midtown Global Market (just West of the Lake Street entrance) to learn more about the Backyard Initiative and any of its activities or call 612-353-6211

The BYI Resource Center hours are 10am to 6pm, Monday through Saturday.

Wages Study Opportunity

If you are over 18 years of age and work for 10 hours a week or more with in Minneapolis for $11.50 an hour or less, you may be eligible to participate in a Wages Study and earn up to $70. The study will look at the possible connection between the Minneapolis Wage increase and health. Contact U of M study staff at 612-624-7673 or stop in at the BYI Resource Center every Thursday from 4 to 6pm.

A leadership team of the BYI planning and deliberating on what it will take to transition from the BYI to becoming a Cooperative.

Zumaya Delicious Catering, Chef Robert Taylor, serves a delicious, healthy meal at Triple D’s dinners.

reTHINK Your Drink

In partnership with the City of Minneapolis through a grant-funded contract, the Backyard Initiative led by the BYI Resource Center staff, successfully completed a two-phase campaign called “reTHINK Your Drink.” This education campaign informs consumers about sugar consumption in soda and juices. The BYI is now engaged in a new contract to host educational events this summer in parks, community centers and day care establishments in the 7 neighborhood area of the Backyard Initiative.

reTHINK Your Drink educational display in the Midtown Global Market staffed by a STEP-UP interns.