

BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING



AUGUST 2015

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Photo courtesy www.apeaceofmymind.net



Photo courtesy Bruce Silcox

A group of birds being captured by Feral Cat in "After the Birds Taught Me to Fly," performed in June by PlaceBase Productions.

BRINGING ART TO THE SOUTH LOOP

It's been a creative summer in the South Loop District. In 2013, the National Endowment for the Arts awarded Artistry and the City of Bloomington an "Our Town" grant to develop a creative placemaking plan and commission a series of demonstration projects in the area.

"After the Birds Taught Me to Fly," an original, site-specific, musical theater production by PlaceBase Productions, took place at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, pictured above, as part of the Twin Cities Urban Bird Festival. Based on stories collected and research conducted by the artists, it told the history of the Refuge and the South Loop and explained the lives and behaviors of more than 25 of the Refuge's avian residents through the eyes of an eight-year-old birdwatcher.

A large outdoor mural was unveiled at Cypress Semi-Conductor that adds to the experience of a walk to the Minnesota Wildlife Refuge Bass Ponds. Erik Pearson's mural was inspired by its natural setting, the history of technology and semi-conductors and the future vision of "green" technologies in the South Loop. Pearson's work includes the mural on the northeast corner of Civic Plaza.

This month, James Brenner will install his internally illuminated glass-and-steel sculpture, photo above center, set in a swirl of flowering plants in the center of the roundabout at 28th Street and Lindau Lane. Later this year, nine signal control boxes in the South Loop will be wrapped with art, and a bronze sculpture by John Helton will be installed in the plaza next to the TownePlace Suites Hotel at 24th Avenue and Lindau Lane.

The City Council will consider a plan to extend creative placemaking activities in the South Loop for three to five years. After this interim phase, the City and Artistry hope to extend placemaking to all parts of Bloomington.



Photo courtesy LITTLE BOX SAUNA

Another South Loop placemaking project was the Little Box Sauna, a mobile warming place that created a hub where employees and visitors could socialize in a new way in our community. Based on Finnish and other cultural traditions, it gave people a destination, a stopping place between buildings and cars.

The Little Box Sauna made two stops in the South Loop in February and March this year, at the Mall of America in front of the Radisson Blu and at IKEA.

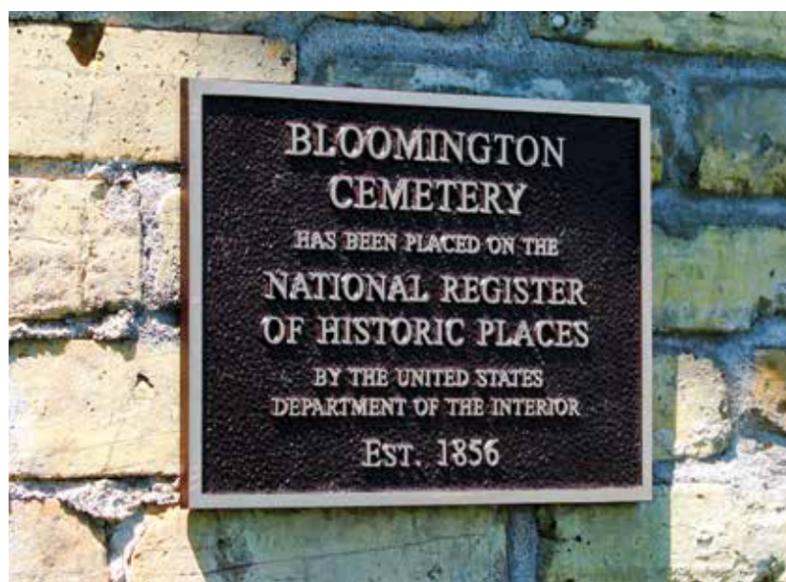
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CITY CEMETERY ON NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The City Cemetery was added to the National Register of Historic Places. According to City Clerk Janet Lewis, the cemetery was established in 1856 by Oak Grove Presbyterian Church and acquired by the Town of Bloomington in 1864.

"In addition to being a strong connection to the community's past, the cemetery is an important part of its future," Lewis said. "The City plans to expand the cemetery northward in the years to come."

The *Briefing*, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed to our residents and businesses. Direct comments and requests for Braille, larger print or computer disk to Communications Administrator Janine Hill, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8819; TTY: 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-mail: jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov
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The City of Bloomington complies with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. For more information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733 (Voice); 952-563-8740 (TTY).

Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or electronic format.

MAYOR'S MEMO CREATING AN ACCESSIBLE BLOOMINGTON

By Mayor Gene Winstead



Bloomington resident Bob Peters.

HONORING A LEADER

Robert "Bob" Peters passed away in June. Peters played a large part in making Bloomington accessible, including accessible parking and public transportation. He was also instrumental in promoting disability awareness throughout his life.

"This is a celebration of life. Whatever I have accomplished of any lasting value was because of my disability, not in spite of it," Robert Peters said.

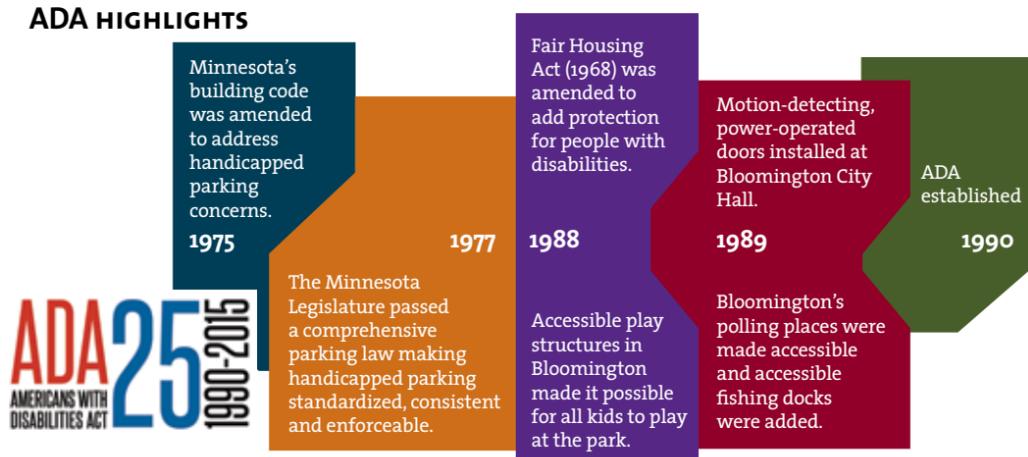
This July marked the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which ensures people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. It was a huge step toward eliminating discrimination against people with disabilities, but it wasn't the first step. In Bloomington, it began with accessibility—from consistent signage for accessible parking, to wider power doors. In fact, the accessible parking guidelines used in Bloomington went on to become part of the ADA.

Before there was an ADA, Bloomington was taking action to make it possible for people with disabilities to be included and able to participate. Bloomington had accessible play structures to ensure all kids could play at the park. In 1989, a year before the ADA, there were accessible fishing docks at Bush Lake, all Bloomington polling places were accessible, and motion-detecting power-operated doors were installed in City Hall. Bloomington also used grant funding to help merchants and stores get information for removing barriers—they installed wider automatic doors and ramps and made bathrooms accessible. When ADA requirements were being implemented 25 years ago, I remember hearing that a high percentage of us would be taking advantage of these accommodations as we age.

Planning for the Mall of America began before the ADA, yet architects and developers worked to meet many ADA guidelines. Plans created access for people with visual, hearing or mobility impairments, from curb cuts and power-operated doors to ramps, Braille in the elevators and yellow lines marking the edges of steps.

The story of the ADA is inspiring. People—families, organizations individuals—recognized a need and created a movement. It's something worth celebrating and worth carrying forward.

ADA HIGHLIGHTS



BLOOMINGTON CITY MANAGER NAMED ONE OF EIGHT TO FOLLOW ON TWITTER

City Manager Jamie Verbrugge is a top pick to follow on Twitter, according to an article on ClearPointStrategy.com. The article identified eight city managers from around the country doing an excellent job with social media strategy. Verbrugge said he uses social media to provide real-time information, promote events, and engage and connect the community with local government activities and issues.

"The ways people transact with their local government are changing," Verbrugge said. "Using social media is not a replacement for building relationships with residents and other stakeholders; however, it can be a great door-opener."

followers up 57%

fans up 61%

more than 350,000 views

Over a one-year period, the City's Facebook fan base grew 57 percent; the page has more than 2,500 fans. The number of Twitter followers grew 61 percent, surpassing 2,250 followers in June. On YouTube, the City's videos have been viewed more than 350,000 times, adding up to more than 1 million minutes watched.

MAGC GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS

The City brought home seven awards from this year's Northern Lights awards contest held by the Minnesota Association of Government Communicators (MAGC). Awards included:

- *Briefing*—Award of Excellence for External Printed Publications
- Staying Active Has No Age Limit—Award of Excellence for Informational Video
- 2014 Corporate Report to the Community—Award of Excellence for Annual Reports*
- Increasing Online Engagement: The Race to 2,000 Likes—Award of Excellence for Social Media Engagement
- Made in Bloomington: Nechville Musical Products—Award of Merit for Informational Video
- Meet Laurie—Award of Merit for Promotional Video
- 2014 State of the City—Bloomington, MN—Award of Merit for Special Event

*The Corporate Report was also nominated for Best of Show, one of only eight entries to receive this nomination.

MAGC is a peer organization of communications professionals dedicated to improving public sector communications. The Northern Lights contest celebrates members' accomplishments over the past year.



90TH STREET SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

The Metropolitan Council Environmental Services will begin a sewer improvement project along East 90th Street starting mid-June and running through November 2015. Traffic along 90th Street will be reduced to two lanes during the project. Some intersections will be closed temporarily during the project.

For project details, visit blm.mn/sewer or call 952-224-4864.

UPCOMING LANE CLOSURES ON 90TH STREET EAST—PHASE 3 (LATE JUNE-NOVEMBER)

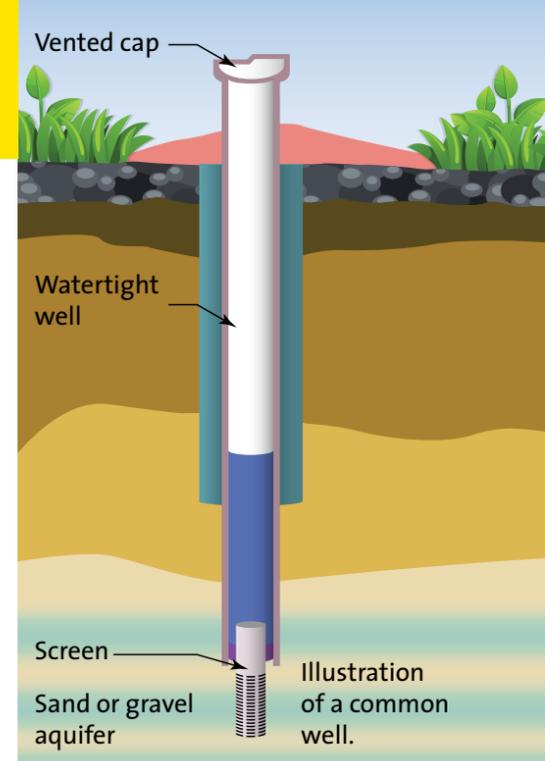


The middle two lanes will be closed between Portland Ave S and Chicago Ave S. No left turns (except at Portland, Chicago and 12th).



South two lanes closed between 10th Ave S and 18th Ave S. No left turns (except at 12th and Old Cedar).

Driveways will remain accessible during all phases.



SEAL YOUR OLD WELL

Do you have an old well on your property that is no longer in use? Hennepin County is offering grants to help cover the costs of sealing it.

It's important to seal unused wells because they can act as a channel between the surface and the aquifer below, potentially leading to groundwater contamination.

Because of limited funding, the grant selection process is based on several characteristics having the highest potential impact on groundwater. The City issues permits, inspects well construction and sealing, and maintains the records required for disclosure when selling property. (If you are in the process of selling your home, you are not eligible for the grant funds.)

For more information on well sealing and grants, visit www.hennepin.us and search "well sealing," or call 612-348-4659 or email Greg.Senst@hennepin.us.

If you have well-related questions, contact the City's Environmental Health Division at 952-563-8934.

ORGANIZED COLLECTION APPROVED IN BLOOMINGTON

In June, the City Council passed a resolution approving organized collection of solid waste material in Bloomington based on a proposal submitted by all seven haulers that currently provide residential service in the city.

While organized trash collection has been a hot topic around Bloomington for a number of years, consideration of the organized collection of waste material began in earnest last fall with negotiations with the seven licensed residential haulers in the City. Also last fall, residents were asked to voluntarily submit their trash invoices to verify the costs of current contracts with households under open collection. This spring, the Organized Collection Committee sponsored an informational open house and a public hearing to provide feedback to the City Council prior to their decision to move forward with waste-handling organized collection service.

Public Works Director Karl Keel said an organized collection service would reduce the number of trucks needed to collect trash and recyclable materials in each neighborhood from twenty-one to three. This would reduce noise, environmental impacts and stress on city streets. Organized collection also has the potential to save residents money—surveys revealed that homeowners currently pay anywhere from \$8 – \$80 per month for waste services.

Organized collection for waste services could begin as soon as spring 2016.

OPEN TO BUSINESS

Bloomington Port Authority and Hennepin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority sponsor the Open to Business program, which promotes economic development, creates and retains jobs, and cultivates small businesses in Hennepin County. The nonprofit organization Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) provides free one-on-one technical assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs. The services offered include business plan development, feasibility studies, cash flow and financing projections, marketing, preparing loan requests and advocacy with lending institutions.

In 2014 the program served 379 businesses in 17 suburban Hennepin County communities, creating 70 new jobs and providing more than \$1 million in direct and facilitated financing.

An MCCD business advisor has office hours the fourth Wednesday of every month from 1 – 4 p.m., at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.

To schedule an appointment, contact Rob Smolund at 612-789-7337, ext. 260, or info@opentobusinessmn.org.



Photo courtesy Donaldson Company, Inc.

HAPPY 100!

Donaldson Filtration Solutions began in 1915 as a three-person shop making simple air cleaners for farm tractors. Celebrating its centennial in July, the company is now a worldwide corporation with a diverse product portfolio and a presence in 44 countries. The company moved to Bloomington in 1962.



NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

The Human Rights Commission will honor the International Day of Peace by sponsoring a Naturalization Ceremony on September 9 during which 150 immigrants will be sworn

in as new U.S. citizens. The ceremony will be held at 1:30 p.m., at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Schneider Theatre. A U.S. District Judge will preside over the ceremony with assistance from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

OMAR BONDERUD AWARD NOMINATIONS

The Bloomington Human Rights Commission is seeking nominations for the Omar Bonderud Human Rights Award. Each year, this award is presented to an individual or organization that has contributed to ensuring there is no discrimination in housing, education, employment or other areas of human rights for all Bloomington citizens. Nominations are due August 28. To obtain a nomination form, call 952-563-8733 or visit the City's website.

KEYWORDS: OMAR BONDERUD



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GET YOUR PASSPORT AT CIVIC PLAZA

NEW ONLINE SCHEDULING PROGRAM

The Bloomington City Clerk's Office is a certified passport acceptance facility Monday through Friday from 8:20 a.m. – 3 p.m. Beginning August 1, passport services are available by appointment only through an online scheduling program on the City's website. Scheduling a passport appointment is easy. Reserve the appointment that works best for you. If you have any questions, call 952-563-8728.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: PASSPORTS



KEEPING BLOOMINGTON WATER BODIES CLEAN

Anything that flows into Bloomington's storm water drains will eventually end up in our water bodies. This includes trash, leaves, grass clippings, fertilizers and other debris and sediments that can be carried by water runoff to the nearest storm drain.

Properties located on lakes and ponds can have a large effect on water quality due to their proximity to the water body. In an urban setting, nearly all properties are waterfront properties, because streets and gutters convey runoff to the nearest storm drain which is routed to the nearest water body. Storm runoff is not treated like wastewater, so if you wouldn't put it in a lake or stream, don't put it in the street or storm drain.

It is especially important to be aware of fertilizer runoff, which contributes to the growth of two main invasive species in the ponds and lakes in Bloomington. Curly leaf pondweed and Eurasian water milfoil form dense mats that can prevent native plants from growing and make recreation on lakes difficult.



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BUSINESS RECYCLING PROGRAM GRANTS

Businesses, nonprofits and institutions can now apply for a grant through Hennepin County to start or improve recycling and organics programs. Grants can be used to purchase containers and equipment, cover some of the cost of hauling services, and improve loading docks and waste enclosures. Free assistance is available with start-up steps, collection set-up and more.

Visit www.hennepin.us/businessrecycling for more information, or call Recycling at 612-543-1316 or Organics at 612-348-5893.



BUCKTHORN BUSTERS

More than 50 volunteers from US Bank recently completed a buckthorn bust at the Pond Dakota Mission House. In approximately two hours, the group cleared more than an acre of buckthorn and honeysuckle—enough to fill three dumpsters. They also removed a one-ton dump truck full of garlic mustard. All the work was done with hand tools (no chainsaws). Park Maintenance staff was on hand to assist with plant identification and disposal of the brush.

"The work at Pond Dakota has been very valuable as part of an overall plan for the site to bring much of it back to its mid-1800s prairie oak savannah state," Parks and Recreation Supervisor Mark Morrison said. "Invasive plant removal events done by volunteer groups such as US Bank are extremely valuable to restoring the natural landscape."

Last year, US Bank volunteers removed garlic mustard from Forest Glen Park.

"They were great sports on a hot, humid, buggy day," Parks and Recreation Supervisor Jackie Doncavage, said. "This year the weather was perfect! They made a huge visual impact at Pond Dakota Mission Park and increased the potential for native plants to fill the space."

HOME OFFERS SENIORS HELP AROUND THE HOUSE

Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly (HOME) offers an array of services designed to help seniors stay in their homes. HOME helps fix the dripping faucet or other repairs around the house, and offers assistance with cleaning tasks or running errands. This time of year, HOME has a large number of volunteers available to help with outside chores like raking.



A new service from HOME is the Home Health and Safety assessment. Safety issues will be identified during this one-hour visit so corrective repairs can be made. The goal is to help seniors stay safe in their homes and avoid falls.

Senior Community Services (SCS) has been providing assistance to Bloomington seniors since 1990 and is a trusted resource in the community. It has partnered with the City for many years to offer affordable services to seniors. As a nonprofit, SCS offers services on a sliding fee scale based on income.

For more information, call 952-746-4046 or visit seniorcommunity.org. Or visit the SCS office at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South.



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FREE HOME IMPROVEMENT SEMINAR

The Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority will host the third session of its summer home improvement seminars. Basement Waterproofing will take place in the Rehearsal Hall at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, on August 27, 7 p.m. Tony Reick of AAA Reick's Landscaping and Waterproofing will help you solve your basement waterproofing and drainage problems. Learn about grading, gutter water control, window wells and other ways to keep the basement dry. The seminar is free and open to the public, and will last up to 90 minutes.

For more information, visit the City's website.

KEYWORDS: HRA WORKSHOP.

FIX-IT CLINIC

Fix-It Clinics are a great opportunity to get items fixed for free and learn repair skills from handy volunteers. Bring in items—small household appliances, clothes, electronics—that need attention (you have to be able to carry them in), and get guided assistance to disassemble, troubleshoot and fix your stuff. You can bring in tools and supplies to help fix your items, but the volunteers will also have tools on hand.

The next Fix-It Clinic will take place Sunday, August 9, 12 – 4 p.m., at Arc's Value Village, 10546 France Avenue South.

For more information, call 612-348-9195.



Photo courtesy www.apeaceofmymind.net

HUMAN SERVICES

Human Services provides exceptional programs and services to community members of all ages. The programs and events listed here are held at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South, unless otherwise noted. For more information or to register for programs, call Human Services at 952-563-4944 or TTY 952-563-4933.

KEYWORDS: HUMAN SERVICES



Photo courtesy Minnesota State Fair

DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Minnesota State Fair

Monday, August 31, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Cost is \$18 (includes admission and transportation). Register by Monday, August 17.

Minnesota Twins Game

Thursday, September 3, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Cost is \$30 (includes admission and transportation). Seats will be located in Powerball Pavillion under an overhang and will be wheelchair accessible. Register by Wednesday, August 12.

A PEACE OF MY MIND

In honor of the International Day of Peace, the Human Rights Commission is sponsoring the multimedia art project titled “A Peace of My Mind,” created by resident John Noltner. The exhibit features 52 portraits and personal stories of Minnesotans who were asked the central question, “What does peace mean to you?” The free exhibit is on display at Civic Plaza from September 15 to October 4.

John Noltner will be the featured speaker at a community program on Tuesday, September 22. Reception and exhibit are at 6 p.m., with the program beginning at 7 p.m. at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.

CREEKSIDE OPEN HOUSE AND SAFETY FUN FEST

Have a fun-filled time at the Safety Fest and Creekside Open House on Saturday, October 3, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. This free event will feature activities designed to keep you and your loved ones safe, such as tours of Police and Fire vehicles and breakout sessions on safety topics. There will also be pony rides, a kids build-it workshop from Home Depot, exhibitor booths from the Human Services 50+ Program and complimentary refreshments. A free shred event will take place from 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. in the Public Works north parking area.

To learn more, call 952-563-4944 or visit the City’s website.

KEYWORDS: CREEKSIDE OPEN HOUSE.



LET'S GO FISHING

Spend a warm summer day on the water Thursday, August 20 and Tuesday, September 15. Enjoy a fully accessible pontoon fishing trip on Lake Riley in Eden Prairie captained by the nonprofit organization Let’s Go Fishing. The trip will depart Creekside at 9:15 a.m. and will return at 12:30 p.m. A hat and sunscreen are recommended. A Minnesota fishing license is required for those under 90 years of age. Life jackets, fishing rods, gear and a snack will be provided. A cooler will be available if you choose to pack a lunch. Cost is \$10 per person. To register, call 952-563-4944 or visit Creekside.

LIVING WELL EXPO—LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE!

This expo for adults 50 and older will feature a variety of exhibitor booths, a cooking demonstration, breakout sessions on various topics and lots more! This free event will take place on Saturday, September 26, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. Shop the Farmer’s Market and visit the Expo. To learn more, call 952-563-4944 or visit the City’s website.

KEYWORDS: LIVING WELL.

POETRY CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

All are welcome to attend the sixth Annual Poetry Contest reception on Saturday, August 15, 4 – 6 p.m. at Creekside. There were 77 poems submitted by 43 contestants for this year’s contest. Prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place along with five honorable mentions. Winners will read their poems. Light refreshments will also be served. Reservations are appreciated. Call 952-563-4944 or email reservations@BloomingtonMN.gov.

TO YOUR HEALTH

BLOOMINGTON DOES ITS PART IN REVERSING OBESITY RATES

It’s not often that a state can say it is leading the pack by going in reverse, but when it comes to obesity, reversing the trend is a good thing. Minnesota was the only state in the region to bring its obesity rate below 26 percent, and it has stayed below that mark since 2010. Bloomington Public Health and the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) have been working together to reduce obesity.

“In the last two years, we have made great strides in helping childcare providers incorporate healthy foods and physical activity,” Bloomington SHIP Coordinator Elham Ashkar said. “We have also used our Community Food Partnership to increase healthy food access for those who have barriers.”

Public Health also created Healthy Living Hubs to make healthy eating and physical activity more accessible to the city’s cultural communities experiencing health inequity (social conditions responsible for poor health outcomes).

“Many City food venues now have or will have healthier options,” Ashkar said, “and the VEAP food shelf is a reliable source of healthy food for our more vulnerable community members.”

For more information, visit blm.mn/healthy-communities.

2015 HEALTH AND WELLNESS AWARD

In June, the City Council presented VEAP with the Bloomington Health and Wellness Award for its commitment to providing high quality and nutritious food to neighbors in need.

In 2012, VEAP partnered with Bloomington Public Health to make healthy eating an easier choice for its clients. Space and funds were designated for a commercial and teaching kitchen in its new facility, and a nutrition program, Nutrition Education and Teaching, became the heart of the new kitchen.

VEAP also worked with Public Health through the Statewide Health Improvement Program to improve produce donations from local farmers markets and community gardens and develop a Healthy Foods Policy. VEAP is among the first in the state to have a written policy of this kind.

Nutrition improvements would not have been possible without VEAP’s outstanding leadership, staff and volunteers. Because of VEAP’s commitment to providing high quality, nutritious food, good health is available for all who use the food shelf.





MERIT AWARD FOR THE DWAN MAINTENANCE BUILDING

The Dwan Maintenance Building received a Merit Award from the Minnesota chapter of American Institute of Architects. Merit Award projects need to tell a story of excellence beyond design, reflecting the variety of forces that shape a building. The award is based on team/client satisfaction, innovation and architectural solution.

Public Works and Dwan staff collaborated with Shelter Architecture to turn out this award-winning project. The redesigned golf course maintenance building demonstrates the City's consistent commitment to attractive public spaces and high quality architecture.



FOUND ON FACEBOOK

This mid-1980s video provides a trip down memory lane along I-494. Check out the video at blm.mn/tbt-video to see how many past landmarks you can recognize.

(Hint: Mann France Avenue Drive-In.)

BLOOMINGTON YESTERDAY

If you had household projects going on in the 60s, you might've gotten your supplies from this Hardware Hank at 98th and Lyndale Avenue.



Photo courtesy Bloomington Historical Society



WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

The City would like to thank the following sponsors for their donations to this year's Summer Fete:

MAIN STAGE SPONSOR

- Earl C Hill, American Legion Post 550

DETONATIONS SPONSORS

- Mall of America
- Nickelodeon Universe
- Normandale Community College
- Richfield-Bloomington Credit Union

STARS AND STRIPES DONORS

- Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Bloomington Penn Cycle
- Chu Vision Institute
- David Fong's
- Horner Strategies, LLC

- Mrs. Lali's Little Friends Montessori LLC
- Plekkenpol Builders, Inc.
- Raindance Sprinkler Systems
- Raymond James Financial Services- John Stanley
- Tria Orthopaedic Center
- Jimmy John's (494 and Penn Ave)

PATRON SPONSORS

- Atlas Staffing
- Eagle Mechanical Ltd.
- Everett McClay VFW Post 1296
- Joe Senser's
- Geritom Medical, Inc.



CAST YOUR BALLOT ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

FOR COUNCIL DISTRICT II VOTERS ONLY
POLLING PLACES OPEN 7 A.M. – 8 P.M.

There will be a Municipal Primary Election on Tuesday, August 11, for the office of Council Member District II only.

A Primary Election is required by the City Charter if three or more candidates file for the same office. The purpose of the August election is to determine which two candidates will move onto the General Election in November. Candidates on the Primary Election ballot are:

Councilmember District II (four-year term) in order of filing:

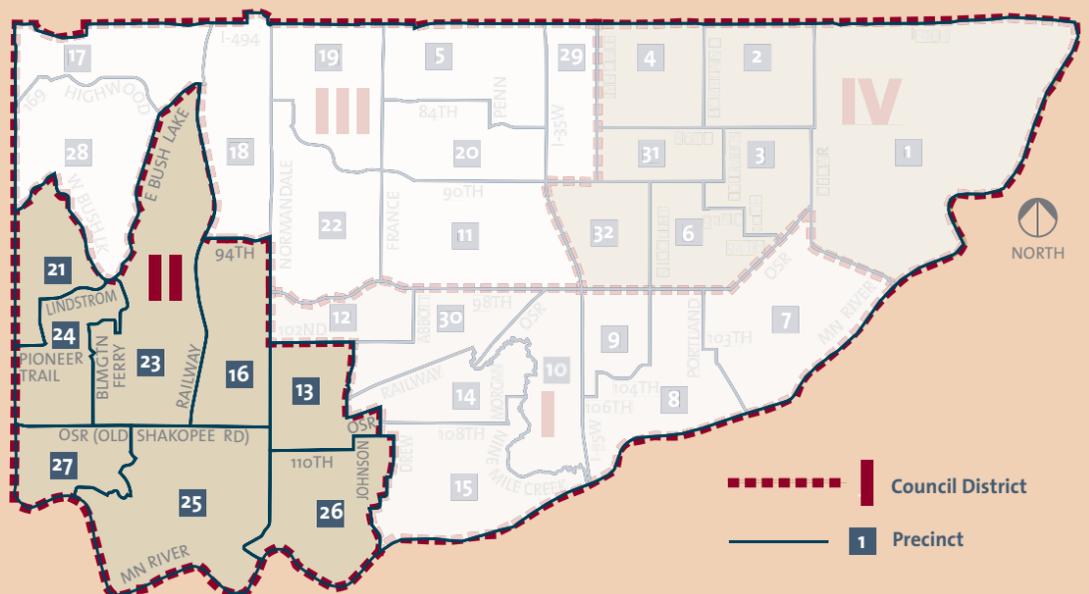
- Andrew Carlson
- Tom Hulting
- Susan "Hofmeister" Woodruff

District II Polling Places:

- Precinct 13, Jefferson Activity Center, 4001 West 102nd Street (enter parking lot from 102nd Street) **NEW POLLING PLACE**
- Precinct 16, Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church, 9920 Normandale Boulevard South
- Precinct 21, Hyland Visitors Center, 10145 Bush Lake Road
- Precinct 23, Community of the Cross Lutheran Church, 10701 Bloomington Ferry Road
- Precinct 24, Bloomington Lutheran School, 10600 Bloomington Ferry Road
- Precinct 25, Bethany Church, 6900 Auto Club Road
- Precinct 26, Transfiguration Lutheran Church, 11000 France Avenue South
- Precinct 27, Bethany Gymnasium, 6900 Auto Club Road

Eligible and registered voters are required to vote at the assigned polling place for your legal residence. Verify your polling place at <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>

WEBSITE KEYWORD: VOTING





RECOGNIZING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

The Bloomington Police Department (BPD) held its annual Behavior Recognition Awards ceremony in May. Award recipients included members of the BPD who were recognized for their exceptional service during the past year.

Sergeant Nick Sassor, pictured above left with Chief Jeff Potts, was awarded Optimist Club Officer of the Year.

GET TO KNOW PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works held its first-ever open house in May. Around 200 people had a chance to learn about Public Works, ride in a snowplow truck and check out more than 25 pieces of equipment on display—from excavators to sweepers to tractors. Visit the City's YouTube channel for a video recap of the event: blm.mn/pw-open-house.

WILDLIFE AND YOU

Bloomington is home to plenty of parks, ponds and green spaces that make up habitat for all sorts of wild animals.

To reduce issues with wild animals foraging for feed and creating a public nuisance and prevent issues with predator wildlife such as coyotes, City Code prohibits feeding wild animals.

If you notice a coyote that seems “too comfortable” about people, you can haze the coyote to change its behavior: Chase it off with loud noises or throw things at it. Learn more about coyote hazing from Bloomington Animal Control Coordinator John Carlson in a video on the City's website.

KEYWORDS: COYOTE.



MEET A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

Volunteer firefighter Nicole Lauby has been with the Bloomington Fire Department (BFD) since July 2013. She works out of Station 1.

Q: What do you enjoy most about being a firefighter?

A: The ability to help people, whether it's responding to their emergency call or educating them on ways they can prevent having to call us for an emergency in the first place. It's especially fun for me to talk with younger kids. Seeing them really get into the topic and get excited to go home and share the information is a good feeling for me. It means we've done our job.

Q: What is your day job?

A: I work for the Bloomington Police Department as a Community Service Officer. I also work duty crews for the BFD.

Q: How many fires have you responded to in your career?

A: I'm not sure. I've seen plenty, some really small ones—like fires in garbage cans or in a pile of woodchips in front of a building—and some really big ones—apartment fires, brush fires, house fires. I'd say we average 2 or 3 actual fires a month, maybe.

Q: Do you have a scariest/most memorable moment you could share?

A: I'm not sure I have a scariest moment yet. I'm still pretty new to the department. My least favorite calls are the ones that involve injuries. When property gets wrecked, it's not fun, but you can always rebuild or get new stuff. When people get hurt, it's a scary situation for the person who's hurt (and their friends and family), and it's tough for me mostly because I don't typically ever get to find out if they ended up being okay.



SAVE THE DATE! FIRE STATION OPEN HOUSES

This year's open houses take place on Saturday, October 10, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., at all Bloomington fire stations. Bring the kids to meet Sparky and enjoy activities, station tours, fire equipment demonstrations and more.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: FIRE OPEN HOUSES.

SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

Bloomington's Citizen Alert system sends time-sensitive emergency notifications directly to your home or cell phone via voice and text alerts, and email. To sign up for Citizen Alert, visit the City's website and click on the Citizen Alert icon on the home page, then follow the prompts.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: CITIZEN ALERT.

BLOOMINGTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS

2015 - 2016 PERFORMANCE SERIES

The Bloomington Center for the Arts Performance Series includes awe-inspiring theater, band, chorale and jazz concerts. Performances are held in the Schneider or Black Box theaters, located in the Bloomington Center for the Arts at the corner of 98th Street and West Old Shakopee Road.



CHECK OUT THIS AMAZING LINE-UP OF SHOWS



Monroe Crossing

Monroe Crossing dazzles audiences with an electrifying blend of classic bluegrass, bluegrass gospel and heartfelt originals. Their airtight harmonies, razor sharp arrangements and on-stage rapport make them audience favorites.

Saturday, September 26, 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$30, Seniors \$27, 25 and under \$23



The Whitesidewalls

The Whitesidewalls Rock 'n' Roll Revue is the Midwest's ultimate 50s and 60s doo-wop and rock & roll show band. Five singers play multiple instruments, and deliver tight harmonies and driving dance beats.

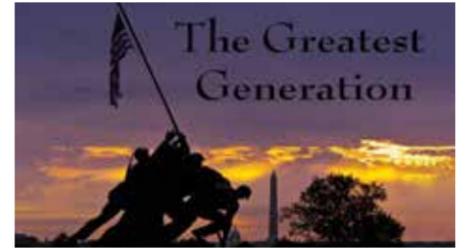
Saturday, October 3, 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$30, Seniors \$27, 25 and under \$23



Arne Fogel & Maud Hixson Irving Berlin's Hollywood

The 20th century's best pop composer and the songs he wrote for the great movie musicals of all time will be performed, including "Blue Skies" and "You're Just in Love."

November 6-8, Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m.
Adults \$21, Seniors \$19, 25 and under \$17



Medalist Concert Band The Greatest Generation

The Medalist Concert Band pays tribute to World War II-era America and Americans with selections ranging from patriot classics to big band hits.

Sunday, November 15, 4 p.m.
Adults \$14, Seniors and Students \$12



Colleen Raye

A Musical Tribute to Patsy Cline

Colleen Raye brings the presence of Patsy Cline into the room with heartfelt sincerity and skill, while also talking about Patsy's life.

Friday, November 20, 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$27, Seniors \$24, Students \$20



Bloomington Symphony Orchestra Journeys

Steal away to Italy, take a *Journey into Jazz* with special guest Charles Lazarus and enjoy Beethoven's magnificent Symphony No. 3, the *Eroica*.

Sunday, November 22, 3 p.m.
Adults \$14, Seniors \$12, Students free with ID



NOTE-able Singers Season Celebrations

Get into the holiday spirit and join NOTE-able Singers as they perform songs celebrating everything that makes the season jolly and bright.

Wednesday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$15, Seniors and Students \$12, Kids under 5 free



Bloomington Chorale Everywhere Christmas, Tonight

Excerpts from "Messiah," Vivaldi's "Gloria," pieces by Benjamin Britten from A Ceremony of Carols and other seasonal selections.

Friday, December 18, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 19, 4 p.m.
Adults \$15, Seniors and Students \$11
(Add \$1 to ticket price at the door)



Medalist Concert Band Sounds of the Season

Celebrate the holidays with the Medalist Concert Band in this program of traditional carols and modern favorites.

Sunday, December 20, 4 p.m.
Adults \$14, Seniors and Students \$12



Angelica Cantanti Youth Choirs 35th Anniversary Concert

Join us for "Songs of the Decades!" a great afternoon of music from the 50s - 90s and help support our scholarship fund in honor of longtime director Rita Doctor. Dessert reception included.

Sunday, February 21, 3 p.m.
Adults \$35, Seniors \$35, 25 and under \$35



Medalist Concert Band How "Suite" It Is!

Some of the best-loved compositions for band are suites: sets of pieces of varying character but in the same key. Join the Medalist Concert Band in exploring this musical genre.

Sunday, February 28, 4 p.m.
Adults \$14, Seniors and Students \$12



Maud Hixson and the Wolverines Trio The Music and Life of Doris Day

Take a sentimental journey with big-band singer, movie star and animal rights activist Doris Day through her hit songs.

Saturday, April 2, 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$27, Seniors \$24, Students \$20



Arne Fogel and Jennifer Eckes Days of Wine and Roses

It wasn't all "British invasion." The 1960s were a golden age for mainstream pop music as well, including hits from Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Barbra Streisand.

April 8 - 10, Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m.
Adults \$21, Seniors \$19, Students \$17
Black Box Theater



Medalist Concert Band Hands Across the Sea

John Philip Sousa's "Hands Across the Sea" march provides the theme for this Medalist Band concert, which includes selections from around the globe. Also featured is the winner of this year's Earl C. Benson Concerto Competition.

Sunday, May 15, 4 p.m.
Adults \$14, Seniors and Students \$12



Bloomington Chorale Bizet to Bernstein

An inspiring evening of choruses from the legendary operas and the marvelous music of Broadway; a choral concert of music with something for everyone!

Friday, May 20, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 21, 4 p.m.
Adults \$15, Seniors and Students \$11
(Add \$1 to ticket price at the door)



Barbary Coast Dixieland Show Band

Together since 1967 and inducted into the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame in 2001, the Barbary Coast take their authentic Dixieland jazz around the world and bring it back home again!

Friday, June 3, 7:30 p.m.
Adults \$30, Seniors \$27, Students \$23



NOTE-able Singers Once Upon a Time

Join NOTE-able Singers as they perform songs celebrating the moments that make life funny, touching, memorable and completely enchanting—like a fairy tale.

Saturday, June 4, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, June 5, 2 p.m. Adults \$15, Seniors and Students \$12
Kids under 5 free

BOX OFFICE

Order tickets by phone: Call 952-563-8575 • Online: Go to www.centerstageticketing.com/sites/bloomington
In person: Office hours vary. Call 952-563-8575 for current hours.