BREFFINGTON CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



PAGE 2



VATIVE PRAIRIE



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BUILT IN BLOOMINGTON

hether they're assembling bicycles or custom in-ear hearing aids, more than 7,500 employees make a living building things in Bloomington.

The number of manufacturing jobs in Bloomington has remained steady since 1970, but the total number of jobs in Bloomington has grown by 154 percent over those 40 years. Today manufacturing accounts for 315,000 jobs statewide. With 1.6 percent of the state's population and 2.4 percent of its manufacturing jobs, Bloomington provides more than its share of Minnesota's manufacturing employment opportunities.

Quality Bicycle Products (QBP) has been manufacturing tires and building bicycles in Bloomington for more than 20 years. QBP is one of the city's top 10 manufacturing employers, providing 480 jobs and producing about 6,000 bicycles each year.

TOP 10 MANUFACTURING EMPLOYERS IN 2015 BY NUMBER OF JOBS

ΟΤΑ

April 2017

- Seagate Technology
- The Toro Company
- Donaldson Company
- Polar Semiconductor, Inc.
- Thermo King/Ingersoll Rand Corporation
- **Consolidated Precision Products**
- **Ouality Bicycle Products**
- ReSound
- Ziegler CAT
- SkyWater Technology Foundry

Master Builder Chris Klein assembles a bicycle at Quality Bicycle Products, above.

"It's gratifying to be able to work with my hands," said John-Ben McFall, Bloomington native and QBP production associate. "I grew up in Bloomington, left and then came back because these types of jobs are available here."



POSTAL CUSTOMER ECRWSS

HITTING IT OUT OF THE PARK UPDATING PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Darks serve many purposes. They're a place for children to be active, friends to gather and a great way to preserve green space throughout the city. This summer, there will be one more reason to visit your local park—new playground equipment will be installed.

"This will be an extremely busy year," said Assistant Parks and Recreation Manager Scott Breuer. "Plans have been developed for improvements at 16 sites throughout the city, which includes 15 parks and one school—Valley View Elementary."

The typical lifespan of playground equipment is 25 years. The majority of the improvements will replace playground equipment originally installed in 1991. These sites will also receive picnic tables, benches and bike racks. The City is also planning to reconstruct the parking lots at West Bush Lake Park, with the first phase of work starting

Open houses were held in early February to gather public input regarding the preliminary plans provided by the project consultant. Final plans were reviewed and approved by both the Parks, Arts and Recreation Commission and the City Council. The projects are being funded by charter bonds, Park Development funds and Metropolitan **Regional Parks System grants.**

The majority of work will be completed in 2017. For more information on the projects, visit blm.mn/parkprojects.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING, APRIL 2017 • **#ONE**BLOOMINGTON



MAYOR'S MEMO A sustainable city

By Mayor Gene Winstead

he '70s was an era of bell bottoms, disco and cultural change. One of those changes was a newfound focus on the environment, which was in part a result of U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson from Wisconsin proposing that April 22 become Earth Day, a national day for people to focus on sustainability. Before Earth Day was established, the environment wasn't a frequent topic of mainstream discussion.

Fast forward about 40 years and, I think it's fair to say, most people are familiar with a wide range of terms related to sustainability such as carbon emissions, fuel economy, solar energy, composting and recycling, to name a few.

At the City, we are focused on sustainability in order to protect our natural environment and improve the quality of life for our residents and businesses. Part of that process over the last year has been the City Council's One Bloomington plan that contains six strategic priorities, one of which is environmental sustainability. *See page three for more about One Bloomington strategic priorities*.

The City Council kicked off 2017 with the creation of its first-ever sustainability commission. More than 50 people with a depth of experience and knowledge applied, showing the incredible resources we have here in Bloomington. Nine members were appointed and met for the first time in March to discuss sustainable use and management of resources that include air, water, energy, land and ecological resources, and waste.

The commission will help guide sustainable policies and practices. They will also discuss applying for the Xcel Partners in Energy Program to identify energy objectives, develop a plan and implement strategies. Identifying focus areas for solid waste organics collection, improving the water quality of Nine Mile Creek and ecological stewardship of City-owned land are other topics on the commission's agenda. For more information on the sustainability commission, visit blm.mn/sustainability.

Focusing on the future and preserving Bloomington's parks, waterbodies and trees is important, but the City already has plenty of practices in place to stay sustainable.

Through the years, City operations have been impacted by weather shifts such as winter warming, extreme precipitation and heat, drought and strong storms. A few sustainable practices Bloomington has put in place include maintaining an urban forest through an annual tree sale and diversified plantings in City parks, installing LED traffic signals and street lights to conserve energy, and maintaining native prairie grass plantings to reduce required mowing.

City staff from many departments are also talking about the impact weather shifts could have on their operations going forward. Staff from Planning, Fire and Communications attended a community resilience-building workshop with others from Edina, Hopkins, Chanhassen and the Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek Watershed District to create sustainable momentum around planning for the changing weather patterns and spurring collaboration and action over time.

New City Councilmember appointed

The Bloomington City Council appointed Eldon Spencer, a Bloomington resident and Minneapolis attorney, to fill the open council seat representing District II. The former planning commission member and chairperson was sworn in March 20. Spencer will represent District II until the regular election in November. The seat opened last fall after former councilmember Andrew Carlson was elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in District 50B.



A CLEAN SWEEP

S pring is in the air, and it's time to sweep up the last remnants of winter. Street Maintenance is about to start its annual street-cleaning program to rid streets of dirt, sand and debris.

Street sweeping is part of the City's

Briefing

Volume 25, Number 2

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TTY: 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-mail: jhill@BloomingtonMN.gov **Website: BloomingtonMN.gov**

BLOOMINGTON CITY COUNCIL



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Councilmember At Large Tim Busse 952-457-7506 tbusse@ BloomingtonMN.gov

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E

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F

Councilmember District IV Jon Oleson 651-208-6586 joleson@ BloomingtonMN.gov

Elected officials presented for informational purposes.

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Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program. It beautifies the city and prevents pollution in local bodies of water because it stops debris from entering the storm water system. A clean sweep of all 342 miles of Bloomington streets takes four to six weeks. Street sweeping is also a bargain for homeowners. Owners of single-family, median-valued homes in Bloomington pay only 57 cents each month out of their storm water utility bill for two street sweepings. Visit the City's website at blm.mn/sweep to see when your street will be swept. Do not rake leaves or grass clippings into the street. They are a major source of pollutants for area water bodies and can clog pipes, which leads to backups or flooding.

publicworks@BloomingtonMN.gov

General phone number

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).

952-563-8700

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

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING, APRIL 2017 • #ONEBLOOMINGTON



UNITED TO BUILD A STRONG COMMUNITY

ne Bloomington, the City Council's strategic plan, is written with the goal of strengthening a community that includes all residents working together to accomplish common goals. Through this plan's strategic priorities, the City will focus on improving the awareness and reputation of Bloomington and its strengths across the region and state. In 2017, each issue of the Briefing will focus on priorities within the One Bloomington plan.

New trails near Old Cedar Avenue bridge

Since the rehabilitation of the Old Cedar Avenue bridge was completed last fall, pedestrians have been putting the new connection to good use. The bridge will be closed again this spring, however, due to nearby trailhead reconstruction. More than a half mile of Old Cedar Avenue from Old Shakopee Road to the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge parking lot in Bloomington will be rebuilt during the project. A new off-road trail from Old Shakopee Road to the bridge on the other side of Long Meadow Lake is another part of the project. To make getting to the trails easier, the parking lot will also be reconstructed. The Old Cedar Avenue project is expected to be complete in the late spring of 2018 depending on conditions like weather and flooding during the construction season.



IMPROVING SAFETY ON NORMANDALE BOULEVARD

onstruction is underway to build new, safer left turn lanes and ultiuse trails along both sides of Normandale Boulevard from West 94th Street to Nine Mile Creek. These additions will improve pedestrian and driver safety on the roadway. Workers began building retaining walls and relocating electrical poles last winter. They are expected to finish this part of the project in late April. The entire project is expected to take two full construction seasons to complete.

The project is partially funded through a Federal Surface Transportation Program grant. The remainder of the cost will be funded by state aid funds, Hennepin County and the City.

HIT THE LINKS AT DWAN AND HYLAND

eed to dust off your golf clubs? There's no better place to get back in the swing than Dwan Golf Club, 110th Street and Xerxes Avenue, or Hyland Greens Golf and Learning Center, 10100 Normandale Boulevard.

With Dwan patron cards and Hyland Greens discount cards, residents and nonresidents can golf and save. Dwan patron cards are \$58 for senior residents, \$83 for residents, \$85 for nonresident seniors and \$100 for nonresidents. With a patron card, a round of 18-hole golf is discounted \$7 and a round of nine-hole golf is discounted \$4. The Hyland



THE SIX STRATEGIC PRIORITIES ARE: Community amenities

- **Community** image
- Environmental sustainability
- Equity and inclusion
- Focused renewal
- High-quality service delivery

CREATING CONNECTION

lanes, fish and chipmunks an unlikely trio, but one that symbolizes notable features in the South Loop district. These things, representing the Minneapolis – St. Paul International Airport and the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, will be elements of Art Gate, the City's new creative placemaking project.

"The sculpture is an artistic interpretation of Bloomington's important role as an international travel destination and it represents the area's wildlife, natural beauty and diversity," said the City's Creative Placemaking Director Ale Pelinka.

Award-winning sculptor and architect Alexander Tylevich, above, designed the gate, which is six feet tall and 20 feet long and is made of bronze and steel. It will be installed at the corner of 24th Avenue and Lindau Lane across from Mall of America in spring 2017.



Taking Shape Together

VISION AND VALUES



frequent player card is \$40. The Hyland junior season pass is \$99 per year for golfers under 17 years of age.

ATTEND A HOME IMPROVEMENT SEMINAR

Phe Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority will host three home improvement seminars this summer on

UPGRADE YOUR HOME

oes your home need upgrading? Bloomington HRA Home Rehabilitation loans ranging up to \$35,000 could be the answer. The loans accrue two percent interest over a 10-year period. Homeowners are not required to pay back loans until the home is transferred to a new owner, sold, or is no longer the owner's primary residence. The loans are available to Bloomington homeowners, and are meant to help make repairs to meet safety requirements such as bringing heating, electrical, and plumbing requirements up to City code, improving energy efficiency, and making exterior improvements. For more information, call 952-563-8937 or visit online at blm.mn/loans.

ast fall, the City Council appointed a 13-member citizen advisory committee to provide input to City staff as they update Forward 2040, the City's Comprehensive Plan. The advisory committee began meeting in November and recently drafted vision and value statements to guide the plan. The vision and values describe the type of community Bloomington strives to be now and in the future. The public is welcome to review and comment on the proposed values and vision at blm.mn/visionvalues. For more information about the Forward 2040 Plan and how to get involved, visit blm.mn/forward2040.

CURBSIDE CLEANUP

Curbside Cleanup is available to singlefamily homes and residential units where the full association has opted into the program. Prepare for your Curbside Cleanup day by setting your materials at the curb before 7 a.m. Items must be boxed or

201	SCHEDULE	
West of Normandale	April 8	
Normandale to France	April 15	
France to Penn	April 22	
Penn to Portland	April 29	
East of Portland	May 6	

bundled with twine. **No plastic bags will be accepted.** Remember, trucks pass through only once.

Seniors or residents with disabilities who need help moving things to the curb can contact Human Services at least **two weeks** prior to their scheduled pickup date at 952-563-4944 or TTY 952-563-4933.

Residents are encouraged to recycle, reuse or donate items before disposing of them. For more information, visit blm.mn/curbside.

QUESTIONS? CALL 952-563-8760

To receive Curbside schedule reminders, visit blm.mn/e-subscribe, click on E-Subscribe, and sign up for email updates.



ACCEPTED AT THE CURB

• **General junk**: Boxed or bundled with twine—under 100 pounds per item.

- Carpets/pads: Rolled and securely
- tied with twine. Under five feet long and one foot in diameter.

• **Appliances**: Water heaters and softeners, microwaves, washers, dryers, stoves, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, freezers, dishwashers, trash compactors, garbage disposals, water coolers, refrigerators (remove door or tie securely shut). Limit of two appliances per house. DO NOT set out appliances until the morning of your pickup date.

• **Unusable furniture**: Disassemble or tie down hide a way sofa beds so they cannot open when handled.

• Household building materials, lumber, windows and doors: Pile limited

to what fits in ONE level standard-size pickup truck. Lumber stacked and no longer than five feet. **NO railroad ties. NO business materials used for contractor work.**

Branches must be smaller



than three inches in diameter and five feet in length, tied with twine and put in bundles that can be carried by one person. Brush piles must be no more than what can fit in a standard pickup truck.

Mattresses/box springs.

BUNDLED brush:

• Large metal ONLY: Large scrap metal items that do not fit in the trunk of a car (swing sets, barbeque grills, bikes, treadmills, lawn mowers, snow blowers, etc.) Drain all fluids and remove tires. Smaller items should be taken to the South Hennepin Recycling and Problem Waste Drop-Off Center, 1400 West 96th Street.

NOT ACCEPTED AT





EARTH ACTION HERO: BUILDING BETTER HABITATS

ongtime Bloomington residents Dawn Bradshaw and Kathy Gray spend most of their free time surrounded by plants and wildflowers, chirping birds, butterflies and plenty of other wildlife. They don't travel far to reach it, either. It's all right in their backyard.

The size of the lot their rambler sits on is typical for Bloomington, but the yard is not just the regular grass edged with a few flower beds. Bradshaw and Gray have spent seven years cultivating a collection of native plants and filling many large areas, known as berms, throughout the yard with them. The yard is almost completely covered with prairie grasses and flowers except for the paths around the berms that lead to the two ponds, fountains and the gazebo.

All of these plants make the backyard a pollinator's paradise. It is also a National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat that gives bees, butterflies, birds and other small animals a place to live and thrive.

"We have so many different birds in the yard and each spring a pair of mallards stays for a while," said Gray. "There are bees, butterflies and squirrels, too."

Certified Wildlife Habitats provide food, water, cover and a place to raise young for area pollinators and wildlife. Each habitat provides these resources for wildlife that lives in the area and other wildlife passing through along migratory corridors.

Bradshaw and Gray also practice sustainable gardening, in accordance with the National Wildlife Federation's certification guidelines. They compost and do not use any fertilizers or pesticides.

Yard waste FAQ

Full-season yard waste subscription service kicks off for the year on April 17 and will run until November 30, weather permitting. Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions about yard waste.

What is yard waste?

Yard waste includes all garden waste, grass clippings, leaves, weeds, soft garden materials, shrub and tree waste, prunings and wood chips. Remember: twigs and branches must be no more than three feet in length and three inches or less in diameter. additional cart will incur a \$35 delivery fee each time it is placed at the property. **How much will it cost?**

Subscribers will pay an annual rate of \$79.50 for unlimited yard waste collection; this will be billed by the City as a one-time charge on your utility bill in early 2017.

What if I subscribed last year?

If you were a full-season subscriber last year, there is no need to call. You will automatically be enrolled in the full-season yard waste subscription service in 2017. If you signed up for a partial-season service late last year, you will also automatically be enrolled in the full-season yard waste subscription service for 2017.

THE CURB

- Small metal.
- Tires, batteries.
- Tubs, sinks, toilets.
- Construction items:

Contractor materials, railroad ties, concrete, bricks or shingles (asbestos).



- Exceptionally heavy and bulky items: Such as pianos or organs.
- **Electronic items**: TVs, computers, stereos and cell phones, printers.
- Hazardous waste: Paint, motor oil, solvents, fluorescent tubes, propane and other household chemicals.
 - Organic materials: Leaves, grass clippings, sod, stumps, logs and food waste.
- **Recyclable materials**: Newspapers, cans, glass, corrugated cardboard, boxboard and plastic bottles.

For tips on how to properly dispose of items not accepted at the curb, call 612-348-3777 or visit the Green Disposal Guide on Hennepin County's website at www.hennepin.us/green-disposal-guide.

How should I bag it?

Place yard waste in Kraft paper bags, BPI certified compostable bags, the distributed yard waste cart or on the ground tied in bundles. Bags and bundles should not be heavier than 40 pounds.

How can I start a new subscription? Call Utility Billing at 952-563-8726 to sign up for service. If you no longer require a yard waste service in 2017, please call Utility Billing to cancel your service before April 15. Yard waste charges will not be prorated or refunded. In response to many requests, one additional yard waste cart may be made available to properties enrolled in a full-season subscription service. The I don't have enough yard waste for weekly collection. Is there another option for me?

Residents with minimal yard waste may prefer to use the "on-call" yard waste services. Stickers may be purchased for \$4 each in the Finance Department at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road. Residents must adhere one sticker to each "on-call" bag of yard waste. To schedule an "on-call" collection, contact Utility Billing at 952-563-8726 at least 48 hours prior to your collection day.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING, APRIL 2017 • #ONEBLOOMINGTON



TAKING STEPS TOWARD BETTER HEALTH

ith more than 375,000 steps under their belts, the Human Services 50+ Walking Club had a productive season in 2016. The number of steps they took walking the parks and trails adds up to the distance between Bloomington and Duluth. Join them on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7:30 a.m. May through November. The group meets indoors in the winter. Members learn about flora and fauna as they explore trails in Hyland Lake Park Reserve, Nine Mile Creek, Normandale Lake, Girard Park and more. Membership is free. Contact Human Services at 952-563-4944, TTY 952-563-4933 for information on meeting locations.

CELEBRATE OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

These days older Americans are not only working longer, they are also trying new things and engaging in their communities. Human Services will celebrate older Americans taking charge and continuing to live life to its fullest by hosting a variety of events and programs throughout the month of May.

If you have questions or to register, contact Human Services at 952-563-4944, TTY 952-563-4933.



FLOWER ARRANGEMENT WORKSHOP

Monday, May 1, 10 – 11 a.m. Creekside Community Center Supplies are provided at this free workshop. Registration required by Monday, April 24.



Senior Dance

Tuesday, May 16, 1:30 – 3 p.m. Creekside Community Center Come dance the night away to the sounds of Rich and the Resisters. Tickets cost \$5.



COFFEE TALK: AGING IN PLACE

Tuesday, May 23, 10 – 11 a.m. Creekside Community Center As we age, we want to do what we can to stay in our homes. Join Public Health and Live Your Life for this free Coffee Talk as they share tips on fall prevention, strengthening mobility and more. Registration required by May 19.

UP, UP AND AWAY!

uman Services will host its annual Kite Day event in celebration of children Saturday, May 20, noon – 3 p.m., at Valley View Playfield, 90th Street and Portland Avenue. There will be live entertainment and activities for all ages. Kites will be provided to those 18 and younger while supplies last. Community volunteers are needed. Contact Human Services at 952-563-4944, TTY 952-563-4933.

CITYWIDE GARAGE

t's that time of year again! The Citywide Garage Sales will be Thursday, May 18 – Saturday, May 20.

Sponsored by the Bloomington Optimist Youth Foundation in cooperation and support of Bloomington Human Services, sales will be held rain or shine.

For more information, visit us online at blm.mn/garagesale or contact the Bloomington Optimist Youth Foundation at 952-831-3798.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ooking to get more involved in the community? The Human Rights Commission is looking for volunteers to help plan Lactivities for International Day of Peace in September. Activities may include multicultural dinners, rededication of the peace pole at Civic Plaza and an exhibit by John Noltner. Contact the HRC at 952-563-8733, TTY 952-563-8740 or humanrights@ BloomingtonMN.gov.

NAVIGATING SENIOR CARE WORKSHOP

N avigating older adult services can be overwhelming and confusing. Join Human Services and Martin Luther Campus Tuesday, April 18, 2 – 4 p.m., for a free Navigating Senior Care Workshop at Creekside. Have your questions answered by a panel of senior care specialists who work in the field of elder law, senior realty, financial specialty and senior living. This event is open to the public. Refreshments and snacks will be served. One free continuing education unit will be provided. Registration is required by Thursday. April 12, Call 052, 562, 4044, TTV 052, 562, 4022.

provided. Registration is required by Thursday, April 13. Call 952-563-4944, TTY 952-563-4933.



PUBLIC WORKS OPEN HOUSE

Get a look at the inner workings of the department that keeps Bloomington's streets, parks and utilities running smoothly at the Public Works open house on Saturday, May 20, 9 a.m. – noon, at the Public Works building, 1700 West 98th Street. The event will provide the opportunity to meet the people who plow, mow, maintain and build the city's infrastructure to promote safety and enhance quality of life. There will also be equipment displays, demonstrations, snacks, games and prizes.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL BIKE MONTH

Celebrated by cyclists coast to coast, May is National Bike Month. Not only are there miles of beautiful trails and roadways to pedal through in the city, the Bloomington Bicycle Alliance has planned a group ride on May 13 to help keep you active. The Bloomington Bicycle Alliance will also host rides on June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9 and October 14. National Bike to Work Week 2017 will also be held from May 15 – 19.

GROW YOUR GARDEN

The Creekside Garden Club will host its annual plant exchange Saturday, June 3, 8 a.m. – noon, at Creekside Community Center. The public is invited to this free event to exchange, donate or adopt a plant. The goal of the event is to encourage people of all ages and skills to get outside and garden. A Master Gardener and a kids' activity booth will be available. This event is in partnership with Human Services and the Bloomington Farmers Market. For more information, call 952-563-4944, TTY 952-563-4933.



ADAPTIVE SOFTBALL

Competitive and recreational adaptive softball leagues for adults 19 and older and youth ages 10 – 18 begin June 12. Adult leagues play Tuesdays June 13 – August 9 and youth leagues play Mondays, June 12 – August 7, 6:30 – 8 p.m., at Tarnhill Park, 9650 Little Road. Cost to play is \$65 and includes a team shirt and photo. For more information, visit blm.mn/adaptivesoftball.

SUMMER SAND

Parks and Recreation is now accepting registrations for Adult Co-Rec Summer Sand Volleyball. Matches will take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays, beginning Wednesday, May 31, at Dred Scott Playfield, 10820 Bloomington Ferry Road. For more information, visit blm.mn/adultsports.

BORN AGAIN JOCKS

Want to enjoy playing sports again? Join the Born Again Jocks organization for men 55 and older. There are no annual dues, but there are possible sports participation costs. To learn more, visit the Born Again Jocks website at bornagainjocks.com



BUSH LAKE BEACH

ou don't need to go up north to find a lake to enjoy. You can have a picnic lunch, build a sandcastle with the kids, practice your backstroke or just relax and soak up the sun right in your own backyard at beautiful Bush Lake Beach, 9140 East Bush Lake Road. A daily pass or seasonal parking permit is required for entrance to East Bush Lake Park, June 1 – August 31. East Bush Lake Park is staffed June 10 – August 20, 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., daily with lifeguards on duty beginning at 11 a.m. Seasonal parking permits are now available for purchase. Cost is \$37 for the season (June through August) or \$7.50 daily.

VISIT THE BLOOMINGTON FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER

Bloomington Family Aquatic Center, 201 East 90th Street, features a zero-depth entry pool, interactive play areas and water slides, diving boards, and a renovated bathhouse and concession stand. New this year are tot swim and lap swim Monday – Friday at 10 a.m.

When: June 10 – August 20 and weekends through Labor Day.

Weekdays: Noon – 8 p.m. Tot swim and lap swim start at 10 a.m.

Saturdays: 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Sundays: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Holidays: 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

AQUA EXERCISE

Join us on Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. for an aqua exercise class sure to get your heart pumping. This class combines cardio and strength moves for a workout fit to your skill level. Come alone or come with a friend. All are welcome. Sign up at the Parks and Recreation office at Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.



ADULT KICKBALL LEAGUE

Grab your friends and join us for a blast from your gymclass past in our summer kickball league. Co-rec teams will play 10 games with officials and bases. League fee includes regular season and playoff scheduling, kickball (one per team), field, game official and league champion prizes. Registration begins March 20 and ends April 28. Games will be held from May 11 through late July, at Valley View Playfields. There will be 10 single-header games and single-elimination playoffs. The cost to participate is \$285. This program is offered in cooperation with the city of Richfield.

Adult bags league

Bags, baggo, corn hole ... call it what you want! It has been a backyard and tailgating favorite for years. Now you have the chance to test your skills in a fun, recreational league. The league is open to male and female players 18 years of age or older. Games will be held either Tuesday or Thursday night, June 6 – August 10. The deadline to register is May 23. Boards and bags will be provided. The cost to participate is \$55 per team. Games will be held at Taft Park at Highway 62 and Cedar Avenue. This league is offered in cooperation with the city of Richfield. For more information, call 612-861-9396.

STEP TO IT CHALLENGE

D° you want to get in shape this spring? The Step to It Challenge, a friendly four-week competition, beginning May 1, is a great way to get moving. More than 20 Twin Cities communities compete. Track your daily activities online for a chance to win prizes and be honored by Hennepin County and the Minnesota Twins at a Twins home game during the 2017 season. For more information, visit blm.mn/steptoit.

PLANTING COMMUNITY

The City's Community Garden program is growing. Come grow with us! For years Parks and Recreation has operated gardens at Smith Park, east of Park Avenue between 82nd and 83rd Streets, and Harrison Park, 1701 West 100th Street. This year a third site will be available at Brookside Community Garden, west of Xerxes Avenue and north of 102nd Street. The new site has 80 garden plots, bringing the total number of available individual plots to 178. Community gardens provide the opportunity to meet your neighbors while growing fresh flowers and vegetables. There are 10-footby-15-foot plots available to rent for \$39.05 each. For more information visit blm.mn/gardens.

ADULT SPIKEBALL LEAGUE

Spikeball is a sport that's described as volleyball and foursquare on steroids. This co-rec two-versus-two sport takes place in a circle as opponents bounce the spikeball off a center net in an effort to stop the other team from being able to return it. Join us for this league that offers a new twist in a classic sandy setting. Games are held on Monday nights, June 5 – August 7, at Dred Scott Playfields sand volleyball courts. Cost to participate is \$65 per team. Registration ends on May 19. This league is offered in cooperation with the city of Richfield.

A SUMMER TO REMEMBER

reate lasting memories with your friends at Bloomington Parks and Rec youth programs this summer. For more information about these programs or to register, call 952-563-8877 or visit blm.mn/parksprograms.

SUMMER ADVENTURE PLAYGROUNDS

Enjoy classic summer fun at a neighborhood park where activities range from sports and water games to arts and crafts, and field trips.

Dates: Monday – Friday, June 12 – August 17.

- (No program July 3 7.)
- **Time**: 9:30 a.m. 3 p.m.

Locations: Brye, Kelly, Poplar Bridge, Running, Sunrise, Smith and Westwood parks.

- Ages: Grades 2 7.
- **Cost**: \$120 before June 5; \$125 on or a<u>fter June 5.</u>

Galaxy Summer of Service and Summer Galaxy 2.0

Youth are empowered to work together to serve the community and spend time doing other daily activities including sports, crafts, afternoons at the Bloomington Family Aquatic Center and weekly field trips.

- Dates: Monday Friday, June 19 August 18.
- (No program July 3 7.)
- **Time**: 9 a.m. 4 p.m.
- Location: Valley View Middle School, 8900 Portland
- Avenue South.
 - **Ages**: Grades 6 7 for Galaxy Summer of Service.
 - Grades 8 10 for Summer Galaxy 2.0.
- **Cost**: \$300 for summer; \$50 per week. Brown bag lunches provided.



PLAYGROUND PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Much like the Summer Adventure Playground programs, enjoy a week of games, sports and crafts.

- **Dates**: July 5 7, August 21 25.
- **Time**: 9:30 a.m. 3 p.m.
- Location: Smith and Westwood parks.
- Ages: Grades 2 7.
- Cost: Free.

CAMP KOTA AND KOTA KIDS

At Kota, your kids will love meeting new friends, learning outdoor skills, swimming at the lake, singing crazy songs and having a great time outdoors. Limited availability remaining. Register today!

- **Dates**: July 10 14, July 17 21, July 31 August 4. (Kota Kids do not attend camp on Fridays.)
- **Times**: 8:30 a.m. 3 p.m.
- Location: 9140 East Bush Lake Road.
- **Ages**: Grades K 1 for Kota Kids; grades 2 7 for Camp Kota. **Cost**: \$155 Kota Kids per week; \$185 Camp Kota per week.

BCAT

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

ave you ever wanted to produce your own TV show or learn how to operate video and audio equipment? At Bloomington Community Access Television (BCAT), you can. For information on memberships, classes and more, contact Communications Specialist Ben Vinar at 952-563-4980 or bvinar@ BloomingtonMN.gov, or visit www. bcat16.org. Tune into BCAT Channel 16 today!

STAY IN THE LOOP

From current construction projects to arts programs, E-Subscribe makes it possible to stay informed about City projects and events that interest you. Thousands of people have already signed up for E-Subscribe to receive information on a variety of topics. Sign up at blm.mn/esubscribe.



Performance series multipass - save up to 20%

Order tickets to four or more performances and save \$3 per ticket.
Good for 2017 performances.
Tickets now available for all

- performances.
- Discount may be applied to adult and senior/student tickets. Not valid with other discounts.

CENTER FOR THE ARTS Performances that are sure to entertain



Artistry Wit

Wit is a brilliantly crafted and unflinching look at the last chapter of Dr. Vivian Bearing's life. Ms. Bearing, played by Sally Wingert, is a professor of 17th century poetry who wrestles with the ultimate question of what it means to be alive. Not recommended for younger theater-goers.

May 6 – 28 Wednesdays-Saturdays 7:30 p.m., Sundays 2 p.m. Adults \$30, Seniors \$26, 18 and under \$21 Black Box Theater



Bloomington Chorale A Night at the Theater

Celebrating 35 Years of Music with Music is at the center of every fer "A Night at the Theater," featuring music whether a small-town Fourth of July from Pixar movies and welcoming back Dr. Celebration or a royal coronation. Featuren Swee, a senior trombonist from Lauren Swee, a senior trombonist from

Friday, May 19, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 20, 4 p.m. Adults \$16, seniors and students \$12



Medalist Concert Band Music for a Festival

Music is at the center of every festival, whether a small-town Fourth of July celebration or a royal coronation. Featuring Lauren Swee, a senior trombonist from Waconia High School and the winner of the 2017 Earl C. Benson Concerto Competition. *Sunday, May 21, 4 p.m. Adults \$14, seniors and students \$12*



Barbary Coast Dixieland Show Band

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

> Friday, June 3, 7:30 p.m. All tickets \$30



The Best of NOTE-able Singers

This speakeasy-themed production by the NOTEable Singers will revisit old favorites that have made us laugh, cry and reflect as we recall times of romance, strife and celebration.

Sunday, June 4, 2 p.m. Adults \$15, seniors and students \$12



Alive & Kickin

A musical theater experience like no other. This year, the rockin' senior ensemble will honor their heroes and lift their voices to celebrate the personal hero in all of us. June 9 – June 18 Thursdays – Saturdays, 7:30 p.m., Sundays, 2 p.m. Adults \$32, seniors and students \$28, Opening night gala \$40

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. Programs, artists and prices subject to change. Orders received less than seven days prior to the performance will be held for pick up at the box office. All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.



A LICENSE TO PLAY

o your part to ensure pets are safe in Bloomington. Maintaining an annual City pet license for your dog or cat certifies that they are healthy and up-to-date on their shots. A pet license can be purchased by mail or at Civic Plaza, you can find the application online at blm.mn/petlicense, with costs ranging from \$5 – 17.50. Dogs must be licensed to visit Bloomington dog parks such as the 25-acre, offleash recreation area on 111th Street between Nesbitt and Hampshire and Tretbaugh Park, at 90th Street and Tretbaugh Drive.

PREP YOUR PASSPORT

Do you need a passport for your next trip?

The City Clerk's office offers new passport services by appointmentonly Monday through Friday, 8:20 a.m. – 3 p.m. Schedule an appointment at blm.mn/passport.

You need an appointment if you are a first-time applicant, under 18 or if your previous passport was issued more than 15 years ago, was issued when you were under the age of 16, is badly damaged, lost or stolen; was in a different name and you are unable to submit proper documentation to reflect the name change, or was a limited-validity passport. Photo services are offered for \$15. No appointment is necessary for photos.

You can renew an expired passport by mail. For more information, visit blm.mn/passport.



BLOOMINGTON YESTERDAY

🔳 lad in fashionable formal dresses and sharp jackets with bow ties, this group of students must have enjoyed their prom (pictured in the 1956 Bloomington High School yearbook). Bloomington Public Schools is celebrating its 100th year in 2017 with several centennial events. The celebration began with the 2016 Bloomington Heritage Days Parade and will culminate in a 100th birthday party and all-class reunion at the Bloomington Doubletree Hotel on May 19.

HOW ARE WE DOING? - YOUR OPINION COUNTS!

he City's newsletter, the Briefing, is mailed to all households and businesses in Bloomington six times per year. The issue you are reading costs 25 cents to print and mail. What do you think of the Briefing?

Where do you get your information about the City of

- Bloomington? Check all that apply.
- □ Briefing
- Bloomington Today (Bloomington Cable Channel 14)
- City website
- City social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- City E-Subscribe emails
- City YouTube channel
- **Bloomington Sun-Current**
- Minneapolis Star Tribune
- Local broadcast television
- Other

How valuable is the Briefing?

- Not valuable
- So-so
- Somewhat valuable
- Valuable
- Very valuable

How would you prefer to receive the Briefing?

- □ In print (present method)
- Electronically

Which feature(s) do you enjoy most?

- Mayor's column
- Parks, recreation and arts
- Development updates
- Finance/budget (Corporate Report)
- Human Services

Recycling, environment

- Upcoming events
- Other

What features or information should we add? Other comments or recommendations:

RETURN YOUR COMMENTS

By phone: 952-563-8819

Janine Hill, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd., By mail:

Bloomington, MN 55431

By website: Complete this survey online at BloomingtonMN.gov

For more information, call Communications Administrator Janine Hill at 952-563-8819 or e-mail jhill@bloomingtonmn.gov.

GROW SOME GREEN

Planting trees to continue the growth of Bloomington's urban forest is a priority for the City. Park Maintenance staff has planted more than 1,000 trees over the last few years in parks and other public areas. To grow the number of trees on private properties, Park Maintenance holds an annual public tree sale. Based on last year's sales, 300 trees are available for purchase this

Know who's at your DOOR

s it gets warmer and soliciting becomes more frequent, keep in mind that City code requires solicitors to have a City-issued license or identification, to only go door-to-door from 9 a.m. – 9 p.m., and to bypass houses with "No Soliciting" signs. Solicitors from nonprofit, religious and political organizations do not need a soliciting license from the City, but must carry proper identification. Residents should call 911 if solicitors don't have a proper license, are aggressive, or try to enter your house without permission.

spring. Pick up trees at 1800 West Old Shakopee Road on Saturday, May 6, 9

Tree order form

Bloomington residents only. All trees are bare-root, one-and-a-quarter to one-and-a-half inches in diameter and cost \$50 each. Trees are not guaranteed.

Name				
Phone				
Address				
Fill in number of each tree type desired. First come, first served. Maximum 5 trees total per household, \$50 each. Check must accompany order.				
Autumn Blaze maple Northwood red maple	Serviceberry Prairie Fire crab apple	American linden River birch	Japanese tree lilac Snowdrift crab apple	
Total trees	X \$50 ea. = \$	Total cost		
Pick up trees at 1800 West Old Shakopee Road on Saturday, May 6, 9 – 11 a.m. Send check and form to City of Bloomington, Park Maintenance, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027.				