

CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

March 2021



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Partners helping widen recreational opportunities

Audra Robbins, Parks and Recreation Manager

Through a partnership with the Maplewood YMCA Community Center and others, organized recreational opportunities will be available this spring and summer for our community.

So far, the YMCA has booked the Sherwood Park tennis courts for camps the weeks of June 21st and August 9th. A wider variety of activities will be added in the weeks ahead.

Maplewood has also partnered with more than a dozen area athletic associations who are accepting sign ups from our community, including North East Unite Soccer, Lake Area Senior Services and our surrounding community education services.

Please visit Maplewoodmn.gov (and click the Parks & Rec soccer ball icon) for a full list of opportunities.

We know recreational programs aimed at all ages are an important part of the fabric that helps ensure connected and health conscious communities. They also teach young people about social interaction, team work and resilience. Since COVID-19 forced the suspension of our Park and Recreational Programming, Maplewood had been working hard to find organized outlets in which our community could participate. That included forming a Parks and Recreation Task Force to identify partners and sustainable funding streams to ensure programming.

They met through the fall and early winter and discussed a variety of strategies to connect Maplewood residents with access to high-quality, affordable recreational options. This included broader regional partnerships, including the one with the YMCA.

We appreciate your patience through these service shifts, and look forward to seeing you at one of our parks, playgrounds and preserves as the weather warms.



Elected Officials

- Marylee Abrams: Mayor (612) 322-1620
marylee.abrams@maplewoodmn.gov
- Rebecca Cave: Councilmember (651) 399-1779
rebecca.cave@maplewoodmn.gov
- Kathleen Juenemann: Councilmember (651) 771-3670
kathleen.juenemann@maplewoodmn.gov
- Bill Knutson: Councilmember (612) 290-9778
bill.knutson@maplewoodmn.gov
- Nikki Villavicencio: Councilmember (651) 558-7662
nikki.villavicencio@maplewoodmn.gov

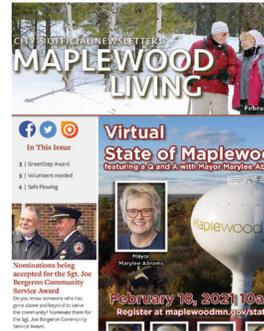
City Manager

- Melinda Coleman: City Manager (651) 249-2055
melinda.coleman@maplewoodmn.gov

Frequently Called Numbers

- City Hall (651) 249-2000
- Maplewood Community Center (651) 747-0922
- Parks and Recreation (651) 249-2120
- Public Works (651) 249-2400
- Police Non-Emergency (651) 767-0640

Visit the City website at www.maplewoodmn.gov for the meeting schedule of the City Council, Commissions and Boards.



To advertise in this newsletter call Joe Sheeran at (651) 249-2061 or email joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov.

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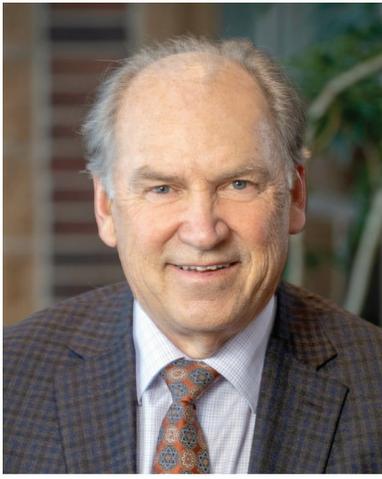
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Steady beat for St. John’s cardiac expansion

By Bill Knutson, Councilmember

In 1979, I was a darker-haired hospital staff member assigned to helping St. John’s in St. Paul expand to the Northeast metro. The Maplewood campus master plan began with a medical office followed by outpatient surgery and eventually a hospital.

Wanting a facility that could grow incrementally, our physical building models had boxes representing potential growth areas. One of those boxes was cardiology.

Most of the original plan has become a daily function of St. John’s, which is now in the M Health Fairview system. However, it’s taken 40 years to make a significant expansion into cardiology, with the hospital recently performing its first heart surgeries, according to a February Star Tribune article.

That brings us back to the cardiology box in the initial construction design.

In a January City Council meeting, in my current role as city council member, we approved the building permit that turned the expanded cardiology care vision into a reality – that third-floor box will include units for cardiac catheterization, electrophysiology, and specialty suites.

Original planning

We knew our relationships with Maplewood and the surrounding communities were critical as their populations expanded. (We were initially set to build in White Bear Lake by 694 and McKnight; however, the Hazelwood location was more accessible, and Maplewood had the foresight to make Beam Avenue a significant transportation corridor).

When I became hospital administrator, I would tell the employees and medical staff that we will only grow if people in the area value us and have confidence in our service and expertise.



For the future

Forty years later, St. Johns has built a stellar regional reputation in a variety of medical fields, growing from its community hospital roots as the metro expands along the Highway 36 and I-35 corridors. By the estimation of independent consultants and community stakeholders, St. John’s stability and potential growth position it as an anchor in Maplewood’s North End redevelopment plan.

Maplewood has designed a “live-work” neighborhood by the hospital that includes mixed-income housing, retail, dining, entertainment and health/government services.

The cardiology unit’s expansion bolsters confidence in making this development plan a reality.

As a former St John’s leader and a current Maplewood City Councilmember, I’ve always wondered how people will assess our planning. We are proud to have M Health Fairview St John’s in Maplewood and on behalf of my fellow councilmembers and former colleagues, I think we got it right!



You can make Maplewood a climate resilient city

If trends continue, climate change will affect us all, bringing more extreme weather events that cause flooding, heat stress, and reduced air quality. Vulnerable populations, especially those with lower incomes and older residents, often withstand the worst of these extreme weather events.

Your small step will have a big impact on our community's ability to adapt to climate challenges. Go to Maplewood's Climate Adaptation Plan review portal maplewoodmn.gov/climateadaptation. Read the introduction, and then pick as many of the eight topics you're most interested in and provide your feedback.

If you want to get more involved, or find out more about the plan, join us Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 7 p.m. for the Maplewood Climate Adaptation Plan Workshop. You can register at the web address mentioned above.



Public Works Crews will begin trimming boulevard trees on the public road right-of-way in March. The maintenance operations objective is to address low branches overhanging streets and branches, bushes and shrubs that extend beyond the curb into the streets that interfere with vehicle, maintenance, and pedestrian traffic. If you have questions, please contact Maplewood Public Works Department at 651-249-2400.

SAVE THE DATE



MAPLEWOOD Spring Clean Up

Saturday, April 17, 2021

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Aldrich Arena (1850 White Bear Avenue)

The yearly Spring Clean Up is an opportunity for Maplewood residents to dispose of large refuse items, recyclable materials not collected in the curbside program, and share usable goods with others.

Additional details visit www.maplewoodmn.gov/cleanups or call Shann Finwall, Environmental Planner, at 651-249-2304.



Big discounts on trees for Arbor Day planting

Online ordering starts March 8th, at 8am

Maplewood is teaming up with Tree Trust, a local non-profit, so City residents can purchase trees at a discount. With Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) gaining a foothold in Maplewood, City Council is encouraging and incentivizing tree planting on residential property so we don't lose their aesthetic, environmental, and health benefits.

While the City replaces diseased or dying boulevard trees, residential property trees make up a considerable portion of our urban forest; therefore, the City is subsidizing the cost of trees for residents.

Sale details:

\$40/tree (Normally retail for \$120-\$140)

7 species, including a pair of fruit trees

In #10 containers; at 4'-6' tall, will fit in most vehicles

Residents may order up to 2 trees

Order on-line:

March 8 - May 5 (trees may sell out before the deadline, order early for best selection)

Order via mail: Forms available at City Hall, the Public Works building or online, starting March 5. Must be received by May 5th.

Tree pick up:

Saturday, May 15 (9:00am - noon) or Monday, May 17 (5:00-7:00 pm) at the Public Works Building.

For details or to order a tree, visit: www.maplewoodmn.gov/treesale

Emerald Ash Borer; What Can I Do?

Free Zoom Webinar

Thursday, March 25

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

In this class you will learn:

- Ash tree identification
- Signs of infestation
- Treatment do's and don'ts
- Re-planting opportunities

Register at www.maplewoodmn.gov/zoomEAB



Looking to help seniors fight social isolation

COVID-19 has hit our senior population hard in the severity of the virus and social isolation. The members of Maplewood's Public Safety Department would like to help by offering occasional brief home visits to seniors (65+) in our community, while adhering to all CDC guidelines.

Whether it be playing cards, a board game or talking about community happenings, if you would be interested in a program like this, or know someone who would, please contact our community outreach coordinator Emily Burt-McGregor at 651-895-3683 or email Emily.Burt-McGregor@Maplewoodmn.gov.

Have a say in Maplewood's policy and planning by joining a commission

There are currently 4 commission vacancies:

- Parks & Recreation
- Environmental & Natural Resources
- Housing & Economic Development
- Heritage Preservation Commission

Apply at maplewoodmn.gov/commissions.

COVID-19: VICTORY VACCINES



We are proud to announce
Maplewood Senior Living
is vaccinating
our staff & residents.

Call 651-621-2459 for a
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MAPLEWOOD SENIOR LIVING
1890 Sherren Ave. E. | Maplewood, MN 55109
maplewoodcarecenter.org
homesteadatmaplewood.org

For more COVID-19 information:



MaplewoodAD012121



Registration opening for Edgerton Community Garden plots

Our community garden is an important way to support local growth of healthy, organic food! The City provides water spigots and renters agree to use organic methods, and abide by COVID-19 protocols.

Registration for returning gardeners opens March 3 and for new gardeners on March 17.

A \$25 per plot fee is due at registration.

For more information visit maplewoodmn.gov/communitygarden or call 651-249-2111.



**American
Red Cross**



BATTLE OF THE BADGES Blood Drive

COVID-19 school and business closures have caused the cancellation of many blood drives, leading to significantly reduced blood supplies.

Maplewood Fire & Police Department

**Maplewood Mall
Thursday, April 15, 2021
1pm - 7pm**

Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and enter:
Battle to schedule an appointment.

Contact Ching Lo at (651) 249-2801 with questions



redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Download the Blood Donor App

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City of Maplewood

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FREE

Easter Egg Give-Away

Sunday, March 28

FREE Easter Egg Give-Away (for children ages 2-12)
10am to 2pm

Bruentrup Heritage Farm
2170 County Road D East, Maplewood
(COVID protocols in place)

Take your photo with the Easter Bunny!

Sign-up online at
www.MaplewoodHistoricalSociety.org

This event is sponsored by the Maplewood Area Historical Society and City & County Credit Union.

Upcoming Events	
MARCH 8	Tree Sale opens Order at maplewood.gov/trees
MARCH 16	Climate Adaptation Forum Register at maplewoodmn.gov/climateadaptation 7pm – 8pm
MARCH 25	EAB Webinar Register at maplewoodmn.gov/zoom EAB 6:30pm – 7:30pm
APRIL 15	Battle of the Badges Blood Drive Registration required, see page 7
APRIL 17	Spring Cleanup Aldrich Arena 8am - 1pm

Go to **MaplewoodMN.gov**.

Our home page calendar has details on upcoming events.

Covid-19 safety protocols will be followed.