

CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

MAPLEWOOD LIVING



December 2023



Fond Farewell

By Melinda Coleman, City Manager

Aside from four years working in Target Corporation's real estate department, I've spent most of my career in local government. Taking that step back helped me realize my passion was directly serving people, helping shape policy, and creating a place with amenities for community members and businesses to thrive.



After serious consideration, I've decided to retire. My last day will be February 23rd. With a terrific staff and dedicated city council, it was a difficult decision. Thanks to all of you in our community for your partnership and support in helping make Maplewood a more livable, welcoming city.

I joined Maplewood in May of 1995 as Community Development Director. The extremely friendly and helpful staff impressed me, along with the brand-new community center. That initial glee turned to terror, when I found out my department's budget was due in a week.

I left from 2006 to 2013 for the Target position and the City of North Oaks. I have had the privilege of being the City Manager since November of 2014.

Over more than two decades at Maplewood, I've helped guide significant development and growth. To balance that growth, I'm proud of our early Open Space land preservation. Accommodating demand for housing, I oversaw a great deal of south Maplewood's residential development and the Legacy Development west of the Maplewood Mall. In revitalizing Maplewood's core neighborhoods, I facilitated the Gladstone Redevelopment Plan. We're hoping to see full implementation in the coming years.

More recently, we conducted the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Updates and the North End Vision Plan around the Mall area.

I also worked closely with our fire department on a station and staffing reconfiguration to prepare us for future demands. This included two new fire stations and a transition to an all full-time fire-EMS department.



In This Issue

- 3 | City's Planning, Building, and Inspections move
- 4 | Neighborhood Ice Rinks
- 5 | Safe Plowing
Recycle your Holidays
2024 Residential Solid Waste Rates
- 6 | Recreation Activities
- 7 | Bird Walks
- 8 | Support the Historical Society

[continued page 3]

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
- Chonburi Lee: Councilmember (651) 321-2299
chonburi.lee@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 Natural Resources (651) 249-2111
- 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 please contact:
 Joe Sheeran
 (651) 249-2061
joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov

Deck the Halls!



Celebrate your favorite holiday traditions without the burden on your wallet with a low-rate

CITY & COUNTY PERSONAL LOAN

RATES AS LOW AS

7.99%

APR

NOW – DECEMBER 31, 2023

Over 50 locations to choose from

Faaantastic





Convenient morning and evening hours with easy online scheduling.

1600 St. Johns Blvd, Suite 100
 Maplewood | 651-770-7585

Schedule an appointment today.

That's my



Trusted dentist for the



parkdental.com

APPLY ONLINE AT CCCU.COM



APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Personal loan rate effective as of 11/1/2023 and valid through 12/31/2023. Actual rate based on applicant's credit qualifications and loan terms. Additional discounts do not apply. The monthly payment per \$1,000 borrowed for 36 months for personal loans at 7.99% APR is \$31.44. Loans may not be used to refinance an existing obligation with CCCU. Offer subject to change without notice. Ask a credit union representative for complete details. Insured by NCUA.



[**Fond Farewell** continued from page 1]

Some projects were more difficult than others, including stopping the Maplewood Community Center’s continual operating losses by contracting with the YMCA of the North on an operating agreement.

I could not have completed these projects without the City Council’s initiative, leadership and support.



While economic and residential development are critical to a city’s success, it would be tough to accomplish anything without dedicated, professional staff that feel valued and invested in our community. That’s why I am most proud of the work we’ve done with staff development. In my 20+ years at Maplewood, I believe our culture and morale have never been better. Our employees are engaged because we’ve prioritized a family-friendly culture, invested in wellness initiatives and have increased professional development through training and the Strengths program, which focuses on what people do best as individuals and in teams.

We have completed a new pay plan that helps us retain and recruit employees in these challenging times. Since I became City Manager we also created a strategic plan that guides our work and priorities. Employees at every level have had an opportunity to help create the plan and are responsible for meeting these goals and objectives.

I am grateful to have served the residents and I am fortunate to have been part of Maplewood’s development over 20 years. My decision to retire was a difficult. I love the city and the work we do. I hope our work together has made a difference and will endure.



The City’s planning, building, and inspections divisions have a new home

Maplewood’s Community Development Department has moved into City Hall, from its previous location in the 1902 building on the east side of the campus. This means people applying for building permits, rental licenses and other development needs should visit City Hall, at 1830 County Road B East. The department also includes Maplewood’s health inspector and neighborhood preservation specialists (code enforcement). Public works and engineering will remain at the 1902 location. If you have any questions, please call (651) 249-2300.

Independent & Assisted Living
 Assisted Living Memory Care
 Assisted Living Care Suites
 Skilled Nursing:
 Rehabilitation & Long-term Care

Merry Christmas at Harmony Gardens!

Make yourself at home in one of our assisted living apartments or choose a care suite for an enhanced level of care.

Learn More Today!

Michele.Gorden@CassiaLife.org
651-488-6658

HarmonyGardensSenior.org
 1438 County Road C East | Maplewood, MN 55109



Neighborhood Ice Rinks and Warming Houses

Maplewood maintains 13 skating rinks at 9 parks with four of those locations offering supervised warming houses. Weather permitting, skating rinks and warming houses will be open December 26th – February 11th.

For full skating rink information including locations, operating dates and times, closure policy and more, visit our website: maplewoodmn.gov/221.

WARMING HOUSE LOCATIONS/HOURS			
PARK	ADDRESS	WEEKNIGHT	WEEKENDS
Warming houses closed Dec 31 and Jan 1			
Afton Heights	63 N Sterling St	5:30-8:30pm	1-4pm
Four Seasons	1685 Gervais Ave	5:30-8:30pm	1-4pm
Gethsemane	2401 E 7th St	5:30-8:30pm	1-4pm
Wakefield	1860 Hazelwood St	5:30-8:30pm	1-7pm

PLEASURE RINK LOCATIONS	
*No warming houses at these locations	
PARK	ADDRESS
Edgerton	2001 Bradley St
Kenwood	1864 W Kenwood Dr
Kohlman	1000 County Rd C
Playcrest	2390 Lydia Ave
Pleasantview	1100 Marine St

Mark
Your
Calendar!

Santa Parade
Saturday
December 9th
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Full route map will be
posted on Maplewood.gov



- No overnight parking
- Parking is prohibited for more than 30 minutes after a snowfall of 2” or more, until plowing is complete
- Don’t place garbage/recycling containers in the street
- Don’t throw or plow snow onto the street
- Don’t dig or tunnel into boulevard snow piles
- Stay back from plow truck



Recycle your Holidays

Christmas trees

Residents with trash service through the City’s trash hauler, Republic Services, are eligible for one free live Christmas tree pick up during the first three weeks of January. Place your live tree at the curb on your collection day. Remove ornaments. Do not place tree in plastic. Contact Republic Services for more information, (651) 455-8634.

You can also recycle your live Christmas tree at select Ramsey County Yard Waste sites. For locations and hours, visit [RamseyRecycles.com/YardWaste](https://www.ramseyrecycles.com/YardWaste) or call 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.

String lights and chords

LED string lights cannot go in the trash because they contain printed circuit boards and are considered hazardous. Do not put string lights or chords in curbside recycling. *Instead, recycle them at the Ramsey County Household Hazardous Waste site.

Visit [RamseyRecycles.com/HHW](https://www.ramseyrecycles.com/HHW) or call 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.



2024 Residential Solid Waste Rates

Service, Hauler, Cart Size, and Collection Schedule	Billing Rate
Trash Hauling - Republic Services	Billed Bi-Monthly (includes taxes and fees)
20 gallon every other week	\$25.92
20 gallon every week	\$27.00
35 gallon every week	\$32.72
65 gallon every week	\$48.48
95 gallon every week	\$61.44
Yard Waste - Republic Services	Yard Waste Rates Billed Seasonally
95 gallon cart with up to five compostable bags every week April through November	\$140.38
Recycling – Tennis Sanitation	Billed Quarterly on Water Bill
Choice of 95, 65, 35 gallon cart every week	\$17.91

For more information visit [maplewoodmn.gov/solidwaste](https://www.maplewoodmn.gov/solidwaste) or contact Shann Finwall, Environmental Planner, 651-249-2304, shann.finwall@maplewoodmn.gov



Youth Sport Classes with RevSports



Winter 2024 RevSports class sessions!

For more on the classes and for scholarship information visit: maplewoodmn.gov/2068/RevSports-Classes

Location: Edgerton Gym or Edgerton Park

Rate: Classes beginning Jan 1-March 31: \$65/Session; \$75/Ninja Warrior

Classes Beginning April 1 or later: \$67/Session; \$79/Ninja Warrior

To Register: Maplewood.Revsports.org

RevSports Contact: Info@RevSports.org or 612-234-7782

Thursdays

Session 1: Jan 11, 18, 25, Feb 1

Session 2: Feb 8, 15, 29, Mar 7 (Skip Feb 22)

Session 3: Mar 21, 28, Apr 4, 11

Session 4: Apr 11, 18, May 2, 9 (Skip Apr 25)

Volleyball: Session 1, 2, 3

5:30 PM-6:10 PM MightyStars (Ages 6-9)

6:15 PM-6:55 PM SkillStars 1 (Ages 8-11)

7:00 PM-7:40 PM SkillStars 2 (Ages 10-14)

Baseball: Session 4

5:30 PM-5:55 PM TotStars (Ages 2-3)

6:00 PM-6:40 PM PreStars (Ages 3-5)

6:45 PM-7:25 PM KinderStars (Ages 4-6)

7:30 PM-8:10 PM MightyStars (Ages 6-9)

Saturdays

Session 1: Jan 20, 27, Feb 3, 10

Session 2: Feb 24, Mar 2, 9, 23 (Skip Mar 16)

Session 3: Apr 6, 13, 20, 27

Basketball: Session 1, 2

9:15 AM-9:40 AM TotStars (Ages 2-3)

9:45 AM-10:25 AM PreStars (Ages 3-5)

10:30 AM-11:10 AM MiniStars (Ages 5-8)

11:15 AM-11:55 AM MightyStars (Ages 6-9)

Floor Hockey: Session 1, 2

9:15 AM-9:55 AM PreStars (Ages 3-5)

10:00 AM-10:40 AM MiniStars (Ages 5-8)

10:45 AM-11:25 AM MightyStars (Ages 6-9)

Soccer: Session 3

9:15 AM-9:40 AM TotStars (Ages 2-3)

9:45 AM-10:25 AM PreStars (Ages 3-5)

10:30 AM-11:10 AM KinderStars (Ages 4-6)

11:15 AM-11:55 AM MightyStars (Ages 6-9)

Ninja Warrior Fitness: Session 3

9:15 AM-9:40 AM TotStars (Ages 2-3)

9:45 AM-10:25 AM PreStars (Ages 3-5)

10:30 AM-11:10 AM MiniStars (Ages 5-8)

11:15 AM-11:55 AM MightyStars (Ages 6-9)



Bird walks for early 2024

All courses are at the Maplewood Nature Center

\$15/person

Register at: Maplewoodmn.gov/971

Citizen Science & Bird Walk – learning how to use EBird

Tuesday, Jan 2

11:00 AM - 1:00 p.m.

EBird is a user-friendly online database, sourced by you and other users. This class provides an overview on effectively entering valuable information for fellow birders, such as location, time, species and other factors. We'll also hit the nature center's trails for a hands-on lesson. Dress for the weather.

Developed by Cornell University, EBird is arguably the world's leading bird data-base



Winter Bird/Owl Walk

Tuesday, February 20

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

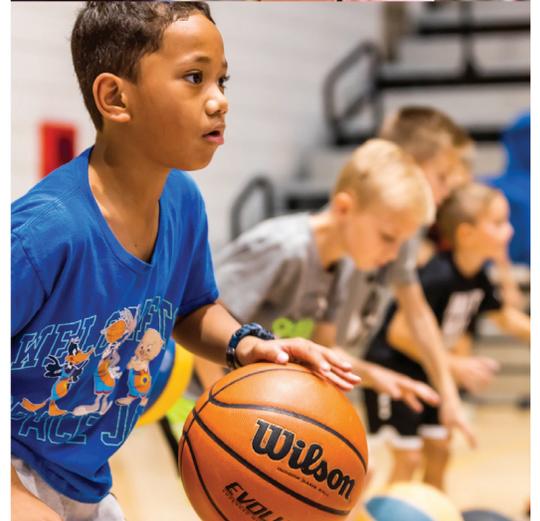
Owls can be evasive, but a walk around dusk can increase your odds of hearing and seeing these majestic birds. Dress for the weather as class is held outside. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Spring Migration Walk

Wednesday, March 6

8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

By March, birds have begun their long journeys north, some already claiming their nesting territories. This family-friendly walk will explore a variety of habitats to see what "early birds" are passing through or setting up their home base for the season. Dress for the weather, as classes will be held outside.



YMCA Offerings

- Martial arts
- Basketball
- Futsal
- Volleyball

Registration open.

Visit YMCAnorth.org, click programs and classes.



City of Maplewood

1830 County Road B East

Maplewood, MN 55109

Phone: (651) 249-2000

www.maplewoodmn.gov

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 32324
Twin Cities, MN

*******ECRWSS*******

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

Upon request, this newsletter will be made available in an alternate format.

Printed on 10% post consumer product.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Your donations support youth programming and summer camps at MAHS.

DONATE TODAY

MaplewoodMuseum.org/Support

Maplewood Area Historical Society
2170 Co Rd D East
Maplewood MN 55109
info@MaplewoodMuseum.org