



2016 Light It Up Maplewood!

Monday, July 4th at Hazelwood Park

presented by

CITY OF MAPLEWOOD

and



Councilmembers Smith and Abrams, Mayor Slawik, Councilmembers Xiong and Juenemann

The Maplewood City Council and Management Team staff invite you to join them for the spectacular July 4th celebration.

Come to the 50-acre Hazelwood Park located at 1663 County Road C (near Maplewood Mall). The event will take place on Monday, July 4th from 4:00 - 10:00 pm.

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The Dog House Bar & Grill will be on site serving up refreshing adult beverages. Vendors will provide a mix of favorite foods: tacos and burritos, mini donuts, cheese curds, chicken fries, a variety of tator tot recipes, egg rolls, corn on the cob, hot dogs, corn dogs, brats, pizza, ice cream sandwiches, ice cream on a stick, sno cones, lamb & beef gyros, greek salad, coffee drinks, smoothies, paninis and more.

Live music will start at 7:00 pm by the Good For Gary Band - Twin Cities' Hottest Cover Band. They specialize in playing current and past dance hits, focusing on the newest Top 40 songs. With a 7-piece line-up, there's no hip-hop, pop, or dance song they can't cover. You will hear some Iggy Azalea, Bruno Mars, Taylor Swift, Macklemore and old school jams. The band's humor and enthusiasm shines through in their stage-jumping, electrifying live show.

Test your skills on the 60' Wacky World Obstacle Course. Cool off on the 20' Tsunami and the 16' Dolphin Water Slides. Giant inflatables will create endless fun. Wristbands are \$3.00 per person for unlimited rides. The featured entertainment will be the brilliant fireworks show at dusk. The show promises to be a breathtaking pyrotechnic display that will be the highlight of the holiday.

Many people arrive early to stake out a seat on the lawn and enjoy the fun activities taking place at the park. Bring your chairs and blankets, but coolers will not be allowed in the park. Come celebrate with your neighbors.



4th of July CELEBRATION Light it Up

2016 MAPLEWOOD



Maplewood July 4th Celebration at Hazelwood Park from 4:00 - 10:00 pm Free Admission!

New Events

- Chainsaw Wood Carving Demonstration by Curtis Ingvaldstad at 6:15 - 7:00 pm (items for purchase available)
- Pull Tab Booth
- Color Guard at 6:00 - 6:15 pm on the Main Stage



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Elected Officials

Nora Slawik: Mayor(651) 738-7099
 nora.slawik@maplewoodmn.gov
 Marylee Abrams: Councilmember(651) 249-2000
 marylee.abrams@maplewoodmn.gov
 Kathleen Juenemann: Councilmember(651) 771-3670
 kathleen.juenemann@maplewoodmn.gov
 Melinda Coleman: City Manager(651) 249-2055
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 Bryan Smith: Councilmember(651) 888-0085
 bryan.smith@maplewoodmn.gov
 Tou Xiong: Councilmember(651) 444-0531
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Frequently Called Numbers

City Hall	(651) 249-2000
Maplewood Community Center	(651) 249-2230
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 Heidi Carey at (952) 212-7333 or email heidi@careycommunications.org.

RAMSEY COUNTY FAIR

July 13-17, 2016

Parade: Wednesday, July 13th, 7:00 pm



County fairs have evolved with the changing times, adapting to the changing communities. The Ramsey County Fair, celebrating its 103rd year, has had its changes, but also realizes

the value of traditions and has striven to keep as many traditions as possible for families to pass along to future generations. While many County Fairs have had to start charging a fee for admission, Ramsey County remains one of the few FREE admission fairs, charging only a \$3.00 parking fee (if you should park in the lot). The Ramsey County Fair has also striven to keep affordable food vendors and amusement rides each year making it an affordable day for a family to come and celebrate with their neighbors.

There is something for everyone at the fair! This year we are happy to have the popular Mitchell Showboat Marionettes returning to our Fair. Music, entertainment,

food, rides, 4H displays, exhibits of food, art and crafts.

Do you have a family recipe that you love to make? Do you have something that you've sewn, quilted, knitted, or painted? Submit it to the Fair and you may just win that prestigious County Fair Blue Ribbon! Do you have a special talent? Enter into the Amateur Talent contest, winners get to move on to the State Fair competition. Or maybe you would just enjoy sitting back and listening to music in the shade, with a lemonade in one hand and cotton candy in the other.

Kids - ever wanted to know what it's like to be a farmer? Check out the Farmer for the Day booth and also enjoy activities presented by the folks from Gibbs Farm Museum of Pioneer and Dakotah Life. And, you can't beat the fun at our carnival and midway!

Visit the Ramsey County Fair website at www.ramseycountyfair.com and we'll see you at the fair!



Maplewood Police Hosts Suburban Law Enforcement Ceremony

On May 12, 2016 the Maplewood Police Department hosted the 5th Annual Suburban Ramsey County Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony. Representatives from all Ramsey County law enforcement agencies attended the event which was held at the Hmong Alliance Church on McMenemy Street in Maplewood. The solemn ceremony serves as a powerful reminder of the service and sacrifice of these officers and lives out the commitment made to their families that “we will not forget.”

The local ceremony is held in coordination with National Law Enforcement Memorial Week that occurs during the week May 15th each year. The nine police officers or sheriff’s deputies killed in the line have their names permanently inscribed on the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, DC, as well as, the Minnesota Law Enforcement Memorial on the grounds of the State Capital.

Our Ramsey County Attorney, John Choi, delivered a moving commentary regarding the sacrifice of the officer during the keynote speech at the ceremony. The St. Paul Police Department’s Historical Society brought the law enforcement memorial bell, which rang after the name of each officer who died in the line of duty was read by the respective chief or sheriff.

May 1st marked the sixth anniversary of the death of Maplewood Police Sergeant Joseph Bergeron, who was shot while searching for suspects in a carjacking incident. Sergeant Bergeron was survived by his wife and twin daughters.

Law enforcement faces significant challenges at this time in our history. It is a difficult job made more challenging by the very real dangers officers face in their work. Law Enforcement Memorial Week is a time for us to remember these officers’ sacrifices and to also recognize the tremendous price paid by their families.



Maplewood Police Officers Steve Hines and Scott Andrews



Police Chief Schnell, Ramsey County Attorney John Choi and Mayor Nora Slawik



WOW Events

Wakefield Park located at 1590 Frost Avenue - Free Event!

Wednesdays, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm • June 29, July 27 and August 24

Entertainment for the whole family, including activity stations, games, jump castle, treats and more. Don't miss out on all the fun! For more information call (651) 249-2120 or visit the city website www.maplewoodmn.gov under family events/programs.

2016 Construction Season

Is that the sound of construction equipment I hear? It sure is! (Cue the moans and groans). The construction season is upon us and the City of Maplewood is excited to start improving some of the worst roads in Maplewood. The 2016 improvement projects include 3.25 miles of pavement replacement and the installation of over 1.5 miles of new walkways and trails.

After establishing a new funding source in 2015, the City will begin the first Gas Franchise Fee funded project in 2016. This project is located in southern Maplewood, east of McKnight Road and south of Highwood Avenue. The Gas Franchise Fee was established, following much resident input, to fix roads with poor pavement conditions with underground utilities in good condition. Over the next five years the City will be focusing on these types of projects in the southern leg of Maplewood.

The City will also be replacing the pavement on Sterling Street north of Linwood Avenue and south of London Lane, as well as on Beebe Road north of Larpenteur Avenue and south of Holloway Avenue. Helen Street between Beam Avenue and Lydia will also be reconstructed as part of a joint project with North Saint Paul. These projects are also primarily focused on fixing the poor pavement conditions in the project areas. All of these street projects started construction in early May and are anticipated to be completed in the fall of 2016.

Construction projects are noisy, dirty, dusty, muddy, annoying, and often inconvenient. (We're sure you'll have your own adjective for them by the end of the year.) The city and contractors will do our best to minimize the project's impact on you. If you see something that doesn't seem right, please contact the Public Works Department at (651) 249-2400. If you simply need to vent about how inconvenient or



Beebe Road Reclaim

annoying the project is, we're here to listen as well. We are always open to suggestions if you think something needs to be improved. We are excited to make these improvements to our City. Let's work together to make them a success!

For more information on these projects and future projects taking place in Maplewood this year, visit the City's webpage at www.maplewoodmn.gov and visit the "Business and Development" page.

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FOR THE GREATEST SAVINGS!

Is Laughter the Best Medicine for Maplewood?

This editorial was originally featured in the St. Paul Pioneer Press on May 11, 2016.

By Nikki Villavicencio



Maplewood Nature Center's Naturalist, Oakley Biesanz, putting on a puppet show.

Soon, the City of Maplewood will officially be laughing in the face of the pressures on the fast-growing suburb. With the support of the City Council, Maplewood Mayor Nora Slawik is proclaiming May 14th as Maplewood's Day of Laughter. On May 14th, people of all ages are invited to the Maplewood Community Center from 4:00-5:30 pm to celebrate at a Laugh In, a free open house of family fun focused on bringing people together to laugh. The Maplewood Police Department is even getting into the act, competing against the City Council in a Joke



Maplewood Police K9, Yoda, was a hit with the crowd.

Swap to see who can collect the best (G-rated) jokes from people at the event. The winning joke will get a place of honor in Maplewood's Laughter Museum (interactive installations

that will be popping up and spreading more laughter throughout the city all summer long).

Some may be skeptical of city government designating time and energy to laughing. Life is serious business and a growing number of Maplewood residents are facing critical needs such as hunger and poverty. In my roles as a Disability Rights Advocate and Maplewood Parks and Recreation Commissioner, I have witnessed the struggles

that individuals with disabilities, whole families and neighborhoods face on an everyday basis. As a mother and spouse, I make time for fun with my family. But as an advocate, although I'm always searching for positive coping mechanisms to overcome oppression, I have to ask, what good can laughter do for my community?

Like most first ring suburbs, it is vital that the City of Maplewood find ways for our community to connect across race, class, gender and ability. The lack of a city center or downtown can add an element of isolation to language and cultural barriers for some of our fastest growing populations (East African, Hmong, Latino and Karen residents). Our central question becomes: How do we bring people together across divides in Maplewood?

Maplewood Parks & Recreation is responding to this question with Kid City, an innovative collaboration with award-winning Twin City artists Z Puppets Rosenschnoz. Kid City is a series of family-friendly, public events—like the May 14th Laugh In—that bring people together across cultures, ages and abilities with the power of playfulness.

Kid City is built on the idea that if we follow our children's lead to embrace curiosity about the world around us, we can spark new connections with each other.



Kid City Artists preparing for the show.

Funded by grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, this Spring, the Kid City artist team began leading youth and adults to

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explore humor and their “Happy Places” with free workshops and interactive performances at Tubman Family Crisis & Support Services Center, Carver, Edgerton and Weaver elementary schools, senior centers and Maplewood Mall. This summer, Kid City will continue to advance the goal of Park & Recreation’s 20-Year Master Plan to integrate arts into the parks. Laughter Museums will pop up in Maplewood Mall, City Hall, Library and Community Center. Kid City teen videographers will create mini-documentaries expressing their views of life in Maplewood. Junior high students can sign up for a free 5-day Kid Council (August 8-12) to brainstorm creative solutions to city challenges through improvisational theater— and then share their ideas with the Mayor.



Mayor Nora Slawik starting the festivities.

As a Maplewood Parks and Recreation Commissioner, I joined the Advisory Committee of Kid City out of civic duty. However, after seeing and being a part of Kid City in action, I am inspired. Witnessing all this laughter reminds me that many of life’s most meaningful moments happen when I do not take myself so seriously.

Although what makes each of one of us laugh varies wildly from person to person, laughter is one of the true universal acts that almost all humans share. According to the Webster Dictionary, an antonym to oppression is joyfulness. According to the Mayo Clinic, laughing has many short and long term health benefits for individuals, including: stress release, oxygen increase, pain relief and strengthened immune system. Imagine multiplying and sharing these benefits as a community.

Using laughter as medicine cannot be the only tool we choose to address our community’s issues. However, in this fast-paced, complex world, the creativity of children may be the best place to start true revitalization.

On May 14th, come by the Maplewood Community Center to judge for yourself: can laughter be good



Gaosong Heu entertaining the crowd.

medicine for an entire city? While you’re there, share a joke, get a giggle. Maybe you’ll discover a new way to connect to a neighbor, police officer or city council representative. Join me as I support Mayor Slawik, our City Council and our Maplewood Police to help proclaim,

“May 14th shall officially be Maplewood’s Day of Laughter! - Mayor Slawik”

May 14th Event Recap

What a fantastic turnout for the first ever Maplewood Kid City Laugh In Event at the Maplewood Community Center on Saturday, May 14th! The space was packed with families and friends eager to share laughter with each other as they enjoyed wonderful performances by Siana Matuzungidi & Dallas Johnson, Just Kidding Improv, The Hmong American Alliance Church Puppet Team, as well as the Kid City Artists Ricardo Vazquez, Ifrah Mansour, Gustavo and Julie Boada, Gaosong Heu and Jessica Huang.

Ramsey County Public Health, Maplewood Nature Center, Twin Cities Family Fun and Ashland Productions added to the fun with activity stations and the ice cream sundaes, root beer floats & popcorn kept everyone’s energy up.

Members of the Maplewood Police Department and City Council entertained the crowd with a Joke Swap Competition that had the Police taking home bragging rights thanks to a joke submitted by Joseph Xiong.

It was, as Nikki Villavicencio hoped, a day of bringing people together across cultures, ages and abilities through the power of play.

City of Maplewood

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Movie Night **FREE EVENT!**



At Bruentrup Heritage Farm
Thursday, June 23
Movie: Barnyard at 6:30 pm
Grounds Open at 5:30 pm
Petting Zoo: 5:30 - 7:30 pm
Come out for a family night of games, concessions, activity stations and the petting zoo! Enjoy a picnic on the beautiful grounds. Movie will be held in the barn rain or shine. Limited seating. Food and drink available for purchase.

Sponsor



Election Judges Needed



The City of Maplewood needs more than 200 Election Judges for the 2016 Primary and General Election. To see if you qualify to join this team contact Citizen Services at (651) 249-2003 or visit the city website for additional information.

www.maplewoodmn.gov/elections



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