

# Maplewood LIVING



AUGUST 2016



## In This Issue

- 2 Make a Difference
- 3 Business Engagement Program
- 4 Council Corner
- 5 Free Water Safety Lessons
- 6 Buckthorn Curb-Side Pick-Up
- 8 From The City Manager



## To Watch Meetings Online:

Click on the front page of the City website [www.maplewoodmn.gov](http://www.maplewoodmn.gov) to view live and archived city council meetings and meetings of our Boards and Commissions.

## Building Racial Equity In Maplewood

By Mike Funk, Assistant City Manager/HR Director



Mike Funk, Assistant City Manager/HR Director

The City is participating in a racial equity effort through the leadership and influence of Police Chief Paul Schnell. Schnell says that while his city hasn't faced a crisis like Ferguson, Missouri, experienced after the 2014 police shooting of an unarmed black teenager, he recognizes the potential for such an event. "We know the diversity of Maplewood is changing, yet we don't have significant and deep relationships with the communities that call Maplewood home," Schnell says. "That's the concerning part. We believe that with the right set of circumstances, the right conditions, Maplewood could experience some of the things that happened in Ferguson." We don't want that to happen here, and we want to grow trust before there is a situation that forces a crisis. The

business of government is basically a relationship business. Equity starts with our interactions with the community. It is important for the City and the Council to discover innovative means to get more residents involved. Traditional methods—announcing a meeting time and place, and waiting for people to show up—just doesn't work anymore. Government touches everything, so we are using the leverage and power of government to try to line up our actions with our aspirations.

The City of Maplewood is not alone in addressing this issue. This project, involving 14 Minnesota cities, counties, and other jurisdictions, is a year-long program through a partnership between the League of Minnesota Cities and the Government Alliance on Race and Equity. Discrimination is now illegal, but we still have policies and practices that can perpetuate inequity. Participants in the Minnesota program are meeting monthly for instruction and discussion. Each city is setting its own priorities, goals, and strategies to devise a racial equity action plan, focusing on key departments and employee training. Getting past often abstract and emotional discussions about race to reach concrete solutions is the aim of the racial equity action plan.

Racial Equity also means examining our internal operations. Maplewood's city employees are largely white and employees of color represent approximately 9.5% of our workforce. As a first ring suburb, the City's minority population has grown rapidly since 1990, from 5.5% to approximately 31% in 2014.

- continued on page 7

## 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  
 melinda.coleman@maplewoodmn.gov  
 Bryan Smith: Councilmember .....(651) 888-0085  
 bryan.smith@maplewoodmn.gov  
 Tou Xiong: Councilmember .....(651) 444-0531  
 tou.xiong@maplewoodmn.gov

## 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](http://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](mailto:heidi@careycommunications.org).



## Make a Difference in Maplewood

Have you ever wondered what you could do to help make the City of Maplewood a better place to live? The City Council is not the only place where citizens have an opportunity to become involved in City government. The City of Maplewood also has several commissions and boards where citizens have a chance to get involved and be a part of the decision making process. Commissions include:

Community Design Review Board, Environmental & Natural Resources Commission, Heritage Preservation Commission, Housing & Economic Development Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, Planning Commission and Police Civil Service Commission.

The wide range of commissions offers residents the opportunity to apply to be a part of a group where they can put their interests, talents and strengths to use. There are currently openings on the following commissions and boards:

- Community Design Review Board (1 opening)
- Heritage Preservation Commission (2 openings)
- Housing & Economic Development Commission (1 opening)
- Parks & Recreation Commission (1 opening)
- Planning Commission (1 opening)

These openings are due to terms expiring and resignations. More information on the commissions can be obtained by calling City Hall at (651) 249-2000.

Applications can be picked up at the City Hall front desk or found on the City's website. Applications are accepted at any time. Completed applications should be submitted to the City Manager's Office at 1830 County Road B E, Maplewood, MN 55109.



## Choose Checking that Hits All the Right Checkboxes

With FREE Rewards Checking from SMW, you'll receive **1.75% APY\*** in cash along with nationwide ATM fee refunds each month you qualify! Plus, enjoy:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  Free online banking and bill pay        |  No minimum balance to earn rewards |
|  Free debit card usage                   |  Extensive ATM network              |
|  Free mobile banking with remote deposit |  |

Contact us to open your account today.  
 651.747.1500 | [www.smwfcu.com](http://www.smwfcu.com)

Maplewood Branch  
 1691 Cope Avenue  
 Maplewood, MN 55109



\*Minimum to open account is \$100. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) accurate as of 07-01-2016. Rate tiers are as follows: 1.75% APY applies to balances of \$0.01 - \$20,000 and 0.50% APY to balances over \$20,000, if qualifications are met during the monthly qualification cycle. Ten debit card transactions and one ACH must post and clear during each calendar month. Member must also be signed up for eStatements. 0.05% APY applies to all balances if monthly qualifications are not met. All balances will earn 0.50% - 1.75% APY if monthly qualifications are met. Rates may change after the account is opened. Fees may reduce earnings. Transactions may take one or more business days from the transaction date to post to an account. Intra-bank transfers do not count as qualifying ACH transactions. ATM fee reimbursements of up to \$10 provided only if qualifications are met within the monthly qualification cycle.

# Introducing the City of Maplewood's Business Engagement Program

The City of Maplewood is committed to fostering business growth, expansion and redevelopment in Maplewood. As part of our ongoing effort to be an excellent place to own, operate or manage a business, we're pleased to announce the City's first Business Engagement Program (BEP), scheduled to launch later this fall.

The BEP will utilize the following principles as a guide to assist with the development of the program:

- Demonstrate to businesses that the community appreciates their presence in the city
- Help existing businesses solve immediate problems
- Increase business' ability to compete in regional, national, and global markets
- Establish a strategic plan for economic development
- Build community capacity to sustain growth and development over the long term.

To develop these guiding principles, Mayor Nora Slawik, Councilmembers Abrams and Xiong, members of the City's Housing and Economic Development Commission (HEDC) and City staff enrolled in an online Business Retention & Expansion Program course developed by

the University of Minnesota Extension Office. Together, the group spent ten weeks focused on what to consider when building a BEP, including factors such as program implementation, who to include in the business site visits, survey questions, responding to concerns, and analysis of the results to help shape future policy decisions by the city council.

"We recognize the incredibly important role that our business partners play in our community," says Mayor Slawik. "We're excited to begin taking a more structured, programmatic approach to supporting new and existing business in Maplewood, while cultivating an environment for increased business growth in the city."

## Save the Date!

Our Business Engagement Program will officially launch at our Community Business Breakfast on October 12, 2016 at the Maplewood Community Center. Save the date and plan on attending to learn more. Watch for additional details regarding the event, including how to RSVP, in the next issue of Maplewood Living.

**THE INCREDIBLES**

WAKEFIELD PARK • 1590 FROST AVENUE • MAPLEWOOD, MN • 55109

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

PRE-MOVIE GAMES: 6:30PM • MOVIE: 7:15PM

Movie may be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Updates will be posted on our Twitter and Facebook pages.

**PREPARE TO BE YOUR BEST SELF...**

**MAPLEWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER MEMBERSHIP SPECIALS**

<b>AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2016</b>	Purchase ANY Membership & Pay Just A \$25 ADMIN FEE + Get 15% Off Family Programming
<b>OCTOBER 2016</b>	Purchase An Annual Membership & Pay NO ADMIN FEE
<b>NOVEMBER 2016</b>	Purchase ANY membership & Pay NO ADMIN FEE <small>NORTH ST. PAUL RESIDENT SPECIAL: Take advantage of your last chance to get resident rates!</small>
<b>DECEMBER 2016</b>	10/20 Visit Pass Sale: \$10 Off A 10 Visit Pass OR \$20 Off A 20 Visit Pass
<b>DECEMBER 15, 2016 - JANUARY 2017</b>	Purchase An Annual Membership & Pay NO ADMIN FEE + Get \$50 In MCC Bucks

SOME EXCLUSIONS APPLY - VISIT CUSTOMER SERVICE TO LEARN MORE

**MAPLEWOOD Community Center** 2100 WHITE BEAR AVENUE • MAPLEWOOD, MN 55109  
WWW.MAPLEWOODCOMMUNITYCENTER.COM • 651-249-2230

# COUNCIL CORNER

The Council Corner is a space that is rotated monthly between the Mayor and Council members. Editorial views expressed are those of the author and may not necessarily represent or reflect the views and opinions of the City of Maplewood.



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

## By: Councilmember Bryan Smith



"There are no other people's children" is a value we hold close in my faith. As I have watched with horror the violence erupt across our country - Orlando, Dallas, Baton Rouge, and here in Falcon Heights - I can't help but remember that each victim had parents, had those who loved them, had rich and complicated lives just like you and

me. It can be easy to think of them as others, far away, or disconnected. When I challenge myself with this notion, it reminds me we are not so disconnected. It could have been my son, my friend - it could've been me.

As you may know, our city has initiated a citizen's task force to review our use of force policies and recommend action ensuring police officers are enabled to achieve their enduring goal to manage difficult situations safely for all involved. My heart has broken over the last few weeks every time both black men and honorable police officers have been killed in ugly and potentially avoidable confrontations. I am comforted we are taking action as neighbors to proactively shape our future in Maplewood.

I support wholeheartedly the men and women of the Maplewood Police Department, and law enforcement professionals generally. I believe the vast majority of police officers are good people doing their best to serve our communities. I also wholeheartedly support the mission of Black Lives Matter - a mission I believe is to inspire peaceful action addressing the enduring racial disparities in this country, including their visible examples in these incidents of questionable uses of force against black men. I do not see my support for law enforcement and the Black Lives Matters movement to be in opposition.

I know many of you may disagree with me - including whoever stole the BLM sign from our family's yard this week. I know some feel the movement should instead be "All Lives Matter." When challenged with this, I prefer the message on the sign hanging on our church today - "All Lives will Matter when Black Lives Matter." If we truly want to address this uncomfortable, complex, and messy issue, we simply cannot see people as "other people's children." Acting as if they were our own children, we owe it to our police officers and all our neighbors to provide a community of support, peace, and understanding.

This is why I support Black Lives Matter and why I am also so proud to do all I can for the Maplewood Police Department. Maybe when I replace my sign, folks will remember this is not a fight against anyone, but a fight for justice for everyone.

## Congratulations!



Maplewood Monarchs Special Olympic Team is celebrating 10 years of competition, friendship, and fun.

[www.specialolympicsminnesota.org](http://www.specialolympicsminnesota.org)

Donations: Monarchs/S.O.MN



# Fall Dance Classes at the Maplewood Community Center

Dance Recital Theme: Under the Sea  
*Sign up by August 29 and receive a FREE tutu or king crown at the open house!*

## Pre Ballet and Tap (Ages 3-5)

Saturdays, September 17 - December 10  
9:30 am - 10:15 am or 10:15 am - 11:00 am  
(No class November 26)  
Cost is \$145.00\* (\$135.00 for MCC members).

## Wish Upon a Ballet (Ages 3-5)

Saturdays, September 17 - December 10  
11:00 am - 11:45 am  
(No class November 26)  
Mondays, September 19 - December 12  
5:15 pm - 6:00 pm  
(No class October 31)  
Cost is \$145.00\* (\$135.00 for MCC members).

## Ballet and Tap (Ages 6-9)

Saturdays, September 17 - December 10  
11:45 am - 12:45 pm  
(No class November 26)  
Cost is \$155.00\* (\$145.00 for MCC members).

## Hip Hop and Tap (Ages 5-8)

Mondays, September 19 - December 12  
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
(No class October 31)  
Cost is \$155.00\* (\$145.00 for MCC members).

## Hip Hop (Ages 8-12)

Mondays, September 19 - December 12  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
(No class October 31)  
Cost is \$155.00\* (\$145.00 for MCC members).

*\*Registration fee does not include the costume fee for recital. For the recital girls in ballet/tap and tap/hip hop will need to provide their own white leotard (any style) and flesh colored tights. Boys need a white t-shirt and black pants. Students taking only hip hop will need a black leotard, black tank top or black t-shirt, and black pants.*

## Three ways to register:

- Online Registration - <https://activenet004.active.com/maplewoodmn/>
- By Phone: (651) 249-2230 or (651) 249-2120
- In person: Maplewood Community Center  
2100 White Bear Avenue

# YMCA Is Offering Free Water Safety Lessons



Thanks to the generosity of program sponsors Delta Airlines & Abbey's Hope Foundation, The YMCA is able to offer Water Safety Lessons for FREE for any child between the ages of 5-14yrs. Water Safety lessons teach children how to be safe around lakes, pools, rivers and streams, as well as teach safety techniques such as what to do if they see someone else in need of help around water.

If your group is interested in participating in water safety instruction, contact Aquatics Program Manager Jana Krautkramer at [Jana.Krautkramer@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:Jana.Krautkramer@maplewoodmn.gov) or (651) 249-2206 for more information.

**WOW EVENT**  
WAKEFIELD PARK • 1590 FROST AVENUE • MAPLEWOOD, MN • 55109  
**CARNIVAL FUN & MOVIE NIGHT**  
Arts & Crafts • Dunk Tank • Bounce Castle • Kid City Booth  
Nature Center Activities • Crazy Hair Station • & Much More!

Join us for some carnival fun before "Planes: Fire and Rescue" is shown in the park. There will be a dunk tank, baseball pitch speed test, carnival games, and a chance for you to show off your special talent at our Wakefield Talent Spotlight.

**AUGUST 24 • 6:00PM - 7:30PM**

**CARNIVAL FUN & MOVIE NIGHT WILL BE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER**

**FREE ADMISSION • FREE HOT DOGS, CHIPS, & POP**

FREE EVENT - PLEASE CONSIDER BRINGING A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM THAT WILL BE DONATED TO A LOCAL FOOD SHELF

CITY OF MAPLEWOOD  
KID CITY

# 2016 Buckthorn Curb-Side Pick-Up and Disposal



Buckthorn piled for curb side pick-up

Maplewood residents who remove large volumes of buckthorn from their properties will qualify for free curbside pick-up of

buckthorn this fall (no other trees or shrubs will be picked up). You must have enough buckthorn to fill more than a large pickup truck. If you do not have enough buckthorn to qualify, recruit your neighbors and we will include your block. This year, pickup is scheduled for the week of **November 14th. Register by 4:00 pm, Thursday, November 10.** There will be no late pick-ups.

To register, send your contact information (name, phone, email and address) to: Maplewood Nature Center, 2659 7th St. East, Maplewood, MN 55119, or email Carole Gernes at [carole.gernes@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:carole.gernes@maplewoodmn.gov). You will receive a confirmation with instructions.

Don't have enough buckthorn for a pick-up and your neighbors aren't interested? Want to continue removing buckthorn beyond the pick-up date? Bring cut buckthorn

to a Ramsey County Compost site that accepts brush. Ramsey County Yard Waste Site information is found at [www.co.ramsey.mn.us](http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us).

## New changes to the Maplewood Buckthorn program:

- **Weed Wrench** tools, for pulling buckthorn, are no longer available for checkout at Maplewood Nature Center. New research has shown that pulling buckthorn in the metro area results in establishment of garlic mustard (an invasive herb), thistles and buckthorn seedlings the following year. Cutting and treating buckthorn stumps with herbicide results in more native plant growth and fewer weed species. Join our efforts to prevent spread of garlic mustard in Maplewood.
- **Buckthorn drop-off at the Londin Lane Fire Station has been discontinued.** Bring your buckthorn to a county yard waste site instead.

Buckthorn is an aggressive, invasive European shrub invading our woodlands. It prevents the growth of native tree, shrub, fern and wildflower species. We encourage residents to remove it from their properties. Unlike native shrubs, it retains green leaves late into the fall, long after other leaves have turned color or fallen. To avoid accidental removal of beneficial dogwoods and cherries, we urge residents to wait until fall before removing their buckthorn.

- continued on page 7



## PrairieCare

# Mental Illness is...

## REAL. COMMON. TREATABLE.

### WAYS TO GET HELP

TALK  
with your doctor

CONNECT  
with others

EDUCATE  
yourself

EXPLORE  
[prairie-care.com](http://prairie-care.com)

SCHEDULE  
a Needs Assessment



Rev. 6/15

### LOCATIONS

Brooklyn Park • Chaska  
Edina • Maple Grove  
Maplewood • Minneapolis  
Rochester • Woodbury

888-9-prairie

[prairie-care.com](http://prairie-care.com)




## Maplewood Community Center

# MEMBERSHIP SALE

Purchase A Membership  
& Pay Just A \$25 Admin Fee

## Plus, get 15% off family programming\*

\*See coupon for details

## HURRY! OFFER VALID AUG. 1 - SEPT. 30

2100 White Bear Ave, Maplewood  
[www.maplewoodcommunitycenter.com](http://www.maplewoodcommunitycenter.com)

- continued from page 6

Tips for identifying buckthorn and effective removal are found in the Maplewood Buckthorn Management brochure, available online at <http://maplewoodmn.gov/documentcenter/view/16488>. Check upcoming Maplewood Nature Center programs for a buckthorn seminar to learn more.

### Maplewood Buckthorn Herbicide Coupon

Join the City's effort to remove buckthorn from Maplewood. To help with this important community environmental issue, these businesses are offering Maplewood residents a discount on buckthorn herbicide products. Make sure to purchase Glyphosate products at a 25% or higher concentration. Triclopyr is effective at 8% or 8.8%. Use water-safe formulations for use within ten feet of water or storm drains.

**Bachman's: 20% OFF!**

**Bonide® Stump-Out Vine and Stump Killer**

(8.8% Triclopyr) *(Maplewood store only)*

2600 White Bear Ave. • Maplewood • (651) 770-0531

**Gertens: 25% OFF!**

**Bonide® Brush and Stump Killer** (8% Triclopyr)

**Ferti-lome® Brush and Stump Killer** (8% Triclopyr)

**Hi Yield KillZAI®** (41% Glyphosate)

*Promo Code: MW*

5500 Blaine Ave. • Inver Grove Heights • (651) 450-1501

**Coupon Valid 9/1/16 – 10/15/16**

- continued from cover

## Building Racial Equity In Maplewood

Some internal efforts will examine hiring practices to make sure they aren't biased or overlooking qualified people. For Chief Schnell, he wants to make sure police actions don't have a disparate effect on people because of race or gender. He says officers need to get to know residents who are different from themselves, and get to know them well.

Maplewood has created a Racial Equity Work Group that consists of the following six employees: Public Safety Director Paul Schnell, Police Officer Maria Mulvihill, Citizen Services-Licensing Specialist Sandra Vitt, Health Officer Molly Wellens, Communications Coordinator Chad Bergo, and Assistant City Manager/HR Director Mike Funk. The next task of the work group is focused on a city-wide survey. All employees of the City will be asked to participate as a way to gather information about our workplace.

Racial Equity is an important initiative for the City and we look forward to having more conversations.



## Energize Your Congregation!

### Attention Maplewood Congregations: Energy Challenge Beginning this FALL!

#### Things to Know:

-Three-month challenge presented by Maplewood, Xcel Energy, and the Neighborhood Energy Connection.

-Friendly competition between congregations in Maplewood and surrounding communities.

-Congregations earn points for energy actions taken by their parishioners at home and at church- and get prizes for winning!

#### For more information:

[www.maplewoodmn.gov/energizeyourcongregation](http://www.maplewoodmn.gov/energizeyourcongregation)



Here is the church, here is the steeple,  
open the door, see all the people.

XCEL ENERGY IS PLEASED TO PARTNER WITH YOUR COMMUNITY TO HELP YOU MEET YOUR ENERGY GOALS.

# 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 #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.

# From the Desk of City Manager Coleman



The maximum tax levy for the 2017 budget needs to be adopted and filed with Ramsey County by the end of September 2016. The final 2017 tax levy and budget will be adopted in December 2016. Working with Finance staff and Department Heads we have been actively engaged in planning and preparing the 2017 budget, which funds all City operations and functions.

Upcoming meetings that our citizens may be interested in attending pertaining to the budget are:

- **Council Manager Workshop\*** - August 22nd  
Staff Department Budget Presentations
- **Council Manager Workshop\*** - September 12th  
Completion of Staff Department Budget
- **Council Meeting\*** - September 12th  
Set 2017 Preliminary Tax Levy

The City has two sources of revenue that fund the General Fund budget. Property tax levy and revenues from other sources such as licenses, permits fees, charges for services, etc.

*\*Starting times of Council Manager Workshop varies, please visit the City website for times posted or by calling (651) 249-2000. City Council meetings begin at 7:00 pm. All meetings are held in Council Chambers located at 1830 County Road B East.*

Benefiting Maplewood Parks & Recreation Youth Scholarship Fund

# MAPLEWOOD REC RUN 3K/5K

At the Maplewood Community Center  
Come run the Gateway Trail!

**Register by Sept. 21 for a shirt and child's award!**

**Saturday, October 1**  
**9:00AM-10:00AM:**  
**Check-In/Pre-Race Activities**  
Fire Truck & Police Car Tours  
Will Hale & the Tadpole Parade Concert  
Temporary Tattoos • Crazy Hair  
Coloring Station • Yard Games  
Stretches led by MCC Personal Trainer

**10:00AM: Race Starts**  
**11:00AM: Race Awards**

**Race Fee: \$30.00**  
One Adult & One Child (under 16 yrs.)

**Family: \$75.00**  
(max of 4 children)  
\*Children under 3 run free

**Kids - come as your favorite cartoon character or superhero!**

**Thank You Sponsors**

**How to Register:**  
**Online:** <https://apm.activecommunities.com/maplewoodmn/Home>  
**Phone:** 651.249.2230 or 651.249.2120 • **In Person:** 2100 White Bear Avenue

# WORRY LESS & BOAT HAPPY

**REFI YOUR BOAT TODAY AND SPEND SUMMER LOVING YOUR SAVINGS.**

**RATES AS LOW AS 2.49% APR**

BOATS | RVS | MOTORCYCLES

**APPLY ONLINE, IN PERSON OR BY PHONE TODAY!**

**(651) 225-2700**  
**CCCU.COM**

APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rate presented for model years 2011 and newer for up to 60 months. Rate can vary based on term and credit worthiness, and is subject to change. Payment Example: A \$15,000 loan at 2.49% APR for 60 months results in 60 payments of \$266.14.