

Maplewood LIVING



OCTOBER 2016

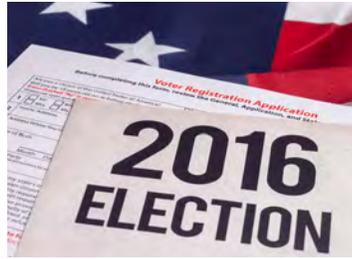


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Fall Clean Up

Republic Services, Maplewood's contracted trash hauler, will be collecting bulky items curbside at up to 50% off the City's trash hauling contracted rate. The event is scheduled for **the last four full weeks in October (October 3-7, October 10-14, October 17-21, and October 24-28)**. To schedule bulky item collection contact Republic Services at (651) 455-8634. For additional details and pricing visit the City's website at www.maplewoodmn.gov/cleanups.



State General Election: November 8, 2016

The State General Election will be conducted on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. The hours of voting in all polling places will be from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Voting Will Take Place At The Following Polling Places:

<u>Precinct</u>		<u>Address</u>
Precinct 1	St. Paul Hmong Alliance Church	1770 McMenemy St.
Precinct 2	St. Jerome's School	380 E. Roselawn Ave.
Precinct 3	Edgerton School	1929 Edgerton St.
Precinct 4	Maplewood Fire Station 2 (Gladstone)	1955 Clarence St.
Precinct 5	Gladstone Community Center	1945 Manton St.
Precinct 6	Redeeming Love Church	2425 White Bear Ave. N.
Precinct 7	First Evangelical Free Church	2696 Hazelwood St.
Precinct 8	Ramsey County Library	3025 Southlawn Dr.
Precinct 9	Maplewood Community Center	2100 White Bear Ave.
Precinct 10	Maplewood Community Center	2100 White Bear Ave.
Precinct 11	Maplewood Middle School	2410 Holloway Ave.
Precinct 12	Beaver Lake Lutheran Church	2280 Stillwater Ave.
Precinct 13	Gethsemane Lutheran Church	2410 Stillwater Rd.
Precinct 14	Carver School	2680 Upper Afton Rd.
Precinct 15	Lutheran Church of Peace	47 Century Ave. S.

To Be Eligible To Vote In Minnesota You Must:

- Be at least 18 years of age on Election Day
- Be a citizen of the United States
- Have resided in Minnesota for 20 days immediately preceding Election Day
- Have any felony conviction record discharged, expired or completed
- Not be under court-ordered guardianship where a court has revoked your voting rights
- Not have been ruled legally incompetent by a court of law

Absentee Voting:

Any voter may vote early by absentee ballot. You may submit your absentee ballot by mail or vote in person at City Hall located at 1830 County Road B East. Absentee voting will be available beginning September 23rd.

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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
 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 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.



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BY KAREN HAAG, CITIZEN SERVICES DIRECTOR karen.haag@maplewoodmn.gov

State General Election: November 8, 2016

How to Vote Absentee/Early by Mail:

First, you must submit a completed application to receive an absentee ballot. You can submit your application by mail, email, fax, or drop it off at City Hall located at 1830 County Road B East.

Absentee Ballot Applications are Available:

1. Online at www.maplewoodmn.gov and click on the elections icon on the front page and then follow the link to complete an absentee ballot application online.
2. You can print off an application and submit the paper absentee ballot application to the City by:

Mail: City of Maplewood/Elections
 1830 County Road B East
 Maplewood, MN 55109

Email: elections@maplewoodmn.gov

Fax: (651) 249-2957

3. If you do not have online access, the Elections Division can mail you an absentee ballot application. Please contact us at (651) 249-2008.

When your application has been processed, an absentee ballot packet will be mailed to you via First Class Mail. Once you complete your absentee ballot, you may mail your ballot back or drop it off at City Hall. If you are

mailing your ballot back to us, please ensure it is received no later than Tuesday, November 8th. If you are dropping off your ballot, or having someone else drop off your ballot for you, please make sure it is received at City Hall no later than 3:00 pm on Tuesday, November 8th, Election Day.

Absentee ballots cannot be dropped off at your precinct location.

City hall will be open for absentee voting during the following hours. Absentee voting for the Presidential Election will be held in the Council Chambers.

Date(s)	Open	Close
Weekdays, Sept 23 - Nov 4	8:00 am	4:30 pm
Saturday, Nov 5	10:00 am	3:00 pm
Monday, Nov 7	8:00 am	5:00 pm

Election results will be reported at the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.mn.us as results come in on November 8th. For additional information regarding the election and to find your polling place, visit the Elections page by clicking the "VOTE" icon on the front page at www.maplewoodmn.gov or by calling (651) 249-2000.



BY PAUL SCHNELL, POLICE CHIEF paul.schnell@maplewoodmn.gov

Recent Focus on Policing: Beyond the Badge

All of us, who serve as your police officers, swear an oath to serve this community and defend and protect the Constitutional Rights of its people. When we start, we are issued a badge, which literally and symbolically belongs to the people of the City of Maplewood.

While the badge weighs just a few ounces, there are times when the true weight of the badge is immense. We ask much of our police officers and we should. Even in small, safe communities like Maplewood, police work provides no shortage of conflict and human tragedy. Despite the periodic heaviness that comes with the wearing of this badge, the opportunity to make a difference is incredible. Within the past few weeks I received the email below, which is illustrative of both the opportunity to make a difference and the service focus of our officers. (I have made slight alterations to the note to protect the author's privacy, but the message is unchanged).

"I write to share a story. With all the negativity surrounding officers today I just wanted to share a story that changed my life in a positive light forever. It happened around Christmastime seven or eight years ago. I was a single dad, alone with 1, 4, and 5 year old daughters. I was struggling financially, and had no money and no food. Feeling desperate, I went into a local grocery store and attempted to steal bananas and milk for my kids. Not being a very good thief, I was caught by store staff and I ran off.

As luck would have it, they got my plate number because officers showed up to tow my car from my house – or so I thought. When the officer came to my door, I didn't answer because I was scared about what would happen to my kids. Fearing I was wanted, I found someone to watch my kids for the night, and called the police saying I wanted to figure this out. I was an emotional wreck.

I meet the officer (a current Maplewood police officer) that night and explained my story and broke down, I explained my situation and the reason I ran when caught stealing. I told the officer I felt ashamed that I resorted to theft, but I had no food or milk. The officer just listened and then took the time to acknowledge the difficult position I was in and encouraged me to stick with it, do the right thing and life would get better. The officer took a \$20 bill out of his own wallet and told me to get food for my kids.

The kindness of the officer itself could have been a good end to the story, but it wasn't. A few days before Christmas I received a card in the mail and opened it. Inside was \$120. The card was signed by the officer and his family wishing me and my kids a great Christmas.

Things could have fallen apart for me had he not done what he did. He changed my life. I had a positive outlook after that and my life slowly got better. My kids are now teens and I have full custody of them. In addition, I now own my own townhome in a nearby community. I often think back to my encounter with the officer as the turning point in my life. Over the years, I've left voicemail messages to thank him.

With all that is going on for police, I always think back to that moment and cry. Had this officer not had the kind heart he did, my life could have fallen apart and my kids and I wouldn't be where we are today. The officer is an amazing person. Maybe he doesn't know it, but he changed my life forever, and I will never forget him or his family."

So, what does this story have to do with the badge? The badge symbolizes a shield, which has historical significance. Shields date back to the 1200's and the days of the Knights of the Roundtable. The knight's shield served two purposes: it conveyed authority and clearly identified the knight who was empowered only to enforce the law for the protection of the people of the villages. Shields were always carried on the knight's left hand side. Today, the shield is worn on the left side of the uniform shirt. On it there is typically an affixed state seal, the City's name, the wearer's respective rank, and, and the officers badge number. Knights also knew their shield was a means of protection in that it signified the connection with other knights and most importantly, the people they serve and protect.

Even while the policing profession takes the needed steps to build trust and improve policing for the benefit of everyone we serve, I am reminded that it is necessary to look beyond the badge – at the people. I'm proud of our officers, and this story is just one of the reasons.



TIPS FOR A NOT SO SCARY NIGHT



It won't be long before smiling ghosts and goblins are knocking at your door. Police Chief Paul Schnell says with just a few steps Halloween can be a safe and memorable time for families.

"We know kids and families look forward to Halloween every year," the Chief adds. "Taking the time to remember just a handful of safety tips can make sure Halloween is a great day for everyone."

Preparing your Home for Trick or Treaters

- Make sure the walkway to your home is clear and that exterior lights are on so friendly little monsters can find their way to your doorbell.
- Report any dangerous or suspicious activity to 9-1-1.
- Do not give out homemade or unwrapped treats.

Be Safe Behind the Wheel

"On nights like Halloween, it's vital that motorists are cautious when they're on the road," Chief Schnell explains. "Children may quickly dash off a sidewalk or out from between parked cars so drivers really need to be distraction free behind the wheel."

Safe Costumes

- Wear costumes that are flame retardant to help prevent any unfortunate jack 'o lantern mishaps.
- Don't allow costumes that are too long because it could lead to trips and falls.
- Consider makeup instead of a mask. Masks can impair vision when your little ghouls are crossing the street.
- If the fabric on your child's spooky get-up is dark, put some reflective tape on it.

Happy Hauntings

"To help ensure a safe and happy Halloween, families really need only to take some simple common sense steps," the Chief notes.

- Make a pre-determined trick or treating route with a firm time limit.
- Older ghosts and goblins should trick or treat in groups. An adult should accompany smaller haunters.
- Try and trick or treat during daylight, but if that's not possible, make sure you have a working flashlight.
- Never go inside anyone's home.
- Don't accept a ride from a stranger.
- Be aware of traffic.
- Only cross the street at corners.
- Don't take shortcuts through yards, alleys, or parks.
- No snacking until an adult has checked all the treats.

"Our officers will be out in the community on Halloween," Chief Schnell says. "So stop and say hello. And most of them probably wouldn't say no to a piece of candy."

Preserving Historic Structures and Sites in Maplewood

Old places matter. They connect us to the past and provide beauty and a sense of community identity. Preserving and caring for historic buildings can conserve resources, reduce waste, and bring economic benefits. The City and its Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) encourage owners of historic buildings to consider nominating their site for one of the City's preservation programs.

Century Homes Program

Homes over 100 years old are eligible for the Century Homes Program. This program was initiated in 2003 and is being reinvigorated this year. There are over 125 homes in Maplewood over 100 years old. In October, owners of these homes will receive a letter inviting them to participate

in the Century Homes Program.

Local Designation

Maplewood's Local Designation Program recognizes sites and structures that are at least 50 years old and are historically or architecturally significant.



Maplewood home built in 1886

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BY DUWAYNE KONEWKO, PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR duwayne.konewko@maplewoodmn.gov

Maplewood, YMCA, Committed to a Stronger MCC

During the last three decades, the Maplewood Community Center (MCC) has become one of our city's true cornerstones. The MCC has helped our community's young people learn new sports and complete the perfect Mother's Day craft project. Older residents have used the MCC to maintain their fitness and forge new friendships.

The MCC has unquestionably been a positive force for our city and neighboring communities.

Yet a look at the MCC's future reveals serious challenges. The facility currently needs significant maintenance and improvements. The MCC also runs at an annual deficit of between \$250,000 and \$450,000.

With those realities in mind, the City has been in discussions with the YMCA for that well-known organization to take over all of the MCC's operations, minus the theatre. The YMCA has been running all of the MCC's aquatics programs for more than a year, so a potential expanded relationship would simply build on an already strong partnership.

If the agreement with the YMCA is approved, it will benefit the City and MCC members in a number of ways:

- The City and the YMCA will jointly fund a capital improvement fund.
- The YMCA will take full control of the facility's operational risk.
- Residents will be able to retain their access to special pricing and will also be able to upgrade their memberships to access YMCAs throughout the Twin Cities.
- Seniors who qualify for health insurance-funded memberships at the MCC will automatically gain access to YMCAs across the Twin Cities.

City leaders are also excited about expanding this partnership because it would mean money currently used to fund the MCC's operations and capital investments could instead be used to fund park improvements. We know our parks are one of the City's most valued features and we want to do all we can to help them grow and flourish for decades to come.



If the partnership with the YMCA comes to fruition, it will be a classic "win-win" for two reasons. First, the YMCA, with more than 150 years of experience, is better equipped than the City to run the MCC as a thriving, vibrant, and adaptable facility. With this new arrangement, MCC members would see their choice of programs and services increase under YMCA leadership.

Second, the partnership would allow the City to better fund its park system, which is vital to our mission of making Maplewood a desirable place to call home for both current and potential residents and businesses.

Both the City and the YMCA are excited about a potential MCC partnership. Residents can expect a final resolution soon and details will be shared on the City's website, social media platforms, and in future issues of Maplewood Living.

A Big Win for Victory



Jeff Matt, owner of Victory Auto Service & Glass

For Jeff Matt, integrity and ethics are everything. Matt, who owns Victory Auto Service & Glass on Rice Street, has focused on honesty and quality service since he opened his first Victory in 1997.

Thanks to his company's success and values, Matt

recently learned Victory has earned the prestigious 2016 International Torch Award for Ethics from the Better Business Bureau. The award is reserved for those businesses that have passed a rigorous examination that shows a clear commitment to best practices in character leadership and organizational ethics.

"We're very honored to have received this award from the Better Business Bureau," Matt says. "It confirms to us that our commitment to be fair, friendly, and ethical is important."

Headquartered in Fridley, Victory has shops in Brooklyn Park, Chanhassen, Fridley, Ham Lake, Maplewood, and St. Petersburg, Florida.

"In our company's culture, we've learned that integrity really is good business," Matt explains.

"Victory has been a great addition to our community," says Mayor Nora Slawik. "We're very pleased to see them earn this kind of recognition from the Better Business Bureau."



BY ELLIE PAULSETH, FINANCE DIRECTOR
ellen.paulseth@maplewoodmn.gov

City Sets Preliminary Levy

The Maplewood City Council adopted a 5 percent preliminary 2017 tax levy at its September 12 meeting.

The total levy of nearly \$21 million is preliminary until final adoption in December. While the City Council cannot increase the amount of the preliminary levy, it can decrease the amount before final adoption.

The property tax levy will fund the city's operations and obligations for the next year. New 2017 initiatives include:

- Police body and squad cameras and data storage.
- Revised Comprehensive Plan.
- Increased domestic violence prosecutions.
- Contract increases for public safety dispatching.
- Assessment of public safety facilities.
- Fire truck and fire equipment replacement.
- Reductions and eliminations of deficit fund balances.

City taxes account for about 28 percent of your tax bill. Your property tax bill also includes assessments from the county, school district, and special districts. Maplewood's 5 percent increase would have an impact of about \$28 per year for the average homeowner.

A public hearing on the levy will be held on Monday, December 12, at 7:00 pm in City Council Chambers located at 1830 County Road B East. Questions can be directed to Finance Director Ellie Paulseth via email at ellen.paulseth@maplewoodmn.gov or by calling (651) 249-2902.

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AT MAPLEWOOD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

Purchase Tickets Online At www.ashlandproductions.org



SEE YOUR FIREFIGHTERS IN ACTION

Sunday, October 9, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm **FREE EVENT!**

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 11:15 am

You are invited to a Grand Opening and Fire Safety Open House at the East Metro Public Safety Training Facility.

The Open House includes: demonstrations of the facility's burner buildings, a car fire, a kitchen fire, state of the art training techniques, and hands-only CPR training. This is a great event for children to explore what it's like to be a firefighter; they can even can spray an actual fire hose! Enjoy refreshments, games, and prizes.

The East Metro Public Safety Training Facility is located at 1881 Century Ave. N. in Maplewood (at the intersection of Hwy 120/Century Ave. and Washington County Road 14 (Old Hwy 5)).

Event organizers are Lake Elmo, Maplewood, North St. Paul, and Oakdale Fire Departments.



Energize Your Congregation! Energy Challenge



During the energy challenge representatives from Maplewood and the Neighborhood Energy Connection will offer fun and educational energy visits to your congregation

Participating congregations will earn points for their parishioners scheduling Home Energy Squad® visits between the dates of September 15 through December 15, 2016. The Home Energy Squad® visits will be offered to participants of the Energy Challenge for a discounted price of \$35 (normally \$70). At the end of the Energy Challenge the congregation with the most points will win a FREE party catered by the 5-8 Tavern and Grill including games, prizes, and a special appearance by TOLBY the energy-saving firefly.

For more details, or to sign up your congregation, visit www.maplewoodmn.gov/energizeyourcongregation or contact Stefan Schiltz, Energy Program Coordinator at (651) 249-2306 or Stefan.schiltz@maplewoodmn.gov.

Medicare Open Enrollment Is Here.

Learn how to get personalized coverage you can afford.

It's time to start thinking about your coverage for 2017. Attend a **FREE Medicare Workshop** and learn more about the range of affordable plan options from Medica.

Tues. Oct. 18th 7PM
N. St. Paul VFW
2483 7th Avenue E
N. St. Paul, MN 55109

Thurs. Nov. 10th, 7PM
N. St. Paul VFW
2483 7th Avenue E
N. St. Paul, MN 55109

Sat. Oct. 22nd 10:30 AM
Mahtomedi Library
763 Stillwater Road
Mahtomedi, MN 55115

Sat. Nov. 12th 10:30 AM
Mahtomedi Library
763 Stillwater Road
Mahtomedi, MN 55115

RSVP to 651-774-8759

8:30AM - 5:00PM
M-F



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Licensed Insurance Agent

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MEDICA

A sales person will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call 1-866-458-8835, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. CT, 7 days a week. TTY: 711.

Medica is a Cost plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Medica depends on contract renewal.

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City of Maplewood

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

Printed on 10% post consumer product.

- continued from page 4 **Preserving Historic Structures**

The goal of the local designation program is to preserve the historic integrity of buildings and sites while ensuring they continue to maintain functionality. The stories of these special sites help build our understanding of local history. The Bruentrup Heritage Farm is the only site currently on Maplewood’s Local Designation list. The HPC is working on designating a second site – Gladstone Savanna.

National Register

The Natural Register of Historic Places is a federal program that honors structures or sites that are at least 50 years old and have historic or architectural significance on the state or national level. The Ramsey County Poor House Barn is currently the only structure in Maplewood that has this designation. In Minnesota, this program is administered by the State Historic Preservation Office. But the City can apply

for grants to assist owners with the nomination process. For more information on these programs, visit Maplewoodmn.gov/history.



Ramsey County Poor Farm Barn



Bruentrup Heritage Farm

PREPARE TO BE YOUR BEST SELF...

MAPLEWOOD COMMUNITY CENTER MEMBERSHIP SPECIALS

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

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 WWW.MAPLEWOODCOMMUNITYCENTER.COM • 651-249-2230

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