

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

July 2017

Maplewood Seasons Inside!



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Building Abounds in Maplewood



Chick-fil-A will open soon on the north side of Maple Square on White Bear Ave.

Construction season is well on its way in Maplewood. As you travel around the city you will see many new exciting projects occurring throughout Maplewood. As new projects are proposed and proceed to the construction phase, the city's Environmental and Economic Development Department (EEDD) maintains individual webpages for each project so residents can check on the progress and review plans. These webpages can be found under the "Transforming Maplewood" section of the city's website at www.maplewoodmn.gov/tm. Below is a summary of the projects EEDD has been working on.

Right now site prep work is occurring for a new Chick-fil-a being built near the Maplewood Mall (3035 White Bear Ave.), a new retail building which replaces the North China restaurant (3070 White Bear Ave.), a new indoor storage facility (1315 Cope Ave.) and a new McDonald's building to replace its old one (1797 Cope Ave.).

Several projects have been under construction and are close to finishing up. This includes the new Rice Street Shoppes which will be anchored by Tim Horton's (2158 Rice St.), Metro Heating and Cooling taking over the former Handy Hitch building (2303 Atlantic St.), the 140,000 square foot Hazelwood Medical Office building (2945 Hazelwood St.), and Conifer Ridge; which is 150 units of market rate apartments (3080 Hazelwood St.)

Later this summer, work will begin on a new marine store (2000 Rice St.), a new Alzheimer's care facility (1700 Beam Ave.), an active senior apartment building within the Frost-English Village development (1957 English St.) and Porsche will be building a new dealership building just north of the existing Audi location (2450 Maplewood Dr.).



The McDonald's at 1795 Cope Ave. E. was torn down this spring and will re-open in the same location later this summer.

A few weeks ago, ALDI (3000 White Bear Ave.) held its grand opening. ALDI is occupying a long vacant portion of the Plaza 3000 building and without a doubt will add some excitement and activity to this part of the city while providing another quality grocer choice for Maplewood residents.

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



Gasoline Pipeline Spill in Maplewood

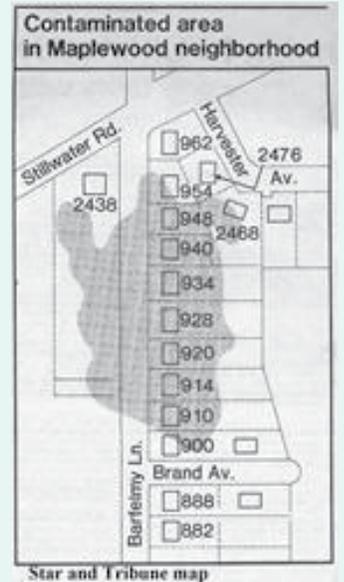
Cont. from the June, 2017 edition

Submitted by the Maplewood Area Historical Society

On the morning of July 11, 1981, Richard Koutek, of 934 Bartelmy, awoke to see gas bubbling up from his front yard. The East County Line Fire Department built a dike to keep it from flowing into the nearby Nature Center. Williams Brothers Pipe Line Company shut off the flow in the pipeline and began cleanup by drilling wells and vacuuming out the gasoline and water.

But the gasoline spread underground during the following months and the adjoining neighbors began noticing the smell and reporting headaches and nausea. By early fall, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency estimated there was still a two-foot layer of gasoline floating on top of the water table about 28 feet below ground in an area 900 feet long by 200 feet wide.

By July, 1982, Williams Brothers had drilled nearly 300 holes that were vacuumed daily, installed four 15-foot high venting systems to remove fumes from underground for 24 hours/day and drilled 28 permanent test wells.





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Maplewood Earns Accolades



Mayor Nora Slawik and Assistant City Manager Mike Funk hold the President's Award.

In 2016, several City of Maplewood employees participated in a racial equity cohort through the League of Minnesota Cities and the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE). The work City staff did with the cohort also fulfilled the City's mission to make racial equity a key component of its strategic plan, which helps guide the City's planning.

Currently, about 32 percent of Maplewood residents are people of color. Accordingly, the City is focused on building equity and inclusivity throughout the community.

That commitment and work was recently recognized by the League of Minnesota Cities. Each year, the League's outgoing President selects individuals and organizations for the President's Award. The honor is awarded to an organization or individual that exemplifies excellence in an area of importance to both the League and its member cities.

This year, President Rhonda Powell, the mayor of Northfield, chose to honor the 12 cities that participated in the racial equity cohort.

"I'm very pleased to see our staff, and the other communities, recognized by Mayor Powell," City Manager Melinda Coleman said. "This is a vital issue and one we're passionate about leading the way on."

The award is a large plaque listing the 12 racial equity cohorts that will be prominently displayed at the League of Minnesota Cities offices in St. Paul.

"Our staff has really done an outstanding job in the area of racial equity," Mayor Nora Slawik said. "This recognition from the League of Minnesota Cities shows that we've already taken solid steps, but are also committed to further action."

WOW EVENT

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

TOUCH - A - TRUCK

FIRE TRUCKS • POLICE CARS • BOUNCE CASTLE
KID CITY BOOTH • NATURE CENTER ACTIVITIES
GIANT CITY TRUCKS • 3M VISITING WIZARDS • & MUCH MORE!

JULY 26 • 6:00PM - 7:30PM

TOUCH-A-TRUCK WILL BE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

Families are invited to this FREE event to come and see "up close" some of the vehicles that come and go through your neighborhood. A wide variety of vehicles will be on display for you and your child to explore. Bring your camera!

Z Puppets Rosenschnoz will perform *Monkey Mind Pirates Family Yoga Party* at 6:30PM followed by fun on the Island of Calm. Get the whole family moving with this performance that mixes puppets, music and mindfulness for ages 2+.

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

WOW EVENT

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

CARNIVAL FUN & MOVIE NIGHT

ARTS & CRAFTS • DUNK TANK • BOUNCE CASTLE
CARNIVAL GAMES • NATURE CENTER ACTIVITIES
CRAZY HAIR STATION • KID CITY PERFORMANCE
3M VISITING WIZARDS & MUCH MORE!

Join us for some carnival fun in the park! There will be a dunk tank, carnival games, giant inflatables and more! Join us after the event for a movie in the park. We will be showing "The Jungle Book".

AUGUST 23 • 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

Emerald Ash Borer Confirmed in Maplewood



The Minnesota Department of Agriculture has confirmed a case of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) at Carver Elementary School on Upper Afton Road. This is the first official documentation of EAB in Maplewood.

EAB is a non-native beetle that causes widespread decline and death of ash trees. The larval stage of the beetle feeds on the

tissue between the ash tree's bark and sapwood, disrupting the transport of nutrients and water in a tree. If the infestation is high enough, the damage kills the tree. Millions of ash trees have been killed by EAB in eastern and Midwestern states.

Maplewood has about 2,038 ash trees on boulevards and in manicured park areas, making up about 21% of park and boulevard trees. There are many additional ash trees in natural areas and on private property.

The City's EAB plan, adopted in 2011, focuses on slowing the spread of the beetles. Strategies include: education, inventory, monitoring, removal, replanting, and firewood management.

Maplewood will host educational sessions this summer and fall to help residents identify ash trees and symptoms of EAB. Our city forester will do EAB inspections in late fall and winter, when signs and symptoms of EAB are easiest to see. And in late winter, the MDA will help the city survey ash trees within a mile of the infestation site to determine how wide-spread it is.

What should Maplewood homeowners do?

1. Learn about EAB. Review the information provided online on how to identify an ash tree and symptoms to look for (see links in the box to the right). Attend one of the educational sessions provided by the city this summer or fall.

2. Report ash with EAB symptoms. Keep an eye on the ash trees in your yard and neighborhood. If they have EAB signs or symptoms, contact Maplewood Public Works at (651) 249-2400 or contact the state's Arrest-The-Pest hotline (888) 545-6684, (Arrest.the.pest@state.mn.us). Be sure the tree is an ash and has one of the signs or symptoms listed in this article.

3. If desired, consider insecticide treatment. Ash trees with

less than 40% canopy decline may be candidates for insecticide injection. Before deciding to treat a tree, consider the environmental impacts of these chemicals, and be sure you're committed to repeating treatments every one to three years. The city does not currently allow for insecticide treatment of EAB on boulevard or park trees. If you wish to treat trees with EAB on private land, the city recommends hiring a licensed contractor to do the trunk injection method; the soil drenching method has increased environmental impacts.

Signs and Symptoms of EAB

There are many types of green beetles, and there are many diseases and conditions that cause decline in ash trees. To narrow down signs and symptoms to EAB, look for the following:

a. Is there a lot of woodpecker activity in the ash tree

(woodpeckers will feed on the beetles)?

b. Is there cracking bark or patches of bark falling off?

c. Are D-shaped holes and S-shaped galleries

visible where bark is cracked or missing? When we inspect for EAB, we do so after leaves have fallen and use binoculars to see if we can spot holes and galleries in patches exposed under the bark.



4. Remove infested ash trees in fall or winter. Ash trees should not be removed or pruned during the beetles' active stage, May through September. So, unless the tree becomes a hazard, do not remove it until October. The wood must be removed off-site and disposed of properly or may be chipped on-site into pieces less than 1" square.

5. Do not transport ash or firewood out of the metro area. The metro area is under a quarantine that prohibits moving parts of an ash tree, as well as all hardwood firewood, outside the quarantine area.

Upcoming Programs - EAB 101 for Homeowners

Join our city forester to learn ash tree identification, signs and systems of EAB, treatments and management. Two classes are offered, (Aug. 3 or Oct. 24) both cover the same material and will take place from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Maplewood Nature Center, 2659 E. 7th St. Call (651) 249-2170 to register.

EAB Resources for Residents

City EAB webpage: www.maplewoodmn.gov/EAB
Department of Agriculture webpage: www.mda.state.mn.us/emeraldashborer.

Maplewood Celebrates Opening of Tuj Lub Courts

A huge enthusiastic crowd ventured to Keller Regional Park on Saturday, June 10, to celebrate the grand opening of the state's first Tuj Lub courts. The picture perfect summer weather made for a beautiful backdrop as attendees participated in a blessing ceremony, dedication and ribbon cutting.

Sen. Fong Hawj, Rep. Leon Lillie, County Commissioner Victoria Reinhardt, Maplewood Mayor Nora Slawik, Maplewood City Councilmember Tou Xiong, and Hmong leaders Chao Her, Houa Vang, and Chia Chue, addressed the crowd and shared their enthusiasm for the project.

The traditional Hmong top spin game is exciting and challenging for both players and spectators. During the grand opening event, members of the Tuj Lub players club helped share the game's rules and strategies with those who had never played before.

Not only are Keller's Tuj Lub courts only the second ones in Minnesota, they're only the third courts constructed in the United States. The other courts are in Westminster, Colo. and St. Paul.

-continued on page 7



A large and enthusiastic crowd celebrated the Tuj Lub Court's grand opening.



The event included plenty of Tuj Lub demonstrations.

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Melvin Ashford, MD
Amy Kelly, MD
Andrea Brockberg, CNP
Rachel Snell, CNP
Torri Washington, CNM
Heather DeJarnett, CNM

Financial Audit of City for Year Ended December 31, 2016 is Complete



The City's external auditors, Bergan KDV, recently completed the annual audit of the City's financial records for the year ended Dec. 31, 2016.

Steve Wischmann,

Audit Partner with Bergan KDV, delivered the audit report to the City Council on June 12, 2017. The City had excellent financial performance in the 2016 fiscal year.

General Fund Revenues

General Fund revenues of \$18,398,339 were under the budget of \$18,556,730 by \$158,391 or 0.9%. General Fund Revenues consist of property taxes, licenses and permits, intergovernmental revenue, special assessments, charges for services, fines and forfeits, investment income, and miscellaneous revenue. Property taxes are 71% of total revenues in the General Fund.

General Fund Expenditures

General Fund expenditures of \$18,788,020 were under the budget of \$18,955,120 by \$167,100, or .88%. General Fund expenditures consist of police, fire, public works, parks and recreation, finance and administration, environment and economic development, and city council services. Police and fire expenditures made up 54.8% of the total expenditures in the General Fund. Public Works expenditures were 19.6% of total General Fund expenditures.

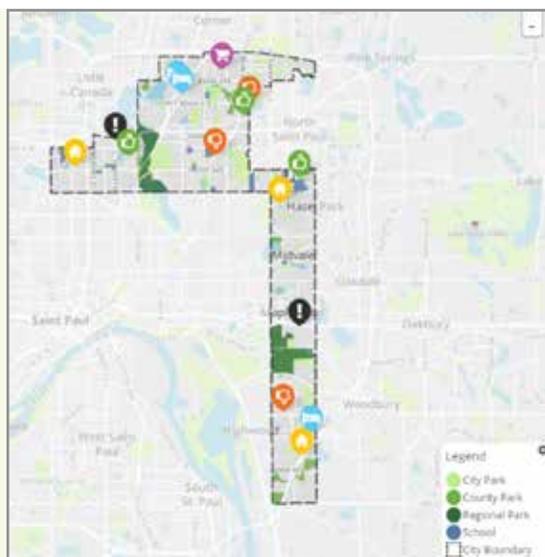
Fund Balance

The net effect resulted in a variance of \$8,709 from the budgeted amounts in fiscal year 2016. However, the City budgeted to utilize a small amount of fund balance for General Fund operations. The General Fund also received revenues from other financing sources, including planned transfers from other funds and proceeds from the sale of assets in the amount of \$299,057. Other financing uses in the General Fund included transfers to other funds in the amount of \$11,835. Total General Fund expenditures and other financing uses of \$18,799,855 exceeded total revenues and other financing sources of \$18,697,396, or \$102,459. This variance is approximately one-half of one percent of General Fund expenditures. Fund balance was reduced by this amount, resulting in an ending fund balance in the General Fund of \$7,604,070, or approximately 40% of General Fund expenditures. The City's policy recommends a fund balance of 40% in the General Fund to provide adequate cash flow between property tax settlements.

Link to the Full Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

The City submitted the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) to the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada for consideration of an award for excellence in financial reporting. The City has been receiving this award for many years. The CAFR for the Year Ended Dec 31, 2016 can be found on the City's website at:

www.maplewoodmn.gov/102/CAFR.



How Do I Get Involved in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update?

The City has begun work on its 2040 Comprehensive Plan. As part of the planning process, we have a fun new tool that allows you to share some of your thoughts about our community. Maplewood's interactive mapping website allows you identify areas of the City that you love and those you think need work moving forward, as well as leave comments about housing, parks, retail, and safety throughout the City.

You can weigh in on what you consider to be the strengths of the community, challenges that may need to be addressed, and opportunities that you think will make our community a better place in the future. Visit www.maplewoodmn.gov/shapeyourcity to get started!

Cont. from page 5 - Maplewood Celebrates Opening of Tuj Lub Courts

"I'm very proud of this project because it came about through the combined efforts of our City, Ramsey County, the Minnesota Tuj Lub community, and our legislative team," Slawik said.

Parks and Recreation Director DuWayne Konewko, noted the courts are a perfect fit for Maplewood.

"Our Parks and Recreation vision statement is, 'to help create a vibrant community that embraces diversity, celebrates arts and culture, values health and wellness, and promotes stewardship of the environment.' The Tuj Lub project embraces Maplewood's vision statement," Konewko added.

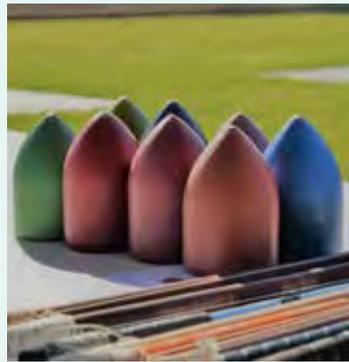
"The Tuj Lub project is another example of what makes Maplewood great," Slawik added.



Signs explain Tuj Lub's rules.



These Tuj Lub Courts are the second in Minnesota.



Tuj Lub tops are ready for action.



Mayor Nora Slawik tried her hand at the game.

NEW FALL SOCCER LEAGUE

PARTNERSHIP WITH NORTH EAST UNITED SOCCER CLUB

Maplewood Parks & Recreation is working with North East United Soccer Club (NEU) to offer a new recreational soccer league. In this introductory league, teams will have one practice and one game per week which is a great option for a busy family. Participants will have the opportunity to work with our local NEU Soccer Club. This partnership provides quality coaching to not only the kids but also the parent volunteer coaches for their teams.

AGES (DATE OF BIRTH RANGE)
BOYS U9/10 (2007 to 2008) • BOYS U11/12 (2005 to 2006)
GIRLS U9/10 (2007 to 2008) • GIRLS U11/12 (2005 to 2006)

LEAGUE DATES:
Register By August 2nd
 Practice Begins: August 21
 Games Dates: Saturdays Sep 9 - Oct 14
 Game Times: Between 9am-1pm

\$65.00/Person

MAPLEWOOD PARKS & RECREATION

PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS:

- Two coaching clinics available for parent volunteer coaches to attend led by NEU coaches
- A weekly scheduled practice time where NEU coaches are available to work with teams or answer questions
- NEU coaches at the field on game days to help coach, provide feedback and answer questions
- NEU has USSF and US National Youth Soccer licensed coaches

REGISTER ONLINE: MAPLEWOODMN.GOV OR CALL 651-249-2111

Benefiting Maplewood Parks & Recreation Youth Scholarship Fund

Maplewood Rec Run 3k/5k

Come run the Gateway Trail!
 At the Maplewood Community Center/YMCA Upper Lot.

Register by Sept. 20 to guarantee a shirt and child's award!

Saturday, September 30
9:00AM-10:00AM: Check-In & Pre-Race Activities

Fire Truck & Police Car Tours
 Temporary Tattoos • Crazy Hair
 Coloring Station • Yard Games
 Pre-race Stretch

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 encouraged to come as your favorite cartoon character or superhero!

Thank You Sponsors

How to Register:
 Online: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/maplewoodmn/Home>
 Phone: 651.249.2111 • In Person (8a-4:30p): 1902 County Rd B East

City of Maplewood

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Maplewood, MN 55109
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www.maplewoodmn.gov

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Crotty Answers the Call



On Friday, June 9, Lt. Kerry Crotty was sworn-in as interim director of public safety, replacing Paul Schnell, who retired the same day. In the search for Schnell's permanent replacement, the City has named three finalists:

- Wyoming, Minn. Public Safety Director Paul Hoppe
- Columbia Heights, Minn. Police Chief Scott Nadeau
- Maplewood Police Commander Michael Shortreed

Schnell's replacement is expected to begin work in late July.

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- Community solar
- Cost comparisons & available incentives
- Energy efficiency improvements
- Financing options

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