

# MAPLEWOOD LIVING

March 2018



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**Business Openings: Pg 6**

## MCC/YMCA on a strong financial track

By MCC/YMCA Staff

After years operating at a loss, the Maplewood Community Center (MCC) celebrated a strong 2017 with revenue ahead of operating expenses and more positive growth projected in 2018 thanks to a partnership with the YMCA.

Branch Director Kristin Reither highlighted the partnership's role in energizing the MCC in a February report to City Council. New programs include Basic Water Safety for Children, the Women's Resource Fair, New American Welcome Week, and Rise, a day program geared toward adults suffering from traumatic brain injuries. Reither also touted that the Maplewood branch experienced the region's fastest growth in Y memberships for 2017.

Through an infusion of capital from the City of Maplewood, they've completed \$900,000 in renovations and upgrades, including expanding the motion zone studio and fitness center, new fitness equipment, repairing the pool roof, and upgrading the HVAC. In 2018, the Y will renovate Maplewood Community Center's locker rooms, south entry and lobby, and upgrade the Kids Stuff experience.

Reither says in collaboration with the Y, the MCC remains a Maplewood-centric facility, with strong programming for the city's seniors, young people and families. She encourages potential members to tour the facility first and find the pricing plan that's right for them. Sliding scale pricing based on income has helped engage a wider community base and saved families nearly \$150,000 in 2017.



The city recently awarded its Community Contribution Award to the Maplewood YMCA.



The Maplewood YMCA is undergoing nearly \$1.5 million in renovations and upgrades.

## 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](http://www.maplewoodmn.gov) for the meeting schedule of the City Council, Commissions and Boards.

To advertise in this newsletter call Joe Sheeran at (651) 249-2061 or email [joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:joe.sheeran@maplewoodmn.gov).



## Join your Maplewood neighbors in a discussion to strengthen local democracy!

By Miriam Ziven, Grant Coordinator, Minnesota Community Assembly - Hamline University

At a time when the federal government and many state governments are polarized and often unable to act, local government is one of the only places where residents and community members still can have a meaningful voice.

Too often, residents and community members feel like their voices aren't being heard by decision-makers in Congress and in state legislatures. Join the movement for a more inclusive Minnesota.

Come together with members of your community to rethink local government, redefine what it means to be a citizen, and discuss how both can evolve for the betterment of the community.

Local government can be different.

The Minnesota Community Assembly in Maplewood is a series of community gatherings that spurs participants to rethink civic connections, imagine how local government might be designed for the 21st century, and rebuild government to listen, understand, and act.



At the end of the assembly, participants will have created policy recommendations, for both residents and elected officials, identifying opportunities for local government to better serve their community. The assembly will take place in a local Maplewood venue for two days over the course of one weekend.

If accepted to participate, each individual will receive \$300.00 upon full completion of the assembly.

Hamline University professor David Schultz, and The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, invite you to participate in the Minnesota Community Assembly.

All opinions, beliefs, and backgrounds are welcome.

Assembly Dates: April 27th and 28th, 2018  
APPLY NOW at <http://mnassembly.org/apply/maplewood.html>

Contact [hello@mnassembly.org](mailto:hello@mnassembly.org) or call 651 523-2180 for any questions in regards to the assembly you may have.

# Maplewood Police Department – Ever Evolving, Always Serving

By Kathleen Juenemann, Councilmember



It's hard to imagine the days when the Maplewood PD consisted of a constable and a few deputies. As Maplewood grew from a conglomeration of villages into an incorporated city by 1957 to today's fully developed suburb, city leaders have sought to change, refine and improve the system of services to meet the needs of a growing and diversified community.

This service evolution includes a professional public safety system, a full-service public works department, a business and environmental development department, and an envied park and trail system. It ensures the community maintains a high quality of life for everyone in a financially and operationally sustainable manner.

For example, Maplewood Police Department's 52 sworn officers wear body cameras and well-equipped duty belts. A professional civilian staff keeps them informed in the field with state-of-the-art records technology systems. Everyone, from those on the job a few weeks to the chief, have attended extensive, nation-leading training.

We can best understand and appreciate their dedication and level of service when we comprehend their mission, policies and plan of operation.

**21st Century Policing** – Long before former President Barack Obama commissioned a task force and released a report on best practices in 21st Century Policing to build community trust, transparency and legitimacy, Maplewood PD had established and was practicing many tenants of the final report's key pillars. New Public Safety Director Scott Nadeau is committed to building relationships with the community with programs such as Coffee with a Cop and outreach in our schools. The Maplewood Police department is committed to examining its records to ensure cultural bias isn't influencing enforcement. It's also striving to ensure training is relevant to what officers need to know in the field.

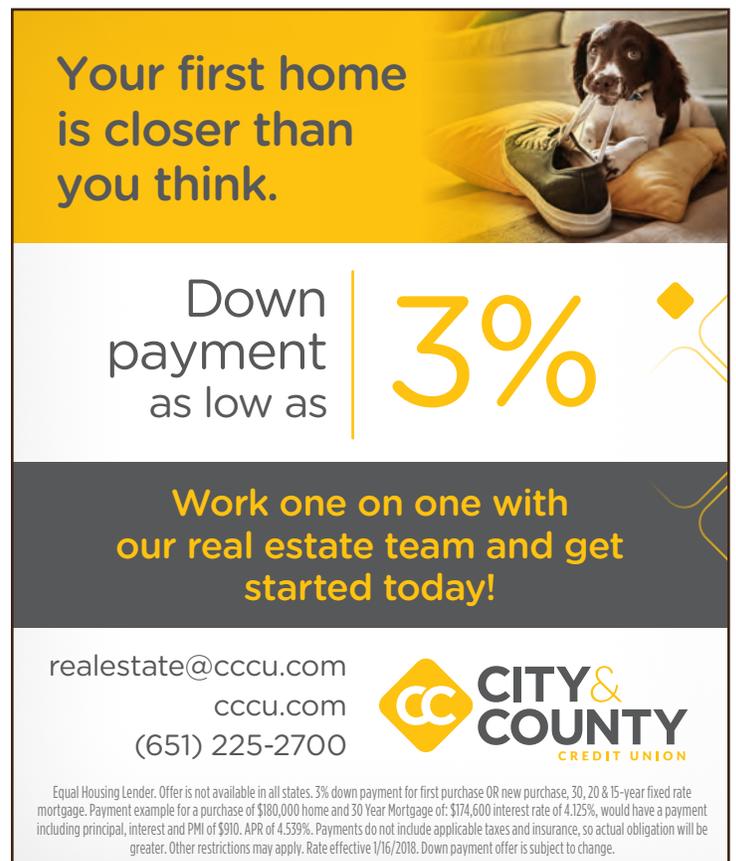
**Police Department Strategic Plan 2018** – The police department recently completed its first strategic plan to ensure officers and command staff are meeting community expectations and are accountable for carrying out the plan. It emphasizes community-oriented and problem solving policing, building community relationships, better utilizing technology and implementing a health and wellness guide

for officers' physical and mental fitness.

**Analysis of 2017 Enforcement Action** – Chief Nadeau recently released the department's first comprehensive enforcement action report. When looking at discretionary arrests (where officers have the option to take enforcement action) and demographics, it suggests that officers are not exhibiting bias in their enforcement. It also identifies key demographic changes and highlights certain disparities in non-discretionary enforcement (where officers are mandated by statute or department policy to take an enforcement action). This latter finding highlights broader societal factors that need further exploration.

**New Training Initiatives** – The department is working to ensure officers' training goes beyond the tactical mandates. One key training goal is to ensure officers are prepared for crisis intervention and de-escalation, especially when confronting someone struggling with mental illness.

To learn more about recent Maplewood Police Department goals, please visit their website. It is my hope that seeing this information will help us all to be aware of, and appreciate the dedication, values and accountability of the Maplewood Police Department.



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**American  
Red Cross**



## **BATTLE OF THE BADGES**

Respond to the call. **Give blood.**

### **Blood Drive**

## **City of Maplewood Maplewood Fire & Police Department**

**1955 Clarence St**

**Thursday, April 19, 2018  
1:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter:

**City of Maplewood** to schedule an appointment.

Contact Ching at (651) 249-2801 with questions.

All presenting donors will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 Target Gift Card!

Refreshments will be served.



[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | Download the Blood Donor App

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# The need to eradicate hunger lasts year round

Special to Maplewood Living from Samantha Soriano, Food Shelf Manager, Merrick Community Services

March is an important month for safety net agencies like Merrick Community Services, because it's when Minnesota's FoodShare campaign takes place.



Here's what your donations can do for someone in need:  
\$20 will purchase a box of fresh vegetables (potatoes, onions, carrots, etc.)  
\$50 will provide breakfasts for a child for a month  
\$100 will provide a family meals for a week

Volunteers needed. Merrick Food Shelf can always use volunteers year round to help with restocking, distribution, intake, data entry, etc. Volunteer shifts are flexible. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, contact Samantha Soriano at 651-287-2088 or ssoriano@merricks.org.

## Send Monetary Donations:

Online: [merrickcs.org/MarchFoodDrive](http://merrickcs.org/MarchFoodDrive)

Mail: 1669 Arcade St, Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55109

**FLOOR HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
AT EDGERTON COMMUNITY GYM

**Game Times:**  
K - 1st: 9AM or 10AM  
2nd - 3rd: 10AM or 11AM  
4th - 5th: 11AM or 12PM

**Cost: \$55.00**

**SATURDAYS, APRIL 7 - MAY 12**

**This league teaches the basic floor hockey skills and promotes cooperation and the value of sportsmanship. Participants will play every position during the season. Volunteer parents needed for each team to assist in game play and substitutions. For more information call 651-249-2121.**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 16**

**(Leagues are combined grades of K-1, 2-3, 4-5)**

The poster features a blue background with a floor hockey puck and a stick. The text is in bold, black, and white fonts. A registration deadline is highlighted in red.

# FOREVERWELL Presents: Coffee with a Cop

Officer Todd Langner & K-9 Kody will be joining us this month.



This dynamic team will be giving a brief presentation and Kody will show off his impressive obedience skills.

Time will be available to ask the officers questions.

**Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> • 10:30am**

**Maplewood Community Center • 2nd Floor**

**FREE Coffee and snacks provided**

On the second Wednesday of each month, Maplewood Public Safety personnel will come out to the Community Center at the YMCA to talk about a variety of topics important to seniors & our community.

*ForeverWell is the Maplewood Community Center's fitness and social program for people 55+ years of age*

# Sweat and soap prove healthy for Maplewood business development

By Environmental and Economic Development Department Staff

One of Maplewood's newest entrepreneurs saved money she earned as a nurse to finance her career transition. Cynthia Owusuansah recently parleyed her savings and loans to open Yahweh Laundry, 1727 Beam Avenue. It's a state-of-the-art laundry facility with high-end, credit card-operated machines, free Wi-Fi and televisions. Owusuansah hopes her drop off dry-cleaning and wash-and-fold laundry service will also attract busy medical professionals.

She chose Maplewood because of its business friendliness, proximity to a wide variety of shopping and potential supply of health care professionals as customers.

Across town in a newly developed strip mall at County Road B and Rice, Ashley Erickson hopes to keep East Metro community members fit at 9Round, a boxing-themed workout studio franchise. The Tartan High School graduate has a strong passion for helping people recover from long-term and chronic illness through guided physical activity.

She says Maplewood's Economic Development Department helped guide her through the process of opening a business and was impressed by their friendliness and re-



Cynthia Owusuansah (center) cuts the ribbon at her new laundromat.

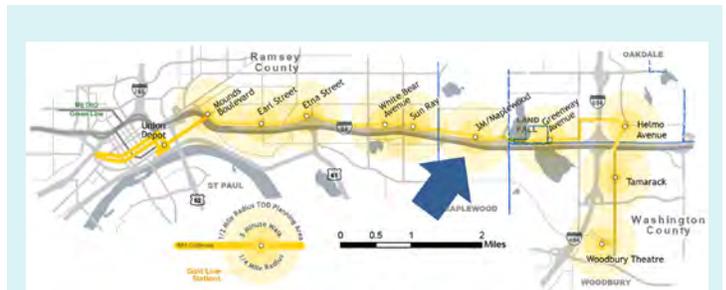
sponsiveness.

9Round joins Tim Horton's in a three-store complex that's an esthetically pleasing property helping boost Maplewood's commercial base. It replaces a gas station that was uprooted for County Road B renovations.

## Metro Gold Line

Important regional connections will be created with the planned METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). The bus line will provide frequent, all day transit service in a dedicated lane on I-94, running from St. Paul to Helmo Avenue in Oakdale and Bielenberg Drive in Woodbury. When it opens in 2024, Maplewood residents and businesses will be served by BRT stations at the 3M headquarters building, the Sun Ray Shopping Center in St. Paul, and at Greenway Avenue in Landfall.

The Phase 1 Gold Line public engagement process began last fall with input on opportunities and constraints, from which station area objectives were created. In late February, the Maplewood City Council launched the Phase 2 review of draft concepts for the 3M/Maplewood station area. Community members can see the same information and provide their feedback online through mid-April by visiting [www.thegatewaycorridor.com/station-area-planning](http://www.thegatewaycorridor.com/station-area-planning) or email [GatewayCorridor@co.washington.mn.us](mailto:GatewayCorridor@co.washington.mn.us). Look for additional details on a neighborhood meeting to discuss the station objectives later this spring.



### 3M/Maplewood Station Objectives

- Provide a safe and direct pedestrian and bike connection over I-94 to the station
- Maintain and enhance open space and trails
- Ensure safe walking and biking to the station, parks, and trails
- Manage traffic speed and congestion on busy streets

# Maplewood Receives Clean Energy Grant

It is an energizing start to 2018 for the City of Maplewood after receiving a \$7,500 Seed Grant from the Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs).



"We're very excited to learn about the grant award," said Shann Finwall, Environmental Planner.

Re-Energize Maplewood! is the first step toward Maplewood's Comprehensive Plan renewable energy goals and builds on the City's Energize Maplewood! energy action plan. The project will work with residents and businesses to follow up with past energy efficiency participants and provide solar information and resources to continue supporting the community's efforts toward clean energy. As part of that effort the top 30 solar sites for businesses will be identified. Those businesses will then be provided with site specific solar feasibility, benefits, and funding information along with efficiency services from the project partner EnergySmart. The City is also partnering with the Center for Energy and Environment to offer Home Energy Squad energy efficiency services to manufactured home communities.

A complete list of funded projects can be accessed at <http://mncerts.org/2018grants>.

# Save the Date! Maplewood Spring Clean Up

Saturday, April 21, 8 AM - 1 PM  
Aldrich Arena (1850 White Bear Avenue)

When you see the items that come in to Maplewood's Spring Clean Up drop-off site, you wonder where people stored this stuff on their property. In past years, we received an open box filled with asbestos, another person dropped off 10 televisions, and someone else had 16 mattresses in one trip. Somehow we were able to accept all these items at the clean up!

The Spring Clean Up provides Maplewood residents a way to dispose or recycle items that are not accepted in the regular trash service. Items accepted include appliances, electronics, bulky metals, tires, furniture (including mattresses), carpet, bicycles, and household hazardous waste. Residents can bring sensitive documents (bank and credit card statements, medical records, etc.) and have the documents shredded for free. Residents are encouraged to bring a food or cash donation to support Second Harvest Heartland, a local food shelf. For a full list of items accepted and fees, visit the City of Maplewood's website at [www.maplewoodmn.gov/cleanups](http://www.maplewoodmn.gov/cleanups) or contact Chris Swanson, Environmental Specialist, at (651) 249-2305 or [chris.swanson@maplewoodmn.gov](mailto:chris.swanson@maplewoodmn.gov).

## Easter Egg Hunt

Ages 3-8 • At Edgerton Community Gym • 1929 Edgerton St  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 31**

**PREHUNT ACTIVITIES • 10:00AM HUNT: AGES 3-5 • 11:00AM AGES 6-8 • 11:30AM**

Mark your calendars for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! We will start our morning off with breakfast treats, colorful crafts and a visit from the Easter Bunny - then its happy hunting! Children will be divided into two age groups and will be hunting for wrapped candy and plastic eggs, some of which may be redeemed for great prizes. Bags of goodies will be available for children under 2 years of age. Don't forget your camera! In the event of inclement weather, treat bags will be given away at 11:00AM at the Edgerton Community Gym.

**COST IS \$5.00 PER CHILD**  
**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**



**How do I register?**  
By Phone: 651.249.2111  
Online: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/maplewoodmn/Home>  
In Person: Maplewood Parks & Rec • 1902 County Road B East

**MAPLEWOOD PARKS & RECREATION**  
Serving the Community Through Parks, Programs and People



## Bunny Breakfast & Egg Hunt

at the  
Bruentrup Heritage Farm  
2170 EAST COUNTY ROAD D,  
MAPLEWOOD

**Sun. March 25, 2018**  
**Hourly, 9:00am - 12:00pm**

**FULL BREAKFAST, COSTUMED CHARACTERS, AND EGG HUNT**

Tickets \$10, kids 3 & under \$2  
online at: [MaplewoodHistoricalSociety.org](http://MaplewoodHistoricalSociety.org)  
select- "Event Tickets & Merchandise"

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## City of Maplewood

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## Smartphone Birding by Sharon Stiteler

(For Adults and Children 12+)  
Maplewood Community Center  
Tuesday, March 6, 7:00PM – 8:15PM

This program gives you the latest information on how to maximize your phone for birding. Free! Preregister by Monday, March 5th at [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com) or call 651-249-2170. Program sponsored by the Friends of Maplewood Nature.

## Hike by the blue moon's light

(Adults And Children 7+ With Adult)  
Maplewood Nature Center  
Blue Moon Friday March 30, 7:00-8:30PM

Peer through a scope to get a grand look at the moon if the skies are clear, but we'll hike whether clear or cloudy! \$5 per person; register by 2 days prior. Small scout groups are also welcome. Register at [www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com](http://www.maplewoodnaturecenter.com), or call 651-249-2170.

# Youth Baseball

Various Fields in Maplewood, Roseville and Little Canada

**Registration deadline is March 21**

Maplewood Parks & Rec is offering baseball for boys and girls in grades 2-5 with teams from Roseville and Little Canada. These leagues are recreational and instructional with the goal of ensuring that the kids have fun while improving their baseball skills.

**Included with registration:** team shirt and hat; each team will have some bats and batting helmets.  
**Player equipment needed:** fielder's glove, protective cup, (optional: batting gloves, rubber baseball cleats, personal batting helmet).

\*Both leagues will need volunteer coaches for their teams. If interested in volunteer coaching, please indicate so during the registration process or contact the League Director at 651-249-2204\*

**Practices:** start mid/late April (weather permitting)  
**Games:** start late April - early July

**C League:** for current 2nd and 3rd graders, utilizes pitching machines to induce more playable balls in the field and to develop player batting skills.  
**Games:** Mondays & Wednesdays at 6:15PM **Cost:** \$90

**B League:** for current 4th and 5th graders, an introduction to kid-pitch baseball. All kids, once they have established the ability to hit the strike zone, will have an opportunity to pitch if they choose to do so.  
**Games:** Tuesdays & Thursdays at 6:15PM **Cost:** \$100

**How To Register:**  
In Person: Maplewood Parks & Rec: 1902 County Road B East.  
By Phone: 651.249.2111  
Online: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/Maplewoodmn/Home>



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