CITY'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

MAPLEWOOD LIVING

AUGUST 2018

BANNER PHOTO:
Maplewood Area Historical Society celebrates its new membership with the White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce.

Maplewood City Manager Melinda Coleman and Councilmember Marylee Abrams helped commemorate the occasion.

In This Issue

3 Distinguished Budget Award

3 Election Information

4 20th Century Shopping Centers

5 New One Seat Ride to MOA

5 GreenStep City Award

6 Touch a Truck Review

6 Eastside Tradition a Success

7 Buckthorn Pick-up Date Set

Modern uses for 20th century shopping centers

By Michael Martin, Economic Development Coordinator

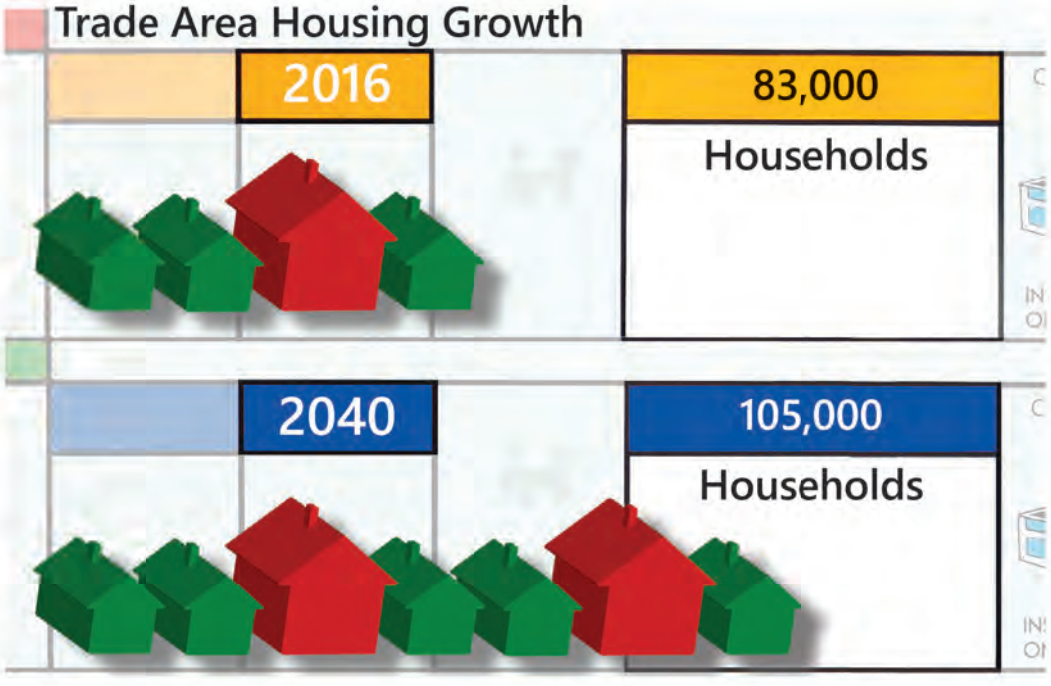
When a shopping center loses big name stores like Sears and Toys R Us, it could spell doom.

However, we don't think that's the case for the Maplewood Mall area because the City of Maplewood has been planning for a redevelopment trend that will transform our North End retail center into a multi-use district that features a mix of entertainment, dining, housing, health care and public services.

Considering Health East's continued investment in the area, combined with the newly built Conifer Ridge apartments, interest from hotel developers, and the soon-to-be Rush Line bus rapid transit, the North End is positioned for strong mixed-use development.

The City is currently working with our private sector partners and planning and design firm Perkins+Will to study the area's market conditions to better determine what's driving changes in the area and provide data for more informed decisions.

The firm's preliminary report suggests the North End is "a very important activity node in the northeast metro," which includes a set of potential users that's expected to grow by 32,000 over the next 25 years to 253,000. That's about 22,000 more households in the eastern Ramsey and central Washington county region. | continued page 4



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

To advertise in this newsletter call Joe Sheeran at (651) 249-2061 or email joe.sheeran@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.

Outside groups recognize Maplewood's smart fiscal management

Melinda Coleman, City Manager

It's a complex, tedious job and one of the most important functions of local governments. Yet, a city's finance department generally operates in anonymity—unless there's a crisis.

Maplewood's Finance Department deserves to take the spotlight for its stellar fiscal management in recent years. The department has just received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The honor recognizes Maplewood's outstanding work in meeting nationally recognized guidelines that ensure the city's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device. In addition, the Department consistently receives the GFOA's Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

In June, an independent auditing firm gave Maplewood its highest opinion after an exhaustive review of the city's financial records, finding no record keeping errors or irregularities.

Earlier this year, S&P Global, Maplewood's bond ratings agency, affirmed the City's AA+ rating with a stable outlook, ensuring our taxpayers are getting some of the best rates on the market when the city borrows for major construction and street repair projects. S&P also upgraded Maplewood's financial management assessment from good to strong due, in part, to the city's monthly monitoring of budget-to-actual performance, its 10-year financial forecast, and a formal debt management policy that's more restrictive than state law allows.

Our City Council in conjunction with the Finance and Public Works departments are also embarking on a plan to reduce long-term debt for street repairs by adopting more of pay-as-you-go approach through our gas and electric franchise fee.

As we begin crafting the 2019 budget, we're confident our finance department will continue its trend of strong fiscal stewardship.

PHOTO CAPTION: Meet the finance team (from left to right) Ellen Paulseth, Finance Director, Joe Rueb, Assistant Finance Director, Brenda Oswald, Payroll Technician, Carole Anderson, Accountant, Judy De Bilzan, Accounting Technician

Primary Election August 14, 2018

The State Primary Election will be conducted on August 14, 2018. Two councilmember positions will be included on the ballot for Maplewood. The four candidates receiving the most votes will advance to the November General Election.

The following individuals are on the ballot:

Marylee Abrams
Kevin Berglund
Tyler Hamilton
Kathleen A. "Kathy" Juenemann
Nikki Villavicencio

Learn more about the candidates at: maplewoodmn.gov/93/Candidate-Information.

There are many options for voting – choose the one that suits you and cast your ballot!

Voting on Election Day?

Some precincts and polling locations have changed. Watch for your voter registration card to confirm your polling location. You can also find your polling place by visiting the Secretary of State website at pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/.

Early/Absentee Voting

Early Voting: Primary Election: August 7 - 13

Ramsey County residents may vote at the most convenient location in the county, regardless of where you live! *Note the Maplewood location has been moved from City Hall to the Ramsey County Library (3025 Southlawn Drive, Maplewood).*

Visit Ramsey County's Election website for a map of early voting locations, dates and times.

Vote In-Person Absentee: Maplewood residents can cast an absentee ballot in-person at Maplewood City Hall, 1830 County Road B East.

- For the Primary Election from June 29 - August 13, voting hours are M - F from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Extended hours on Saturday, August 11 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Monday, August 13 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Information on how to vote early or by absentee is available on the City's website at maplewoodmn.gov/651/Absentee-Voting or by calling City Hall at 651-249-2000.

Modern uses for 20th century shopping centers

continued from page one

This population growth in what's already a tight housing market will fuel building demand. With Perkins and Will's study showing people want to live in centers offering a diverse mix of activity, the North End is positioned to accommodate new housing units.

Another advantage for the area, the study finds, is that health care will continue driving employment, housing, office space and even retail.

This set of factors along with the Rush Line should attract developers, says Perkins+Will.

Some North End drawbacks that could put other metro shopping districts higher on developers' lists include, fewer high income households, fewer total households and higher retail vacancy rates. The Perkins+Will team says these aren't deal breakers, but mean the City will have to demonstrate our commitment to being a strong partner through planning and infrastructural investments.

This is just the beginning. Over the next several weeks, Maplewood will finalize its market report, embark on a larger planning study for the area, continue coordinating with Rush Line development and build an interactive community engagement strategy to ensure all voices and stakeholders have a say in the area's future.

Despite dooms day predictions for 20th century retailing's demise, it's refreshing to see the North End has the assets to capitalize on the 21st century's demands for more integrated living, playing, working, and shopping activity centers

NORTH END KICK-OFF OPEN HOUSE

August 21

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Ramsey County Library, Maplewood
3025 Southlawn Drive

Local residents are invited to learn about the North End Vision process and hear an update on the Rush Line developments.

More Living.
Less Compromise.

Open a City & County MasterCard® Credit Card and you'll receive:

1.99% APR

Intro Rate on all purchases & balance transfers
Now - September 30th!

APPLY TODAY!

CCCU.COM
651-225-2700

CITY & COUNTY CREDIT UNION

APR=Annual Percentage Rate. 1.99% APR promotional rate may apply to purchases and balance transfers. For new accounts opened from 6/15/18 to 9/30/18. The purchases and balance transfer must occur between 6/15/18 to 12/29/18 to qualify. The rate will be 1.99% APR through July 4, 2019 billing cycle, at which time it will revert back to standard rate. Lowest standard rate as of 6/15/18 is currently as low as 9.99% and is 17.99% APR, depending on creditworthiness and credit card chosen. Cash advance fee is 3% or $2.00 minimum. Foreign transaction fee is 2% on each transaction in U.S. dollars. See MasterCard Credit Card Terms and Conditions for complete details. Rates may vary following termination. Not all terms are presently available. Excludes Business Credit Cards.

New one-seat ride from Maplewood to Mall of America

Now folks in Maplewood can go directly to the airport or Mall of America from Maplewood and points on White Bear Ave thanks to Metro Transit's newly configured Route 54 - with faster service between Downtown Saint Paul and the Maplewood Mall Transit Center.

The new route extension cuts down on the need for transfers in downtown St. Paul and saves time on your way to the airport and back. The line now also runs every 20 minutes during rush hours and every 30 minutes during off-peak hours. Mayor Nora Slawik joined St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter and other regional leaders, including our City Manager Melinda Coleman, not pictured, to celebrate the new route.

Learn more about the route at metrotransit.org/route-54.

Maplewood recognized for being top level GreenStep City

For the second-consecutive year, GreenStep Cities—a Minnesota Pollution Control program—awarded Maplewood for meeting its Step 5 goals, the program's highest level.

"This recognition shows community members and other cities across Minnesota that the City of Maplewood is taking great steps in the direction of energy and resource conservation and innovation," said Shann Finwall, who serves as the GreenStep program lead with Maplewood.

Minnesota GreenStep Cities is a challenge, assistance, and recognition program. As one of 122 participating cities and tribal nations, the City of Maplewood is helping to lead the way in sustainability across the state of Minnesota. Maplewood has worked hard to implement best practices in order to fulfill their sustainability goals. Actions that are taken within the program focus on cost savings, energy use reduction, resource conservation, and the encouragement of civic innovation. You can learn more about Maplewood's efforts at mngreenstep.org.

Getting in touch with the community at Touch-a-Truck event

By Audra Robbins, Parks & Recreation Manager

Fifteen minutes before the touch-a-truck event gates even opened, a line had been forming. Families continued streaming in throughout the night. When it was over, the fire department reports grilling and serving more than 700 hot dogs. A few booths over, GOGO Squeeze gave out hundreds of free snacks.

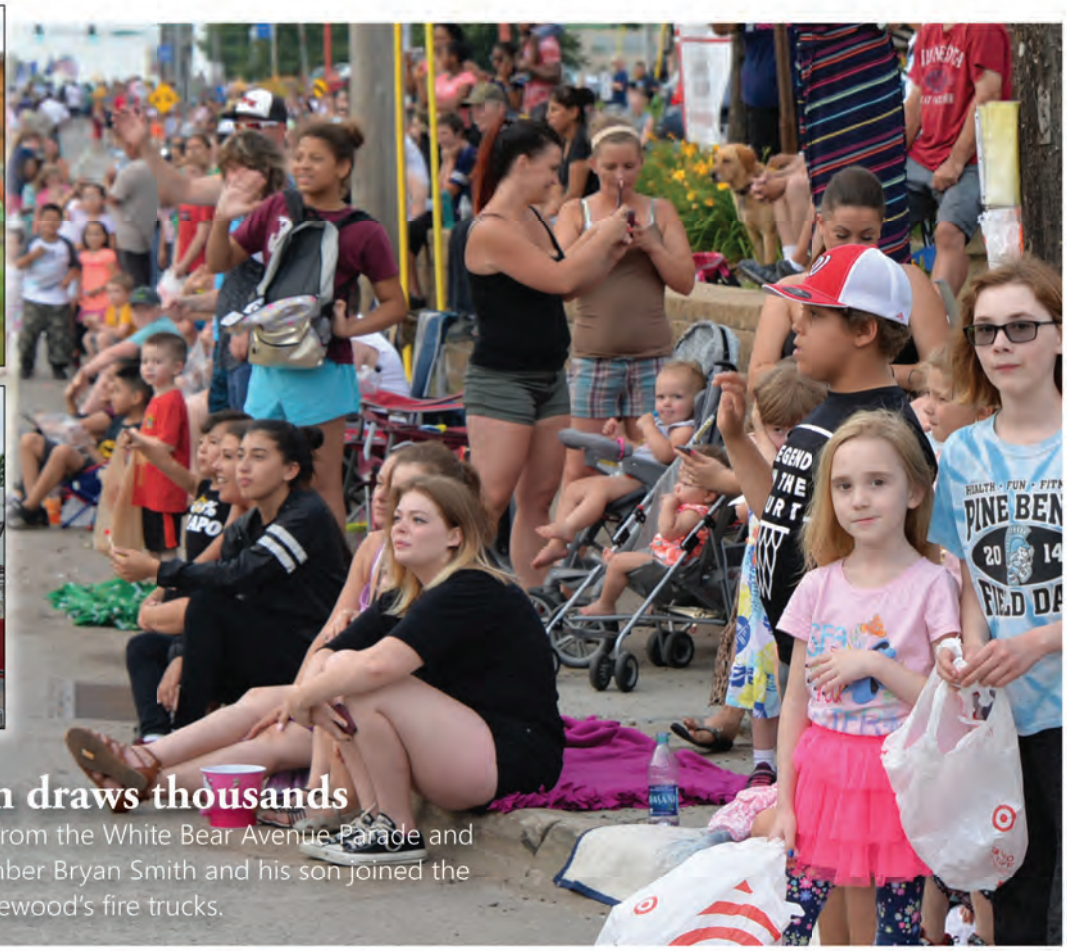
Attendees had overwhelmingly positive feedback at the event and on social media, specifically that it was awesome to see so many different facets of the City all in one place. *"Great event! We had a blast with our community!"* read one response.

Kids loved all of the activities and getting a chance to climb on rigs from Public Works, the Police and Fire Departments, our garbage and recycling haulers and many others.

The bounce house, games, crazy hair/tattoo and face painting stations, manned by the Parks and Recreation and YMCA staff, were also a big hit. Thanks to the Nature Center, Ramsey County Public Health and 3M who all offered interactive educational exhibits. Our Fire Department offered hands-only CPR demonstrations and families got a chance to see the Police K9 unit up close.

KID CITY'S puppet project and live performance of "A La Carte" was definitely a crowd pleaser! Minion and Wonder Woman from Pretty Awesome Appearances posed for countless photos with kids and grownups.

We'd like to give a special thanks to all city staff and partners at the MCC/YMCA who helped make the event a success and we appreciate all of our community members who took a few hours to get to know more about the City and each other.



An Eastside tradition draws thousands

Here are a few of the highlights from the White Bear Avenue Parade and Ramsey County Fair. Councilmember Bryan Smith and his son joined the festivities from atop one of Maplewood's fire trucks.

Maplewood offering FREE buckthorn pick up

By Carole Gernes, Naturalist Maplewood Nature Center

Maplewood will pick up buckthorn at select curbsides the week of October 29th. This free curbside service is available to those residents who've removed enough buckthorn to fill more than a large pickup truck.

Don't have enough buckthorn? Recruit your neighbors and we'll include your block. (No other trees or shrubs will be picked up.)

Register by 3:00 pm, Thursday, October 25 - maplewoodnaturecenter.com or call 651-249-2170

You will receive a confirmation with stacking and other instructions. No early or late pick-ups.

If you don't have enough buckthorn or removed it after the deadline, bring it to a Ramsey County Compost site that accepts brush.

Buckthorn is an aggressive, invasive shrub that prevents native plant species from growing. We encourage residents to remove it. Unlike native shrubs, it retains green leaves late into the fall, long after other leaves have turned color or fallen. This is the easiest way to identify buckthorn and the best time for removal to ensure you don't take out beneficial shrubs.

FREE buckthorn identification and removal demonstration

Saturday, September 8th 10am – noon
Applewood Park, 822 Sterling Street South

Lean how to:

- Distinguish buckthorn from beneficial look-alikes;
- safely use buckthorn herbicides;
- ensure native species, not weeds, re-grow after removal.

You can try out your new skills by cutting and treating buckthorn to earn a Buckthorn Blaster to take home! Registration is required by Wednesday, September 5th maplewoodnaturecenter.com or call 651-249-2170.

Participants must wear personal protection equipment: long pants, long-sleeved shirt, shoes plus long socks, and chemical resistant gloves. (Only butyl rubber, nitrile rubber, neoprene rubber or viton. No cloth, leather or household latex.) We will supply eye protection.

For more information, including identification and removal tips, visit the city's Buckthorn Management page.

MAPLEWOOD BUCKTHORN HERBICIDE COUPON

Join the City's effort to manage buckthorn in Maplewood. To help with this community environmental issue, these businesses are offering Maplewood residents a discount on buckthorn herbicide products. We recommend Triclopyr products at 8% or 8.8% if treating before **September 1**. Use water-safe formulations for use within 10 feet of water, wet areas or storm drains.

Bachman's 25% OFF!

Bonide® Stump-Out Vine and Stump Killer (8.8% Triclopyr)
2600 White Bear Avenue • Maplewood, MN • 651-770-0531

Gertens 25% OFF! Promo Code: MW

Bonide® Brush and Stump Killer (8% Triclopyr)
Ferti-lome© Brush Killer and Stump Killer (8% Triclopyr)
Hi Yield KillZAll® (41% Glyphosate)

5500 Blaine Avenue • Inver Grove Heights, MN • (651) 450-1501

Coupon good 9/1/18 – 10/15/18

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

MAPLEWOOD PARKS & RECREATION
Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs

City of Maplewood
1830 County Road B East
Maplewood, MN 55109
Phone: (651) 249-2000
www.maplewoodmn.gov

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

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Upcoming Events

August 7	**National Night Out** (Various Locations/times)
August 10	**Phenology Walk** 9:00 - 10:30 AM (Nature Center)
August 11	**Super Spiders** 10:00 - 11:30 AM (Nature Center)
August 14	**Movie Night at the Farm** - Coco Event starts 5:30 PM, movie at 6:30 PM (Bruentrup Farm)
August 18	**Magnificent Monarchs** 1:00 - 2:30 PM (Nature Center)
August 22	**Celebrate Summer Event & KID City Laugh-In** 6 - 7:30 PM (Edgerton Park)
August 25	**S'More Fun in the Sun** Learning about solar power 1:00 - 3:00 PM (Nature Center)
September 29	**Maplewood Rec Run 3K/5K,** (MCC/YMCA Lot) Check-in: 9 AM

Go to **MaplewoodMN.gov**. Our frontpage calendar has details on these events and more.

FREE FAMILY EVENT
JOIN US FOR OUR FINAL
CELEBRATE SUMMER GET-TOGETHER
AND 3RD ANNUAL KID CITY LAUGH-IN

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22
6:00PM - 7:30PM
EDGERTON PARK

- GAMES
- INFLATABLES
- KID CITY LAUGH-IN
- 3M VISITING WIZARDS
- NATURE CENTER ACTIVITIES
- FREE HOT DOG, CHIPS, WATER
- & MUCH MORE!!

ACCEPTING FOOD SHELF DONATIONS:

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS

MAPLEWOOD PARKS & RECREATION

GoGo Squeez

CITY OF MAPLEWOOD KID CITY

Attention Residents of Beaver Lake and Rolling Hills Manufactured Home Parks

Who doesn't like a little competition? Join your neighbors for the Battle of the Parks energy contest, a friendly energy efficiency competition between Beaver Lake Estates and Rolling Hills Estates. As part of the contest, Home Energy Squad visits are only $20 or free for income qualified households. From June 1 until the end of August, the parks will battle for the highest number of scheduled Home Energy Squad visits. The winning park receives a FREE neighborhood party with food and events. Schedule your visit today! Call 651-328-6220 and mention the passcode "Battle of the Parks."