

Golden Valley 2004

CITYNEWS

Envision Continues Building Community

The end and the beginning of *Envision Golden Valley* came together February 23, when more than 250 people filled the ballroom of the Golden Valley Country Club with their thoughts about how Golden Valley should be in 10 to 20 years. The *Envision Summit* was the final step in the idea-gathering phase of a citizen-led initiative to create a vision for Golden Valley's future. But that's just the beginning. *Envision* volunteers hope the ending will bring Golden Valley residents, businesses, schools, nonprofits, and local government forward to make that vision a reality.

For the past year, 88 citizen volunteers worked with City staff to develop opportunities for all community members to share ideas and views about the future of the place where they live, work, and play. The result is a three-phase process that includes gathering ideas; grouping, connecting, and prioritizing those ideas; and presenting a summary of grouped ideas to the community. As part of their vision for the community, *Envision* volunteers have done everything from the conceptual to the nitty-gritty. They directed and served on development committees, planned and implemented events, created publicity and electronic survey tools, facilitated meetings, solicited donations of goods and services, and created an ambiance that generated creative ideas. Thanks to all who helped (see pages 6 and 7 for details).

More than 600 people participated in the idea-gathering phase, which included *Envision Online* (an Web-based electronic survey), *Envision-In-A-Box* (small group brainstorming meetings run by facilitators), and the *Envision Summit* (large-scale gathering where facilitators led small groups in brainstorming). Participants ranged from individuals and neighborhood groups to business, social, and civic groups.

Currently, around 25 new and former volunteers are working in small teams to group and connect the ideas gathered in each of the six categories (transportation, development, recreation, environment, community engagement, and government). For example, the Recreation Category Team recently spent an evening grouping 495 unique ideas submitted. An *Envision Report Team* will then use category groupings to develop succinct vision statements that capture the spirit of the community's aspirations. The *Envision Steering Committee* hopes to present a final report to the City Council in July.

Questions? Contact Jeanne Andre at 763-593-8014. 



GOLDEN
VALLEY
DAYS
art & music festival

Saturday, May 22, 2004
City Hall Campus
(under the Water Tower)
Starting at 10 am

An old tradition returns to Golden Valley May 22 with a new twist. Golden Valley Days is back, but this time as a community art and music festival presented by the Golden Valley Community Events Fund (GVCEF), a new non-profit community foundation organized by Golden Valley residents.

While artists show and sell their work, various types of music will entertain throughout the day. Food stalls and games for kids round out the activities, and merchants at the three Winnetka Ave shopping centers will offer special sales and events.

For more information, call Co-Chairs Don Keysser (612-710-0995) and Luke Weisberg (612-201-9130), or go to www.GoldenValleyFund.org.

IN THIS ISSUE

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 2

VIEWS of the Valley PHOTO CONTEST SEEKS ENTRIES|2

BRUSH PICK-UP SET TO BEGIN MAY 3|4

FEATURE ARTICLE 6-7|GV THANKS ENVISION COMMUNITY BUILDERS

JUVENILE ALCOHOL USE IS A COMMUNITY CONCERN|8

AS WINTER FADES, CITY SWEEPS|10

3|WATER FAIR FOCUSES ON KEY ISSUES

5|IS YOUR SUMP PUMP COSTING YOU \$\$\$?

9|FIRE DEPARTMENT SEEKS COMMUNITY HEROES

11|CITY COUNCIL SIMPLIFIES SETBACK REQUIREMENTS

RULES

- You must be a Golden Valley resident.
- Submit each photo in one of three categories:
 - **Natural Golden Valley** (landscapes, flora, fauna, etc)
 - **Golden Valley Lifestyle** (cityscapes, buildings, people, activities, etc)
 - **Enhanced** (photos significantly altered by editing software, lenses, etc). On the entry form, explain what alterations were made to each enhanced photo.
- Submit up to three color or black-and-white photo finish prints.
 - Do not submit slides, photocopies or prints that aren't on photo-quality paper.
 - Digital files must be accompanied by a print on photo-quality paper.
 - All photos must be trimmed to 5x7.
 - Do not mat or frame photos.
 - Include complete entry information for each photo (see form). Be sure to indicate the category.
- All entries submitted must be your own work.
- All decisions will be final, and judges reserve the right not to award in any category.
- The City of Golden Valley will not be responsible for lost entries.
- The contest organizers reserve the right to re-categorize or disqualify any entrant.
- If there are identifiable people in the photo and it was taken in a non-public space, it is the responsibility of the photographer to obtain permission to use the photo.
- **Deadline is June 7, 2004, 4:30 pm.**

2004 Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Age (if under 18) _____

Category

- Natural Golden Valley
 Golden Valley Lifestyle
 Enhanced*

Title of Photo _____

*Enhancement Explanation _____

I agree to let the City of Golden Valley publish my photo(s) in City publications with proper credit.

Signature _____

All photo entries become the property of the City of Golden Valley and will not be returned.

Click and Enter Views of the Valley Photo Contest

For the past 11 years, Golden Valley residents have enthusiastically documented neighborhood nature areas, parks, public spaces, and community spirit and entered their photos in the City's annual *Views of the Valley* photo contest. The time has come again to show off what you love about Golden Valley, and now there is an additional category in which to enter your work.

When the *Views of the Valley* photo contest began in 1993, there was only one category—any photo taken in Golden Valley. Over the years, it became more and more apparent that nature shots (landscape, flora, fauna, etc) and lifestyle shots (cityscapes, buildings, people, activities, etc) needed to be in separate categories. In 2002, the contest was expanded to two categories: Natural Golden Valley and Golden Valley Lifestyles.

Meanwhile, the availability of increasingly sophisticated and user friendly equipment presented contest judges with yet another challenge: how to compare "au natural" photos with those that have been enhanced in some way through editing software, lenses, or other equipment. What to do, what to do?

As a result, *Views of the Valley* now includes a third category for "Enhanced" photography (photos significantly altered by editing software, lenses, etc). The contest goals remain the same: to promote Golden Valley and civic pride in a way that's entertaining, educational, and fun. Entries will be judged on subject matter, composition, clarity, lighting, depth of field, artistry/drama, degree of difficulty, technical excellence, and overall impact. The judges also appreciate creative photo titles. All photo entries become the property of the City of Golden Valley and will not be returned.

If you're not a photographer but, as all great art critics, know what you like, you can participate by voting for your favorite photo in the "People's Choice" award category. Photos will be posted online and displayed in City Hall, and you can vote at either venue. Watch for more "People's Choice" voting details in the May/June issue of *CityNews*.

To enter, read the rules (see sidebar) and submit your favorite photos, taken in Golden Valley of course. The entry form on this page can be photocopied. To see past winners or to download an entry form, check www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/PhotoContest/photocontest.htm.

Mail or drop off complete entries to Photo Contest, City of Golden Valley, 7800 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427. City employees and their families are not eligible to enter. If you have questions or need more entry forms, call 763-593-8004. 

Photo Contest Awards

OVERALL GRAND PRIZE

Winner receives additional \$50.

FIRST PLACE PRIZE

Winners in each of the three categories receive \$100, publication of photo on City web site and in *CityNews*, and a certificate of appreciation presented at a City Council meeting.

People's Choice

Publication on the City web site and in *CityNews*, \$25, and a certificate of appreciation presented at a City Council meeting.

All entries will be displayed at City Hall and on the City web site. From June 11 - 23, Golden Valley residents may vote for the "People's Choice" award at City Hall during business hours (8 am - 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday) or online at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/PhotoContest/photocontest.htm. Winners will be notified by June 25.

Water Fair Focuses On Key Issues



In an ongoing effort to provide the community with detailed information about future water supply options, the Joint Water Commission (JWC) Cities of Crystal, Golden Valley, and New Hope hosted a Water Fair March 23 at Sandburg Middle School in Golden Valley. Water experts, elected officials, and representatives from Minneapolis Water Works, the Minnesota Department of Health, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) were available to answer questions and hear concerns.

KEY ISSUES

The Water Fair focused on several key issues involved in the future water supply decision: economics, water quality, the Prairie du Chien/Jordan aquifer, Mississippi River water/Minneapolis Water Works, and sustainability/regional cooperation. The Water Fair also featured a blind taste test of water samples from Minneapolis (which supplies the JWC water), Plymouth, Eden Prairie, and Glenwood-Inglewood (bottled water). A total of 264 residents (166 from Golden Valley, 59 from Crystal, and 39 from New Hope) participated in the taste test, which was monitored by two non-resident members from North Hennepin Mediation Service. In Part I, residents were asked to rate each sample either excellent, good, fair, poor, or no opinion. In Part II, participants were asked where they thought each sample was from. Test details and complete results are available from Golden Valley Public Works (763-293-8030) or at www.jwcontap.org.

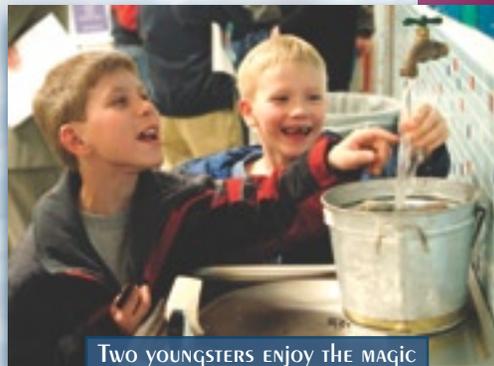
ECONOMICS For 40 years, Minneapolis has been a reliable supplier of good water. When the original long-term contract between the JWC and Minneapolis expired in 1991, it was the JWC's responsibility to explore all options for a future water supply. As a Minneapolis water customer, the JWC has very little control over future water costs. Taking all costs of a JWC-owned groundwater system into account, conservative projections indicate the JWC would save \$52 million over the next 30 years compared to currently negotiated rates for a long-term contract with Minneapolis (assuming Minneapolis rates and JWC costs both increase at the rate of inflation).

WATER SOURCE AND QUALITY Engineering evaluations demonstrate that the JWC has two viable sources for a future water supply—surface water from the Mississippi River supplied by the City of Minneapolis, or groundwater from the Prairie du Chien aquifer supplied by a new JWC-owned water system. When properly treated, both groundwater and Mississippi River water are safe, good-tasting, high-quality sources of water. Regardless of which future water source is chosen, additional water conservation and public education measures will be required.

REGIONAL COOPERATION The JWC believes a regional water system with multiple sources of water would be beneficial to both JWC and Minneapolis water customers. Currently, Minneapolis' only source of water is the Mississippi River, and Minneapolis does not allow the JWC to interconnect with neighboring cities or to supplement its supply with any other source. As the JWC continues contract negotiations with Minneapolis, it will pursue the ability to establish such interconnections and to supplement a Minneapolis supply with other sources if Minneapolis is unable or unwilling to meet future JWC needs.

WHAT'S NEXT

The three City Councils expect to make a final decision about a future JWC water supply in May. Watch the local newspaper, local cable news, or the JWC web site (www.jwcontap.org) for updates. Questions? Call Public Works Director Jeannine Clancy at 763-593-8035 or City Manager Tom Burt at 763-593-8003.



TWO YOUNGSTERS ENJOY THE MAGIC FAUCET AT THE WATER FAIR.

SENIOR Stuff

Wellness & You—1:30 pm, Dover Hill Apts, May 6: "Chair Exercises."

Defensive Driving Courses—Four-hour refresher at Brookview: April 8 and May 13, 9 am - 1 pm.

Continental Breakfasts—"Pets & Seniors," April 28, 9:30 am, Brookview.

Free Financial Talk—"Top Ten Tips for Managing Your Finances," April 15, 10 am, Brookview.

Armchair Travelers—"Hawaii," April 16; "Norway," May 14, Country Villa Assisted Living, 2 pm.

Blood Pressure Screenings—April 28, 11 am - noon, Brookview.

Health Insurance Help—April 13 and May 11, 9 - 11 am.

Special Events—Spring Sing Choral, April 18, 2 pm, ArtsCenter Minnetonka; Senior Forum, April 19, 8:30 am - noon, Brooklyn Park; Celebrate Senior Dining, May 6, noon, Calvary Lutheran; Swing Into Spring Dance, May 7, 1 - 3:30 pm, Crystal; Bowling Tourney, May 11, 12:30 pm, Texa-Tonka Lanes; Meet the Author Breakfast, May 14, 9 am, Brookview.

Upcoming Trips (register early)—April 13: Twin Cities Tour; April 20; Edgewater Eight Spring Concert; May 11: "Pirates of Penzance," Guthrie Theater; May 19 - 21: Sioux City and Orange City Tulip Festival

Five Cities Transportation Program (in Robbinsdale City Hall) offers rides to seniors for shopping, social activities, and senior program events. For a schedule or to reserve a ride, call 763-531-1259 weekdays between 8 am - 3 pm.

Call the Golden Valley Seniors Office (763-512-2339) to receive the Seniors Newsletter and to register in advance for events, educational seminars, classes, and trips.

For more information, contact:
Golden Valley Seniors Program
Brookview Community Center
200 Brookview Parkway
Golden Valley, MN 55426
763-512-2339
8 am - 5 pm, Monday - Friday



The Golden Valley Recycling Program is partially funded by the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners.

Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week—Pick-Up Date

Memorial Day—Sat, June 5
 Independence Day—regular pick-up
 Labor Day—Sat, Sep 11
 Thanksgiving—Sat, Nov 27
 Christmas—regular pick-up
 New Year's—regular pick-up

Missed Pick-Ups

If your recycling is missed on Friday, call Waste Management at 952-890-1100 before noon on the following Monday.

If you have specific recycling questions, call 763-593-8030.

24-Hour Recycling Info-Line

Features recorded answers to your recycling questions 24 hours a day. Just call 763-593-8119 to reach the Golden Valley Recycling Information Line (directions for rotary phone users are on the message). For information on:

- curbside recycling, press 1
- apartment recycling, press 2
- yard waste disposal, press 3
- household hazardous waste disposal, press 4

763-593-8119

Brush Pick-Up Set To Begin May 3

Mark your calendar for Golden Valley's annual Spring Brush Pick-Up, which is set to begin May 3 and continue through May 21 (see schedule below). The program gives homeowners the opportunity to place tree limbs and brush at their curbs for collection and disposal.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Please observe the following guidelines when preparing your brush for pick-up:

- Tree limbs and brush must be four inches in diameter or less and approximately six feet long or less.
- Stack so the larger ends face the street (do NOT tie limbs together).
- Condense brush to one pile per household. Trucks will stop only once at each property, so if there is more than one pile, only one will be picked up.
- Do not use plastic bags.
- Keep brush and limbs completely clear of sidewalks, mailboxes, streetlights and sign poles, landscaping and fences, overhead tree branches, and power lines. If piles don't fit between the curb and sidewalk, place them on the boulevard behind the sidewalk. The contractor uses trucks with automated loading arms to pick up the brush piles. If your brush is stacked near a restricted area or tossed in a pile rather than stacked, it will be left behind.
- No leaves, grass clippings, stumps, roots, limbs exceeding the size limits, building lumber, landscape timbers, or bags of garbage will be picked up. If any of these items are mixed in the brush stacks, the entire stack will be left behind. The contractor will not sort through brush stacks for acceptable material.



To dispose of brush or tree waste not collected in this pick-up, contact your garbage hauler or choose a contractor from the Yellow Pages. Watch this newsletter or check the Recycling Information Line (763-593-8119) for updates.

pick-up SCHEDULE

The City will be divided into three sections (see below), with a week designated for pick-up in each. **Brush must be placed on the curb by 8 am Monday the week of pick-up and must remain there until picked up.** If there is a lot of brush, pick-up may take longer than a week.

Section 1	Entire area south of Hwy 55	week of May 3
Section 2	Entire area north of Hwy 55 and west of Douglas Dr	week of May 10
Section 3	Entire area north of Hwy 55 and east of Douglas Dr	week of May 17

Be ready. This is a one-time pick-up only. Trucks will not return to neighborhoods for late set-outs. If you miss your pick-up week, you must plan for other means of disposal.

The Spring Curbside Brush Pick-Up is a component of the Golden Valley recycling program. If you have questions about the brush pick-up program, call 763-593-8030.

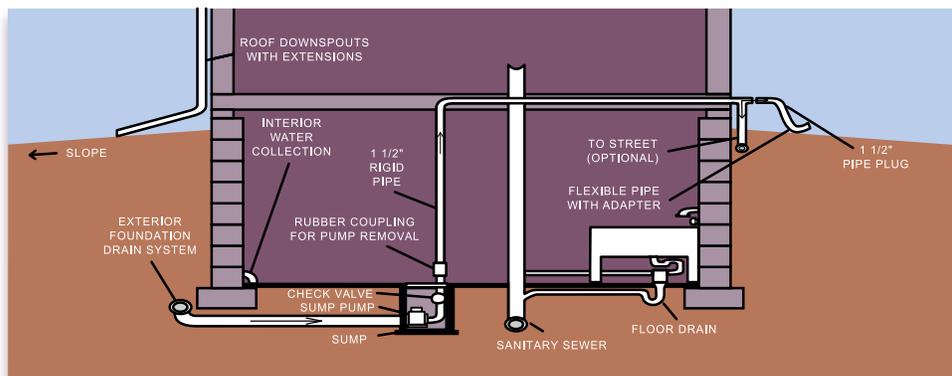
Is Your Sump Pump Costing You \$\$\$?

In Minnesota, sump pumps can be a basement's best friend during March through October rains, but where the water goes after the pump collects it can be a costly problem. If your sump pump is misdirected to discharge into Golden Valley's sanitary sewer system, this is called a cross connection, and it results in higher charges for disposal and treatment of sewage.

UNDERSTANDING WASTEWATER AND CLEAR WATER

From early spring and throughout the summer, the sanitary sewer system handles one to two times its normal volume of water. The problem is that the additional volume, mostly from sump pumps, is not the wastewater intended for the system—it's clear water. Wastewater is any water that goes down any drain inside a residence or structure—from showers, sinks, tubs, toilets, washing machines, etc. Wastewater needs to go through the wastewater facility for treatment before it is released into the environment. Wastewater from Golden Valley travels through the City's sanitary sewer system and goes to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant, located on the Mississippi River in St Paul. Wastewater treatment is provided through the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Division (MCES). Utility customers pay a flat rate each billing period to cover costs for disposal and treatment of sewage.

Clear water, on the other hand, does not have to be treated before it's returned to area lakes, ponds, streams, and rivers. To get clear water back into the natural water system, it should be directed into the storm sewer system or onto the ground where it can be absorbed. Clear water is rainwater, ground water, or snow melt—exactly the type of water a sump pump handles. When this water is directed into the sanitary sewer system, utility customers pay for the increased flow and treatment of what is essentially already clean water.



How To Avoid THE PROBLEM

Sump pump systems are designed to capture surface or ground water that enters basements or crawl spaces and pump it away from the house. If the hose from your sump pump leads to a laundry tub or a floor drain, it is emptying into the sanitary sewer system and costing Golden Valley residents more in sewer treatment costs. An overloaded sanitary sewer system can also potentially cause back-ups, which can flood basements and defeat the purpose of the sump pump.

Sump pump discharges need to be directed to the storm water system via one of two methods:

- a direct connection (a pipe from the house to the main storm sewer line), if available
- directly onto the ground (preferably 20 feet from the house and not into a neighbor's yard)

For more about sump pump discharge in Golden Valley, call Environmental Coordinator Al Lundstrom at 763-593-8046 or go to www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/streets/sumpumps.htm.

PARK & REC UPDATE

The Spring & Summer Recreation Activities Brochure was mailed March 1. If you didn't receive yours, please call the Recreation Office at 763-512-2345 or view it online at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us. All activities are at Brookview unless otherwise noted.

Music, Mom/Dad & Me (ages 2 - 3 with adult)—Tuesdays, April 27 - June 1; 9:30 - 10:15 am.

Shoot Some Buckets (ages 7-17 with parent)—Tuesdays through May 4, 6 - 8 pm, Davis.

Teen Open Gym (ages 13-18)—Mondays through August 16, 6 - 8 pm, Davis.

Line Dancing—Wednesday, April 14 - June 2, 6:30 - 8 pm.

7th Path Self Hypnosis Workshop—Wednesdays, May 12 - 26, 6:30 - 9 pm week one, 6:30 - 8:30 pm week two and three.

Yoga—Tuesdays, April 13 - June 1, 11 am - noon.

Beginning Yoga & Pilates—Thursdays, May 27 - July 8 or July 15 - August 26, 6:45 - 7:45 pm.

Power Yoga & Pilates Fitness Workout—Thursdays, May 27 - July 8 or July 15 - August 26, 5:30 - 6:40 pm.

Easy Photo Organization—Friday, April 16, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm.

Chinese Wand Exercise—Mondays, April 12 - May 24, 7:15 - 8:15 pm, Davis; June 7 - 28, 6:30 - 7:30 pm.

2.5 Mile Walking Club—Thursday, April 15 - June 3, 11 am - noon.

Four Ways To Register—in person or by mail (address below), by fax (763-512-2344) or online at [GVRecConnect \(www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/parks/pprograms.htm\)](http://GVRecConnect.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/parks/pprograms.htm).

For more information, contact:
Park & Recreation
Brookview Community Center
200 Brookview Parkway
Golden Valley, MN 55426
763-512-2345

Monday - Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm

GV Thanks *Envision* Community Builders

For the past three decades American society, and the rest of the world, has undergone radical demographic, economic, and technological developments that are altering the way people live. As if in response, these global changes have produced another trend—people wanting to take more responsibility and consciously build their community. All over the country, residents in cities and towns are coming together to explore the purpose, values, and vision of their community.

Here it is called *Envision Golden Valley*. Through surveys, meetings, brainstorming sessions, and a community-wide summit, this dynamic process brought people together to share ideas for the future of Golden Valley. Although the City Council initiated the process, the people of Golden Valley quickly stepped forward to drive the effort.

What became apparent was that people who live and work in Golden Valley are passionate about their city.

An article in the *Star Tribune* (February 22, 2004) recognized "Golden Valley's effort [was] exceptionally ambitious... resulting in a fascinating critique of a suburb that came of age at mid-century, as seen by the 21st century people who live there." While the article noted the diversity of ideas and even complaints, it ultimately summarized the spirit of *Envision*. "In moving to the suburbs, we lost a lot that lent charm to life in both small towns and cities. And we need to get it back."

The charm may have been dormant, but it certainly was never lost. The spirit of Golden Valley was apparent through the numerous people, area businesses, and organizations that joined committees, facilitated meetings, attended meetings, and donated time and resources to *Envision*. Many people were inspired to serve in several roles. Each contribution made *Envision* a better, fuller representation of the community's vision. The process is not over (see article on page 1), but a part of it is, and this page is a thank you to all who took responsibility for their community and, with their ideas and opinions, provided the foundation on which the future will be built.



Goods & Services

Goods: A Sign Company (banners) • Apple Jack Orchards (*Envision* Launch refreshments) • Byerly's (*Envision* Launch centerpiece flowers) • Clearr Corporation (illuminated signs) • Cub Foods (*Envision* Launch refreshments) • D'Amico & Partners (*Envision* Launch refreshments) • Einstein Bros Bagels (*Envision* Launch refreshments) • General Mills (*Envision* Summit refreshments) • Merwin Drug (*Envision* Launch refreshments) • Papa John's Pizza (*Envision*-in-a-Box refreshments) • Rainbow Foods (*Envision* Launch refreshments) • Spirit of Hope Church (floral arrangement) • Valley Mills Bread Co (*Envision* Launch refreshments)

Services: Calvary Pre-Kindergarten (Summit centerpiece assembly) • Freestyle Productions (audio-visual equipment for Summit) • North Hennepin Mediation Program, Inc (facilitators)

Facilities

Golden Valley Country Club (*Envision* Summit) • Golden Valley Historical Society (*Envision*-in-a-Box) • Meadowbrook School (day care) • Perpich Center for Arts Education (facilitator training) • Ridgedale Library (*Envision*-in-a-Box)

Marcus Chee, *Three-Year GV Resident, Summit Participant*

"I've lived in other suburbs, and something like this [*Envision*] is a very unique opportunity."

Facilitators

George Abide • Diane Aldis • Julie Allen • Beth Bailey-Allen • Bill Bergquist • David Blatt • Stephen Boehrer • Brad Brown • Gene Burke-Scheffler • Kathleen Burke-Scheffler • Joanie Clausen • Deborah Comeau • Al Eklof • Diane Fouré • Dan Freeman • Mark Friedrichs • Gary Goldetsky • Sandra Hanf • Jim Heidelberg • Helene Johnson • Linda Johnson • Kathy Julius • Dave Kemnitz • Larry Kennebeck • John Kluchka • Bob Kuebelbeck • Dean LaFrenz • Tracy Leverentz • Bonnie Lukes • Phillip Lund • Rick Martens • Brittany McCarthy Barnes • S. Catherine McIntire • Martha Micks • Barbara Ndosí • Steve Paris • Pam Paulson • Paula Pentel • Charlie Quimby • Shirlee Scott • Paul Snyder • Dennis Stockdale • Mavis Swedberg • Marshall Tanick • Mike Willis • Karen Zais

Dale Kivimaki, *Freestyle Productions, Audio/Video Services for Envision Summit*

"Government needs to be responsive to the needs and wants of its citizens. When they are, the City will move forward in a positive direction. I look forward to participating again because any community that gets its residents involved will be better."

John Kluchka, *Envision Steering Committee, Envision Online Chair, Report Team Co-Chair*

"For me, it [*Envision*] was not only a great way to help my community look toward the future, but it was also an education on community volunteerism and teamwork. I've been very impressed with the level of commitment the team has put forth, as well as the level of effort that city staffers have put in to helping us be successful."

Pastor Mary Brown, *Calvary Lutheran Church, Refreshments Co-Chair*

"In our society, people are increasingly disconnected, so when an opportunity like this [*Envision*] comes up, it's going to be positive. The response from the community was outstanding."

Dee Stuart, *TwinWest, Envision Steering Committee, Envision-In-A-Box Sponsor*

"*Envision* offered a unique opportunity for businesses to feel they had a voice and stake in the community. The meeting-in-a-box received tremendously positive feedback from the business that attended."

Howard Schultz, *Kelly Drive Pumpkin Growers, Envision-In-A-Box Participant*

"I appreciated the City of Golden Valley asking us what we thought. It's a wonderful thing when residents have a say in the future of their community."

Cash

TwinWest Chamber Golden Valley Business Council • CenterPoint Energy

Committee Members

Steering Committee: Don Anderson, Mike Barnett, Helen Bassett, Gary Cohen, Jill Field, Dan Freeman, Gloria Johnson, John Kluchka, Gloria

Kumagai, Linda Loomis, Bob Mattison, Pam Paulson, Robert Provost, Richard Rudeen, Paul Snyder, Dee Stuart, John Yngve • **Communications Subcommittee:** Jill Field, John Giese, Ellen Mickelson, Laura Pugh, Luann Rockman, Marshall Tanick, Paula Watkins

• **Refreshments Sub-Committee:** Mary Brown, S. Catherine McIntire • **Facilities & Recognition Sub-Committee:** Mary Brown, Gloria Kumagai, Sharon Mattison •

Format Sub-Committee: Gary Cohen, Paul Snyder, Mike Barnett, Anne Borgen, Agnes Brandon, Ron Brandon, Brad Brown, Martha Micks •

Internet Format Sub-Committee: John Kluchka, Laura Pugh • **Envision-In-A-Box Format Sub-Committee:** Robert Provost, Robert Gavigan, Bruce Peterson, Luann Rockman • **Theme Sub-Committee:** Al Eklof, Nancy Azzam, Hilmer Erickson, Gregg Hackett, Bronwyn Janzen, Don Keysser, Peggy Leppik, John Yngve • **Youth Sub-Committee:** Sandra Bengston, Joe Harrity, Gloria Johnson, Sarah Moskowitz, Erin Ohlemann, Sean Ohlemann, Jay Petersen, Wendy Rubinyi, Diane Schimelpfenig, Stephen Schriver, Anna Tucker, Alyssa Tucker, Deb Ukura, Nancy Wagner, Rita Wilson, Bob Wittman

Envision-In-A-Box Participants

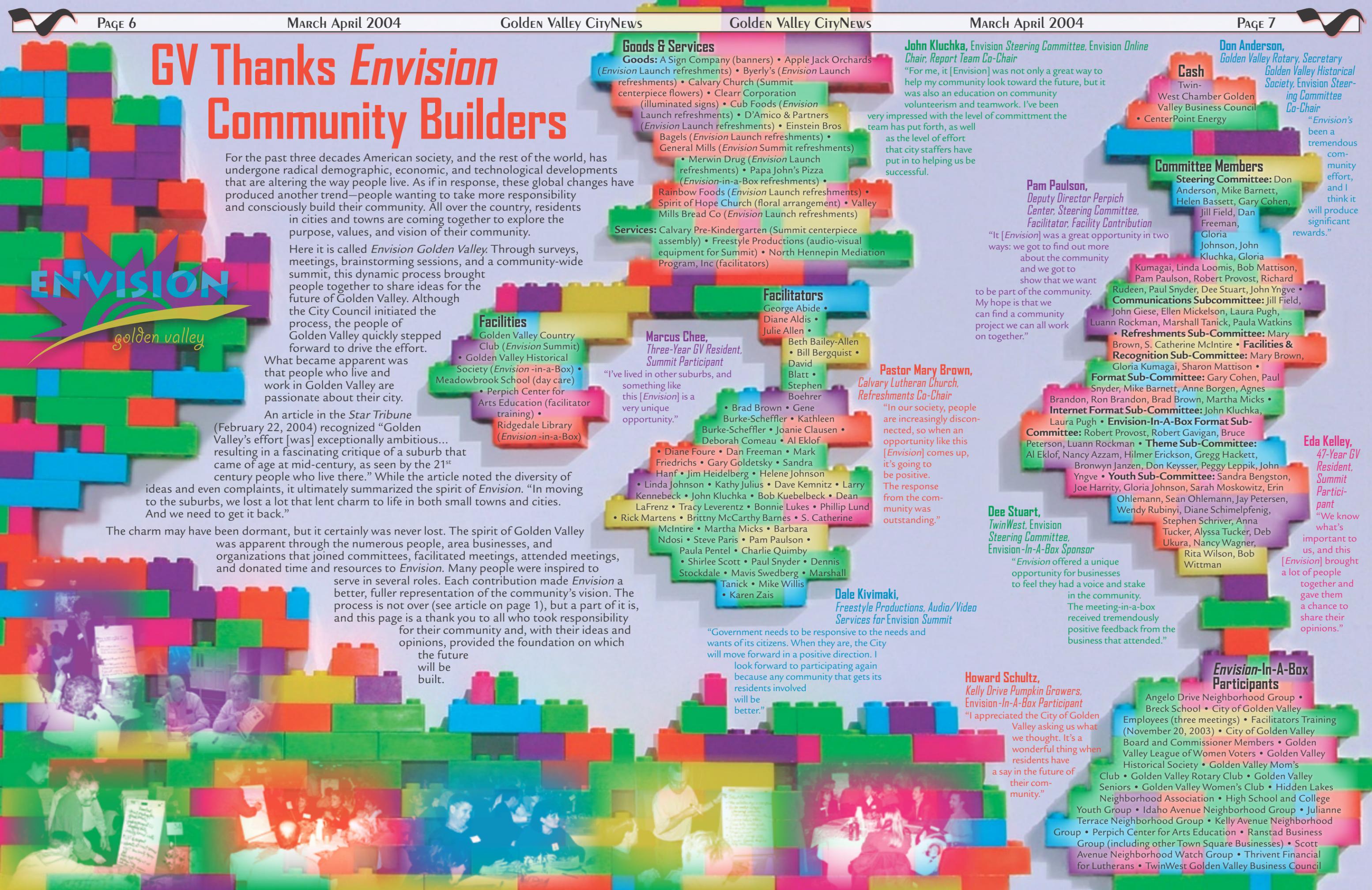
Angelo Drive Neighborhood Group • Breck School • City of Golden Valley Employees (three meetings) • Facilitators Training (November 20, 2003) • City of Golden Valley Board and Commissioner Members • Golden Valley League of Women Voters • Golden Valley Historical Society • Golden Valley Mom's Club • Golden Valley Rotary Club • Golden Valley Seniors • Golden Valley Women's Club • Hidden Lakes Neighborhood Association • High School and College Youth Group • Idaho Avenue Neighborhood Group • Julianne Terrace Neighborhood Group • Kelly Avenue Neighborhood Group • Perpich Center for Arts Education • Ranstad Business Group (including other Town Square Businesses) • Scott Avenue Neighborhood Watch Group • Thrivent Financial for Lutherans • TwinWest Golden Valley Business Council

Don Anderson, *Golden Valley Rotary, Secretary Golden Valley Historical Society, Envision Steering Committee Co-Chair*

"*Envision*'s been a tremendous community effort, and I think it will produce significant rewards."

Eda Kelley, *47-Year GV Resident, Summit Participant*

"We know what's important to us, and this [*Envision*] brought a lot of people together and gave them a chance to share their opinions."



3RD LAIR SKATE PARK PARTNERSHIP



Once again, the City of Golden Valley will partner with 3rd Lair Skate Park (850 Florida Ave S) to provide outdoor skating opportunities at no charge to Golden Valley youth 16 and under. Use of the indoor park will require the regular fee. Initial one-time registration requires users to provide proof of age and Golden Valley residency, a \$5 fee, and have a parent present to sign a waiver.

For more information, call 3rd Lair at 763-797-5283 or go to www.3rdlair.com.

Juvenile Alcohol Use Is A Community Concern

As warm weather approaches, communities prepare for the rites of spring: vacations, banquets, prom, graduation parties, and other end-of-the-school-year events. Traditionally, this is a time of both celebration and danger. Each year we hear about underage drinkers who die during spring break vacations or at prom. Less publicized, but far more common, are the many other negative consequences teens experience because of their drinking.

Some of the more significant include an increase in sexual activity, unprotected sex, unreported sexual assaults, driving (or riding with a driver) under the influence, binge drinking, and decreased school performance. Teen drinkers also have more contact with police, make more court appearances, and receive underage consumption tickets. And for as many as 10% of our youth, what is initially a poor decision prompted by a desire to fit in or "be cool" will be the start of the process of chemical dependency.



Adolescents often respond to what they experience as tremendous pressure to drink from their peers, the media, and sometimes even the adults in their lives. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, 82% of high school seniors admit alcohol use. Access to alcohol is nearly unlimited, as students can, and do, easily procure alcohol in many homes and in the community. It is not unusual, despite recent negative publicity, for parents to knowingly supply alcohol to their child and friends in the home and "take the car keys"—often with dire consequences. Liquor manufacturers target the younger population with sweet, fruity drinks in sport bottles and jello cups, easily disguised as "legal" snacks.

To curb underage drinking, it is important that we work together to draw the line and promote an environment in which adolescent alcohol use is not acceptable. The tactics below provide some guidelines.

- Refuse to provide alcohol to teens, their friends, or anyone under age 21.
- Make clear your expectations regarding tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use. Set realistic expectations for your youth's behavior, and establish and consistently enforce appropriate consequences for breaking rules.
- Take time to discuss prom, graduation, and other end-of-the-school-year events and how to celebrate without including drugs or alcohol.
- Notify police and neighbors if you are going to be away.
- Model appropriate behavior in your own use of liquor and medication (prescribed and over-the-counter).
- Be direct with your teen, asking where, who, when, etc about extra-curricular activities.
- Let your teens know they will be talking to you when they come home at night. Limit "sleep-overs" to make this possible.

If you have questions or concerns, help is available. Your teen's school Chemical Health Specialist or Guidance Office can provide resources and referrals, if needed. Resources are also available on the Internet (www.theantidrug.com, www.health.org, www.drugfreeamerica.org). We know kids are pressured to drink, kids are experimenting, kids are drinking regularly, and kids drink to get drunk. The community, schools, law enforcement, and alcohol providers must all work together to reduce the harmful affects associated with underage use.

Questions? Contact Karin Jax (763-504-8832) or Leslie Kelly (763-504-8760).

*Leslie Kelly, Chemical Health Specialist, Armstrong High School
Karin Jax, Chemical Health Specialist, Armstrong High School*

Curfew REMINDER

The days are getting longer and summer vacation is almost here, so it's time to remind kids about the Hennepin County Curfew.

Hennepin County's juvenile curfew prohibits youth from public places (parks, streets, restaurants, bowling alleys, movie theaters, etc) and is aimed at getting kids that are "up to no good" off the street. Young people may be out after curfew if they are with a parent or other responsible adult, going to or from a job, or attending an organized and supervised school, church, synagogue, or youth group activity.

Young people out after curfew can be stopped and questioned by police; curfew violations may lead to a fine or court appearance. Parents or guardians may also be guilty of a misdemeanor if they allow—either intentionally or through negligent supervision—a juvenile to break curfew.

	Sun - Thu	Fri & Sat
Under 12	Home by 9 pm	Home by 10 pm
Ages 12-14	Home by 10 pm	Home by 11 pm
Ages 15-17	Home by 11 pm	Home by 12 am



Fire Department Seeks Community Heroes

Are you self-confident enough to enter a dangerous situation? Can you work as a member of a team? Do you have the desire to learn, the will to practice, and the ability to apply your expertise to a new set of circumstances? If your answer is yes, the Golden Valley Fire Department may have a position for you.

If you live within six minutes of a Golden Valley fire station, you can apply to become a firefighter. If you live in another community but work in Golden Valley, Corporate Call, a collaboration with local businesses to recruit daytime responders (available Monday - Friday, 6 am - 6 pm), may be another option for you.

For 60 years, Golden Valley residents have relied on so-called ordinary people to protect our community. Let's meet a few of the GVFD's firefighters (your potential teammates) and find out why they became firefighters and why they continue.

MEET A FEW FROM THE TEAM

Tim Gerrits, a Golden Valley resident who is a manager of the prototype and short-run department at Bermo, Inc, has been a member of the GVFD for nearly 15 years. "I wanted to make some friends," he says, "and get a sense of doing something for the community." Gerrits, who works out of Fire Station 3, says his favorite part is the "rush" of responding. He can imagine remaining a firefighter for another 10 years or more, both for that rush and for the pension benefits that kick in at that time.

Brian Crow is also a Golden Valley resident and has been a firefighter for four years. He says he's in fire service for the long haul though, and if his 20-year job at the Guthrie Theater is any indication, there's no reason to doubt him. Crow saw an advertisement in the local paper, thought about it for year, and concluded he wanted a new challenge without changing careers. He finds firefighting "very rewarding," adding "it's a great way to serve the community and meet interesting people."

Life-long Golden Valley resident Don Anderson moved to Monticello about a year ago, but he continues to serve Golden Valley during business hours while working at Streichers Safety Equipment. Through the GVFD's Corporate Call program, he responds to fire calls during work hours. In fact, Anderson answers about 50% of the day-time calls quarterly. Like Gerrits and Crow, Anderson says he will remain a firefighter as long as he can. "It's a very fun experience, and they provide excellent training." Anderson likes firefighting so much, he now serves his Monticello community, too.

Andy Hutson is one of the GVFD's newest firefighters. He began just last summer through the Corporate Call program at General Mills, where he works as a Desktop Support Specialist. "I saw the advertisement in a company-wide email, but since I had just started I waited a year before signing up." Like many firefighters, Hutson says this was something he always wanted to do. "It's exciting. One minute you can be working on a spread sheet and the next you can be responding to a house or car fire." Hutson says being a paid, on-call firefighter is a great opportunity "to do something for the community, learn new things, and to make a difference in people's lives."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Golden Valley's paid on-call fire department, attend an informational meeting Thursday, April 22, at either 10:30 am or 7 pm. Information is also available at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us, or by calling 763-593-8055.

THE RIGHT STUFF

To be a paid, on-call firefighter, you must:

- be at least 18 years old with a high school diploma or equivalent
- have a valid Minnesota Class D driver's license (with a good driving record)
- have a positive, constructive image and attitude
- live or work within six minutes of a fire station and have dependable transportation

- be in good health and pass physical and psychological exams, a physical abilities test, a background investigation, and a written exam
- complete an oral interview
- complete a probation period
- complete basic recruit training and requirements for first responder training

- wear a pager while on call and be available for a reasonable number of fire calls, drills, and meetings
- be available for work detail once every two months
- be able to make decisions regarding

the safety of other firefighters and yourself

- work as a team member under extremely stressful conditions

REWARDS

- increased self-confidence, experience, responsibility, social connections and events, fun

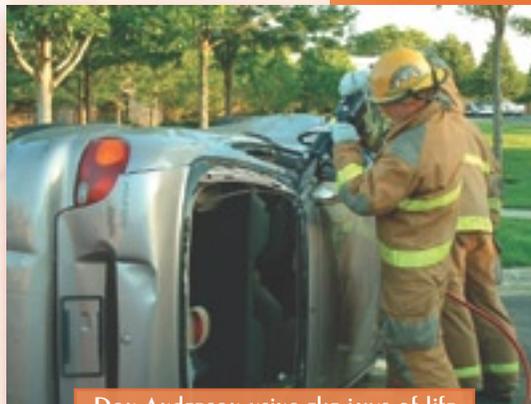
and friends, and a chance to be a positive community role model

SALARY & BENEFITS

- pension plan
- disability benefits
- **hourly salary**
 probationary firefighter \$7.71/hr
 apprentice firefighter \$10.26/hr
 firefighter \$12.18/hr



BRIAN CROW EDUCATING YOUTH AT SAFETY CAMP



DON ANDERSON USING THE JAWS OF LIFE

GOLDEN VALLEY IS PHOSPHORUS FREE

By City ordinance, Golden Valley has been phosphorus free since March 2000, and the seven metropolitan counties followed suit January 1, 2004.

Although phosphorus is an important nutrient for plant growth, it's not necessary in some soils. Excess phosphorus runs off lawns and pollutes lakes, rivers, streams, and creeks, producing algae and water weeds. Homeowners unintentionally contribute to the problem by using fertilizer with phosphorus their lawns don't need. Since soil in Golden Valley (and most of Hennepin County) is phosphorus-rich, it rarely needs more to keep lawns green.

Before buying any fertilizer, it's a good idea to have your soil tested. Results will tell you exactly what nutrients are needed in what amount to make your lawn healthy. For \$15 per soil sample, the University of Minnesota Soil Testing Lab tests for phosphorus (P), potassium (K), and pH (acidity of the soil). If results show a need for phosphorus, lawn fertilizers with higher phosphate content can be used in accordance with rates recommended by the U of M and approved by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. For more information, or for soil test forms and sample bags, contact the University of Minnesota Soil Testing Laboratory at 612-625-3101 or go to <http://soiltest.coafes.umn.edu/index.htm>.

When purchasing fertilizer, locate the three numbers on the bag or bottle that indicate the percent content of nitrogen, phosphate, and potassium. Phosphorus-free fertilizers will have 0 for the middle number.

Using phosphorus-free fertilizer is just one way to boost water quality. If you need more information about phosphorus or water quality, contact Golden Valley's Environmental Coordinator, Al Lundstrom, at 763-593-8046. 



As Winter Fades, City Sweeps

According to the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota hosted 26 snow and ice storms of 1/10 inch or more during the past winter season. At press time, that equaled 66 inches of snow. While this may be news to some, City maintenance crews were more than aware of each one. Since November 2003, crews have used about 600 tons of salt and 2,500 tons of sand to battle icy conditions on City streets.

Even though some winters seem to have less snow and fewer icy conditions than others, mother nature's antics keep City crews busy maintaining Golden Valley's streets so they are safe. Things like nuisance snows, prolonged cold periods, and endless days in the freeze/thaw cycle all provide conditions where the streets require attention.

As winter fades, City maintenance crews shift to their spring job of sweeping the sand and salt that become visible on the streets when the snow melts. Street sweeping usually begins around mid-March, depending on the weather. The first priority is "bulk sweeping" major intersections, hilly areas, and high traffic roads, where large amounts of sand and salt were distributed over the winter. A special effort is made to focus on areas near Bassett Creek, lakes, and ponds to minimize the amount of sand entering these outlets. After this is complete, crews move into neighborhoods. Waiting a little longer to do residential streets minimizes the chance of a plowable snow while the street sweepers are in action. If the weather cooperates, bulk and curb-to-curb sweeping is done by May 1. Streets are swept again in the summer and fall (see schedule below).



CREWS HIT THE STREETS EVEN BEFORE THE SNOW IS GONE.

For more information about street maintenance, contact Golden Valley Public Works at 763-593-8030.

STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE

Spring: Sweep curb-to-curb in mid-March/April.

Summer: Sweep all gutters in June; clean low collection areas and sweep as needed in July, August, and September.

Fall: Sweep curb-to-curb in October and November (wait for as many leaves to fall as possible).

Golden Valley is divided into four sections for street sweeping. This allows crews to rotate sections each year so no area is always first or last. This year, Section III leads off the rotation, followed by sections II, I, and IV.

Section I boundaries: Winnetka Ave, north City limit, south City limit, west City limit.

Section II boundaries: Winnetka Ave, north City limit, Hwy 100, Hwy 55

Section III boundaries: Hwy 100, north City limit, east City limit, Hwy 55

Section IV: Hwy 55, Winnetka Ave, south City limit, east City limit.

City Council Simplifies Setback Requirements

After spending about two years studying the Residential District section of Golden Valley's Zoning Code (11.21), the City's Planning Commission recommended a number of changes to the City Council. Several of the changes, which were adopted March 3, involve setbacks (see box below) for the front yard, side yard, and homes built before 1982.

FRONT SETBACKS AND FRONT PORCHES

While the front setback for houses remains 35 feet from the street right-of-way line, front porches may now be built to within 30 feet of a front property line. "This change was made to encourage front porches and the community feel they give," says City Planner Mark Grimes. "You know, people sitting in rocking chairs and waving at their neighbors."

Side SETBACKS

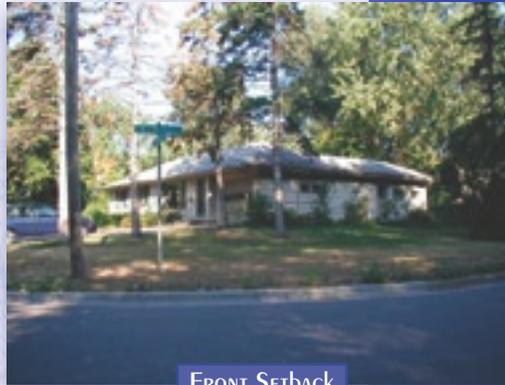
Previously, side setbacks were based on a percentage of the lot width. Now, only setbacks on lots 65 feet wide or less are figured that way. Specifically, north and west side setbacks are 10% of the lot width, while the south and east side setbacks are 20% (up to 12.5 feet). Lots between 65 and 100 feet wide have a flat 12.5-foot side setback, and lots more than 100 feet wide have a flat 15-foot setback.

PRE-1982 RESIDENCES

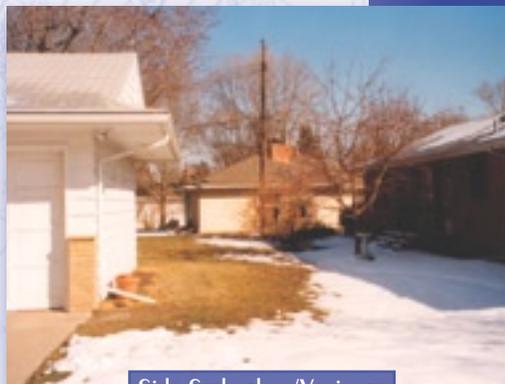
"Many people were coming before the Board of Zoning Appeals because their houses weren't put on the property correctly to begin with," says Grimes. For this reason, homes built before 1982 now have different setback requirements than newer homes—25 feet for the front, three feet for the sides, and 10 feet for the rear yard setback. However, all additions to pre-1982 structures must meet the current setback requirements outlined earlier in this article.

QUESTIONS

The changes outlined here are highlights that may affect the greatest number of homeowners. Complete text of the City's Single-Family Zoning code is available at City Hall or www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/whatsnew/news1.htm. If you have questions, contact Planning Director Mark Grimes at 763-593-8097.



FRONT SETBACK



SIDE SETBACK w/VARIANCE

GARDEN Club CELEBRATES 65 YEARS

Golden Valley's oldest active organization will celebrate its 65th anniversary May 19 with an open house from 1-4 pm at Brookview Community Center. There will be refreshments and giveaway plants and seeds.

Founded in 1939 by Lillian Seeman and Mrs Clarence Tolg, the Golden Valley Garden Club's first project was to work with the Highway Landscape Commission to plant lilac bushes along Highway 100 (that section of highway was then renamed Lilac Drive). The project launched the city's first Lilac Day festival May 28, 1939, featuring a parade

with 1,200 marchers on Highway 100 between Glenwood Ave and Golden Valley Rd. Tickets scented with lilac perfume were sold to the Lilac Ball, where a Lilac Queen was chosen to represent Golden Valley at the Aquatennial. Three of the club's charter members, Ruth Thorness, Janice Johnson, and Bets Ruffenach, are still active.

The club meets at noon the third Wednesday of each month (except January) at Brookview Community Center. Members

take at least one garden tour every year, have a mini flower show in September, and share each other's excess plants. In May, club members plant the concrete flower pots in downtown Golden Valley. Besides promoting better gardening, it is also a social club—new members become friends. Interested people are invited to attend a meeting and/or call the membership chair, Carmen Conn, at 763-545-9128.

For more information about the open house, contact Leone Johnson (763-529-8400) or Lorraine Diederichs (763-545-4222).

the scoop ON SETBACKS

Setbacks refer to the minimum distance structures must be from the property line.

There are many reasons for setback requirements. Public safety personnel need to be able to maneuver around structures. Further, the space between structures minimizes the risk of fire spreading to neighboring structures. The space around residences is also where utilities are located, and building over them would make it difficult for public works and utility personnel to make updates or repairs. Finally, aesthetically speaking, space around properties makes them more attractive. Imagine how different the city would look if people filled their whole property with dwellings or outbuildings.

GVHSF SELECTS 2004 T-SHIRT DESIGN

Each year the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF) provides *Run the Valley* (see story at left) participants with a T-shirt to commemorate the event. The design is changed annually and the process is open to the community. This year's winner is Laura Davies, a 20-year Golden Valley resident.

Davies, a graphic designer who "wanted to do something for the community," also won in 2002. For winning, she was awarded 10 T-shirts printed with her design.

GVHSF retains sole ownership of the winning design and permission to reuse it when so desired. For more information on the *Run the Valley* T-shirt design contest, including past winners, log on to the City web site at www.ci.golden-valley.mn.us/community/runvalley.



Run The Valley Set For April 17



Sign up now for the tenth annual *Run the Valley*, sponsored by the Golden Valley Human Services Foundation (GVHSF). The 5K and 10K race and 5K walk will be Saturday, April 17, at 8:30 am. Due to construction at Brookview Park, this year's race will start and finish near the Davis Community Center at Meadowbrook School, 5430 Glenwood Ave (one block west of Hwy 100 at the intersection of Glenwood and Xenia Aves).

Entry fees are \$20 through April 14 and \$25 on race day. Register on-line at www.active.com; in person or by mail before April 14 at Golden Valley City Hall, 7800 Golden Valley Rd (hours: 8 am - 4:30 pm); or in person at Davis Community Center on race day between 7:30 and 8:15 am. Medals are awarded to the top three males and females in each age category. All entrants receive a long-sleeve T-shirt and post-race complimentary snacks.

Corporate sponsors are Liberty Carton, the Lupient Foundation, Wells Fargo Golden Valley, and BNC National Bank. Other sponsors: Byerly's, Cable 12, Einstein Bagels, Golden Valley Country Club, Golden Valley Rotary, Nestle Waters North America, Perkins, Rainbow Foods, Super America Golden Valley, and Valley Pastries.

The GVHSF distributes 100% of funds raised to causes directly benefiting the community, including Crisis Connection, the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery, Home Free Shelter, North Hennepin Mediation Center, PRISM, Suburban Northwest Diner at Your Door, Senior Community Services, and YMCA Detached Work Program.

For more information about *Run the Valley* or the GVHSF, call 763-593-8010.

City of
Golden Valley

763-593-8000

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MIKE FREIBERG | SCOTT D. GRAYSON | BOB SHAFFER | BLAIR TREMERE
MAYOR | LINDA R. LOOMIS

MAYOR/COUNCIL MSG LINE | 763-593-8001

CITY MANAGER | THOMAS BURT

EDITOR | CHERYL WEILER

ASSISTANT EDITOR | TINA PERPICH

GRAPHIC DESIGNER | SIRI KHALSA

City of
Golden Valley

7800 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55427

Printed on 20% post-consumer recycled paper.
Available on audio tape.

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1659
Mpls, MN

Notice: To retain cost-effective rates, new postal regulations require us to mail to complete carrier routes, even if they are beyond city borders. We apologize to non-Golden Valley residents who get this newsletter unsolicited.