



cityNEWS



◦ VIEWS OF THE VALLEY PHOTO CONTEST

A beetle invasion leads a picturesque pack of winners in the 21st annual Views of the Valley photo contest.

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(Photo by Sarah O'Rourke)

FIRE SAFETY TIPS FOR YOUR HOME

Recent structure fires in the news remind us of the need to be aware of basic fire safety techniques.

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cityHEADLINES

Council Begins Budget Review

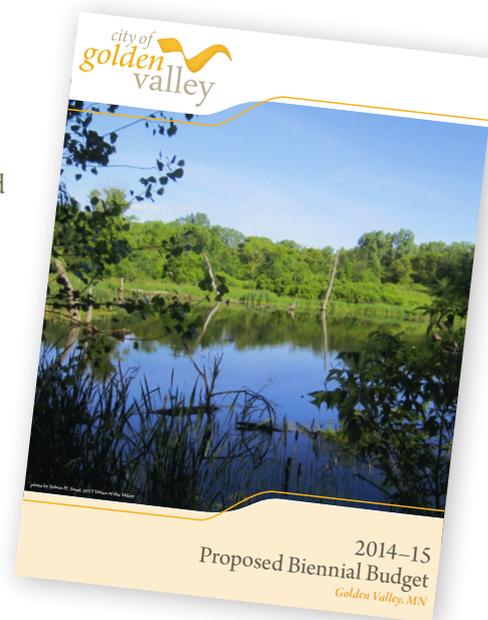
Minnesota law requires cities to adopt a budget annually, and the Golden Valley City Council held its first discussion July 9 on the proposed 2014-2015 City budget.

Golden Valley prepares a two-year budget to help with upcoming financial needs and forecasts. The proposed biennial budget includes General Fund expenditures and revenues and the 2014–2015 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Parks, Buildings, and Equipment.

For the 2014 budget, in September the Council will approve a proposed levy that will be used for the Truth in Taxation (TNT) notices that are sent out in November. The final levy and budget for 2014 will be approved in December for 2014 property tax statements.

The 2014–2015 proposed General Fund Budget and other funds can be viewed online at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/budget. Information is also available at City Hall.

Questions? Contact City Finance Director Sue Virnig at 763-593-8010 or svirnig@goldenvalleymn.gov.



GVHSF Helps Local Nonprofits

2014 funding applications due Aug 23



The Golden Valley Human Services Fund (GVHSF), which is composed of community volunteers, helps fund several non-profit agencies that serve Golden Valley residents in need. For 2013, the GVHSF contributed \$42,500 to the following organizations:

- Canvas Health/Crisis Connection provides free 24-hour telephone counseling to people with personal and family problems and crises.
- Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery provides shelter care for children up to age six for families dealing with stress or crisis that need time away from children to stabilize themselves.
- Northwest Suburban Dinner At Your Door provides nourishing meals to homebound people unable to prepare a home-cooked meal.
- PRISM provides families in need with food, financial assistance, transportation, and other services in times of financial

hardship. Funds are used to provide emergency and support services to Golden Valley residents.

- Senior Community Services HOME Program offers services to help elders remain independent in their homes.
- Senior Community Services Outreach provides in-home counseling and case management to help frail elders remain independent.
- TreeHouse provides guidance to teens experiencing difficult times at home, in school, or in their families, as well as support and education for parents and families.
- YMCA-New Hope Branch provides programming dedicated to youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. Funding is used to provide program scholarships to Golden Valley residents.

Funding applications for 2014 are due Aug 23, 2013, at 4 pm. GVHSF funding guidelines and application are available on the City's website at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/boards/gvhsf/. Applications are also available at City Hall or Brookview Community Center. For more information or to make a tax deductible contribution, call 763-512-2340.

City Council Candidates: File By Aug 13

Golden Valley residents interested in becoming City policy makers can file to run for Mayor or City Council in this year's Nov 5 municipal election. The following eligibility guidelines and filing information will help get you started.

Golden Valley City Offices On The Ballot:

- Two Council Members for a term of four years commencing Jan 1, 2014 and expiring Dec 31, 2017
- One Council Member to fill a vacancy for a term of two years commencing after the Canvassing Board meeting in Nov 2013 and expiring Dec 31, 2015 (special election)
- All offices are non-partisan (don't represent political parties).

Requirements For Eligibility To Hold Office:

- Must live in Golden Valley and be a qualified voter therein
- Must be at least 21 years old upon assuming office
- Must have established residency in the City at least 30 days before election day
- Must not have filed for any other office in the current election
- Must pay a \$5 filing fee or present a petition with the signatures of eligible voters in lieu of the filing fee (Minnesota Statute 204B.07-204B.11)
- Must file a personal financial disclosure with the Golden Valley Elections and Voter Registration Office within 14 calendar days of filing their candidacy (candidates receive a packet on campaign reporting requirements and financial disclosure

reporting requirements when they file for office)

- Must provide information requested by the City that will be made available to the public

Filing Dates:

July 30 through Aug 13, 8 am to 4:30 pm. Offices are open until 5 pm Aug 13. Candidates who will be absent from Minnesota during the filing period may arrange with Golden Valley Elections to file before departure.

Withdrawal Deadline:

- Aug 15 at 5 pm

Filing Location:

City of Golden Valley General Services Department (second floor of City Hall), 7800 Golden Valley Rd

- Fee: \$5

For More Information:

Information packets (City elections and requirements to run for City office) are available at City Hall and on the City website at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/elections.



A Guide To Golden Valley Government

Golden Valley is a Statutory "Plan B" city with a part-time Mayor and City Council and a full-time City Manager who serves as the chief executive officer. The City Council and Mayor are elected "at large" to represent the entire community and are empowered by law to legislate city-wide policy.

The City Council appoints the City Manager who, as the executive officer, is responsible to the Council for day-to-day administration of City matters and implementation of Council policies and directives. The City Manager appoints the City Attorney, who advises and represents the City and Council in all legal affairs. The City Manager also appoints the City's department heads and members of the management team. The plan B form of government is often referred to as the "council-manager" plan. There are 16 Plan B cities in Minnesota.

Most cities in Minnesota have weak mayor-councils, meaning that the mayor has all the powers and duties of a council member in addition to those of the mayor. The council as a whole retains ultimate administrative and legislative responsibilities and authority.

In Golden Valley, all City meetings are held at City Hall unless otherwise noted. Public participation is welcome; agendas are available for review before the meetings at City Hall and www.goldenvalleymn.gov, where you can also subscribe to email updates for City meeting agendas and other news through GV DirectConnect. For more information, call the City Manager's Department at 763-593-8006.

Composting 101

City's composting ordinance provides guidelines

Composting significantly reduces unnecessary contributions to landfills and is a great “green” activity—but only if you do it properly. Golden Valley’s compost ordinance guides residents in correct composting procedures so they can avoid public nuisances.

DO compost yard waste, straw, fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, or egg shells generated from the site on which the compost is located. You may add commercially available ingredients specifically designed to speed or enhance decomposition.

DON'T compost woody yard waste, meat, bones, fat, oil, whole eggs, dairy products, unshredded branches or logs, weeds heavily laden with seeds, plastics, synthetic fibers, human or pet wastes, diseased plants, or any other garbage or refuse. Some of these items spread disease, are hazardous waste, and create fire hazards.

Contain materials in a bin constructed of wood, wire mesh, or a combination of wood and wire, or in commercially fabricated compost bins. Only one structure is allowed per lot. The structure must not exceed 500 cubic feet, or be taller than five feet.

Compost structures must be placed in the rear yard of the property at least 10 feet from the property line (35 feet if property line is also a street line) and no closer than 40 feet to any habitable building other than the resident’s home. 

Five Factors For Successful Composting

Composting encourages organic materials to break down quickly to enrich soil and naturally aid plant growth, but for composting to really work, five factors must be present.

1 Free Space

To keep the compost from compacting, add materials like straw, woods chips, grass clippings, etc.

2 Water

Add enough water so the compost is damp but not soggy.

3 Small Bites

Keep plant material two inches in size or less. Larger pieces compost slowly.

4 Food (or nutrients)

Compost breakdown is affected by the carbon-nitrogen ratio (30 parts carbon to one part nitrogen).

5 Turning

Mixing a compost once or twice a month allows it to reach higher temperatures, decompose faster, and have less odor.

Recycling Reminders

Mighty Tidy Day

Saturday, Oct 12, 8 am–1 pm @ Brookview Park

Unload unwanted items like old mattresses and sofas, broken bicycles, ancient appliances, old tires, outdated computers, televisions, and other things piling up around your home at Mighty Tidy Clean-Up Day.

Fees apply. Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recycling/mighty-tidyday/index.php or in the September/October *CityNews*.

Fall Leaf Drop-Off

- Saturday, Oct 26, 8 am - 1 pm
 - Friday, Nov 1, 8 am - 4 pm
 - Saturday, Nov 2, 8 am - 1 pm
 - Saturday, Nov 9, 7 am - 1 pm
- @ Brookview Park

Provides residents a monitored site to dispose of their leaves at no charge. Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/homeyard/yards/leaf-drop-off.php or in the September/October *CityNews*. 

Golden Valley Recycles

GREY Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
Labor Day	Sat, Sept 7
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 30
Christmas	Sat, Dec 28

BLUE Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
New Year's 2014	Sat, Jan 4

Missed Pick Ups

If your recycling is missed on Friday, call Allied Waste at 952-941-5174, Option 5, before noon on the following Monday. If you have specific recycling questions, call 763-593-8030.

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

Ponds Vital To Community Health

Ponds have been widely used for years to reduce the risk of flooding and to filter runoff collected from the City's storm water system before pollutants reach natural waterways like Bassett Creek, Sweeney Lake, Twin Lake, and others.

Although residents are strongly encouraged to minimize pollution, storm water ponds help deal with it once it has entered the environment. Golden Valley's Surface Water Management Plan requires storm water detention ponds and other water quality best management practices on all construction sites throughout the Bassett Creek Watershed.

The City demonstrates its long-standing commitment to water quality by constructing, inspecting, and maintaining its storm water ponds.

Along with new ponds, older ponds are being revitalized with native plants and maintenance. The use of native landscaping around storm water ponds is for more than aesthetics. Natural environments in and around the pond:

- help prevent erosion
- provide a habitat for microorganisms that remove nutrients/pollution
- improve the pond's appearance by hiding debris and water level changes

- provide a habitat for mosquito-eating insects (such as dragonflies)
- discourage geese visits
- make ponds less attractive for wading or swimming

The City makes monthly determinations regarding maintenance needs for various ponds throughout Golden Valley. When necessary, maintenance efforts can include controlled burns, spot mowing, and integrated plant management. Maintenance plans are designed to control and eliminate noxious plants, such as purple loosestrife and reed canary grass, and to allow native plant materials established for the pond buffer areas to flourish.

When ponds become full of sediment, the City has a program for excavating them to restore the water's capacity to remove pollutants. In addition, private businesses and residents are required to maintain their own ponds, rain gardens, and other water quality facilities.

For more information about Golden Valley's Surface Water Management Plan and use of ponds, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/surfacewater/index.php.

New Ordinance Allows Residents To Keep Chickens

After studying extensive research by the City's Environmental Commission, the Golden Valley City Council passed an ordinance June 18 allowing residents to keep chickens within city limits. Residents may apply for licenses starting now.

Residents had been expressing interest in keeping chickens for several years, says Eric Seaburg, staff liaison for the chicken study. But the City Council delayed passing an ordinance until it could finish a study on the concerns of legalization.

"Noise was a large concern," Seaburg says. "But that's not a problem with hens, and the new ordinance bans roosters."

Some residents were concerned that chicken coops in the neighborhood would bring down property values, but realtors consulted on the subject said this has not been the case.

Another concern was whether chicken coops will attract more predatory animals to the area, but wildlife experts said it's un-

likely. Chicken coops have also not been shown to spread disease.

A study of nearby cities that allow chickens, such as Minneapolis, found they have seen no significant problems.

Residents who choose to keep chickens on their property must follow a number of regulations, primarily relating to measurements and location of the coop within the property. Residents may keep no more than four chickens and must remove the coop from the property when they no longer keep chickens. The butchering of chickens is not allowed on the property.

An initial inspection for the coop is \$75, with a \$25 annual license fee that expires every April 1. For more information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/homeyard/yards/keeping-of-chickens.php.



Recreation Highlights

Complete list in the Spring & Summer Recreation Activities Brochure or at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation.

Youth

Fall Youth Programs— Soccer, Pre-School Playtime, Kids Club, Tap & Ballet, Tae Kwon Do, Kids Yoga, Baby-sitting Training, Drama Club, Piano Lessons, Tennis and Art Classes

Excel Energy Center Events—Plan ahead for these outings. Oct 4: Disney Live “Pirate and Princess Adventure;” Nov 22: Disney on Ice “Passport to Adventure;” Nov 30: Shrine Circus; Jan 26: Sesame Street

Seniors

Defensive Driving 4-Hour Refresher Course—Sept 12, 9 am–1 pm, \$17. Register in advance with the Minnesota Safety Council, 651-291-9150 with Visa or MasterCard.

Money Matters—Aug 15: “Comparing Condos, Co-ops, and Rentals,” 10 am, Brookview.

Pedal Pushers— Meet at 9 am and bike 6-12 miles. Aug 27: Dakota Rail Trail; Sept 10: Golden Valley area; Sept 24: Midtown Greenway.

Coffee Talk— Aug 28: “Caring for your Senior Pet,” 9:45 am, Brookview. Register by Aug 26.

Senior Trips— Sept 5: “Cowgirls” at the Old Log Theater; Sept 10: Harvest Samples; Oct 10: St Croix Valley Train

For more information or to register, call 763-512-2345 for Youth and Adult and 763-512-2339 for Seniors (M–F, 8 am–4:30 pm). Register in person, by mail, fax, or online.



Help Choose Brookview's New Playground Design

Citizens asked for input on equipment

After 18 years of use, the Brookview Park playground will have all of its equipment replaced beginning this fall.

Brookview Park is one of the more heavily used playgrounds in Golden Valley, meaning the equipment wears out faster than in other City parks, says Rick Jacobson, director of parks and recreation.

The City will take public input on what residents would like to see in a new playground, such as equipment types and layout. Residents may offer feedback through an online survey at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/parks/index.php. Check this web page for updates regarding when the survey will be available.

The City is also gathering feedback from members of the Open Space and Recreation Committee, Jacobson says.

Designing a successful playground is all about balance.

“When looking at new equipment, it’s a matter of trying to find what will challenge kids mentally and physically, but not be so advanced it will make them frustrated or be dangerous,” Jacobson says.

Several factors must be considered: safety, age appropriateness, cognitive, physical and sensory stimulation, and social promotion through inclusive play.

“Socialization is a big part of playgrounds,” Jacobson says. “The kids will make new friends and there’s a chance for parents to meet other parents, which helps build the community.”

And with the use of public feedback to select the new equipment and design, Jacobson says he hopes residents will feel a sense of ownership in the playground.

“Resident input is very important to this process,” he adds.

The playground will likely be split into two sections, one for kids ages 2 to 5 and another for kids ages 6 to 12. The new equipment will use the same footprint of the old, so the location and size of the park likely won’t change. 



Community Volunteering

Why it's important, and how to get motivated

by Shoshana Mann

The City of Golden Valley is building a volunteer services program. Why should you get involved?

Many of us learn early on that we should strive to help others. Many of us *also* know this is easier said than done. So what holds us back? Based on my experience, reasons range from philosophical ("Am I actually contributing?") to personal ("How does volunteering benefit me?") to practical ("I'm just too busy.").

.....o "Am I Actually Contributing?"

With some volunteering jobs, it's hard to see how our work does any good, especially when we don't see the direct results of our efforts. One group I work with at college, called "Challah for Hunger," makes and sells bread, called challah, around campus. Sales profits are donated to Sudanese hunger relief. In this situation, it was hard to see how the money we made could combat such a large issue.

However, while this organization won't ever fully eradicate Sudanese hunger, I came to realize that with every job, no matter how small, some contribution is being made and someone is being helped. We were selling more than 100 challahs a week, and I took comfort in seeing that small efforts can make a difference.

.....o "How Does Volunteering Benefit Me?"

Two years ago, I joined a campus group called "Badger Volunteers." Every Wednesday we went to a food bank to help with everything from breaking down cardboard boxes to putting stickers on frozen pizzas. The work was hard, and not particularly fun, but during the rides back to campus I noticed my mood had elevated. While many of my friends spent those three hours staring at Facebook and watching VH1, I was packaging meals for hungry families.

This sense of pride was just one benefit of volunteering I discovered. I also had immersed myself in a group and felt more connected to the community. Not only had I contributed to the greater Madison community, I had gotten to know the students working alongside me.

.....o "I'm Just Too Busy."

Are we really as busy as we think? In high school I participated in the Big Brother, Big Sister program, where I was paired with a girl with special needs. During this time I was busy with schoolwork and preparing for the college application process. But I realized that if I wasn't busy enough to miss an episode of whatever insipid TV show I was obsessed with at the time, I wasn't too busy to help out a little girl. I found that the contributions I made in this girl's life motivated me enough to push some things back so I could be there for her.

.....o Go For It!

Whatever your reason may be for not volunteering, I encourage you to sign up and just try it out. Like me, you may end up being surprised. 



Shoshana Mann

Golden Valley native Shoshana Mann is entering her senior year at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she's majoring in communication arts. A Hopkins High School graduate, Shoshana has several years of varied volunteer experience. In 2010 she was recognized with the Caring Youth Award for her work with the Big Brother, Big Sister program. She is spending her summer doing volunteer communications internships for the City of Golden Valley and Alliance Française.

Golden Valley Volunteer Opportunities

Golden Valley has a variety of opportunities for volunteering and getting involved. Coming up, people are needed to help with the annual Lilac Planting Party and Valley Volunteer Day (see page 15).

For more information on other City programs and events seeking volunteers, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/community/volunteers/index.php. Several new positions have recently been posted. If you like photography, watch for information in August about Golden Valley's new Photo Posse. Questions? Contact Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Werts at 763-512-2341 or swerts@goldenvalleymn.gov.



Volunteers at the 5th Annual Lilac Planting Party

21st Annual Photo Contest Celebrates Golden Valley

A beetle invasion took the top spot in Golden Valley's 21st Annual Photo contest, leading a picturesque pack of seven winners selected from more than 60 entries that captured the community at its most captivating. Sarah O'Rourke grabbed first place in the Natural Golden Valley category as well as grand prize for "Raspberry Invader." Stan Waldhauser took first place in the Enhanced category for his picture of a fun-filled snowy day, "Togetherness," and in Lifestyle for his photo of hidden architectural beauty, "Arches." Gretchen Mathiason's photo "Young and Free" nabbed the People's Choice award, and Jason Boudreau-Landis, Sarah Carlson, and Sonia Moharnmadzadah each received honorable mentions. This year's judges were Stefanie Briggs, Golden Valley Patch.com editor; Jerry Beck, City of New Hope communications coordinator; Nicole Pribbenow, City of St Louis Park communications specialist; and Wendy Maybury, professional photographer. 



FIRST PLACE NATURAL GOLDEN VALLEY & OVERALL GRAND PRIZE WINNER

Raspberry Invader! • Sarah O'Rourke

NATURAL GOLDEN VALLEY HONORABLE MENTION

Secret Garden : Jason Boudreau-Landis



PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Young and Free : Gretchen Mathiason



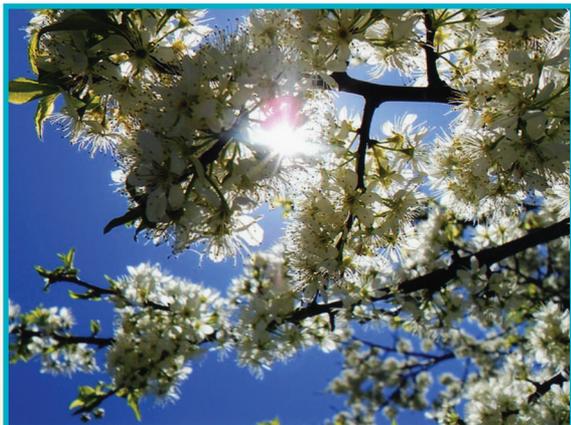
NATURAL GOLDEN VALLEY

PEOPLE'S CHOICE

ENHANCED GOLDEN VALLEY

ENHANCED GOLDEN VALLEY HONORABLE MENTION

Luminescence : Sonia Mohammadzadah



FIRST PLACE ENHANCED GOLDEN VALLEY

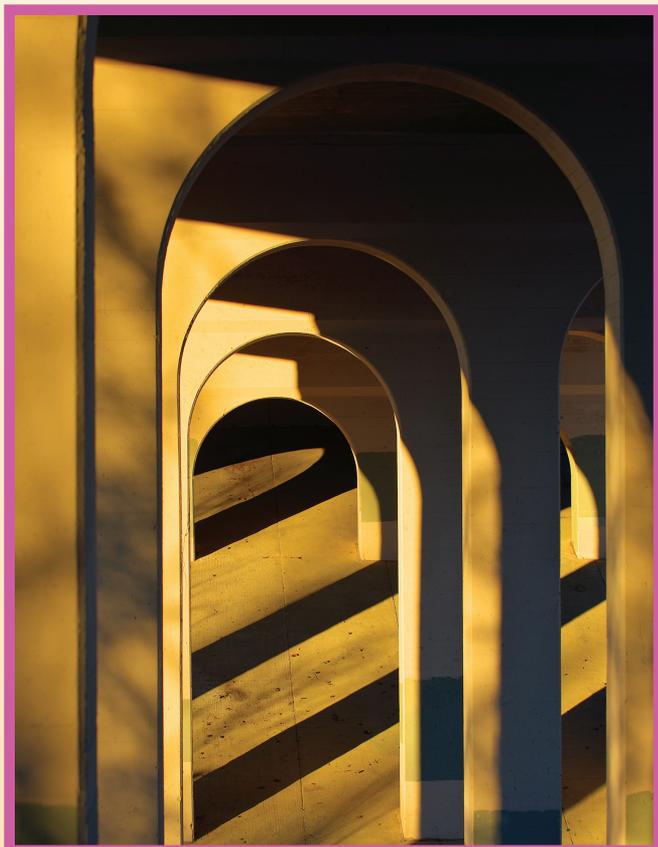
Togetherness : Stan Waldhauser



GOLDEN VALLEY LIFESTYLE

FIRST PLACE GOLDEN VALLEY LIFESTYLE

Arches : Stan Waldhauser



Next year's *Views of the Valley* Photo Contest deadline will be June 6, 2014.

GOLDEN VALLEY LIFESTYLE HONORABLE MENTION

The Jazz Road : Sarah Carlson



GVPD Working To Stem Rising Auto Theft Rates

Bait car technology offers solutions

Auto thieves sped off with 19 vehicles in Golden Valley in 2011 and another 24 in 2012, contributing to a sustained increase in the crime over the last few years, says Police Chief Stacy Carlson. But soon Golden Valley police may have a new tool to put the brakes on those numbers: a bait car.

Auto theft is a hard crime to make an arrest in, Carlson says. Thieves tend to dump the cars quickly, or turn them into parts and the evidence is lost. But, she adds, if they steal a bait car, a conviction is a guaranteed. Everything that happens in a bait car is recorded.

A bait car mimics a make and model that is frequently stolen. It contains software and GPS signaling that notify dispatch when the car is stolen and where it is. Police then have the ability to shut down the car remotely, avoiding a high speed pursuit.

“It’s a way to confirm and arrest auto thieves with as little danger as possible,” Carlson says.

In addition to leading to more convictions, she adds, bait cars also discourage would-be thieves who know the technology is out there and don’t want to take their chances.

Although, the City doesn’t currently have funds to cover the \$6,000 in bait car equipment and software, the Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) is working on ways to raise money. For example, a local retirement community offered to host a fundraiser Aug 14 (see box below) to help the GVPD reach its goal.

Auto theft is a persistent problem throughout the United States; according to the FBI, a car is stolen every 40 seconds. Nationally, auto theft increased 1.7 percent in 2012 (more than 720,000 motor vehicle thefts with an estimated value of \$4.3 billion).

Stolen vehicles are frequently used to facilitate other criminal acts such as burglaries, robberies, identity theft, drive-by shoot-

ings, and drug sales. To help keep your vehicle from being stolen, never leave it running unattended, and park in well-lit, highly visible areas. ✓

10 Most Frequently Stolen Cars in Minnesota

1		1996 Honda Accord
2		1997 Honda Civic
3		1999 Chevrolet Pickup (Full Size)
4		1997 Ford Pickup (Full Size)
5		1995 Toyota Camry
6		1994 Acura Integra
7		2000 Dodge Caravan
8		1999 Ford Taurus
9		2000 Chevrolet Impala
10		1998 Chevrolet Pickup (Small Size)

PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER FOR GVPD BAIT CAR

Aug 14, 8:30-10:30 am

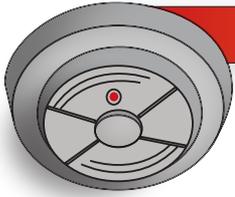
Covenant Village, 5800 St Croix Ave N

- All-you-can-eat pancakes, link sausage, juice, and coffee.
- \$3/person
- RSVP: 877-309-0312 or www.RetireAtGoldenValley.com/rsvp.



Fire Safety Tips For Your Home

Recent structure fires in the news remind us of the need to be aware of basic fire safety techniques. For more fire prevention information and campaign materials, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/campaigns/.



Smoke Alarms

- Properly install and maintain smoke alarms both inside and outside of sleeping areas and on every level of your home.
- Interconnected smoke alarms are best because if one sounds, they all sound.
- Test smoke alarms monthly and change alkaline batteries at least once every year, or as instructed. As a reminder, use a date you already know, like your birthday or when you change your clocks.
- Consider buying a long-life (lithium) battery-powered smoke alarm, which may last up to 10 years with no battery change.
- Install smoke alarms away from air vents.
- Install smoke alarms on the ceiling or wall, at least 4 inches from corners or according to manufacturer's instructions.
- If a smoke alarm sounds during normal cooking or when bathing, press the hush button if the smoke alarm has one. Open the door or window or fan the area with a towel to get the air moving. Do not disable the smoke alarm or take out the batteries. If this happens often, the smoke alarm will need to be relocated.



Escape Planning

- Prepare and practice an escape route with all residents in the home, including children.
- Know two ways to exit from every room in your home.
- Crawl low, under smoke.
- Feel closed doors. If hot, use another exit.
- Identify a place to meet household members outside.
- Call 911 after you escape.

Fire Safety Walkthrough

- Keep clothes, blankets, curtains, towels, and other items that can be easily set on fire at least three feet from space heaters and away from stove burners.
- Put space heaters where they won't tip over easily.
- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Be sure your stove and small appliances are off before going to bed.
- Check for worn wires and do not run cords under rugs or furniture.
- Never overload electrical sockets.
- Keep lighters/matches out of the reach of children.
- Never leave cigarettes unattended and never smoke in bed.



DON'T INVITE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO YOUR NEXT BBQ!

Keep grills on a level surface, away from your home.



Trees For Tyrol Project Completed

Thanks to a cooperative effort between the City and the neighborhood, North Tyrol Park shade trees and vegetation, which were lost in a 2011 tornado, have been restored.

When a tornado ripped through the eastern edge of Golden Valley on May 22, 2011, the playground was destroyed and nearly all of the shade trees were gone.

In the weeks after the tornado, the City cleaned up the downed trees and used insurance funds to help replace the damaged playground equipment. However, nothing similar existed for funding replacement trees. In addition, the loss of trees accelerated erosion problems on the park's hillside.

City crews regraded the hillside, planted native vegetation, and covered it with hay mulch to prevent further erosion. Using part of a DNR grant, the City planted more than 30 new starter trees, each about 10–12 feet tall with trunks that are 2-1/2 inches in diameter.

Residents in North Tyrol still missed the larger shade trees they had enjoyed before the storm, so to supplement the City's tree-planting efforts, several North Tyrol neighbors worked on a plan to purchase mature trees to plant alongside the younger vegetation.

The residents set a fundraising goal of \$15,000 for "Trees for Tyrol," and half of the neighborhood's 300 households contributed to the \$25,000 that was eventually raised, says Rob Wheaton, a coordinator for the project. That paid for 26 mature shade trees, which were recently planted in the park. The neighborhood plans to use remaining funds to pay the City to build a new trail and some benches in the park as well as put up signage, says Al Lundstrom, parks maintenance coordinator.

Many of the shade trees are warranted, so any that do not survive the transplanting process will be replaced, added Lundstrom. ~



North Tyrol neighbors raised funds to plant 26 mature shade trees in addition to smaller trees replanted by the City this year.

MCES Sanitary Sewer Project Under Way

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) is installing a new 18-inch regional sanitary sewer force main in Golden Valley to help relieve sanitary sewer capacity concerns along the I-394 corridor. Most of the installation of the MCES 1-GV-461 Reliever Project along Xenia Ave and Turner's Crossroad will be completed during the 2013 summer construction season. Small portions of the project will need to be wrapped up in 2014.

Work on the project includes tunneling under the Canadian Pacific Railroad tracks and Hwy 55 as well as laying thousands of feet of pipe for the force main between Laurel Ave and Glenwood Ave.

Residents should expect minor traffic control and roadway modifications when traveling through this corridor. For example, some streets in the area will be closed during parts of August. Warning signs will be placed in advance at the site of each closure to notify drivers.

The City publishes weekly project updates online at www.goldenvalleymn.gov. If you have further questions regarding the project, contact RJ Kakach at 763-593-8043. For more information about Golden Valley's sanitary sewer system, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/watersewer/sanitarysewer/index.php. ~



Be Neighborly, Follow Outdoor Storage Laws

Outdoor storage units and dumpsters are often a necessity for big spring cleaning events, but they quickly become an eyesore if not removed within a few days.

Temporary storage units are a common cause of neighborly complaints, says Dave Gustafson, property maintenance inspector.

In most cases, outdoor storage units must be removed within seven days, per City ordinance, although sometimes people treat them as semi-permanent fixtures.

“Ninety percent of the time, they just didn’t know any better,” Gustafson says.

Only storage units associated with an active building permit are allowed to stay out for more than a week. Furthermore, all storage units must be placed on a hard surface, says Roger McCabe, building inspector.

“If you put this 2,000 pound container on the grass and fill it with 10,000 pounds of stuff, your lawn will be destroyed,” McCabe says.

Both McCabe and Gustafson encourage residents to call the inspections department at 763-593-8090 if they have any questions.

“We’d much rather work with folks to remedy any problems than have to give a citation,” Gustafson says.

Another common outdoor storage complaint is when residents park more than one trailer, boat, fish house, or any other recreational vehicle on a driveway. A second recreational vehicle or fish house must be screened from public view (see ordinance 4.60: Residential Property Maintenance Code) and always remain on a hard surface.

Generally, people will get a warning before receiving a citation.

“We don’t come over like storm troopers,” McCabe says. “We try to talk with everybody face-to-face. It’s all about education.”

But when residents prove uncooperative, the first citation will cost \$100. The second citation is \$250, the third and fourth is \$500, and the fifth citation leads to criminal charges. ~



City Council Considers Garbage/ Recycling Bin Ordinance

The Golden Valley City Council is considering an ordinance requiring residents to screen their garbage and recycling bins from public view when it’s not a collection day. The carts would need to be hidden from anyone on a street, sidewalk, or trail.

Property maintenance inspectors regularly receive complaints from residents about trash and recycling bins lining up on driveways, says Golden Valley Fire Chief Mark Kuhnly.

The City’s current ordinance says containers need to be located behind the “front of primary structure,” which means they can often still be seen from the street even when in compliance with the code, Kuhnly says. The proposed ordinance would change the language from “front of primary structure” to “out of view from public right-of-way.”

City Council members will discuss the possible ordinance change at a workshop Aug 13 to decide if it is something they’d like to vote on at their regular meeting, or if they want to send it back to City staff for revision. ~





Sharing The Road (Part 2)

Facilities Accommodate Bicycle Travel

“Sharing The Road (Part 1)” in the May/June issue of CityNews outlined the growing popularity of bicycling and highlighted a few of the new facilities around the metro area that are set up to accommodate bicycle travel. Along with conventional bike lanes and shared lanes, the following facilities help make the roads safer for bikes, pedestrians, and vehicles. 



Bicycle Boulevard

- Bicycle boulevards are low-volume, low-speed residential streets where improvements have been made to give bicyclists some priority for travel. They are sometimes used as alternate routes or to supplement higher volume and higher speed streets. These streets generally appeal to all types of bicyclists. Traffic calming treatments such as landscaped traffic circles can be components of bicycle boulevards.



Buffered Bike Lane

- Buffered bike lanes are conventional bicycle lanes paired with a designated buffer space separating bicyclists from adjacent motor vehicles. They typically include a 6-foot conventional bike lane plus 2- to 4-foot striped buffer between the bike lane and the motor vehicle travel lane. Sometimes a buffer is also provided between the bike lane and parked vehicles to provide space for opening car doors.



Cycle Track

- Cycle track bike lanes are physically separated from traffic by bollards, planters, or curbs (a separate sidewalk is provided for pedestrians). Cycle tracks may be two-way on one side of the street or one-way with lanes on each side of the street. They appeal to all types of bicyclists.



Bike Box

- A bike box is a designated stopping area for bicycles in front of waiting motorized vehicles. Bike boxes can be used at signalized intersections along streets that have bike lanes. Bicyclists use a bike lane to the front of the traffic queue. When the light turns green, bikes safely cross or turn through the intersection without the danger of changing lanes in moving traffic.



Nice Ride

- Nice Ride is a popular bike-sharing program in the Twin Cities and across the nation. For a modest subscription fee, Nice Ride users can check out bicycles via credit card and return them to any other Nice Ride station when finished biking. See www.niceridemn.org for more information.

UPCOMING (free) events

Market in the Valley

Every Sunday through Oct 6 | 9 am–1 pm

Under the Water Tower

More information at www.marketinthevalley.org.

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser For GVPD Bait Car

Wed, Aug 14 (see page 10)

Bridge Builders Quarterly Meeting

Sat, Sept 7 | 10 am–noon

Courage Center, 3915 Golden Valley Rd

Discussion session connecting people and ideas, followed by a tour. Visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/community/bridge-builders/index.php.

Neighborhood Watch Annual Meeting

Mon, Sep 16 | 7 pm

City Hall Council Chambers, 7800 Golden Valley Rd

The GVPD hosts two Neighborhood Watch meetings per year and offers Neighborhood Watch meetings for new groups and individual neighborhoods upon request. The annual meetings will include a crime prevention refresher, an update on crime patterns and trends in Golden Valley, and more. More information at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/police/watch/index.php.

LILAC PLANTING PARTY

Sat, Sept 28

8:30–9 am: Registration

9 am–1 pm: Planting

1–2 pm: Celebration Lunch

Six years ago, Golden Valley's Envision Connection Project Bridge Builders teamed up with the City of Golden Valley and the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Community Roadside Landscaping Partnership Program to implement a vision of lilacs, shrubs, and flowers along the sides of Hwy 55 through Golden Valley. This year, volunteers will restore lilac beds disturbed by recent construction/rehabilitation of the MCES sanitary sewer system along the north side of Hwy 55

VALLEY VOLUNTEER DAY

Sat, Sept 28 | 9 am–4 pm

Various Golden Valley locations

The Envision Connection Project Bridge Builders sponsor Valley Volunteer Day each year to help beautify Golden Valley, promote healthy living, and share community pride. Details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/valleyvolunteerday/index.php.

Mighty Tidy Day

Sat, Oct 12 (see page 4)

MONSTER MASH TEEN DANCE

Fri, Oct 25 | 7–9:30 pm

Crystal Community Center

Grades 5–7, \$5 in advance, \$8 at door

Music, contests, prizes and fun. Music provided by a DJ. Wear your costumes to receive a treat and to participate in the costume contest!

Fall Leaf Drop Off

Oct 26 & Nov 1, 2, & 9 (see page 4)

between Douglas Dr and Glenwood Ave (see story on page 12). MCES will provide funding for the plants and materials in the location of the construction disturbance. Volunteers will also do some maintenance on existing lilac beds.

Come on your own, or gather a group from your neighborhood, church, business, or club. Register online at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/lilacplanting/index.php or with Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Werts at 763-512-2314. For more information about volunteering in Golden Valley, see the story on page 7.





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Golden Valley Community Blood Drive



Wednesday, August 28

Noon–5 pm

7800 Golden Valley Rd

Check in at the Public Safety
Building

To schedule your donation, go to www.mbc.org/searchdrives and enter sponsor code 4078. Or contact Ann at 651-332-7165 or aevans@mbc.org.

On the day of your donation, complete your health history questionnaire online at www.mbc.org/ido-nate.

Donate Blood At Battle Of The Badges

In November 2000, Edina Police Officer Mike Blood was shot multiple times at close range by a bank robber with an assault rifle. He needed 19 operations and 120 units of blood and spent a year in the hospital. Thanks to a supply of blood donated by others, he had a chance to recover.

Memorial Blood Centers' Battle of the Badges challenges Fire and Police Departments from across the metropolitan area in a friendly competition to save and sustain lives through blood donation. Golden Valley is showing support by hosting a community blood drive Aug 28 (see sidebar).

Invite friends, family, and neighbors to support your Golden Valley Fire and Police Departments in Battle of the Badges and schedule a donation today (see sidebar).

To learn more about Mike and how donated blood saved his life, go to www.mbc.org/Stories/Recipients/Mike.



Shot in the line of duty, donated blood saved Mike's life.



A Division of Innovative Blood Resources

Golden Nugget What's in a name?

On Dec 16, 1886, the founders of Golden Valley voted to incorporate the Village of Golden Valley out of what was known at the time as Minneapolis Township. The Village Officers (comparable to our current City Council) included Uriah Wilson, John Scheid, Michael Rey, John Sweeney, William Varner Sr, and William Varner Jr. You may recognize these names around town from such locations as Varner Circle, Scheid Park, and Sweeney Lake.

Recently Moved To Golden Valley?

We'd like your feedback

The City of Golden Valley is looking for ways to simplify and improve its new resident packet, a guide to help incoming residents settle in as smoothly as possible.

If you moved to Golden Valley after January 2012, your feedback is valuable. Please contact Cheryl Weiler at 763-593-8004 to set up a phone interview to share your thoughts on the current new resident packet and discuss what you would like to have seen, what could have been clearer, and what information was most and least helpful to you.

The City also provides a suggested to-do list for new residents in its "Moving In" section of the website at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/homeyard/buy/moving-in.php.



This document is available in alternate formats upon a 72-hour request. Please call 763-593-8006 (TTY: 763-593-3968) to make a request. Examples of alternate formats may include large print, electronic, Braille, audiocassette, etc.

