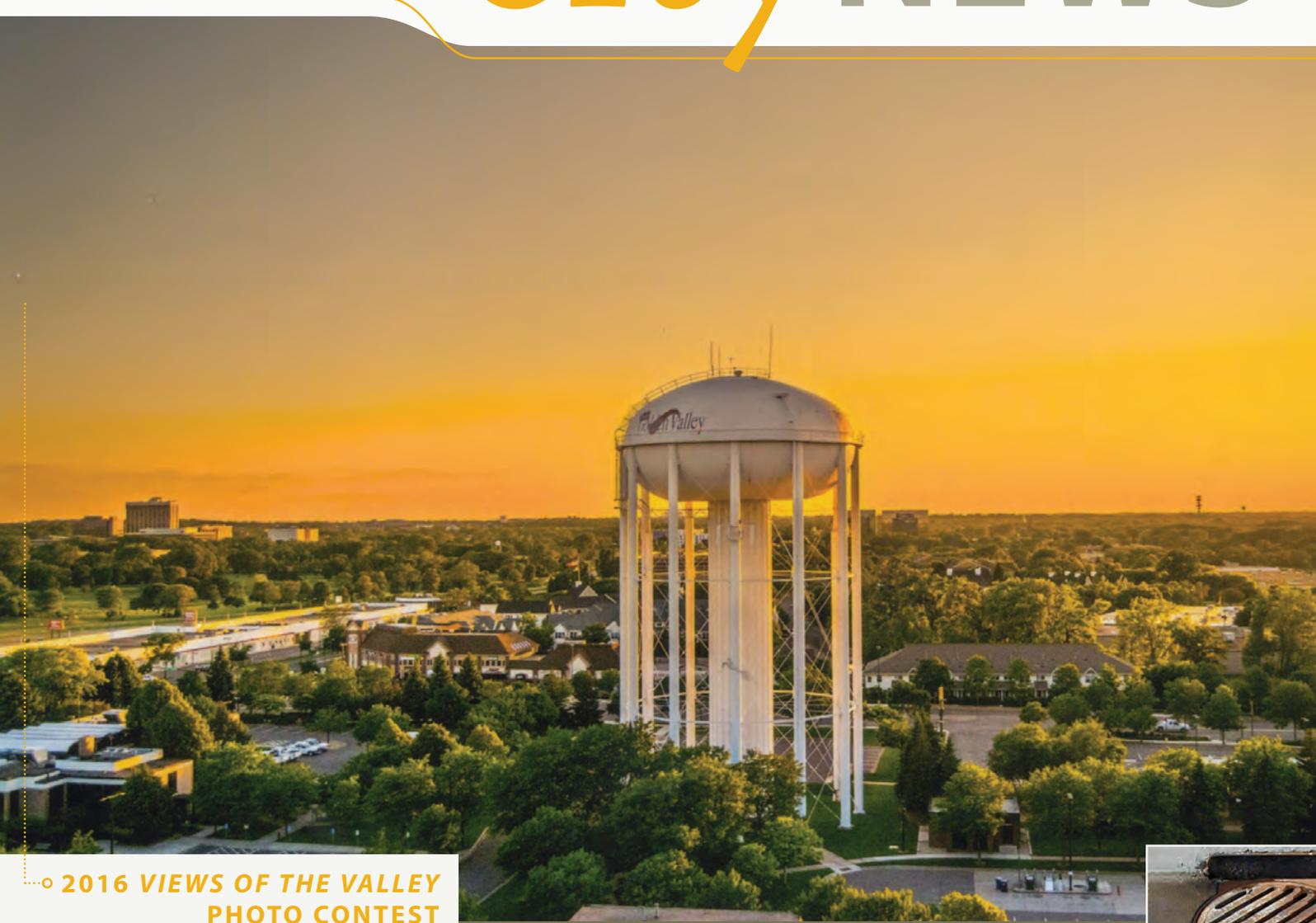




cityNEWS



2016 VIEWS OF THE VALLEY PHOTO CONTEST

Enjoy the images that took top honors in the City's 24th annual photo contest.

SEE PAGES 8-9

Photo by Andrew Fitzsimmons,
Views of the Valley 2016

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Population shifts factor in to the City's Comprehensive Plan conversations.

SEE PAGES 7 & 13

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cityHEADLINES

City Council Begins Budget Review

The Golden Valley City Council held its first discussion July 12 on the proposed 2017–2018 City budget.

Minnesota law requires cities to adopt a budget annually. 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 2017–2018 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Parks, Buildings, and Equipment.

The City Council begins the budget process early each year with workshops in July and August to discuss goals. 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 will be approved in December for 2017 property tax statements.

General Fund Budget

The General Fund Budget covers police; fire and inspections; street, park, and building maintenance; engineering; administration; City Council and manager; and parks and recreation.

Increased transfers are proposed for infrastructure needs. Two examples are the Park Improvement Fund, which finances improvements to the parks (eg, playground equipment and parking lot repairs) and the Street Overlay Program, which helps maintain the City's newly constructed streets as they age.

The City participates in several cost-saving strategies, such as a State consortium to buy fuel, equipment, and vehicles; mem-

bership in a multi-city computer consortium; cooperative sharing of equipment and services with other cities; and joint dispatching services with Hennepin County.

Debt Levy

The Debt Levy covers payments on already-issued bonds for the Pavement Management Program (PMP), vehicles and equipment, and tax abatement.

The debt levy will increase due to the lease-purchase bonds to fund construction of the \$18.2 million Brookview Community Center facility. Starting in 2017, a median value home (approximately \$258,000) in Golden Valley will see an estimated \$9.02/month (\$108.29/year) increase in property taxes to pay back the 20-year lease-purchase bond and fund yearly operations for the building. For more information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation/brookview/brookview-study.php and click on "Financing This Project."

To view past City budgets, go to 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.



HRC Accepting Nominations For Hobbs Human Rights Award

Golden Valley's Bill Hobbs Human Rights Award is presented in December in conjunction with Human Rights Day and recognizes community members who work to build an environment that promotes fair and equal treatment for everyone. The Golden Valley Human Rights Commission (HRC) is accepting nominations for the 2016 award through Sept 30, 2016.

Nominations may be submitted by an individual or organization (ie, a club, social agency, unit of government, religious denomination, school, or business).

Nominees must live, work, or conduct business in Golden Valley during the nomination year.

Nominee activities proposed for recognition should have a positive impact or clearly improved understanding or cooperation in the areas of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation, or familial status.

Nominee services must be either voluntary or above-and-beyond a paid employee's usual job responsibilities.

Members of the Golden Valley HRC are not eligible for the award while serving on the Commission. To submit a nomination, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/boards/humanrights/hobbs-award.php.



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Visit www.facebook.com/cityofgoldenvalleymn



City To Develop Goose Removal Plan

Although Brookview Golf Course has been removing geese from the course for 25 years, a new Department of Natural Resources (DNR) policy now requires that the City outline its specific removal strategies.

Currently, the City hires contractors to remove the geese from the golf course and transfer them to locations in other states.

Over the remainder of this year, City staff will work with the Open Space and Recreation Commission and City Council to

develop a formal Canada Goose Removal Management Plan. The process will include a public input meeting later this fall—watch the City website and future newsletters for a specific date. The new plan will be adopted in 2017.

In the meantime, the City has used a variance to continue its ongoing non-lethal goose removal management process this summer. There are currently no plans to remove geese from areas outside of the golf course. 

GVHSF Funding Applications Due Aug 26

The Golden Valley Human Services Fund (GVHSF), which is composed of community volunteers, helps fund several nonprofit agencies that serve Golden Valley residents in need. For 2016 the GVHSF contributed \$50,000 to the following organizations.

- **Canvas Health/Crisis Connection** provides free 24-hour telephone counseling to people with personal and family problems and crises.
- **Crisis Nursery** supports families with a 24-hour crisis helpline and overnight residential child care, counseling, parent education and support, and more.
- **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, 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.

- **Sojourner Project** provides emergency shelter for women and children as well as legal advocacy and support to domestic violence victims.
- **The Bridge For Youth** provides connections between the current realities of homelessness and a brighter, safer, more stable future.
- **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** runs programs committed to nurturing the potential of kids by promoting health, wellness, and social responsibility.

Funding applications for 2017 are due Aug 26, 2016 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 763-512-2366. 



Hennepin County Offers Multiple Recycling Services

If you need to get rid of some stuff but are unsure of disposal options, Hennepin County has you covered.

A to Z How To Get Rid of It Guide—This online search tool provides information on options for discarding items or recycling (if applicable). First, go to www.hennepinatoz.org/azguide/household.html. Choose either the “household” or “business” option. Enter the item to be discarded and click “Search A-Z Guide,” or click “Browse Index” for an alphabetical list of items ranging from awards to zip drives. For each item, the website provides recycling or disposal options and links to other resources.

Drop-Off Facilities—Hennepin County has two year-round drop-off facilities where residents can get rid of recycling, electronics, appliances, and hazardous waste, including TVs, computers, portable electronics, and pesticides. There are fees for some items. For more information, go to www.hennepin.us/residents/recycling-hazardous-waste/drop-off-facilities.

Choose to Re-Use—Hennepin County’s Choose to Re-Use Service allows you to donate used goods at nearly a dozen locations as well as save money buying products from them. Go to www.hennepin.us/residents/recycling-hazardous-waste/choose-to-reuse.

Fix-It Clinic—At Hennepin County’s Fix-it-Clinics, you can bring in small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices, and more and receive free guided assistance from volunteers with repair skills to disassemble, troubleshoot, and fix the items. You must be able to carry items in; no oversized items are accepted. For more information, go to www.hennepin.us/residents/recycling-hazardous-waste/fix-it-clinics.



Recycling Reminders

Mighty Tidy Day

Sat, Oct 8, 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/mightytidyday or in the September/October *CityNews*.

Fall Leaf Drop-Off

- Sat, Oct 29, 8 am–1 pm
 - Fri, Nov 4, 8 am–3 pm
 - Sat, Nov 5, 8 am–1 pm
 - Sat, Nov 12, 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

GRAY Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 26

BLUE Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
Labor Day	Sat, Sept 10

Missed Pick Ups

If your recycling is missed on Friday, call Republic Services 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.



To sign up to receive emailed recycling updates and reminders, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/news/subscribe.

Emerald Ash Borer At Our Borders

City Braces For Impact

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) beetle has been found just outside Golden Valley's border on both the east and west sides, so it's only a matter of time before it's detected here, says Al Lundstrom, park maintenance supervisor.

The good news is that the infestation has been spreading at a slower rate than expected. This could be due to Minnesota's cold winters, a resourceful forestry program, and area cities taking preventative measures, having learned their lesson after witnessing the devastation in other states like Michigan, which lost millions of ash trees, Lundstrom says.

Once infested by the EAB beetle, an ash tree becomes brittle and its branches easily break loose, becoming a safety hazard, which is why it's important to remove or chemically treat the trees before the beetle has a chance to infest. Once infested, an ash tree dies within three to five years and may cause injury to people around it.

Since 2010, the City has diligently continued its ash-tree removal plan, removing roughly 50 ash trees a year and replacing them with a widely diverse crop of new trees. This removal plan is, however, only for public property.

Tim Teynor, City forester, recommends that private land owners take measures right now to either remove ash trees from their properties or treat them with insecticide.



Lundstrom and Teynor also strongly caution against taking any fire wood out of or into the area. The beetle by itself only travels up to two miles in a lifetime, but if it hitches a ride in a car, the damage spreads far wider and faster.

To help slow the spread of EAB to other areas, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has quarantined ash material in Anoka, Chisago, Dakota, Fillmore, Hennepin, Houston, Goodhue, Olmsted, Ramsey, Scott, Wabasha, Washington, and Winona counties. Ash material may not be moved beyond the quarantined boundaries unless given permission by the MDA, United States Department of Agriculture, or both.

Once the beetle has been detected in Golden Valley, staff will assess the level of damage and may increase the rate of tree removal, Lundstrom says. Since ash trees are so numerous, removing them from all public areas may take about two decades.

"Though the infestation has not increased as fast as we expected, we're still anticipating significant losses," Lundstrom says. "We're still looking, still working our plan, still preparing for the worst."



After A Storm, Help Clean Catch Basins

After the July 5 storm, City crews were out immediately dealing with downed trees in streets and localized street flooding. Nearly all localized street flooding was due to catch basins clogged with leaves and branches blown down in the storm, says Marc Nevinski, physical development director.

Catch basins allow surface water run-off to enter the storm sewer system through a grated entry. The City of Golden Valley has about 1,000, many with a sump area in the bottom to "catch" heavy debris before it goes any farther.

This helps protect storm sewer pipes from getting blocked with sand, gravel, or silt, which can result in overflows. Frozen storm pipes and catch basins during spring run-off also cre-

ate a potential for overflows. Regular maintenance is crucial in preventing overflows. City crews clean catch basins with sumps yearly and clean storm pipes before and after each street construction season. The rest of the storm pipes are inspected annually and cleaned as necessary.

Even with regular preventive maintenance, during a storm City crews cannot get to every catch basin. If you have a catch basin adjacent to your property, you can help by adopting it and keeping debris from the opening.

For more information on the City's storm sewer system or adopting a catch basin, visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov/surfacewater/storm-drain-adoption.php.



Recreation Highlights

Complete list in the Winter Recreation Activities catalog or at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation.

Youth

Junior Fall Soccer (grades K–1)—Sat, Sept 10–Oct 15, \$38. Register by Aug 12.

Youth Co-Rec Fall Soccer (grades 2–5)—Saturday games Sept 10–Oct 8, weekday practices, \$38. Register by Aug 12.

Youth Lacrosse (grades K–6)—Mon & Thurs, Sept 19–Oct 17, 6:30–7:30 pm, Davis Community Center, \$59. Last two at Lions Park. Co-sponsored by Hopkins Community Education.

Adult

Fall Co-Rec Sand Volleyball League—Tues eves, Aug 23–Sept 20, Brookview Park, \$125/team (guaranteed five games). Register by Aug 5.

Seniors

Coffee Talk—10–11 am, Brookview. Aug 26: “Songs and Stories of Greenwich Village, 1966.” Sept 28: “We are Building a New Brookview Community Center.” Register two days in advance at 763-512-2345.

Money Matters—10–11 am, Brookview. Aug 18: “Financial Benefits for Veterans & Surviving Spouses.” Sept 15: “Estate Planning—What Is It And Do I Need It?”

Lawn Bowling League—Wed, Sept 7–Oct 12, 10–11 am, Brookview Lawn Bowling Rinks. \$5 league fee + \$3/week. Register/cancel by Sept 2.

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.

City Pilots Seasonal Off-Leash Pet Exercise Areas

The City of Golden Valley is piloting a program to offer seasonal off-leash pet exercise areas in the outdoor hockey rinks at Gearty and Medley Parks. These areas will officially open Sept 6 and continue daily 7 am–10 pm until winter rink maintenance operations begin. A notification of closure of the off-leash areas will be posted on the City website.



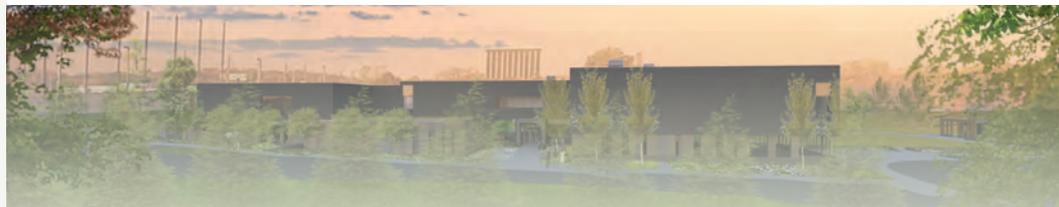
Photo By Edwin H. Sand, Views of the Valley 2013

“The City Council and staff have heard from residents for a number of years now that it would be nice to have off-leash exercise areas for pets, and we thought this would be a unique way to see if it’s feasible as a long-term option,” says Rick Birno, parks and recreation director. “We want to try out the concept and see how smoothly it goes.”

The off-leash exercise areas will feature access gates and waste receptacles. All pets must be leashed before entering and when exiting the areas.

All pets must also be up-to-date on vaccinations, trained for verbal control to prevent inappropriate and/or aggressive behavior, and removed from the area if the outing is causing issues for other pet owners.

Owners are legally responsible for any harm, injuries, and/or damage caused by their pet as well as for proper clean-up and disposal of pet waste. There will be no fees to enter the areas. 🐾



Brookview Community Center Groundbreaking

Oct 5, 2016 • 5:30 pm

Brookview Community Center, 200 Brookview Parkway S

Come one, come all to celebrate the beginning of the new Brookview Community Center! Construction on the replacement building is set to begin Oct 6, with completion scheduled for late fall 2017.

Note: Beginning Oct 1, 2016 through late fall 2017, Brookview Community Center will not be hosting private party rentals due to limited building access during construction of the new community center. 🐾



HRC Conversations

Three major trends are shaping Minnesota and Golden Valley as we move into the future: population shifts, aging, and growing diversity. The Golden Valley Human Rights Commission's (HRC) goal is to encourage dialogue about what this means in a three-part series.

Metro Area And Golden Valley See Population Increases

The Twin Cities metropolitan area has seen a population boom in the last decade, with numbers increasing at a rate almost double that of Minnesota as a whole, according to the Minnesota State Demographic Center. Today, one in five Minnesota residents live in Hennepin County.

Golden Valley, which experienced three decades of population declines, rebounded with a 2.1 percent increase in population between 2010 and 2014, with a net gain of 419 residents. That was still the lowest population increase in the metro area. One reason is space.

“We are a fully developed city and don’t have as many new or undeveloped properties where we can add housing units,” says Tim Cruikshank, Golden Valley City manager. “It’s not inherently bad to grow or not to grow in population. It’s really all about what we want as a community.”

Golden Valley’s population will continue to grow slowly. Projections by the Metropolitan Council show the city adding nearly 1,000 residents between 2010 and 2020, another 700 by 2030, and 900 more by 2040, for a total population of 22,900. In the same time frame the city is projected to add 5,700 jobs.

Such forecasts help cities plan for future housing and infrastructure needs, including wastewater and sewer capacity. How those plans look depends on what the City Council and residents envision for Golden Valley.

“My hopes are that the community comes together and agrees on what they want the future of the City to look like, so we as staff can make that happen,” Cruikshank says.

During the last Comprehensive Plan process in 2008, residents expressed a desire to keep up with modern trends while preserving Golden Valley’s small-town heritage and honoring its past.

The 2040 Comprehensive plan (due in 2018) will check back in with the commu-

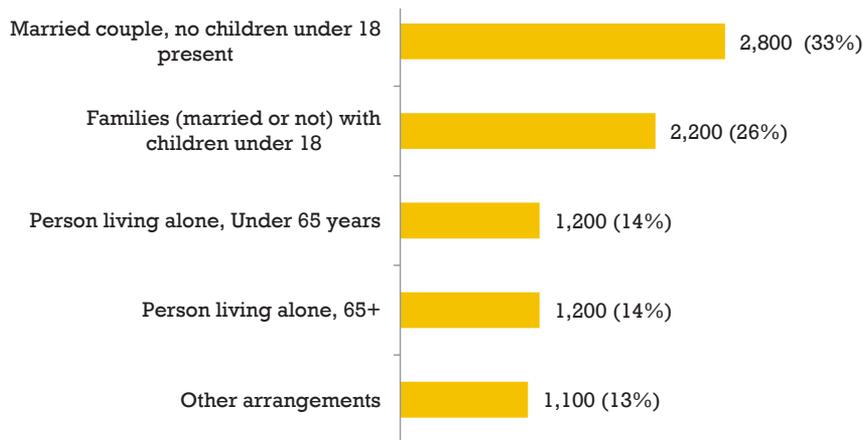
nity to make sure everyone still feels the same (see story on page 13), says Jason Zimmerman, City planner.

“When you’re planning five, 10, or 20 years out, it’s all about understanding the evolution of trends,” he says. “Population trends, environmental trends, transportation trends—it’s all changing, and the community’s needs and values change with them.”

The fact that Golden Valley’s population growth is slow takes some of the pressure off to accommodate wild swings in population shifts, Zimmerman says. With proper planning, slower development can be beneficial. 

Watch upcoming newsletters for stories on trends in aging (September/October) and diversity (November/December).

Golden Valley households by type (about 8,500 total, averaged 2010-14)



rces: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2014 American Community Survey, DP02..

Golden Valley’s households are broken down by type in recent US Census data.

PHOTO CONTEST THE BEST OF 2016

A POGO-STICKING DAMSELFLY TOOK TOP HONORS IN THIS YEAR'S VIEWS OF THE VALLEY PHOTO CONTEST, WITH A DRAGON FLY HOT ON ITS HEELS.

A deer caught in sunlight took the People's Choice award, while first place in Art and Design, and People, Events, & Urban Scenes went to a swirl of fireworks and the Golden Valley water tower, respectively.

Three judges ranked Jeff Lamberg's "Grass Pogo Stick" as the overall winner out of 47 entries and the first place winner in the Natural category. Andrew Fitzsimmons won first place in the Art & Design category with "Off the Lean," as well as first place in the People, Events & Urban Scenes category with "Views." "Deerly Beloved" by Mary Bunnell took the People's Choice award.

Judges were Pat Brink, Brink Public Relations; Chris O'Connor, Cable 12 Community Corner producer; and Emilie Rieger, City of Plymouth communications coordinator.

For the 25th Annual Photo Contest, categories will honor the City's upcoming 2040 Comprehensive Plan: "Land Use and Parks," "Housing and Transportation," and "Water and Sustainability." The 2017 entry deadline will be Fri, June 9. Details coming soon. 🐾



FIRST PLACE & OVERALL GRAND PRIZE WINNER
Grass Pogo Stick • Jeff Lamberg

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD



WINNER

Deerly Beloved : Mary Bunnell

NATURAL GOLDEN VALLEY



HONORABLE MENTION

Here's Looking At You : Jeff Lamberg

[ART & DESIGN]



HONORABLE MENTION

Through The Looking Glass : Grace O'Neil



FIRST PLACE

Off The Lean : Andrew Fitzsimmons

NEXT YEAR'S VIEWS OF THE VALLEY PHOTO CONTEST DEADLINE WILL BE JUNE 9, 2017.

[PEOPLE, EVENTS, & URBAN SCENES]



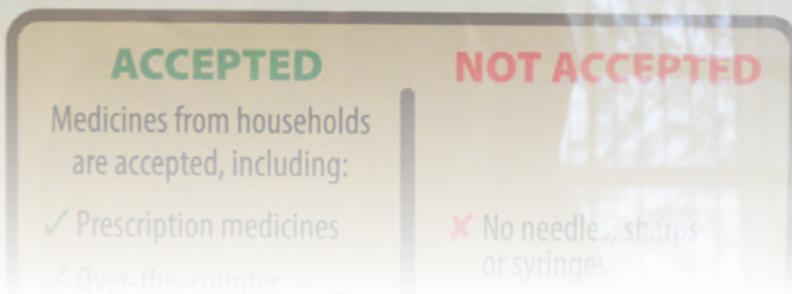
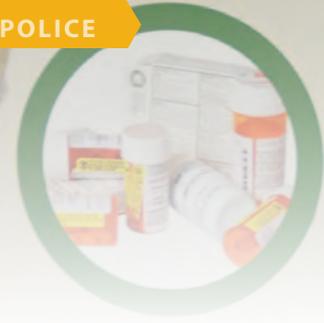
FIRST PLACE

Views : Andrew Fitzsimmons



HONORABLE MENTION

Kayaking Down Basset Creek : Susan VanderLinden



Medicine Disposal Drop Box Now Available At Golden Valley Police Dept

A new and safer way to get rid of unused and unwanted prescription medicines is now available in Golden Valley. A medicine take-back box was installed in the lobby of the Police Department June 22.

“We have several requests per week for prescription drug disposal options,” says Jason Sturgis, Golden Valley police chief. “This is a great program to help get those products safely off the streets.”

Disposing medication in the drop box cuts down on the chance of it falling into the wrong hands, and it’s also better for the environment, Sturgis says. Once the medications are in the drop box, licensed police officers carefully remove the substances and follow a standard procedure for bundling the contents and delivering to the proper officials with Hennepin County. After collecting the medicines, sheriff’s deputies transport them to an incinerator where they are destroyed.

This is the ninth drop box of its kind to be installed in Hennepin County. Others can be found at Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Edina, Maple Grove, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, Osseo, and Spring Park. Visit www.hennepin.us/medicine for more details.

“Take-back boxes have been an integral part of removing unused and unwanted medications from medicine cabinets in

Hennepin County and beyond,” said North Memorial outpatient pharmacy manager Jeff Wigfield. “Increasing access and adding additional boxes furthers the cause of safe disposal of medicines.”

The drop box will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 7700 Golden Valley Rd, and it will remain under constant surveillance.

Medicines accepted will include prescription medicines, controlled substances, over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and supplements, and pet medicines. But no syringes, sharps, or other medical waste will be accepted.

The City of Golden Valley is working with Partnership for Change and Hennepin County to bring the program to the community.

Further Background From Hennepin County

About 10 percent of the pharmaceuticals dispensed in the US are controlled substances. Controlled substances include anabolic steroids, narcotics, stimulants, depressants, and hallucinogens that have a potential for abuse and physical and psychological dependence.

The US Controlled Substances Act established a closed system of distribution designed to prevent the diversion of controlled substances. Although patients can possess controlled substances, they cannot lawfully transfer a controlled substance to another person or entity for any purpose. For example, patients cannot return controlled substances to pharmacies, even though pharmacies dispense them.

As an interim measure, the US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has allowed law enforcement agencies, such as the Hennepin County Sheriff’s Office, to operate medicine disposal programs. The law enforcement agency must retain custody of controlled substances at all times, up to and including destruction. 



Golden Valley Police joined staff from North Memorial Medical Center and Hennepin County to roll out the new medicine disposal drop box now available in the GVPD lobby.

WATER SAFETY AWARENESS CAN HELP PREVENT DROWNING

You live in Minnesota. In the land of 10,000 lakes, summer is synonymous with swimming. That makes water safety an important issue for people of all ages. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), drowning ranks fifth among the causes of unintentional injury death in the United States, claiming about 10 lives every day.

Whether you do your swimming in a pool, lake, river, or pond, it's smart to be aware of the main factors that affect drowning and take steps to prevent them. As listed by the CDC, these are lack of swimming ability, lack of barriers to prevent unsupervised water access, lack of close supervision while swimming, location, failure to wear life jackets, alcohol use, and seizure disorders.

The CDC offers the following tips to help reduce the risk of drowning.

- Learn to swim, and learn CPR. Even the most basic skills can help save lives.
- If you have a pool, make sure you've installed proper fencing with latched gates and locks to prevent young children from entering the pool area.
- Drowning can happen quickly and quietly anywhere there is water. Children and persons with seizure disorders should always be supervised when in or near water, and pre-schoolers should be within arm's length of an adult. Supervision of children, even with a lifeguard present, means no reading, talking on the phone, or other activities that may distract you from your mission. Adolescents, teens, and adults should use the buddy system.
- Be aware of where you swim. Most children ages 1-4 drown in home swimming pools, while more than half of fatal drownings among those 15 years and older occur in natural water settings.
- Wear life jackets when boating (water wings and "floaties" are not life jackets).
- Don't drink and swim. Among adolescents and adults, alcohol use is involved in up to 70 percent of water-related deaths.

Drowning Is Silent

Anyone who spends time around the water needs to know what drowning looks like. If you go by what you see on TV, it involves lots of splashing, waving, and calling for help. In reality, drowning is usually silent.

According to the Coast Guard's *On Scene* magazine (fall 2006), "except in rare circumstances, drowning people are

physiologically unable to call out for help. ... Breathing must be fulfilled before speech occurs." Other signs to watch for include:

- head low in the water with mouth at water level or head tilted back with mouth open
- hyperventilating or gasping
- eyes either closed or empty and unable to focus
- not using legs, vertical
- trying to swim in a particular direction but not making headway
- trying to roll onto back
- appear to be climbing an invisible ladder

Electric Shock Drowning

Awareness is also building about the danger of electric shock drowning (ESD). This can happen anywhere electricity is used near water, and most deaths have occurred near residential docks and in public and private marinas.

ESD occurs when a low level of AC runs through a person who's in the water, causing skeletal muscular paralysis. Unable to move, the swimmer drowns, and people who jump in to help them are incapacitated as well. Victims are often swimming or playing in water where electricity enters the water as a result of faulty wiring or equipment. The League of Minnesota Cities recently reminded its member cities to take precautions and inspect electrical wiring near swimming areas and marinas.

For more information about minimizing the risk for and preventing ESD, go to the Electric Shock Drowning Prevention Association website at www.electricshockdrowning.org.



Interested In Learning Hands-Only CPR?

Contact Stephen Baker, Golden Valley Fire battalion chief, at 763-593-3977 or sbaker@goldenvalleymn.gov.

UPGRADED SANDBURG ATHLETIC FIELDS TO OPEN IN FALL

After two seasons of construction, the upgraded athletic facility at the Sandburg Learning Center will have its grand opening Sept 10 (see box below for details).

“We’re thrilled with the opportunities and the flexibility that the new facilities allow us now for youth soccer and baseball programs,” says Rick Birno, parks and recreation director. “This upgrade helps us meet the current and future needs of youth athletics in Golden Valley.”

Sandburg is a principal location for soccer for Golden Valley and surrounding communities as well as Armstrong-Cooper youth baseball. The baseball and softball fields were built in the early 1970s and had not had any improvements since. The soccer fields were positioned over the old softball fields and an old running track.

“None of it was irrigated and drainage was poor, with no fencing,” says Al Lundstrom, parks maintenance supervisor. “Before the upgrade, we were trying to squeeze soccer fields in some pretty poor sites. From a park maintenance standpoint, we’re very excited to put out several soccer fields and multi-use fields, especially for future athletics like lacrosse. Because of the large space, we can now consolidate several fields into one location, instead of hopping around site to site. It’s much more efficient.”

COOPERATIVE PLANNING

Golden Valley received a \$325,000 Hennepin Youth Sports Program grant for the project, which is the result of a partnership between the City, School District 281, the Park Valley United FC, and the Armstrong-Cooper Youth Baseball Association.

GRAND OPENING: SANDBURG ATHLETIC FIELDS

Sept 10, 2016, 10 am

Sandburg Fields Sun Shelter, 2400 Sandburg Ln

Short presentation, ribbon cutting, light refreshments, and youth soccer games.



Sandburg Fields Sun Shelter

Along with key environmental improvements to the area, Sandburg project includes:

- replacing old block dugouts with new fenced dugouts
- adding permanent outfield fence to both fields
- removing three old softball fields and a running track and re-grading the soccer field area to allow for up to nine soccer fields
- replacing failing irrigation to the baseball fields and adding irrigation to other fields
- constructing trails from the west parking lot to all fields
- adding an athletic equipment storage building in a partnership with Robbinsdale schools

COOPERATIVE CONSTRUCTION

“The construction went really well, and the key thing here was the cooperative effort across several City departments,” Lundstrom says. “We couldn’t have done it, for the cost, without the help of utility maintenance doing storm water management, street maintenance doing trails and pathways and grading work, park maintenance doing restoration, and golf maintenance assisting with turf irrigation.”

Most municipal projects of this kind are almost entirely contracted out to private firms, he adds. But this was different.

“We’re unique in the amount of work that was completed in-house,” Lundstrom says. “Many cities would look at us like, ‘how did you pull that off?’ We just made it happen.”

COMMUNITY INPUT NEEDED FOR CITY'S



2040 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

As work revs up on Golden Valley's 2040 Comprehensive Plan, City staff will keep residents in the loop with several opportunities to contribute.

"We're looking for help with the big picture vision of what people want Golden Valley to be in 20 or 30 years," says Jason Zimmerman, City planning manager. "Based on those ideas, staff and City Commissions will develop plans for the future."

The first big opportunity for input will be at the Sept 19 Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off Open House (see box at right).

Staff will be looking for long-term ideas on land use, parks, housing, water, transportation, and sustainability.

"We'll have stations for each of these Comp Plan elements with information about the goals and objectives developed for the last Comp Plan, in 2008, as well as some other basic information," Zimmerman says. "We'll look to get feedback on if these goals and objectives are still relevant or if we should modify them."

Residents unable to attend the Sept 19 Open House can fill out a questionnaire and track the project at the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan website at bit.ly/GV2040CompPlan. To sign up for ongoing Comp Plan updates, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/news/subscribe.

Staff, consultants, and City commissions will process all input in 2017, then go back to the public to get reactions to the updated goals and objectives, Zimmerman says. Watch the City website and future issues of *CityNews* for ongoing updates on the Comp Plan and for notices about future public input meetings.

The changes to the 2040 plan won't be as extensive as they were for the 2030 plan, Zimmerman says, but there will be some targeted efforts—like the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Task Force—to probe further into issues that seem to need some specific exploration (see story below).

"Golden Valley did a huge reworking on the heels of the Envision project in 2008, so this new plan won't be a complete overhaul like that, but there will still be room for changes and new ideas."



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN KICK-OFF OPEN HOUSE

Sept 19, 2016

6:30–8:30 pm

GV Council Chambers
7800 Golden Valley Rd

Bike And Pedestrian Planning A Focus In Comp Plan Update

Biking and pedestrian planning was not extensively covered in the City's last Comprehensive Plan, but that changes with this go around, says Emily Goellner, associate planner.

There will be an entire section in the new plan devoted to bikes and pedestrians.

"There was not a lot of community engagement around this topic last time," Goellner says, "so the Council made it a priority to put more emphasis on it this time."

To ensure that community members are involved, the City Council appointed a 10-member Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Task Force in late June 2016.

The Task Force will discuss community goals, options for new facilities, and potential policies and funding sources for imple-

mentation. The group will then recommend network connections and enhancements to the City Council.

Residents can offer input using an interactive bike and pedestrian map, where they can mark which areas they feel need improvement, outline favorite routes, or just submit general comments. Go to bit.ly/GV2040CompPlan, click on "Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan," then click on "Interactive Bike and Pedestrian Map."

"We're looking for feedback on the existing bike and pedestrian network to try to understand its strengths and weaknesses," Goellner says. "Over the next year, we want to get everybody's feedback, together with the Task Force recommendations, into one document for the City Council to adopt into the Comprehensive Plan." 

City Council Considers Tweak To Winter Parking Ordinance

During the winter, parking in Golden Valley is prohibited on public streets after a snowfall of at least 2 inches until the snow has stopped falling and the street has been plowed to the curb line. To further enable more efficient snow removal operations, in 2015 the City Council amended the ordinance to also prohibit all parking on public streets and alleys between midnight and 6 am from Nov 1–March 31. In August, the Council will consider amending that ordinance.

The midnight to 6 am parking restriction was enacted based on input about safety and how parked vehicles impact snow and ice removal. After amending the ordinance, the City Council agreed to review the new parking restriction in the spring to evaluate its effectiveness.

In the meantime, residents provided feedback, including complaints that the parking restrictions are unnecessary and overly prohibitive as well as thanks that the plowed streets no longer feature snow-covered parked vehicles.

At its Aug 16 meeting, the City Council plans to discuss a minor change that will be less restrictive to residents yet still satisfy citizen expectations for streets that are plowed curb to curb. The proposal is to modify the no parking time frame to 2–6 am, Nov 1–March 31.

A 2–6 am winter parking restriction would still give City crews time to do a curb-to-curb plow while giving residents a longer time frame in which guest vehicles may be parked in front of their homes. Residents with overnight guests can request a temporary exemption to the parking ordinance by filling out the online “Winter Parking Waiver” form. However, waivers are temporary, and parking is still prohibited on all public streets after a snowfall of at least 2 inches, regardless of the time of day.

In Golden Valley, a 2-inch snowfall is the equivalent of a “snow emergency” and the point at which City crews commence with plowing operations. Crews first plow main arterial routes and “through” streets that connect neighborhoods to State and County roads to keep these roads passable until all City streets can be plowed. During a large snow event the City may plow a street multiple times. Afterwards, crews continue to plow/treat streets for snow and/or ice until they meet City standards.

Ideally, crews plow or treat the streets in the early morning before rush hour. Keeping parked vehicles off the street helps crews efficiently and safely clear the snow. Parked vehicles hamper crews from treating areas of the road and cause potential hazards should a plow truck slide on the icy roads they are there to address. Vehicles in violation are cited by patrolling police. Vehicles found to be obstructing traffic or snowplows, and those still in violation after 24 hours, may be towed.

To stay informed, listen to weather forecasts and adjust travel plans accordingly. You can also sign up for Golden Valley winter parking email alerts at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/news/subscribe. 🌊

Douglas Drive Construction Under Way

Reconstruction on Douglas Dr (County Rd 102) began June 27 as crews closed the street between Medicine Lake Rd (County Rd 70) and Duluth St (County Rd 66), set up erosion control features around the construction zone, and removed the traffic signal at Sandburg Rd. Construction of this joint project between Hennepin County and the City of Golden Valley is being led by Hennepin County (learn more about the project history at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/streets/construction/douglas-drive.php).

You can still travel around this area, including to get to local businesses. Duluth St will remain open during this project. For regular project updates and to check which sections of Douglas Dr are open, go to the project website at www.hennepin.us/douglasdrive.

While in the construction area, it’s important to obey speed limits and stay alert, including during the evenings and weekends. Traffic changes, construction crews, equipment, and work areas near the roadway can create unexpected situations.

For more information and to get answers to questions during construction, email douglasdrive@hennepin.us or call the Douglas Dr Project Hotline at 612-543-3485. 🌊



UPCOMING events

Market In The Valley

Sundays through Oct 2
9 am–1 pm
Outdoor farmers market under the water tower. More information at www.marketinthevalley.org.

Minnesota Night To Unite

Tues, Aug 2
Join your neighbors to celebrate the shared goal of a safe community. More information at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/nighttounite.

MOVIES IN THE PARK

- 1: Thur, Aug 4 | 8:30 pm
Wesley Park
"Zootopia" (sponsored by WSB)
- 2: Thur, Aug 11 | 8:30 pm
Scheid Park
"Inside Out" (sponsored by Xcel Energy)

Bike To The Ballpark

Thur, Aug 11 | 10:30 am–4:30 pm
Bike with Park and Rec staff to Target Field and watch the Twins face the Houston Astros. Depart from Lions Park. Must be able to bike 7–8 miles one way using streets and sidewalks. Parents and other adults welcome. \$22/resident, \$24/non-resident.

Sandburg Athletic Fields Grand Opening

Sat, Sept 10 | 10 am
(see page 12)

Human Rights Commission At Market In The Valley

Sept 11 | 9 am–1 pm
Join the HRC for a fun scavenger hunt of the Market to provide fresh produce to stock PRISM's shelves.

Golden Valley Arts & Music Festival

Sept 17 | 9:30 am–9:30 pm
City Hall, 7800 Golden Valley Rd
Community festival featuring a parade, artisans, food, craft beer, and music. More information at gvcfoundation.org/.

Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off Open House

Mon, Sept 19 | 6:30–8:30 pm
(see page 13)

Brookview Community Center Groundbreaking

Wed, Oct 5 | 5:30 pm
(see page 6)

Mighty Tidy Day

Sat, Oct 8 | 8 am–1 pm
(see page 4)

Annual Leaf Drop-Off

Three Oct & Nov weekends
(see page 4)

General Election

Tue, Nov 8 (see pages 2 & 16)

More event information at: www.goldenvalleymn.gov/calendar

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Wed, Aug 24 | 1–5 pm
7800 Golden Valley Rd (check in at Public Safety Building)
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. Schedule your donation at www.mbc.org/search-drives 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/idonate.





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763-593-3968 TTY

www.goldenvalleymn.gov

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ELECTION DAY

VOTE IN YOUR PRECINCT

- ★ **PRECINCT 1A:**
NE Fire Station
3700 Golden Valley Rd
- ★ **PRECINCT 2A:**
Valley Presbyterian Church
3100 North Lilac Dr
- ★ **PRECINCT 3C:**
Meadowbrook School
5430 Glenwood Ave
- ★ **PRECINCT 4:**
LOGIS
5750 Duluth St
- ★ **PRECINCT 5C:**
SE Fire Station
400 Turners Crossroad S
- ★ **PRECINCT 6:**
Golden Valley City Hall
7800 Golden Valley Rd
- ★ **PRECINCT 7B:**
Sandburg Learning Center
2400 Sandburg Lane
- ★ **PRECINCT 8B:**
Brookview Community Center
200 Brookview Parkway

For 2016 the general election day is Nov 8. Polls are open 7 am–8 pm.

PRIMARY ELECTION IS AUG 9

For the Aug 9 primary election, you may vote in person at your assigned polling place or vote absentee ahead of time.

Absentee voting means voting by mail or in person before Election Day instead of at the polling place. Absentee ballots are available 46 days before an election. Under a 2014 state law change, voters no longer have to state a specified reason in order to receive and cast an absentee ballot. You will need to fill out an application to vote absentee.

ONLINE—You can apply online through the Minnesota Secretary of State’s website at www.mnvotes.org. Hennepin County will mail the ballot directly to you once the application is completed.

BY MAIL—Send your completed absentee ballot application to Hennepin County Elections by mail (Hennepin County Elections - PSL 012 Government Center, 300 6th St S, Minneapolis, MN 55487), fax (612-348-2151), or email (hc.vote@hennepin.us).

IN PERSON—You may apply and vote at Golden Valley City Hall during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8 am–4:30 pm). Extended absentee voting hours are available on the Saturday and Monday before the election (Aug 6, 10 am–3 pm, and Aug 8 until 5 pm).

Hennepin County will mail the ballot directly to you once the application is completed.

Get more information about voting and elections at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/elections.



★ ★ ★

AM I REGISTERED TO VOTE?
Check your registration at mnvotes.org.

VOTER REGISTRATION

You will need to register if you have never registered to vote, changed your name, moved to a different address (even if only your apartment number has changed), or have not voted in four years. You may register on Election Day at your polling place with required information to prove your residency. Visit www.mnvotes.org or the Golden Valley website (www.goldenvalleymn.gov/elections/voting.php) for a list of the requirements for Election Day registration.

Questions? Contact City Clerk Kris Luedke at 763-593-8012.



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.

