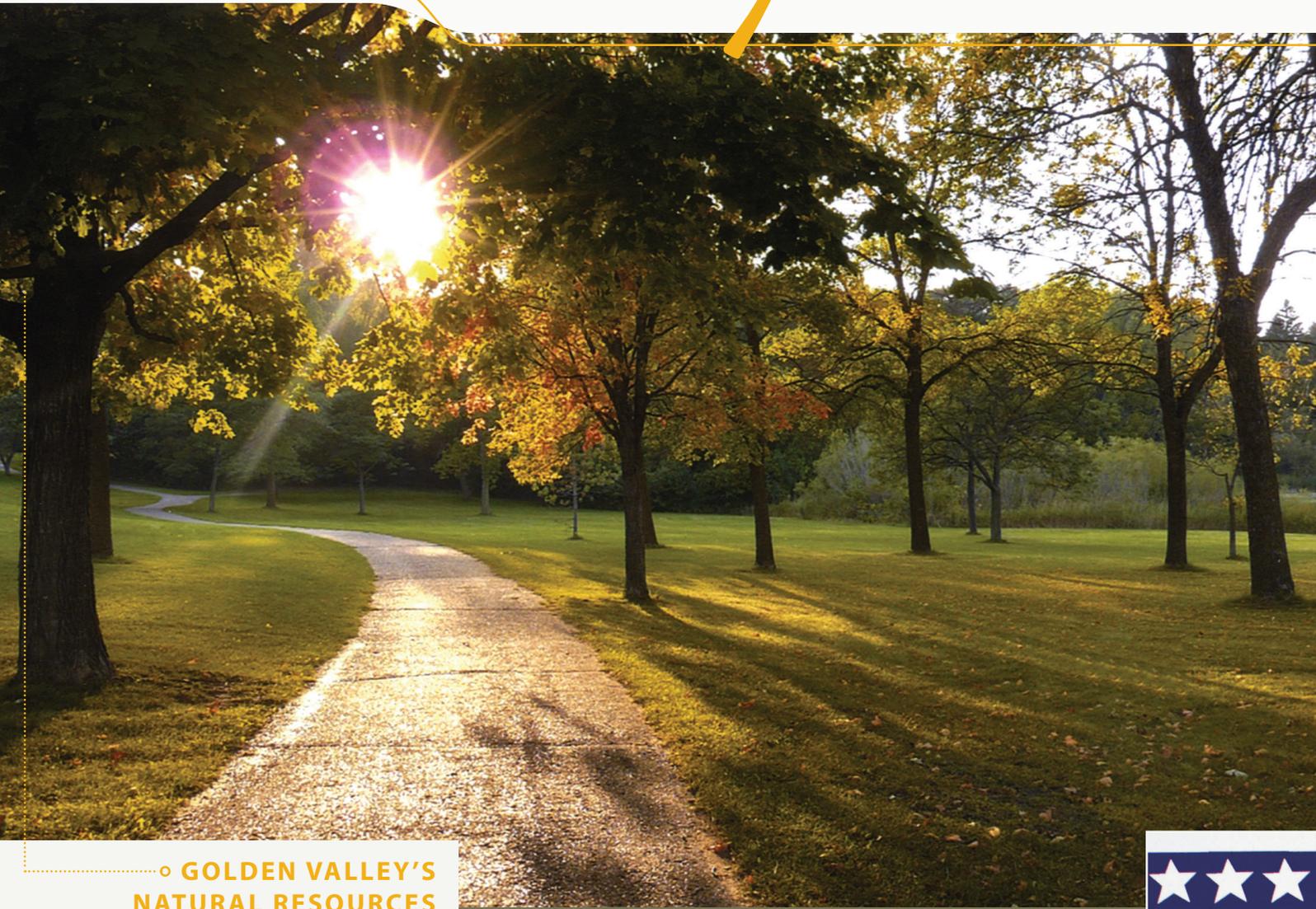




cityNEWS



◦ GOLDEN VALLEY'S NATURAL RESOURCES

Are they important to your quality of life? Take the Natural Resources Survey and help guide the City's best management practices.

SEE PAGE 10

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Two unsolved Golden Valley homicides remain under investigation 19 years later.

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cityHEADLINES

Council Approves 2015 Tax Levy And Budget

On Sept 2, the City Council approved the 2015 proposed tax levy and the 2015-2016 General Fund Budget. The proposed tax levy was set at \$18,551,428. The levy did increase by 6.4 percent, but the City has planned for the Golden Hills Tax Increment District to close in 2015 to help lessen the impact. Taxes that went to pay for improvements in the Golden Hills area will now go back to the taxing jurisdictions.

The City Council began the budget process in early 2014 with workshops to discuss goals and their financial impact. Council began reviewing the proposed budget in July and will continue until it adopts the final levy Dec 2. The levy the Council approved Sept 2, which will be used for the proposed property tax statements that will be mailed in November, cannot be increased but can only be decreased.

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 2015–2016 CIP for Parks, Buildings, and Equipment.

Property Values

Taxable market values overall increased by 6.18 percent. Most were residential values increasing by 11.17 percent, apartments by 19.27 percent, industrial by -1.65 percent, and commercial by .53 percent. Due to the many changes in property values, the tax impact could vary for each property. The median home value increased 13.22 percent after the Homestead Market Value Credit, from \$227,000 to \$252,500. The City portion of taxes on the \$252,500 home is expected to decrease by \$2.20.

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. Total proposed expenditures for 2015 are \$16,902,135.

In order for the City to maintain its newly reconstructed streets, it needs to fund an overlay maintenance program. The 2015 budget includes \$100,000 to help fund the future overlay program. This amount will need to go to \$500,000 in future years. If not, assessments will be needed to help fund the program.

Transfers increased by \$45,260 to the Park Improvement Fund and by \$35,030 to the Building Fund. The Park Improvement fund finances improvements to the parks, such as playground equipment and parking lot repairs. The Building Fund finances improvements to the 10 City buildings and park shelters.

The City participates in several cost-saving strategies, such as a State consortium to buy fuel, equipment, and vehicles; membership in a multi-city computer consortium; and cooperative sharing of equipment and services with other cities. In 2015, the City will join services with Hennepin County for dispatching.

Debt Levy

The Debt Levy covers payments on already-issued bonds for the Pavement Management Program (PMP), vehicles and equipment, and tax abatement. For 2015, the debt levy increases 4.51 percent. Council will annually review the scheduled improvements for each remaining PMP geographic area and their impact on the additional levies for bonded debt.

The 2015–2016 proposed General Fund Budget is available online at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/budget.

Questions about the budget or your proposed property tax?

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



www.goldenvalleymn.gov/news/subscribe/

Never miss another headline. Subscribe to news from the City of Golden Valley, tailored to your interests and delivered straight to your inbox.

Get Ready To Vote Nov 4

For the Nov 4 general election, you may only vote in person at your assigned polling place but may vote absentee ahead of time. Polling places are listed on page 16.



Absentee Voting Starts Sept 19

Absentee balloting is now available for all voters, due to a change in state law. Absentee balloting was previously only available for those who were unable to get to the polling place on Election Day. Under the new law, voters do not have to state a specified reason in order to receive and cast an absentee ballot. Absentee voting may be done in person or by mail.

In Person

Beginning Sept 19, Golden Valley voters may vote absentee at Golden Valley City Hall or at the Hennepin County Government Center in Minneapolis during regular business hours, 8 am to 4:30 pm. Because of an expected heavy volume of absentee voting due to the state law change, extended absentee voting hours will also be available at both locations (see box).

Keep in mind that because of the change in law, lines for in-person absentee voting may be as long as the line at your Election Day polling place.

By Mail

The first step to vote absentee by mail is to complete an application. You can apply online through the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at www.mnvotes.org. You may also pick up an application at City Hall or call 763-593-8000 to have one mailed to you.

As soon as the City receives a completed application, a ballot will be mailed to you. The voted ballot must be received at City Hall by Election Day for the vote to count, so be sure to allow sufficient time for postal service delivery.

Questions? Call the City at 763-593-8000. Voting and election information is available at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/elections/index.php.

***** Absentee Voting Extended Hours *****

GOLDEN VALLEY CITY HALL

- Tuesday, Oct 28: 8 am–5:30 pm
- Wednesday, Oct 29: 7:30 am–4:30 pm
- Thursday, Oct 30: 8 am–5:30 pm
- Friday, Oct 31: 8 am–4:30 pm
- Saturday, Nov 1: 9 am–4 pm
- Monday, Nov 3: 8 am–5 pm

HENNEPIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

- Saturday, Oct 25: 9 am–4 pm
- October 27–31 (Monday–Friday): 7 am–6 pm
- Saturday, Nov 1: 9 am–4 pm
- Monday, Nov 3: 7 am–5 pm

Voter Registration

You will need to register if you have never registered to vote, if you have changed your name or address since you last voted (including moving to another apartment in the same building), or if you have not voted in four years.

To register, complete a Minnesota Voter Registration Application by mail, in person, or online at www.mnvotes.org. Applications

To check if you're already registered to vote, go to www.mnvotes.org.

are available online (www.goldenvalleymn.gov/elections) or at City Hall.

If you have questions about elections or voting, contact the City Clerk at 763-593-8012.

Fall Leaf Drop-Off Starts Oct 25

Golden Valley's Fall Leaf Drop-Off provides residents a place to dispose of their leaves at no charge during three late-fall weekends.

The drop-off site will be at Brookview Park, south of Hwy 55 at Winnetka Ave. During drop-off days, Brookview Parkway becomes a one-way road. All traffic must enter the site from Winnetka Ave S and exit on Western Ave. City personnel will direct vehicles to drop-off points, where other personnel will help residents unload or de-bag leaves.

Guidelines

- Participants must provide proof of Golden Valley residency (Minnesota driver's license, ID, utility bill, or proof of identity and address).
- Residents must untie leaf bags, help de-bag their leaves at the site, and take the bags home for reuse or disposal. No brush or garden waste will be accepted.
- For fast unloading and to conserve your bags, leave them untied. A parking area will be provided for residents to untie their bags before getting in line.

2014 Fall Leaf Drop-Off

SAT, OCT 25

8 am–1 pm

FRI, OCT 31

8 am–4 pm

SAT, NOV 1

8 am–1 pm

SAT, NOV 8

7 am–1 pm

@ Brookview Park
(south of Hwy 55 at Winnetka Ave,
enter from Winnetka Ave)

- Residents hauling loose leaves must help unload their leaves at the site.

(Tip: If you're hauling loose leaves, line the trailer or truck bed with a tarp before loading the leaves. To unload, help the workers lift the corners of the tarp and dump the leaves into the drop-off area.)



If you miss the Leaf Drop-Off, contact your garbage hauler for its policies and rates or check the Yellow Pages or online for names of commercial yard waste processing sites. The Maple Grove Yard Waste Site (14796 101st Ave accepts leaves, brush, and grass for a fee. For more information, contact the Yard Waste Site directly at 763-420-8971 or visit www.mgyardwaste.com.

If you have questions about yard waste, call Public Works at 763-593-8030.

Raking Blitz Helps Those In Need

Need help raking? The **Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fall Raking Blitz**, set for **Oct 24–Nov 3, 2014**, will dispatch volunteer raking teams and individuals from participating churches (Calvary, Valley Community Presbyterian, Golden Valley Lutheran, and King of Grace) to homes that ask for service.

To schedule leaf-raking service: Call the Senior Community Services HOME Program at 952-746-4046 by Oct 19. Volunteers will rake and bag leaves and take them to the curb. Residents are responsible for providing biodegradable bags and arranging for disposal.

If you can help with the raking: Contact Golden Valley Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Werts at 763-593-2341 or sign up online at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/community/neighborshelping.php. Groups and individuals are welcome. Students must be accompanied by an adult. Volunteers should dress for the weather and bring gloves, rakes, and any other equipment needed.

The Neighbors Helping Neighbors is a partnership between the City of Golden Valley and local churches and nonprofit organizations to match community volunteers with homeowners needing physical or financial assistance with home maintenance.

Golden Valley Recycles

GRAY Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
Thanksgiving	Sat, Nov 29
Christmas	Sat, Dec 27

BLUE Holiday Schedule

Holiday Week	Pick-Up Date
New Year's 2015	Sat, Jan 3

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.

DUMP YOUR JUNK

10th Annual Mighty Tidy Day Is Oct 11



Back for the 10th year, **Mighty Tidy Day is set for Saturday, Oct 11, 8 am to 1 pm, at Brookview Park.** Golden Valley residents may dispose of mattresses, sofas, broken bicycles, tires, old appliances, computers, televisions, and more (see box below for list of items and fees). Donation opportunities are also available for furniture, household goods, and clothing. **No hazardous waste (motor oil, asbestos, cleaning solvents, pool chemicals, etc) is accepted.**



Enter Brookview Parkway from the north along Winnetka Ave (no entrance will be allowed from Western Ave). Proof of residency will be required at the entrance. Workers will collect the appropriate fee by cash or check and direct you to one of four lots (see box below).



Donation Station

PRISM will collect unsoiled fabrics and clothing (unusable textile items will be recycled) and will also be accepting donations of non-perishable food, personal care products, and more. A detailed list of needed items is available at <http://prismmpls.org/>. Donations are tax-deductible.



Bring gently used furniture and household items for donation to Bridging, a non-profit organization that provides people transitioning out of homelessness and poverty with a one-time gift of quality goods to stabilize and improve lives while effectively using community resources.

Bridging needs bedroom, living room, and dining room furniture and household goods such as kitchenware, linens, bedding, lamps, small appliances, etc. A detailed list of needed items is available at www.bridging.org. Donations are tax-deductible at the fair market value of each item.

Bridging reserves the right to refuse donations and is unable to accept office furniture, large appliances, computers, audio equipment, sporting goods, infant/child items & toys, lawn/patio furniture and equipment, musical instruments, or holiday items.

Paper Shredding

Safe and secure destruction of personal documents is one of the best ways to combat identity theft. Bring papers loose in a paper bag (boxes will be returned to you). Staples and paper clips are OK. No binders or plastic material (computer disks, CDs, etc) will be accepted. Available for residents only and not businesses or other commercial enterprises.

Why Participate?

Aside from the benefits of recycling materials instead of landfilling them, some of these materials contain toxins that threaten public health and the environment, so proper disposal is important. During the 2013 Mighty Tidy Day, the City collected 19.39 tons of bulk waste, 97 appliances, 376 lbs of batteries, and 11,360 lbs of electronics. 

If you have questions about *Mighty Tidy Day*, call Public Works at 763-593-8030.

MIGHTY TIDY DAY Disposal Costs

LOT 1

Electronics

- Non-Television: \$5/each
- Peripherals (anything that attaches to electronic devices but is not a power source): \$1/each
- Computer Monitors/ TVs
 - CRT: \$15/each
 - Flat Panel: \$10/each

Appliances

- If one typical person can carry it (microwave, dehumidifier, mini-refrigerator): \$10/each

- Other (dishwasher, dryer, freezer, range/stove, refrigerator, washing machine, water heater): \$20/each

Tires

- With rims: \$7/each
- Without rims: \$5/each

Batteries: Free

Fluorescent Bulbs

- CFL (household): \$1/each
- 4-foot long or less: \$1/each
- Longer than 4 feet: \$2/each
- U-bent: \$2/each

LOT 2

Scrap Metal

- Clean metal: Free
- Other (bikes, etc): \$5/each

Paper Shredding: Free

LOT 3

Bulk Items

- Mattress/Box Spring/Chair: \$15
- Couch: \$20
- Misc: \$15/cubic yard
- Construction debris, lumber, etc: \$18/cubic yard

DONATION LOT

Free Collection

Bridging is accepting donations of gently used furniture and household goods, such as kitchenware, bedding and linens, lamps, small appliances, etc.

PRISM is accepting gently-used shoes and clothing for all ages as well as textiles for recycling. Donations of non-perishable food and personal care products are also welcome.

Recreation Highlights

Complete list in the Fall Recreation Activities catalog or at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/recreation. Look for the Winter catalog the first week of December. Registration opens Dec 8.

Youth

Youth Basketball (girls and boys grades 2–7)—Register by Dec 12. Games and practices January to mid-March. Volunteer coaches needed.

Adult

Davis Community Center Open Gyms—8–10 pm: Mon (35+ Basketball), Tues/Thur (18+ Volleyball); 8–10 am: Sat (18+ Basketball); 1–3 pm: Sun (Family Gym Time), 3–5 pm: Sun (18+ Pickleball).

Seniors

Money Matters—Oct 16: “How to Spend Your Savings Strategically.” Nov 20: “Pawn Shops – What Are They?” 10 am, Brookview.

Medicare Advantage & Medicare Part D 2015—Oct 22, 10 am, \$2 at door. Register by Oct 20.

Living Wise And Well—Nov 6: “Your Thyroid: It’s More Important than You Think.” Dec 4: “The Perfect Pick-Me-Up.” 1 pm, Calvary Center Cooperative.

Joy of Painting® the Bob Ross® Method—Nov 8, 1–4:30 pm. No previous experience needed, all materials provided. Bring home a winter scene ready to frame. Min 5/Max 15, \$60/resident. Register/cancel by Oct 30.

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.

Check Out Our New Outdoor Rec Programs!

City Partners With Westwood Nature Center

When Golden Valley’s Parks & Recreation staff looked for opportunities to expand outdoor programs for residents, they turned first to St Louis Park’s Westwood Hills Nature Center, 20 percent of which is in Golden Valley.

“We don’t have the resources or facilities to offer all the programs we want to provide, but Westwood does,” says Rick Birno, director of parks and recreation. “We’re looking forward to a long-term relationship and the benefits it will provide for all involved.”

The partnership allows for programs never before offered in Golden Valley. Here are just a few:

- **Tuesday Turtles (ages 4-5)**—Tuesdays, Oct 7–Nov 4. Learn about nature in a fun, interactive environment with zany puppets, engaging stories, outdoor discovery hikes, creative arts, and nature games.
- **33rd Annual Halloween Party (all ages w/adult)**—Friday, Oct 17 or Saturday, Oct 18. Nature games, refreshments, special activities, two decorated theme trails. Pre-registration required. In-person ticket sales available at Westwood Hills and Brookview Community Center.
- **Puppet Story Time: Creepy Crawly Animals**—Saturday, Oct 25, 3–4 pm. Puppets will lead you through books, skits, songs, and more to learn about the animals that call Westwood their home.
- **Beginning Archery (ages 7+ w/adult)**—Learn and practice how to shoot a bow and arrow. Bows, arrows, and targets provided. There’s a 10-minute hike to the archery range and back.
- **Autumn Evening Archery (ages 18+)**—Learn and/or refine your archery technique. Bows, arrows, and targets provided as well as an archery safety refresher. There’s a 10-minute hike to the archery range and back.

Other popular fall programs include Honey Harvest, which studies bees, and the Fall Color Paddle on Westwood Lake.

For more information or to sign up, visit www.goldenvalleymn.gov, click the Parks and Recreation tab at the top, then look under “Things To Do.”

GOULISH GOLF

@ Brookview Par 3

Saturdays and Sundays in October, plus MEA break

The spirits are summoning you to Brookview for a spooky round of golf. Try out the Haunted Hill, the Batwing Bunker, the Sand Witch Trap, and more. Big pumpkin-faced putting cups on the greens will make it fun for kids and beginners.

Free rental clubs and golf balls available. Fee: \$12.50/person or \$7/person if you’re wearing any Halloween or orange clothing or are in costume. Folks are just dying to play Brookview in October! To book a tee time, call 763 512-2330.

The Golden Valley Community Foundation donated funds for this program.



Cross-City Park Possible With Robbinsdale, Three Rivers

The Cities of Golden Valley and Robbinsdale are working with the Three Rivers Park District to create a 62-acre park that spans their borders and is connected to the Luce Line Trail.

The partnership will connect three smaller existing parks into one larger park that's more consistently and thoroughly maintained, says Rick Birno, Golden Valley's parks and recreation director.

It will combine resources to develop an area that will better meet the needs of the community, he adds, including the addition of paved trails that will be regularly maintained in both the summer and winter and water quality improvements to the pond.

Improved Recreation

The project combines Golden Valley's Mary Hills and Rice Lake Nature Areas with Robbinsdale's Sochacki Park. It will be developed as a passive recreation park, meaning it will feature walking trails and low-impact recreational opportunities but not feature sports facilities such as soccer fields or ball diamonds. The land will also be used as a storm water restoration area.

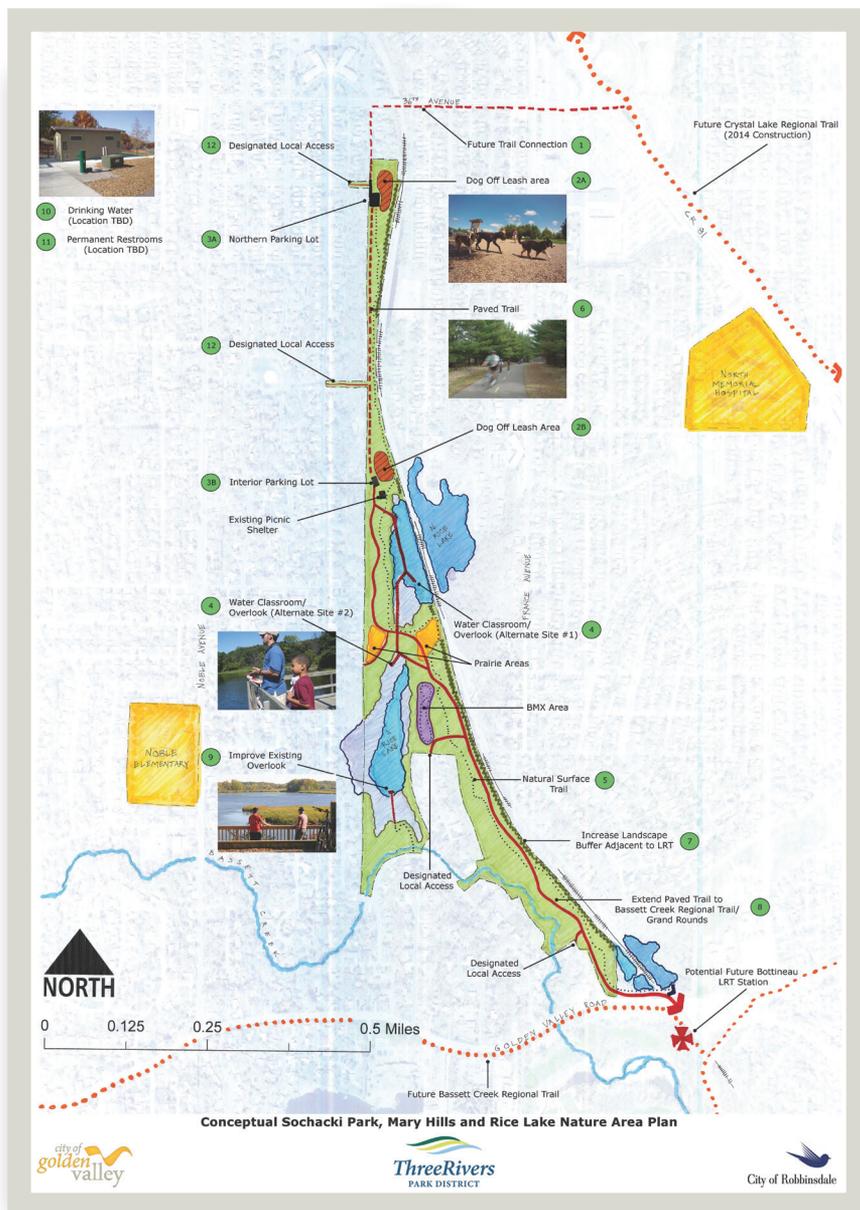
"The area is kind of a hidden jewel a lot of residents don't know about," Birno says. "It's an under-used area, but by combining our three resources, we can develop a park that attracts more people."

Creating parks across city boundaries is part of an ongoing initiative of the Three Rivers Park District to develop smaller regional parks, called pocket parks, through partnerships that serve multiple inner-ring suburbs, Birno explains.

Programming Possibilities

The partnership leaves open further opportunities for new park uses, such as an off-leash dog park at the north end, nature education programs, and an expansion of wildlife habitat through volunteer installations of wood duck houses, bat boxes, and pollinator gardens.

With Noble Elementary a few blocks away from the park, Birno says, City/Park District staff could work with teachers to develop an on-going nature education program that partners the school with the park complex for experiential learning opportunities.



Multiple public meetings were held this spring and summer so residents could voice their opinions about what they like about the current area and what kinds of improvements they'd like to see. Residents' main hope was that the park stays true to the natural, casual feeling the area already possesses.

The new park is still in conceptual planning stages, Birno says, so no decisions have been made yet on on-going funding approaches and future improvements and partnerships. For more information, contact Birno at 763-512-2342 or rbirno@goldenvalleymn.gov.

Gone, But Not Forgotten

Unsolved Homicides Remain Under Investigation

On Aug 30, 1995, Loren Busse, 28, was killed while riding his bicycle home from work at about 10:30 pm in Golden Valley. His body was found at Mendelssohn Ave N and Plymouth Ave. Police deemed it a drive-by shooting.

Five months later, on the 3300 block of Major Ave N, Dan Neus, 29, was shot to death while walking his dog at about 11:15 pm, two blocks from his home.

Ballistic tests determined that the same gun, a 40-caliber semi-automatic, was used in both shootings.

Nearly 20 years later, the cases remain unsolved. And the details haunt the Golden Valley Police Department to this day.

"It never leaves our minds," says Sgt Jeff Johnson, the lead detective on the case. "We've gone over and over the information. We've hit a dead end."

Work Continues On A Cold Case

Over the years, the GVPD has repeatedly reached out to the media, to other communities, and even brought the FBI on board to investigate. They interviewed potential leads, talked to all known witnesses, and offered a \$50,000 reward for help solving the case.

The closest they've come to a real lead is an anonymous letter received shortly after the shootings from someone who claimed to be driving the car when the shots were fired. No further letters were received, and the lead dried up.

Besides the fact that the same gun was used on two Golden Valley men of a similar age, there has been nothing else found to link the

Loren Neal Busse (1967-1995)

In a letter recalling her younger brother Loren, LouAnn Gallion remembered when she, Loren, and some neighborhood kids climbed an old tree partially fallen to the ground, stumbled across a bee hive, and scrambled away amid a cloud of bees.

"Loren was still pretty young and got left behind," Gallion writes. "Since I was 'big sister,' I had to go get him. Even if it meant more stings."

On Aug 30, 1995, Gallion found herself again going back to Loren, speeding across four states with her fiancé to get to Golden Valley. But this time she couldn't save her little brother. The only thing she could do was reflect on a life cut short.

"Whoever killed our son took him from us but will never take away the beautiful memories we have of him," write Loren's parents of their only son and the baby of the family.

The Busse family's memories and stories of Loren stand as reminders: a

person's life is not just a summation of major achievements, but a tapestry of little things, a collection of seemingly small moments that never find their way into the history books.

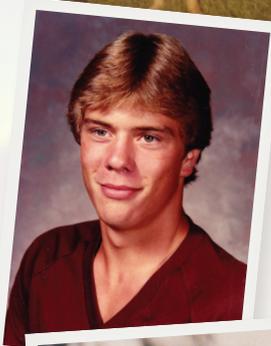
"I remember summer bike rides," Gallion writes. "Riding snowmobiles, fishing, and playing with Matchbox cars in the dirt. ... Loren playing dress up or Barbie dolls with us ... pets, slumber parties in tents and sheds. ... Loren holding his first son, Derek ... so full of love and amazement."

Loren had three children when he died. The youngest was two. His niece, Alicia Panchyshyn, was four.

"I try my hardest to hold onto the few memories I have left," Panchyshyn writes, recalling the last time she saw him.

"I got to help feed his iguanas for the first time. I was so excited that when my uncle warned me it might bite me on accident, I didn't listen. It ended up biting my hand, scaring me, and making me scream. Everything went flying. The food, the iguana, and me. That all happened two weeks before he died. That was the last time I hugged him, told him I loved him, heard his voice, saw him, and laughed with him."

Gallion writes of loss. "I miss hearing his voice through the telephone. I miss swapping stories with him about his life and his kids. I miss getting to know him as an adult. I miss praying for his success and health. I miss seeing him and his family on our trips to Minnesota. I miss him."



19 Years After Two Fatal Shootings In Golden Valley, Police Continue To Search For A Suspect As The Families Reflect On Those They Lost

murders, according to police reports. To this day, both shootings appear totally random, and as Police Chief Stacy Carlson points out, “the vast majority of murders aren’t random.”

Police Ask Community For Help

The GVPD believes someone out there may know something that could help them solve these murders and help bring closure to two families who have been waiting years for answers.

So the police are reaching out, once more, to try to get the facts to as many eyes and ears as possible, this time across the Internet and social media. They hope people will share the stories on Facebook, Twitter, and other social media outlets.

With today’s interconnected world, things can go viral, says Johnson. Details can reach people easier.

“Our hope is someone with a conscience, someone who knows something, will come forward with new information,” Johnson says. “We’re not giving up hope.”

For the families of the victims, finding a suspect won’t change the past, but it will bring closure.

“When August comes and the anniversary of his death comes and goes with no new clues as to who did it, it breaks your heart,” says Alicia Panchyshyn, Busse’s niece. “Please help us find closure, help us find the person who did this.”

If you have any information regarding either of these homicides, please contact the GVPD tip line at 763-512-2500.

Daniel Duane Neus (1966-1996)

The phases of life flow one into the other with their own kind of momentum, a forward propulsion so full of potential it feels sometimes like it can never be stopped.

And so when it is, the life is celebrated for what it was, but dearly mourned for the future that it promised.

Dan Neus was born in Albert Lea, Minnesota, in August 1966, write Ron and Jane Nues in a biography about their son. One year later he was joined by an adopted sister, Nancy. They grew up like twins. When Dan was 10, his brother Patrick was born. Margaret was born the next year.

Dan began playing basketball in grade school, and in eighth grade his team took the city championship. In high school, he received an award from 3M for being an innovative thinker. He moved on to study engineering at the University of Minnesota, paying his tuition by working at the Minnesota Daily.

Using his knowledge of computers, Dan helped transition his family’s engraving business, Merit Badge, into the digital age. The company made a complete conversion to computerized engraving and increased output more than threefold.

Less than a year after graduating with a degree in business, Dan’s first jobs in computer applications allowed him to buy his own house in Golden Valley.

Dan was interested in everything, write the Nueses. Skydiving. Motorcycling. Sports. Computers. Entrepreneurship. And

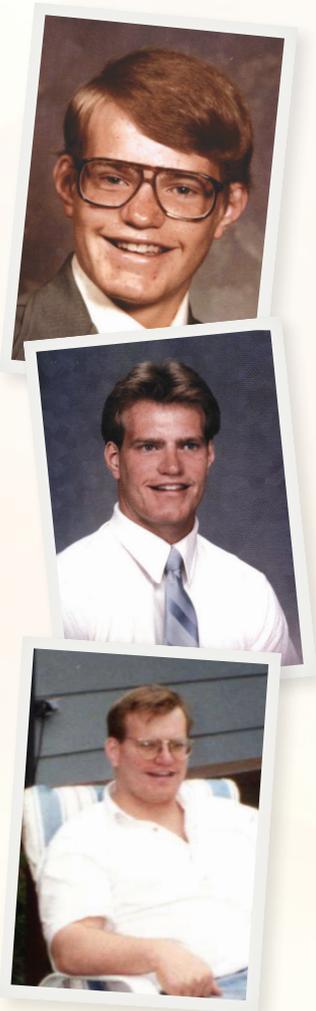
possibilities continued to present themselves.

For years Merit Badge had bought printing from Jiffy Print. When the owner retired, Dan saw an opportunity and put his programming skills to use. As he mastered the printing trade, his parents write, he found much joy in running Jiffy Print on Central Ave.

His next idea was to start his own software company. He drew up a plan and applied for a certificate of incorporation, ready to embark on the next phase of his life. That phase, however, would not come to pass.

The certificate of incorporation, dated Feb 7, 1996, arrived in the mail just days after Dan was murdered in Golden Valley by an unnamed shooter.

“The world lost a great man,” write Dan’s parents. “Nancy, Patrick, and Marge lost a great brother, and we sure lost a great son. He had so much to live for.”



Are Natural Resources Important To Quality of Life In GV?

NRMP Survey Gives You A Chance To Weigh In

How do you feel about Golden Valley's natural resources?

According to the 2013 citizen survey, 67 percent of respondents used Golden Valley's open spaces and nature areas during the past year. Now, as part of the City's Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) process, we're asking for your opinions and input regarding Golden Valley's natural resources, nature areas, and open spaces.

The Plan

The NRMP will guide decision makers and staff on how to best manage Golden Valley's natural resources (water, land, vegetation, and wildlife) based on the community's vision, goals, objectives, and policies. It will help determine what actions could best be taken to help preserve, protect, restore, and enhance our nature areas and open spaces.

The completed NRMP will be incorporated into the City's 2018 comprehensive plan update, set to begin in 2015. It will include objectives, policies, and an implementation program identifying specific and achievable projects. Components of the plan include:

- prioritizing areas to preserve or enhance
- developing management strategies and action plans for specific natural areas, including invasive species management
- identifying partnerships and grant opportunities to help the City achieve its natural resource objectives
- identifying opportunities to provide natural resource education and community involvement, including volunteer opportunities

The Survey

Nature areas and open spaces are public lands set aside for preservation of natural resources and visual aesthetics/buffer-

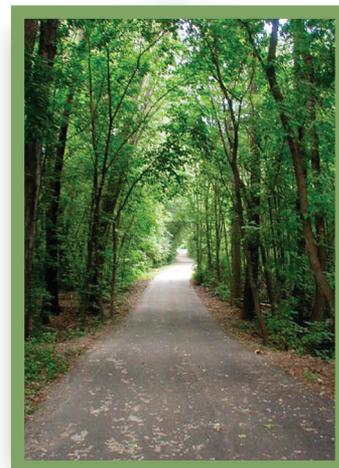
ing. They may include areas for trails and other passive recreation uses but are different from parks, which are typically public lands dedicated to active recreation opportunities such as sports fields, playgrounds, etc.

The Natural Resources Survey is available on the City website until Oct 31 (printed copies are available at City Hall for those who don't have Internet access). Questions range from which nature areas/open spaces you visit and why to your satisfaction with the quality of these areas, what you would change to improve them, and what you feel is most effective in protecting them.

The survey also asks if you'd be interested in volunteer opportunities related to maintaining and enhancing Golden Valley's nature areas and if you'd be willing to share your photos of these areas with the City.

To take the Natural Resources Survey, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/parks/natural-resources-management-plan.php.

Questions about the NRMP? Contact Eric Eckman at 763-593-8084 or eckman@goldenvalleymn.gov.



Take the Natural Resources Survey at
www.goldenvalleymn.gov/parks/natural-resources-management-plan.php

Council Passes New Winter Parking Restrictions

At its Aug 6 meeting, the City Council amended the City Code to clarify existing winter parking restrictions and implement a new citywide winter parking restriction.

The new parking restriction prohibits parking on public streets and alleys Nov 1–March 31 from midnight–6 am daily. Vehicles may be parked on private property in parking lots and driveways.

This change was based on input from residents expressing concerns about safety and how parked vehicles impact snow and ice removal.

Seasonally, snow removal/ice treatment operations occur more often than the much publicized snow emergency days

(see box). For example, last winter only five snow emergencies were declared due to snow accumulation of 2 or more inches; however, City crews were out plowing/treating streets for snow and/or ice on more than 50 additional days during the record cold winter.



Ideally, City crews plow or treat the streets in the early morning before rush hour. Vehicles parked on the street 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.

The City anticipates that special circumstances will result in requests for temporary exemptions to the parking restrictions. Please note that all waivers are temporary and void during snow emergencies (2+ inches of snow accumulation). To request an exemption, fill out the online “Winter Parking Waiver” form at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/permits/index.php.

The City Council plans to review the new parking restriction in the spring to evaluate its effectiveness. ~

Snow Accumulation In MN

Average days with a 2-inch or more snowfall:	7.4
Average days with a 1- to 2-inch snowfall:	7
Average days with measurable snowfall (anything over 0.1 inches):	37.3

According to the Minnesota Climatology Working Group (data through 2011)

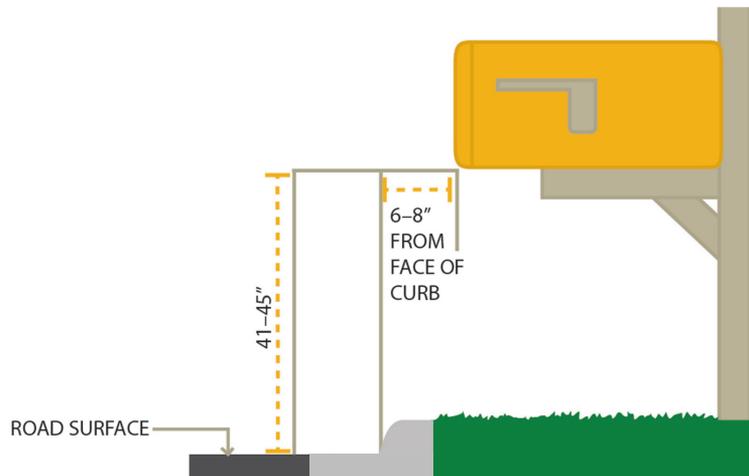
Get Your Mailbox Ready For Winter

While mailboxes are simple fixtures along our streets, they are exposed to the worst winter has to offer: salt and moisture. Regular check-ups of the following items may help your mailbox survive another Minnesota winter.

- Check wood for rot, splitting posts, or other signs of decay.
- Check metal for rust and weak spots, especially around support connections.
- Check to make sure screws/bolts/nails are secure and not loose or improperly connected.
- Check positioning. The United States Postal Service (USPS) has specific requirements for mailboxes—between 6 and 8 inches behind the gutter line of the street and between 41 and 45 inches above the surface of the road.

Please remember the City will only repair mailboxes installed to USPS Residential Mailbox Standards and actually hit by a snow-

plow. The City will not be responsible for damage to mailboxes or support posts caused by snow or ice coming into contact with the mailbox. For more information, go to www.goldenvalleymn.gov/streets/maintenance.php. ~



Heroin Use On The Rise

GVPD Offers Tips To Help Those Dealing With Addiction

Overall heroin use is on the rise and the increase, while not epidemic, is concerning, says Golden Valley Police Sgt Jeff Johnson.

There have been a handful of heroin overdose deaths in Golden Valley in the last few years, though exact numbers are not on record, and many more throughout the Twin Cities metro area.

“There’s been a huge comeback,” Johnson says. Drug trends are largely driven by supply and demand, and heroin, due to its inexpensive nature and relative easy access to opioids, is growing in both areas, he explains.

Addiction: An Equal Opportunity Employer

The important thing to remember about the drug, and drug addiction in general, Johnson says, is that it often involves someone you’d never suspect.

“The users aren’t always the stereotypical types you see on TV,” he says.

People from good homes, with successful, healthy lives, are at risk for drug addiction just as those who better fit the stereotypical mold of a “drug user” as depicted by Hollywood. This is important to keep in mind, Johnson says, as it’s easier to overlook signs and symptoms of drug use when it’s displayed by those who you wouldn’t expect to be at risk.

Drug addiction can come about any number of ways. Prescription opioid pain medications such as Oxycontin and Vicodin, for example, can have effects similar to heroin when taken in doses or in ways other than prescribed, and they are currently among the most commonly abused drugs in the United States. Research now suggests that abuse of these drugs may open the door to heroin abuse, according to the National Institute for Drug Abuse.

Getting Help

Catching the signs and symptoms of drug abuse could save someone’s life. According to the Minnesota Department of Human Services, addiction to drugs and alcohol is characterized by continuous or periodic impaired control over one’s chemical use, preoccupation with alcohol or other drugs, distortions in thinking, most notably denial, and use despite adverse consequences.

“Initially, if you think someone is addicted you should talk to them about your observations and concerns and suggest they get help,” says Stacy Carlson, Golden Valley police chief.

There’s a good chance that may not work, she says, but it’s the best first step.

Rehab facilities, such as Hazelden, provide questionnaires on their websites to help determine if someone is chemically independent. Go to www.hazelden.org or call 1-800-257-7810.

Hennepin County also has several resources through its health department, Carlson says.

If the drug user is physically abusive, call 911.

Dealing with addiction, your own or someone else’s, takes persistence.

“Addiction is very difficult – for both the addict and those who care about him or her,” Carlson says. “It often takes more than one attempt to get help, or to have the treatment stick.”

For a list of options of where to get help, visit mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/adults/health-care/substance-abuse/.

Public Safety Open House For Families With Autism

Saturday, Oct 11, 2–4 pm | Golden Valley Public Safety Building

Families with autism are invited to an open house Saturday, Oct 11, 2–4 pm, hosted by the Golden Valley Police and Fire Departments and the Autism Society of Minnesota. The event will provide an opportunity for families to build relationships with local police officers, firefighters, paramedics, and police K-9, as well as access community autism

resources. It will be set up and staffed to accommodate children with autism and their siblings.

Stop by to tour the police and fire stations and emergency vehicles, visit with police officers and firefighters, learn about safety, and meet other families with autism. Questions? Contact the GVPD at 763-593-8079.



GIVE DEATH THE FINGER

A Push Of A Button Can Save Lives; Check Your Smoke Alarms

It might sound too easy, but it's true: five seconds and a single finger can save you and your entire family.

Making sure your smoke alarms are fully charged and working properly can and will save lives, and it just takes three steps:

- 1 Push the button on the smoke alarm and hold for five seconds.
- 2 Listen for the beep.
- 3 Move to the next alarm.

If the alarm doesn't beep, or if it gives off a choked chirp sound, that means it needs a new battery. Often alarms will start chirping on their own when the battery gets low, but don't count on it.

If the battery is low, make it a priority to replace it, says Stephen Baker, fire safety expert. When you're in a fire, seconds count. Seconds can be the difference between life and death.

"Fires grow so quickly, and the smoke can be so toxic, you can take one breath, and



that's enough to kill you," Baker says. "Furthermore, without an alarm sounding, it may take you a few extra seconds to wake up, and by then parts of your home may be impassable."

Once a fire starts in your home, it doesn't take long for it to reach its "flashover" point, which is when the fire heats the air so much, furniture and walls not even touching the flames will combust. When this happens, your chance of escape grows dire.

The risk of dying is cut in half in homes with working smoke alarms, according to reported home structure fires.

Three out of five home fire deaths resulted from fires in properties without working smoke alarms, according to the National Fire Protection Association. One-quarter of the deaths were caused by fires in properties in which smoke alarms were present but failed to operate.

All it takes to find out if your alarms are operational is a push of a button twice a year.

So, go ahead, give death the finger. 

Carbon Monoxide: A Silent Killer

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless, poisonous gas created by burning fuel. Sources include appliances used for heating and cooking and vehicles running in attached garages. Today's energy-efficient homes can also trap CO polluted air inside.

Symptoms of CO poisoning include headaches, weakness, sleepiness, nausea, vomiting, confusion, and disorientation.

To limit CO, buy appliances approved by a nationally recognized testing organization such as Underwriter's Laboratory (UL). When possible, choose fuel burning appliances that can be vented outdoors. Have all natural gas appliances, heating systems, vents, chimneys, and flues inspected and, if necessary, cleaned by a qualified technician every year. Provide adequate outdoor air for your furnace and water heater. It is unlawful to install an unvented fireplace in Minnesota.

CO alarms are required to be placed within 10 feet of each sleeping room. If you have a multi-level home, place an alarm on each level. One alarm is usually adequate for 1,200 to 1,500 square feet of living space. CO alarms tested to UL 2034 standards can be purchased from any home improvement store for \$15 to \$75. 



Reminders For School-Year Driving

With its influx of buses and kids everywhere, school-year driving requires diligence and an awareness of traffic safety laws.

School Bus Rules

It is illegal to pass a school bus that has stopped to load or unload students. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop when they encounter a bus with yellow flashing lights, which means the bus is preparing to stop.

Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm indicate the bus has stopped and children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red flashing lights are turned off, the stop arm is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they start driving again.



Every year, dozens of school bus stop-arm violations are reported:

- **Misdemeanor stop-arm violation**—Passing a bus when the red lights are flashing, the stop-arm is extended, but no children are present can result in up to a \$1,000 fine and/or 90 days in jail.
- **Gross-misdemeanor stop-arm violation**—Passing the bus when the red lights are flashing, the stop-arm is extended and children are present, or passing the bus on the right side, can result in up to a \$3,000 fine and/or one year in jail.
- **Misdemeanor**—Neglecting to stop for a crosswalk patrol that is extending the stop flag can result in up to a \$1,000 fine and/or 90 days in jail.

Pedestrian Awareness

Pedestrian injuries are the second leading cause of unintentional death in children ages 5 to 14, and fatalities among young pedestrians most often occur during the after-school hours.

Children age 10 and under cannot judge the speed or distance of moving vehicles, their peripheral vision is one-third less than that of an adult, and their size often makes them hard to see. That means it's up to drivers to take responsibility for safety in areas where children are present. The following tips will help.

- Slow down. Drive 20 miles per hour in urban school areas, whether children are present or not, and never pass another vehicle in a school zone.
- Look for safety patrols, school buses, and other signs that children are in the area.
- When stopped for a school bus, make sure all children are safely off the street before proceeding.
- Scan between parked cars and other objects for children who might dart out. For children nine and under, about 50 to 70 percent of injuries result from darting into the street.
- When backing out of a driveway or leaving a garage, watch out for children walking to the bus stop or walking or biking to school.
- Watch for children walking in the street, especially where there are no sidewalks, and for children playing and gathering near bus stops.
- Be alert and ready to stop. Children arriving late for the bus may dart into the street without looking for traffic.
- Avoid distractions such as cell phones and other devices.

As the new school year gets under way, the Golden Valley Police Department (GVPD) will have an additional presence around school zones. For more information, contact the GVPD at 763-593-8079.



UPCOMING events

PHOTO BY JEFF LAMBERG, VIEWS OF THE VALLEY 2014

Mighty Tidy Day

Sat, Oct 11 | 8 am–1 pm (see page 4)

HRC CONVERSATIONS: MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

Thurs, Oct 9 | 6:30 pm
City Hall Council Chambers

Program on adults and mental illness, featuring guest speaker Ken Barlow. Hosted by Golden Valley Human Rights Commission, HRC Conversations brings the community together for dialogue on current human rights issues.

Neighborhood Watch Annual Meeting

Thur, Oct 23 | 7 pm
GVPD Training Room, 7800 Golden Valley Rd
More information at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/police/watch/index.php.

Annual Leaf Drop-Off

Three Oct & Nov weekends (see page 4)

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fall Raking Blitz

Oct 24–Nov 3, 8 am (see page 4)

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

4TH ANNUAL VALLEY VOLUNTEER DAY

Sat, Oct 25 | 9 am–4 pm
Various Golden Valley locations

Valley Volunteer Day brings people together to work on projects to fulfill needs around the community and make Golden Valley a better place to live, work, and play (details at www.goldenvalleymn.gov/events/valleyvolunteerday/index.php). Groups or organizations plan and coordinate activities to coincide with Make A Difference Day, which is the largest national day of community service. This year's events include:

- **Neighbors Helping Neighbors Rake-a-thon**
Details on page 4.

General Election

Tue, Nov 4 (see page 3)

GVPD Toys For Tots Collection

Starts Dec 2 | Golden Valley Police Department
Annual GVPD toy collection culminates in a parade to the KARE 11 Toys For Tots drop site. Bring new, unwrapped toys and gifts for older kids and teens.

SUPPER WITH SANTA

Fri, Dec 5 | 6–7:15 pm
Brookview Community Center

Pizza, holiday music, a holiday show, and a visit from Santa Claus! Adults must accompany children. Must pre-register.

Mailbox to the North Pole

Dec 5–19 | Brookview Community Center
Drop off letters at Santa Claus' special Direct-to-the-North Pole mailbox at Brookview Community Center. Include a full name and address so Santa can reply.

HOLIDAY TEA

Mon, Dec 15 • 1 pm
Brookview Community Center

Refreshments and entertainer Jim Berner. Festive attire encouraged. Bring your tea cup. \$9, register by Dec 8.

- **Second Harvest Heartland Food Pack**
9325 Sandburg Rd
9–11:30 am or 12:30–2:30 pm
Help sort and re-pack food for local food shelves and soup kitchens. Sign up online at www.2harvest.org/volunteer, then click "view calendar and schedule shift."



7800 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55427

763-593-8000
763-593-3968 TTY

www.goldenvalleymn.gov

Polling Places

To find your voting location for the Nov 4 election, go to: <http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>. You must vote in your own precinct between 7 am and 8 pm.

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 School,
2400 Sandburg Lane

Precinct 8b

Brookview Community Center,
200 Brookview Parkway

City Considers Ice Rink Changes, Winter Ventures

Last year the Open Space and Recreation Commission (OSRC) asked City staff to spend the winter studying community use patterns at Golden Valley's ice rinks (see table below) as well as at outdoor rink facilities in neighboring communities. The OSRC reviewed the findings at its July 2014 meeting and made the following recommendations to the City Council:

- eliminate the ice rink at Lakeview Park beginning winter 2014
- extend hours at current rink warming houses to better meet community needs
- work to increase use of City outdoor hockey rinks by youth hockey associations

As a result, the City will close winter ice rink/warming house operations at Lakeview Park beginning winter 2014 and use the savings to increase hours of operation at the City's six remaining staffed ice rinks.



New Winter Activities

Funds saved by closing the Lakeview Park rink could also be used to staff the Brookview Grill area for winter recreation activities on Saturdays and Sundays plus non-school day holidays (snow and weather contingent). Staff is finalizing discussions with Three Rivers Park District and the Minnesota Off Road Cyclists (MORC) organization regarding a potential partnership to offer groomed multi-use winter recreation trails at Brookview Golf Course. The multi-use trails at Brookview would be used for winter mountain biking, snowshoeing, skijoring, cross country skiing, and more.

Visitors Per Season At Golden Valley Ice Rinks

	Wesley	Medley	Lakeview	Hampshire	Lions	Scheid	Gearty
2013-14	2,357	2,048	175	1,345	1,459	3,661	1,054
2012-13	1,809	2,448	380	2,279	2,122	2,765	1,268
2011-12	4,301	3,648	469	2,603	2,723	3,326	3,014

