

AboutTown Magazine
City of Edina
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, MN 55424
www.ci.edina.mn.us

PRESORT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 3932
Edina, MN

2002 Edina
City Expo

See page 24
for details

AboutTown

Official Magazine of the City of Edina



ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON
CAR-RT-WS



S P R I N G • 2 0 0 2

AboutTown

Volume 14, Number 2
Spring 2002

Official Publication of the
City of Edina, Minnesota
4801 West 50th Street
Edina, Minnesota 55424
(952) 927-8861

Circulation 25,000

Editor: Jennifer Wilkinson

Publisher: City of Edina

About Town is produced by the City of Edina.

To advertise in *About Town*, contact Richard Barbeau at
Barbeau Marketing Group, 612-721-1162 or 612-965-2041.

Copyright 2002 by City of Edina, 4801 West 50th Street, Edina,
MN 55424.

About Town is published quarterly by the City of Edina. The
purpose of the magazine is to keep Edina residents informed
of news, activities and programs that are important to them.
We include articles of interest about our citizens and
community history as well.

About Town is printed on recycled paper to conform to City
conservation guidelines.

Cover photo by Polly Norman

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| A Word From The Mayor | 5 |
| Baird House – An Elegant Reminder Of 19th Century Life In Edina | 6 |
| It's Not Only Neighborly...It's The Law | 12 |
| Hot Happenings In Park And Recreation | 14 |
| Houle Named City Engineer, Director Of Public Works..... | 16 |
| City To Introduce Improved Website..... | 18 |
| City To Say Thanks At Annual Reception | 19 |
| Improved Aquatic Center Slides Into A New Season..... | 20 |
| Edina Firefighters Install Smoke Detectors For Local Homeowners | 22 |
| Plastic Bottles With Necks Easiest To Recycle | 23 |
| City Officials To 'Build A Stronger Community' At May Event..... | 24 |
| City of Edina To Flush Hydrants In April, Early May..... | 26 |
| Edina Senior Center Moves Into New Facility | 27 |
| Youth Make A Difference On City Boards And Commissions | 28 |
| Edina Garden Council To Hold Annual Plant Sale..... | 30 |
| Keep Streets, Intersections Clear Of Overgrowth..... | 31 |

American Cancer Society To Host Area Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society will hold a Relay For Life June 21-22 for the communities of Edina and Richfield and southwest Minneapolis at Southwest High School. An opening ceremony will be held 7 p.m. that Friday.

The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life is a celebration of life in honor and in memory of those whose lives have been touched by cancer. Teams of 8 to 15 people walk, jog or run in a relay around the track for 18 hours to raise money through donations to help in the fight against cancer. The money raised go toward helping the American Cancer Society continue its programs of research, education, advocacy and service to cancer patients. Relays for Life take place in more than 90 communities throughout Minnesota.

Teams will camp out around the track at the high school. During the relay, at least one person from each team is walking, jogging or running. Meanwhile, other team members are enjoying food, games, music, prizes and camaraderie. Hundreds of luminaries in honor or in memory of someone touched by cancer will line the track after dark.

For more information on the local event, contact Emily Edison at the American Cancer Society, 952-925-6334.

APRIL 2002

About Town Calendar

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|-----------|
| | 1 | 2 Noon, Finnish Storyteller with Music, Edinborough Park. 7 p.m., Edina HRA and City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Scott Frasier Guitar Duo, Edinborough Park. | 3 | 4 Noon, Mrs. Catherine & Friends, Edinborough Park. 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. | 5 | 6 |
| 7 7 p.m., Jazz on the Prairie Big Band, Edinborough Park. | 8 5 p.m., Board of Review, Edina City Hall. | 9 1:15-3 p.m., Blood Pressure Clinic, Edina Senior Center. 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina Senior Center. 7 p.m., Notable Singers, Edinborough Park. | 10 | 11 Noon, Freshwater Pearls Puppet Theater, Edinborough Park. 4-8p.m., Taste of Edina, Southdale Center. | 12 By appointment for fee, Podiatrist Appointments, Edina Senior Center. | 13 |
| 14 7 p.m., Seward Concert Band, Edinborough Park. | 15 | 16 Noon, Becky Brom's Puppets, Edinborough Park. 7 p.m., Edina HRA and City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Royal Scottish Country Dance, Edinborough Park. | 17 | 18 7 a.m., Recycling and Solid Waste Commission, Edina City Hall. Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Edinborough Park. 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. | 19 | 20 |
| 21 7 p.m., Music Staff (youth solo performance), Edinborough Park. | 22 | 23 7 p.m., Human Relations Commission, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall. | 24 8 a.m., Senior Advisory Council, Edina Senior Center. | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park. | 29 | 30 7 p.m., Doctor Tone and the Rhythm Thang, Edinborough Park. | | | | |

1 • S P R I N G 2 0 0 2

MAY 2002

About Town Calendar

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | | 1 By appointment, Hearing Tests, Edina Senior Center. 7:30 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall. | 2 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. | 3 | 4 |
| 5 7 p.m., Eden Prairie Concert Band, Edinborough Park. | 6 | 7 7 p.m., Edina HRA and City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Cathy & Tom, Edinborough Park. | 8 | 9 Noon, Jefferson Middle School Band, Edinborough Park. | 10 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Edina Garden Council Annual Plant Sale, Arneson Acres Park. | 11 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Edina Garden Council Annual Plant Sale, Arneson Acres Park. |
| 12 7 p.m., Northern Winds Concert Band, Edinborough Park. | 13 | 14 1:15-3 p.m., Blood Pressure Clinic, Edina Senior Center. 7 p.m., Park Board, Grange Hall. 7 p.m., Community Health Committee, Edina City Hall. | 15 | 16 Noon, Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade, Edinborough Park. 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. | 17 | 18 |
| 19 2 p.m., Steps Dance Center, Edinborough Park. 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park. | 20 | 21 7 p.m., Edina HRA and City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Jefferson High School Orchestra, Edinborough Park. | 22 8 a.m., Senior Advisory Council, Edina Senior Center. | 23 7 a.m., Recycling and Solid Waste Commission, Edina City Hall. | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 Memorial Day. Most City offices closed. | 28 7 p.m., Human Relations Commission, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall. | 29 7:30 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall. | 30 4-8 p.m., City Expo, Braemar Arena. | 31 | |

2 • S P R I N G 2 0 0 2

JUNE 2002

About Town Calendar

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park. |
| 2 7 p.m., Minnesota Symphonic Winds, Centennial Lakes Park. | 3 7 p.m., Canon Brass, Centennial Lakes Park. | 4 7 p.m., Edina HRA and City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park. | 5 7 p.m., Scott Frasier Duo Guitar, Centennial Lakes Park. | 6 Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Centennial Lakes Park. 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. | 7 * Edina Art Fair, 50th Street and France Ave. | 8 * 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park. |
| 9 * 7 p.m., Eden Prairie Community Band, Centennial Lakes Park. | 10 7 p.m., River Valley Dance Academy, Centennial Lakes Park. | 11 1:15-3 p.m., Blood Pressure Clinic, Edina Senior Center. 7 p.m., Park Board, Arneson Acres Park. 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park. | 12 7 p.m., Debbie Bigelow with "Something Big," Centennial Lakes Park. | 13 Noon, Finnish Storyteller with Magic, Centennial Lakes Park. | 14 | 15 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park. |
| 16 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Centennial Lakes Park. | 17 7 p.m., Bend in the River Big Band, Centennial Lakes Park. | 18 7 p.m., Edina HRA and City Council, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park. | 19 7 p.m., Star of the North Concert Band, Centennial Lakes Park. | 20 7 a.m., Recycling and Solid Waste Commission, Edina City Hall. 5:30 p.m., Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. | 21 | 22 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park. |
| 23 7 p.m., Calhoun Community Band, Centennial Lakes Park. | 24 7 p.m., Brooklyn Community Band, Centennial Lakes Park. | 25 7 p.m., Human Relations Commission, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall. | 26 7:30 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Just Friends Big Band, Centennial Lakes Park. | 27 | 28 | 29 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park. |
| 30 | | | | | | |

Spring Calendar Highlights

OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 23 7 p.m., Amy & Adams, Edinborough Park.

May 14 7 p.m., Crosby Lake Clatterers, Edinborough Park.

June 4 Noon, Becky Brom's Puppets, Centennial Lakes Park

June 11 Noon, Carol McCormick Storytelling, Centennial Lakes Park.

June 20 Noon, Mrs. Catherine and Friends, Centennial Lakes Park.

June 25 7 p.m., Jim Shannon "Strolling Piano," Centennial Lakes Park.

ANNUAL ICE SHOW

What: The Braemar-City of Lakes Figure Skating Club and the City of Edina will present its annual ice show, which will have a "Vegas" theme. The show will include performances by skaters of all ages, from preschoolers just learning how to move on the ice to middle-aged fathers who have spent many hours practicing with their teenage daughters. The show will also include the presentation of several special awards, including the Hugh J. McMillan Award and Brandon Brown Friendship Award. Skaters who have reached the United States Figure Skating Association's "gold" level in the past year will also be honored.

When: 6:30 p.m. April 26 and 6:30 p.m. April 27.

Where: Braemar Arena, 7501 Ikola Way.

RACE FOR THE CURE

What: The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation this spring will host the Twin Cities Race for the Cure. The race is one of the top 5K competitive runs in the country with separate 5K run and wheel races for women and men, a 5K co-ed walk, a one-mile Family Fun walk and a Kid's Fun Run. The annual event raises more than \$1 million for breast cancer research.

When: Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, 7 a.m. to noon.

Where: Southdale Center. The start of the race will be at 69th Street and York Avenue, between Southdale and the Galleria.

EDINA ART FAIR

What: More than 250 artists and crafters from around the country are expected to sell their work at the 35th annual Edina Art Fair in downtown Edina at 50th Street and France Avenue. Merchandise in the past has included painting, sculpture, clay, hand-blown and leaded glass, photography, jewelry, clothing, dolls and toys, country crafts and unique gifts. Carnival and specialty foods and free entertainment will add to the atmosphere of the three-day outdoor event, a fund-raiser for the 50th & France Business and Professional Association. One of the community's largest events, tens of thousands of people are expected to attend the Art Fair.

When: Friday, June 7 through Sunday, June 9.

Where: Intersection of West 50th Street and France Avenue South.

A Word From The Mayor

Earlier this year, several homes sustained substantial damage when a watermain broke in the vicinity of Interlachen Boulevard and Cooper Avenue. The homes were damaged when the sanitary sewer system backed up due to "surcharging" caused by the break.

The property owners suffered combined losses of \$140,000. One claim totaled approximately \$41,000. The lower levels of most of the homes were infiltrated by "grey water." Rugs and carpets, sheet rock, furniture and personal items were destroyed. It was a tragedy for all those affected.

Although the City provided some assistance to homeowners on Interlachen and Cooper, it did not cover the full extent of their losses. Unfortunately, several of the affected homeowners did not have their own insurance to cover the cost of the damages. Coverage for backups of sewers and drains is available, but not always included in a basic homeowner's insurance policy. In addition, insurance companies that do offer the protection have varying amounts of coverage. So, in some cases, property owners with a policy for sewer backups did not have



enough coverage to cover the cost of the damages.

I urge you to check your homeowner's insurance policy to see if you have coverage for backups. If you do not have coverage, consider adding it to your policy because in most cases the City's insurance carrier will not cover your costs in the event of an incident.

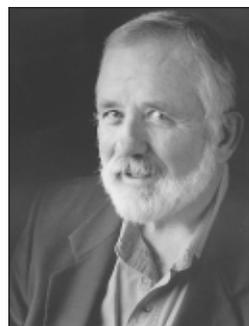
Insurance is important in the event of an incident.

However, in some locations a properly installed sanitary sewer service valve system will help to prevent some sewage backups. Such a system should be regularly maintained to protect your home from water and sewer infiltration.

The Edina Public Works Department continues to strive for a reliable infrastructure system. However, in some instances the system will fail and we all need to plan for those dreadful occurrences.

Dennis F. Maetzold
Mayor

Baird House – An Elegant Reminder Of 19th Century Life In Edina



By Joe Sullivan, Freelance Writer and Edina resident

For many years – in fact, ever since I got my driver’s license at age 15 – I often drove past the old house on 50th Street just east of St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church without really noticing it. This was in spite of its size. (After all, it is an imposing three-story, 4,000-square-foot

Victorian brick mansion complete with dramatic turrets and chimneys.)



The historic Baird house at 4400 W. 50th St. has a three-story corner tower capped with a pyramidal roof and high chimneys.

After I moved to Edina some 42 years ago, I learned that this elegant building - with its long, circular driveway and the 1886 date over one of the windows in its corner tower - had once been the home of Edina pioneers George and Sarah Baird.

George W. Baird was a farmer and innovative livestock breeder who came here in 1857, the year before Minnesota became a state. He was only 22 when he left his birthplace in Luzerne Township, Penn., and purchased 120 acres of what was then Richfield Township farmland from Daniel Felton, the original homesteader. His three 40-acre tracts were located north of 50th, roughly between what are now Wooddale Avenue and Maple Road.



George Baird was an innovative livestock breeder who introduced the first Merino sheep into Minnesota.

George Baird Married Sarah Gates In 1865

In 1865, George married Sarah Gates, a blacksmith’s daughter from St. Anthony, the burgeoning village (named for the falls on the Mississippi River) that later became Minneapolis. They had met when Sarah was a teacher at the Burnes School on Excelsior Road in Hopkins. The



Sarah (Gates) Baird served for 18 years as State Master for Minnesota’s Grange.

Bairds soon became two of the most prominent figures in the tiny community of Edina Mills that clustered around the gristmill built in 1857 where Minnehaha Creek crosses today’s 50th Street.

For the first 19 years of their marriage, the young couple lived in a modest, two-story clapboard house they built on their farm. Both were pillars of the Edina Mills settlement. George

was active in local politics and served on a five-man committee that engineered the area’s secession from Richfield Township and formation of the Village of Edina. George and Sarah were founding members of the Minnehaha Grange, which had its meeting hall at today’s 50th and Wooddale. Meanwhile, George was deeply involved in the Hennepin County Fair, serving for a time as its president. He was also a co-founder of the Minnesota State Agricultural Society.

In 1886, construction began on the brick Victorian mansion that still stands on 50th. The house, built at the then-impressive cost of \$8,500, reflected the Bairds’ position in the community. Without question, it was the most imposing residence in Edina Mills.



In 1890, the 25th anniversary of the Bairds’ 1865 wedding was celebrated with a gala reception announced in this invitation.

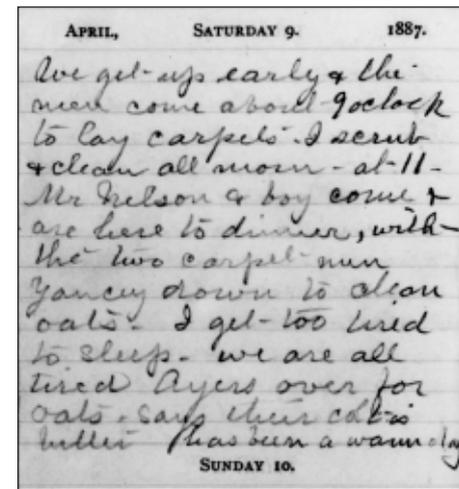
Designed by Minneapolis architect Charles S. Sedgwick, the home is a brick-and-stone example of the Eastlake style – named for English interior designer Charles Locke Eastlake.

After George and Sarah’s Deaths, Mansion Stood Vacant And Was Known As A ‘Haunted House’

The Bairds had no children. Following the death of George in 1916 and Sarah in 1923, their house stood vacant for a few years. Lois (Darr) MacKinnon told me that her uncle Jim Darr and his sister Ruth, lived with their parents, Henry and Cora Darr, at 4506 Browndale Ave. in the mid-1920s. They became curious about the boarded up old house on 50th because many of the kids in their Country Club neighborhood were convinced it was haunted.

One day in 1926, Jim and Ruth crawled through a window to get into the house. “They were amazed at what they found,” Mackinnon said. “Everything in the house – clothing, furniture and carpets (some of them chewed on by mice) – was just as it had been left when Ms. Baird

moved into a friend's house in Hopkins three years [before she died]." They went home with lots of stories about the "treasures" in the old, abandoned house. Jim and Ruth told their father and mother that they "absolutely had to go over and see what they had discovered," MacKinnon added.



According to an article entitled, "Pioneer Women of Edina," written by former Edina librarian Elvira H. Vinson, Sarah Baird was a very thrifty person. "Her diary recorded how she mended tin ware and her own shoes," Vinson wrote. "She made awnings for their new home.

Among the treasures found in the house was a set of daily diaries in which Sarah Baird recorded aspects of farm life at Edina Mills from 1882 until 1918. Her friends said she boasted that she never purchased a paper of pins. She always picked them up [and reused them]."

Darr Family Bought And Renovated Baird Mansion

In 1928, the Darrs bought the old mansion from the Baird family estate. They had their work cut out for them just removing some of the old, dusty furniture. But they kept

the coat tree in the front hall, the brass fireplace screens, fenders and bumpers and the steam radiators, all of which are still in the house today. They also kept the big table in the dining room and a number of other items that have since been removed.

In his recorded recollections, Jim Darr recalled, "The house was originally built with a steam-boiler-type, coal and wood burning furnace. About 20 tons of coal were used [to heat the house] during an average winter."

Unlike many farm homes of the period, the house also had running water. Jim Darr remembered the well house and the windmill that pumped water up to a holding tank in the third-floor attic. Water flowed by gravity through lead pipes down to the bathroom and kitchen.

The original kitchen had a zinc-lined sink and an old-fashioned, wood-burning cook stove with a hot water reservoir. The "tower" on the house's southwest corner was rebuilt in 1930 after it was burned in a fire ignited by sparks from a bedroom fireplace.



The mansion's four fireplaces feature Scottish thistle designs and likenesses of Mary Queen of Scots and Scottish hero Robert the Bruce.

Minnesota Historical Society photo

House Passed To Darr's Son Harold And His Wife

In 1942, ownership of the Baird house passed to Henry and Cora Darr's son Harold and his wife, Josephine (Jo). The house had only one bathroom and it was on the main floor. The original toilet, with its overhead tank and pull chain, are still there, but the original zinc-lined bathtub has long since been replaced. The Darrs converted a linen closet in the rear of the second floor into a bathroom and added the brick sidewalk from the street to the front door. (The bricks came from the Thomas Lowry mansion on Hennepin Avenue.)



This is the servants' back stairway that Lois (Darr) MacKinnon climbed to get to her bedroom late at night.

Minnesota Historical Society photo

Lois said that she and her sister Vera (nee Hanson) shared one of the front bedrooms for many years. When their brother Bob moved away in the 1950s, Lois got to move into the back bedroom, which was once servants' quarters. "The servants had their own stairway down to the kitchen. If I came in late from a date, I would sneak up those back stairs to my bedroom, trying not to make any steps squeak," she recalled.

Lois also remembers Saturday night baths for all the kids in the Darr family. "Before the baths could start, someone had to light a special water heater in the basement. The last one to finish [his or her] bath was supposed to go down and shut off the water heater," she said. "One of my brothers was usually last and occasionally one of them would forget

to turn it off. The next morning, there would be steam coming from the faucets."

Throughout its 115-year history, the Baird house has been a private residence. Because it has not been open to the public, over the years many people in the area have been curious about its interior. Mary (Wallace) Wild grew up in the house built by her grandfather, Edina pioneer farmer James Bull, just east of the Baird farm on 50th. In a 1999 letter, Wild wrote about her first glimpses of the Baird house's interior. "My sister Gene, Celeste Adams and I were bridesmaids at Ruth Darr's wedding [in 1939]. So, I finally got to see the inside of the mansion."



The Baird's first-floor master bedroom is now a den with antique furniture, lace curtains and a 19th century doll.

Edina Realty Co. photo

Wiltz And Curtis Families Were Third And Fourth Owners

The Darrs lived in the Baird house until 1960 when the house was sold to Dickinson and Carol Wiltz, who owned it until 1979. While they were there, the Wiltzes converted a dressing room next to the “tower” bedroom into a third bathroom.

In 1979, Marilyn and Jack Curtis bought the Baird house. “We bought it, partly because we appreciated its historic value,” Marilyn Curtis said. “Before we moved in, we had decided to do whatever we could to restore the house back to what it had been when George and Sarah Baird built it – more than 90 years earlier. We removed a screened sleeping porch on the front that the Darrs had added. We also restored the original front porch, including the front steps, which were built from the same Mankato stone as the original steps.



Jack Curtis re-soldered joints in the many stained glass windows after he and his wife, Marilyn, bought the Baird mansion.

“We removed the old summer kitchen, which was behind, but not connected to, the house. We replaced it with a family room addition. The old kitchen had been remodeled and updated, but Jack restored the black ash wainscoting and trim that was in the original kitchen. We also put in cupboards and a slate blackboard from the old Wooddale School that was torn down in 1985.”



The Baird mansion has many different woods in its interior. The wainscoting and trim in the formal dining room are Minnesota black ash.

The Curtises also stripped many layers of paint and varnish from woodwork and pine floors, which are all original to the house except for some parquet flooring the Darrs added to the front hall.

In January 2001, the Darrs and Wiltzes were invited by the Curtises to come over and see the house before they put it up for sale. “We had a great time reminiscing and telling stories about living in the house. I referred to the three couples as a ‘unique little group’ because we represented three of the only four families that had lived in the house for the previous 115 years,” Marilyn Curtis said.

The current owners of the house are Brad and Arlene Forest. They purchased the Baird house from the Curtises in May 2001 and moved in the following month. Arlene Forest recalled their reaction

after a first visit to the house, saying, “We both came away thinking, ‘I really enjoyed looking at it, but I don’t think I’d like to live there.’ Still, the more we thought about it, the more it attracted us. It is a fascinating house with a wonderful history that really appealed to us. It’s elegant, but well built and practical. When we look back, we realize that we didn’t buy the house – it bought us.”

Although remodeled a few times over the years, the house still retains its original integrity and remains in excellent condition and appearance. Today, the mansion, which sits on the remaining 1.17 acres of the original Baird farm, is one of only two Edina residences listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The other is the Jonathan Grimes house at 4200 W. 44th St. in the Morningside neighborhood. In 1978, the City also designated the Baird house and property for “Historic Preservation,” which means that it will be “protected and preserved for future generations.”

Background material and photographs for this article came from the archival collections of the Edina Historical Society; the files of Edina Realty Co.; Hennepin County Property records; interviews with Marilyn Curtis, Arlene Forest and Lois (Darr) MacKinnon; the writings of James Darr and Mary (Wallace) Wild; and the following publications: “Edina – Closeup,” by the League of Women Voters – Edina; “Edina – Chapters in the City History,” by Deborah Morse-Kahn; “History & Architecture of Edina, Minnesota,” by William W. Scott and Jeffrey Hess; “The History of Edina, Minnesota,” by Paul D. Hesterman; “Pioneer Women of Edina,” by Elvira H. Vinson; Gopher Historian magazine; the Minneapolis Tribune; the Minneapolis Journal; and the Minneapolis Star-Tribune.

Copy your family's slides and photos on video at the Edina Art Center



Laurie Anderson put her family's photos on video for her parent's 50th wedding anniversary using Edina Art Center Media Studios equipment. You can too!

Like Laurie Anderson, *you* can take advantage of the state-of-the-art equipment at the Edina Art Center's Media Studios to record *your* family's history on video or compact disc. Expert instructors are available for weekday or weekend appointments.



No experience required— we'll train you.

**PEGGY KELLY MEDIA ARTS STUDIOS
EDINA ART CENTER**

4701 WEST 64TH STREET, EDINA, MN 55435 612-915-6602

It's Not Only Neighborly ... It's The Law

Mowing

Regular mowing with a sharp blade at the proper mower height keeps grass growing vigorously so it covers the soil surface. For most lawn areas, mowing at a height of two to three inches provides a good quality turf. This height screens out light to the soil surface, providing some weed control by preventing the establishment of weed seeds such as crabgrass that need light to germinate. Please observe the following mowing heights for a healthy and better-looking lawn.

- Kentucky bluegrass: Common or public varieties such as South Dakota Common, Park, S-21, Argyle, Kenblue, 2-3 inches; Improved varieties included in most sod beds, 1 1/2 – 2 1/2 inches.
- Fine fescue grasses: 1 1/2 – 3 inches.
- Perennial ryegrass: 1 1/2 – 2 1/2 inches.
- Bluegrass/fine fescue mix: 1 1/2 – 2 1/2 inches.
- Bluegrass/perennial ryegrass mix: 1 1/2 – 2 1/2 inches.

Information: Park Maintenance Superintendent Vince Cockriel, 952-826-0305.

Grass Clippings

Keep grass clippings out of the street to help prevent clogging the storm sewer, which can lead to water runoff, backups and flooding. Clippings in the street can become slippery and cause motor vehicle accidents. In addition, the clippings can cause mechanical problems for Edina's street sweepers.

Please help your neighborhood remain safe and free of flooding by bagging or composting your yard waste or returning glass clippings to lawn areas whenever possible. Clippings do not contribute significantly to thatch build-up

and are a valuable organic source of nutrients, especially nitrogen. Under City law, it is illegal to rake or blow yard waste into the streets.

Information: Public Works Coordinator Steve Johnson, 952-826-0301.

Tree Brush

During spring's first storm, many tree branches and twigs fall to the ground. Such brush must be hauled away. However, the City does not pick up brush left at the curbside. Residents should contact a private contractor or refuse hauler for removal or dispose of the brush at the county tree dump.

Information: Park Maintenance Superintendent Vince Cockriel, 952-826-0305.

Lawn Watering

Spring rainfall can be unpredictable. In order to ensure an adequate water supply for late summer, Edina's odd-even sprinkling policy goes into effect May 1 and continues through August.

Homes with even-numbered addresses may water their lawns on even-numbered dates of the week. Homes with odd-numbered addresses may water on odd-numbered dates. So, the family living at 5020 Bedford Ave. could water their lawn on even-numbered dates – May 2, 4, 6 and so on.

If the weather becomes exceptionally dry for an extended period of time, additional water restrictions might be put into place. However, because residents have faithfully observed the odd-even sprinkling policy, the City has had very few water emergencies in the past.

Information: Utilities Superintendent Roger Glanzer, 952-826-0311.

Garage Sales

Garage or yard sales are a great way to clean out your house, meet your neighbors and make some extra money. If you plan to have a sale at your home this year, please be aware of the following rules.

- You may conduct only one sale per year at your home, lasting no more than 72 consecutive hours.
- Items offered for sale must be owned by the owner of the premises or by friends of the owner.

- Items offered for sale must not have been bought for resale or received on consignment for the purpose of resale.
- Signs may be erected on the premises where the sale is taking place. No off-site signs are allowed.
- No signs may be posted on the road right-of-way (the City-owned property 15 feet in from residential curbs) or on telephone poles.

Information: Associate Planner Joyce Repya, 952-826-0462.

GENUINE GRANITE COUNTERTOPS ~ SOAPSTONE

Northwestern SINCE 1896
Marble & Granite Company

VISIT OUR NEW STATE OF THE ART FACILITY:
7705 Bush Lake Road ~ Edina, MN 55439

OPEN:
Monday-Thursday
8:30AM-7:00PM
Friday
8:30AM-4:30PM

952-941-8601
www.northwesternmarble.com

The largest in-stock inventory in the Twin Cities!

Hot Happenings In Park And Recreation

The City of Edina Park and Recreation Department has many programs and activities to keep youth active during the summer months.

Playground Program

Playground Program days are filled with games, activities and special events. The program is open to youth ages 6 to 10 and is held at several City parks, with a special program for youth ages 9 to 12 at Countryside Park. Regular attendance is not mandatory. Children can come and play when convenient.

Countryside Park will be the home site for youth ages 9 to 12 participating in the Playground Program. Older youth can hang with their friends, play games and participate in special events designed for them. Staff will make up new games and play old favorites. Art and crafts will also enhance the day.

Cost is \$20 per session. There is a minimum and maximum number of participants per location.

Mini Hawks

An introductory program for young children, Mini Hawks helps children explore soccer, baseball and basketball at Edinborough Park. There is no pressure, just lots of fun while young athletes participate in all three sports through unique Skyhawks camp games. Staff has been trained to meet the special needs of young children and is committed

to help children start off on the right foot as they take their first steps into athletics. The staff-to-participant ratio is 8:1. The program will run 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 5-9. Cost is \$85 per participant. There is a minimum and maximum number of participants for the program.



Playgrounds

Bike Trekkers

This exciting, fast-paced biking class is for youth ages 10 to 15. Participants join staff for bike rides and visit some sites as part of the program. Sites include the Edina Public Works building and Lake Calhoun. Participants should dress for the weather and bring their own bike, helmet, water and snack to enjoy on these round-trip adventures.

The program will be held 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Fridays June 21 through July 19.

There will be no ride July 5. All treks begin and end at Weber Park. Cost is \$24 per person. At least 10 youth must sign up for the program, which will be limited to 20 riders.

Become a Magician

Through the Become a Magician program, youth entering Grades 2 through 6 can experience what few ever have – personal magic instruction. With help from an instructor, the small group of 15 will learn how to perform and present magic and how to talk in front of an audience. The class will be held 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. or 2:15 to 4:15 p.m. Aug. 13-15 at Walnut Ridge Park in the warming house. Cost is \$28 per participant.

Balloon Sculpturing

Twelve-year-old Magician Matt Dunn is offering his instruction in balloon sculpturing for youth entering Grades 2 through 6. Participants will sculpt rabbits, alligators and parrots, among other things. In this two-day class, held noon to 2 p.m. Aug. 13 and 14, children will also learn how to perform in front of a group. Each participant will receive 100 balloons and a pump. Cost is \$19 per person.

League of Champs (Three-on-Three Basketball)

Boys and girls entering Grades 6 through 8 are encouraged to form teams and sign up for fun in the sun. There will be a separate basketball league for each grade level. Games will be played at Countryside Park on Fridays starting at noon. Leagues begin June 21. A supervisor will keep time, but no officials will be provided. The fee per team is \$15. Register by June 13. Game schedules will be mailed June 15.

Sports Spectacular

In Sports Spectacular, children ages 9 to 12 play some of their favorite sports while learning good sportsmanship and cooperation. Sports could include softball, basketball, tennis, soccer, biking, volleyball and lacrosse. Instructors might also include old-time favorites such as croquet, bocce ball, marbles and horseshoe. Two sessions of the program will be offered. Session I runs Mondays and Wednesdays June 24 through July 17. Session II runs Tuesdays and Thursdays June 25 through July 18. Both sessions will be held 9:15 to 11:15 a.m. at Wooddale Park. Cost is \$30.

Chess in the Park

Checkmate! The Edina Chess Association will provide children with a new game to play outdoors this summer – chess. Chess will be offered at Rosland Park 2 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursday July 9 through Aug. 29. The program has been designed for children, but anyone is welcome to play. Although some chess sets will be provided, children should bring their own if they have one. One or two adults will be there to teach some skills. Registration is not necessary. For more information, check out the Edina Chess Association's website, www.edinachess.org.

Fishing Clinic

Children can learn the art of fishing at fishing clinics held at Centennial Lakes Park. Participants will play interactive games, participate in habitat site studies, get their hands dirty handling bait and have the opportunity to get the catch of the day. In addition to instruction, each child will receive a fishing starter tackle box. There will be one clinic in June and another in July. The fee is \$5 per child. Adults are free and welcome.

To register for any of the above programs, visit the Park and Recreation office at Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call the Park and Recreation Department, 952-826-0367.

Houle Named City Engineer, Director Of Public Works



Longtime City of Edina employee Wayne Houle was recently named City Engineer and Director of Public Works.

Houle was promoted Jan. 2, succeeding Francis J. Hoffman, who retired from the position after working nearly 30 years for the City.

Wayne Houle was promoted to Director of Public Works and City Engineer in January. Houle has been a City employee since 1996.

Houle is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Institute of Technology and is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Minnesota. After working in the private sector as a civil engineer for consulting firms and as a field engineer for a contractor, Houle joined the City staff in 1996 as Assistant City Engineer. In 2000, he was promoted to Assistant Public Works Director.

Since joining the City staff, Houle developed a neighborhood pavement reconstruction program, coordinated a City wide sump pump inspection program and was responsible for the Public Works section of a new City Capital Improvement Program, among other things. He has been an active member in the City's Traffic Safety Committee, listening to residents' traffic safety concerns and recommending solutions.

Houle has also been active in many committees that make recommendations affecting area residents. Those committees include the Technical Advisory Committee for the Metropolitan Council's Transportation Advisory Board, I-35W Solutions Alliance Technical Advisory Committee for the commuter rail feasibility study of the Dan Patch Rail Corridor and the Technical Advisory Committee for the Hydrology and Hydraulics Study of Minnehaha Creek for the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. Houle is a member of the Minnesota Public Works Association, Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers and the Minnesota City Engineers Association.

"We are fortunate to have an individual of Wayne's experience and skills ready to assume the duties of the important position of City Engineer and Public Works Director," said City Manager Gordon Hughes upon making the appointment. "Among many other qualities, I have always admired Wayne's skills in dealing with residents' concerns and his ability to explain complicated projects and make recommendations for feasible solutions to the City Council."

Houle was humbled by the promotion. "I feel fortunate to be working in Edina," he said. "Edina is one of the nicest cities in the area to work for. I am ready for the challenge of leading the Engineering and Public Works departments and will work hard to maintain the high level of customer service residents have come to expect."

Houle said his first goal as City Engineer and Public Works Director is to complete upcoming projects and analyze the City's water system. He plans to carefully analyze the City's aging infrastructure to determine areas that can be improved to be more efficient.

Houle, a native of Wadena, Minn., his wife, Wendy, and two children live in the area. "I have made this my home and look forward to staying here as long as Fran [Hoffman] did before retiring," he said. "I look forward to serving the residents of Edina throughout my career."

KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE AND WHO THEY ARE WITH.

- Have your kids check in with you regularly. Give them coins, a phone card or a beeper with clear usage rules.
- Make a list of her/his activities for the coming day and put it on the fridge, on a calendar, or in your wallet or purse.
- Know your child's friends.
- Show up a little early to pick up your child so you can observe his/her behavior.

*In the end, it's not pestering, it's parenting.**

* national youth anti-drug media campaign

For more information contact Bloomington Public Health, 952.563.8900

EDINALARM
QUALITY PROTECTION
(888) 20-ALARM

*11 Years, 1000's Served
Thank You!*

Locally owned & monitored
www.edinalarm.com

Taste of Edina
Food, Wine and Business Expo

Join us for an evening of great food, wine tasting & networking
Thursday, April 11, 2002
4:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Southdale Center

For more information contact the Edina Chamber at (952) 806-9060.

Presented by:
EDINA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

City To Introduce Improved Website

The City of Edina's website, ci.edina.mn.us, has a new look. The redesigned website was launched in early March.

Building on the City's commitment to provide residents with current and accurate information about Edina, the website features 24-hour per day access to information that was formerly available only by phone, mail or a visit to City offices.

In the last few years, the number of monthly visitors to the City of Edina's website has increased ten-fold. The City uses a software program to track what is going on in the website. By using the software, City officials learned that in 1999 there were less than 10,000 successful hits to the site per month. In 2000, the site was attracting approximately 40,000 visitors each month. About 100,000 hits are now made each month to the website.

Among the things you can do using the City's website are:

- Download a copy of the Edina City Council agenda prior to meetings.
- Complete research using the City Code.
- Download, print and fill out building permit applications.
- Read press releases before they are printed in the media.
- Learn where the most recent commercial crimes occurred in the City.
- Plan to attend events and meetings by reviewing the City's calendar.
- View a photo gallery.
- Link to other community organizations' websites.

Visitors to the redesigned website will notice a more sophisticated look and improved navigation. In the near future, several interactive



applications will be available online for such things as employment, appointment to a Board or Commission, parade entry and recreation fire permit. E-commerce might launch later in the year. Minneapolis-based eNRGi, Inc., is helping the City complete the interactive project.

"The City's goal is to make the website as user-friendly as possible," said Communications Director Jennifer Wilkinson, pointing out that an objective of the City's strategic plan Edina's Vision 20/20 is to match the City's technological capabilities with the needs and desires of residents and business people.

"Ultimately, we would like to have most forms and information available to residents online – anything you would call City Hall for should also be available on the website."

For the website to continue to evolve, the City needs feedback from residents – especially comments on what additional information is needed online to increase the website's efficiency and meet the needs of the Edina community. Questions and comments can be directed to Wilkinson, 952-832-6063, or via e-mail, EdinaMail@ci.edina.mn.us.

[Log on today!](#)

City To Say Thanks At Annual Reception

Volunteer organizations help provide a diversity of activities in a community for an improved quality of life. In Edina, nearly 70 community organizations add to the beauty, culture and recreational opportunities that attract many new residents and visitors to the City.

Each year, the City sets aside an evening to focus on the efforts of its service clubs and recognize the individuals who have devoted time and energy to better the community. As part of Edina's Annual Volunteer Recognition Reception, many will be recognized 5 p.m. Thursday, April 18, at Edinborough Park.

At the reception, each organization will be given the opportunity to recognize its own exemplary volunteers in a public setting. More than 25 community organizations are expected to participate in this year's event. In addition, Mayor Dennis Maetzold will announce this year's recipients of five Mayor's Commendation Awards. The categories are:

Mayor's Service Club Commendation

Awarded to a club or organization that has made outstanding contributions to the community through its regular activities or through special projects.

The Blue Ribbon Committee, a task force of the Edina City Council that spent many hours researching and deliberating the need for a park referendum in 2001, was last year's recipient.

Mayor's Outstanding Senior Commendation

Awarded to a senior citizen for outstanding volunteer service within the community.

The 2001 award was given to Lila Larson for her involvement with the Edina Senior Center and FamiLink Edina. Over the years, Larson has been an advocate for seniors and has contributed to efforts including moving hospice care to a home setting, reinstating the "Vial of Life" program and lobbying for a new Senior Center.

Mayor's Youth Commendation

Awarded to a young person who has demonstrated a commitment to improving the quality of life in the community. This will be the first year the award is presented.

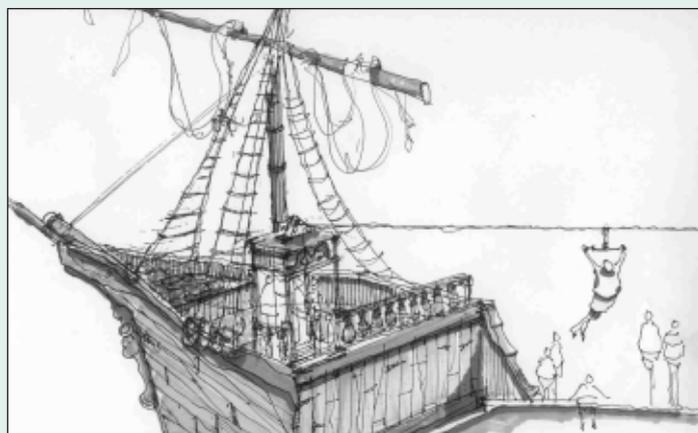
Mayor's Community Involvement Commendation

Awarded to a City employee for outstanding volunteer service to the community, above and beyond his or her position with the City.

Park and Recreation Director John Keprios was honored with the 2001 award for investing a substantial amount of personal time to further the development of the City's park system.

The community is invited to attend the 2002 Volunteer Recognition Reception and applaud the extraordinary efforts of Edina's volunteers. Call Human Services Coordinator Susan Heiberg at 952-826-0403 to make a reservation.

Improved Aquatic Center Slides Into A New Season



Swimmers looking for some afternoon adventure can fly across the water on a new cable ride. Riders will climb aboard a 10-foot platform built to look like a ship's bow where they will grasp a bar and glide over the pool.

When the Edina Aquatic Center opens for the 2002 season Saturday, June 8, adventurous swimmers will have the choice between a twisting body or an inner tube flume to whiz into a plunge pool below. They will also be able to swim, glide over the water on a high-flying cable ride, plunge from a three-meter diving board, splash and play in a zero-depth children's pool, slide from a magical tree house or relax in comfortable lounge chairs. The Edina Aquatic Center, located in Rosland Park at 4300 W. 66th St., offers summer fun to water-lovers of all ages.

After the Aquatic Center closed for the 2001 season, construction began on several new amenities. New in 2002 will be a waterslide tower featuring a 207-foot body slide and 300-foot inner tube slide with single and double tubes.

Both slides will be fully enclosed at the top and open one-third the way down, emptying into a plunge pool separate from the Aquatic Center's main body of water.

Also new in 2002 will be a cable ride. Daring young swimmers will be able to fly across the water on the new cable ride. Riders will climb aboard a 10-foot platform built to look like a ship's bow. There, they will grasp a bar and glide over the pool. The ride ends with a splash into the water.

When it's time for a break, swimmers can relax in lounge chairs, take shelter under large shade umbrellas or exercise their imaginations at a new dry playground. The focal point of the dry play area will be a large tree with a



ThemeScapes designed a tree house-themed playground for the Aquatic Center. The focal point of the dry play area will be a large tree with a climb-through center and lookout tower.

climb-through center and lookout tower. The tree will feature two platforms with slides, as well as a bridge to a second tree. Attached to a third tree will be monkey bars with a hippopotamus and alligator waiting below. The play area will also feature a crawl-through log, toddler slide and spider web.

Old favorites at the Aquatic Center were not touched during construction. The always-popular children's pool features spiral and tunnel slides, a tire swing, sprays, fountains and other water-in-motion amenities. For easy entry, water depth begins at zero and increases to 18 inches. A full-service concessions area, located near the children's pool, offers light meals and snacks.

The \$1.4 million renovation project was funded by swimming pool revenue. The project was designed to keep the facility fresh and exciting for years to come.

"The Edina Aquatic Center continually looks for ways to better serve patrons," said Assistant Park and Recreation Director Ed MacHolda, who oversees operations of the facility. "From dramatic improvements such as the new water slides, themed cable ride and dry playground to small enhancements like additional chaise lounge chairs and shade umbrellas, the Aquatic Center staff strives to keep the facility fresh and exciting year after year."

For more information, contact MacHolda, 952-826-0431, or visit the City's website, www.ci.edina.mn.us. June and July hours are 11:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. for the main pool and 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. for the zero-depth pool.

\$79* *Holiday weekends
at Radisson Hotel South.*

Long holiday weekends are your chance to create family memories. Bring the kids and any visiting relatives and make Radisson Hotel South your headquarters for family fun. Splash around in our oversized indoor pool and jet spa or check out the game room. Gather the gang together and enjoy a meal in one of our restaurants. Now that's how to enjoy a weekend. Just ask for our Holiday Super Saver rate. Join Gold Rewards. Free Nights. Global Rewards.

MINNEAPOLIS - BLOOMINGTON
Radisson Hotel South & Plaza Tower
7800 Normandale Boulevard
Minneapolis, MN 55439 • 952-835-7800
www.radisson.com/minneapolismn_south
1-800-333-3333 or contact your travel professional

Radisson

*Rates are per room, per night plus tax. Room availability limited, advance reservations required. Kids under 17 stay free in parent's room. Offer valid June 28-July 9, August 23-September 3, November 27-December 1, December 19-30, 2002.

Home Rehab Funds for Qualified Edina Home Owners



You may qualify for up to \$20,000 to make repairs or necessary improvements to your Edina home through the **Hennepin County Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program.**

This program provides deferred repayment funds on a first-come-first-served basis to people who can show financial need. If you would like to receive information, income guidelines, qualification summaries, interest rates, and applications, please call Associate Planner Joyce Repya at the Edina Planning Department, (952) 826-0462.

Dozens of Edina residents have protected the value of their homes by using this program. If your primary residence is located in Edina and needs repair or structural improvements, please give Joyce a call.



**CITY OF EDINA
PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

Edina Firefighters Install Smoke Detectors For Local Homeowners



Photo by Pally Norman

Todd Porthan, a member of the Fire Department, discusses fire safety and the use of smoke detectors with a local couple. The Department is available for testing, installation and safety security checks the second Friday of every month.

Because smoke detectors have proven to save lives, the Edina Fire Department is reaching out to local homeowners who don't have working smoke detectors in their homes or have old detectors with no means to replace them.

The local fire department will install smoke detectors equipped with 10-year batteries in single-family homes of qualifying homeowners. Paramedic/firefighters will install the detectors, one per floor outside of sleeping areas. Residents who live in apartment buildings, condominiums or other multi-dwelling buildings are not eligible for the free program and should call their property managers, as they are required to maintain those systems.

Until recently, the program was sponsored by Hennepin County, which supplied the detectors. Because of the positive response to the program, the Edina Fire Department decided to begin a program of its own after County funding ended. Jerry's Hardware generously donated the smoke detectors for the new local program.

Fire Department personnel will be available for testing, installation and safety survey checks the second Friday of every month. Appointments, which last approximately 45 minutes each, are available between 8 a.m. and noon.



Photo by Pally Norman

Paramedic/firefighter Todd Porthan explains the proper use and maintenance of a smoke detector.

Residents who have participated in the program believe it is beneficial. "It was a pleasure to have [two paramedics/firefighters] at my house to put in the new detectors," said one resident in a thank-you letter to the Fire Department. "The two smoke detectors I had were over 20 years old, so I'm very relieved to have state-of-the-art detectors now. I hope this program continues so that others can benefit from it."

For more information on the smoke detector installation program or to schedule an appointment, call the Edina Fire Prevention Bureau, 952-826-0378.

Plastic Bottles With Necks Easiest To Recycle

Through Edina's residential curbside collection program, plastic bottles with necks are collected. However, deli containers, yogurt containers, plastic trays and other non-necked plastic products are not because they are composed of different types of plastics. Those plastics are not as marketable to companies that purchase recyclables and are difficult to reprocess.

Local markets and their ability to recycle different types of plastics are major factors in what the City is able to collect. Even though plastics are similar, each has different attributes in its composition that makes it better suited for a particular application.

There are seven different types of plastics. However, only plastics that have the recycle symbol with a "1" or "2" inside the triangle are collected for recycling. They are:



PETE (polyethylene terephthalate) is a clear, tough polymer with exceptional gas and moisture barrier properties. PETE's ability to contain carbonation makes it ideal for use in soft drink bottles.



HDPE (high density polyethylene) is used in milk, juice and water containers in order to take advantage of its excellent protective barrier properties. Its chemical resistance properties also make it well suited for items such as containers for household chemicals and detergents.

The other five plastics are vinyl, low-density polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and a mix of plastics.

In addition to differing types of plastic, the way the plastic is formed into its shape can affect how well it will respond in the recycling process. In shaping, there is an injection molding process and a blown molding process. Injection molding is a process in which the plastic is injected into forms, such as butter and deli containers. The blown process is similar to glass blowing. Air is blown into the plastic and the shape is formed. Plastic bottles are made this way. Blown plastic is easier to recycle than the products formed through injection molding.



In Edina, only plastic bottles with necks are collected through the residential recycling program. Plastics used to make bottles with necks are easiest to recycle and command the highest market value.

In summary, the reason Edina collects only plastic bottles with necks is that the majority of plastic bottles are made from two plastic resins: PETE and HDPE. These two plastics are the easiest to recycle and command the highest market value. Other plastics are harder to reprocess, have less

marketability or do not generate enough product for collection.

For more information, contact Recycling and Solid Waste Coordinator Solvei Wilmot, 952-826-0463.

City of Edina To Flush Hydrants In April, Early May

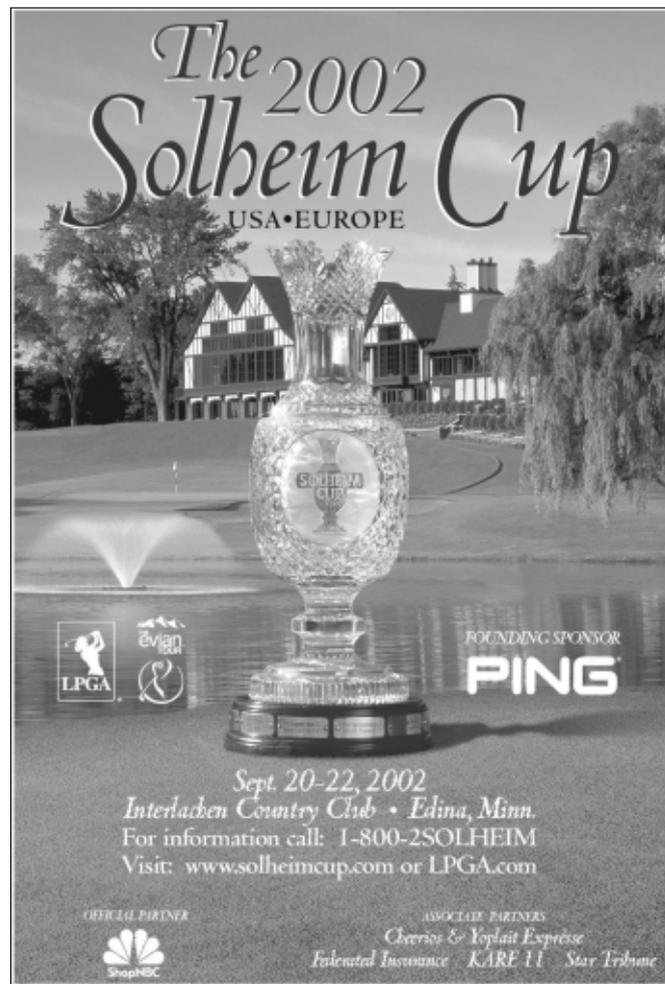
To purge rust and stagnant water from the water distribution system and identify hydrants in need of maintenance, the Utilities Division of the City of Edina's Public Works Department will flush hydrants for four weeks beginning Monday, April 15. Random hydrants are also flushed throughout the year as weather and water demand allows.

Hydrant flushing will take place 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. In an attempt to minimize the impact on residents, hydrants will be flushed as follows:

- April 15-19** East of Minnesota Highway 100 and north of Minnesota Highway 62
- April 22-26** East of Minnesota Highway 100 and south of Minnesota Highway 62
- April 29-May 3** West of Minnesota Highway 100 and south of Minnesota Highway 62
- May 6-10** West of Minnesota Highway 100 and north of Minnesota Highway 62

Due to hydrant flushing, it is inevitable that some residents will receive rust-colored water, which can stain laundry. Residents may also receive rust-colored water when areas adjacent to theirs are being flushed. Residents should check that water coming into the house is clear before doing laundry during the flushing period.

The flushing schedule is approximate. For an up-to-date flushing schedule, call the Public Works Hotline at 952-826-0375. For more information, contact Utilities Superintendent Roger Glanzer, 952-826-0311.



Edina Senior Center Moves Into New Facility

Members of the Edina Senior Center have traded the sights from the third floor of the Edina Community Center for a "Grand View." The Senior Center moved into a new building at the end of February.

The 36,000-square-foot building, located at 5280 Grandview Square, is home to the Edina Senior Center and Edina Community Library. The project has been labeled a "cooperative venture that serves as a model for other communities."

The building anchors the Grandview Square redevelopment project, which also includes an office building and residential units. It is located at the former Kunz-Lewis site, an area south of Eden Avenue and west of Minnesota Highway 100. Opus Northwest Construction built the office building and library/senior center complex. Ron Clark Construction is building the condominiums.

"More than 22 percent of Edina's population is over 65 years of age – the highest percentage in Hennepin County," said City Manager Gordon Hughes. "The new Edina Senior Center will provide an exceptional environment to serve the needs of this growing portion of our population."

The new library, part of the Hennepin County Library System, will replace its current facility on West 50th Street with needed upgrades and approximately 4,000 square feet in added floor space. The extra space will house an expanded meeting room, a large living room area with a gas fireplace, conference room and quiet study area. More lounge seating will be available at the new library and more

space will be provided for computers. The expanded library will provide more space for staff offices and a children's room.

The approximately 18,000-square-foot Senior Center on the building's walkout level will be home for one of the most vibrant and growing programs in the City's Park and Recreation Department. Members of the Senior Center have been working on plans for a facility of their own for more than a decade.



Senior Center employee Mary Endrizzi and Director Sue Weigle field a call from a prospective member of the Edina Senior Center. The new Senior Center opened at Grandview Square in late February.

"The new Edina Senior Center was worth the wait," said Joan Lonsbury of the Edina Senior Advisory Council. "We are so excited to be here. It is better than we ever dreamed it could be – it is larger and brighter and is a great place for the variety of programs we plan to add to our offerings."

Among the many new programs and activities slated for the Center are University of Minnesota outreach classes, Volunteers of America's Express Lunch, speakers, additional card groups and support services for the frail elderly.

Lonsbury and other members are quick to point out that any program can be coordinated at the Senior Center if enough people show interest. "The Edina Senior Center has a very open policy about its programming," Lonsbury said. "If enough people show an interest in a topic, a group will be formed or a program started."

For more information on the new Edina Senior Center, contact Director Sue Weigle, 952-833-9570.

Youth Make A Difference On City Boards And Commissions

The community's young people are helping to turn the wheels of government.

Late last year, Mayor Dennis Maetzold appointed Becky Amlaw to the Art Center Board, Allyson Grande to the Park Board and Tim Marrinan to the Recycling and Solid Waste Commission. The Heritage Preservation Board is currently considering the possibility of adding a youth member to its group. If that happens, Maetzold will appoint a teenager to that board later this year.

"It is absolutely necessary for the City to hear from the youngest members of the community," Maetzold said, adding that expanding boards and commissions to include teenagers is an important part of the local asset-building initiative "Connecting With Kids." "They are the future of Edina and should be involved in the decision-making process."

Becky, a sophomore at Edina High School, has been a member of the Art Center for more than five years and has been an active participant in its Art Academy for youth. "It is really important for youth to be involved in the arts," Becky said. "I wanted to be part of the Art Center Board to propose some new ideas that will encourage more youth to participate."



Photo by Polly Norman

After several years as a member of the Art Center, Becky Amlaw is now part of the decision-making process there. She was appointed to the Art Center Committee late last year.

Becky would like to organize an annual art sale of works by young and up-and-coming artists. She would also like to see bands play more often at Art Center events. "Becky Amlaw's enthusiasm for the Art Center is contagious," said Director Diana Hedges. "She brings a fresh perspective and wonderful ideas on promoting the arts in Edina – especially for the high school-age group. Becky is already working on special events and outreach. We are happy to have her on the Art Center team!"

After participating in countless Park and Recreation programs, Allyson decided she wanted to be in the decision-making process and applied for appointment to the Park Board.

"Many Park Board decisions primarily affect youth, but until now there hasn't been a youth member of that group," said Allyson, a sophomore at Edina High School. "I am proud to represent the youth and share comments about issues."

"At my first meeting, we talked about the [proposed] skate park. I have a lot of friends who skateboard, so when other members of the Park Board asked my opinion of the project it was easy for me to talk."



Photo by Polly Norman

Allyson Grande is the first youth member of the Park Board.

Park and Recreation Director John Keprios has been impressed with Allyson's community mindedness. "Allyson seems very interested in making a contribution and making a difference on the Park Board," he said. "In fact, at her first meeting, she offered to distribute information flyers to students at the high school and get the word out on our initiative to offer facilities for use after events."

Freshman Tim Marrinan became interested in recycling and solid waste issues after a recent mission trip in which he assisted with waste management. When he saw a short article in the local newspaper announcing an opening on the Commission, he quickly applied for appointment.

"I hadn't anticipated getting involved to the point where I would make comments," said Tim, recalling his first meeting. "I listened hard to what the group was talking about, but was surprised when they asked my opinion. Now, I am trying to bring the high school viewpoint to the

table. It's pretty fun. I would [join the commission] again in a heartbeat."

Recycling and Solid Waste Coordinator Solvei Wilmot has noticed Tim's dedication to improving the environment. "I am always impressed with youth who volunteer for these types of positions," she said. "It is sometimes tough for a young person to step into a group of mostly adults and voice opinions. Tim is anxious to make a difference in the community and is learning to provide input."



Photo by Polly Norman

Tim Marrinan became interested in recycling and solid waste issues on a mission trip. He is applying his knowledge and passion for improving the environment as a member of the Recycling and Solid Waste Commission.

For more information on youth positions available on the City's various boards and commissions, contact City Clerk Debra Mangen, 952-826-0408.

Edina Garden Council To Hold Annual Plant Sale

April showers bring May flowers and so does the Edina Garden Council! The Council is preparing for its annual plant sale, which raises thousands of dollars for the organization's work in City parks.

The Garden Council's annual sale will be held 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, May 10, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at Arneson Acres Park, 4711 W. 70th St. Bedding plants, hanging baskets, vegetables, herbs, houseplants, fertilizer and tools will be for sale at reasonable prices.

Nine of the Council's clubs comprising more than 100 people, began planting flats of their choice in January for the sale. All plants are grown from seeds and cared for at the Arneson Acres greenhouse. Individual members also contribute plants they grow at home, adding unique items to the selection offered for purchase.

The Council works closely with the Park and Recreation Department to brighten the City. After wrapping up the sale, the Council will begin planting flowers in the City's parks. There are approximately 100 public gardens in Edina. The Council will plant flowers at less than 10 of them. City staff will plant the remaining plants grown by the Council in the other gardens.

The Edina Garden Council was founded in 1953, joining together several neighborhood garden clubs scattered throughout the City. The objectives of the Council are to coordinate the interests of the garden clubs of Edina, cooperate with other agencies furthering the interests of gardening, promote the art of home and community beautification and study all aspects of the fine art of gardening and horticulture.

For more information on the Edina Garden Council or its annual plant sale, contact Virginia Bodine, 952-941-1206.



Think Globally. Buy Locally.

No matter what you're looking for in spirits, chances are any of your three Edina Municipal Liquor Stores can help you.

Our knowledgeable and friendly staff will be happy to guide you through our world class selection to find just what you want.

And while our products come from all over the globe, our profits stay right here in Edina, keeping our parks clean, our roads smooth and our taxes low. Truly the best of both worlds.

EDINA LIQUOR

Practice Moderation In Excess.

Edina's Municipal Liquor Stores

Grandview (near Jerry's Foods) • Southdale (next to Cub)

• 50th & France (next to Lunds)

Keep Streets, Intersections Clear Of Overgrowth

Edina has approximately 200 miles of streets to maintain. One continual and vital aspect of street maintenance is vegetation control for public safety purposes. Streets must be kept clear of vegetative growth to allow for safe passage of all types of vehicles and pedestrians. All signs must be unobscured to ensure proper visibility at intersections.

The City Code requires that streets must be clear to a height of 16 feet. Edina residents are responsible for maintaining the trees and shrubs along their boulevards or in their yards to achieve this clearance. This City Code also permits residents to plant shade trees on the boulevard. However, the following species cannot be planted on the boulevard unless permission is granted by Edina Park and Recreation Director John Keprios.

- Willow.
- Elm.
- Box Elder.
- Cottonwood, aspen, poplar or other member of the genus "Populus."
- Pine, spruce, fir, yew or other conifers.
- Silver maple.

Residents are encouraged to plant shade trees on the boulevard for both aesthetic and environmental reasons. A healthy forestation of the community not only beautifies neighborhoods, but also contributes to the environment by means of erosion control, air quality and shade. The City Code also regulates the safety of visibility at intersections. This "clear-view zone" is defined as the point of intersection of two streets to 30 feet in length on each street

and a triangular line connecting these points. This area must be kept trimmed and clear from between 30 inches to 6 feet in height. This cleared area will then allow for safe vision of traffic at corners.

When necessary, the City administers a boulevard tree-trimming program. The homeowner may then choose to pay the expense immediately or have it be assessed to their property.

Any trimming requirements outside of these scheduled periods are residential responsibilities. At times, residents may receive notices from the City to comply with its ordinances.

Public safety issues and our urban forest need not be incompatible with each other. Periodic trimming and pruning makes our streets safer and also contributes to healthier trees.

For more information, contact City Forester Tom Horwath, 952-826-0308.



H. D. Lindner - Home Repair
Enjoy your perfect home!
Fix the little things.
50th & France
Since 1964 Ph. 612-581-3137

