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Edina, MN 55424  
www.CityofEdina.com

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# AboutTown

Official Magazine of the City of Edina



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W I N T E R • 2 0 1 0

# AboutTown

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Winter 2010

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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 Patricia Cich Lee

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## Summer Programs Are A Click Away

In an effort to go green, save money and respond to  
resident requests, the *Park & Recreation Insider* catalog of  
programs and activities will now be exclusively avail-  
able online at [www.EdinaParks.com](http://www.EdinaParks.com). You will no longer  
receive the *Park & Recreation Insider* in the mail.

Those who subscribe to "City Extra" will receive emailed  
notifications when the electronic catalog is available  
online in January and August of each year. To sign up  
for City Extra, visit <http://cityextra.CityofEdina.com>.

We require your name, email address and a password to  
protect your free subscriptions and your profile. We will  
only send information you specifically request from us.  
Subscribe to the "Park & Recreation Programs & Activi-  
ties" list to ensure you receive future notices of *Park &  
Recreation Insider* catalogs.

A limited number of printed copies of each issue will  
be available. If you would like to request that a copy be  
mailed to you, call 952-826-0367.

## About Town Calendar

# January 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day. Edina City Hall closed.	2
3	4 Art Academy begins for Grades 2-4, Edina Art Center.	5 Art Academy begins for Grades 6-10, Edina Art Center.  7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	6 Art Academy begins for Grades 4-6, Edina Art Center.	7 Noon, Wonderful World of Woody, Edinborough Park.  5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	8	9
10 1-5 p.m., Winter Ice Festival, Centennial Lakes Park.	11	12 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall.	13	14 Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Edinborough Park.  5 p.m., Faculty Exhibit Opening, Edina Art Center.	15 Collage workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.	16 Winter Trees watercolor workshop, Edina Art Center.
17	18 <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Edina City Hall closed.</b>  Potters' Games, Edina Art Center.	19 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	20 7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall.	21 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.  6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	22 Collage workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.  7-8:30 p.m., Winter Neighborhood Night Out, various City parks.	23
24 7 p.m., Eden Prairie Community Big Band, Edinborough Park.	25	26 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.	27 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	28 Noon, Wendy's Wiggle, Jiggle Jam, Edinborough Park.	29 Collage workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.	30 Sumi-e workshop for ages 10-adult, Edina Art Center.
31 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.						

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## About Town Calendar

# February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	2 Precinct Caucus Night.	3	4 Noon, Wonderful World of Woody, Edinborough Park.  5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	5 Valentine Workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.	6 Valentine Cards class for Grades 1-6, Edina Art Center.  6 p.m., Emerald Gala, Edina Country Club.
7 Artist Talk: Focus on Water, Edina Art Center.	8 Abstract workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.  7 p.m., Edina PCN Speaker Forum, Edina High School Performing Arts Center.	9 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall.	10	11 Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Edinborough Park.	12 Collage workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.	13 Collage workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.  Valentine Cards class for ages 5-adult, Edina Art Center.
14 7 p.m., St. Louis Park Community Band, Edinborough Park.	15 <b>Presidents' Day. Edina City Hall closed.</b>	16 Art for Preschoolers begins, Edina Art Center.  7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	17 11 a.m., State of the City, Edinborough Park.  7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall.	18 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.  6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	19	20
21 7 p.m., Northern Winds Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	22	23 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.	24 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	25 Noon, Okee Dokee Brothers, Edinborough Park.  5 p.m., Foci Glass exhibit opening reception, Edina Art Center.	26	27
28 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.						

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# March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	2	3	4 Noon, Wonderful World of Woody, Edinborough Park.  5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	5 Watercolor Wet n' Wet Workshop, Edina Art Center.	6
7 p.m., South of the River Band, Edinborough Park.	8 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall.	9	10	11 Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Edinborough Park.	12 Very beginning watercolor workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.  Expressive Arts workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.	13
7 p.m., Hopkins West Wind Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	15 7 p.m., Edina PCN Speaker Forum, Concord Elementary School.	16 6:30 p.m., Community Health Committee, Edina City Hall.  7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	17 7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall.	18 Noon, Brodini Comedy and Magic Act, Edinborough Park.  6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	19	20 Color Pencil I workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.
7 p.m., Jazz on the Prairie, Edinborough Park.	22	23 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.	24	25	26 Printing Patterns workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.  Watercolor Skies workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.	27
7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.	29	30	31 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.			

# Winter Calendar Highlights

## Other Dates To Remember

- Jan. 21** Noon, Brodini Comedy and Magic Act, Edinborough Park.
- Jan. 31** Expressive Art Workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.
- Feb. 18** Noon, Brodini Comedy and Magic Act, Edinborough Park.
- March 18** 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.
- March 27** Therapeutic Painting Workshop for adults, Edina Art Center.

## Winter Ice Festival

**What:** In celebration of the winter season, Centennial Lakes Park will host the 20th-annual Winter Ice Festival. Visitors to the park will be able to have their faces painted and ride on a horse-drawn wagon. Ice Festival participants may bring their own equipment, but ice skates and kick-sleds are available for rental at the Park Centrum, which serves as a warming house and concessions stand during the winter months. Ice-sculpting demonstrations will be given behind the centrum on the terrace overlooking the lake.

**When:** 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 10  
**Where:** Centennial Lakes Park, 7499 France Ave. S.  
**Info:** Centennial Lakes Park, www.CentennialLakesPark.com or 952-833-9580

## Winter Neighborhood Night Out

**What:** Gather your family and neighbors for a night of free, old-fashioned winter fun at the warming house. Snowshoeing, quinzee-building sponsored by the Edina Community Foundation, ice skating and more will keep you active. Warm up with Caribou Coffee and cider and connect with people in your neighborhood. Donations to the Edina Community Foundation will help keep this event free.

**When:** 7-8:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22  
**Where:** Normandale, Pamela and Weber parks  
**Info:** Edina Park & Recreation Department, www.EdinaParks.com or 952-826-0433

## Edina Chamber of Commerce Emerald Gala

**What:** The Edina Chamber of Commerce will hold its largest fund raising event of the year, Emerald Gala 2010. The "black tie admired, but not required" event will feature a silent auction, dinner and dancing, among other entertainment. A portion of the proceeds from a raffle will provide scholarships for Edina High School students.

**When:** 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6  
**Where:** Edina Country Club, 5100 Wooddale Ave.  
**Info:** Edina Chamber of Commerce, 952-806-9060

# A Word From The Mayor

"Collaboration" is a commonly used term these days in government. The general notion is how can we, at City Hall, work with others to make the most of our limited resources and leverage Edina's assets in the most effective manner possible? Our city has been engaged in collaborative work with others for quite some time and one of the keys has been developing trusted relationships with both governmental and community leaders at home and across our metropolitan region. How do we do that? One way is by being active participants in organizations that serve our interests at the state, regional and community levels.

The City is an active participant in a number of organizations that have a state and regional emphasis. The League of Minnesota Cities provides an umbrella organization for virtually every city in Minnesota, large and small. The League is dedicated to achieving excellence in local government and is an organization where common concerns and opportunities can be shared with other cities. Metro Cities and the Municipal Legislative Commission focus on metropolitan and sub-regional issues that are more relevant to Edina's day-to-day operations. All of these organizations are active at the state legislature on issues important to Edina and other local governments.

Council members, in addition to helping run our local government, also serve our City in other ways. Member Ann Swenson serves on the Community Action Partnership for South Hennepin board, member Joni Bennett is on the Community Education Board and member Scot Housh serves on the Southwest Cable Commission. Council members Mary Brindle and Housh serve on the Edina Crime Prevention Fund

Board of Directors. As your Mayor, I serve on the 494 Corridor Commission, the 169 Corridor Coalition and the Transportation Advisory Board to the Met Council, all of which are involved in the vexing issues concerning our region's transportation infrastructure. I also serve as Co-Chair of the Regional Council of Mayors, which, among other things, focuses on strategies for job retention and growth.

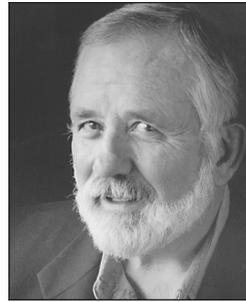
At the staff level, a number of our senior members hold leadership positions within their professional associations. In our own community, City Manager Gordon Hughes encourages staff to be full participants and take leadership positions within civic groups and organizations such as the Edina Chamber of Commerce, Edina Crime Prevention Fund, Edina Magazine Editorial Advisory Board, 50th & France Business & Professional Association, Connecting With Kids and the various service clubs in Edina.

By working together with others, we believe we can keep our town a "preeminent place for living, learning, raising families and doing business" and our region a place of prosperity.



James B. Hovland  
Mayor

# Hopkins' Non-Farm Jobs Attracted Early Settlers Of Northwest Edina



By Joe Sullivan  
Contributing Writer

Most historical descriptions of early west Richfield township settlers agree that they were predominantly farmers. This area, with a few exceptions, would remain an agricultural society for at least seven decades after 1888 when Edina seceded from

Richfield and became an independent village.

One of the exceptions was a 160-acre farm that was sold for residential development in the 1880s. That plot of land was owned by farmer and public officeholder Michael F. Maloney. Located in the far northwest section of what would become the village of Edina, Maloney's farm would be platted and transformed into two residential neighborhoods known as West Minneapolis Heights and the Mendelssohn District.

## Edina Residents Looked To Hopkins For Schools, Supplies And Jobs

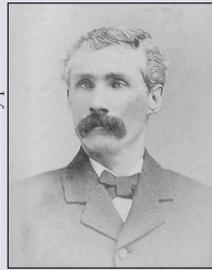
In the 1880s, Hopkins was the largest and most prosperous of the southwest Hennepin County villages. It was a critical source of goods, services, education and employment for northwest Edina families and other residents of Edina, who travelled regularly from as far away as the Cahill district to do their shopping.

## Michael F. Maloney: Civil War Veteran, Farmer and Public Officeholder

Born in County Galway, Ireland, on Nov. 20, 1845, Maloney immigrated with his parents to the United States in 1852. He was 7 years old when they arrived in the port of New York later that year. Soon after, he and his parents left New York City for Troy, N.Y. where they resided for two years. In 1854, he and his parents moved to far-off Kenosha, Wis.

In August 1862, he enlisted in the 33rd Regiment of the Wisconsin Infantry and served three years in the Civil War under Generals Sherman and McPherson. He was discharged in August 1865 and, in 1869, left Kenosha for Minnesota to visit his sister in what was then west Richfield Township and made Minnesota his permanent home.

He purchased 160 acres of farmland and in 1877 was married to Albertina Erickson. The first of their seven children (a daughter) was born in December 1878. When he died of natural causes in 1933 at age 87, Maloney still lived in the same house he had built more than 50 years earlier. Maloney Avenue, a major east/west street in northwest Edina was later named in his honor.



Edina Historical Society photo

Michael F. Maloney

Hopkins' Campbell Store, one of the largest retailers in the area, stood near the Edina-Hopkins border and was an important source of groceries and other supplies for Edina shoppers.

## Threshing Machine Plant In Hopkins Provided Jobs

In 1887, the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Co., later known as Minneapolis-Moline, established a manufacturing plant in Hopkins. Providing employment for several hundred people, the factory became the center of blue-collar residential neighborhoods that began in Hopkins and extended into the northwest corner of Edina.

This section of Edina was first platted as West Minneapolis Heights in 1887 by Charles P. Silloway, a Minneapolis real estate broker. The community was intended by Silloway to be a residential adjunct of the Hopkins industrial district. It was followed shortly by an adjacent Edina development, immediately to the south, referred to as the Mendelssohn District. However, plans of both neighborhoods were postponed by the Depression of 1893.

## 'Vernacular Farmhouse' Was Typical Of Edina

Perhaps the building most typical of Edina residential architecture from about 1870 to 1900 was the "vernacular farmhouse." They were rectangular, clapboard-sided, frame structures with steep roofs.

Vernacular farmhouses were narrow and high for their width. A wide bay window usually appeared on the first floor facing the street. The buildings had almost no



Edina Historical Society photo

The Minneapolis Threshing Machine Co. (Later Minneapolis-Moline) manufacturing plant in Hopkins employed several hundred workers, who lived in Hopkins and in blue collar residential neighborhoods like Edina's West Minneapolis Heights and Mendelssohn districts.

decoration with the exception of the customary turned posts on a few front porches.

Among a collection of older houses in the West Minneapolis Heights section of Edina were vernacular houses at 303, 305, 307, 315 and 319 Madison Avenue (circa 1893 to 1910) and 307 Jefferson Ave. (circa 1910).

A variation of the vernacular farmhouse built in the area was called the "Midwest saltbox." A 1910 adaptation of the "colonial New England saltbox" at 308 Madison Ave. was later torn down and replaced with a more

(continued on next page)



A typical “vernacular farmhouse” at 403 Washington Ave. in West Minneapolis Heights. This house was probably demolished when Grandview Cemetery was developed.

modern house. It had a long sloping rear roof that New Englanders call a “cat slide roof.”

“West Minneapolis Heights provides an architectural vista unique in Edina,” William Scott and Jeffrey Hess observed in their *History and Architecture of Edina, Minnesota*, published in 1980. “The residences on Madison and Jefferson Avenues conjure up an image of small-town Minnesota at the turn of the century. Buildings of similar design and age are found elsewhere in Edina, but only in West Minneapolis Heights do they appear in sufficient density to form an extended streetscape. Although the structures have additions and many have lost their original clapboard siding, those that remain retain their stylistic authenticity,” the authors concluded.

### Other Employers Nearby And In Hopkins

The Monitor Drill Co. in St. Louis Park, located north of Edina, also provided employment opportunities for many neighboring communities, including northwest Edina.

On the Hopkins-Edina border was the vast acreage of the Hennepin County Poor Farm. “Located on old Washington Avenue, directly west of West Minneapolis Heights, it was both an employer, and on some sad occasions, a refuge for unfortunate folks from nearby towns and villages,” wrote Deborah Morse-Kahn in her history: *Edina—Chapters in the City’s History*.

### ‘Light Rail’ Stimulated Early Residential Development

It was not only jobs, schools and shopping opportunities that bonded the northwest part of Edina to Hopkins. Development of what we now refer to as “light rail” transportation would eventually prove to be a major factor in the settlement of other Edina neighborhoods. Edina historian Dudley Parsons wrote in *The History of Edina, Minnesota* by Paul D. Hesterman: “The extension of street railway passenger service into southwestern Minneapolis and beyond stimulated the



“Midwest saltbox,” at 308 Madison in West Minneapolis Heights. The house was apparently replaced by a modern home.

platting of developments in Edina’s earliest residential communities.”

In 1878, a group of investors led by Col. William McCrory formed the Lyndale Railway Co. and began operating steam locomotives pulling one or two cars on narrow-gauge tracks through downtown Minneapolis. They also carried passengers out to the east shore of Lake Calhoun, according to the *Edina Historical Society Newsletter*. It was the first organized public transit service to operate in Minneapolis.

In 1881, the rail service, popularly known as the “Motor Line,” was extended through southwest Minneapolis to the tourist haven at Lake Minnetonka. Three steam trains a day were running along the new route, which followed the northern border of what was then West Richfield Township, and on to the towns of Hopkins and Excelsior. Right-of-way for the line was purchased from farmers such as Edina’s pioneer nursery operator Jonathan Grimes and from other early owners of farm property along what is now West 44th Street.

By 1886, the “Motor Line” succumbed to financial troubles. Thomas Lowry, owner of Minneapolis Street Railway Co. and operator of the city’s first “electric streetcars,” purchased the assets of McCrory’s “Motor Line,” which included the route to Excelsior, in 1887.

For years, Lowry’s electric streetcars transported waves of city residents visiting the popular Lake Harriet destination at West 42nd Street. The Motor Line

acquisition enabled him to use McCrory’s right-of-way for the Excelsior route and expand his streetcar system from Linden Hills to 44th Street and France Avenue in 1905. That extension of the line led to the platting of Edina residential areas, the earliest of which were Morningside and Brookside.

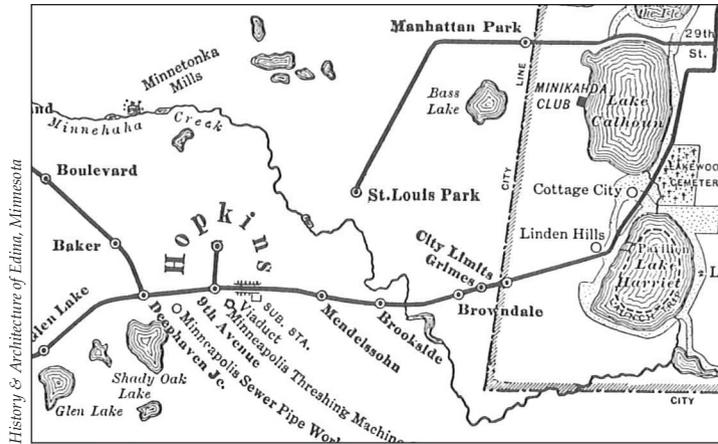
The revival of the Hopkins-Excelsior line and replacement of narrow-gauge track with standard gauge rails allowed streetcars to begin making stops at Grimes Avenue (Morningside), Emma Abbott Park (Minnehaha Creek) and Mendelssohn (West Minneapolis Heights) on the route to Hopkins and Excelsior.

### Scattergood Family Found Edina’s ‘Best-Kept Secret’

Maloney Avenue was still a single-lane, gravel road when the Scattergoods moved into a house on John Street in 1952, one block east of Blake Road in northwest Edina. Judy Scattergood and her husband, Blake, now retired from Honeywell Co., called the neighborhood “Edina’s best-kept secret,” in a recent interview. There were still a few farms and a lot of vacant lots on the so-called “presidential streets” west of their home. They fell in love with northwest Edina right away “because it was so quiet and the people were so friendly,” Judy said.

In 1960, when it came time to look for a bigger house for their growing family, the search didn’t go outside of northwest Edina. They found a newly built four-bedroom rambler just a block away on Kressie Circle, and bought it. It was built on land that had been the Kressie Nursery. “Among varieties of trees the Kressie family raised were

(continued on next page)



In 1905, Minneapolis Street Railway streetcar line was extended from Linden Hills to West 44th Street and France Avenue South where it served commuters in Morningside and Brookside. Later, the line was extended further west.

birch, arborvitae, cedar and spruce trees,” Blake recalled. “At one time, the farm had a greenhouse and its own water tower,” Judy added.

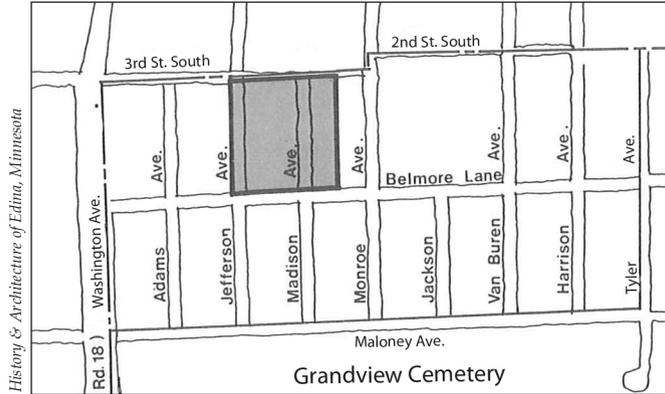
The couple also has fond memories of the Johnson’s “chicken and egg farm” a block west of Blake Road. They sold chickens and fresh eggs to passersby. One summer night, they saw flames leaping from the Johnson’s chicken coop. It was a hot fire that quickly burned to the ground without any injuries and no further damage to other buildings. “The family farmhouse was later demolished by the Edina Fire Department in a practice fire,” Judy remembered.

The Scattergoods recalled the many raspberry farms that could be found in and around Hopkins. One on Belmore Lane, just a block north of their house, was owned by a Dr. Lyons.

Now, “empty nesters,” they enjoy their close-by neighbor to the east — Interlachen Country Club — especially the cross-country skiers they allow on the golf course in the winter and the annual 4th of July fireworks in the summer. Judy Scattergood summed up her feelings about the neighborhood with a rhetorical question: “With lots of kids to raise, what more could you want from your neighborhood?”

### Grandview Cemetery On Maloney Avenue Began Before 1900

For many years, the Lindbery family has owned land along the south side of Maloney Avenue. In addition to their farmhouse at 6901 Maloney Ave., the Lindberys eventually devoted the bulk of their land along Maloney Avenue to Grandview Cemetery, which opened before the turn of the century. One of two cemeteries in Edina, it is still owned and operated by the Lindbery family. Later, other portions of their property would become a sand and gravel pit that was turned into an Edina park named in honor of one-time Edina Mayor James VanValkenberg.



This plat map of West Minneapolis Heights shows Grandview Cemetery south of Maloney Avenue. So-called “presidential streets” named for U.S. presidents: George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, Andrew Jackson, Martin VanBuren, William Harrison and John Tyler.

Photos and background material for this article came from interviews with Blake and Judy Scattergood, Steve Nelson and Bob Kojetin; the following publications: *History and Architecture of Edina, Minnesota*, by William W. Scott and Jeffrey A. Hess; *Edina Chapters in the City History*, by Deborah Morse-Kahn; *The History of Edina, Minnesota*, by Paul D. Hesterman; *History of Edina, Minnesota*, by Edward D. Neill; and the Hennepin County Review.



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

## Pets

The City of Edina not only cares about protecting its residents, but also for protecting the pets residing in the community. It is important for owners to keep their pets safe and protected.

All dogs 6 months and older residing in Edina must have a license permanently affixed to their collars. Cats do not have to be licensed. Rabies vaccinations are required on all dogs and cats 6 months and older. Dogs are required to wear vaccination tags at all times.

Remember, all 2009 City dog licenses expired Dec. 31, 2009. Licenses can be renewed at City Hall, through the mail or online. To renew by mail, send current rabies information and a check for the licensing fee to Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St., Edina, MN 55424-1394.



All dogs 6 months and older residing in Edina must have a license permanently affixed to their collars.

Dogs and cats are not allowed to run at large in the community. According to City Code, "no owner shall allow any animal to run at large on any property without the consent of the owner or possessor of the property." An off-leash area for dogs opened in 2007 at Van Valkenburg Park in northwest Edina.



Van Valkenburg Dog Park is located at 4935 Lincoln Drive.

Dogs must wear a special collar while in the off-leash area, identifying them as leash-free permit holders. Cost for the permit is \$25 for residents and \$50 for non-residents. Discounts are available for multiple dogs. The permits can be purchased at City Hall or online at [www.CityofEdina.com/Store](http://www.CityofEdina.com/Store).

For more information on licensing, contact City Hall Receptionist Lynette Biunno, 952-927-8861. For more information on laws pertaining to pets, such as the keeping or regulation of certain animals, or laws pertaining to kennels, contact Edina Animal Control Officer Tim Hunter, 952-826-0494.

## We are pleased to announce

The relocation of our Edina office to:

**8500 Normandale Lake Boulevard, Suite 210  
Bloomington, MN 55437**

**Peter Levy**  
Branch Manager  
Senior Vice President-Investments  
952-848-8070

**Paul Bordonaro**  
Senior Vice President-Investments  
952-848-8080

**Nick Cronin**  
Senior Vice President-Investments  
952-848-8042

**Pete Gabler**  
Financial Advisor  
952-848-8078

**Bob Hannah**  
Financial Advisor  
952-848-8084

**John Hedrick**  
Senior Vice President-Investments  
952-848-8082

**Dave Horan**  
Senior Vice President-Investments  
952-848-8088

**Greg Idelkope**  
Senior Vice President-Investments  
952-848-8077

**Mike Koob**  
Vice President-Investments  
952-848-8091

**Rick Mukomela**  
Financial Advisor  
952-848-8053

For more information, call: 952-848-8040 877-850-6022  
4999 France Avenue South, Suite 200, Edina, MN 55410

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# American Dream Comes True For Edina Resident

By Kaylin Martin

“Welcome home.”

Those words are commonly spoken by airport officials as people return to the United States after trips abroad. When Edina resident Estella Eckart heard those words spoken by a Customs Agent last fall, they had special meaning. Estella became a citizen of the United States in August.

Estella was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia, a South American country known for its economic crisis and internal warfare. In the late 1990s, she came to the United States to attend the University of Minnesota.

When Estella graduated from college in 2002 with a degree in Economics, she wasn't ready to go back to Colombia. Instead, she applied for an Optional Practical Training permit to continue working in the United States and got a job with a local bank.

“I fell in love with Minnesota and the people in Minnesota,” said Estella. “Everything was so different than what I was used to.”

Not only did she fall in love with the Midwest state, but also with her husband, Patrick, a Minnesota native she married just after graduation. The young couple moved to Edina and made their first home together in the Morningside Neighborhood.

“It was important for me to become a U.S. citizen, because I live in this country. I am married to an American, I am going to have kids here and want to raise them here,” said Estella. “This is a great country and I feel very proud and a sense of belonging.”

Most immigrants must live in the United States for five years before applying for citizenship. To Estella's advantage, because she is married to a U.S. citizen, she only had to maintain permanent residency in the United States for three years before applying for citizenship. First, she had to prove to federal officials that her marriage was legitimate.

Patrick had to attend Estella's first citizenship interview. Each had to answer questions about their marriage and show photographs of them together throughout their relationship along with other telltale signs of the marriage's legitimacy.

“To be in this country is a privilege, and people go above and beyond to try to come here,” said Estella, understanding of the inquiry. “Some of those things



Submitted Photo

Estella Eckart became a U.S. citizen in August.

people do to stay here are things that aren't right, like marrying out of convenience.”

Though Estella's marriage might have been under the microscope, she said nothing was worse than being a Colombian citizen and going through Customs at a U.S. airport.

“Sometimes it was humiliating. It's like, ‘man, what have I done?’” she said of the tough scrutiny at airport Customs, “But I think it's the way they have to do things, to protect the people here.”

After her initial interview, Estella had to fill out piles of paperwork. By the end of the citizenship process, excluding residency application expenses, the cost to apply totaled more than \$1,400.

Being interviewed and paying fees weren't Estella's only obstacles. To make sure she knew her American history and understood the U.S. government and the English language, her journey to become a U.S. citizen was capped off with a test.

“I studied a lot, but after awhile, it became a funny thing,” said Estella. “My sister was in town and would ask me, ‘How many kids do Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt have? You know that's American history!’”

Even her husband helped study. “It helped to learn some basic stuff you forget about,” he said. “It was interesting – the basic civic stuff us citizens born in the U.S. take for granted, like the right to vote.”

Estella said before becoming a U.S. citizen she had no interest in politics because she was unable to do anything about it. Now she feels she has a sense of ownership. “I do have a voice, and if I am interested enough, I can be part of the change,” she said.

Estella began the citizenship process in late 2008. A year later, she was at work at Edward Jones Investments when she got a phone call from her husband telling her that “she's not going to believe it” and “to come home as soon as possible.” “It” was the letter from the United States Citizenship & Immigration Services congratulating her on her eligibility to become a U.S. citizen. A month later, she was at St. Paul's Bethel University, taking an oath and swearing her allegiance to the United States of America.

Surrounded by other immigrants who surrendered their residency and green cards on the way into the building, Estella said she was moved to tears during the ceremony.

“A lot of the immigrants were from Africa and Somalia who came here as refugees,” she said. “I just thought, ‘my goodness, if I'm feeling this way, I cannot imagine how they are feeling.’ For them it has to be completely different. To know they are finally in a country where liberty is a real priority. I can't believe what was going through their heads. It was very overwhelming.”

The ceremony was led by U.S. District Judge Patrick Schiltz, who has sworn in more than 2,000 immigrants in the past three years. “It's always a very moving occasion for me,” said Schiltz. “It's an honor, being the grandchild

(continued on next page)

of immigrants, to welcome new immigrants to the country.”

Fellow immigrant and Edina resident Woodrow “Wooj” Byun, an international and immigration lawyer who came to the United States in the 1990s for law school, agrees that it’s important to embrace the country’s “melting pot.”

“We need to commend those people who become U.S. citizens, like Estella, who learn about the history. They bring talent, skill and background. They bring diversity. It’s a positive experience for all,” he said.

According to the Immigration Policy Center in Washington, D.C., around 150,000 immigrants are naturalized in Minnesota each year.

Even though the economic crisis in Colombia has lessened over the past few years, Estella says the difference between social classes is still great.

“In Colombia you see a lot of people selling things on the street so they can make a buck or two,” she said. “Here, you don’t really see those things. This country is beautiful – it really is. It doesn’t matter how much you make, or don’t. There is no better place in the world. When you hear the American dream, the American dream exists. Everybody can grab it; they just have to really want it.”

For more information on how to become a U.S. citizen, visit [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov) or call 1-800-375-5283.

### U.S. Citizenship Test

In order to become a U.S. citizen, one must complete and pass the citizenship test by answering six of the 10 questions correctly. The 10 test questions are drawn from a study guide of 100 potential questions.

Test your knowledge of the American government and history by taking the sample test:

1. How many U.S. Senators are there?
2. What is the name of the national anthem?
3. What is the capitol of the United States?
4. During the Cold War, what was the main concern of the United States?
5. What did Susan B. Anthony do?
6. When was the Declaration of Independence adopted?
7. How old do citizens have to be to vote for President?
8. What is the highest court in the United States?
9. The House of Representatives has how many voting members?
10. The idea of self-government is in the first three words of the Constitution. What are these words?

1) 100, 2) “The Star-Spangled Banner,” 3) Washington, D.C., 4) Communism, 5) Fought for women’s rights; fought for civil rights, 6) July 4, 1776, 7) 18, 8) The Supreme Court, 9) 435, 10) “We the People”



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# New Homes Good Fit For Edina Neighborhoods

By Marty Doll

The last thing a dweller of any suburban neighborhood wants is for a home on his or her block to stick out like a sore thumb. Unkempt yards, junk-filled driveways, peeling paint and hanging gutters can all be the source of a gut-wrenching eyesore in an otherwise picket-fenced paradise. But even a well-manicured façade can't cover-up for one particularly burdensome blemish on the urban landscape – a house that is too large for its surroundings.

"I've never been a proponent of 'monster houses,' said Lon Oberpriller of Replacement Housing Services. "I think it's bad business. You can't throw something out of character on a streetscape and expect neighbors to be happy."

Oberpriller is among a growing number of builders in Edina who are more than happy to be working within the City's newest "massing" ordinances, which help limit the size of new and rebuilt homes in established Edina neighborhoods.

Edina City officials have always prided themselves as being at the forefront of city planning in Minnesota. According to Planning Director Cary Teague, Edina was the first "village" in the State to appoint a Planning Commission in 1929 and the first to hire a full-time Planning Director in 1957. He says that while it is hard to get everyone to agree all of the time, overall, these decades of strong direction have helped the City grow in ways that have been beneficial to both residents and businesses.



Photo by Marty Doll

Many new Edina homes, like this one on 4517 Rutledge Ave. built by Replacement Housing Services, are meant to more appropriately fit the style and scale of their neighborhoods.

The debate over "monster houses," or homes perceived too large for their lot and/or neighborhood, is relatively new. However, "neighbors encroaching on neighbors" is something the City has been trying to protect against for some time. In addition to only allowing buildings to cover 25 to 30 percent of their lot (depending on total square footage), the City has also always required a setback of six inches from the property line for every foot of height a home reaches over 15 feet.

However, as more and more small, older homes were torn down, new homes grew upwards. Concerns by neighbors over sunlight-blocking "monster houses" caused the issue

to come to a head less than three years ago. That is when the City decided to revisit the ordinance.

"We gave input to the Planning Commission, staff, City Council, Mayor, Building Department and a number of other City officials," said Scott Busyn of Great Neighborhood Homes, one of the builders asked to assist as the City reworked its ordinances on home size. "It is our opinion that homes don't need to be large. There is a difference between 'livable' square footage versus just square footage."

After two years of discussion and debate, the outcome netted a handful of changes. According to Teague, the new ordinances were stringent enough to protect neighbors from giant structures, but not so radical as to discourage building.

In addition to the pre-existing ordinances, first-floor elevations on rebuilds are not allowed to be more than one foot above the existing first floor; new side yard setbacks have increased the separation between houses on lots between 61 and 75 feet wide; limitations have been placed on bay windows; and perhaps most importantly, homes on most lots have been limited to a roof ridgeline of no more than 35 feet from the ground.

For builders like Oberpriller and Busyn, the new ordinances do not serve as road blocks; rather, they are a more detailed road map.

"Builders want to achieve a balance of maintaining neighborhood integrity while designing and building

homes that fit the needs of today's family," said Busyn, a 20-year Edina resident. "Not only do our homes fall within the height, scale and mass allowed by the ordinances, but they also match the style of the period homes in their neighborhood."

Busyn's company has built five homes since Edina's new ordinances have come into effect. While all five are spacious and luxurious inside, he says you might not know it from the outside.

"When people walk into our home on [4615] Wooddale, they are surprised that it is a brand new home," said Busyn. "People have been overly positive. Once you are able to develop homes that fit the neighborhood, neighbors are glad you are there and you are received more openly on new projects."

Like Busyn, Oberpriller is also doing what he can to help newly built homes find the right fit within their neighborhoods. He believes strongly in traditional design over that of "trend houses."

"In our world, housing is an investment, not 'trendy,'" said Oberpriller, also a 20-plus year resident of Edina. "Replacement housing is like cosmetic dentistry. You want the streetscape to blend in with the existing fabric."

For more information on Edina's zoning and massing ordinances, contact the Edina Planning Department at 952-826-0369 or visit [www.CityofEdina.com/Planning](http://www.CityofEdina.com/Planning).

# Dome Keeps Golf A Year-Round Sport In Edina

By Kaylin Martin

For the past four years, golfer Dan Geske has been club champion of Braemar's Men's Club, which boasts a membership of more than 300 golfers. Geske contributes his success on the summer links to the Braemar Golf Dome.

"It's become a tradition of mine to practice in the winter and play in the summer," said Geske, who lowered his handicap from a six to a one by practicing in the Dome every winter.

Golf Professional Joe Greupner, who has been with Braemar since the late 1970s and who works as Geske's instructor, says Geske is a great player, but one who would have had a hard time making those changes if he could only practice in the summer.

"It's hard to break bad habits," said Gruepner. "If you want to make a big difference, you teach the mechanics when they aren't going to get out on the course the next day and revert back to their old ways."

The Braemar Golf Dome, which is the largest and longest-hitting dome in the Twin Cities, is an excellent place to make those big changes. The weather is always good. There's no wind, no rain and the temperature is perfect for hitting balls.

Two years ago, Geske even started bringing his 11-year-old son to the Dome. It was the two-level tee-off area that



Photo by Andrew Vick

The Braemar Golf Dome is the largest and longest-hitting dome in the Twin Cities with 46 tee areas on two levels.

was a big hit with his son. "He loves teeing off from up top, because even if he dubs it, it's still in the air for a little bit," said Geske with an obvious smile on his face.

The Dome has also proven to be a good way to keep Greupner's teaching staff employed year-round.

"I've been able to hang on to a lot of my great staff," he said. "They really like the opportunity, as do I."

The patrons take advantage of the opportunity as well. Greupner typically teaches his lessons at one of the far ends of the dome. Over the years, he has noticed his

students tend to gravitate toward the tees nearest him, even when he's teaching another student.

"When I'm on my way to a lesson, I'll walk by some of my other students and stop to help them out for a few minutes," he said. "I'm also around when they have questions. I think those few extra minutes are a good thing that really helps."

Those few minutes not only aid in the students' game, but also help to cultivate new friendships. "It goes beyond just a student relationship; it becomes more of a friendship," said Greupner.

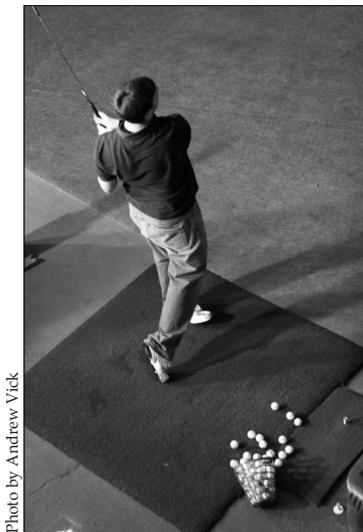


Photo by Andrew Vick

The Braemar Golf Dome is located at 6364 John Harris Drive.

"The people who work at the Dome and teach the lessons are great," added Geske. "They really care."

Retiree Marty Friede, who used to volunteer at the Dome, still manages to practice at the Dome a few times a year once the snow hits the ground.

"It's a fun place to go in the winter when you have a few hours to loosen up and get out of

the house," he said. "It's not golfing on a course per se, but it's pretty darn close."

Friede volunteered to vacuum the mats, pick up the golf balls and wipe up the coffee spills caused by the patrons who gather around the tables and catch up over refreshments before going out to hit some balls.

"It became kind of a meeting place," said Greupner. "It's such a great addition to the community – especially for the people who really care about golf."

"The players really work hard. It becomes a big part of their life to improve and it becomes a lot of fun to become part of that. Some people put their clubs away in the winter, but there are many golfers who want to keep going and that's what the Dome is here for."

The Braemar Golf Dome is open daily from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. through mid-April. For more information on the Braemar Golf Dome or lessons, visit [www.BraemarGolfDome.com](http://www.BraemarGolfDome.com) or call 952-826-6744.

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# The Edina Community Foundation: Charitable Giving Highlights



**By Dick Crockett**  
Executive Director

As we begin a new calendar year, I'd like to recognize some of the people and events that made 2009 a good year for charitable giving in Edina. In spite of the serious recession, community support for the Foundation's more than 50 designated funds remained very

strong. Here are a few highlights:

A Bowling for Love event organized by Sarah Miller raised over \$4,600 from some 65 donors to the Van Valkenburg Children's Fund.

The Otto Bang Fund for Seniors, established in memory of our long-time Board member, received \$1,700 in contributions from 28 donors.

The Ikola Cup Golf Tournament chaired by Casey Hankinson raised \$6,700 from over 70 contributors for the Ikola Scholarship Fund and other community hockey programs.

The Terry Anderson Memorial Golf Tournament had net contributions of almost \$3,000 from 110 donors. This event was chaired by Cindy Anderson for the benefit of a memorial fund she had established with the Foundation in memory of her late husband. Fifty other donors contributed another \$5,000 to that fund.

Some 80 friends of the Jim and Zibby Nunn family led by Tina Jordan and Rachel Petrella contributed \$7,500 to the Tim Nunn Memorial Fund, in order to improve the baseball field at York Park in Tim's memory after he died while hiking at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

Some of these charitable contributions came with a special message that reflected the donor's strong desire to be a part of community support for the fund. A \$3 gift to the Tim Nunn Memorial Fund, for example, came with this note to his parents:

*I'm a single mom having a tough year, but I want to show my support for your park renovation. My heart goes out to you in the loss of your son. God bless you and your family.*

An Edina High School junior sent this note with his contribution to the Edina Youth Juggling Association (EYJA) Designated Fund:

*Hi, my name is Joey, and I'd like to donate this \$50 to the EYJA. I believe that through juggling kids can develop social, learning, motor and other skills much more quickly than if they weren't to do juggling.*

Thanks to this kind of support, the Jugheads juggling group supported by EYJA and involving 170 youth members, ages 8 to 18, was able to send a large delegation and win a gold medal at the International Juggling Association festival in North Carolina last July.

2009 will also be remembered as the year in which the Foundation received a very special gift – a \$44,100

charitable remainder annuity payment from the estate of Marguerite "Peg" McNally, a long-time Edina resident until her death at age 93 in September 2008.

Peg's decision to include the Foundation in her estate plan was made in 1996, according to her financial adviser, because of her love for the Edina community. The Foundation held annual Edinamite Balls at that time, and it is likely that she read about those events and the Foundation's charitable support of the community in *About Town*.

She was a member and enthusiastic supporter of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Over a 44-year period, she was active in its Friends organization and served as a volunteer in the Visitor and Members Services Department, with a special interest in the annual Antique Show and Sale and Art in Bloom. Peg regularly served at the Information Desk and was known to many as the "Museum Lady."

Peg was married for seven years to John "Blood" McNally, who played football for the Duluth Eskimos in the late 1920s and was portrayed by George Clooney in the 2008 movie "Leatherheads." John later played in the NFL for 14 years, including four championship seasons with the Green Bay Packers, and was named to the NFL Hall of Fame. He also coached the St. John's University football team from 1950-52.

We are truly grateful for Peg McNally's strong community spirit and her generous gift, along with the contributions of the Designated Fund program chairs



Submitted photo

**Marguerite McNally, 1915-2008**

and donors mentioned above. Another 450 donors had contributed over \$150,000 by press time in mid-October to other Foundation funds, and we thank them all for their gifts during an economically challenging year. We take great pride in our service to the Edina community, which is possible only with the continuing support of our residents. Please do what you can to make 2010 another great year for our Foundation and community.

Questions about the Foundation or any of its programs may be addressed to Crockett at 952-833-9573 or [edinacommunityfoundation@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:edinacommunityfoundation@ci.edina.mn.us). Additional information about the Foundation and links to other articles about the Foundation may be found at its website, [www.edinacommunityfoundation.org](http://www.edinacommunityfoundation.org).

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A Community of Funds



Dear Neighbors,

The theme of our 2007-08 Annual Report was *Collaboration and Empowerment*, and we noted that the Foundation had collaborated with some 80 organizations and empowered over 100 individuals during that fiscal year. From July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009, this program leadership in the community was reflected in a significant increase in the number of funds established by the Foundation to serve Edina and its residents, from 48 to 58 (and then to 61 by October 2009).

In this Annual Report, we will outline these 61 funds and their diverse purposes. During a year of great economic challenges, we are proud of our success in maintaining a strong level of

charitable giving to these funds and the programs and activities they support. This *Community of Funds* is a key contributor to the quality of life in Edina.

We invite everyone who lives or works in Edina to join us as we continue to develop programs and resources to fulfill our mission of *strengthening our community by developing a strong program of philanthropy.*

Sincerely,

Jim Hovland  
President

Dick Crockett  
Executive Director

STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY

Board of Directors as of June 30, 2009

- James B. Hovland**, President  
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- Carolyn Schroeder**, Vice President  
Community Volunteer
- Bonnie McGrath**, Secretary  
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- Frederick S. Richards**  
Property Consultant  
Retired Mayor
- Geof Workinger**  
Retired Business Executive

FY 2008-09 Staff

- Dick Crockett**  
Executive Director
- Mary Brindle**  
Program Coordinator



# 2008-09 Funds and Purposes

Funds established in 2008-09 shown in **bold**

\* Funds established since June 30, 2009

## ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Purpose: to ensure the long-term viability of the Foundation

Permanent Endowment  
Board-designated Endowment

## UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Purpose: to provide funds for the operation of the Foundation.

Management and General Operations

## PROGRAM SERVICE FUNDS

Purpose: to support programs organized by the Foundation, usually in collaboration with other organizations, provide funds for the operation of the Foundation

Connecting With Kids  
Edina 4th of July Parade  
Edina Day of Service \*  
Edina Dialogue  
Edina Reads  
Holiday Home Tour  
Senior Expo  
Torchlight Concert



Edina 4th of July Parade

## FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Purpose: to provide funding for various community needs with the grantee organization designated by the charitable donors

Founders Club Programs  
**Otto Bang Fund for Seniors**  
**Southdale Community Development**  
**Terry Anderson Memorial Fund**  
Van Valkenburg Children's Fund



Van Valkenburg Children's Fund provides summer fun to kids and families in need

## DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY FUNDS

Purpose: to provide charitable gift support for community organizations and programs designated by the donors

### Children, Families and Seniors

#### Boy Scout Troop 48

Edina Family Center Gym Time  
Edina Park & Recreation Department

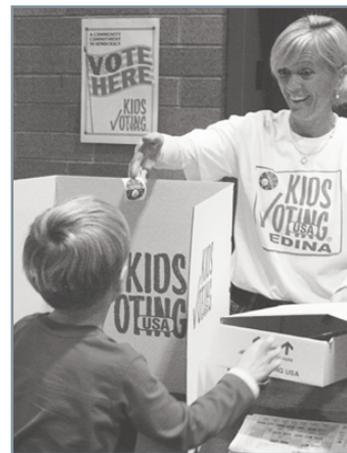
#### Edina Park & Recreation Department - 4th of July Fireworks

Edina Partners for Early Education  
Edina Senior Center

#### Edina Senior Center -

#### Char Colwell Memorial Fund

Kids Voting Edina  
Volunteers Enlisted to  
Assist People (VEAP)  
Williams-Overholt  
Long-Term Care Scholarship



Kids Voting

### Environment

Conservation League of Edina  
Cool Planet  
Energy & Environment Commission Fund \*  
Edina Garden Council  
Edina Garden Council - Buckthorn  
Friends of the Edina Nature Center

### Music & Art

Edina Art Center  
Edina Art Center - Peggy Kelly Memorial Fund  
**Edina Art Center -  
Patricia Van Valkenburg Scholarship Fund**  
Edina Chorale  
Edina Public Art Committee



Jean and John Hedberg, donors of the Pinecone sculpture at Centennial Lakes Park

Edina Singing Seniors  
First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band  
LeagueAires  
Music in the Vineyards  
**Northland Repertory Orchestra**  
Wild Prairie Brass Choir



Nordy, the MN Wild mascot, in the Edina Bike Parade

### Public Safety and Administration

Edina Communications Department  
Edina Fire Department  
Edina Fire Department - Wurst Memorial Fund  
Edina Police Department  
Edina Police Department - Crime Prevention Fund



Edina Firefighter using the Thermal Imaging Camera

### Sports

Downey Scholarship (Swimming)  
**Edina Morningside Rotary Bike Parade**  
Edina Park & Recreation Department -  
Special Hockey  
Edina Park & Recreation Department -  
Tim Nunn Baseball Field Memorial Fund \*  
Edina Park & Recreation Department -  
Tri-City Skate Park  
Edina Youth Juggling Association  
**Edina High School Girls Hockey Boosters**  
Ikola Cup  
Ikola Scholarship (Hockey)

# 2008-09 Donors

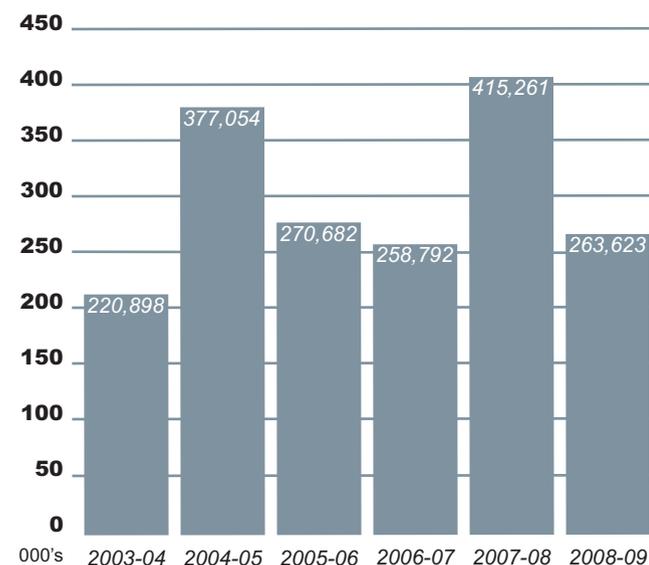
The Foundation received broad support from over 930 annual contributors. Those who gave \$100 or more are listed on the Foundation's website at [www.edinacommunityfoundation.org](http://www.edinacommunityfoundation.org).

9	Founders Club gifts and pledges of \$25,000 or more	35	Gold Circle donors of \$1,000 to \$2,499
4	Community Builder gifts and pledges of \$10,000 to \$24,999	54	Silver Circle donors of \$500 to \$999
7	Community Benefactor gifts and pledges of \$5,000 to \$9,999	68	Bronze Circle donors of \$250 to \$499
		196	Green and White Circle donors of \$100 to \$249
		550	Donors of \$10 to \$99

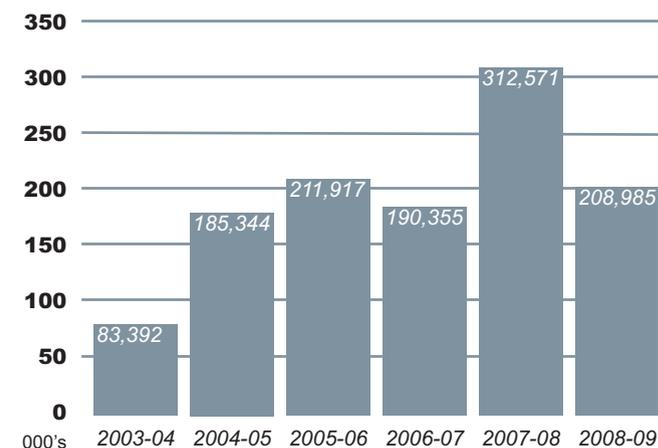
# 2008-09 Finances

The Minnesota Charities Review Council recommends that the ratio of program services to total expenditures be at least 70%. The Foundation consistently exceeds that standard, and its program services ratio for 2008-09 was 79%.

**Community Support (Gross Receipts)**



**Program Services Expenditures**



**AUDITORS: Ellingson & Ellingson, Ltd.**

The complete audited statements for this and prior fiscal years, our IRS Form 990 and Minnesota Charitable Organization Annual Report are available upon request.

For more information about the Foundation's programs and charitable giving opportunities, contact its Executive Director, Dick Crockett at 952-833-9573, 5280 Grandview Square, Edina MN 55436 or [edinacommunityfoundation@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:edinacommunityfoundation@ci.edina.mn.us), or review the Foundation's website at [www.edinacommunityfoundation.org](http://www.edinacommunityfoundation.org).



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# Edina's Newest Hockey Team Unites Players From Across The Globe

By Marty Doll

When asked about the biggest difference between his home country of Slovakia and the United States, where he currently makes his home in Edina, 18-year-old Rastislav Zvara answered, "the food."

"There's much more fast food here," said Zvara, whose English is so well-tuned you almost have to strain your ears to pick up the hint of an accent.

Zvara, along with his former Slovakian hockey teammate Matus Vavercak may have travelled the farthest to get here, but they are only two of the more than 20 new faces on Edina's latest show on ice – the Edina Lakers.

The Lakers are part of the Minnesota Junior Hockey League and are playing their first season in Edina's Minnesota Made Ice Center. The nearly 20-year-old franchise recently moved from its former home in Inver Grove Heights to take advantage of the facility, which features rinks and operations designed specifically to train hockey players. A member of the Tier III – Junior A hockey division, the Lakers are a stopping ground for high school players and recent graduates to work toward a college hockey career.

"Edina is a hot-bed of hockey," said lifelong Edina resident and first-year head coach Wes Durand. "To have a junior hockey team this close to so much talent will only help the league grow."



Photo by Marty Doll

Rastislav Zvara and Matus Vavercak, former hockey teammates in Slovakia, were reunited on the Edina Lakers junior hockey team.

With the Lakers' new home, Durand, a former Benilde-St. Margaret hockey standout, may have a bead on the west-metro hockey talent, but that doesn't stop the team from recruiting players from well outside Minnesota's borders. Their current roster boasts a healthy mix of Minnesota talent, along with players from Ohio, Colorado, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Michigan and Alaska.

Apparent by the presence of Zvara and Vavercak, it can also mean getting players from outside of the country. For both of the boys from Slovakia, Edina is not their first or only American experience. Originally from the Slovakian capitol city of Bratislava, both young men spent last year as foreign exchange students in small Midwestern high schools. Zvara came to the Lakers after graduating from Proctor, Minn., a town of less than 3,000 people in the northeastern corner of the state. Vavercak spent his junior year in high school at Sioux Falls, SD.

"Hockey is pretty big in Slovakia," said Zvara as he took a break from the Lakers early-morning practice.

"It is the biggest sport, for sure," quickly replied Vavercak, whose accent is much more pronounced than his teammate's, "but there is much more opportunity here."

As a high school graduate, Zvara came to Edina and the Lakers solely to play hockey, but at 17 years old, Vavercak needed to find a way to complete his high school education in order to join the team. With a \$5,500 fee required of all players to play in the Minnesota Junior



Photo by Marty Doll

Zvara, a forward for the Edina Lakers from Slovakia, looks after the puck during an early-morning practice.

Hockey League, and another \$10,000 needed to pay international tuition rates to attend Edina High School, it looked like Vavercak's career with the Lakers might end before it began. That is when Megan and Rick Stone entered the picture.

In early 2009, the Stones, an active hockey family, had received an email soliciting "host" families for Edina Lakers hockey players coming from out of state. Megan Stone quickly passed the email along to her husband.

"I sent it to [Rick] more to say, 'isn't this neat that people are doing this,'" said Megan. "He interpreted it as 'we should look into this,' but when we did, we both got excited about it."

(continued on next page)



Photo by Marty Doll

Vavercak, a Lakers forward from Slovakia, scores a goal during a practice drill. Vavercak is also a senior at Edina High School.

After learning about the two boys from Slovakia and contacting their former host families, the Stones were sold. Once they found out about the financial burden plaguing Vavercak, they decided to take their host family duties to another level by holding a fundraiser to help get him into a Lakers uniform.

"We don't like to talk about it a lot because it's not about us," said Megan, who gives much of the credit for organizing the fundraiser to her husband. "We had lots of

friends and family that gave financially. We just put out the call, and people helped."

The Stones were able to raise over \$5,000, along with material items like bedding to help Vavercak be able to attend Edina High School and play for the Lakers. In August, he and Zvara became part of their family.

"Since they've arrived, I've just tried to be a mom," said Megan. "I don't know how to do it any other way."

"It was very nice of them to help me," said Vavercak, who says he is grateful for the support shown by so many people who at the time he had not even met. "[The Stones] are a very nice family, and take good care of us."

That family mentality has also carried over to the hockey team. Having played together in Slovakia, Zvara and Vavercak were able to help each other adjust to their new surroundings. However, with so many young players leaving home for the first time to pursue a future in hockey, they understand how a new city can initially be lonely for all of their teammates, even those who might not have come as far.

"A lot of people didn't know anyone, or have friends when they came here," said Zvara. "But we all made friends pretty quickly."

"It is a huge family here in the locker room," replied Vavercak. "There is nobody here who doesn't like each other."

"These kids all have different stories, attitudes and personality traits," said Lakers goalie coach Dave Rogalski, another "first-year" member of the Lakers and former teammate of Durand's at Benilde-St. Margaret. "This team is fun to coach."

Steve Longren, the Lakers General Manager, says he has seen that camaraderie turn into success on the ice.

"We put out a high-level product every time we take the ice," said Longren. "All of the junior hockey teams on this level are non-profit, and most of them lose money. We just want the kids to benefit from hockey, and hope that by building a local fan base, we can build the image of the sport."

The Lakers season runs from September through March, and including playoffs, the team plays over 50 games. For most players – Zvara and Vavercak – included, the next step is to try to get picked up by a college hockey program.

"We don't know yet what we'll be doing after this season," said Vavercak.

Echoed Zvara, "With hockey, it all depends on how good you are doing."

For more information on the Edina Lakers, visit [www.lakershockey.com](http://www.lakershockey.com) or contact Longren at 612-961-4559.



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# K-9 Set to Retire in March

By Marty Doll

They say that a dog is a man's best friend. For Edina Police Officer Kevin Rofidal and his canine companion Kodiak, the term "friendship" is an understatement. Since 2002, the pair has been inseparable, confiscating hundreds of pounds of drugs, locating crucial pieces of evidence and chasing down a barrage of bad guys for the Police Department.

In March, however, Rofidal will be patrolling the night streets solo for the first time in more than eight years. Kodiak – at nearly 70 years old in human years – will be retiring from the force.

"I don't know what the transition will be like," said Rofidal, Kodiak's handler, partner and long-time friend. "Right now, he's with me all of the time."

Kodiak was born in 2000, and joined the Edina Police Department on March 14, 2002. He was imported as a puppy from the Czech Republic, where he was bred from a long bloodline of police dogs. After 12 weeks of initial training, Rofidal and Kodiak hit the streets, and now eight years later, they are making the most of their final days as coworkers.

"Five to seven years is the typical run for a police dog," said Rofidal. "From the 13 original dogs in Kodiak's class, he is the last one still working."

While a police dog's tenure may be much shorter than that of their human counterparts', it can be as or more



File Photo

Officer Kevin Rofidal has been K-9 Kodiak's handler since he joined the force. Rofidal will continue to care for Kodiak upon his retirement.

distinguished. Rofidal says that Kodiak's reputation precedes him, as officers around the metro area and even outstate know him when he arrives on the scene.

"There is something exciting about getting called out on a major call and everyone is waiting for the dog to get

there," said Rofidal. "They could care less if I'm there, but they are waiting for the dog so they can get started. I'm going to miss that."

During his career, Kodiak even made a name for himself nationally, placing 12th out of 98 dogs in the 2007 National Detector Dog Trial. The 2007 Trial was also the second of three times he received his national drug search certification.

As the handler of one of the country's premiere drug-sniffing dogs, Rofidal can recall hundreds of incidents in the past eight years during which, without Kodiak, the criminal would have gotten away.

"One night we were called to a neighboring community by a narcotics officer who had stopped a suspicious car," said Rofidal. "Within seconds, Kodiak alerted at the gas tank."

Officers immediately found cocaine and arrested the suspect. Rofidal also recalls times when Kodiak has sniffed out drugs behind airbags, in locked glove boxes and secret compartments invisible to the naked eye. He has found discarded guns buried under mulch and criminals hiding underneath porches. His biggest bust came when he found more than 250 pounds of marijuana that had been built into the fiberglass roof of a large van.

"These are things that humans can miss," said Rofidal.

Like all other police dogs, Kodiak was trained on the five core functions of patrol work: agility, obedience, tracking, criminal apprehension and handler protection. Rofidal

says that a common misperception with police dogs is that "criminal apprehension" is a major part of their job. While Kodiak is trained to take down a suspect on command, very rarely has he needed to do it.

"We don't buy these dogs for their teeth, we buy them for their nose, ears and eyes," said Rofidal. "Most bad guys we give the chance to 'give up' will once they know a police dog is there."

Like any human, Rofidal says that Kodiak gets tired at the end of a long work week. He equates Kodiak's work on the force to that of a professional athlete – very high impact.

"A police dog is not like a car, where you know how many miles you should get out of it," said Rofidal. "Kodiak has had a couple of minor injuries – once he sprained an elbow – but his vet keeps him pretty healthy."

After his retirement, Kodiak will live out his "golden years" in Rofidal's care, meaning the two partners will still get to see plenty of each other – just not on duty. Rofidal admits that he's not sure how Kodiak will adjust to staying home from work, and may feel the need to bring him by the Department from time to time.

The Edina Police Department is already in the process of hiring Kodiak's replacement, another German Shepherd expected to arrive sometime after the first of the year. Officer Jason Behr will take over the duties of handler for the new recruit.

(continued on next page)



File Photo

Kodiak leaps over a hurdle during one of his many training runs.

Kodiak's good health and the excellent care he has received from Rofidal has helped keep him in the game longer than any of his former classmates. Up until his March retirement date, he will continue to put his nose, ears and eyes to good use, catching the drug-smuggling, burglarizing and assailing riff raff that dares to cross his path.

For more information on Edina Police Department's K-9 unit, contact the Department at 952-826-1610 or visit [www.CityofEdina.com/Police](http://www.CityofEdina.com/Police).

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# Edina Resident Recalls Holiday Fire, Lessons Learned

By Marty Doll

When Edina resident Steve Mosborg woke up on Dec. 25, 2000, he had no idea his life was about to change forever.

“I made a lot of mistakes that day,” recalled Mosborg of the Christmas Day fire that left him in an eight-week drug-induced coma, with second- and third-degree burns over 63 percent of his body. “The paramedics told my neighbors that they were probably saying goodbye to their friend.”

That Christmas day nine years ago began like any other for the Mosborgs. Steve and his wife, Carri, had just said goodbye to Steve’s parents, who had come over to watch 16-month-old Amanda open up her abundance of Christmas gifts. When Carri went to the kitchen to work on dinner, Steve began disposing of the mounds of wrapping paper and boxes leftover from the toys and trinkets they had contained only a few hours earlier. The way he was doing it, Mosborg says, was mistake number one.

“I was doing what I had been doing for years: throwing the boxes and paper into our fireplace,” said Mosborg, who soon learned the dangers of such a practice. “I put in a box that was too large, and the fire started to burn too hot.”

Sparks shot out of the screened-in fireplace and hit the live garland on the Mosborgs’ mantle, setting it ablaze.



File Photo

**Even though furniture and interior walls were left charred and black, the Edina Fire Department was able to extinguish the Mosborg fire in a matter of minutes – reiterating the importance of calling 9-1-1 instead of trying to take matters into one’s own hands.**

Keeping the live garland so close to an open flame, he says, was mistake number two.

Even in the midst of the immediate chaos, Mosborg can vividly recall how things got out of his control. Carri immediately put their daughter Amanda into her arms and fled the house out a side door. A lack of fire extinguishers in their home – mistake number three – had Mosborg frantically trying to figure out how to save his house. He grabbed a large pot from the kitchen, but in the minute and a half it took to fill, the fire had spread – to

the living room drapes and the top of the Mosborgs’ live Christmas tree.

“I couldn’t put the fire out with the water, so I thought I could knock down the tree and drag it out of the house,” said Mosborg. “I thought the house would be saved.” That thinking was mistake number four.

This mistake proved to be the most costly. Mosborg dragged the burning tree through his home and toward the front door. Once he made it through the growing cloud of smoke – burning tree still in tow – he couldn’t get the front door open. The burning fire had created an enormous pressure difference between the air inside and outside. When Mosborg was finally able to force the front door open, the backdraft and influx of fresh air caused the tree to literally explode into a ball of fire.

“I thought I had passed out,” said Mosborg, recalling the moment. “Later, my wife told me I had been screaming at the top of my lungs the entire time.”

Mosborg says he felt trapped behind the burning tree, and was certain he was going to die. As smoke filled the room and the home’s smoke alarms chirped in futile warning, Mosborg heard a voice.

“I heard my wife yelling, ‘Steve, follow my voice, follow my voice, follow my voice,’” said Mosborg. Miraculously, he was able to gather his senses, get to his hands and knees, crawl through the burning home and make it

outside through the same side door Carri and Amanda had gone out earlier.

Mosborg was later told he was black from head to toe. His socks and jeans were still burning. His wife, Carri, instinctively told him to roll in the snow to put out the remaining flames. At the time, Mosborg said he had no idea the extent of his injuries.

“At the time, I had no pain,” said Mosborg. “I was worried because I was having a hard time breathing.”

Mosborg told his wife to call 9-1-1. Still conscious, he was brought into a neighbor’s home, a trail of blood following in his wake. Within minutes, paramedics and fire crews arrived. Mosborg remembers getting on a stretcher under his own power and being given an oxygen mask. As paramedics began to cut through his charred clothing with a scissors, Mosborg thought he heard his mom and dad, who lived only a short distance away. Their reaction made the reality of the situation evident.

“I thought I heard them say, ‘Oh God,’” said Mosborg. And then, everything went black.

Mosborg’s next memory is of waking up in a hospital bed eight weeks later. During his drug-induced state of unconsciousness, surgeons at Hennepin County Medical Center’s burn unit had completed nine of his eventually needed 11 skin graft surgeries. His hands and feet were burned badly, his face disfigured. Doctors had to reconstruct both of his ears. Atrophy had also set in.

(continued on next page)

Submitted Photo



Edina resident Steve Mosborg was in a drug-induced coma for eight weeks after a tragic Christmas Day fire in 2000.

Mosborg had to relearn how to walk, to talk and even go to the bathroom.

"My first thoughts were, 'what do I need to do to recover and get back to my family?'" said Mosborg.

Mosborg worked through his final surgeries and was out of the hospital in six weeks – far ahead of the original timeline given to him of five to seven months. While the road to a complete recovery took much longer, he says he is glad that he was able to make it "to the other side."

"A,' this accident shouldn't have happened," said Mosborg, "but 'B,' since it did, I'm thankful I was able to be a functioning human being again."

Nine years later, Mosborg has completely recovered from his tragic ordeal and is back to his normal life as a commercial real estate agent. Since the event, he has been an active spokesman for Memorial Blood Center and a

sought-after public speaker for local schools during fire safety presentations. He hopes that others can learn from his scars, and the mistakes he made that fateful Christmas Day.

"I've changed in a lot of ways," said Mosborg. "I've gained a strong appreciation for the community after their outpouring of support. I was taught the pure selflessness of giving back."

According to the National Fire Protection Association, each year more than 200 home fires are caused by the family Christmas tree, another 1,150 from holiday decorations and more than 15,000 are started by candles.

"When people are trying to keep their houses warm, or when the holidays take people out of their normal routine, mistakes get made," said Edina Fire Chief Marty Scheerer. "It takes a lot of thoughtful discretion to make the holidays safe and enjoyable."

Scheerer notes that late in the season, trees and wreaths can begin to dry out and become especially dangerous fire hazards, and that they should be watered daily.

Perhaps most importantly, Scheerer warns residents not to take a fire into their own hands.

Mosborg agrees.

"Walk out the door," said Mosborg. "It's not worth it."

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# Planning Process Set To Begin To Determine Future Of Public Works Site

In the future, what do you envision on the current Public Works Facility site on Eden Avenue? A park? Transit hub? Housing? Community center? Medical office building? Hotel? Something else?

The City wants you to share your ideas in a small area planning process set for early this spring.

The Public Works Department is expected to move into its new facility and vacate the property at 5146 Eden Ave. in the summer of 2010. A small area plan process will begin in April to determine the future of the site. Members of the Planning Commission have developed an intensive, month-long process that is typically part of a Small Area Plan.

The Commission envisions a process grounded in interaction with the community, lead by representatives of the community, with design direction provided by volunteer planning and design professionals who live in Edina. It is intended that the process occur during a short period with numerous meetings with the public and among a Community Advisory Team charged with guiding this part of the Small Area Plan process. Members of the Community Advisory Team might include representatives of various City commissions, residents, property owners and business owners in the Grandview Heights area.

"The goals of this process are to be relatively inexpensive, have a concentrated timeframe, make it a true community-based process and use a team of experts that are all

from Edina," said Michael Fischer, Chairman of the Planning Commission. "We are very blessed as a community to have a lot of very talented people living here. We want to tap that talent pool."

Edina residents who are design professionals such as architects, landscape architects, planners, real estate agents who would like to volunteer for the Design Team should contact Assistant City Manager Heather Worthington, 952-826-0415 or [hworthington@ci.edina.mn.us](mailto:hworthington@ci.edina.mn.us).

All others in the community who are interested in being part of the process should attend the kick-off meeting. At press time, a date for the kick-off meeting for the process had not been set. For more details on the kick-off meeting and planning process, sign up for "City Extra" emails, visit the website [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com), and read the spring issue of *About Town*.

For more information, contact Worthington, 952-826-0415, or visit [www.CityofEdina.com](http://www.CityofEdina.com).



Photo by Kaylin Martin

A small area planning process will begin in April to determine the future of the existing Public Works site at 5146 Eden Ave.

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# \$400 Billion Is In Your Hands: Be Counted During 2010 Census

## The Questions On The Form

The 2010 Census form is one of the shortest forms in history. The 10 questions are expected to take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

How many people were living or staying at this house, apartment or mobile home on April 1, 2010?

Were there any additional people staying here April 1, 2010, that you did not include in Question 1?

Is this house, apartment or mobile home owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)? Rented? Occupied without payment of rent?

Please provide information for each person living here.

What is Person 1's sex?

What is Person 1's age and what is Person 1's date of birth?

Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin? What is Person 1's race?

Does Person 1 sometimes stay or live someplace else?



## IT'S IN OUR HANDS

Be counted! The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States, and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years.

The 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things such as hospitals; job training centers; schools; senior centers, bridges, tunnels and other Public Works projects; and emergency services. The data collected by the Census also helps determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In March, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the 10 short questions and mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit

from a census taker, who will ask you the questions on the form.

The majority of the country will receive English-only materials. Households in areas with high concentrations of Spanish-speaking residents may receive a bilingual (English/Spanish) form.

Any personal data you provide is protected under federal law.

Census Day is April 1. All forms should be mailed back by that date.

The Census counts residents at their "usual" address. You decide which is your usual address. Remember, by using a Minnesota address, you benefit your home state of Minnesota. Snowbirds who consider themselves Minnesota residents must respond to the questionnaire delivered to their Minnesota address. Do not answer the questionnaire that is delivered to your winter residence.

For more information on the 2010 Census, visit [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov).

**How do I talk to my parents about a little extra help?**

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# Business Notes



H&M is located on the first and second floors of Southdale Center.

## H&M Opens At Southdale Center

Four years after opening its first store at the Mall of America, H&M opened its doors at Southdale Center this fall. It is the third H&M store in Minnesota.

"H&M is excited to continue its expansion in the Minneapolis and St. Paul region," said Daniel Kulle, H&M's U.S. Country Manager. "Since opening our first store in the Mall of America, we have consistently proven that high fashion and quality are no longer a question of price."

One of the world's largest fashion brands, H&M boasts clothing ranging in style from basic traditional pieces to the latest trends at competitive pricing.

H&M at Southdale Center features fashion lines for women, men and children. There are 1,800 locations worldwide. Besides Bloomington and Edina, there is an H&M in Woodbury, Minn.

H&M is located at 1835 Southdale Center, on the first floor between Brookstone and Gap. For more information on the store, visit [www.hm.com](http://www.hm.com) or call 952-922-2375.

## Construction Completed On Edina Condominium Complex

In late August, construction was completed on Burgundy Place Condominiums, the first phase of the "Edina Gateway" redevelopment of Pentagon Park.

The 36-unit building offers one- and two-bedroom units, with and without a den, for an average price of \$355,000. The units range in size from 807 square feet to 1,587 square feet.

The complex boasts 14,000 square feet of retail space on the first level. The space will include a coffee shop, restaurant and service retail and office space.



The Burgundy Place Condominiums are located at 4910 W. 77th St.

To keep Burgundy Place environmentally friendly, Miller Dunwiddie Architects included several "green" features, including a garden-like roof on the second floor and a white roof on the fourth floor, which reflects light to reduce energy consumption and costs.

The units are currently for sale.

Burgundy Place is located at 4910 W. 77th St. For more information on Burgundy Place Condominiums, visit [www.BurgundyPlaceCondos.com](http://www.BurgundyPlaceCondos.com).

## Kodrich Appointed to Board of School Administrators



Penny Kodrich

Edina Public Schools Director of Special Services Penny Kodrich was recently appointed by Gov. Tim Pawlenty to the Board of School Administrators.

"I am honored," said Kodrich. "I have had many mentors in the Edina Public Schools, along with opportunities to expand my leadership roles and responsibilities, of which I am very grateful."

The board is made up of 10 members appointed by the governor and is responsible for overseeing Minnesota school administrators, including their licensing, approval

of higher education and continuing education courses and the enforcement of the codes of ethics. Since joining the staff at Edina Public Schools in 1980, Kodrich has served in various positions, including assistant director for special education, director of the Title I Program, coordinator of the English as a Second Language program and school psychologist. She has been Director of Special Services since 1997.

Kodrich, who replaces Daniel Sullivan as a representative of special education directors, will complete a four-year term on the board, which ends Jan. 2, 2012.

For more information on the Board of School Administrators, visit [www.msbsa.org](http://www.msbsa.org).

## Association Chooses Organic Winter Plantings

The 50th & France Business & Professional Association selected Shining Hills Farm to provide organic foliage for the commercial area's outdoor planters this winter.

In early November, Shining Hills Farm filled more than 100 decorative pots on West 50th Street and France Avenue to enhance the area's beauty.

Rachel Hubbard, Director of the 50th & France Business & Professional Association, selected (continued on next page)



A decorative pot at 50th & France.

Shining Hills Farms because of its family-owned and organic nature.

"We are excited for this opportunity to work with an environment-friendly, family-owned business," she said.

The decorative plantings will be in place until March.

For more information on the 50th & France Business & Professional Association, visit [www.50th&France.com](http://www.50th&France.com) or call 952-922-1524.

### Edina School Receives Elite Award

Our Lady of Grace, a K-8 Catholic school in Edina, was named a 2009 National Blue Ribbon School. It was just one of seven schools in the state to earn the honor.

"[Our Lady of Grace] carries on a proud tradition we have in Minnesota," said Congressman Erik Paulsen, who serves Minnesota's 3rd district, which includes Edina. "Our students consistently score at the top in national assessment and tests, and our educational experience from birth to adulthood rates among the best in the nation."

Only 314 schools nationwide were named National Blue Ribbon Schools, one of the highest awards a school can receive.

This is the second time Our Lady of Grace has received the award since 2001, making the school one of less than 15 schools in Minnesota to receive the award more than once since the Blue Ribbon Program began in 1982 as a way to honor schools that are academically superior.

For more information on Our Lady of Grace School, call 952-929-5463, ext. 122. For more information on the National Blue Ribbon School award, visit [www.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs](http://www.ed.gov/programs/nclbbrs).

– Compiled by Kaylin Martin

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 Frank Kreiser 952-924-6248	 Karen Moe 952-844-6085	 Steve Schmitz 952-484-6045	 Cindy Shapiro 612-816-3054	 Josh Sprague 612-501-0252	 Elynn Wolfenson 612-644-3033

# Photo Gallery

- 1) **Steve May**, of the Edina-Morningside Rotary Club, picks up trash during Edina Day of Service Oct. 24.
- 2) The Communications & Marketing Department received its first Emmy in September for a public service announcement on peddling and soliciting in the community. Among those staff members in attendance at the Emmy Awards were **Kaylin Martin, Jennifer Bennerotte, Scott Denfeld, Marty Doll, Kristian Tharaldson** and **Steve Christiansen**.
- 3) The Edina Cinema celebrated its 75th anniversary in late August with a red carpet event featuring antique cars, a screening of "Robin Hood" and the premiere of "Into Temptation."
- 4) Mayor **Jim Hovland** and his wife, **LaRae Ellingson Hovland**, were among the local celebrities at the Edina Cinema anniversary celebration.
- 5) **David Venne** was sworn in as the Edina Police Department's newest officer last fall.
- 6) Recreation Supervisor **Donna Tilsner** was presented the Helen I. Pontius National Award of Merit. The award is one of Women In Leisure Services most prestigious awards. Mayor **Jim Hovland** presented the award to her at a City Council meeting in October.

## Send Us Your Photos!

Photos clearly marked with names and related businesses should be sent to the City at: 4801 W. 50th St., Edina, MN 55424



1



2



3



5



6



4

# City of Edina Facilities

Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St.	952-927-8861
Edina Aquatic Center, 4300 W. 66th St.	612-928-4582 (May-August)
	952-826-0431
Edina Art Center, 4701 W. 64th St.	952-903-5780
Braemar Arena, 7501 Ikola Way	952-941-1322
Braemar Golf Course, 6364 John Harris Drive	952-903-5750
Braemar Golf Dome, 7420 Braemar Blvd.	952-826-6744 (November-April)
Centennial Lakes Park, 7499 France Ave. S.	952-833-9580
Edina Liquor, 3943 50th St.	612-928-4551
Edina Liquor, 5013 Vernon Ave.	952-903-5740
Edina Liquor, 6755 York Ave. S.	952-903-5730
Edina Senior Center, 5280 Grandview Square	952-833-9570
Edinburgh Park, 7700 York Ave. S.	952-833-9540
Fire Station No. 1, 6250 Tracy Ave.	952-826-0330
Fire Station No. 2, 7335 York Ave.	952-826-0357
Fred Richards Golf Course, 7640 Parklawn Ave.	612-915-6606 (April-September)
Public Works Building, 5146 Eden Ave.	952-826-0376

## Elected Officials

Jim Hovland, Mayor	612-874-8550
Joni Bennett, Council Member	952-927-0661
Mary Brindle, Council Member	952-941-7746
Scot Housh, Council Member	763-302-7174
Ann Swenson, Council Member	952-927-7524

Geoff Michel, Senator	651-296-6238
Keith Downey, Representative – 41A	651-296-4363
Paul Rosenthal, Representative – 41B	651-296-7803

### Dial 9-1-1 to:

- Report an incident that requires a Police Officer at the scene (assaults, burglaries, domestic disputes, accidents, etc.).
- Summon a paramedic or ambulance.
- Report a fire.
- Report suspicious, criminal activity (alarms, shots fired, shouts for help, sounds of breaking glass, unfamiliar person carrying items from a house, etc.).
- Report a sewer backup or other Public Works emergency that requires immediate attention.

When in doubt or unsure of any situation, call 9-1-1 and the dispatcher will assist you.

Call 952-927-8861 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for general information. If you have a situation after hours or on weekends, but do not require immediate response from a paramedic, firefighter, police officer or Public Works crew, call the Police Department's non-emergency number, 952-826-1610.