

AboutTown Magazine

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www.CityofEdina.com

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Page 38

AboutTown

Official Magazine of the City of Edina



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Each copy of *About Town* costs approximately 42 cents to produce and mail.

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AboutTown

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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 Dominic Castino

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Based on feedback, the Communications & Marketing
Department has added a new feature, "Planning
Matters." "Planning Matters" will recap projects recently
approved by the City Council. Other new sections and
features will be introduced in future publications. "Photo
Gallery" will no longer appear in every issue.

For more information, contact the Communications &
Marketing Department, 952-826-0359. To read this or a
previous issue online, visit
www.CityofEdina.com/AboutTown.

City Responds To Reader Satisfaction Survey

More than 280 people responded to an informal reader
satisfaction survey conducted in conjunction with the
publication of the Winter 2011 issue of *About Town*. The
majority of readers who responded favor the magazine's
quarterly distribution and format and find it to be one
of their top three sources of local government news and
information.

Favorite recurring features are "It's Not Only Neighborly,
It's The Law," the history profile written quarterly by Joe
Sullivan and the calendar of events.

About Town Calendar

April 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 2 p.m., Intro to Hauschka Therapeutic Workshop begins, Edina Art Center.
3 7 p.m., Star of the North Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	4	5 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	6 9:30-11:30 a.m., Springtime Kid-n- Play starts, Cornelia School Park. 6 p.m., Taking and Processing RAW Photos Workshop begins, Edina Art Center.	7 Noon, The Bazzillions, Edinborough Park. 4 p.m., Public Art Committee, Edina City Hall. 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	8	9 9 and 9:30 a.m., Easter Egg Scramble, Edinborough Park.
10 7 p.m., Southside Big Band, Edinborough Park.	11 Spring classes begin at Edina Art Center.	12 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Honeywell Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	13	14 Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Edinborough Park. 7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall.	15	16 8-10 a.m., Junior Golf Registration, Braemar Golf Dome. 10 a.m., Carved Surfaces Clay Workshop, Edina Art Center.
17 10 a.m., Carved Surfaces Clay Workshop, Edina Art Center. 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.	18	19 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	20	21 Noon, Brodini Comedy & Magic Act, Edinborough Park. 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. 6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	22	23
24	25 7 p.m., Anti-bullying Forum, Edina High School. 7 p.m., Eden Prairie Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	26	27 11:30 a.m., State of the City, Interlachen Country Club. 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	28 Noon, Wonderful World of Woody, Edinborough Park. 4:30 p.m., Art Center Board, Edina Art Center.	29	30 Vendor Day on the Driving Range, Braemar Golf Course.

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About Town Calendar

May 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 3-7 p.m., TRAIL Fundraiser, Waterpark of America. 7 p.m., Golden Valley Orchestra, Edinborough Park.	2	3 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	4	5 4 p.m., Public Art Committee, Edina City Hall. 5 p.m., Garden Sale begins at Edina Art Center. 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	6 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Edina Garden Council plant sale, Arneson Acres Park. 3:30-5 p.m., "Libraries of Minnesota" featuring author Nancy Carlson, Edina Community Library.	7 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Edina Garden Council plant sale, Arneson Acres Park.
8 7 p.m., Northern Winds Concert Band, Edinborough Park.	9	10 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall.	11	12 Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Edinborough Park. 7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall.	13	14
15 7 p.m., Jazz on the Prairie Big Band, Edinborough Park.	16	17 6:30 p.m., Community Health Committee, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	18 3:30-7 p.m., Public Works Open House, Public Works and Parks Maintenance Facility.	19 Noon, Brodini Comedy & Magic Act, Edinborough Park. 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. 6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	20	21
22 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Edinborough Park.	23	24 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.	25 5:30 p.m., Communications Explorers Post 3411, Edina City Hall. 6:30 p.m., Walking Tour of Morningside and Waveland Park led by Historian Peter Sussman.	26 Noon, Wonderful World of Woody, Edinborough Park. 4:30 p.m., Art Center Board, Edina Art Center.	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day. City Hall and Edina Art Center closed.	31				

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June 2011

About Town Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Bend in the River Big Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	2 4 p.m., Public Art Committee, Edina City Hall. 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall.	3 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Edina Art Fair, 50th & France.	4 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Edina Art Fair, 50th & France.
5 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Edina Art Fair, 50th & France. 7 p.m., South of the River Community Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	6 7 p.m., Southside Big Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	7 Noon, Wonderful World of Woody, Centennial Lakes Park. 7 p.m., City Council & HRA, Edina City Hall.	8 7 p.m., Star of the North Concert Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	9 Noon, Jack Pearson: Music & Storytelling, Centennial Lakes Park. 7 p.m., Energy & Environment Commission, Edina City Hall.	10	11 10 a.m., Edina Aquatic Center opens for the season.
12 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Parade of Boats, Centennial Lakes Park. 7 p.m., First John Philip Sousa Memorial Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	13 7 p.m., Flute Cocktail, Centennial Lakes Park.	14 Summer classes begin at Edina Art Center. 7 p.m., Park Board, Edina City Hall. 7 p.m., Heritage Preservation Board, Edina City Hall.	15 7 p.m., Lee Engle, Centennial Lakes Park.	16 3-7 p.m., Farmers Market, Centennial Lakes Park. 5:30 p.m., Zoning Board of Appeals, Edina City Hall. 6 p.m., Transportation Commission, Edina City Hall.	17 10-11:30 a.m., Bieber Rock Out Party, Weber Park. 4:30 p.m., Images of Edina Photo Contest submissions due.	18
19 Noon, Julius Ceasar – Cromulent Shakespeare Co., Centennial Lakes Park. 7 p.m., Hopkins Westwind Concert Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	20 7 p.m., Edina Chorale, Centennial Lakes Park.	21 Park & Recreation Playground program begins. Noon, Mary Hall's Show for Pipsqueaks, Centennial Lakes Park.	22 5-8 p.m., "Welcome Summer" event hosted by Edina Garden Council, Arneson Acres Park. 7 p.m., Good News Big Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	23 3-7 p.m., Farmers Market, Centennial Lakes Park. 4:30 p.m., Art Center Board, Edina Art Center. 8 p.m., Garden Sale ends at Edina Art Center.	24	25
26 7 p.m., St. Louis Park Community Band, Centennial Lakes Park.	27 7 p.m., Tango in the Park – Lessons and Dance, Centennial Lakes Park.	28 Noon, Big, Fun Show, Centennial Lakes Park. 7 p.m., Human Rights & Relations Commission, Edina City Hall.	29 Centennial Lakes Park's 20th anniversary. 7 p.m., Planning Commission, Edina City Hall.	30 3-7 p.m., Farmers Market, Centennial Lakes Park. 5 p.m., Minnesota Mosaic Guild Show opens, Edina Art Center.		

Spring Calendar Highlights

Other Dates To Remember

- April 28** 5 p.m., Volunteer Recognition Reception, Edinborough Park.
- May 5** Noon, Okee Dokee Brothers Band, Edinborough Park.
- June 2** Noon, Rusty's Rockin' Jamboree, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 2** Sunset, Movie in the Park, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 7** 7 p.m., Vintage Piano with Jim Shannon, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 9** Sunset, Movie in the Park, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 14** Noon, Dakota Wild Animals, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 14** 7 p.m., Sidewalk Café Duo, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 16** Noon, Brodini Comedy Magic Show, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 16** Sunset, Movie in the Park, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 21** 7 p.m., Vintage Piano with Jim Shannon, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 21** 7 p.m., HRA & City Council, Edina City Hall.
- June 23** Noon, Alpha Bits Band, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 23** Sunset, Movie in the Park, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 30** Noon, Bob the Beachcomber, Centennial Lakes Park.
- June 30** Sunset, Movie in the Park, Centennial Lakes Park.

Edina Garden Council Plant Sale

- What:** The selection at this popular plant sale sponsored by the Edina Garden Council (EGC) includes flowering annuals, perennials, herbs, vegetables and hanging baskets. Great deals are the many winter-hardened perennials that EGC members bring from their gardens. The EGC is a non-profit organization and proceeds from the plant sale are donated for Arneson Acres Park improvements, horticultural scholarships, and gardening beautification projects for the community of Edina.
- When:** 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, May 6, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 7
- Where:** Arneson Acres Park Greenhouse, 4700 W. 70th St.
- Info:** 952-926-8447 or www.edinagardencouncil.org

Edina Art Fair

- What:** The 50th & France Business & Professional Association will host the 45th-annual Edina Art Fair. One of Edina's premier summer events, the event draws tens of thousands to downtown Edina each year. Featured art will include drawing, painting, ceramics, pottery, glass, jewelry, photography, sculpture and wood. The event will also feature live entertainment and food.
- When:** 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. June 3, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. June 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. June 5
- Where:** Downtown Edina, 50th Street and France Avenue
- Info:** 952-922-1524 or www.edinaartfair.com

A Word From The Mayor

Regardless of the state of the economy, the effect of taxes on families and businesses is always a legitimate concern and is an issue that the Council gives very careful thought to each year.

In 2009, the City made several budget cuts that resulted in general fund expenditures being reduced by 2.5 percent. We left some employee positions unfilled and employees were encouraged to take 24 hours of furlough. In 2010, the voluntary furlough program remained in effect. Due to the effective work of staff, we ended 2010 with a significant budget surplus, which will be allocated primarily to our Capital Improvement Plan and reserves.

Last fall, the City Council discussed adopting a 2011 budget with no general operating levy increase. Doing so would have resulted in additional cuts of approximately \$300,000. The Council asked department heads to let us know the service implications of such a cut. What we learned was that there would be serious service delivery implications from such a potential reduction.

Under a 0 percent increase, Public Works might have adopted a plowing schedule similar to that in Minneapolis where emergency routes are immediately plowed, but local roadways are not cleared until there is at least a four-inch snowfall. To avoid cutting our patrol shifts, the Police Department might have eliminated one of two officers assigned to the commercial district. In turn, more than 1,000 calls a year would have been picked up by our officers assigned to a patrol car. Our response time would therefore have been significantly slower as our patrol cars would likely be tied up on calls to the greater Southdale area. The Fire Department would also have

needed to consider cutting one of its two ambulances providing emergency medical service. From a park and recreation standpoint, another hockey rink would have to have been closed and there would have been less tree maintenance and a noticeable reduction in general park maintenance. Due to increased permit requests and accordingly, inspections, the Chief Building Official recently added part-time staff and increased existing part-time staff hours to maintain service levels. The three part-time staff members each work 35 hours per week, and receive no vacation, sick time or health insurance. Any cuts in the Inspections Department budget would result in critically decreased service levels for our residential and commercial neighbors.

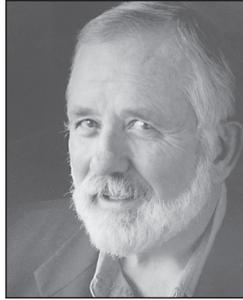
Based upon this input, the Council decided to maintain our high-quality services and adopt the staff recommendation, increasing the general operating levy by 1.15 percent for 2011. The practical effect is that for a median-priced home valued at approximately \$450,000, the City's portion of the property tax increased by \$11.

For the balance of 2011 and beyond, the Council has challenged new City Manager Scott Neal to look closely at the operations of the City and find creative ways to both reduce budget expenditures and increase revenue. While it is important to the entire City Council that we continue to deliver our high level of service, we recognize we must do so in the most effective and efficient way possible, regardless of the prevailing economic conditions.



James B. Hovland
Mayor

Southdale YMCA Has Proud Heritage



Editor's Note: This is the first installment of a two-part history of the YMCA and its expansion to North America. It covers the period from 1844 to the early 1900s. The second installment will appear in the summer issue of About Town.

**By Joe Sullivan
Contributing Writer**

In response to unhealthy social conditions rising in big English cities near the end of the Industrial Revolution, the Young Men's Christian Association was founded in London in 1844.

Centralization of manufacturing brought many young men into large cities such as London, seeking jobs. Far from home and family, some of these young, unskilled laborers not only worked at their places of employment, but also often lived above their employers' shops. Others were homeless vagrants, sleeping on London's streets where conditions were awful — open sewers and pickpockets, thugs, beggars, drunks and abandoned children running wild.

In 1821, George Williams, a farmboy, arrived in London at the age of 20 and took a job as a clerk in a shop. He soon joined a group of like-minded young men who were trying to organize an association to offer Bible study and prayer to the boys living in the streets. The

group, named Young Men's Christian Association, was founded in London on June 6, 1844.

By 1851, there were 24 YMCAs operating in England, with a combined membership of 2,700. The YMCA concept was proving popular everywhere it was introduced. That same year, the YMCA arrived in North America, first established in Montreal and then in Boston.

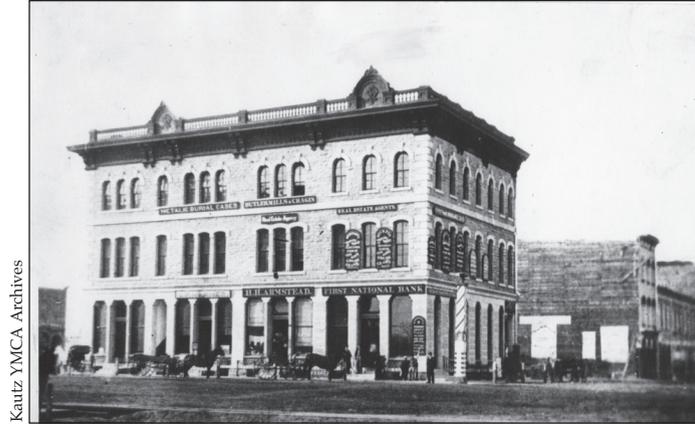
During the Civil War in the United States, which began in 1861, Y membership in America shrank to one-third its former size as the country's young men marched off to battle. By the war's end in 1865, only 59 Ys remained in the country, but a rapid rebuilding effort followed and four years later, there were 600.

Gyms and swimming pools were introduced in some Ys about that time, along with a few auditoriums and bowling alleys.

Hotel-like rooms, with bathrooms down the hall, were designed into new YMCA facilities. Income from rented rooms became an important source of funds used to support YMCA activities of all kinds. Income from dormitories accounted for a major financial contribution to the movement for the next 100 years.

YMCA Formed in Minneapolis

In 1866, Minneapolis was a young milling and lumbering town located on the west side of St. Anthony Falls on the Mississippi River.



Kautz YMCA Archives

The YMCA's first home in Minneapolis was a few rooms at the Center Block Building (1866-1878) located at the intersection of Hennepin and Nicollet Avenue.

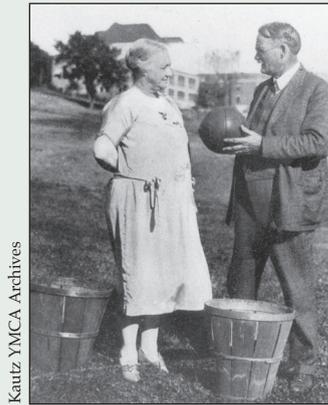
The Industrial Revolution was in full swing in Minneapolis. It began to draw young workers from the city, surrounding farms and nearby states. They filled unskilled jobs in the sawmills, flour mills and other supporting businesses, including barrel factories.

With the war over, migration to Minneapolis grew rapidly. With this influx of workers came a number of individuals described as "reckless and dissolute," who apparently hadn't yet learned much about moral restraints.

Not all of the young men moving to Minneapolis deserved the "reckless and dissolute" label. One of the more

(continued on next page)

YMCA Developed New Basketball And Volleyball Games



Kautz YMCA Archives

James Naismith, pictured here holding a basketball with his wife Maude, was an employee of the YMCA when he invented the game of basketball. Note the two peach baskets, which were utilized as goals at the beginning.

In 1891, James Naismith, a Canadian, while studying at the Y International Training School in Springfield, Mass., was asked to invent a new team event that would increase members' interest in physical exercise. The game had to be playable in a gym during the winter and outdoors in the warmer months. The game was what we now call basketball.

A second sport developed by a Y manager was the brainchild of William G. Morgan, an employee of the Y in Holyoke, Mass. His game, the now-widely popular sport of volleyball, was a slower-paced sport that older and younger Y members could play.

desirable young men was a former soldier and lawyer named Russell Conwell, who arrived from New York in 1865 with a college degree. He had moved to Minnesota looking for a place to practice law. Conwell found an office in Bridge Square, the heart of the Minneapolis business district.

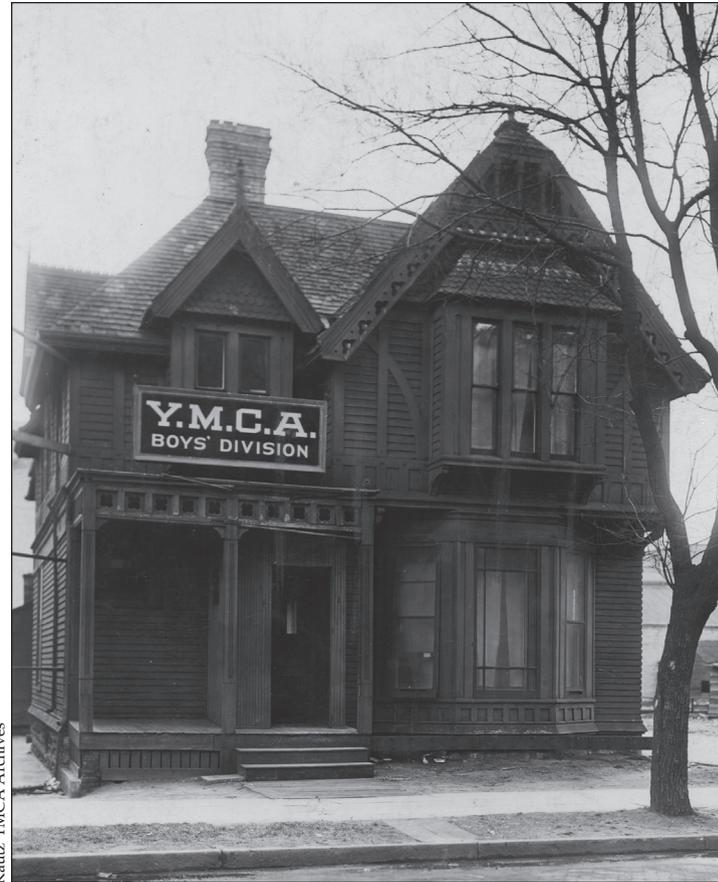
Before leaving New York, Conwell had regularly attended noontime prayer meetings. He soon started a series of similar meetings with fellow businessmen in Minneapolis. Out of these meetings came the idea to establish a local YMCA.

The YMCA movement in Minneapolis was dedicated to preservation of male virtue and morality. Boys often left school by the age of 10 or earlier to find work and send money home to help support their struggling families.

A committee began in 1879 to recruit these young boys, many of whom were working on the street selling newspapers or shining shoes. The Y provided a safe, wholesome place for them to rest at night. Rooms were made available to homeless boys five nights a week.

Minneapolis Y Builds Headquarters

The Minneapolis YMCA opened a new headquarters in 1892, built on the corner of 10th Street and Mary Place (later renamed LaSalle Avenue). Conveniently located between the Hennepin and First Avenue streetcar lines, this impressive four-story, stone structure was well supported by the Y's members and attracted a number of new members.



Minneapolis YMCA Boy's Division building was located behind the main YMCA building at 10th Street and Mary Place (ca. 1903). It became a tangible sign of the YMCA's commitment to boys programs.

Unfortunately, the Financial Panic of 1893, which had affected the entire country, dried up many sources of financial support and even rendered many members unable to pay their membership fees. It took the Y's board a decade to overcome the crushing mortgage debt that had turned the new building from a solid asset into a serious liability.

By now, they had a separate boys' department, with separate rooms for each boy. They also had use of the gym and baths. Efforts had also begun to provide evening classes in various subjects. By the 1894-95 academic year, 431 boys, pursuing various vocations, could pick from 23 classes taught by 17 instructors.

Overnight Camping Introduced

During the summer of 1900, the Y held its first camping session on the shores of Lake Minnetonka. The 47 campers who attended the camp had such a delightful time that the number of campers rose to 85 the following summer. Although it was still too small to be described as a camping program, an important first step had been taken — one that held the promise of future growth.

A second important forward step was the inauguration of the Working Boys Night School in 1903. The Boys' Division building, a converted residence, was located directly behind the headquarters building. It became a tangible sign of the Y's commitment to boys' programs. Enrollment of just 11 boys that first winter rose to 120 a few years later. By 1908, the Y's Boy's Division school led

to the Minneapolis Public School system taking over the night classes.

New Downtown Minneapolis Y's Headquarters

Having outgrown its 1892 downtown building at 10th Street and LaSalle Avenue, a new, 12-story headquarters was completed and opened in 1919 on the same site as the earlier building.

The new, downtown Y contained many desirable facilities, including multiple lobbies, six bowling alleys, billiard rooms, a library, meeting and game rooms, two gymnasiums, a swimming pool, four handball courts, boxing and wrestling facilities, showers, locker rooms, an individual exercise room, a 250-room dormitory, two floors of classrooms and a banquet hall that seated 250.

Photos and background material for this article came from the Kautz Family YMCA Archives (at the University of Minnesota Libraries); and the following publications: *140 Years of Youth Work with the Minneapolis YMCA* by Paul Hillmer; *A brief History of the YMCA Movement* by Paul Hillmer; and Wikipedia.

The next issue of *About Town* will include a second installment of the history of the Minneapolis YMCA and its branches, including the Southdale YMCA.

Southwest LRT Project Gains Momentum

The Southwest Light Rail Transit (LRT) project is a proposed 15-mile, high-frequency light rail line to serve the rapidly growing southwest metro area with 17 stations in Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, St. Louis Park and Minneapolis.

The Southwest LRT line will connect to the Hiawatha and Central Corridor LRT lines, the Northstar Commuter Rail line and high-frequency bus routes in downtown Minneapolis, providing connections to the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport, Mall of America, University of Minnesota, State Capital and downtown St. Paul.

The line will serve over 240,000 jobs and connects the region's top job center, downtown Minneapolis, with the region's sixth largest job center, Opus/Golden Triangle. Ridership on the line is expected to be in excess of 29,000 trips per day by 2030.

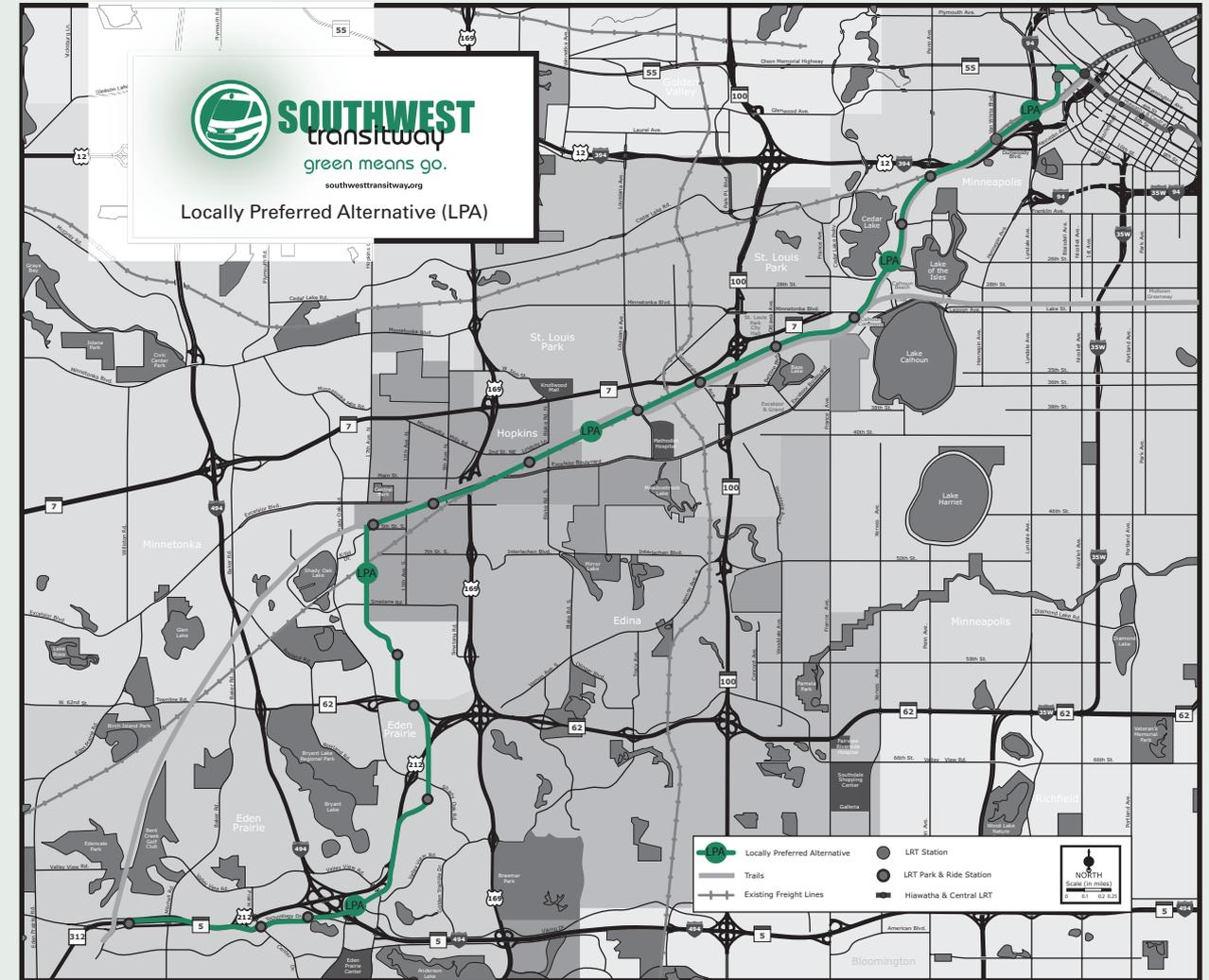
"This important investment in transit promises multiple benefits for western and southwestern Hennepin County, including Edina," said County Commissioner Jan Callison. "It will provide residents — including seniors — with another travel option, support the business community by linking jobs and workers and maintain the strong vitality and livability of this area. This is a key ingredient in our region's on-going economic competitiveness and attractiveness to business."

In May 2010, the Metropolitan Council selected "LRT 3A" as the locally preferred alternative for the Southwest LRT project. LRT 3A, referred to as the "Kenilworth-Opus-Golden Triangle alignment." In August, the Southwest LRT project submitted an application to the Federal

Transit Administration (FTA) to progress the project to Preliminary Engineering. The project is expected to move into Preliminary Engineering under the leadership of the Metropolitan Council this year.

The Southwest Transitway Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) documents the potential social, economic, transportation and environmental benefits and impacts of the Southwest LRT line. At press time, the DEIS document was under review by the FTA and its publication for comment was imminent. During the 45-day comment period, there will be several open houses and three public hearings on the project.

For more information, visit www.southwesttransitway.org. To receive project updates, sign up for the email list on the "Contact Us" page.



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

Peddlers & Solicitors

The Law: Edina City Code 1311. Permit Required. No peddler or solicitor shall engage in business activities in the City without first having received a permit as provided ... Each person engaged as a peddler or solicitor must secure a personal permit that shall not be transferable to another individual.

What It Means: Peddlers and solicitors are allowed to sell their wares or services in Edina by going from door to door. Residents who do not want such entrepreneurs to knock on their doors must place a printed placard or sign reading "Peddlers and Solicitors Prohibited" on or near the usual entrance to their homes. No peddler or solicitor shall enter, ring the doorbell or knock on a door where a placard or sign is posted, unless he or she has been previously invited by the resident.

Under local ordinance, peddlers and solicitors must obtain a permit from the Edina Police Department. The permits are valid for 14 days. Peddlers must wear an identification card issued by the City and conduct their business between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. They must go to the front door of a residence and are not allowed in residents' side or rear yards. Peddlers and solicitors must promptly depart a property after completing business.

Non-profit organizations established for philanthropic, religious or educational purposes do not have to obtain a permit, but must register with the Police Department. Some people do not have to register or carry a permit to go door to door. Those people include:

- Those selling personal property at wholesale to dealers of such articles
- Newspersons
- Merchants delivering goods to established customers in the regular course of business
- Farmers or gardeners
- Students in kindergarten through Grade 12 who are selling items to benefit programs or activities in which they are involved
- Bakery, dairy or grocery deliverers who make an uninvited initiatory visit in an effort to establish a regular route service for future delivery of perishables

Political and religious canvassing or campaigning is not prohibited.

Remember, you do not need to answer a knock at your door. If you are not sure who it is or are uncomfortable, don't open your door.

For more information, contact the Edina Police Department, 952-826-1610. Please report suspicious activity by calling 911.

Lawn Watering

The Law: Edina City Code 1115.02, Subd. 1. Even-Numbered Addresses. All properties with an address ending with an even digit may use City water for irrigation purposes on even-numbered dates only.

Edina City Code 1115.02, Sub. 2. Odd-Numbered Addresses. All properties with an address ending with an odd digit may use City water for irrigation purposes on odd-numbered dates only.

Edina City Code 1115.02, Subd. 4. No Mid-day Watering. No property may use any water for irrigation purposes during the hours of 11 a.m. through 5 p.m. of any day.

What It Means: Water smart! In order to ensure an adequate water supply and promote water conservation, the City's Utilities Department reminds residents that Edina's odd-even sprinkling policy is in effect year-round.

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 5633 Interlachen Circle could water their lawn on odd-numbered dates – May 1, 3, 5 and so on.

Residents who live in the Morningside Neighborhood and receive their water from the City of Minneapolis or those with private wells are not affected. Morningside residents must adhere to any restrictions issued by Minneapolis.

The City also bans lawn sprinkling from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, reducing water wasted through evaporation and allowing pumps to refill water storage facilities for evening peak use.

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.

For more information, contact Utility Coordinator Dave Goergen, 952-826-0312.

Open letter to the Citizens of Edina,



Police Chief Jeff Long

Many kids are getting excited as spring unfolds and all the fun of summer is at hand. For many families and kids, this is the season for parties and festivities with prom, graduation, end of school year celebrations and summer gatherings, but I want to share a special concern with you. This time of year also brings a risk of underage drinking.

It is up to all of us to stand together and prevent underage drinking. Car crashes, unplanned pregnancies, rapes, violence, alcohol abuse and other serious health issues are all consequences of underage drinking.

It is essential that parents, schools, businesses, law enforcement, media, community organizations and the community at large work to send a united message that we take the issue of underage drinking seriously.

Join us in this year's **Together We Stand Campaign** designed to reduce the access and availability of alcohol to minors. Research shows that youth are receptive to clear, consistent no-use messages from the people and organizations that touch their lives.

- Alcohol use by minors is not a rite of passage and something "everyone does." It is a serious health problem.
- If you are a parent, talk to your children, let them know what you expect, set limits and monitor their activities.
- Make your home a safe place where young people can neither bring in nor obtain alcohol.

By **STANDING TOGETHER** we really can make a difference for young people.

For more information about the **Together We Stand Campaign** or about the Tri-City Partners Coalition for Healthy Youth and Communities you can go to www.tricitypartners.org. The Tri-City Partners Coalition works in the cities of Bloomington, Edina and Richfield to reduce youth substance use and is sponsored by Bloomington Public Health and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

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Preservation Board Seeks Nominations For Annual Award

The City of Edina is calling for entries in its ninth-annual Edina Heritage Award contest.

The City established the award in 2003 to showcase local historic preservation activity. The Edina Heritage Award is given annually to an individual, family, company or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the preservation, rehabilitation, restoration and use of Edina's heritage resources. Any individual, company or organization is eligible for the award, including non-residents, but in order to be considered, the historic property or resource must be located in Edina. Current members of the City's Heritage Preservation Board are not eligible for the award.

The 2010 award was presented to Pete and Sandy Cochrane, owners of a Colonial Revival in the Edina Country Club District. Other previous award winners are Robert Sauer and Robert Zoller, owners of the Coddington House on Blake Road; Dick and Jackie Whitbeck, owners of the historic Sly House on Brookview Avenue; the Morningside Neighborhood; owners and tenants of Edina Cinema; and the owners and remodeling contractor of the Baird House.

The Heritage Preservation Board will select this year's winner. The Edina City Council will present the award during National Preservation Month in May. The winner will receive a commemorative plaque.

Since the National Trust created Preservation Week in 1971 to spotlight grassroots preservation efforts around the country, it has grown into an annual celebration

observed by small towns, such as Edina, and big cities with events ranging from architectural and historic tours and award ceremonies to fundraising events, educational programs and heritage travel opportunities.

Due to its overwhelming popularity, the National Trust has extended the celebration to the entire month of May and declared it Preservation Month to provide an even longer opportunity to celebrate the diverse and unique heritage of our country's cities and states and enable more Americans to become involved in the growing preservation movement. Announcement of the Edina Heritage Award during May is just one way the City commemorates the month.

Award nominations are due 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6. A nomination should include the address of the heritage resource; description of its preservation, rehabilitation and restoration; and name and address of owner. A photo should also be included.

Entries should be sent to: Edina Heritage Award, Edina City Hall, 4801 W. 50th St., Edina, MN 55424. Entries can also be e-mailed to EdinaMail@ci.edina.mn.us or filled out online at www.CityofEdina.com. For more information, contact Associate Planner Joyce Repya, 952-826-0462.

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Edina Paramedic/Firefighters Lead In New Roles



Photo by Marty Doll

Fire Capt. Craig Essig works on the hoseline at the scene of a fire.

By Marty Doll

Like dominos, a pair of retirements set off a chain reaction in the Edina Fire Department last year that resulted in some new faces and two long-time paramedic/firefighters stepping into leadership roles.

The first domino fell when 28-year fire service veteran, Capt.

Jim Robinson, announced his retirement in January 2010. A month later, the Department's longest-tenured paramedic, Bob Lawson, decided to follow suit after 32 years in the firehouse. Their departures left openings for two full-time paramedic/firefighters and a vacant Fire Captain position.

Dominos continued to fall just a few months later, when nine-year Lieutenant and 12-year member of the department, Craig Essig, was promoted to the Fire

Captain position in May. Edina Fire Chief Marty Scheerer said the promotion process was grueling – a combination of written and skills tests; fire ground simulation and an oral board examination and interview – but Essig stood out from a pool of eight highly qualified internal candidates.

“Craig has the experience, customer service skills, educational background, work ethic and leadership qualities that make him a great fit for the role of Captain,” said Scheerer.

Essig began his fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) career as a paid-on-call firefighter with the Hopkins Fire Department in 1995. While with Hopkins, he completed his Firefighter I & II and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certificates, received state certification as a Hazardous Materials Specialist and completed his State and National Registry as an EMT/Paramedic. He has since earned a degree in Fire Science Technology and a certificate in Public Safety Administration.

Prior to joining the Edina Fire Department, Essig worked as a paramedic for a regional poison center, where he triaged patients and recommended medical treatment to people who had been exposed to various toxins and household chemicals. In 1998, he joined the City of Edina as a paid-on-call (POC) volunteer. Within five months, he was hired as a full-time paramedic/firefighter.

“I am very grateful for the opportunities the City of Edina has given me,” said Essig, who lives in Minnetonka,

Minn., with his wife of 23 years. “I am amazed at the degree of talent that I have the pleasure of working with each and every day.”

As Fire Captain, Essig is responsible for supervising one of the Department's three 24-hour shifts, which means overseeing personnel, vehicles and equipment. During fires, rescues, hazardous material situations and vehicle accidents, Essig must also assume incident command until a Chief Officer arrives.

As Essig adjusted to his new role, two more dominos toppled with the hiring of two new paramedic/firefighters. Josh Link, who came to Edina from Kentucky's Central Campbell Fire Department, was hired in June. Brandon Winkel, who had been a member of Edina's POC volunteer staff since 2005, was hired full-time in July.

With most of the Department's personnel in place by mid-year, there was just one final domino left to fall. It did in late December, when Paramedic/Firefighter Todd Porthan learned he was promoted to the Lieutenant position left vacant by Essig.

The 13-year veteran of the department says, for him, being a paramedic/firefighter is about the connection to the community for which he wears his uniform.

“I have a strong sense of loyalty to this community,” said Porthan. “I enjoy working here every day.”

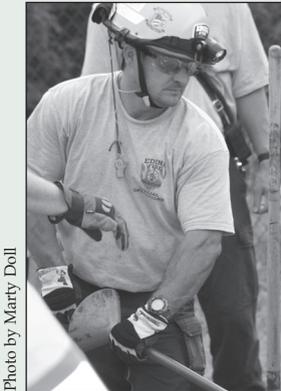


Photo by Marty Doll

Fire Lt. Todd Porthan.

Porthan, who lives in Edina with his wife and two daughters, joined the Edina Fire Department as a full-time paramedic/firefighter in 1997. He began his career in fire and EMS four years earlier as a volunteer firefighter in Little Canada, Minn. Prior to coming to Edina, he worked as a paramedic/firefighter in Colorado for two years.

In addition to his regular duties, Porthan is active in Edina's Special Operations Team, Minnesota Task Force 1 and as a tactical paramedic with the Southwest Police Consortium SWAT team. In his 13 years in the Department, he has helped implement an employee wellness and fitness program, facilitated the department's involvement with the Muscular Dystrophy Association, taught numerous family and public safety classes and initiated the Department's bimonthly community newsletter, *EFD Pulse*.

That loyalty, along with 17 years of fire and EMS experience, helped Porthan rise to the top of seven internal candidates who applied for the Lieutenant position.

“Todd is a good listener and problem solver,” said Scheerer. “He is always willing to make things happen that others might not be willing to try.”

(continued on next page)

As Lieutenant, Porthan is now the second in command of his shift, filling in when his shift Captain is unavailable. He says the biggest change in his day-to-day duties will involve the Department's heavy equipment. As one of three shift Lieutenants, he will be in charge of driving and operating the Department's large fire engines on all fire and automobile accident scenes.

Porthan is a graduate of the National Fire Academy and holds Firefighter I & II certificates as well as an associate's

degree in Fire Science Technology. He is also a certified paramedic and Hazardous Materials Specialist.

Essig joins Doug Bagley and Joel Forseth as the Department's three Fire Captains. Porthan joins Dave Schmitzer and Jeff Siems as Fire Lieutenants. For more information, visit www.CityofEdina.com/Fire.



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Edina Country Club Golf Course To Reopen In June

By Jordon Calvert Greenlee

A blanket of snow and frozen ice covered the sloping grounds of the Edina Country Club golf course during the long winter months. The sand-filled bunkers and soft grass of the course greens were missing beneath the weight of snow. As the early months of spring approach, the anticipation of moving carts filled with clubs and warm days on the course hangs heavy in the air – it's almost time to bring out your golf gloves instead of winter mittens.

While the annual opening of golf courses in Edina regularly begins with enthusiasm and excitement, the reveal of the Edina Country Club golf course this summer carries a heightened interest, as newly renovated golfing grounds will be unveiled.

Founded in 1923, the celebrated Edina Country Club golf course was last reconstructed in 1996. According to Marty Lass, Head Golf Pro for the Club, the process resulted in poor course construction and the Club staff continually worked to maintain the faulty results of the initial renovation. The spring of 2009 also brought poor weather conditions that further damaged the integrity of the course. According to Lass, the uncharacteristically frigid weather and ice destroyed more than 75 percent of the course's greens.

"When you lose that much grass on a course, you have to wait the whole summer for the grass to regrow," said Golf Course Superintendent Brandon Schindele. "While we didn't have to close down the entire course, our

summer was filled with lots of patching, plugging and sodding."

As the Edina Country Club began discussing plans for renovation and restoration, PGA tour veteran and Minnesota native Tom Lehman became an important figure in the remodeling process.

"When Tom became involved, members began to take notice and the possibility of renovating the course came within reach," said Schindele. "The Lehman Design Group designed a course restoration project that would improve the entirety of the golf course."

"It was a privilege and a blessing to be involved with the renovation of one of the Twin Cities' oldest and most respected neighborhood golf courses," said Lehman. "The course, the club and the City have so much history and it gives me a sense of real pride to have been able to work to restore the timeless feel to the golf experience at this club."

After educating its membership and speaking with neighboring courses and clubs about past renovations, the Edina Country Club called for a vote in the fall of 2009 and 81 percent of its members voted in favor of a year-long reconstruction project plan to rebuild and revitalize the course.

"We had a good leadership program and committee that had a lot of checks and balances to make this a successful project," said Lass.



Submitted Photo

Former ECC Superintendent Mike Powers, Architect Chris Brands, Architect Tom Lehman, Current ECC Superintendent Brandon Schindele, Assistant Superintendent Jeff Mold and Assistant Superintendent Kevin Gruber pose on May 26, 2010, as the Edina Country Club breaks ground on golf course renovations.

Duininck Construction and Liebold Irrigation were recruited to head the renovation, and began construction on May 26, 2010. "With a different architect and construction company, we felt renovations would be hugely successful during this process," said Lass.

As the initial building commenced, club staff looked for a way to keep members informed and updated on the condition of the course.

"When construction started, our membership wasn't allowed on the course for safety reasons," said Scott

Thiss, Edina Country Club President. "However, members wanted to know what was going on and about the progression of the renovation. We wanted to bring the project to our members and keep them updated every week, so we decided to start a blog."

In July, the Edina Country Club Golf Course Restoration Project Blog began. Throughout the restoration process, weekly project updates were posted to the blog. Whether detailing the addition of new irrigation systems or the installation of all new bunkers, club members were given an inside look at the remodeling of the golf course.

In addition to weekly postings, photographs of the construction sites and video tours of the course were put up on the Club's blog. "Members loved having the ability to read our blog," said Schindele. "We were able to visually show them what was going on and what problems there were before the renovation."

During the construction process, Edina Country Club worked with neighboring private and public clubs to offer alternative golf course locations for members. "We've had to shut down the golf course twice in the past 15 years," said Lass. "Our members have been very supportive and patient, even while they were unable to play on the Edina Country Club course."

After the renovation process was completed in early September 2010, members were given the opportunity to tour the newly constructed golf course and see the changes first-hand. The successful results of the renovation were revealed and members were able to

(continued on next page)

Submitted Photo



Construction of the Edina Country Club Golf Course included reconstruction of course bunkers.

not only view the refurbished course, but also begin the countdown to the re-opening of the golf course in June 2011.

“We depended on the blog as a means of communication between the Club and the membership,” said Schindele. “We know members are anticipating the official opening of the course, and we are proud of the renewed and revitalized course they will be playing on.”

For more information on the Edina Country Club Course Restoration Project, visit www.RestorationUpdate.com.

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City Of Edina To Flush Hydrants

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 begin flushing hydrants in late April and will continue through the first week of May. 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 on the east side of Minnesota Highway 100 the week of April 25 and will be flushed on the west side of the highway the week of May 2.

Due to the hydrant flushing, it is inevitable that some residents will receive rust-colored water that could stain laundry, but is safe to drink. You should check for signs of discoloration prior to washing clothes. If the water is discolored when you turn on your tap, simply run the water until it is clear. Because the water system is a "single-pressure zone," it is possible that red water problems will occur in any area of the City while flushing is occurring.

For more information regarding hydrant flushing, call the Utilities Division at 952-826-0375 or 952-826-0312.

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Faeries To Grace Edina Art Center Garden Sale

By Kristal Leebrick

The ninth-annual Edina Art Center Garden Sale and May Celebration May 5 to June 23 will be filled with garden sculptures, fountains, clothing, tiles, fun activities and – if Bell Barr has anything to do with it – an abundance of faeries.

Bell and her husband, Frank, are two of the featured artists at the show. They have created their colorful earthenware faerie houses since 1997. The Barrs combine clay, copper and steel to make their whimsical miniature houses, which they say can attract faeries into your garden or home.

Frank started the enterprise after quitting a job to try something new 14 years ago. “He started playing around downstairs,” Bell said. “Soon he began building these small clay houses.”

A 10-year-old daughter of a friend called them faerie houses, and that’s when their work began. In 1998, Frank started selling the houses at art fairs. Bell was running a daycare at that time, but as the work increased, she started doing the finishing work on the houses. Frank “does the form; I do the pretties,” she said. Last summer, the Barrs attended 18 art fairs, mostly in the Midwest.

Frank Barr has a bachelor’s degree with an emphasis in ceramics from the University of Minnesota. “So, he knows how to play with clay,” Bell said. She doesn’t have a formal art background, she said, but she has always dabbled in art “intuitively.”



Photo by Michael Braun

Frank and Bell Barr

In the beginning, the houses were simple. Now, they are hand-painted and decorated with metal chimneys, flower petals and leaves. Each house comes with instructions on how to attract faeries and how to know if they are hanging out in your home or garden.

“We recognize that not everyone sees [faeries],” Bell said.

“We put a bell in each house; then you know the faeries are around.”

The instructions included describe how to attract the ethereal beings: “To see your faeries, you must sit quietly and be perfectly still in your body and mind. We imprint the word ‘now’ on each faerie house as a gentle reminder to your spirit to be present in the moment, for it is in this quiet place that we can see all possibilities.”

“When I was doing childcare,” Bell said, “I was in the now all the time. You have to be there. Doing childcare was prep for what I was going to be doing. If I wasn’t making faerie houses, I’d be doing childcare.”

The Barrs work out of a home studio, which is an old porch with a lot of windows in Edina. They have a single-car garage that they use for their metal work. Bell estimates that she and Frank have made about 15,000 Faerie Houses since 1997.

The Garden Sale and May Celebration will also include work by Edina Art Center faculty, professional artists and advanced students. Work will include garden art, garden-

inspired clothing, garden antiques and collectibles, and two-dimensional art with garden themes.

The show’s opening will be held 5 to 8 p.m. May 5. Children’s activities, sponsored by the Peggy Kelly Family Fund, will include face-painting and head wreaths.

For more information, visit the Edina Art Center website, www.EdinaArtCenter.com.

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Photo by Michael Braun

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By Jordon Calvert Greenlee

Many vehicles crowd the streets of the Twin Cities, weaving in and out of traffic. Among the assorted automobiles that fill the highways and streets is a selection of vehicles that actively work as part of a valuable nonprofit organization in Minnesota.

Transportation Resource to Aid Independent Living (TRAIL) is a service organization that provides transportation to people with disabilities in the Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield area. For those living independently, TRAIL aids in the transit of adults to recreational and educational programs in the Twin Cities.

2011 TRAIL Fundraiser

To benefit TRAIL and support the continued education of individuals with disabilities, AR&LE will host the TRAIL 2011 Fundraiser at Water Park of America inside the Radisson Hotel Bloomington on May 1.

The event will be open to the public, and tickets will be sold for \$7 per attendee. The arcade and concession stands will be open for an additional cost. The event will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. and includes many recreational activities.

“The Water Park of America is America’s largest indoor waterpark with 12 slides, a surf rider, a wave pool, the longest indoor family raft ride and a smaller water play area for little ones. There is something for everyone and concessions available for dinner,” said City of Edina Recreation Supervisor Kristin Aarsvold.

Donations to TRAIL provide more than 80 percent of annual transportation fees required to fund the program. With limited consumer costs, community involvement and patronage plays a crucial role in the program’s success and sustainability.

For more information on the TRAIL Fundraiser, visit www.trailfundraiser.ezregister.com or contact President Michelle Veith at 952-828-0983. Donations can be made on the ticket website or mailed directly to TRAIL, 9691 Belmont Lane, Eden Prairie, MN 55347.

“TRAIL allows adults with developmental disabilities to make independent choices about how they spend their leisure time,” said TRAIL President Michelle Veith.

TRAIL offers individuals the opportunity to attend classes sponsored by the Adaptive Recreation & Learning Exchange (AR&LE), a collaborative effort of the cities and school districts in its service area. AR&LE programs provide a wide variety of activities and rely heavily on TRAIL to provide transportation for adults to specific activity sites.

“Without TRAIL riders, some AR&LE activities would not have enough participants and the programs would be cancelled,” said Veith.

“Learning Exchange offers participants enrichment experiences in performance art, personal leisure and healthy lifestyles, arts and crafts, and cooking,” said Gina Carpenter, Alternative Educational Services Coordinator for South Hennepin Adult Programs in Education.

Adaptive Recreation courses allow adults the opportunity to participate in programs specializing in physical activities, which are designed to enhance interactive learning through active recreational classes.

Without these courses, “residents with disabilities would be more socially isolated, healthcare costs would potentially be higher and our communities would be less diverse,” said Kristin Aarsvold, Recreation Supervisor for the City of Edina.

“TRAIL is the only known non-profit transportation system in the metro area started by parents to provide transportation for their adult children with disabilities living in the community to access recreation and community education programs. TRAIL has survived 20 years, but it needs community members to support this valuable service.”

For more information on TRAIL, contact Veith at 952-828-0983.

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Edina Trail Approved After 10 Years of Discussion, Planning

By Marty Doll

It took 10 years, the work of multiple City Councils, several resolutions and hundreds of public testimonies for a regional trail through Edina to go from a penciled-in proposal to a project on the drawing boards.

The long-anticipated and somewhat controversial Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail, which will run through Edina adjacent to Nine Mile Creek from Richfield to Hopkins, was approved in a unanimous vote by the Edina City Council last December. However, officials say it will still be a number of years before the first bike will pedal across any pavement.

Edina Park & Recreation Director John Keprios says he remembers first holding informational meetings on a potential multi-use trail in Edina's old City Hall – which was torn down seven years ago. At that time, the concept of a walking, jogging, inline skating and biking trail through the community was already more than three years old.

"We've been working on this for a long time," said Keprios, who believes the trail will be a great amenity to the residents of Edina and trail users metro-wide. "It's been over 10 years in the making."

Once complete, the Nine Mile Creek Trail, which will span four communities and 12 miles, will add another leg to the Three Rivers Park District's expansive regional trail system. Seven miles will run through Edina, three through Richfield and two more through Hopkins and

Nine Mile Creek Trail – Edina

Total distance: Approximately 7 miles

Location: Adjacent to Nine Mile Creek from Xerxes Avenue in the east to U.S. Highway 169 in the west

Cost: Estimated \$17 to \$20 million

Funding: Three Rivers Park District; a variety of State and federal funding sources and partnership

- Federal Surface Transportation Program/ Transportation Enhancement funds
- Three Rivers Park District General Obligation Bonds
- Metropolitan Council Regional Parks Capital Improvement Program funding
- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Parks and Trails Legacy grant program funds
- Nine Mile Creek Watershed District through an opportunity to partner with creek restoration
- Other governmental agencies through road reconstruction partnership opportunities

Minnetonka. The finished trail will eventually connect the area to more than 100 miles of existing and almost 80 miles of proposed regional trails in the west metro.

Regional Trails for First-Tier Suburbs

Proposed regional trails through first-tier or "inner-ring" suburbs such as Edina were first discussed in

1999. According to Keprios, they were a means for fully developed cities to reap some tangible benefit from the property tax dollars paid to the regional park district each year.

"We wanted to know, 'What can [Three Rivers Park District] do for us with all the money Edina taxpayers give?'" said Keprios. "What other services can they provide?"

The answer they were given was trails. According to Senior Three Rivers Park District Manager of Planning Kelly Grissman, Edina, along with a number of other first-tier communities, participated in a joint endeavor with the District to identify potential regional trail corridors more than a decade ago. In 2000, they developed the "First Tier Trails, Greenways and Parks Master Plan."

"We put everything on the map, and waited for communities to take the next step," said Grissman, speaking of the District's plan. "We said, 'We're ready to work with you once you decide where the trail should be located.'"

Grissman says that these trails – some of which have already been constructed – are meant to connect first-tier suburbs to the expansive Three Rivers Regional Trail System and the Minneapolis Grand Rounds trail system.

"Once completed, the trails will provide a connection to the greater region," said Grissman. "They will connect

significant points of interest such as regional parks and local parks. It has the potential to create a sense of community."

According to Keprios a "needs assessment" study, conducted by his department in 2006, shows that multi-use recreational trails were a high priority for many residents, which is why Edina chose to actively study the impacts of its own regional trail in 2008.

Nine Mile Creek Route Chosen

Included in the Three Rivers Park District's master plan was the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail. In 2008, after both Richfield and Hopkins had begun the approval process for their segments of the trail, members of the Edina City Council asked the City's Park Board and Three Rivers' officials to provide them with options for Edina's trail location.

"It was eventually narrowed down to either a creek-based trail or a road-based trail," said Keprios, who took part in a number of public meetings on the topic. "I have, I think, 300 letters and emails from residents who weighed in on the issue over the last two years – both proponents and opponents."

While park officials and many residents touted the benefits of the trail, others voiced concerns. Issues such as cost, safety, privacy and environmental impact were all addressed at public meetings over the span of two years. After hearing all sides and studying both Park Board recommendations and an environmental assessment, the

(continued on next page)

City Council chose to proceed with the creek-based option.

“I think it’s a homerun for Edina; a grand slam,” said Keprios. “The creek-based trail is much more aesthetically pleasing. People will be able to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors, the wetlands and the creek. There are also fewer driveways and streets to cross than the road-based trail.”

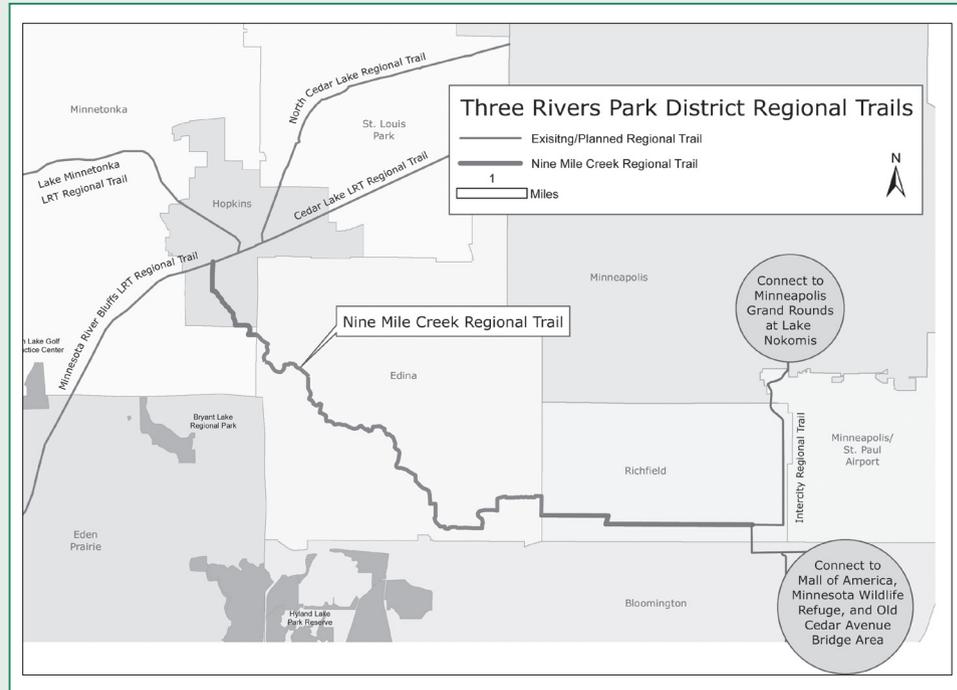
“This trail has the opportunity to be a destination trail,” added Grissman, speaking from a regional impact standpoint. “It will provide opportunities for recreation and a healthy lifestyle.”

Building the Trail

According to Keprios, most of the land needed to construct Edina’s portion of the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail is City-owned, meaning the City will not need to rely on many land easements. He also says it is important for residents to know that Three Rivers Park District will be responsible for funding and building the \$17 to \$20 million trail, as well as maintaining it during the spring, summer and fall months. Keprios says Edina’s Park Maintenance Department would be tasked with

grooming or clearing the trail in the winter months only if they choose to do so.

“Edina’s tax levy will not increase as a part of this project,” said Keprios. “If we had decided not to build the trail, the grant money and tax dollars already being paid to the Park District would have gone to benefit another community.”



According to both Keprios and Grissman, before its approval by the City Council, the seven-mile stretch through Edina was a missing link in the regional trail system. Once completed, it will connect the City to the Cedar Lake, Lake Minnetonka, Minnesota River Bluffs LRT and North Cedar regional trails to the west, and the Minneapolis Grand Rounds at Lake Nokomis and the Minnesota Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington to the east. From these trails, an ambitious biker could potentially tackle the entire 100 mile trail system.

“It’s my hope that in 10 years, people will look back and say this is one of the best things the Park Board and the City Council did for Edina,” said Keprios.

Even with its most recent approvals, Keprios says there is still a long way to go before ground is broken for the project. This spring, the proposal will go to the Metropolitan Council, Edina Public Schools and Nine Mile Creek Watershed District for final approvals. Then, Three Rivers Park District must start the process of securing federal funds.

“Even if we were to apply for and receive all of our federal funding this spring, the earliest we would receive the money is 2015,” said Grissman, who notes that while some segments could be constructed earlier to coincide with street repairs or creek restoration, significant construction likely wouldn’t begin until all federal funds are secured.

“There is still a process this has to go through,” said Keprios, “but it’s going to happen. I think it’s a move for the greater public good.”

For more information on the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail, visit www.CityofEdina.com/Parks or www.threeriversparks.org.

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Interchange Reconstruction Is Under Way

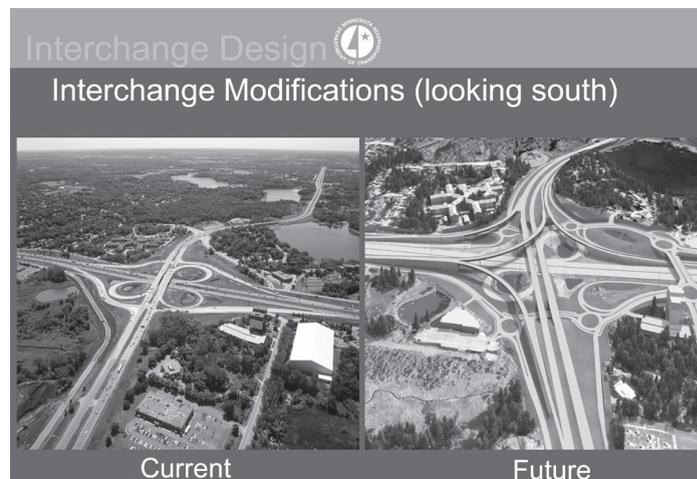
After 10 years of planning and lobbying, commuters will soon see some much needed relief from congestion at the Highway 169/Interstate 494 interchange.

The contract to rebuild the interchange in Eden Prairie, Bloomington and Edina was awarded to the design-build team C.S. McCrossan/Edward Kraemer and Sons in November 2010. The announcement followed a decade-long public process that resulted in lower construction costs and a high-benefit design approved by local governments and the Federal Highway Administration.

“The reconstruction of the U.S. Highway 169/I-494 interchange will remedy one of the largest mobility issues in the state of Minnesota,” said Edina Mayor Jim Hovland, an advocate for the project. “Over 175,000 vehicles use this intersection daily. It has long been a serious impedance to the effective and efficient movement of people and goods and one of the most dangerous intersections in the state.

“Eliminating signalization and reconstruction of the interchange will not only have local implications for the cities of Edina, Bloomington and Eden Prairie, but regional and inter-regional significance as well. The project supports an enormous employment base of nearly 200,000 jobs in the southwest metro and it is expected that the re-making of the interchange will not only spur job growth in the area but will provide economic stimulus for the state and region with several thousand jobs estimated to be created related to the construction.”

Referred to as a “performance-based design,” the project includes turning the current expressway into a freeway



by rebuilding the interchange with six ramps instead of eight. It will also remove stoplights, reduce congestion and improve safety.

As part of the reconstruction, U.S. Highway 169 will be converted into a freeway by removing the traffic signals at the I-494 interchange and at Highwood Drive. Additionally, a new frontage “ring road” system will be constructed, including six new roundabouts. New access over I-494 at Washington Avenue will also be created.

A Brief History

During the mid-1990s, the Highway 169 bridges spanning I-494 were replaced, and the interchange was transformed into the diamond configuration of today. Early in the millennium, the interchange was chosen to receive federal funding for reconstruction; however, the funds were

ultimately used for other critical projects. It wasn't until 2010 that funding became available for the project.

Policy- Vs. Performance-Based Design

Policy-based design requires that all freeway-to-freeway moves through an intersection be provided – a total of eight traffic moves in the case of the Highway 169/I-494 Interchange. Through discussions with the Federal Highway Administration, the design and construction of this project is proceeding with a performance-based design instead.

Performance-based design guides the project design based on needs within the specific area of the project, and can save resources. Through performance-based design, the interchange will be redesigned to use only six of the eight moves and still accommodate the majority of traffic needs at the interchange.

“We are saving time and money by eliminating traffic moves that are not currently needed nor projected to be needed in the future given the availability of existing system movements available at the Highway 212 interchange immediately to the west,” said Susan Youngs, Public Information Coordinator for the project.

What's Missing?

The two freeway moves not accounted for in the current design are eastbound I-494 to northbound Highway 169 and southbound Highway 169 to westbound I-494. Both of these moves are frequently made by motorists using Highway 212, just west of the interchange, and both will be accessible through the new frontage ring road system. The Minnesota Department of Transportation has also

committed to providing the remaining movements in the future should traffic demands warrant it for adequate performance.

What's Next?

Throughout the winter months, crews have been preparing the interchange and surrounding area for construction activities to begin full force in the spring. Both northbound and southbound Highway 169 will be reconstructed during 2011 along with the new Washington Avenue Bridge and the majority of the new frontage “ring road” system. By mid-November 2011, signals will be removed on Highway 169, and traffic will begin using parts of the new “ring road” system.

The 2012 construction season will see the completion of the new frontage “ring road” system and the construction of the remaining flyover bridges from westbound I-494 to northbound Highway 169 and from northbound Highway 169 to eastbound I-494. The project will be completed by the end of the 2012 construction season.

“When completed approximately two years from now, 169/494 will no longer be the most significant transportation problem for cities from Mankato to Edina and the thousands of commuters who rely on the corridor for daily access to jobs,” Hovland said.

For more information about the Highway 169/I-494 project, call the Project Information Line at 1-877-563-4768 or send an email to Hwy169-I494@rranow.com. The most current project updates are available by visiting www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/169/ and signing up for email updates.



Edina Community Foundation: Edina's Grant Makers



By Dick Crockett
Executive Director

The Foundation's mission of encouraging philanthropy in order to "Strengthen Our Community" is supplemented by the commendable efforts of several other public charities that also support the City, schools, nonprofit organizations and programs in Edina. We outline

their efforts here to increase public understanding of how their collective efforts help make Edina an exceptional community.

The Edina Crime Prevention Fund has been a significant contributor since 1970 to many Edina Police Department services and related programs. Jim Van Valkenburg is the President.

Grants totaling \$45,000 were made in 2010 to support the "Beyond the Badge" television program, Bicycle Patrol and K-9 programs, a Crime Prevention Coordinator position, Junior Police, Explorers, Neighbors' Home Watch, Night to Unite and transportation for disadvantaged youth. The Fund has also paid out reward and informant money over time to help Edina Police solve many serious crimes.

The Edina Education Fund was established in 1995 to support valuable education experiences and innovative projects in the Edina Public Schools. Janet Marple and

Ann Wordelman serve as Co-Chairwomen and Karen Nelson is its Executive Director.

The Fund distributed \$325,000 to support Edina Public Schools during the 2009-2010 fiscal year. The largest areas of grant support were for a new Writing Center at Edina High School, technology at all elementary schools, Project Lead the Way curriculum, a counselor at Edina High School, a Writing Cohort and a Technology Cohort for teachers in the district. Other funding was directed to Innovation Grants for classrooms, the Personal Financial Literacy Program and scholarships to high school seniors.

The Edina Federated Women's Club, founded in 1969 on friendship, strength and service, hosts an annual fundraiser, "Feds Fest," for the benefit of charities selected annually by its membership. Jane Twyman is the current President and Connie Nelson and Norma Jean Barr chaired the 2010 event that raised \$47,000 for Cornerstone and TreeHouse.

The Kiwanis Golden K Club of Edina was chartered in 1984 by Kiwanis International, which has a mission of serving the children of the world. The Club contributes approximately \$60,000 annually to about 35 charities, plus four \$2,000 scholarships to graduating Edina High School seniors. Jim Bentley is the President, and John Heinz and Gordon Holm assist in selecting grant recipients.

The Edina Lions Club was founded in 1946 and is dedicated to supporting community projects and

the Lions International goals of helping the sight and hearing impaired. 2010 grants totaling \$4,650 were made to the Minnesota Eye Bank and Hearing and Diabetes Foundations, HOBY, PACER Kids, Girl Scouts, Can Do Canine College, Minnesota Leader Dog, Opportunity Partners and VEAP. Marty LaBelle is the President.

The Edina Morningside Rotary Foundation serves as the charitable giving arm of the Edina Morningside Rotary Club. The Foundation was formed in 1993 to support community and/or worldwide causes consistent with the Rotary mission of service to others. The immediate past President, Guy Logan, chaired the Foundation's giving committee in 2010.

Grants totaling \$15,000 were awarded to the Angel Foundation; Bridging; the City of Edina's Adaptive Recreation program; Connecting With Kids; Edina ABC; Edina Community Foundation; Edina Education Fund; Junior Police; Senior Community Services; Southdale YMCA; Store to Door; VEAP; Youth Frontiers; the Warm Hands, Warm Heads, Warm Hearts program; a STRIVE program scholarship; and the Heshima Children's Center and International Village Clinic, both in Africa.

The Edina Rotary Foundation holds and distributes the charitable funds raised by the Rotary Club of Edina that was chartered in 1957. Jon Barnett is the President, and Mike Kallas and Josh Sprague chaired the 2010 fundraiser.

The Foundation's funds are used in part to support the Club's local programs, including Feed My Starving

Children, the Jeremiah Program, Rotary Rocks the Y and STRIVE. Other grants totaling \$69,000 were to Cornerstone, Edina Community Channel 16, Edina Historical Society, Edina Public Schools, Joyce Uptown Food Shelf, Lifeworks, Sight & Hearing Association, Store to Door, Twin Cities River Rats and Wooddale Community Nursery School.

The Foundation also contributed \$29,000 to a scholarship fund to ensure an education for Moses Mwaura, a young Kenyan brought to Edina for life-changing eye surgery and dental work in its "Moses Miracle" project led by Rotarians Sandy Schley and Tim Murphy.

These grant makers deserve our recognition and thanks for their substantial contributions to community programs and our quality of life in Edina. Their grants, like those of the Edina Community Foundation, reflect a commitment to both meeting the needs of those less fortunate and enhancing areas of strength in our community. Please give them your support when they invite you to give your time or financial support.

Questions about the Foundation or any of its programs may be addressed to Crockett at 952-833-9573 or edinafoundation@ci.edina.mn.us. Additional information about the Foundation and links to other articles about the Foundation may be found at its website, www.edinafoundation.org.

More Than \$90,000 Donated To Park & Recreation Department In 2010

Parks and other such amenities greatly improve the quality of life in a community. The City of Edina is the fortunate recipient of many donations each year that improve its parks, adding to the quality of life enjoyed here. Edina Park & Recreation creates community through people, parks and programs. In the year 2010, more than \$90,000 in donations was received.

“The City of Edina wishes to extend a hearty thanks to all those who made contributions to the Edina Park & Recreation Department in 2010,” said Park & Recreation Director John Keprios. “All donations are greatly appreciated and are especially important during these challenging economic times. These donations are needed to help us accomplish our mission, which is to ‘sustain and improve the high quality of life enjoyed by our residents and businesses by providing effective and valued park and recreation services and facilities and preserving our natural resources.’”

Those who made donations of \$300 or more to the Edina Park & Recreation Department in 2010 were:

<u>Given To</u>	<u>For</u>
Edina Lions Club	Edina Art Center Greer Garden
David & Sandra Frauenshuh	Edina Art Center
Key Cadillac	Edina Art Center
Patricia Sullivan	Edina Art Center
R. Patricia Sullivan	Edina Art Center

Jane C. Willman	Edina Art Center Audrey Buckley Memorial
Wallace Carlson Company	Edina Art Center
\$500 or more:	
Bill Dietrichson	Edina Art Center
Edina Community Foundation	Edina Art Center May Day event
Mike Kelly	Edina Art Center
John King	Braemar Golf Course
Kiwanis Club of Edina	Scholarship for Edina Art Center Clay for Kids program
Jeff Sharkey	Edina Art Center
Qwest Foundation	Edina Art Center in recognition of Michael Whitt's volunteerism
Mike & Stacie Weiss	Edina Art Center
\$1,000 or more:	
DOW Water & Process Solutions	Pamela Park trees for Arbor and Earth days
Rick & Edie Fesler	Edina Art Center
Catherine Jordan	Edina Art Center

Cypress Equities	Centennial Lakes Park Movies in the Park	Edina Community Foundation	Recycling bins at Lewis and Pamela parks
Edina Community Foundation	Edina Art Center Greer Garden	Edina Community Foundation	Grant-in-Aid Program
Edina Community Foundation	Edina Art Center arts outreach program and Garden Sale	Fusion Software Inc.	Edina Art Center in honor of Nicole Mills-Novoa
Edina Crime Prevention Fund	Cornelia School Park Playground and Travelin' Teens programs	Richard & Lisa Uihlein	Trees for island at Northwood Road & Dundee Drive
Edina Crime Prevention Fund	Summer Playground Program transportation	\$10,000 or more:	
Edina Golden K Foundation	Edina Art Center summer program	Edina Community Foundation	4th of July fireworks sponsored by Fairview Southdale Hospital
Northmarq Real Estate Services	Edina Art Center Juried Show	Edina Community Foundation	Renovation of York Park Little League baseball field in memory of Tim Nunn
\$5,000 or more:			
Barr Engineering	Trees and park bench at Pamela Park		
DOW Water & Process Solutions	Recycling bins at Lewis and Pamela parks		

For more information on donations made in 2010 or to make a donation to the Park & Recreation Department, contact Keprios, 952-826-0430.

Exploring In Edina: An Adventure For Students And Young Adults

By Kaylin Martin

Edina resident Jordan Kruger says he wouldn't have risen through the ranks to become a Lt. Colonel at Saint Thomas Academy if he hadn't spent three years as a Police Explorer.

"Jordan is a leader, and he has definitely learned those skills," said Police Officer Kenna Dick, advisor of Edina and Eden Prairie Police Explorers Post 925. "When he started, he was just a little guy. His self-esteem and confidence have gone through the roof."

Jordan joined the Police Explorers program in ninth grade after his father, who has worked as a Reserve officer for the Edina Police Department since 2002, saw what young Explorers were doing not only for their community, but for their future.

"These kids weren't doing what normal teenagers do. They were learning about law enforcement and volunteering for the police department," said Jordan's father, Richard Kruger.

Police Explorers Post 925 is a joint post organized by the Edina and Eden Prairie police departments. The Explorers meet every Tuesday evening to learn about such things as search-and-rescue operations, hostage negotiation, white collar crime, bomb threats and other law enforcement issues, all while building relationships with their peers and advisors.

"We get to go out and see things that most people don't get to see every day," said Jordan.

Thirty students belong to Police Explorers Post 925, which was chartered in 1985. Dick attributes a lot of continued interest in the Post to the yearly competitions in which the Explorers participate.

"We not only compete in the usual law enforcement skills, but also job interviews. So the kids are learning skills that they can use even if they don't go into law enforcement," said Dick. "They build self-esteem, communications skills and problem solving."

Police Exploring is one of three Exploring programs in Edina. Fairview Southdale Hospital and the City of Edina Communications & Marketing Department also sponsor Explorers posts.

Pamela Mills is the Manager of Volunteer Services and Community Health Outreach for Fairview Southdale Hospital and one of the hospital's Explorers post advisors.



Photo by Michael Braun

Police Explorers Post 925 benefited from a pancake breakfast at Applebee's in February.

"We're very proud to be part of the Exploring program and share our field of work," she said.

For over 18 years, every Monday from the beginning of September through Thanksgiving, the Fairview Southdale Post has taught Explorers about the health care industry. Surgeons, nurses, first responders and doctors who have worked in third-world countries share their stories. Explorers witness a Life Link helicopter land, dress in scrubs to visit a surgery suite and learn about the administrative side of a hospital.

"Belonging to an Exploring post can lead to great things such as an internship," said Melinda Inman, Senior Exploring Executive for the Northern Star Council, the organization behind Exploring. "Explorers make great professional contacts, learn more about professions they have interests in and oftentimes realize there's a whole other piece of the career that they didn't even know about."

The newest of the three posts is the Communications Explorers Post at Edina City Hall. Explorers meet the last Wednesday of the month to experience careers in the communications field. Explorers work with the department to write stories, take photographs and work on graphic design projects as well as learn about other areas in communications such as advertising, radio, television broadcasting and journalism through field trips and featured speakers.

Claire Anderson, a sophomore at Benilde-St. Margaret High School, joined Explorers Post 3411 to expand her resume and get a feel for communications careers.

Edina Exploring Contacts

Police Explorers Post 925

Kenna Dick, 952-826-1610

Fairview Southdale Explorers Post 3197

Pamela Mills, 952-924-5022

Edina Communications Explorers Post 3411

Jennifer Bennerotte, 952-826-0359

To join an Exploring program post, participants must be between the ages of 14 and 20.

"I've learned a lot so far," she said. "It's a hands-on experience and I'm happy that I got involved."

The Northern Star Council's Exploring program was established 61 years ago and is still growing. The Council currently facilitates more than 150 Explorer posts in Minnesota and Wisconsin, which Inman estimates have served over 100,000 youth and 25,000 volunteer advisors.

"Whether it's Boy Scouts, 4-H or another youth serving organization – aside from their parents – kids need that secondary audience to help them grow," said Inman.

"I think Explorers really helped to broaden his horizons," said Richard about his son. Jordan is now thinking about becoming a U.S. Marshal.

For more information about Exploring, contact Inman at 763-231-7249.

City, 'Edina Magazine' Sponsor Annual Photo Contest



OUR COMMUNITY/OUR MAGAZINE
edina

It just got easier to submit your favorite photos of the past year in the eighth-annual "Images of Edina" Photo Contest. This year, the City is co-sponsoring the contest with *Edina Magazine*, allowing photographers to submit their entries online through www.edinamag.com. Printed copies of contest entries will no longer be required.

The contest continues to be free to enter and open to both amateur and professional photographers who are Edina residents, work or go to school in Edina.

This year, category and overall winners will receive gift certificates to local restaurants and businesses. Winners will also receive plaques, be recognized at a future City Council meeting and have their artwork displayed for up to two years at Edina City Hall.

The deadline to enter this year's contest is Friday, June 17. All photos must be submitted by 4:30 p.m.

"Images of Edina" Photo Contest Rules

For a complete list of official rules, contest criteria and to submit your photos, visit www.CityofEdina.com/PhotoContest or www.edinamag.com.

Photographs must be taken in Edina, and should be entered in one of five categories representing the City's vision statement:

- Living – People
- Living – Plants/Wildlife
- Learning
- Raising Families
- Doing Business

New this year! Submitted photographs will be posted for viewing at www.edinamag.com during the month of July. Through online voting, one photograph will also be recognized with a "Readers Choice" award.

Photographers may submit up to five photographs with a maximum of one per category.

Only photos taken between June 18, 2010, and June 17, 2011, are eligible.

All submissions must be the original work of the submitting photographer.

All photo entries become the property of the City and/or *Edina Magazine*.

By submitting one or more photos, you agree to the terms of the City's Submitted Photo & Original Artwork Policy found online at www.CityofEdina.com/PhotoContest.

Your favorite photos can be submitted beginning April 4.

For more information visit www.CityofEdina.com/PhotoContest or contact the Communications & Marketing Department at 952-826-0359.

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Edina Resident Jeannie Hanson Inspires Education And Conservation

By Jordon Calvert Greenlee

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Firefighter? Ballerina? Doctor? Librarian?

The list of aspirations and endeavors a person entertains can sometimes change throughout a lifetime. But for Edina resident Jeannie Hanson, the world of communication and publishing caught hold and never let go.

Throughout her career, Hanson has held many titles: journalist, publisher, environmentalist, teacher, author and activist. The beginning of her professional journey started at Wellesley College, where in 1966 she earned bachelor's degrees in English and Philosophy. Hanson then entered the world of education and continued on to graduate school at Harvard University where she received master's degrees in English and Education.

After working as a high school teacher for several years, Hanson began pursuing a career in journalism and enrolled in a master's program at the University of Minnesota. Soon after beginning her studies, she searched for writing opportunities within communication outlets at the University of Minnesota.

"Right around the time I entered the journalism school, I went over to the University's news service and asked them what kind of freelance writing they had available," said Hanson. "They gave me the opportunity to do freelance science writing and after a while they put me on the staff as a science writer for nearly 15 years."

Hanson's concentrated interest in natural sciences led to many feature stories focused on research-based material. In addition to her journalism ventures, Hanson began to further pursue a writing career by becoming an author and literary agent.

"During the time when I published my first book and met my agent, I thought it would be great to also explore a career as an agent," said Hanson.

Hanson was fellow environmental writer Janine Benyus' literary agent for her first book, *Northwoods Wildlife: A Watcher's Guide to Habitats*, published in the late 1980s. "As an agent, you need to be able to establish connections," said Benyus. "Jeannie always looks out for the wellbeing of her writers; she has the ability to transmit a writer's enthusiasm to publishers who have the ability to print texts."

Hanson has written and published 14 natural history and general science books, but as the age of technology approached, she recognized printed publications were losing steam, and individuals were relying on the internet for news and education.



Photo by Michael Braun

Edina resident Jeannie Hanson is a journalist, publisher, environmentalist, teacher, author and activist.

"I've been writing more and agenting a little bit less," said Hanson. "The balance is changing for me now."

Most recently, Hanson's interests in natural history have influenced her continued involvement in expanding environmental awareness. Hanson served on the Energy & Environment Commission for the City of Edina and played a role in the development of several local environmental agencies.

"Being a science writer, you're just curious about the world," said Hanson. "I've been an environmentalist since environmentalism began in the 1970s. I've been a guest columnist writing on environmental topics for the *Edina Sun-Current*, and I also started an environmental organization called Friends of Edina Nature Center and co-started the Conservation League of Edina."

One might think Hanson's influential and inspiring ambitions stop there, but this motivated activist's aspirations extend to furthering environmental education through local academic classes at the University of Minnesota. Hanson has taught natural science classes through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), focusing on natural history and the North Shore. She will teach a class this month at OLLI, and hopes to have the opportunity to lead a group on trips to the North Shore and Iceland.

"I think when you learn about natural history you have to read widely in the concepts and then it makes sense to focus on a few places," said Hanson. "I have four places I'm constantly learning about and focusing on: Edina, North Shore, Iceland and New Zealand."

"Jeannie has been with us for about six years and is a very enthusiastic leader," said Steve Benson, OLLI Executive Director. "She is a talented teacher and I know she has been an active figure in her community. Jeannie has been a great asset to our organization."

While many may not have time to enroll in a local class on environmental protection or natural history, residents of Edina can still remain informed and active in protecting the environment. In fact, Hanson suggests a variety of ways citizens can easily and effectively play a role in conserving the environment.

"I think the easiest thing that any person in Edina can do is keep their storm sewers from clogging with debris," said Hanson. "When you see the leaves pile up, clean it out. And don't wash your car in the driveway because the soap and water goes directly to our storm sewers."

Environmentalism has become a popular and significant concern internationally, and for Hanson, engaging in environmental protection, even at a minimum, is an accessible goal for all. While she says she has seen environmental efforts fade in the past, it appears citizens are now recognizing the importance of this movement – and that sense of recognition can create hope.

"This time around, I'm more optimistic," said Hanson. "If you get enough businesses and people following this trend, it will give it inertia and it will take longer for the trend to go away."

Planning Matters

Fundraising Begins For Veterans Memorial

A committee has begun raising funds for a Veterans Memorial to honor Edina residents who lost their lives in service to our country.

The Council approved an ordinance in February establishing a memorial for veterans and gave the green light for fundraising efforts to begin. State law requires cities that intend to construct, equip, maintain, supervise and control a Veterans Memorial to approve an ordinance specifying the intent and location of the memorial.

Four sites were considered for a Veterans Memorial in Edina, but Utley Park at 50th Street and Wooddale Avenue was recommended by the Veterans Memorial Committee and Park Board. The site was chosen because of its visibility, serene space to accommodate private reflection, adequate space for formal ceremonies, accessible parking, shade and access to public restrooms.

The cost to design and build the memorial is not to exceed \$400,000. The City will provide up to \$30,000 for design and engineering. The rest must be raised through private donations. Short Elliott Hendrickson will design and provide professional services for the project. All money must be raised before construction is approved. Donations will be retained in a designated fund of the Edina Community Foundation.

New Supermarket To Open At Centennial Lakes

Late last year, the City Council approved a redevelopment in Centennial Lakes Plaza.

Mid-America Real Estate will raze Storables and Thomasville Furniture and build a new 36,346-square-foot Whole Foods supermarket at 7401 France Ave. S. The property is 6.4 acres in size and is adjacent to a two-level parking deck.

Construction is expected to begin this spring after demolition.

Y Expansion Is Under Way

Construction began in February on an expansion of the Southdale YMCA.

In 2009, the City approved plans for the YMCA to tear down and rebuild a new fitness facility with a two-level parking ramp and a four-story, 130-unit, 136,000-square-foot apartment building. The YMCA abandoned those plans in 2010 and instead set out to expand its current facility.

The expansion will add 15,300 square feet to the existing facility on York Avenue. A new leisure pool, fitness center and studio will be added.

City OKs Construction Of New Pharmacy

In late 2010, the City Council approved plans for a new pharmacy in the greater Southdale area.

CVS Pharmacy plans to build a 14,492-square-foot retail store with drive-through facilities on the vacant lot at 6905 York Ave. When granting final development plan approval for the project, the City Council lifted a previous

condition prohibiting drive-through facilities on the property.

For more information on recently approved projects, contact the City of Edina's Planning Department, 952-826-0369. For more information on the Veterans Memorial or to donate, contact the Edina Community Foundation, 952-833-9573 or edinacommunityfoundation@ci.edina.mn.us.



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Business Notes

ClubKid Opens New Location

ClubKid of Edina moved to a new location in late 2010, allowing Edina residents an accessible venue for childcare. ClubKid has been an active business in the Edina community for more than 20 years, previously located at Centennial Lakes Plaza.

“Our move was stemmed by the economy and a need to downsize,” said Jennifer Clark, Owner of Clubkid of Edina. “Southdale Square had the perfect fit that came with more visibility and foot traffic for us.”

ClubKid is open seven days a week and offers flexible hours so parents can make time for appointments, shopping and work.

“Our main priority is providing a safe environment where kids can have fun,” said Clark. “We have monthly themed Parent Night Out events that change throughout the seasons. We most recently have hosted a Fitness Fun and Valentine’s Day event.”

ClubKid of Edina is located at Southdale Square, 6547 York Ave. For more information, call 612-238-0599.

Insty-Prints Bloomington Merges With Allegra Edina

Local printing business Allegra Edina purchased Insty-Prints Bloomington in late 2010.

Insty-Prints Bloomington closed its location and merged with Allegra of Edina at 4444 W. 76th St. The new partnership between the two printing agencies hopes to bring benefits to customers in the Twin Cities by



Submitted Photo

Allegra Edina and Insty-Prints Bloomington have come together at the Allegra Edina location at 4444 W. 76th St.

offering a wide range of presswork. As a marketing communications provider, Allegra Edina will bring large formatted signs and banners, mailing services, a creative design center and marketing consultation to Insty-Prints Bloomington customers.

For more information, contact Allegra Edina at 952-835-2720 or visit www.allegraedina.com.

Alzheimer’s Association Event Draws Generous Donations

The Alzheimer’s Association of Minnesota and North Dakota participated in “Give to the Max Day” on Nov. 16, 2010, raising more than \$17,000. In alliance with GiveMN.org, the Alzheimer’s Association received 214 donations from patrons. The total amount of donations exceeded the projected amount, and as part of the

fundraiser, the Alzheimer Association received a \$10,000 match for the overall donations.

“In 24 hours, we received \$17,071, which will help us provide help and hope to families in Minnesota and North Dakota facing Alzheimer’s and related diseases,” said Rebecca Stibbe, Director of Development for the Alzheimer’s Association of Minnesota. “Funds raised will provide education and support services, as well as support state and federal advocacy efforts and our international research program.”

For more information, visit www.alz.org/mnnd.

Cornelia Elementary School To Build New Playground

Cornelia Elementary School is looking to raise money to build a new playground for students as early as this summer.

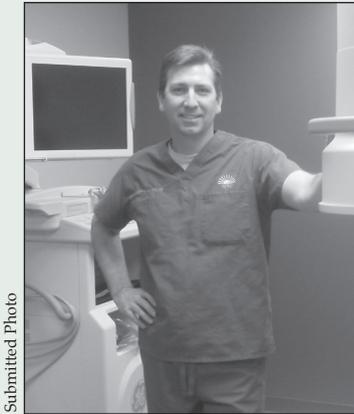
The current playground, built in 1994, is set to undergo a complete remodel that will allow students a secure and durable recreational area to enjoy throughout the year.

“We’re really looking to build a playground the Edina community can be proud of and one that serves all our residents regardless of their physical abilities,” said Chris Holden, Cornelia Elementary School Principal.

Entering the New Year, Cornelia Elementary School raised more than \$120,000 in donations. The final cost of the new playground initiative will cost \$180,000, requiring additional donations to build the new equipment.

The 8,000 square feet of equipment includes an Evos play structure, a Spacenet Climber, a Roller table and a Curved Track Ride.

To make a donation or for more information, visit www.corneliaplayground.com.



Submitted Photo

Twin Cities Pain Clinic Medical Director Dr. Andrew J. Will stands in a new procedure room at the new Edina location.

including physical therapy, injections, medication management, psychology and implantable devices,” said Dr. Andrew J. Will, Twin Cities Pain Clinic Medical Director.

Twin Cities Pain Clinic Moves To New Location

With the change in seasons, sometimes there are slips and falls. To serve those in pain, Twin Cities Pain Clinic recently moved to a larger space in Edina. Formerly located in Centennial Lakes Office Park, Twin Cities Pain Clinic is now located at 7235 Ohms Lane.

“Twin Cities Pain Clinic has established itself as a leading acute and chronic pain clinic, which offers a range of treatments

(continued on next page)

For more than a decade, Twin Cities Pain Clinic has served Edina, and on Nov. 30, 2010, they opened their newest clinical space. The new location has a variety of new amenities for patients including new exam rooms, Med-X machines and exercise equipment.

“Now that we have settled into our new clinic space, we are looking forward to serving residents from Edina and the surrounding area for many more years,” said

Will. “In the coming months, we will be hosting evening Continuing Medical Education talks and continuing our monthly newsletter for patients.”

For more information, visit www.twincitiespainclinic.com.

– Compiled by Jordon Greenlee and Jordan Gilgenbach

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Photo Gallery

- 1) **Max Diedrich** was one of many youth who enjoyed Winter Neighborhood Night Out organized by the City of Edina’s Park & Recreation Department.
- 2) Caricatures and other activities were offered in warming houses at parks around the community during Winter Neighborhood Night Out.
- 3) Director of Community Education Services & Community Relations **Doug Johnson** and his wife, **Karen**, enjoy the Emerald Gala, a February fundraiser for the Edina Chamber of Commerce.
- 4) Edina Family Center Coordinator **Laurie Denn** and Edina Public Schools Superintendent **Ric Dressen** attended the Dream Gala Jan. 28.
- 5) A “Dream Gala” benefitting the Edina Family Center was held at Interlachen Country Club in late January.
- 6) **Steve Slyce**, **Christine Smalley** and **Joe Hayes** participated in the Rotary Club of Edina’s annual winter bowling party on Feb. 12 at Lariat Lanes in Richfield.

