

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, NOV. 8, 2013
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: KAREN KURT, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR NOV. 8, 2013

FRIDAY REPORT



1. **Election** – The first election with the new election equipment went smoothly. Turnout was 12.88 percent, with 3,480 people voting.
2. **Lincoln Corporate Center** – This 24-acre site remains vacant after United Health consolidated at its new site. Attempts by the previous owner to sell the property have failed and ownership has now reverted to the lender (Ameriprise Financial). CBRE represents the new owner and has actively begun new efforts to market the site.
3. **Starbucks** – A ribbon-cutting for the new Starbucks at 7501 France Ave. will be Nov. 14.
4. **City/School Cooperation** – For more than a year, the City and Edina Public Schools (EPS) have traded advertising space in some of their publications. EPS has also regularly submitted content for the City’s magazine, *About Town*. EPS is now returning the favor in its new newsletter, *Experience EPS* (formerly *Learning*). The newsletter includes information about EPS strategic initiatives, staff and student profiles, and a feature called “City Beat.” Communications Intern Michael McGivern wrote the first story for “City Beat” about the reopening of the Braemar Golf Dome. You can read the newsletter online at <http://edinaschools.org/cms/lib07/MN01909547/Centricity/Domain/86/Experience%20EPS/ExpEPS-fall13-web.pdf>.
5. **Liquor Operations** – Our liquor stores collected \$2,664 in cash donations and 534 pounds of food during its annual food drive, a 25 percent increase from 2012. The donations will be forwarded to VEAP.

On a 7-0 vote, the Bloomington City Council postponed approving a liquor license for Total Wine until its meeting Dec. 16. There is pending litigation in other states where Total Wine does business that has drawn concern. This would most likely delay a potential store opening until after the first of the year.

6. **Planning** – The Planning Commission has cancelled its Nov. 27 meeting due to the Thanksgiving holiday. As a result, members will have a heavy agenda for Nov. 13. Items they will be considering, with an anticipated Dec. 3 City Council review, will include the following: Front Yard Setback Variances for the 5 Merilane three-lot subdivision; Revised Preliminary Plat at 5612 Tracy Ave. (Shanight Subdivision); Preliminary Plat for Spalon Montage; Site Plan Review with Variances for Think Bank; and a clean-up to the Residential Redevelopment Ordinance to make the regulations more clear.
7. **Golf Dome** – The new Braemar Golf Dome will open Saturday, Nov. 9. The hours for golf will be 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. A grand-opening celebration will be held next weekend, Friday, Nov. 15 through Sunday, Nov. 17. The grand opening will include a number of events including free, 10-minute private golf lessons from our professional staff; booking signing of the Braemar history book by author Roger Harrold; appearances by Dan Cole “The Common Man” from KFAN, Goldy Gopher and the EHS Hornet mascot. There will also be giveaways, contests and a special for those who buy gift cards.

- 8. Film Festival** – Ticket sales for the Third-Annual Edina Film Festival were brisk over the weekend of Nov. 1-3, thanks in part to the new online registration process. Pre-festival ticket sales are more than triple than past years. Currently, 151 tickets have been sold with four VIP passes for more than \$1,700 in revenue. The film festival takes place this weekend at the Edina Cinema at 50th & France.
- 9. Parks & Recreation** – Staff hosted its biannual Youth Athletic Association Presidents Meeting on Thursday, Nov. 7. Topics discussed were inclusion services and bullying policy, reporting of accidents and incidents, sports dome scheduling requests and plan, park projects update and school district facility scheduling software update.
- 10. Fire** – This week, the Fire-Rescue & Inspections Department, in conjunction with Southdale Center Security, conducted live smoke training scenarios on the third level of the mall. The training tested the ability of Mall Security to detect and locate the fire and direct fire crew to the incident. Fire crews practiced standpipe operations, smoke removal and working with an extremely complex fire control system within a large structure.