

INSIDE

AUGUST 2004

- PAGE 2. Our Mayor on maintaining our streets.
- PAGE 3. Development update.
- PAGE 4. Community news.
- PAGE 5. Earth Action.
- PAGE 6. Programs that serve you.
- PAGE 7. Arts and recreation activities.
- PAGE 8. Election information.



**BLOOMINGTON'S RICH PAST
 HISTORY FESTIVAL NEEDS YOUR HELP**

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR RIVER Rendezvous, a living history festival that depicts life in Minnesota in the 1800s. Opportunities include:

- Tour guides for school children, Monday - Friday, September 13 - 17, from 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Historic re-enactors.
- Organizers and people to set up.

To volunteer, call Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8877. For more information, see page 7.



**OUR BUSY LIVES
 RESTORING FAMILY CONNECTIONS**

TRI-CITY PARTNERS presents a free parenting forum on handling over-scheduled,

hyperactive and under-connected lives. The presentation, featuring Barbara Carlson, co-founder of Putting Family First initiative, focuses on how to restore important family connections including family meals, vacations and all of the little things that matter.

The forum, "We live in the minivan - I might as well decorate," will be held on Thursday, September 30, from 7 - 9 p.m. at Richfield Middle School, 7461 Oliver Avenue South. Tri-City Partners works to promote health, reduce risks, and build assets for our youth and communities. For more information, call 952-563-8901 or visit www.tricitypartners.org.

**COUNCIL APPROVES BROADENED SMOKING BAN
 NEW ORDINANCE IN BLOOMINGTON**

IN JULY, THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED AN ordinance that expands smoke-free areas originally established by the 1975 Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act. The new ordinance prohibits smoking in indoor public places and workplaces by deleting certain exemptions of the Clean Indoor Air Act. Smoking in private residences, motor vehicles, designated hotel-motel sleeping rooms, and during Indian spiritual and cultural ceremonies is allowed under state law and is not affected by the City's ordinance.

The Council took public comment for more than four hours before voting 6 - 1 to approve the smoking ban. They also approved a resolution requesting that Hennepin County adopt a countywide smoking ban.

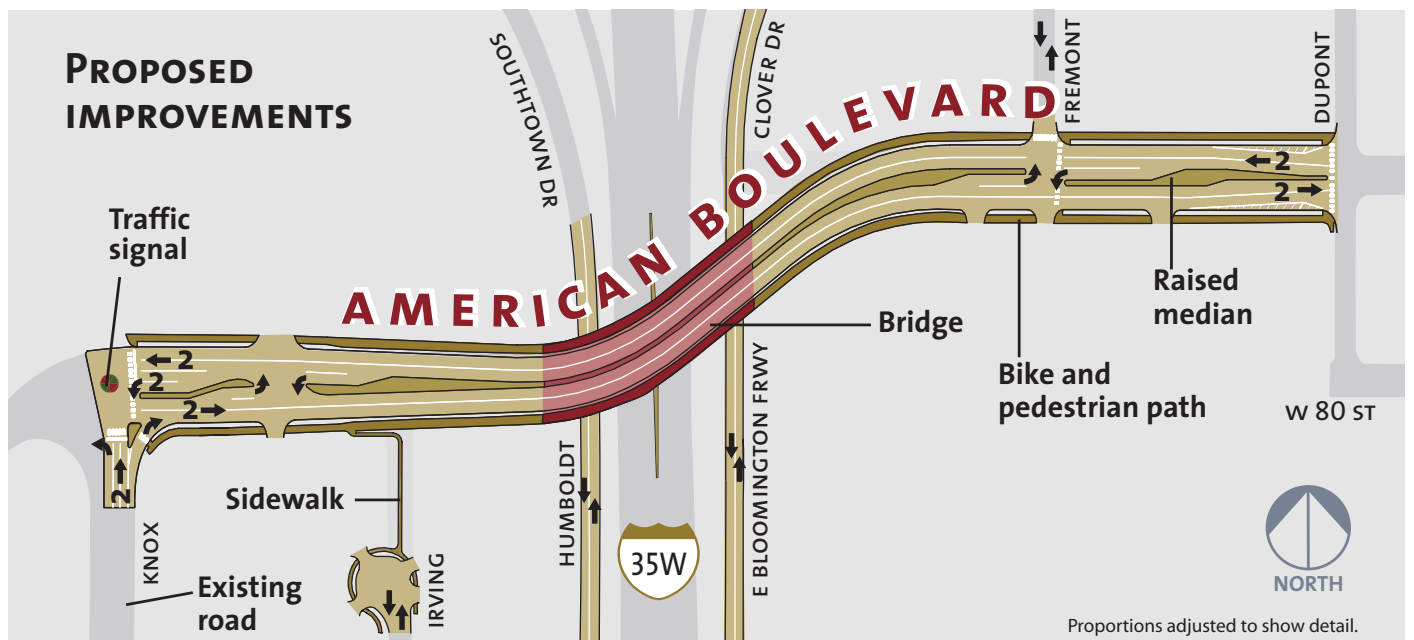
The ordinance prohibits smoking in indoor public places and workplaces, within 25 feet of entrances, exits, open windows and ventilation intakes to public places and workplaces, and requires that at least one-half of the seating capacity of outdoor restaurant patios be designated as non-smoking areas. The deadline for compliance with the ordinance for most public places and workplaces is September 1, 2004. For establishments that have on-sale liquor, wine or 3.2 beer licenses, or charitable gambling licenses or permits, the deadline for compliance with the ordinance is March 31, 2005.

Smoking-ban proposals are being considered in other metropolitan cities as well as Hennepin, Ramsey and

Dakota counties. Minneapolis approved a smoking ban in July. In addition to supporting a statewide legislative ban and passing a resolution for a countywide ban, the Council expressed a commitment to revisit the ordinance should other cities adopt ordinances or fail to take any action that would put Bloomington businesses at a competitive disadvantage with surrounding communities.

For more information, visit the City's Web site at ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Smoking ordinance, or call Karen Zeleznak at 952-563-8900.

**BRIDGING THE GAP
 CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON BRIDGE OVER I-35W**



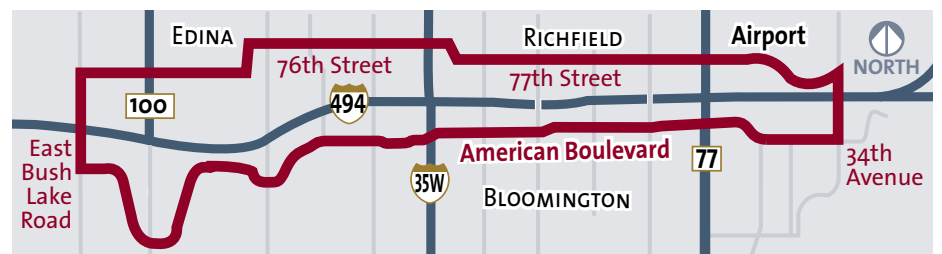
AN IMPORTANT LINK FOR AMERICAN Boulevard began in August with construction of a bridge over I-35W at 79th and 80th streets. The bridge includes two westbound and two eastbound lanes, a concrete median, and

eight-foot wide bike and pedestrian paths in each direction. Improvements beyond the bridge will include two lanes in each direction, concrete medians with protected left turn lanes, and eight-foot pedestrian paths on both sides.

A federal grant funds 80 percent of construction. The City of Bloomington and the Minnesota Department of Transportation also support the project. The bridge is scheduled for completion in fall 2005.

AMERICAN BOULEVARD

Paralleling I-494 from East Bush Lake Road to 34th Avenue, American Boulevard follows previously named Green Valley Drive, Norman Center Drive, Bridge Road and 79th and 80th streets. See right. The route will provide Bloomington residents with an alternative way to travel across the community and also help ease congestion on I-494. American Boulevard between Fremont and Nicollet avenues is scheduled for improvement in spring 2005. Reconstruction and widening of the boulevard will be 60 percent complete when the bridge over I-35W opens in fall 2005.



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
 1800 WEST OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD
 BLOOMINGTON MN 55431-3027

Presort Std
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Mpls., MN
 Permit
 #2293

**ECRWSS
 POSTAL CUSTOMER**

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION REDUCING OVERALL COSTS TO MAINTAIN STREETS

By Mayor Gene Winstead

WE EAT RIGHT AND EXERCISE TO STAY healthy, or patch a leaky roof and regularly change the oil in our car to save on future costly repairs. Preventative maintenance helps resolve potential problems before they occur – it is also the best approach in caring for our city streets.

Since 1992, the City has had a successful long-term program for maintaining the life of Bloomington's streets. The Pavement Management Program (PMP) identifies, inventories and tracks street condition to ensure that the right maintenance is done at the right time. The results are prolonged pavement life and reduced overall costs to property owners.

Many City streets were installed more than 50 years ago during Bloomington's population and building expansion. As more streets age and

require maintenance, the PMP will need additional resources.

The biggest funding need is for streets in the overlay category. By performing periodic overlays, a street's lifespan can be more than tripled, delaying costly reconstruction. To keep up with street maintenance needs the PMP will soon require an additional \$1.7 million in resources. If we continue to fund the program, the additional cost to overlay streets over the next 20 years would be \$34 million. If we let streets decline into the problem category, a total reconstruction of streets would be necessary at a cost of \$50 million. Upkeep of our infrastructure ensures that Bloomington streets are safe, functional and well-maintained.

The PMP was initiated to keep an already good maintenance program for Bloomington's aging streets rolling. In



Crews perform an overlay on city street.

1992, it was predicted that if no program were adopted, more than 45 percent of streets would fall into the problem category by 2012. Since the program began more than 12 years ago, less than 5 percent of streets are in the problem category – a good indicator that preventative maintenance works.

For a complete list of street projects, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Construction.



HOW DOES THE PMP WORK?

Staff inspect City streets and assign each a PCI (Pavement Condition Index) number. The PCI number determines what maintenance needs to be performed:

PCI	Designation	Maintenance
100	Newly reconstructed	None
99 - 66	Adequate	Sealcoat
65 - 36	Marginal	Mill and overlay
35 - 1	Problem	Reconstruct

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

CONSTRUCTION ON BLOOMINGTON'S ROADWAYS

NEW INTERCHANGES AT TH169

WORK BEGAN LAST SPRING TO ELIMINATE stoplights and build bridges on TH169.

In June, Pioneer Trail was closed for improvements and is scheduled to reopen in late November. Once this intersection is completed, construction at Bloomington Ferry Road will begin with completion scheduled for

November 2005. TH169 will remain open throughout the project.

I-494/TH169

The elimination of signalized intersections at Highwood Drive and I-494 is scheduled for bidding in December 2005 and depends on available state funding.

LYNDALE FROM I-494 TO WEST 82ND

Lyndale Avenue is under reconstruction between I-494 and West 82nd Street. Substantial completion is scheduled for the end of 2004. Improvements fit with the proposed Lyndale Avenue bridge project over I-494 that is tentatively scheduled in 2005 - 2006.



"The entire length of the track has been laid," Collins said. "Crews are now focusing on electrical work and signals."

Light rail is scheduled to begin full service by December 2004 from downtown Minneapolis to the Mall of America's transit station under the east parking deck. For more information, visit www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/lrt.

HIAWATHA LIGHT RAIL LINE OPENS WORK ON BLOOMINGTON PORTION CONTINUES

MORE THAN 95,000 PEOPLE TOOK A ride on the Hiawatha Light Rail Line that opened from downtown Minneapolis to Fort Snelling during the

weekend of June 26 - 27. Celebrations that included entertainment, food, activities, displays and presentations were held at each of the 12 stations along the Minneapolis portion of the line. Approximately 93,000 riders used light rail during its first week of operation, exceeding expectations by nearly 68 percent.

Construction of the project's Phase II continues from Fort Snelling to the Mall of America. Hiawatha Project Office's Community Outreach Specialist Josh Collins said construction in Bloomington is right on schedule.



Volume 12, Number 4
The *Briefing*, published bimonthly by the City of Bloomington, is mailed directly to our residents and businesses. Direct comments to Communications Administrator Diann Kirby, City of Bloomington, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; PH 952-563-8818; TTY 952-563-8740; FAX 952-563-8715; E-MAIL dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us. If you require Braille, larger print or computer disk, contact Diann Kirby.

Visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us

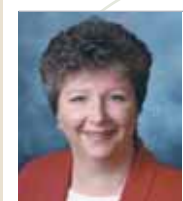
BLOOMINGTON CITY COUNCIL



Mayor
Gene Winstead
952-888-1258(h)
gwinstead@ci.bloomington.mn.us

Councilmember At Large

Dave Abrams
952-833-0505(h)
dabrams@ci.bloomington.mn.us



Councilmember At Large
Amy Grady
952-884-6502 (h)
agrady@ci.bloomington.mn.us

Councilmember District I

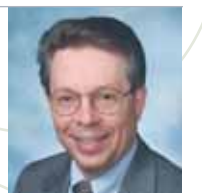
Steve Peterson
952-884-3262(h)
speterson@ci.bloomington.mn.us



Councilmember District II
Heather Harden
952-835-5919(h)
harden@ci.bloomington.mn.us

Councilmember District III

Steve Elkins
612-578-2103(c)
selkins@ci.bloomington.mn.us



Councilmember District IV
Vern Wilcox
952-854-1425(h)
vwilcox@ci.bloomington.mn.us

Elected officials are presented by the City of Bloomington for informational purposes only.

COUNCILMEMBERS

council@ci.bloomington.mn.us

CITY MANAGER

Mark Bernhardson 952-563-8780
citymanager@ci.bloomington.mn.us

DIRECTORS

- Larry Lee, *Community Development* 952-563-8947
llee@ci.bloomington.mn.us
- James Truax, *Community Services* 952-563-8717
communityservices@ci.bloomington.mn.us
- Lori Economy-Scholler, *Finance* 952-563-8791
finance@ci.bloomington.mn.us
- Ulle Seal, *Fire* 952-881-4062
fire@ci.bloomington.mn.us
- Kent Michaelson, *Human Resources* 952-563-4898
kmichaelson@ci.bloomington.mn.us
- David Ornstein, *Legal* 952-563-8753
legal@ci.bloomington.mn.us
- John Laux, *Police* 952-563-8701
police@ci.bloomington.mn.us
- Charles Honchell, *Public Works* 952-563-8731
publicworks@ci.bloomington.mn.us

The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status or status with regard to public assistance in employment or the provision of services. The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as required by Section 35.107 of the U.S. Department of Justice Regulations, and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as mandated by Section 8.53 of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations. For information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027; phone: 952-563-8700; TTY: 952-563-8740.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING, AUGUST 2004

DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



Bloomington Central Station transit-oriented development looking to the west.

and conference center, office and retail uses, pedestrian and bicycle routes, and open space. The \$700 million project centers around Bloomington Central Station, one of three light rail stations in Bloomington, and is to be built in several phases over a seven-year period. The first phase includes two, 16-story residential condominium buildings. Construction may begin this fall.



Central lobby for residential component of McGough's development.



Concept drawing of GRECO's development includes residential, office and retail space.

FRANCE & OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD PROJECT SELECTED FOR NORTHEAST CORNER

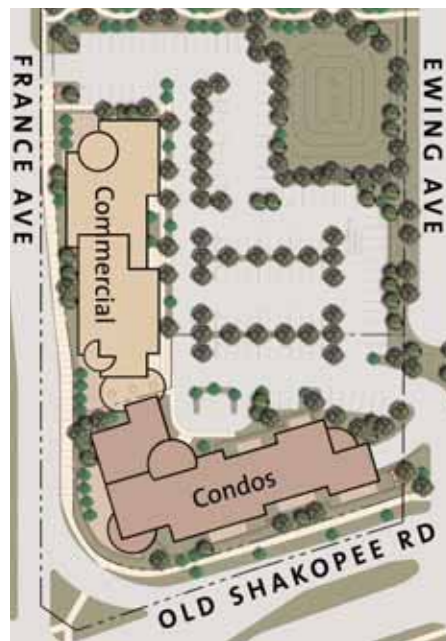
IN JUNE, THE HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT Authority selected Gregory Real Estate Company (GRECO) to construct a mixed-use development on the

northeast corner of France Avenue and Old Shakopee Road. The project is expected to include 60 condominiums, 5,000 square feet of office and 15,000 square feet of retail space. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2005.

Public improvements including street widening, new turn lanes, sidewalks, signals, medians and landscaping are currently underway and are scheduled for completion in November.

A 4,000-square foot retail building was constructed last fall on the southeast quadrant of the intersection. The majority of the remaining properties at the intersection of France Avenue and Old Shakopee Road have been acquired.

Renderings courtesy of BKV Group.



Plan for northeast corner of France Avenue and Old Shakopee Road.

IKEA – A NEW BEGINNING SWEDISH RETAILER SETTLES IN CITY

EXERCISING A SWEDISH TRADITION THAT SYMBOLIZES A NEW BEGINNING, IKEA staff and Mayor Gene Winstead sawed a log in two to open the home furnishings store in Bloomington on July 14.

Thousands of shoppers attended the grand opening of the 336,000-square foot IKEA that carries more than 9,000 products and features 50 different room settings, four model homes and a 350-seat

restaurant serving Swedish specialties. IKEA is the first stage of ongoing phases of the Mall of America.

Infrastructure improvements in the area include light rail transit (see above) and reconstruction of Lindau Lane to accommodate the increased traffic. Lindau Lane is now partially opened to traffic and will be completely operational by the end of construction season 2004.



PARK IMPROVEMENTS RUN ALONG THE EAST BUSH LAKE ROAD TRAIL

PEDESTRIAN AND BIKEWAY improvements are planned along East Bush Lake Road from 84th to 106th Street. The proposed project will use new and existing trails to provide a continuous 3.34-mile trail that will allow access to Hyland Lake Park Reserve, Bush Lake Beach, Richardson Nature Center, Forest Glen Trail and Lake Normandale. A railway underpass will be constructed north of 86th Street to cross East Bush Lake Road.

A federal grant will fund up to 80 percent of construction costs. Hennepin County, Three Rivers Park District, City of Bloomington and Metropolitan Council grants will also fund the project. Pending passage of a federal transportation bill, construction for the proposed trail could begin late September 2004 with completion by fall 2005.

For more information on Hyland Lake Park Reserve, go to www.threeriversparkdistrict.org.

PROTECTING OUR VALUABLE RESOURCES

CITY MAINTAINS ACTIVE DISEASED-TREE PROGRAM

IN THE 1970s, THOUSANDS OF ELM TREES WERE LOST WHEN DUTCH elm disease infected the area. State funding for diseased tree programs is no longer available, but most public agencies continue to aggressively deal with Dutch elm disease.

The City's Maintenance Division inspects trees and responds to resident concerns. Each year, the City's state-certified tree inspectors search for diseased trees on both public and private property, and mark trees that require removal.

Property owners are responsible for the removal of diseased trees and may use a contractor hired by the City or handle the removal themselves. The City removes diseased trees on City property and rights-of-way.

What can you do to help stop the spread of Dutch elm or other diseases? Report any elm tree with dead or dying leaves. *See below.* Wilting leaves on oak trees can be a sign of oak wilt, a disease that also spreads from tree to tree. Report suspected trees for proper diagnosis and action by calling 952-563-8760.

To further prevent the spread of disease, City ordinance prohibits the storage of elm, red oak and pin oak wood with the bark intact.



IT'S A FACT

Since 1998, the City has planted more than 900 trees.

SIGNS OF DISEASE HOW TO RECOGNIZE SYMPTOMS

THE CITY REMOVED 850 diseased trees in 2003. Prompt diagnosis and removal of diseased trees are the keys to help control the spread of Dutch elm disease. Dead or dying elm trees can become a breeding ground for thousands of beetles that will move about and spread the disease.

Visible signs of Dutch elm disease include leaves on the upper branches that turn from green to yellow, curl, and become brown and brittle. These symptoms are common signs of a diseased tree and could signal Dutch elm disease. If more than a few branches are affected, then the entire tree must be removed. If only small portions of the tree show symptoms, quick and proper action might prolong the life of the tree.

Chemical fungicides are available that are designed to protect the tree, but there is no guarantee that a treated tree won't become infected with Dutch elm disease. Chemical treatments have a greater success rate with healthy trees. For more information on possible disease prevention tips, call your local tree service or call the City's Maintenance Division at 952-563-8760.



AROUND THE CITY LATE SUMMER AND EARLY FALL EVENTS



OPEN HOUSE

Visit your local fire station
Saturday, October 9
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

STATION NO.	ADDRESS
1	10 West 95th St.
2	10601 Xerxes Ave. So.
3	2050 East 86th St.
4	4201 West 84th St.
5	10540 Bush Lake Rd.
6	8601 Lakeview Rd.

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FIREFIGHTER

FIRE STATIONS TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE

THE CITY'S SIX FIRE STATIONS CELEBRATE NATIONAL Fire Prevention Week with an open house on Saturday, October 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A variety of activities, demonstrations and tours will be featured along with free t-shirts and temporary tattoos for kids. Fire trucks, Police squad cars and Public Works equipment will also be on display. For more information, call 952-881-4062.



As part of Fire Prevention Week, the Bloomington Fire Department reminds you to test your smoke alarms.

SUKIYAKI SUNDAY

A NORMANDELE JAPANESE GARDEN SPECIAL EVENT

THE NORMANDELE JAPANESE GARDEN COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES THE RETURN OF ITS traditional Sukiyaki Dinner on Sunday, September 12, from 12:30 to 6 p.m., at Normandale Community College, 9700 France Avenue South. A ceremony will begin at 11:30 a.m. to honor and remember World War II Veterans of the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Service Language School for their nation's service and for their dedication to the Garden. Highlights of the day include performances by the Kogen Taiko drum group and Leo Hansen on the shakuhachi (Japanese flute). There will also be opportunities to win raffle prizes and purchase items from the boutique. For more information, call Pat Kirsch at 612-866-5322.



CHILLIN' AND GRILLIN' BLOOMINGTON KIDS KICK OFF SPECIAL EVENT

FOOD SAFETY TIPS ARE ON THE MENU during an event to highlight National

Food Safety Education Month (NFSEM) in September. Around 600 6th and 7th grade students from Olson Middle School will learn how to keep food at proper temperatures, techniques for washing hands correctly and other measures for preventing foodborne illness at a food safety educational event on September 23. The day includes a demonstration of *Safe or Sorry*, a curriculum that uses humorous skits and innovative props to illustrate basic principles of food safety, as well as a cookout featuring irradiated hamburgers.

The event is sponsored by a broad coalition of private sector groups and government agencies, including Bloomington Environmental Health. Olson Middle School is one of only four schools in the state during the past three years to have been selected to host a large food safety event for children. For more information, call Carol Schreiber at 651-215-0846.

1ST

BEST OF SHOW BLUE RIBBON IDEAS FOR A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

THE STATE FAIR IS THE TIME OF YEAR WHEN PEOPLE SHOW OFF THEIR AWARD-winning pies, patchwork quilts and homegrown pumpkins. With a little know-how you can help protect Bloomington's prized natural resources. Here are some blue ribbon ideas to improve the quality of life for all.



TAKE THE BUS TO THE FAIR FAST AND CONVENIENT

Support mass transit and take the bus to the fair! Park and ride for free, or pay bus fare and receive \$2 off admission. For more information, call 612-341-4287 or visit www.metrocouncil.org/transit/statefair.



IMPROVING WATER QUALITY BEGINS IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Visit the Department of Natural Resources at the fair and learn more about their Adopt-A-River Program. However, taking care of Minnesota's lakes, rivers and streams starts in Bloomington because the products we use on our lawn and garden can end up in our water bodies via the storm

sewers. To improve water quality, use phosphorus-free lawn fertilizer required by state ordinance, reduce your chemical use and mulch or compost leaves instead of sweeping them into the street.



A DEMAND FOR LESS TOXINS ORGANIC FOOD SALES GROWING

According to the *Star Tribune*, sales of organic and natural foods hit a record \$42.8 billion in 2003, accounting for nearly 10 percent of the nation's total grocery spending of \$433 billion. Produce grown without chemicals and pesticides is more readily available because consumers are increasing their demand

for organically grown food. Years ago, people only ate what they grew in their gardens or purchased from local fruit and vegetable stands. Today, many of Bloomington's local supermarkets carry organically grown food.



HARVEST TIME GO CHEMICAL-FREE

People who want a less expensive, healthier way to care for their lawns and gardens may want to try organic gardening. More than \$6 billion per year is spent on fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides for lawn care that actually produces weak, dependent lawns with shallow root systems. By going

chemical-free, you create a healthier environment for you, your family and pets, in addition to protecting Bloomington waterbodies. Try these natural tips:

1. Choose hardy, native, perennial wildflowers and grasses that thrive without fertilizers and pesticides.
2. Plant trees for a healthy ecosystem and to add cooling shade, beauty and value to your home.
3. Mulch your grass clippings and leave them on your lawn to provide water and nitrogen.
4. Compost with yard waste and other organic material.

For more information on composting in Bloomington, visit our Web site, keyword: Compost.

Source: *Committee on Urban Environment and Bald Mountain Press.*

Earth Action Heroes protect the earth. Whether it's saving energy or guarding Bloomington's precious natural resources, these individuals are making a difference. Here are your neighbors in action ...



EARTH ACTION HERO CARLETON, "THE GREEN GARDENER"

LONG-TIME BLOOMINGTON RESIDENT CARLETON, AGE 84, loves to garden. He is retired, but every day during the growing season he heads to the backyard to begin his shift at 7 a.m.

Carleton's quarter-acre garden includes 150 hostas, a variety of vegetables including peppers, squash, tomatoes, melons, cucumbers and many, many flowers. Once known as the "Marigold King," he would grow up to 10,000 marigolds that he started from seeds.

For 24 years, Carleton has amended the soil in his garden to keep it rich and healthy. In the fall, he and his daughter Bonnie collect close to 400 bags of leaves from friends and neighbors. In the spring, they place the leaves around the plantings to control weeds, saving labor and the use of harsh chemicals.

"I have found that leaves work the best for mulch," Carleton said. "When the leaves are tilled into the soil in the fall, they also add valuable nutrients to the soil."

Carleton's daughter Bonnie also tends to the garden. She has a natural solution to their biggest challenge: the deer and rabbits who like to eat the plants. Bonnie sprinkles a handful of powdered laundry detergent (which does not contain phosphates) or sprays a solution of Murphy's oil soap, vinegar and water on the plants. She said both succeed at keeping the animals out and are a great alternative to costly chemicals that don't work as well.

"I have the health of my children and dog to consider," Bonnie said. "I also feel that chemicals will eventually poison the soil that my Dad has worked on for so long."

Carleton is recognized for beautifying Bloomington on a plaque located on the clock tower at 98th Street and Lyndale Avenue.

Do you know a Bloomington resident who is an Earth Action Hero? Do they conserve and protect our natural resources in unique or interesting ways? If so, we would like to hear from you. Call Jean Buckley at 952-563-8751.

CENTER OF ACTIVITIES PROGRAMS FOR YOU

CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY CENTER IS located at 9801 Penn Avenue South. For more information on programs, activities, and services, call the Information Line at 952-563-4957 V/TTY or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Creekside.



SAFETY FEST AND OPEN HOUSE

JOIN IN THE FUN AT THE 4TH ANNUAL Safety Festival and Creekside Open House on Saturday, August 21, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

GET ACQUAINTED WITH CREEKSIDE

PERSONS 55 AND OLDER ARE INVITED to a fall kick-off orientation on Wednesday, September 1, from 10 - 11 a.m. Tour Creekside, enjoy a cup of coffee and learn about the Human Services' Senior Program. "Get Acquainted with Creekside" sessions meet the first Wednesday of every month.

COMPUTER CLASSES AND OPEN LAB

CONTACT CREEKSIDE FOR A LIST OF computer classes that are tailored for older learners. To brush up on your computer skills, the computer lab is open Mondays, from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Lab cost is \$3.

CLASSIC COUNTRY MUSIC JAM

SING, LISTEN OR PLAY ALONG. CREEKSIDE becomes home to the Classic Country Music Jam on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Bring your instrument (guitar, bass guitar, harmonica, banjo or fiddle) and plan to have a good time.

LIFE IS LIKE A VALUED PATCHWORK

LIFE IS LIKE A VALUED PATCHWORK programs are held on Wednesdays, from 9:15 - 10:30 a.m. Cost is \$3 and includes a continental breakfast. To register, call Creekside. For transportation, call 952-563-4948.

REVERSE MORTGAGES

September 22

If you are age 62 or over, find out how you can convert your home equity into tax-free income, keep the title and make no payments as long as you live in your home. Reverse Mortgage Specialist Matt Martin will present.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE A COMMUNITY THAT CARES

POLICE EXPLORER RECOGNITION AWARDS PRESENTED TO YOUTH AND VOLUNTEERS



LAST SPRING, BLOOMINGTON VOLUNTEERS AND YOUTH ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN THE Explorer Program were presented with the following awards: Viking Council Leadership Awards went to Officer Jim Caauwe, Advisor; Drew Rodiles, Community Service and Niroshan Senanayake, Explorer. At the 2004 Law Enforcement Explorers Conference, awards were presented to Jesse Makela, first place Timed-Fire Shooter; Ashley Brunner, first place Sample Police Exam and Theresa Peterson, second place Female Runner.

Explorers are youth, ages 15 to 20, who are interested in learning more about law enforcement. For more information on the Explorer Program, call Sergeant Chuck Gollop at 952-563-2202.



DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER FEATURES, EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

HUMAN SERVICES CELEBRATES DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH IN October with activities and events. The goal of this month-long effort is to provide an opportunity for all people with disabilities to learn about job requirements, obtain information about job placement and training programs, find out about community advocacy programs and educate businesses about the benefits of hiring individuals with disabilities. For a complete listing of activities offered throughout the community, visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us. For more information, call 952-563-4957 V/TTY.



DISABILITY AND ABILITY AWARENESS PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

DISABILITY AND ABILITY AWARENESS PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR BLOOMINGTON youth of all ages. These activity-based programs provide opportunities for children to learn what it may be like to have a disability and effective ways of working with family or community members with disabilities. For more information, call Denise Royer at 952-563-4957 V/TTY.

BLOOMINGTON YESTERDAY

COMANCHE DRIVE-IN SEPTEMBER 1956

MAD DOGS AND 5-CENT ROOT BEERS WERE ON THE MENU at the former Comanche Drive-In, located at the corner of 78th Street and Lyndale Avenue South. The A&W franchise was only four months old when this photo was taken in 1956. The drive-in was demolished in 1967, but rebuilt the following year. The Nankin Express moved into the site in 1984, but not for long. The building was removed in 1987 to make way for what stands there today, the Bloomington Acura automobile dealership.



Minnesota Historical Society



HONORING LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

THE BLOOMINGTON HUMAN RIGHTS Commission is seeking nominations for the Omar Bonderud Human Rights Award. The Commission will honor an individual or organization (business, volunteer group or religious group) that has demonstrated leadership in promoting human rights in our city. The award recipient will be publicly recognized and receive a plaque. The deadline for Omar Bonderud Award nominations is September 17. To receive a nominee application, call Bev Thompson at 952-563-8733; 952-563-8740 V/TTY or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Bonderud.



RIVER RENDEZVOUS A STEP BACK IN TIME

COME JOIN THE FUN AT POND-DAKOTA MISSION PARK, 401 E. 104TH STREET, ON **Saturday, September 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** Enjoy a walk through 200 years of history at River Rendezvous. See costumed re-enactors as they portray the life and times of those who took part in the development of Minnesota and the American West. Throw a tomahawk, play the Native American game of lacrosse and participate in hands-on demonstrations. For more information, call Parks and Recreation or visit www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Rendezvous.

CONTACT PARKS AND RECREATION AT 952-563-8877 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE ACTIVITIES.

ADULT SPORTS

FALL TENNIS LESSONS

When: Session I:
September 8 - October 17.
Session II:
October 20 - November 28.
Time: Call Parks and Recreation for details.
Where: Northwest Athletic Club,
1001 W. 98th St.
Cost: \$53.

WOMEN'S AND CO-REC VOLLEYBALL

LEAGUES FORM IN September. Play begins Monday, October 13. Cost is \$410 refereed and \$255 recreational. Sign up by Friday, September 12. For more information, call Parks and Recreation.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND SPORTS

AR&LE

THE ADAPTIVE RECREATION & LEARNING EXCHANGE (AR&LE) PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES for individuals with disabilities to participate in recreational and educational programs. These opportunities are for people with varied ability levels in specially designed programs that meet their needs. For more information, call Parks and Recreation.

YOUTH HOCKEY

NEW THIS YEAR – JOINT REGISTRATION! HOCKEY REGISTRATION FOR ALL YOUTH IN Bloomington will be held at the Bloomington Ice Garden, 3600 West 98th Street.

Registration dates:

Saturday, August 21, 9 a.m. - noon.
Wednesday, August 25, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday, August 31, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call Kennedy's Michelle Booth at 952-888-5924 or Jefferson's Don Cameron at 952-881-6600.

SPORTS HALL OF FAME

BLOOMINGTON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION SALUTES VOLUNTEERS

EACH YEAR BLOOMINGTON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION INDUCTS ONE OR MORE PERSONS into the Sports Hall of Fame. The award honors men and women who have contributed their time and energy to the growth of amateur sports in the city.

When: Thursday, October 21.
Where: Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 W. 79th St.
For more information, call Diane Moe at 952-563-8892.

THANK YOU! TO EVERY INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE SPONSOR OF SUMMER FETE



CORPORATE SPONSORS

Bloomington Convention & Visitors Bureau
CenterPoint Energy Minnegasco
Comfort Inn - Airport
Delegard Tool Co.
Everett McClay VFW Post 1296
Feldmann Imports
Micron Molding
Presbyterian Homes of Bloomington
Richfield/Bloomington Credit Union
Saturn of Bloomington
SuperCash
Time Warner Cable
Toro Co.
United Properties
Wal-Mart
Wentworth Properties
Xcel Energy
Ziegler, Inc.

The Police Department would like to recognize the Bloomington Police Reserve Unit for an outstanding job and for volunteering their time coordinating traffic at the annual Summer Fete over the July 4th holiday weekend.

BLOOMINGTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS

BLOOMINGTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS IS LOCATED IN THE BLOOMINGTON CIVIC PLAZA AT THE CORNER OF WEST 98TH STREET AND Old Shakopee Road. This first-class facility houses eight organizations that comprise the Bloomington Fine Arts Council (BFAC). For more information, call the BFAC at 952-563-8567.

BLOOMINGTON ART CENTER

EXHIBITIONS

Hours: M - F 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sa 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Su 1 p.m. - 10 p.m.



Untitled pastel by Yuri Arajs

INEZ GREENBERG GALLERY

Running through August 27, **A Fine Line** features artists Yuri Arajs, Anne Spooner and Randy Walker.

September Splendor highlights the **Minnesota Watercolor Society, September 3 - October 8.**

ATRIUM GALLERY

Visit the second floor to view these exhibits.

- **August 11 - September 24, Dreams of Africa: and Other Experiences** with artist Del Bey.
- **September 30 - November 12, When You're on a Holiday** features artist Darcy Lazinski Farah.

PERFORMANCE

BLACK BOX THEATER

Coming Home, a performance of poetry, music and dance will be held **Saturday, September 25, at 7:30 p.m.** Tickets are \$7.

FOUR SEASONS PERFORMANCE SERIES

YOUR TICKET TO THE ARTS IN BLOOMINGTON

WANT AN EASY, AFFORDABLE OPPORTUNITY TO SAMPLE A VARIETY OF PERFORMING arts presented in Bloomington? The Four Seasons Performance Series, sponsored by HealthPartners, is a unique season ticket that features BFAC events, all for one low price. You choose the dates, the shows and the seats. The package includes a ticket to the band, the ballet, a Broadway musical, youth choir concert, a play and two adult choir programs during the 2004-2005 season. Order tickets beginning July 15. Cost is \$65 and includes seven events.

BLOOMINGTON CIVIC THEATER

MAME

HER WILD, ADVENTUROUS SPIRIT IS INSIDE EVERYONE WHO LIVES FOR THE MOMENT AND believes that "life is a banquet!" **Mame** will be presented **August 26 - September 19, Thursdays - Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.,** at the **Schneider Theater.** Cost is \$24 adults; \$21 seniors and \$18 students. For tickets, call 952-563-8575 or visit www.bloomingtoncivictheatre.com.



CONTINENTAL BALLET COMPANY

Continental Ballet Company was founded in 1988 by Riet Velthuisen, a native of Holland and former dancer with the Dutch National Ballet. The Company has toured more than 35 Minnesota cities with an annual attendance of 10,000. Performers are local, professional dancers. Continental Ballet Company also

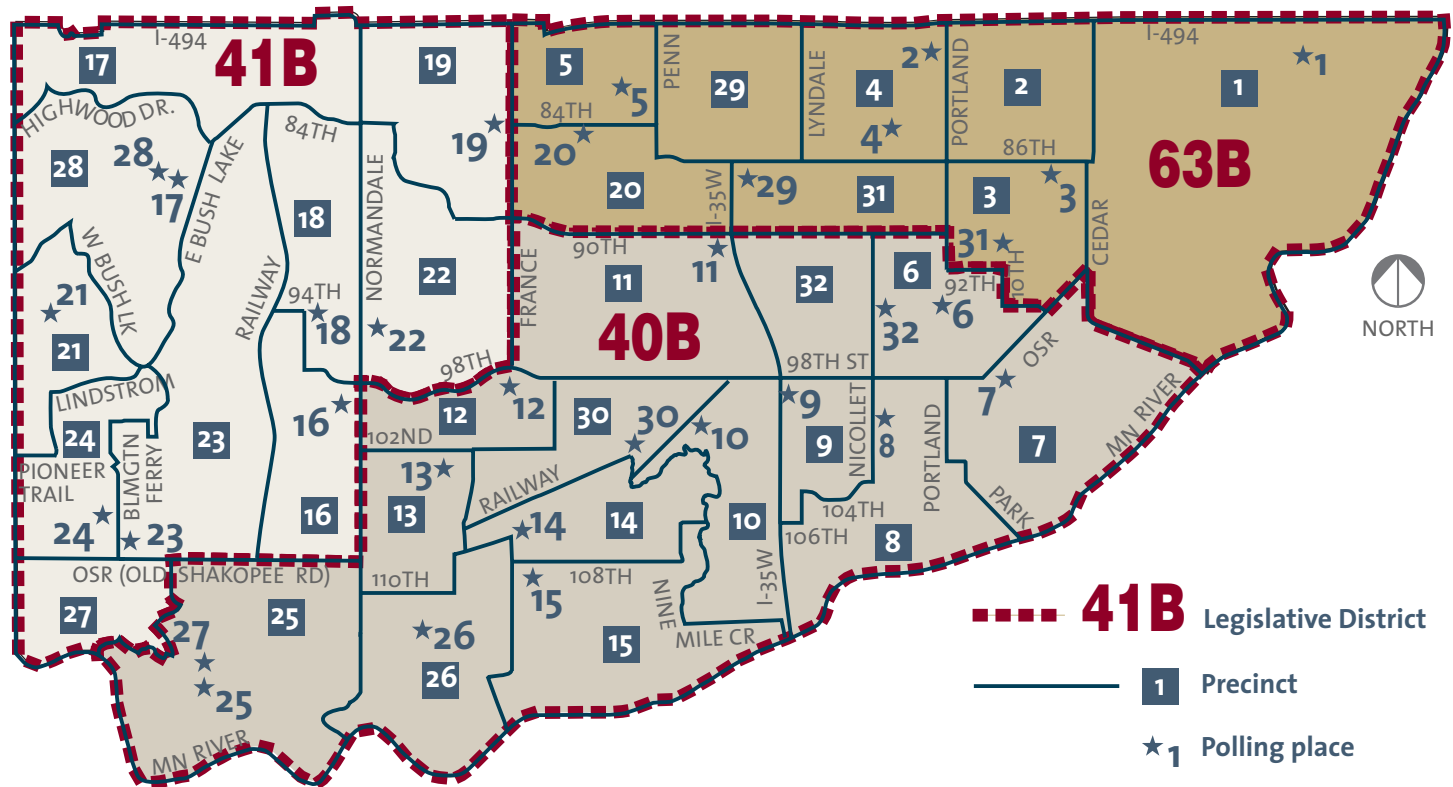
operates a studio of ballet that offers dance lessons for students of all ages and abilities.

INVITATION TO THE DANCE

Children and families are invited to study ballet at **Invitation to the Dance**, an introduction to Continental Ballet's studio and programs. Enjoy a performance, a tour of the

facility and refreshments. Sign up for fall classes and meet the instructors. Invitation to the Dance is free and will be held Tuesday, August 31, from 7 to 8 p.m.

2004 BLOOMINGTON POLLING PLACES



41B Legislative District
 1 Precinct
 ★ 1 Polling place



2004 ELECTIONS

STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

Tuesday, September 14

STATE GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 2

Polling sites open
7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT

THIS FALL BLOOMINGTON CITIZENS will have the opportunity to exercise their right to vote for a number of federal, state and county offices.

Prior to Election Day, voters should verify their polling location.

See map. For more information, visit the City's Web site at

www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Voting, or call Voter Registration at 952-563-8729.

Who is eligible to vote?

You may vote if you are:

- At least 18 years of age.
- A U.S. citizen.
- A Minnesota resident for at least 20 days before the election.
- Not a convicted felon without your civil rights.
- Not under guardianship of the person, where you have not retained the right to vote.
- Not legally incompetent.

Can I register to vote on Election Day?

You can register at your polling place on Election Day with acceptable identification. For more information, visit the City's Web site or call the City Clerk's office at 952-563-8729.

Can I vote by absentee ballot?

You can vote by absentee ballot if you are unable to vote in person on Election Day because you are:

- Away from home.
- Disabled or ill.
- An election judge serving in another precinct.
- Unable to go to the polling place due to a religious holiday or beliefs.

Applications for absentee ballots are available at City Hall or on the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keyword: Voting.

VOTING ASSISTANCE

VOTING ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE AT the polling places to accommodate persons with disabilities. Ask the election judges for assistance if you need:

- Help to read or mark your ballot.
- Use of a magnifying device.
- Use of a chair at the voting booth.
- Curbside voting.

All polling places are accessible, with clearly marked doors and parking spaces.

Precinct/Polling location	Entrance/Parking
1 MN Valley National Wildlife Refuge 3815 East 80th Street	West entrance Visitor lot (W)
2 Portland Avenue Methodist Church 8000 Portland Avenue South	Main entrance West lot
3 Cedar Valley Church 8600 Bloomington Avenue	North entrance North lot
4 Emmaus Lutheran Church 8443 2nd Avenue South	East entrance East lot
5 Southtown Baptist Church 2600 West 82nd Street	Main entrance (E) East lot
6 Bloomington Lutheran Church 9350 Portland Avenue South	Main entrance South lot
7 Indian Mounds Elementary School 9801 - 11th Avenue South	Main entrance (N) Northwest lot
8 Riverside Reformed Church 10201 Nicollet Avenue South	North entrance East lot
9 Nativity of Mary School 9901 East Bloomington Freeway	NE sch. entrance NE lot
10 St. Luke's Lutheran Church 1701 West Old Shakopee Road	NE entrance North lot
11 Bloomington Christian Church 9000 West Bloomington Freeway	South entrance South lot
12 Crosspoint Church 9801 France Avenue South	Main entrance (E) East lot
13 Hubert Olson Elementary School 4501 West 102nd Street	Main entr. (NW) West lot – disabled use front drive
14 Mount Hope Lutheran Church 3601 West Old Shakopee Road	Main entrance (S) South lot
15 Westwood Elementary School 3701 West 108th Street	Main entrance (N) West lot
16 Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church 9920 Normandale Boulevard South	NE entrance (Left doors) North lot

Precinct/Polling location	Entrance/Parking
17 Peace Lutheran Church 8600 East Bush Lake Road	Main entrance North lot
18 The Church of St. Edward's 9401 Nesbitt Avenue South	SW entrance – upper level, SW lot
19 St. Stephen Lutheran Church 8400 France Avenue South	Main entrance (W) West lot
20 Washburn Elementary School 8401 Xerxes Avenue South	Main entrance NE lot
21 Sunrise Park Shelter 9401 Bloomington Ferry Road	Only entrance (N) North lot
22 Normandale Hills Elem. School 9501 Toledo Avenue South	Main entrance West lot
23 Community of the Cross Lutheran Church 10701 Bloomington Ferry Road	Main entrance (N) North lot
24 Bloomington Lutheran School 10600 Bloomington Ferry Road	Main entrance (S) S lot - disabled use East side
25 Bethany Missionary Church 6900 Auto Club Road	West entrance W and N lots
26 Southwood Center 4901 West 112th Street	West entrance West lot
27 Bethany Missionary Gymnasium 6900 Auto Club Road	Main entrance South lot
28 Bloomington Fire Station #6 8601 Lakeview Road	Main entrance N. lot and Street
29 Christ the King Lutheran Church 8600 Fremont Avenue South	SW entrance Southwest lot
30 Oak Grove Presbyterian Church 2200 West Old Shakopee Road	Main entrance Northeast lot
31 St. Bonaventure Catholic Church 901 East 90th Street (Social Hall)	Main entrance East lot
32 Oxboro Evangelical Free Church 9431 Nicollet Avenue South	North entrance North lot

PRECINCT LOCATIONS

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO SERVE YOU BETTER

AFTER EVALUATING VOTING EXPERIENCES of the November 2002 General Election, the City improved the election process and service to the voters of Bloomington. Actions were implemented in time for the 2003 City and School District elections, and included:

- Increasing the number of precinct polling locations from 26 to 32.
- Reducing the number of voters assigned to a polling place.
- Relocating some polling places to better accommodate voting.
- Purchasing additional voting booths.

Increasing the number of election judges assigned to each precinct. **Remember to verify your polling place before going to the polls.** For more information, call the City Clerk's office at 952-563-8729.