



City of Burnsville

Bulletin

Summer • 2014 • Volume 24 • No. 3

Neighborhoods

Page 2

- International Festival of Burnsville – Bringing Culture Alive
- Fire Muster Festivities Mark End of City's 50th Anniversary Celebration

Page 3

- Ames Center Events
- Recreation Highlight: Lions Playground to Receive 'Splashy' Addition This Fall
- Black Dog Road Closing, Going Green

Public Safety

Page 4

- Education Efforts Help Burnsville See Decrease in Apartment Blazes
- Burnsville Police Launch Online Crime Map
- Night to Unite to Again Strengthen Community Aug. 5

Page 5

- Brian Hasselman Named Burnsville 2013 Police Officer of the Year
- Four Officers Recognized by Dakota County Chiefs
- 2014 Burnsville Police Citizens Academy

Development

Page 6

- Burnsville Business Corner
- Chris Faste Hired as Burnsville Building Official
- EPA Administrator Visits Burnsville

Environment

Page 7

- City Compost Site Open for Buckthorn Disposal Select Weekends
- Fall Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day
- Help Monarch Butterflies and Other Pollinators
- Recycling Plastics is More Than Just Bottles

Community Enrichment

Page 8

- Municipal Primary Election Set for Aug. 12
- 2015 Budget Process Underway
- Birnamwood Golf Course: A Short-Course Summer Getaway

Burnsville Bulletin

Comments and questions about this issue of the Burnsville Bulletin can be sent by mail to the Communications Department, by phone to 952-895-4402 or email to marty.doll@ci.burnsville.mn.us.

City Meetings

Information on upcoming City Council and Commission meetings can be found at www.burnsville.org/meetings.

Meetings are subject to change and cancellation. Unless noted, all meetings will be televised on Burnsville Civic Channel 16 and streamed live at www.burnsville.org/meetings.

Community Pride is Foundation of Community Builder Award

Nomination Deadline Sept. 1



"This award represents the way different people get together to make something big happen." Dick Manley, one of the first recipients of the Community Builder award in 1998.

Burnsville's Community Builder award dates back to the mid-1990s, when a tone of community engagement was being set for the city. During that time, more than 1,000 volunteers worked on an in-depth visioning process to determine what Burnsville residents and businesses felt were the most important priorities for the community.

As this work was done, stories started to emerge about individuals and

groups who gave their time, talents and sometimes their money to help make Burnsville a better place.

"We realized there were numerous engaged residents and business owners who had been making a difference for a long time," explained Burnsville Mayor Elizabeth Kautz.

The story of one of the first award winners provides an example of the community pride the award represents. It started in 1998 when a young girl approached Mayor Kautz and exclaimed, "There isn't anywhere to skateboard!"

That girl, Heather Manley, was right. Children were not allowed to skate in public or private parking lots, and they couldn't skate on the streets, leaving them no safe place to skate with friends.

Long-time community volunteer – and Heather's father – Richard (Dick) Manley began working with youth to develop a business plan and generate \$50,000 in

funding for the project. He also helped the youth find partners and volunteers to help build a skate park in Burnsville.

According to Manley, his greatest takeaway was not the Community Builder Award he received, but rather, the way in which the kids worked with City staff and volunteers to create the Burnsville Skate Park.

While Heather admits that she was never the best skater, she is most proud of identifying a problem that she knew needed to be fixed.

"It's not important to get recognized for the outcome, you just do it to make something better," said Heather.

Her father's philosophy, of course, is the same, "We're all members of the community and inherently have a responsibility to provide leadership to make it more livable, viable and enjoyable."



The Burnsville Skate Park now attracts thousands of skating enthusiasts each year.

Nominations Open for Community Builder Award

Each year, the Community Builder Award is presented to individuals, community groups and businesses that "build a brighter future for Burnsville."

- There is no age limit
- Community groups and businesses may be nominated
- Burnsville residency is not required

Deadline for nominations is Sept. 1, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Find the nomination application at www.burnsville.org/communitybuilder. Awards will be presented at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 21.

When Can I Water My Lawn?

To ensure an adequate water supply in the hot summer months, the City of Burnsville has an odd-even lawn and garden watering policy.

Visit www.burnsville.org/watering for details.

Drinking Water Report Available Online

The City of Burnsville's annual Drinking Water Report is available online. The results from 2013 testing once again show that Burnsville is providing clean and safe drinking water from each of its water sources.

Full report at www.burnsville.org/waterreport

Individuals may request a paper copy by calling 952-895-4550.



Burnsville City Council:

Elizabeth Kautz	Mayor
Bill Coughlin	Council Member
Dan Kealey	Council Member
Suzanne Nguyen	Council Member
Mary Sherry	Council Member

City Manager:
Heather Johnston

Mayor/City Council Message Center:
952-895-4403

Email:
council@ci.burnsville.mn.us

Internet:
www.burnsville.org

Cable Television:
Burnsville Community Television
www.burnsville.tv

Social Media:
facebook.com/cityofburnsville
twitter.com/burnsvillemn
youtube.com/cityofburnsvillemn



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International Festival of Burnsville – Bringing Culture Alive

Saturday, July 12, 2014

The International Festival of Burnsville (IFB) provides an opportunity to become a part of a variety of cultures, one experience at a time.

This year, event-goers can transport back in American history to the post-World War II era with a unique style of blues. From there, it's off to the Middle East to celebrate the great art of belly dancing. Lederhosen are optional for the next cultural stop in Germany. African, Mexican, Chinese, American Indian and Latin American traditions, dance and music will also be on display.

In addition to musical and dance performances, the festival will also highlight ethnic food; cultural exhibits; and a family activity area with henna tattoos, face painting and more. The "Cultural Perspectives" art exhibit will also be on display in the Ames Center Gallery. An artist's reception is scheduled for Thursday, July 10 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. for this year's exhibit, titled "Bringing Heritage Home."

The International Festival of Burnsville Platinum Sponsors include the Burnsville Lions Club, Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment Grant, Comcast, Dodge of Burnsville, Frontier Communications, and the City of Burnsville.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation for the arts and cultural heritage fund.

To find out more about the 2014 International Festival of Burnsville visit www.intlfestburnsville.org.

2014 IFB Performers

- Jeff Ray and the Stakes – *Folksy Americana Blues*
- Sisters of the Sahara Middle Eastern Dance Ensemble – *Egypt*
- Alpensterne – *German*
- Tiyumba African Drum and Dance Company – *African Drum and Dance*
- Los Alegres Bailadores – *Mexican Folk Dance*
- Ha Family Lion Troupe – *Chinese*
- Native Pride Dancers – *Native American*
- Kalogerson Greek Band & St. Mary's Hellenic Dancers – *Greek Band and Dancers*
- Malamanya – *Caribbean/Latin American*
- Up Standing Stilts – *Roving artists*

2014 IFB Food Vendors

- Mediterranean Cruise Cafe
- D. Fongs
- Priscilla's Golden Ear
- Taquerias La Hacienda
- Tawakal Restaurant – *Traditional African Food*
- White Oak Wood Fire Pizza
- Hometown Creamery



When: Saturday, July 12, 3 – 9 p.m.
Where: Nicollet Commons Park
 12250 Nicollet Ave.
Cost: FREE

Support IFB by Purchasing Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets will be available Monday through Friday (8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) at Burnsville City Hall and at the International Festival of Burnsville Ticket Booth the day of the event. You need not be present to win.

Grand Prize:

- Round-trip United Airline ticket, valid for travel anywhere in the contiguous United States, Mexico and Caribbean (\$1,500)

Other Prizes:

- Two tickets for the Ames Center 2014-2015 "Angel Fund" series (\$300)
- Four rounds of golf at Crystal Lake Golf Course (\$164)
- Four passes to Nickelodeon Universe (\$124)
- \$150 of hair products from The Hair District
- \$150 Chianti Grill gift card
- \$100 Roasted Pear gift card
- \$100 Porter Creek gift card
- \$100 Valley Natural Foods gift card
- \$75 Car Care Package (\$50 Honest-1 Auto Care; \$25 Burnsville Auto)
- One-Year Costco Membership (\$55)



Los Alegres Bailadores performing a traditional Mexican Folk Dance.

Fire Muster Festivities Mark End of City's 50th Anniversary Celebration

35th-Annual Fire Muster Sept. 3-7

For 35 years, the Burnsville Fire Muster has entertained multiple generations with music, carnival rides, activities for kids and adults, local food and drink, public safety demonstrations, and of course – the fire truck parade that started it all!

This year, the event is taking on a special role, serving as the grand finale for the City of Burnsville's 50th Anniversary celebration.

"Our theme this year is to celebrate 50 years of the City of Burnsville," said Tom Taylor of the Burnsville Fire Muster Board. "We are looking forward to an event that all ages



The Burnsville Fire Muster wouldn't be complete without the fire truck parade that started it all!

can come to and celebrate. It kicks off with a community birthday party, and ends with an awesome fireworks show!"

While the five-day festival will include old favorites – the medallion hunt, Heart of the City Run/Walk (Saturday, Sept. 6), children's activities, safety demonstrations, live music and a carnival to name a few – 50th-themed activities will include:

Wednesday, Sept. 3:

- 7 – 9 p.m.
- City of Burnsville 50th Birthday Block Party with cake, ice cream, beer garden and concert featuring the "White Sidewalls" Nicollet Commons Park, 12550 Nicollet Ave.

Friday, Sept 5:

- 5 – 11 p.m.
- City of Burnsville 50th Anniversary Display

Saturday, Sept. 6:

- 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Fire Truck and Community Parades*
 *Burnsville families with roots back to 1964 or earlier are invited to participate in the parade free-of-charge. For more information contact email@firemuster.com
- 1 – 1:30 p.m.
- Burnsville 50th Anniversary Presentation and Reception**
 **For all Burnsville families/businesses/organizations with roots back to 1964
- 1:30 – 3 p.m.
- A Musical Melody of the Burnsville Era (1964-2014) by the "Rockin' Hollywoods"
- 10 p.m.
- 50th Anniversary Fireworks Show



For a complete list of events, parade routes and additional information visit www.burnsvillefiremuster.com. For more information on the City of Burnsville's 50th Anniversary visit www.burnsville.org/50.



The Burnsville Fire Muster has fun for the whole family, including live music, a carnival, parades and more!

When: Sept. 3 – 7
Where: Most events at Civic Center Park, Civic Center Parkway
Cost: Many events are FREE; Fire Muster Buttons can be purchased for \$5

AMES CENTER

For ticket information visit www.ames-center.com or call 952-895-4680

Rhythmic Circus: Feet Don't Fail Me Now

Main Stage • July 25–26 at 7:30 p.m. • Ticket Information: \$40 & \$30

“Feet Don't Fail Me Now” continues its rise from an underground percussive dance phenomenon to one of the most popular tap shows. This show features rapid-fire tap from four award-winning dancers, a one-man beat-box phenomenon and an infectious six-piece band that channels everything from funk to blues, and rock and roll to salsa.



Jekyll & Hyde

Main Stage • Sept. 24–26 • Wednesday–Friday at 7:30 p.m.; Friday at 2 p.m. • Ticket Information: \$62 & \$52

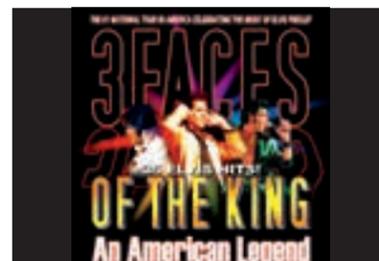
Glamorous and deliciously wicked, “Jekyll & Hyde” is the enthralling musical based on Robert Louis Stevenson’s classic story about a brilliant, but obsessive scientist whose alter ego wreaks havoc across Victorian London. Featuring a thrilling pop rock score including the unforgettable hit, “This Is The Moment.” Jekyll & Hyde has mesmerized audiences the world over.



3 Faces of the King: An American Legend

Main Stage • Saturday, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. • Ticket Information: \$59, \$49 & \$39

Experience what it would be like to have “The King” return to the concert stage to relive all of his greatest moments. “3 Faces of the King” is the national touring show that combines the three most exciting periods of Elvis’s iconic career. Relive the “Early Years” as he broke onto the world stage, the “1968 Comeback Special” and the glittering “Las Vegas Years,” each recreated in full costume and featuring the world’s most acclaimed Elvis tribute artists.



Recreation Highlight:

Lions Playground to Receive ‘Splashy’ Addition This Fall



The splash pad at Lions Playground, like this one at Apple Valley’s Kelley Park, will provide a fun way to cool off in the summer.

Who says cats don’t like water? During its April 22 meeting, the Burnsville City Council accepted a donation of \$70,000 from the Burnsville Lions Club to add a “splash pad” play area to the Burnsville Lions Playground in Cliff Fen Park (120 E. Cliff Road).

“Our club is committed to growing in the community as the service

needs require,” said Burnsville Lions Club Incoming President Steve Knudsen while presenting the donation. “We are committed to continuing to grow our partnership with the City of Burnsville.”

A splash pad is a water play area for people of all ages – with spraying fountains and other water features, but little or no standing water. Construction will begin in the fall, with the new play area being operational next spring.

Garrett Beck, Recreation Supervisor for the City, explained that splash pads are a trend in recreation and well-received in other cities.

“In Burnsville, we only have to look at the popularity of the water feature at Nicollet Commons Park to know that a splash pad at

Lions Playground will be a great addition,” said Beck. “It will provide a place for residents and visitors to play and cool off in the summer.”

Preliminary designs for the splash pad include an area that is approximately 2,000 square feet with 12 to 15 water features. It will also be designed to fit the look and theme of the existing Lions Playground structures.

Unlike a traditional water fountain, the splash pad won’t spray water all day. Beck explains that park visitors will be able to turn on different zones so that water only flows in areas where people are playing. Water will be completely turned

off at night, so it cannot come on after the park closes.

“It’s a great alternative to the expense, maintenance and management of a community pool,” said Beck.

Find new information on the splash pad as it becomes available at www.burnsville.org/lionsplayground.



Members of the Burnsville Lions Club present a \$70,000 donation to Burnsville’s City Council and staff to begin “Phase 2” of the Burnsville Lions Playground.

Black Dog Road Closing, Going Green

The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge along the Minnesota River offers visitors incredible views of wetlands and wildlife. Unfortunately, accessing the area via Black Dog Road (off of I-35W in Burnsville) has been a challenge. Visitors must often share the road with large trucks traveling to and from the Black Dog power plant.

Xcel Energy, which owns the plant, has recently decided to decommission coal-powered portions of the facility. This has provided an opportunity for the City to partner with Xcel Energy, Dakota County and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to create safer and more efficient recreational spaces for pedestrians, cyclists and nature lovers in the Black Dog area.

Timeline for a New Trail, Road Closure

The project calls for Black Dog Road to close to public access as early as July 2014 to prepare the area for a new paved hiking and biking trail

within the corridor. Xcel will take ownership of the road, which will become accessible only to Xcel-approved vehicles.

In 2015, crews will begin construction on a new park and trailhead on the west end of Black Dog Road near I-35W. The park will include picnic tables, fishing platforms and a parking lot. The first portion of a new trail, extending from the trailhead park to an area near the Black Dog power plant, will also be built. This portion will include an improved wildlife viewing outlook area.

The second half of the trail, from the power plant to a park near Cedar Avenue (which will be operated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources), will begin in 2016.

Once complete, the 3.75 mile paved trail will include several educational signs and a

scenic recreational area for walking or biking. The entire trail is expected to open to the public in the fall of 2016.

For more information on how the new Black Dog Greenway Trail will become part of a metro-wide trail system, read the full article at www.burnsville.org/recreation.



The new Black Dog Greenway Trail will be located along Black Dog Road between I-35W and Cedar Avenue.

Education Efforts Help Burnsville See Decrease in Apartment Blazes

On Dec. 22, 2008, a large fire engulfed and destroyed the 64-unit Burncliff Apartment complex in Burnsville. The cause – a short circuited wire on the building’s second floor.

The ignition source of one of Burnsville’s largest apartment fires seemed to be the exception, not the rule. Since 2006, the Burnsville Fire Department had been responding to an unsettling – and growing – number of multi-unit housing fires. Most, according to Burnsville Fire Marshal Doug Nelson, were much more avoidable than the Burncliff blaze.

“The primary cause of our multi-unit fires seemed to be coming from unattended stovetops and improperly discarded cigarettes,” said Nelson.

Stemming from the 2008 fire, the Department began an aggressive and proactive approach to dealing with multi-unit fires, starting with educating apartment managers and tenants about their dangers and ways to prevent them.

In 2011, those education efforts received a boost from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the form of a \$47,000 grant. Funds were used to purchase a number of “StoveTop FireStops” – automatic fire suppressors that easily affix to the underside of an oven hood – thousands of cigarette-extinguishing smoking buckets, and the

production of a fire education DVD in four languages – English, Russian, Somali and Spanish.

“We were able to use the grant to make a big push to prevent these types of fires,” said Firefighter/Paramedic Andy Hamlin, the grant’s writer and person directly in charge of implementing the program. “By getting these tools and messages out to our apartment communities, we felt like we could make a difference.”



Burnsville Firefighter/Paramedic Andy Hamlin discusses cigarette-extinguishing smoking buckets with multi-unit housing managers.

Two years later, the program appears to be exceeding expectations. The number of fires in multi-unit buildings has been cut in half, and property losses from fires in those same complexes have decreased by more than \$2 million annually (see sidebar). Only one injury has been connected to multi-unit housing fires in that time.

“While it’s hard for us to measure if this reduction is 100 percent related to this

program, the numbers are very promising,” said Nelson. “We are very confident that it is having an impact.”

One directly related success story took place last November. An unattended stovetop fire was quickly doused by a StoveTop FireStop – preventing the fire from spreading.

“These FireStops are inexpensive, available at hardware stores, and can save a lot of money, heartache, and perhaps a life,” said Nelson.

For more information on the Burnsville Fire Department visit www.burnsville.org/fire.



A November 2013 apartment fire was contained to the stovetop thanks to a StoveTop FireStop.

Multi-Unit Housing Statistics

(Measured April 1 – March 30)

	Average Number of Fires per year	Average Property Loss in Dollars per year
2006–2012	27	\$2,270,000
2012–2014	15	\$70,800

Keeping Neighborhoods Safe:

Burnsville Police Launch Online Crime Map

A recently launched online crime map and statistics tool allows Burnsville residents to get a better grasp of area crime.

The tool (powered by RAIDS Online) provides a map and grid that shows the location of and information on crimes in the area. It also allows residents to submit anonymous tips and sign up for neighborhood watch reports that are automatically sent via email and provide a breakdown of recent crime activity.

The product is a free service offered to any law enforcement agency that wishes to participate. The tool is meant to empower residents to better understand crime trends and help lower crime.

“An informed public is more likely to report suspicious behavior if they are aware of similar activities in their neighborhood,” said Burnsville Police Chief Eric Gieseke. “While Burnsville is proud to have a low crime rate, the ultimate goal of this product is to help make our community even safer.”

In addition to the website, residents can download the RAIDS Online Mobile application from their mobile device’s App Store.

To view the crime map visit www.burnsville.org/crimemap.



A screenshot of the Burnsville Police Department’s new online crime map.

Night to Unite to Again Strengthen Community Aug. 5

Night to Unite has a strong presence in Burnsville. The statewide initiative is designed to promote community safety; strengthen neighborhood spirit and community partnerships; and heighten the awareness of crime, drug and violence prevention.

Burnsville Police Sergeant Chris Wicklund has been visiting Night to Unite parties for 14 years. He believes that strong relationships create safer neighborhoods, and that Night to Unite



Sergeant Chris Wicklund visits a 2013 Night to Unite party.

is a way to begin those relationships, or strengthen those that already exist.

“It provides neighbors a chance to get together and discuss neighborhood issues,” said Wicklund.

“It also allows neighbors to get to know each other and to just be neighborly.”

A Sense of Community

Sara Peterson serves on the Board of Directors for her townhome association and has been instrumental in planning the association’s Night to Unite event since 2009.

“I’ve lived in this neighborhood for 15 years,” said Peterson. “I felt we lacked a sense of community and joined the board in an effort to change that. Night to Unite is a great opportunity to get people out of their homes to meet their neighbors – some of whom change year to year.”

Willow Pond Apartments has been hosting Night to Unite parties since 2000, with approximately 150-200 residents attending each year.

“It has really helped form more of a community feel and it’s nice to be able to give back to our

residents,” said Property Manager

Shannon Hutchins. “The Willow Pond staff barbecues, provides a DJ, face painting and lots of prizes.”

Creating Safer Neighborhoods

City staff try to visit multiple registered parties during the course of the night. While many residents love to see the fire trucks and police cars, it is also an opportunity for them to meet the people behind those vehicles who work to keep the community safe.

“We find that many people are more comfortable talking to us in the laid back atmosphere of Night to Unite,” said Wicklund.

Register a neighborhood party, get planning tips and find parties in your neighborhood at www.burnsville.org/NTU.

When: Tuesday, Aug. 5
Where: Your Neighborhood

Brian Hasselman Named Burnsville 2013 Police Officer of the Year

Officer Brian J. Hasselman has exceptionally served Burnsville since 2006, but it was in 2011, when he began patrolling the streets with his K-9 companion, Razor, that the pair became a fixture in the Burnsville Police Department. For Hasselman, Razor has been more than a pet – he’s been a partner.



2013 Burnsville Officer of the Year Brian Hasselman with Razor.

Working together, the duo helped apprehend multiple robbery and domestic violence suspects – and even track down evidence related to a homicide. In 2013, the pair took on more than 75 cases and attended numerous community functions and public demonstrations.

However, police work is both a mentally and physically challenging profession for humans and dogs alike. Officer Hasselman experienced this firsthand. Shortly after receiving a National Certification of Excellence in K-9 policing – the highest honors a K-9 team can receive – Razor was diagnosed with a career-ending disc injury in 2013, forcing him into early retirement.

“Razor was an incredible police dog. He was fearless and loyal,” said Hasselman. “He was a warrior and a true asset to the department. It will be tough working without him, but we will continue to work hard to serve our community.”

While dealing with this devastating injury to his partner, Officer Hasselman’s diligence and commitment to Burnsville never wavered. His continued work, dedication, service and relationships with the community were recognized by his fellow officers when he was named Burnsville’s 2013 Officer of the Year.

“Whether patrolling the streets, responding to emergency calls or even shoveling an elderly resident’s driveway after a snowstorm, Officer Hasselman has led by example with his positive influence and high level of enthusiasm,” said Burnsville Police Chief Eric Gieseke. “Even when faced with the devastating loss of his partner, Razor, he remained devoted to his profession and our community. We are very proud to have him represent our department as Burnsville’s 2013 Officer of the Year.”

Four Officers Recognized by Dakota County Chiefs

It started as an argument and turned into a standoff – then a foot pursuit – and ended with a bad guy behind bars.

On Oct. 8, 2013, Burnsville Police Officers Chris Biagini, Taylor Jacobs, Jared Kaspar and John Mott were called to a report of two men arguing. While on their way to the incident, the officers learned that one of those men had begun walking along a Burnsville street carrying a large black bag. Dispatchers also warned the officers that the man had been heard threatening to “fire off a warning shot.”

The four officers arrived minutes later and began to pursue the suspect on foot. When they located him, he was holding a handgun. Instinctively, the officers drew their firearms and commanded the man to drop his gun, stop walking, and to get on the ground. The man refused, and began walking toward the officers.

During this tense moment, the officers believed they would need to fire to stop the suspect. However, they held their ground, and the man eventually threw his gun and duffel bag and fled.



Pictured (from left to right): Burnsville Police Chief Eric Gieseke, Officers Taylor Jacobs, Chris Biagini, John Mott and Jared Kaspar.

Officer Mott deployed his Taser. The man fell to the ground, but regained his footing and continued to run.

Officers Biagini and Jacobs also deployed their Tasers, but the man continued to flee. Officer Mott then fired a second Taser cartridge, finally taking the suspect to the ground. After a brief struggle, he was taken into custody.

Officers recovered the man’s handgun as well as other weapons and large amounts of marijuana. The man was charged with felony amounts of marijuana, obstruction of the legal process with force, gross misdemeanor possession of a firearm and fleeing police on foot.

Because of their quick decisions, bravery and ability to professionally handle an extremely stressful and dangerous situation, Officers Biagini, Jacobs, Kaspar and Mott were recognized with an “Award of Honor” by the Dakota County Chiefs of Police Association on April 11.

2014 Burnsville Police Citizens Academy

Experience A Day in the Life of a Burnsville Police Officer



Citizens Academy students search for a suspect in one of many hands-on scenarios.

“Citizens Academy is an opportunity for our residents to go through a mini police academy,” explained Burnsville Police Chief Eric Gieseke. “It’s an opportunity for them to walk in our shoes to see what we do as police professionals.”

Students who participate in the 11-week course get to handcuff classmates,

get behind the wheel of a squad car for emergency and pursuit driving lessons, participate in police response scenarios, test their skills at the indoor shooting range and take part in a Taser demonstration. (Getting tased is not required – but is optional!)

This academy is sure to appeal to those who live on adrenaline, but it is truly meant for all.

“We’ve had students ranging in age from 20 to 73,” said Sgt. Chris Wicklund, Citizens Academy coordinator. “It is a program that anyone who is active and willing to participate can learn from and enjoy.”

The academy consists of hands-on classes meant to familiarize participants with police work and how the community can help prevent

crime. The academy is taught by Burnsville Police Officers and participants are asked to make a commitment to attend each session.

Topics include:

- Traffic stops and DWI demonstrations
- Officer survival and use of force
- Driving course
- Police scenarios, Taser demonstration and indoor range shooting
- Review of common police calls, laws of arrest and handcuffing procedures
- Functions of patrol, investigations, SWAT, physical evidence team, domestic abuse response team, negotiators, bike patrol and K-9 units
- History and tour of the Burnsville Police Department

For more information or to apply for Citizens Academy visit www.burnsville.org/academy. For questions contact Sgt. Chris Wicklund at 952-895-4596.

Who: Adults 18+ who live or work in Burnsville
When: Thursday nights, Sept. 4 – Nov. 12
Where: Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Parkway
Cost: FREE
Applications are due Saturday, Aug. 9

BURNSVILLE BUSINESS CORNER

Burnsville Development Update

County Road 42 in Burnsville is continuing its tradition of being a major draw for business – and a retail hub south of the river. A few new attractions popping up this summer/fall include:



Planet Fitness opened in late March in the former Ultimate Electronics building at 14250 Burnhaven Drive, and boasts more than 800 locations nationwide.

Francesca's offers women's apparel, accessories and jewelry and opened in the Burnsville Center in May.

Lucky's 13 Pub will also call the Burnsville Center's upper level home this summer with the opening of their fifth restaurant.

H&M is a Swedish multinational clothing and home-furnishings retailer with stores in 53 countries and will open an 18,000-square-foot store in the Burnsville Center this fall.

Total Wine will open a 28,000-square-foot liquor retail establishment this fall next to Target in the Burnhaven Mall.

Welcome to These New Burnsville Businesses

- Caring Hands Travel
- Caring Transitions
- Cambria Mortgage
- Francesca's
- GLI (Good Look Ink)
- Lumber Liquidators
- Pet Salon Bark Avenue
- Plan Auto Sales
- Planet Fitness
- Prince of Peace Dental Clinic

If you have a new business in Burnsville contact Economic Development Coordinator Skip Nienhaus at 952-895-4454 or skip.nienhaus@ci.burnsville.mn.us to schedule a welcome visit.

Heart of the City Parking Deck to Expand



The Heart of the City Parking Deck, located next to the Ames Center off of Nicollet Avenue, will undergo an expansion starting in late summer/early fall. Increases in attendance at the Ames Center, usage of Nicollet Commons Park and area business traffic have

made the timing right to add on to the parking deck.

When first constructed, the second level of the deck was only partially built to allow for expansion as parking needs increased. Expansion plans also call for creating a walkway from Pillsbury Avenue to the deck's upper level as well as installing additional LED lighting and security cameras.

Grants from the Dakota County Community Development Agency (CDA) and the State will pay for nearly half of the expansion cost.

Business Realtors 'Get on the Bus!'

Did you ever wonder how Burnsville continues to attract new businesses? One of the reasons is the Burnsville Commercial Real Estate Council (BCREC). Twenty years ago, Burnsville property owners, the Burnsville Chamber of Commerce and the Burnsville Convention & Visitors Bureau came together to form BCREC, which partners with the City to promote the merits of Burnsville to the business community.



On May 22, BCREC sponsored a bus tour of Burnsville buildings for 50 commercial brokers. The brokers toured the buildings and were provided leasing information they could then share with potential clients.

The BCREC partnership and its yearly marketing efforts are unique to Burnsville, and one of the reasons the city averages 40 new businesses each year.

Chris Faste Hired as Burnsville Building Official



In April, Chris Faste was hired to oversee Burnsville's Protective/Building Inspections Division. As Building Official, he will be responsible for ensuring building safety and community character by reviewing construction plans and enforcing zoning and building code regulations.

Faste is in his 23rd year of public service, having previously worked for Olmsted County (Minn.), the City of Minnetonka and the University of Minnesota. He holds a Bachelor's degree from St. Cloud State University and is certified as a Minnesota State building official.

His previous positions have been in the areas of field inspections, construction plan review, building code instruction, and committee work to develop continuing education in building codes.

Chris Faste was hired in April as Burnsville's new Building Official

For more information on Burnsville's Protective/Building Inspections Division visit www.burnsville.org/permits.

Planning Residential Building Projects This Summer?

Please allow up to two weeks for "plan review" at City Hall.

EPA Administrator Visits Burnsville

In May, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Gina McCarthy came to Burnsville, where she visited with Mayor Elizabeth Kautz, City staff, Xcel Energy, Dakota Electric and Great River Energy officials on a number of environmental and sustainability topics.

The visit began with an overview of large-scale environmental issues and initiatives impacting Burnsville – including:

- The continued attempts to properly close Freeway Landfill, as well as the environmental and economic benefits that would result
- The City's use of surface water and its drinking water-sharing partnership with the City of Savage, Kraemer Mining & Materials and the State of Minnesota
- Birnamwood Golf Course's renowned Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Certification
- Burnsville Ice Center's geothermal system
- Burnsville's comprehensive sustainability plan

Xcel Energy, Dakota Electric and Great River Energy also provided updates of their work in Minnesota.

The visit concluded with a tour of Freeway Landfill and the Kraemer Quarry surface water site, before Director McCarthy left for a second meeting in St. Paul, Minn.



Like Burnsville's resident superhero, "Sustainability Man," EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy visited the City of Burnsville in search of "green projects and sustainable resources."

Pictured from left to right: EPA Region 5 Administrator Susan Hedman; Deputy Associate Administrator for Intergovernmental Relations Mark Rupp; Sustainability Man; EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and Burnsville Mayor Elizabeth Kautz.

City Compost Site Open for Buckthorn Disposal Select Weekends



Common buckthorn
(*Rhamnus cathartica*)

Buckthorn (pictured left) is an invasive plant that can wreak havoc on the environment.

In an effort to assist Burnsville's dedicated buckthorn busters, the City will open its compost site during the last weekend of each month, June through September. The compost site will also be open for buckthorn every weekend in October.

The site, normally closed to the public, will be open between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. and ONLY buckthorn brush will be accepted. The site will be open to Burnsville residents only.

The City compost site is located behind the businesses at 121st Street and Pleasant Avenue, next to the City archery range.

The City compost site is open for buckthorn drop-off

- June 28-29
- July 26-27
- Aug. 30-31
- Sept. 27-28
- Oct. 4-5
- Oct. 11-12
- Oct. 18-19
- Oct. 25-26



The Burnsville compost site will be open select weekends for buckthorn brush disposal.

For a map to the compost site, images of buckthorn, removal tips and more information visit www.burnsville.org/buckthorn.

Take Back Your Woods

How to Win the Buckthorn Battle

During this City-sponsored workshop, led by Cheryl Culbreth of Landscape Restorations, Inc., learn how to successfully remove buckthorn, how to bring back native plants and what City programs are available to assist with buckthorn removal.



Cheryl Culbreth is an expert in woodland restoration.

When: Tuesday, Sept. 9, 6:15 – 7:15 p.m.
Where: Burnsville City Hall
 100 Civic Center Parkway
Cost: FREE — Open to Burnsville Residents Only
 Register by calling 952-895-4550.

Save the Date for the Fall Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day



Materials to be accepted include household hazardous waste, appliances, scrap metal, electronics, tires, bicycles and documents for destruction.

For more information call 952-895-4511 or visit www.dakotavalleyrecycling.org.

When: Saturday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Where: City of Burnsville Maintenance Center
 13713 Frontier Court

Help Monarch Butterflies and Other Pollinators

Populations of monarch butterflies and honeybees are drastically decreasing, and many other insects are also on the decline. The reasons are complex, but likely include a continued loss of habitat and human use of pesticides.

While sometimes a nuisance, many insects are pollinators, and play a vital role in the environment. Without insect pollination, many plants would not produce fruits, nuts, grains or berries. Pollinators such as bees are especially important in the pollination of food crops such as apples, tomatoes and beans.

You can help pollinators by providing habitat for them in your yard. Native wildflowers provide the best food sources and can add charm to any landscape. To provide the most benefit for a variety of pollinators, include several kinds of wildflowers that offer a variety of colors, shapes and bloom-times.

For a list of pollinator-friendly plants visit www.burnsville.org/plants.



Monarch caterpillars feed exclusively on milkweed. Plant some butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) to make your yard monarch-friendly!

Recycling Plastics is More Than Just Bottles

When kids learn about recycling in school, they probably memorize "Paper! Plastic! Metal! Glass!" With more and more products on the market, it's hard to keep track of what fits in each of those categories. Below is information on recycling one of the most common materials—plastics.

Reduce Plastic Waste First

- Use reusable water bottles
- Bring reusable bags to the grocery store
- Buy in bulk to reduce packaging waste (and save money!)
- When purchasing products, look for products with the least packaging

What's New?

Recently, Burnsville's trash haulers began accepting more plastics in the recycling bin – including yogurt cups, cottage cheese and margarine tubs, berry and deli containers, empty medicine bottles, and clear plastic clamshell to-go boxes.

Bottle caps are now recyclable too! Empty the container and put the cap back on recyclable bottles such as milk, juice, soda, liquid detergent and shampoo. Plastic lids (such as on a margarine tub) are OK to leave on as well.

Plastic bags are usually NOT allowed in the recycling bin because loose bags get caught in the gears and conveyor belts at sorting facilities.

Instead, plastic bags can be taken to many grocery stores for recycling, as well as the Dakota County recycling center (The Recycling Zone, 3365 Dodd Rd, Eagan).

What Does That Number Mean?

Plastic containers usually come labeled with a recycling symbol or triangle with a number inside. The number describes the type of plastic used to make the product, and doesn't necessarily mean it's recyclable. Do not recycle Styrofoam, PVC pipes, plastic toys or containers that held a hazardous product (such as motor oil).

Call Dakota Valley Recycling at 952-895-4511 or visit www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org for the latest information on recycling and garbage. To see what plastics can be recycled visit www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org/curbside and click on your garbage company's logo.



More plastics have become recyclable recently, including plastic cups and yogurt containers.

Municipal Primary Election Set for Aug. 12

Voters to Choose Four City Council Candidates to Move on to General Election

Seven Burnsville residents have filed for two City Council seats up for election in 2014. The top four vote-getters in the Aug. 12 Primary will move on to the Nov. 4 General Election ballot.

The candidates, in alphabetical order, are:

*Incumbent

City Council

*Bill Coughlin

Wes Dunser

*Dan Kealey

Jake Nelson

Ron Oster

Cara Schulz

Ben Taheri

Burnsville City Council members are elected at-large. State law allows cities to hold a municipal Primary if the number of candidates is more than double the number of available seats.

Burnsville has 17 voter precincts. Please refer to the precinct map on this page or visit www.burnsville.org/elections to locate your polling place.

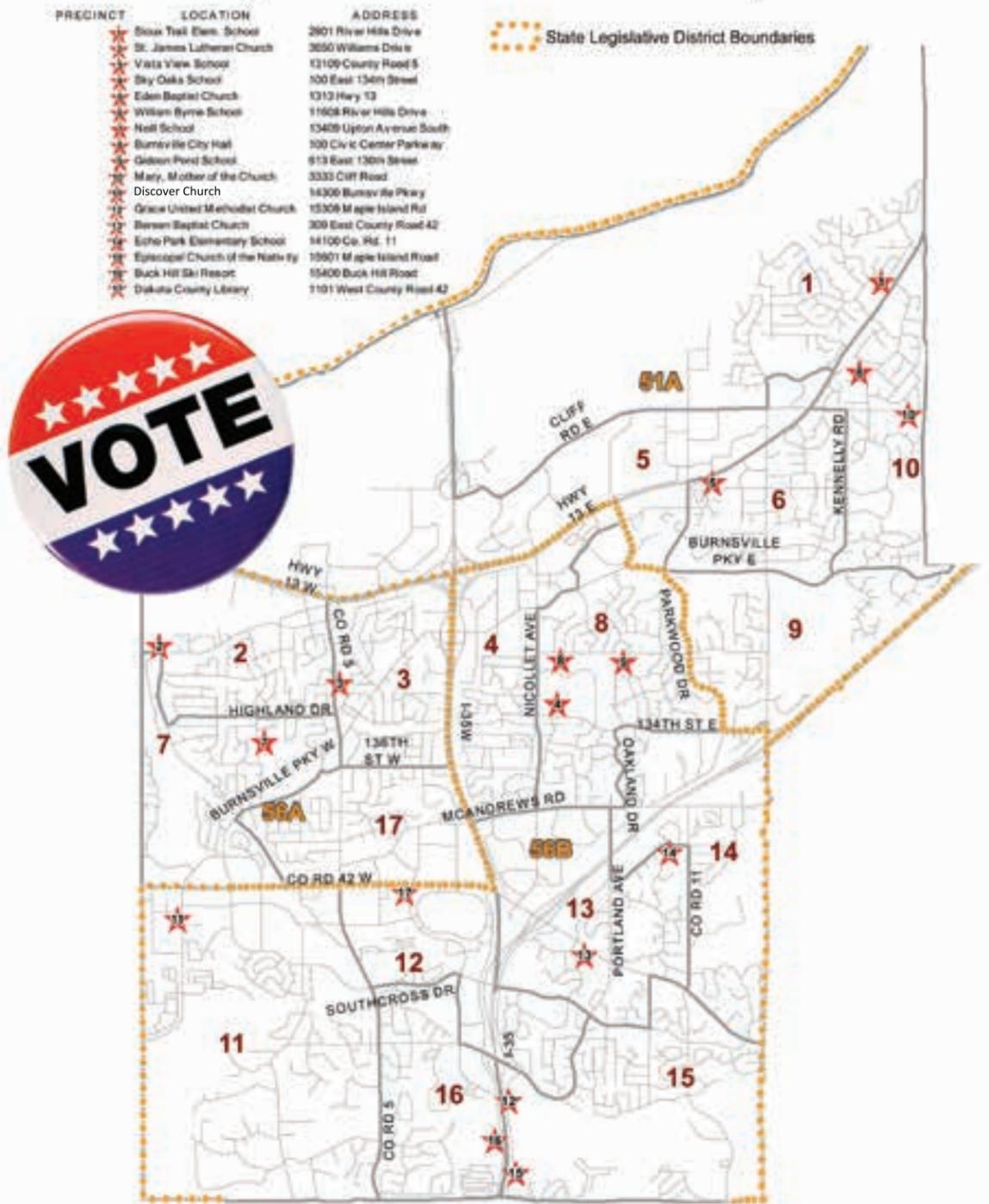
Visit www.burnsville.org/elections or contact the City Clerk's office at 952-895-4490 for more information.

'No Excuse Needed' for Absentee Voting

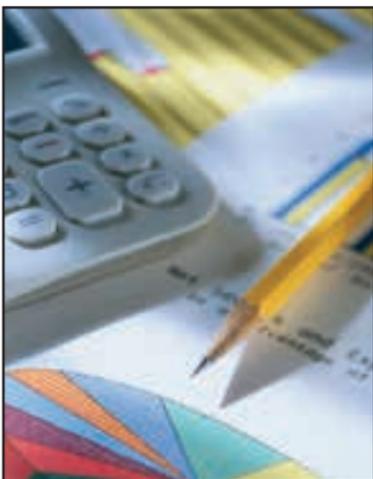
A new State law has removed the need for a valid excuse to vote absentee. Now, any resident who wishes to fill out an absentee ballot may do so at Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Parkway, during normal business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. City offices will also be open for absentee balloting on Saturday, Aug. 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and until 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 11. Absentee voting began June 27.

Absentee voting applications, as well as voter registration applications, can now also be completed online. Visit www.burnsville.org/elections to find the link to the State applications pages. Voters may also contact the Election Hot Line at 952-895-4433 or City Hall at 952-895-4468 to request an application for an absentee ballot via mail.

City of Burnsville Precinct Map



2015 Budget Process Underway



Every year, Burnsville's City Council and City officials develop a budget that ensures the City won't spend more money than it brings in, and places the highest priority on the most important services.

To give residents an opportunity to participate in the 2015 process, the City will once again hold a number of public meetings at City Hall. All meetings are also cablecast live and replayed on Burnsville Civic Television Channel 16 (for cable subscribers) and streamed online at www.burnsville.org/meetings.

2015 Budget Meetings

(Dates are subject to change)

- Monday, Aug. 11 Discuss possible level for the maximum property tax levy
- Tuesday, Sept. 2 Adoption of the maximum property tax levy
- Mid-October Video "Budget Open House" available online
- Tuesday, Oct. 28 Department presentations
- Monday, Nov. 10 Review and discussion
- Tuesday, Nov. 25 Review and discussion
- Tuesday, Dec. 2 Consider adoption of the 2015 budget

Find more information at www.burnsville.org/budget.

Birnamwood Golf Course:

A Short-Course Summer Getaway

Located on Burnsville Parkway and Parkwood Drive in Burnsville, Birnamwood provides a short-course getaway from work, and relaxation between other stressful summer activities.

A round of golf at Birnamwood takes less than two hours to complete, and the course offers great rates (\$12.75 per round Monday–Thursday). There are also reduced rates for juniors (ages 5-14) and seniors (age 62+). Reservations for tee times may be made up to a week in advance.

For more information on Birnamwood offerings visit www.birnamwoodgolfcourse.com.

Sign up for a tournament

- Fire Muster Junior Tournament: Wednesday, Aug. 27
- Birnamwood Two-Person Scramble: Saturday, Sept. 13

Plan your own tournament or birthday party at Birnamwood Golf Course. Call Dan Hill for details at 952-641-1370.

