



Music in Plymouth returns

Mark your calendar for the 46th annual Music in Plymouth Wednesday, July 11 at the Hilde Performance Center, 3500 Plymouth Blvd. Plymouth's summer classic promises an evening of musical entertainment in a beautiful outdoor setting. Entertainment begins at 5:30 p.m. with a variety of local favorites such as Monroe Crossing and Scottie Miller Band. The event is free. The evening culminates with a performance by the Minnesota Orchestra and a spectacular fireworks display. For details and to learn how to support this event, visit musicinplymouth.org. Check the next edition of Plymouth News for more information.



Election judges needed

Hennepin County residents are needed to play a vital role and serve as judges at Plymouth polling locations for the primary election Tuesday, Aug. 14 and the general election Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Election judges must be eligible voters. Paid training is provided. Under state law, people who would like to be election judges may take time off from work without loss of pay. Prospective judges must give employers at least 20 days written notice. For more information, call the City of Plymouth at 763-509-5000.



May 19: Bark in the Park

Bark in the Park is all about dogs, and features canine-centered activities, contests and vendors 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 19 at the Hilde Performance Center, 3500 Plymouth Blvd. The event is free. For more information, visit plymouthmn.gov/barkinthePark.

City looks toward the future of the Plymouth Creek Center, seeks input

Since it opened in 2000, the Plymouth Creek Center has emerged as an important hub of community life.

It has brought people together for senior activities, recreation programs, socializing and celebrating life's milestones.

After nearly two decades, the well-used activity center is in need of maintenance and updates – and its popularity means it is stretched to meet the demands and changing needs of a growing community.

With renovation and potential expansion on the horizon, the city is looking at what's next for the activity center. To gauge community interest and develop the best fit for facility users, the city is asking residents for help in shaping the center's future. Several community engagement tools will be available in coming



The Plymouth Creek Center site includes an activity center, fieldhouse and the Millennium Garden. The city is looking at how the facility can meet the demands of a growing community.

months to help residents share thoughts about whether the Creek Center needs expansion and, if so, what type of space will best serve the community.

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FlashVote gives Plymouth residents an easy way to provide feedback

If you can spare a minute or so a month to give feedback to the City of Plymouth, sign up for FlashVote – a new online survey tool that gives residents a quick and easy way to share input with the city. The newest addition to the city's community engagement toolbox, FlashVote will help the city hear from residents more frequently about an array of topics.

"It's a quick and convenient way for residents to let us know how we're doing and for us to garner feedback," said Administrative Services Director Laurie Hokkanen.

Fast Feedback

With FlashVote, residents sign up to receive surveys of no more than five questions that take about a minute or two to complete. At maximum, residents would receive 12 surveys per year. Because of the ease of the survey, FlashVote gives residents who typically don't interact with the city a greater opportunity to provide feedback.

FlashVote ... continued on page 4

National Hockey Tournament at PIC



In March, hundreds of hockey players, fans, media and coaches from across the country traveled to the Plymouth Ice Center for the 2018 USA Hockey National High School Tournament. The event showcased PIC's recent improvements on the national stage.

Emerald Ash Borer accelerates in Plymouth, make plans for trees now

The presence of Emerald Ash Borer was confirmed in Plymouth in 2015 and the infestation has since accelerated, putting all ash trees in Plymouth at risk. Residents with ash trees on their property are advised to act now to either treat or remove at-risk trees.

Most of Plymouth’s ash trees are on private property, and the city recommends residents contact an arborist to evaluate options.

What is EAB?

EAB is a small, invasive insect that infects ash trees and spreads quickly, typically killing a majority of ash trees in its path.

Are My Trees in Danger?

The first step is to inventory trees and determine whether ash is on the property. If you have any ash trees, they are in danger of EAB infestation.

While difficult to recognize in early stages, there are telltale signs that EAB has infected a tree. It’s easiest to spot signs of EAB in the fall, winter and spring, when leaf coverage is minimal. Look for bark splitting, canopy thinning and small D-shaped exit holes. Also note increased woodpecker activity around trees – woodpeckers feed on EAB and often locate a colony before the experts can.

I Have an Ash Tree – What Should I Do?

Develop a Plan. There are basically two options for property owners with ash trees – begin a course of treatment, or plan for the tree to be removed. A plan should be developed immediately. If you wait until EAB is confirmed in your neighborhood, it is likely too late for treatment to be effective.

Treatment. A two-year insecticide treatment costs roughly \$100-250, depending on the size of the tree. This treatment will likely be necessary for the remainder of the tree’s life. Contact a private contractor for treatment options.



The infestation of Emerald Ash Borer in Plymouth has accelerated and property owners are encouraged to act now and develop a plan for ash trees.

Less-expensive, do-it-yourself treatments are also available, though they are considerably less effective.

Removal. Tree removal should only occur during the inactive season for EAB (October to May). This reduces the threat of a colony relocating after the tree is hauled away.

Transporting Removed Trees. Wood from removed trees should not be transported outside the Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s quarantine area, which includes Hennepin, Ramsey and other metro counties. Observing the quarantine is crucial to stemming the spread of EAB.

City of Plymouth’s Role. It is the property owner’s responsibility to remove infested and hazardous trees on his/her property.

The City of Plymouth Parks and Forestry Division is charged with ensuring that infected and hazardous trees are removed (at the owner’s expense) if a property owner neglects to do so.

For more information about EAB and property owner options, visit plymouthmn.gov/eab.



Four Coffee with Cops events were held as part of the Police Department’s increased community outreach.

Police and residents share cups of coffee

Continuing with its initiative to increase community engagement, the Plymouth Police Department held four Coffee with Cops events this spring. At the events, police officers stopped by coffee shops in the area and answered questions, gave tours of squad cars and chatted with residents.

Coffee with Cops is a continuation of the department’s increased focus on maintaining trust between law enforcement and the community it serves. Toward this goal, the department has adopted the 21st Century Policing model, which identifies pillars to modify and enhance law enforcement practices, including Building Trust and Legitimacy, Policy and Oversight, Technology and Social Media, Community Policing and Crime Reduction, Officer Training and Education, and Officer Wellness and Safety.

Stay tuned for information on other upcoming events and learn more about 21st Century Policing at plymouthmn.gov/21stCenturyPolicing.

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Serving a Growing Population

The Creek Center was originally designed to allow for a potential expansion project based on expected population growth. Since it was constructed, Plymouth’s population has increased by more than 10,000. That growth has spiked Creek Center usage, and has left the existing building struggling to meet the demand for space.

The facility currently hosts senior programs, recreation programming, weddings, rentals and more. Many of the building’s rooms aren’t suited to current recreation programming needs and participation levels. Additionally, rental demand has outpaced capacity.

Community Engagement

A feasibility study conducted last year examined growing concerns about the Creek Center’s ability to meet current and future needs. The study confirmed that high demand has caused programming limitations at the facility. However, before plans are developed or an expansion is considered, Plymouth wants to hear from residents.

“The Creek Center is hitting its usable life and the space is becoming restrictive,” Parks and Recreation Director Diane Evans said. “We want this facility to accommodate the community’s needs, and we are placing high value on the community’s input so those needs can be met.”

Input for the Creek Center will be collected several ways.

Social Pinpoint: An interactive, web-based feedback platform, Social Pinpoint will allow residents to help shape the specifics of a potential project by leaving comments and suggestions. Social Pinpoint can be accessed at plymouthmn.gov/PCCProject May 15 to Aug. 28.

FlashVote: An online survey tool (read more on page 1), FlashVote will be used to gauge community interest. A simple, one-minute survey will be sent to FlashVote users Tuesday, July 17. Residents will have 48 hours to complete the survey. To register, visit plymouthmn.gov/FlashVote.



Residents have numerous opportunities to give input on the future of the Creek Center, including a survey, open houses, interactive boards and more.

Open Houses: Residents are invited to three open houses at the Plymouth Creek Center, 14800 34th Ave. N.:

- 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, May 16
- 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, June 26
- 6-8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13

Interactive Boards: Interactive presentation boards will be available May 15 to Aug. 28 at the Plymouth Creek Center and the Parks and Recreation office at Plymouth City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Blvd. The boards will mirror information available on Social Pinpoint.

Residents are strongly encouraged to provide input throughout this process in one or more ways.

Once feedback gathering is complete and analyzed, findings will be presented to City Council, which will determine the project’s next steps.

Stay up to Date

Residents can stay up to date on the project, learn about ways to provide input and sign up for eNotifications at plymouthmn.gov/PCCProject.

Plymouth BUSINESS buzz

Here are a few Plymouth businesses that city officials recently visited as part of the city’s economic development outreach program.

Medivators, a **Cantel Medical** company in Plymouth, recently hosted Plymouth city officials. With 600 employees in four Plymouth locations, the company said there is a 60 percent chance that the water used by any dentist is filtered by a product made by Medivators.

City staff visited one of the fastest growing companies in the Twin Cities metro, **Comlink Midwest**. The business specializes in fiber optics installation. The Plymouth-headquartered company is developing a national footprint with expansion into cities such as Nashville and, potentially, Atlanta and Houston in the near future.

Turck recently expanded its campus off Schmidt Lake Road by 40,000 square feet to accommodate growth. The company is located in four different facilities across Plymouth and employs a total of 590 people locally, producing 900 different types of cabling.



Turck recently expanded one of its Plymouth locations by 40,000 square feet to accommodate growth.

Schmidt Lake Road expansion among summer road projects in Plymouth

For commuters regularly traveling Schmidt Lake Road near the Interstate 494 overpass in Plymouth, this summer will bring an expansion project to allow better traffic flow in the area.

As it passes under I-494, Schmidt Lake Road narrows to two lanes, which causes congestion during peak traffic hours. Beginning mid- to late-summer, crews will work to expand the section to four lanes between Cheshire Parkway and Underwood Lane North.

A dedicated left turn lane will be installed for motorists making turns from eastbound Schmidt Lake Road to Cheshire Parkway. The project will also include trail relocation, utility work, and mill and overlay from Fernbrook Lane to County Road 61.

During this project, Schmidt Lake Road will be impacted by closures. Drivers are asked to remain patient and follow detour signage carefully.

Fernbrook Lane

Fernbrook Lane will undergo mill and overlay work this summer from 34th Avenue North to Schmidt Lake Road. The project calls for resurfacing the road and improving traffic flow at the County Road 9 (Rockford Road) and Fernbrook Lane intersection by adding dual left turn lanes.

During this time, Fernbrook Lane will remain open to traffic, though motorists should expect periodic lane closures and shifts.



This year's road construction season includes an expansion project on Schmidt Lake Road, mill and overlay on Fernbrook Lane and other neighborhood projects.

Highway 55 Frontage Road

The Highway 55 frontage road between West Medicine Lake and South Shore drives will be reconstructed this year. The project includes a new roadway, water main, and curb and gutter. The west entrance of the street will also be realigned slightly to the north to connect with a new entrance near the Stone Creek at Medicine Lake Apartments. Access to local businesses will be maintained throughout the project.

Learn More about Projects

Projects affecting specific neighborhoods are also slated for this summer. To learn more about all projects, visit plymouthmn.gov/project-spotlight.

HAPPENINGS



Plymouth Farmers Market Returns – The Plymouth Farmers Market commences Wednesday, June 27. The market is open 2:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays through Oct. 10 at the Parkers Lake Playfield parking lot, 15500 County Road 6. More than 20 vendors provide fresh, locally grown produce and prepared food. Donations for the local food shelf will also be collected at the market. For more information, visit plymouthmn.gov/farmersmarket.

Plant and Pull Day – 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 19. Volunteer to help beautify Plymouth by planting flowers – even if you're not an experienced gardener. Volunteers will also help remove the invasive garlic mustard plant from woodland areas. To sign up, contact 763-509-5230 or volunteer@plymouthmn.gov.

Music in Plymouth 5K – 8 a.m. Saturday, June 30 at the Hilde Performance Center, 3500 Plymouth Blvd. Participants are encouraged to pre-register for the run online at active.com.

Racers, walkers and families are all welcome. Proceeds benefit Music in Plymouth. For details, visit musicinplymouth.org.

Entertainment in the Parks – This popular summer series of free events and activities, which includes concerts, the Minnesota Zoo Zoomobile, carnivals, parades and water ski shows, kicks off in mid-June.

For more information or a calendar of events, call 763-509-5200 or visit plymouthmn.gov/specialevents.



SEASONAL SPOTLIGHT

Odd-Even Water Restrictions – Outdoor water use restrictions are in effect from May through September in Plymouth. The city prohibits outdoor lawn watering from noon to 5 p.m. on all days. Water customers must also follow an odd-even schedule when sprinkling lawns. Homeowners and businesses with addresses ending in an odd number may water on odd-numbered calendar days. Those with addresses ending in an even number, may water on even-numbered days.

The restrictions apply to all city water customers. Automatic irrigation systems should be adjusted accordingly. For exceptions to the restrictions and

more information, call the hotline at 763-509-5512 or visit plymouthmn.gov/watering.

Yard Waste Site – The city-operated Yard Waste Site, 14900 23rd Ave. N., is closed Mondays and Tuesdays throughout the season. May through August, the site is open 3-8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Only Plymouth, Wayzata, Long Lake and Medicine Lake residents may use the site. Identification is required. The site closes for major holidays. For acceptable materials and more information, visit plymouthmn.gov/yardwaste or call 763-509-5930.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Volunteer!

The city is seeking volunteers who are:

Committed to giving back to the community. Provide Somali interpretation to residents about city services.

Friendly and love to provide good service. Help with children's carnival games during Kids Fest on Thursday, Aug. 2.

Interested in serving as a Police Explorer. Must be 14-20 years old and able to meet weekly during the school year to explore a career in law enforcement. Applications due Wednesday, Aug. 1.

Interested in serving as a Police Reserve volunteer. Assist sworn officers with traffic and crowd control, transportation of prisoners, surveillance and patrol activities, special events and other education programs. Must be 21 years or older, commit to 15 hours a month, have a clean driving record and pass a background check.

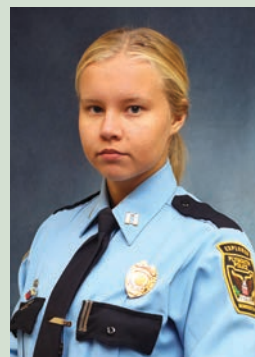
Passionate about the environment and green things. Adopt a park, trail or storm drain to keep clean. Help maintain gardens and landscaping around city buildings, including the Millennium Garden and playgrounds.

Passionate about public transit. Provide customer feedback as an anonymous ghost rider on Plymouth Metrolink or Dial-A-Ride buses.

Good at organizing activities and working with school-age kids in June or July. Instruct recreational tennis for beginners.

To find out more about these and other opportunities, visit plymouthmn.gov/volunteer or call 763-509-5230.

Take a Closer Look



Annika Tarnanen

Annika Tarnanen

Police Explorer volunteer

As a city of Plymouth volunteer, my job is to learn about law enforcement and apply skills both now and in the future for the betterment of my community. My fellow explorers and

I attend weekly meetings to learn how to handle various police situations such as crime prevention, traffic stops, and search and arrest. We are able to support the community throughout the year by participating in events such as Music in Plymouth and Night to Unite. At these events, our primary focus is to interact with community members in a positive manner, whether it's chatting with adults or playing a game of bean bag toss with kids.

My favorite thing about being a city volunteer is the sense of pride that comes with it. Being in the Police Explorer program has given me a deeper understanding of all the hard work that the sworn officers and Police Reserve volunteers do to make our community the wonderful place it is. I am proud to be able to contribute my part. Also, I've known I've wanted to go into law enforcement as a career from a rather young age. However, I didn't have much confidence about that decision because there was so much I didn't know about the field. Being in the Explorers program has given me the insight I needed to confirm that law enforcement is the career I would like to pursue.

Because Annika volunteers, Plymouth has a passionate and caring resource available to assist the Public Safety Department with day-to-day and large event needs.

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Easy to Access

Participants can choose to receive surveys via email, text message, phone call or by logging onto an internet browser. Surveys are open for 48 hours and residents can review citywide results 24 hours after a survey is closed.

“Our intent with this new tool is to cast a wide net to get resident feedback,” Hokkanen said. “Additionally, the results we collect will help us fine tune the way we work and provide information we need to make sure city services are high quality.”

Sign Up

To sign up, visit plymouthmn.gov/FlashVote. Registration requires that users create a login ID and password. All that is required to register is an email, first and last name, gender and year of birth. Many users provide their home address, though it is not required. After registration is submitted, users will receive an email containing a link they must click to activate registration.

Users can customize the method of delivery and time of day they receive survey notifications. Residents who choose to participate can also opt out at any time. User information is not shared with other organizations.

Happy Birthday America Parade

Children can bring their bikes, trikes and wagons for a special parade 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, June 27 at the Hilde Performance Center, 3500 Plymouth Blvd. Balloons and streamers will be provided, or children can bring their own supplies to decorate their parade rides. The event will be followed with a performance by Wendy’s Wiggle, Jiggle and Jam! at 11 a.m. on the Hilde Small Stage. The event is free and no registration is required.

Social Snapshot. A look at what you may have missed

The 2018 Winter Olympic Games in PyeongChang were a life-changing experience for Plymouth residents Dani Cameranesi and Kelly Pannek, who brought home gold medals with the U.S. Women’s Hockey Team.

In March, the City of Plymouth hosted a reception to welcome the athletes back to their hometown at the Plymouth Ice Center. Hundreds came out to the event to share congratulations, get autographs, take photos and see Olympic gold medals up close.

Photos and live video from the reception were shared on the city’s social media platforms, and generated a lot of buzz, including comments such as:

"Awesome achievement girls!! We are all proud of you!! Congrats!!"

"Congratulations Kelly and Dani. We are very proud of you both in Plymouth."

Be sure to follow the City of Plymouth on its social media platforms to keep up-to-date on all city news and to see other interesting stories and photos.



Facebook.com/plymouthmn @PlymouthMN_gov

The City of Plymouth uses new tools to engage residents

By Mayor Kelli Slavik

Residents communicate with the City Council and city staff several ways – phone, email, social media, letters, meetings and city events. Soon, residents will have two more options, FlashVote and Social Pinpoint. Both are part of an ongoing effort to share information and promote community engagement.

Those of us who serve on the City Council regularly make decisions that affect our city. And as we do our work, it’s always helpful to hear from residents across the community. We also understand it takes time to attend a meeting, write an email or make a phone call.

With that in mind, we are leveraging the technology of FlashVote to regularly push out simple surveys to all who register – and we hope everyone will take just a few minutes to sign up. We want to hear from as broad a swath of the community as possible.

We won’t overload your email inbox. At most, you’ll receive 12 surveys a year. Each will be five questions or less. And you can decide the best way to receive surveys – text, phone, email or by logging onto an internet browser (see page 1 to learn more).

Like FlashVote, we hope that Social Pinpoint helps engage more of the community as we consider the renovation and possible expansion of the Plymouth Creek Center (see page 1). While we are offering additional options to share feedback, Social Pinpoint will help tap the ideas of those who find it most convenient to share their thoughts using their computer, tablet or smart phone.

I hope you’ll check out both Social Pinpoint and FlashVote. Social Pinpoint will be available beginning Tuesday, May 15 at plymouthmn.gov/PCCProject.

Also, I encourage you to register now for FlashVote. To register, visit plymouthmn.gov/FlashVote.

Plymouth News is published bimonthly by the City of Plymouth to update residents and businesses on city government news.

City Council

- Kelli Slavik, Mayor
763-509-5007 (voicemail), kslavik@plymouthmn.gov
- Judy Johnson, Ward 1
763-509-5001 (voicemail), jjohnson@plymouthmn.gov
- Jeffrey Wosje, Ward 2
763-509-5002 (voicemail), jwosje@plymouthmn.gov
- Jim Davis, Ward 3
763-509-5003 (voicemail), jdavis@plymouthmn.gov
- Jim Prom, Ward 4
763-509-5004 (voicemail), jprom@plymouthmn.gov
- Ned Carroll, At Large
763-509-5005 (voicemail), ncarroll@plymouthmn.gov
- Jim Willis, At Large
763-509-5006 (voicemail), jwillis@plymouthmn.gov

Contact the City

Phone..... 763-509-5000

MN Relay (Hearing/Speech Impaired) 7-1-1

Hours:

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday

View Meetings

Live on Channel 16, 7 p.m.

On-demand video link at city website

City Council: May 8, 22 and June 12, 26

Planning Commission: May 16 and June 6, 20

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