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MOUNDS VIEW: City honors Arbor Day with tree planting PAGE 7



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The cast of "Mamma Mia" rehearses the first number of act 2. The show runs April 30 - May 3.

Here we go again: 'Mamma Mia' comes to the stage

BY CLAIRE LAMATSCH
SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

Get your tickets fast for the spring production of "Mamma Mia" at Mounds View High School. Every year, Mounds View High School theater students put on a musical performance to dazzle audi-

ences: this year is no different. The more than 100 students involved in the theater program are hard at work on their production of "Mamma Mia," which runs Thursday, April 30, through Sunday, May 3.

Based on the music by the hit '70s and '80s band, ABBA, "Mamma

Mia" follows a young bride-to-be, Sofie Sheridan, as she prepares for her wedding and discovers truths about who her father could be after spending her whole life without him. When she learns that she has three possible fathers, she decides to invite all of them to her upcom-

ing wedding without telling anyone in an attempt to better understand herself before her big day. Her mother, Donna, an independent and free-spirited single mom, is faced with the rekindling of old feelings when all three of them

SEE 'MAMMA MIA', PAGE 7

Residents speak out against proposed curriculum changes

BY MADELINE DOLBY
EDITOR

SHOREVIEW — Middle schoolers and their parents can expect to see a change in the curriculum within the next few years. One of those changes includes moving music from daily instruction to every other day for students in seventh and eighth grade.

The Mounds View Public Schools School District and middle school staff began exploring preadolescent development beginning in the 2022-2023 school year. As part of the school board's district operational goal (DOP), a consulting group, Education Elements, was hired to gather input from families, students and staff on middle school experience and programming.

Education Elements provided four recommendations to the school board (see sidebar for more information.) Over time, the district has been working to implement the recommendations at all three middle schools, Chippewa, Edgewood and Highview.

According to the school district, sixth graders at Highview Middle School are already following the new curriculum. Seventh and eighth graders at Highview Middle School will follow the curriculum next year. Edgewood and Chippewa will implement the structure by the 2028-29 school year.

During the most recent comments to the school

SEE CURRICULUM CHANGES, PAGE 5

The more you know: PFAS in Minnesota and its impact

BY MADELINE DOLBY
EDITOR

SHOREVIEW — Did you know that per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large family of "forever chemicals" that don't break down and are widespread in the environment?

PFAS enter and move through the environment in a variety of different ways. These chemicals can enter the environment through landfills; wastewater treatment plants; industrial buildings; firefighting foam; soil and household items such as aerosols, fabric and carpeting cleaner; cookware; and food packaging.

At the most recent Shoreview Environmental Quality Committee Speaker Series, Fawkes Char from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) provided an update on the progress made across the state to help reduce PFAS pollution.

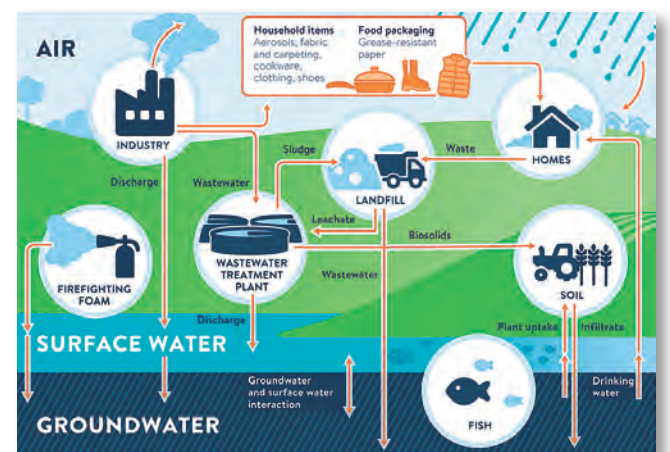
Char explained that PFAS are composed of chains of carbon-fluorine bonds and fall under a diverse class of compounds.

"Because there are so many ways to produce these PFAS, depending on whose definition you're using, we're talking somewhere between 14,000 to 7 million potential chemicals that fall into this class," they added. They also included that these chemicals all serve a different purpose.

The impact PFAS has on our health

PFAS have been used in consumer products since the 1950s due to their ability to make products water-proof, stainproof, nonstick, heat resistant and more. "They have qualities, as modern humans, that we have come to expect in a lot of our products,"

SEE PFAS, PAGE 9



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PFAS can enter into groundwater and surface water in various ways.

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MOUNDS VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL BOARD SNIPPETS

- A student representative from Mounds View High School announced that the math team placed third at the state tournament. Austin Wang, a junior on the math team, qualified to compete in the Math Bowl at the end of the state tournament, where he scored in the top 10 individuals in the state.
- The Irondale High School student representative announced the Irondale KnightKrawler Robotics team competed in the Northern Lights Regional competition earlier this month in Duluth. At the competition, the team placed second after 11 qualification matches and received the Engineering Inspiration Award. The award celebrates a team that demonstrates outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering within a team's school or organization and community. This is the first time the KnightKrawlers have received the award. Next, the team will compete in the World Championships, which will take place in Austin, Texas. KnightKrawler is currently ranked third in the world for championship qualification points.
- There were 15 gifts received this period for schools and programs for a total of approximately \$8,440. The Ralph Reeder Food Shelf received 33 gifts this period for a total of around \$93,004.
- Superintendent Chris Lennox announced that Mounds View High School Principal Rob Reetz was selected as the 2026 Minnesota High School Principal of the

- Year. Reetz will travel to Washington, D.C., to be recognized for his achievement. Lennox also announced that Irondale High School Principal Vichai Saefong has been selected as this year's capital division representative for the High School Principal of the Year Award. Saefong was selected by his peers based on his outstanding leadership, commitment to student achievement and dedication to fostering a positive school culture.
- The board approved the termination of probationary staff. Executive Director of Human Resources Julie Coffey said the termination of these staff members occurs due to a decrease or changes in enrollment, elimination of positions, performance, licensure or return from leave of senior teachers.
- The board also approved an agreement with SEIU, Local 284 for custodial services. Local 284 is the union that represents the custodian and buildings and grounds staff for the district. According to Coffey, the proposed settlement is a two-year agreement covering the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years. The terms and conditions of the agreement include a 2% increase in each year of the contract for probationary employees. Nonprobationary custodians and buildings and ground technicians received a 2% increase in year one. Custodians received a 3% increase in year two and buildings and grounds technicians received a 3.10% increase in year two. Coffey added the district contribution

- to the 403b was increased by \$500 effective July 1, 2026.
 - Executive Director of Curriculum and Instruction Angie Peschel, Director of Community Education Karl Brown and Ryan Monson, instructional support for Elementary Science and Technology, provided an update on the district's operational plan (DOP) goal for environmental and outdoor learning possibilities. Peschel said this goal has been met, and work around the goal will continue. The vision of implementing outdoor learning possibilities, according to Peschel, is to empower students to be curious investigators, critical thinkers and responsible stewards of nature through immersive, curriculum-aligned outdoor experiences. These outdoor learning programs will be available for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Participating students will engage in hands-on engineering (nest building), data collection (moon tracking) and evidence-based argumentation (habitat survival) to develop thinking skills. Next, Brown said district staff will work with building principals and teams to determine a feasible timeline and site vision for classroom spaces.
- The next Mounds View Public Schools School Board meeting will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, at the District Center, 4570 Victoria St. N., Shoreview. Public comments to the board will be at 6:30 p.m. before the meeting.

Madeline Dolby

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

ONGOING EVENTS

DROP IN MAH JONGG

When: 1 p.m. Thursdays

Where: Shoreview Community Center, 4580 Victoria St. N.

Details: Bring your tiles and your friends for drop-in play. All levels welcome. No registration required.

Contact: shoreviewmn.gov or 651-490-4700

500 CARD CLUB

When: Noon, Mondays

Where: Shoreview Community Center, 4580 Victoria St. N.

Details: Cards and conversation. No partner required.

Contact: shoreviewmn.gov or 651-490-4700

CURRENT EVENTS

'ONCE UPON A MATTRESS'

When: April 24-May 17

Where: Hanifl Performing Arts Center, White Bear Lake

Details: Lakeshore Players' presents a twist on the classic fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea". Ticket information online.

Contact: lakeshoreplayers.org

FIX-IT CLINIC

When: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 25

Where: Ramsey County Environmental Center, 1700 Kent St., Roseville

Details: Bring small household appliances, clothing, electronics and more to receive guided assistance from volunteers with repairs skills to troubleshoot and fix items. Last items accepted at 12:30 p.m.

Contact: 651-266-0200

SHOREVIEW NORTHERN LIGHTS VARIETY BAND SPRING CONCERT

When: 3 p.m. Saturday, April 25

Where: Bethel University, Benson Great Hall, Arden Hills

Details: "Sounds of Stage and Screen"-themed pro-



ENVIRONMENTAL SPEAKER SERIES

EQC SPEAKER SERIES: RAMSEY COUNTY FOOD SCRAPS PROGRAM

When: 7 p.m. Monday, April 27

Where: City Council Chamber, Shoreview City Hall, 4600 Victoria St. N.

Details: Learn more about how to put your food scraps to work with the Food Scraps Pickup Program. The program is a new way for Ramsey County residents to recycle food scraps from home. There will also be a chance to ask questions and learn more about resources.

Contact: www.shoreviewmn.gov

CONTRIBUTED

gram features medleys from Broadway productions, John Williams' music from Star Wars, selections from the Disney repertoire, and themes from James Bond films. Also, special musical guests Justin Sales and Sydney Elliot.

Contact: snlvb.com

ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB

When: 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 26

Where: Rice Creek Fields, 5880 Rice Creek Pkwy, Shoreview

Details: Hike the Rice Creek North trail, approx. 5 miles.

Contact: stpaulhike.com

LAKESHORE QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY MEETING

When: 6:30- 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 28

Where: Shepherd of the Hills Church, rear entrance, Door G, 3920 Victoria Street North, Shoreview

Details: After a brief business meeting, Suzy Webster will present a "Trunk show - Mystery Quilts." Suzy is a seasoned mystery pattern designer and writer. She has designed four of the Minnesota Quilters successful Mystery Quilts. She creates bold, modern patterns. Suzy will be selling her books and patterns at the event. Visitors are welcome.

Contact: lakeshorequiltersmn.org

55+ HOUSING FAIR

When: 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, April 28

Where: Shoreview Community Center, 4580 Victoria St. N.

Details: Make a future housing plan for yourself or a loved one. Visit with representatives from a variety of local senior living facilities, services that help you age in place and other housing related companies.

Contact: www.shoreviewmn.gov

TALK WITH MINNESOTA HISTORIAN DOUG OHMAN

When: 1-3 p.m. Thursday, April 30

Where: Shoreview Community Center, 4580 Victoria St. N.

Details: Photographer and storyteller, Doug Ohman, has spent years capturing the people, places, and history of Minnesota through his camera lens and books. His photography highlights rural churches, historic homes, small towns and the everyday beauty of our state. Ohman will share photos and stories weaving together history, culture, and personal insights.

Contact: www.shoreviewmn.gov

BOBBY THEISEN PARK GRAND OPENING

When: 9:30 a.m.- noon Saturday, May 2

Where: Bobby Theisen Park, 3575 Vivian Ave., Shoreview

Details: Grand reopening of Bobby Theisen Park. Event will include a ribbon cutting, food trucks, activities and tours of the new facilities.

Contact: www.shoreviewmn.gov

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Species of frogs

Did you know there are 12 species of frogs and toads in Wisconsin, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is seeking volunteers to help with the frog calling survey? For more than 40 years, the DNR has been working to understand the status distribution and long-term population trends.



Publisher's View
Carter Johnson

Between Minnesota and western Wisconsin there are countless volunteer opportunities available for families and individuals, which include becoming a volunteer trainer, helping with ATV license training, or the Minnesota Pollution Control citizen stream monitoring program. How fun would it be to have an assignment visiting and monitoring a stream or monitoring the water clarity in lakes, using the secchi disk technique? If you find your-

self wanting something to do in nature that makes an impact, a volunteer position with one of our agencies is a great way to fill a morning, afternoon, evening or weekend. These positions can be memorable, let alone impactful in youth development. There are even activities you can do with your kids or grandkids.

Although some think state and federal agencies exist for only enforcement, they really do work to help manage and better our resources through permitting, hunting regulations, pollution and public land use. Some of the memorable stories that stand out are when our reporters have shadowed individuals with the DNR, national parks service, local police or sheriff's departments and fire departments. It can be a real eye-opener to do a ride along with a local agency as they do a safety check of an overloaded power boat on the river, or in a row boat as they net hundreds of walleyes in a stocking pond to be released in our lakes. I guess the old adage rings true that you "need to walk a mile someone's shoes" to get a real understanding.

A former city manager shared how he took on a volunteer role when his kids were young to monitor water clarity. I remember wishing I had taken the kids with me when I covered a controlled burn at Standing Cedars Land Trust in western Wisconsin. Another memorable moment was covering the mussels count on the St Croix River. We were in a canoe and photographed the divers as they would pull up mollusks from the river bed.

I wonder how the mussel counts are now, especially after the major change in how the river water levels were controlled. The St. Croix dam went to an electronically-controlled system for outflow around 15 years ago. After those controls were installed, the river has had less fluctuations. Did this factor into the mussel counts? I remember crossing the Highway 243 bridge and talking with my young kids on the way to and from preschool about how the dam was going to restrict outlet flow. I encouraged them to watch the sand bars and islands, telling them they are all sandy now, but soon they will be overgrown with grass and trees. Today they still remember that correlation of the dams outflow.

This summer look for opportunities to get involved. There are many ways you can make a difference with our youth or touch nature in our communities. Volunteering can help our state and federal agencies. Let's stay involved and be in the know with the outdoors we love and the planet we call home.

Carter Johnson is publisher of Press Publications.



Progress, partnership and looking ahead

Happy spring, Shoreview! Last week's brief hailstorm was a good reminder that in

Minnesota we don't fully trust the weather forecast until at least May. Still, the warmer days ahead bring a sense of renewal—

and they also mark the time for our annual State of the City update. This year's address will be shared as a short video on the city website in mid-May. As I look back on the past year, I'm struck by just how much we accomplished.

Shoreview continued its commitment to sustainability. A new solar array was installed next to the city's maintenance building, and we remain a Step 5 city in the GreenStep Cities program. Our sustainability work includes improved storm-water management, smart salting practices during winter, new rain gardens and an ongoing effort to replace trees lost to disease or age so that our community continues to benefit from a healthy and diverse tree canopy.

Public safety remains a top priority as well. Construction began last year on a new Lake Johanna Fire Department headquarters station in Arden Hills. This will

replace the current station near Island Lake Park. The new station is expected to open in July 2026 and is supported in part by \$6 million in state funding secured with the help of our local legislators. When construction is complete, we look forward to welcoming residents for a public open house.

Much of the city's work happens behind the scenes but is essential to keeping Shoreview running smoothly. In 2025, city crews cleaned more than 100 miles of sewer lines, inspected over 1,300 manholes, flushed 1,300 hydrants and distributed more than 830 million gallons of water. Stormwater ponds were maintained, aging streetlights replaced and traffic signals repainted—steady work that helps ensure our infrastructure remains reliable.

Our local economy also continues to grow. The redevelopment of the former Deluxe property brought three new businesses to Shoreview within its 450,000 square feet of space. PAR Systems expanded its presence, and Binks Headquarters and Fairview Specialty Services joined our business community, bringing more than 650 well-paying jobs to the area.

Community connections remain one of the things that makes Shoreview special. During last year's Night to Unite, city staff and elected officials visited 67 neighborhood gatherings and connected with more than 2,500 residents. Staff also attended hot dog with a deputy events at multi-family properties to

help ensure all residents have opportunities to engage with the city.

Looking ahead, several important initiatives are underway. Construction on the Krew multifamily and retail redevelopment near 694 and Rice Street is expected to begin this summer. The city is also evaluating future uses for the fire station near Island Lake Park once the new station opens.

We are also beginning work on two long-range efforts: the city's 2050 comprehensive plan and our first climate action plan. These initiatives will help guide policy and planning for decades to come. The city is also working on a significant update to its development code. Residents will have opportunities to provide input as it moves forward, helping ensure it reflects the needs and priorities of our community.

Of course, spring and summer in Shoreview are about more than projects and plans—they're about community. The outdoor farmers market and our popular summer concerts return in June, and Slice of Shoreview will bring neighbors together for one of the community's favorite traditions.

After a long Minnesota winter, there's nothing quite like seeing our parks full again, neighbors gathering outside and the energy of summer returning to the city. I hope to see many of you at these events in the months ahead.

Sue Denkinger is the mayor of Shoreview.



Movers & Shakers
Sue Denkinger

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- Repeat letters by the same writer about the same subject matter will not be published.
- Submissions containing libelous or derogatory statements will not be published.
- All letters are subject to editing.
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CURRICULUM CHANGES: Raise concerns for parents, students and alumni

FROM PAGE 1

board session, 18 district parents, students and alumni spoke out against these changes. Many expressed concerns about transparency and communication from the district about the curriculum changes, the impact music education has on a student's overall education and the benefits of participating in band and orchestra.

Melody Johnson, Arden Hills resident, said all three of her kids have played cello in the Mounds View orchestra program. She is also a music teacher in the community.

"I'm so concerned about these proposed changes, and I know that they would negatively impact the program for years to come. Mounds View has had a long reputation for music education. In particular, the orchestra is very well known and respected," Johnson said.

Johnson added that the National Association of Schools of Music recently evaluated the program at Northwestern, where Johnson works. She explained the evaluators went to where students have had teaching opportunities and the evaluators were impressed with the music program at Mounds View, specifically the orchestra program.

"They said it's one of the best in the state and in the nation," Johnson said. "That's something to be proud of. You can't risk losing that reputation on the state and national scale."

Arden Hills resident Jeanna Stupor has two daughters who both are in orchestra at Highview Middle School and Mounds View High School. Her daughter in eighth grade plays the viola and her other daughter, a junior, plays the cello. Her third daughter graduated a few years ago and played the violin.

"Orchestra has been a huge part of my kids experience here in Mounds View, and it's been amazing ..." Stupor said. "In a school board meeting, there was a lot of talk about data that was collected. Two pieces of data collected were not from music families. Music families were never asked what they thought about a change in the music program. We never received any kind of survey or questionnaire wondering what we thought."

Mounds View High School sophomore and band member Rohan Vats-Fournier shared his concerns about reducing the music program alongside fellow band, orchestra and choir members.

"These proposed middle school music changes will take away valuable practice time for students in a music program," Vats-Fournier said. He added it will create less time to develop friendships, which many found valuable.

Lucy Caesar, an eighth grader at Highview Middle School, is also in the band. She shared her thoughts about the curriculum changes.

"I've been in our school's amazing band program since fifth grade ... I've made so many friends from band, even friends from other schools. I'm so disappointed in this district for trying to reduce so many opportunities for future and current kids pursuing music," Caesar said. "Band has given me so many opportunities, and it's made me so happy to be a part of such an amazing community."

Mark Gitch, Mounds View High School alumni and current orchestra director at Wayzata High School, said Wayzata currently follows the every-other-day curriculum for music education.

According to Gitch, Wayzata Middle School was used as an example for the changes being proposed in Mounds View. He said while administrators told the board the schedule works great for music education, it does not.

"While our current schedule indeed provides students with choice, which was a priority for its proponents, the reality is most students still do choose band,



MADLINE DOLBY | PRESS PUBLICATIONS

Eighteen residents expressed their concerns about the proposed changes to the curriculum at a recent comments to the board.

orchestra and choir, and simply get less instruction than they used to," he added. "Every day music moves toward being an experience rather than something that cultivates excellence."

Gitch said he is proud of his students at Wayzata, and he would confidently place his best students alongside Mounds View's, but Wayzata's best is a much thinner layer than what Mounds View has created.

"I have no doubt the choice of exploration has an important place in our students' learning, but that does not make a community's heart beat as one," he added. "And that shared heartbeat that I experienced when I was a student here is why I still care about this community."

Other residents who spoke requested the school board consider how music and physical education affects a student's complete academic career, not just in the music classroom. One resident also said that these subjects are not electives but required by state law.

"Principal (Lindsey) Samec has repeatedly referred to music, art and physical education as electives. The district webpage says the same. Both of those are wrong," Mounds View resident Mary Schaeffle said. "Arts, including music and visual arts, are required under Minnesota state law. The same is true for physical education ... What you are asking your educators to do is cover the same standards in half."

School Board Chair Heidi Danielson addressed a few of the comments made at the meeting. She said the district has been very intentional about this work, and that the district has been exploring adolescent development at all three middle schools for the past three years.

At that time, she explained, a national education consultant was selected to work with the middle schools to gather input from families, students and staff to identify opportunities for growth. She noted that survey feedback was collected from students, teachers and parents who were engaged in the middle school programs at the time.

"The school board does support the process and the changes that are being implemented through the work of our administrators," Danielson said. "As a result of the work that has been completed, all three middle schools are adopting this new schedule."

More information about the proposed model change can be found online at www.mvpschools.org/academics/middle-school/ms-model-change-information.



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Recommendations from Education Elements:

1. Establish a design team to continue creating a vision for the middle school experience, including developing a purpose statement and learner profile.

2. Align to a common student-centered instructional approach in all courses to support young adolescent development and increase student engagement and ownership.

3. Provide students with more opportunities to develop future-ready skills ("essential skills") throughout their middle school experience.

4. Consider alternative schedule structures that allow for expanding exploratory courses to reflect student interests.

- i. Hawk time: Students have agency to access support, challenge or explore interested in all subject areas in this daily structure.
- ii. Allied course offerings: Allied course offerings (electives) all have been adjusted to be half-year courses, which will allow students to explore multiple disciplines within a single year. These classes include physical education, music (band, choir and orchestra) and Spanish (for high school credit).

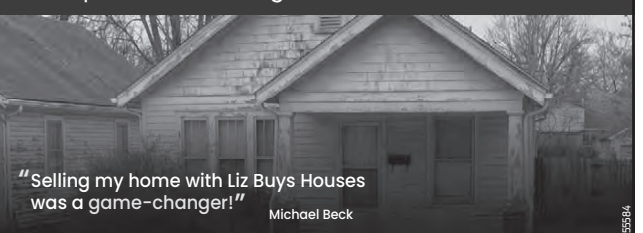
Presentations to the school board:

Three presentations were conducted at various school board meetings regarding these curriculum changes. The original presentation about the changes took place on May 7, 2024, and references the data collected and work done by Education Elements. A second presentation was conducted on Dec. 10, 2024, which reviewed work done in the first year of the district operational plan goal and the highlights moving into year two. It also outlined the engagement of staff at all three middle schools as well as the combined work the schools did coming together as a district design team. The final presentation occurred on April 22, 2025. The report reviewed the work that has been done to date and the recommendations for middle school programming. The Portrait of a Middle School Learner document was shared and explained.

Mounds View Public Schools

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The Shoreview Community Foundation has awarded a \$2,500 Rapid Relief Grant to Quincy House to support families in crisis impacted by Operation Metro Surge.

Founded in 2015, Quincy House serves at-risk teens and their families across the Mounds View School District, including Shoreview. The organization provides mentorship, a safe environment, and holistic support addressing mental health challenges, housing instability, and family stress.

Through this grant, Quincy House will deliver rapid financial assistance for urgent needs, including rent, utilities, and essential



medications. Demand has surged in recent months, with more than \$30,000 in requests over a two-month period as families face eviction risks and mounting financial strain.

"This grant is about keeping families stable during moments of real crisis," said Foundation Grants Chair John Doan. "By supporting Quincy House, we're helping ensure that local families can stay in their homes and focus on caring for their children."

The Shoreview Community Foundation's mission is to maintain, enhance, and enrich the quality of life in Shoreview by connecting the generosity of our residents with the community's evolving needs.

For more information about the Shoreview Community Foundation and its community initiatives, please visit our website <https://www.shoreviewcommunityfoundation.org>.

The Shoreview Community Foundation is an affiliate of Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation. Tax ID #41-6031510

POLICE REPORTS

The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office reported the following selected incidents in Shoreview:

- An animal control officer responded March 22 to a report of a dead dog by the city's water tower in the area of Lexington Avenue North and Buffalo Lane. A deceased deer was located.
- Deputies responded March 22 to a call reporting disorderly conduct, where a 29-year-old man who lives in a group home in the 3400 block of Victoria Street North was making threats to staff and throwing large objects, including a chair, and being disruptive. He was transported to a hospital for evaluation and treatment.
- A 40-year-old woman from Coon Rapids was arrested for DWI March 22 after a traffic stop in the 5500 block of Park Place Drive. She performed poorly on standard field sobriety tests.
- Deputies responded March 22 to a report of a disturbance in the 3400 block of Kent Street and arrested a 35-year-old Coon Rapids man after he and a woman were in a heated, loud and program argument inside an apartment building.
- A deputy on routine patrol March 23 found two black bags alongside the road in the 200 block of Lion Lane that had been stolen out of a nearby vehicle. The contents of the

bags were returned to their owners. The incident is under investigation.

- Deputies issued a parking citation March 23 to a 19-year-old man from Coon Rapids and an 18-year-old man from Ramsey who illegally parking their vehicles in handicapped parking spaces in the 3700 block of Lexington Avenue North.
- A 44-year-old man in the 5500 block of Royal Oaks Drive reported March 26 that he'd been swindled out of more than \$50,000 by someone online pretending to be a representative assisting him with a land purchase. The incident is under investigation.
- A 59-year-old man in the 4200 block of Victoria Court reported March 26 that someone used his checking account to make purchases without his permission. The incident is under investigation.
- A 51-year-old woman in the 1500 block of Oakwood Terrace reported March 26 seeing someone dressed in an orange vest on her Ring doorbell camera looking around her house. The incident is under investigation.
- On March 27, a 25-year-old woman in the 1500 block of Oakwood Terrace reported receiving threatening text messages from a man she knows. The incident is under investigation.
- A deputy responded March 28 to

- a parking lot in the 1000 block of Highway 96 West, where a 76-year-old man from Arden Hills accidentally crashed the Ford F150 pickup truck he was driving into two utility poles and a fire hydrant. Nobody was injured, and the city of Shoreview responded to the scene to inspect and repair any damage.
- Deputies responded March 28 to a gas station in the 3400 block of Rice Street after receiving a report of someone stealing merchandise from inside the store. The incident is under investigation.
- A 31-year-old man in the 4100 block of Lexington Avenue North reported March 28 that someone stole his mail from the front step of an apartment building in which he lives. The incident is under investigation.
- A 71-year-old White Bear Township man reported March 30 that his Volvo XC60 was parked in a handicapped space in the 4500 block of Victoria Street North when someone either keyed it or struck it with another vehicle, leaving a 12-to-14-inch scratch on it. The incident is under investigation.
- Deputies issued a citation for theft March 31 to a 15-year-old girl from St. Paul after she was caught by loss prevention employees at a business in the 3800 block of Lexington Avenue North attempting to

leave the store without paying for merchandise.

- A 35-year-old woman in the 600 block of Doris Avenue reported March 31 receiving threatening messages from an ex-boyfriend. The incident is under investigation.
- Deputies responded April 2 to a report of an intoxicated female who had been driven by an Uber drive to her old address in the 800 block of Dawn Avenue and was falling down and unable to take care of herself. Medics transported her to the hospital for evaluation and treatment.
- A 28-year-old woman from Otsego reported April 2 being assaulted by her on-again, off-again boyfriend during an argument that occurred in the 5800 block of Savannah Lane. Deputies interviewed the victim, collected evidence and forwarded the case to the city attorney for possible charges.
- A 53-year-old woman reported April 3 that her Mitsubishi Outlander was struck and damaged by a Ford Explorer when its driver backed out of a parking space in the 4100 block of Lexington Avenue North. The driver left the scene without stopping or exchanging insurance information. Deputies interviewed the victim and collected evidence. The incident is under investigation.

PUBLIC SAFETY BRIEFS

St. Paul fire chief joins Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Butch Inks, who recently served as the fire chief for the city of St. Paul, has joined the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office (RCSO) as director of strategic initiative and projects.



Butch Inks

According to RCSO, Inks will lead strategic initiatives and projects as well as advance partnership development across the county. His initial work will focus on health care and medical protocols in the Adult Detention Center, emergency management, government relations and law enforcement employee wellness.

Ramsey County Sheriff Bob Fletcher noted that "Chief Inks brings an extraordinary record of service, leadership and community partnership to the Sheriff's Office. His decades

of experience in high-risk operations, emergency management and organizational leadership will significantly strengthen our ability to serve residents across Ramsey County. We are fortunate to have someone of his caliber join our leadership team, and I look forward to the impact he will make on our strategic initiatives and partnerships."

From 1994 to 2025, Inks served with the Saint Paul Fire Department. Over the course of his career, he held roles including firefighter, fire equipment operator, rescue squad captain and district chief. Between 2013 and 2017, he served in several chief officer capacities, including community relations chief, special operations chief, deputy chief and assistant chief. From 2018 to 2025, he served as fire chief. During his tenure, Inks authored the department's first equity plan, enhanced community trust, directed large-scale and high-risk incident responses during major events and advanced cross-jurisdictional partnerships to strengthen regional preparedness and response. He also introduced the first Health and Wellness Coordinator and founded the Alternative Emergency Response Division to better serve unsheltered individuals and high-frequency 911 callers.

In addition to his local government service, Inks served in the United States Air Force Reserve as a master sergeant until his honorable discharge in 2012. In that role, he led strategic planning and compliance for the Fire Protection Division, served as chief of firefighter training and provided technical advisement and emergency readiness support for base operations.

Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Mounds View Police co-host senior safety and wellness fair

In collaboration with the Mary Ann Young Center, the Mounds View Police Department and other community partners will host a Senior Safety and Wellness Fair from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, May 7. The event will take place at the Spring Lake Park-Blaine-Mounds View Fire Station 3, 11930 Ulysses St. NE, Blaine.

The event is open to seniors and will feature a variety of activities including health screenings, a vendor fair, snacks, lunch and door prizes. Preregistration is required.

For more details about the event and instructions on how to register, visit the city of Mounds View's website in the upcoming weeks at www.moundsviewmn.org. Additional information is also available at the Mounds View Community Center Senior Center.

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'MAMMA MIA': 'This musical is pure fun, and I want people to leave feeling lighter'

FROM PAGE 1

arrive seemingly unannounced at her remote Greek taverna. Join the cast of "Mamma Mia" as they reminisce on times past and discover the true meaning of family.

The music numbers in the show are all songs written by ABBA between 1974 and 1982. Featuring classics like "Dancing Queen," "Waterloo" and, of course, "Mamma Mia," this show is packed with vibrant songs familiar to many people. "ABBA's music is timeless. The melodies are catchy, the harmonies are rich and the emotions feel genuine," notes Sarah Kitzman, the music director for the musicals at Mounds View. "Even though they were written decades ago, they still connect with people because the themes of love, joy (and) heartbreak are universal. Plus, it's just really fun music to listen to and perform!"

In addition to the music, this show is filled with many upbeat dance numbers. "Every number in the show has a different vibe and story to tell. It's an emotional journey in all the best ways," said Jen Haider, the show's choreographer. "Each number shows the support and love that is prevalent in the story: support of friends, finding family and coming together to celebrate."

"The most meaningful aspect of the show is getting to spend it with my closest friends. It's such a privilege to be able to share the stage with so many other talented individuals. We all have a lot of fun putting on this show together, and seeing the impact that our show has on our audiences is so important to me," said senior Maris Ward, who plays Donna Sheridan. Her character experiences an emotional journey when she is faced with her three exes, each of whom made a significant impact on her life.

Joining Donna on that journey are her two best friends, Tanya, played by senior Mia Stern, and Rosie, portrayed by junior Deanna Amadick. "Something that I hope sticks out to the audience is not only the hard work and dedication that has gone into the show, but also the attention to detail. From the set, to props, to costumes, to all of the characters and ensemble —

they all have specific stories behind them that make this show come alive," Stern shared.

Amadick added, "The most meaningful aspect to this show for me is seeing the community come together to support each other and put on a show. You can clearly tell how much love everyone has for each other; I think that's what makes our cast for this show so special."

Andrew Higley, a senior who plays Bill Austin, noted how ABBA made an impact on his childhood. "I have always loved ABBA music growing up; my mom and my grandma especially love "Mamma Mia." It's meaningful to me to be a part of something I grew up with and that my family finds so enjoyable."

Colin and Dan Perucco, the co-directing team who are in their second year at Mounds View, are working together again to bring this production to life. "I hope the audiences walk away thinking about their own dreams. This show deals so much with what we want life to be and the expectations that keep us from those dreams but ultimately reminds us that not all those expectations help us do what is best for us," said Colin.

Co-director Dan said, "I hope the audience experiences joy. This musical is pure fun, and I want people to leave feeling lighter and happier than



CONTRIBUTED

From left: Deanna Amadick, Maris Ward and Mia Stern rehearse a scene together.

when they arrived."

You can see Mamma Mia April 30, May 1 and 2 at 7 p.m. and at 2 p.m. May 3. All performances take place in the Mounds View High School auditorium at 1900 Lake Valentine Road in Arden Hills.

Visit <https://www.mvtheater.org/spring-musical> for tickets and more information.

CITY BRIEF

Mounds View honors Arbor Day

Mounds View City Arborist Dan Wattenhofer will plant a tree to celebrate Arbor Day at noon Friday, April 24, at Groveland Park. This year's theme for the tree planting ceremony is "Trees Are Our Friends." Groveland Park is located at 2815 Ardan Ave., Mounds View.

COUNTY BRIEF

Ramsey County Historical Society receives small grant

The Ramsey County Historical Society has received \$19,650 from the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS). Through Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Small Grants, the MNHS has been able to give out \$276,946 in small grants (\$20,000 or less) in 17 counties.

The Ramsey County Historical Society will use its grant funds to hire qualified consultants to develop and install an exhibit on the Hmong in Ramsey County.

For more information on the Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grants program, including application deadlines, visit www.mnhs.org/preservation/legacy-grants. Applications are accepted only through the MNHS grants portal.

OBITUARY

Mary Ann DeMay

97, of Shoreview, MN, passed away peacefully at her home on April 13. She was preceded in death by her husband, Sam DeMay; her parents Emil and Mayme Carlson, her sister Geraldine Appel, and her son John DeMay. She is survived by her sons, Jeff (Kelly) and Jim (Channing), her sister Janice Ramert, her grandchildren Danielle (Lucas), Amanda, Samantha, Claire and George and numerous nieces and nephews.



Sam and Mary Ann purchased their Shoreview home in 1966. They enjoyed a very happy marriage and wonderful family life. Mary Ann was very social, loved to entertain and had many friends. Please join us for a Celebration of Life at Jimmy's Event Center in Vadnais Heights on Saturday, May 2nd at noon and lunch will follow.

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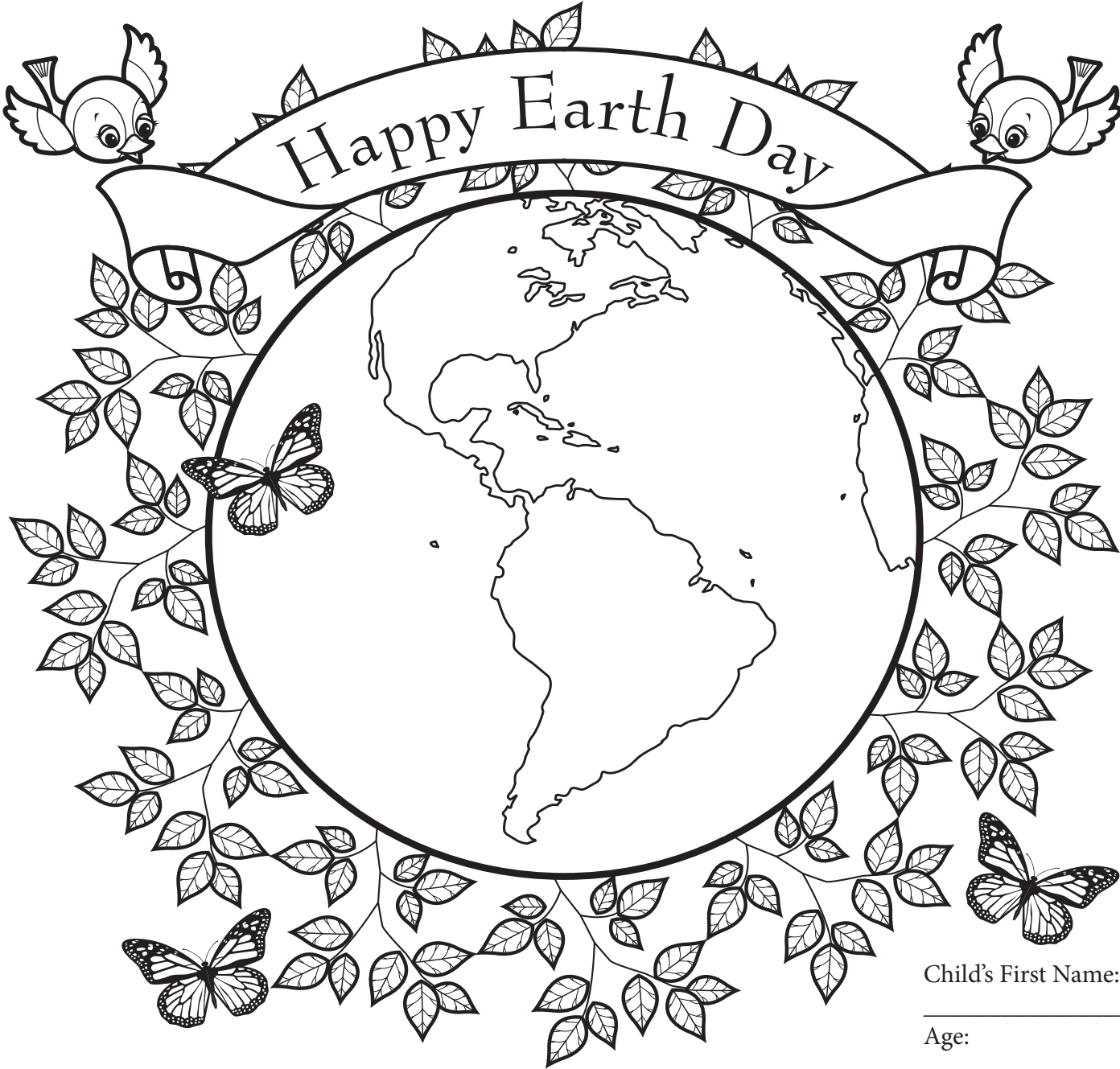
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Keeping recyclable goods out of the trash is very important! However, 'wishcycling' can increase costs, cause equipment failures, contaminate recyclable goods and lead to injuries for people working in recycling facilities.

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OTTER LAKE TECHNOLOGIES

PFAS: State continues to monitor, learn more about 'forever chemicals'

FROM PAGE 1

Char said. They added PFAS are used in medical devices, veterinary devices and even electrical vehicles.

PFAS have a variety of impacts on our health, including immune suppression, developmental effects and reproductive effects. Char said these effects have been found through research done by the Minnesota Department of Health.

According to Char, different PFAS chemicals are associated with different exposure routes. These routes can include dermal contact, the air and food consumption.

"There are potentially many ways of exposure, and everyone's exposure is going to be a little bit different. Not everything has PFAS in it necessarily, but there are a lot of places that you will find it," Char said.

One of main points Char focused on was the fact that PFAS cleanup is expensive, since the chemical is difficult to destroy.

To purchase PFAS to make consumer products, it costs manufacturers anywhere between \$50 and \$100 per pound. The cost to remove and destroy PFAS from municipal wastewater costs anywhere between \$2.7 to \$18 million per pound.

Minnesota's history with PFAS pollution

According to Char, in the early 2000s, PFAS were reported to be at disposal sites. The Department of Health took samples from groundwater near these sites and discovered the chemicals had contaminated the water.

Since then, they said in the east metro and greater

parts of Minnesota, efforts to characterize which PFAS are found where have expanded.

"Our understanding of the toxicity of PFAS compounds changes as we as a state do studies, and as other (states) in the United States and across the world look at both environmental and human health impacts," Char said. "Over the course of time, because of that changing understanding and their impacts on people, we revise our health base values according to the best, most recent science that we have."

In 2021, several Minnesota state agencies came together to publish the PFAS Blueprint. The blueprint identified potential paths forward to prevent, mitigate and clean up PFAS pollution across the state.

The blueprint is divided into 10 topic areas. Some of these topics include PFAS pollution, measuring PFAS effectively and consistently, ensuring safe consumption of fish and game, limiting PFAS exposure from food and managing PFAS in waste.

"Each of these 10 topic areas have had tons of state resources dedicated to it. We have been very fortunate and grateful to the Legislature for continued appropriations to be able to do a lot of this work," Char said.

"For better or worse, our experience with PFAS in Minnesota has allowed us to be better resourced than others (states)," they added. They also said work will continue to learn more about PFAS chemicals and update how the state measures PFAS based on these findings.

As a result of the blueprint,



CONTRIBUTED

PFAS can be found in various products and places, including food packaging and waste sites.

the MPCA was about to identify different types of facilities where it thought there would be PFAS entering the environment. In 2022, it published a monitoring plan.

"The goal of this monitoring plan was to specifically look for PFAS in places where we thought we found it to confirm our understanding of sources to the environment," Char explained. They said the MPCA looked at solid waste facilities, industrial facilities, municipal wastewater treatment plants and regional airports in Greater Minnesota to help achieve this goal.

Based on research, Char said the MPCA was able to confirm that PFAS entered the environment through these sources. They said PFAS were found at all airports, wastewater treatment plants and currently or historically unlined landfills.

Next, they said the MPCA will source reduction and management plans for these

sites, target investigations at sites with drinking water risks, evaluate remaining data and develop permit strategies across media.

Minnesota also has multiple PFAS pollution prevention laws in place. A law created in 2020 states the use of PFAS in firefighting foam for training is prohibited, with exceptions. Four years later, PFAS in firefighting foam was prohibited outright, and PFAS in food packing became prohibited as well.

In 2025, PFAS was prohibited in 11 product categories, Char said those included dental floss, carpets and rugs, and ski wax. Effective July 1, 2026, manufacturers will have to report to the MPCA how much PFAS it uses, which types, and what products they're in. In 2032, all PFAS use in products will be prohibited, unless it is determined to be an unavoidable use. Char explained these laws are often referred to as "Amara's Law," named

after Amara Strande, who died of cancer linked to PFAS exposure.

Char encouraged residents to amplify messages from the Minnesota Department of Health, MPCA and the Department of Natural Resources (listed in the fish consumption guidance). They also urged residents to discuss Amara's Law and other prohibitions and to participate in conversations with local and state groups about PFAS if the opportunity arises.

The next Speaker Series will take place at 7 p.m. Monday, April 27, in council chambers at Shoreview City Hall. The topic of discussion will be the Ramsey County Food Scraps Pickup Program. Shoreview City Hall is located at 4600 Victoria St. N.

Editor Madeline Dolby can be reached at 651-407-1226 or shoreviewnews@presspubs.com

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES BRIEFS

DNR seeks input on regulation books

Anglers, hunters and trappers are invited to attend an informational webinar from noon-1 p.m. Thursday, April 20, and share their thoughts with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources about the state's annual hunting, trapping and fishing regulations.

During this webinar, DNR staff will share background, respond to questions and listen to comments from the public about readability, ease of use, images in the books and other topics. An access link will be posted at mndnr.gov/regulations 15 minutes before the webinar.

The DNR produces regulations books each year for fishing and hunting and trapping. The regulations books consolidate complex legal requirements into a comprehensive format for public use. Feedback can also be submitted through 11:59 p.m. Thursday, May 7, through an online questionnaire, emailing Sarah.Middleton@state.mn.us or mailing the DNR Section of Wildlife to 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155.

Safe practices to follow when around cold water

The ice is gone from most lakes in the southern part of Minnesota and ice on many northern lakes is melting quickly. It's already common to see anglers and paddlers on open water, but with water temperatures dangerously low, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds anyone who's around lakes, rivers and ponds that cold water is dangerous and unexpected falls into the water can quickly turn tragic.

Each year, according to the DNR, approximately 30% of all fatal boating accidents occur during the cold-water period. The cold-water period is defined as any time the water is below 70 degrees. Many of these incidents involve victims who weren't wearing a life jacket. The best way to survive a fall into cold water, according

to the DNR, is to wear a life jacket and make sure it's buckled and zipped.

As boaters and paddlers head out on the water, they should:

- Wear a foam-filled life jacket, rather than an inflatable type. Cold water can prevent inflatable life jackets from fully inflating.
- Ensure that watercraft operators meet safety permit requirements.
- Equip the watercraft with proper safety gear and make sure all equipment is functioning properly.
- Distribute weight evenly and abide by manufacturers' weight limits to ensure the watercraft's stability

and reduce the likelihood of falling overboard.

- Have a means of communication and ensure someone knows their destination and planned time of return.
- Watch the weather to avoid shifting winds or storms.

For more information about staying safe on and around cold water, visit the DNR's cold water safety webpage.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources



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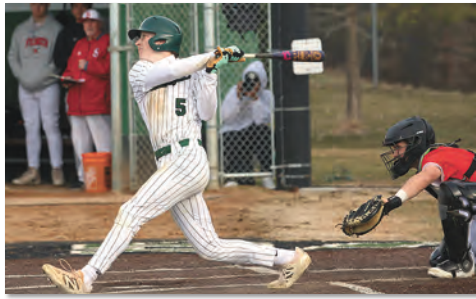
The Shoreview Community Foundation is an affiliate of Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation. Tax ID #41-6031510

Mustang 9 begin season with 6 - 0 start

Mounds View baseball has opened with six straight wins, including conquests of two other perennial powers in the Suburban East Conference, Stillwater and Cretin-Derham Hall.

The Mustangs edged Stillwater 4-3 in the ninth inning at home with Cooper Caligiuri singling home RJ Madison, who got on base with his fourth hit. Calvin Anderson got the win with 3.67 shutout innings in relief (one hit, six strikeouts). Andrew Gette three 4.67 innings (one run, nine strikeouts).

In a 5-1 win over Park, Sawyer Shewmaker threw five shutout innings with 11 strikeouts and Henry Braun fanned four in two innings. Jackson Tretter was



BRUCE STRAND | CONTRIBUTED

RJ Madison stroked an RBI single here, one of his four hits against Stillwater. He also scored the winning run.

3-for-4 (two doubles, one run).

The Mustangs tipped pre-season No.

1 Cretin-Derham Hall 5-3 as Jackson Tretter slammed a two-run homer, Liam Berlien was 2-for-3 (two runs, two RBI's) and Kasey MacCallum had an RBI single. Gette threw four innings (two runs, nine strikeouts) for the win. MacCallum and Shoemaker finished.

The Mustangs stymied Irondale 7-0 with Caligiuri hurling three innings (five strikeouts) and Jayson Cook four innings (six strikeouts). Jackson Glancy was 2-for-3 (two runs, RBI, two walks), Tretter 2-for-3 and Shoemaker had a two-run single.

Mounds View added two more victories Friday, over Chisago Lakes 8-6 and Forest Lake 10-0, in cold, windy con-

ditions at Forest Lake. Caligiuri went 6-for-6 with three doubles and three RBI's. He also had a walk and hit-by-pitch, going 8-for-8 getting on base.

Against Chisago Lakes, the Mustangs used four pitchers, with Henry Braun throwing 4 2/3 perfect innings (three strikeouts) for the win. Gette slammed a three-run homer. Madison was 2-for-4 with two steals.

Against Forest Lake, Anderson threw four innings and Vincent Bohle got the last three outs. Clancy was 2-for-4 (two runs), Carter Byers 2-for-4, Berlien 2-for-2 (two RBI's) and Tretter 1-for-3 (RBI).

Bruce Strand

SPORTS BRIEFS

SOFTBALL

Mounds View/Irondale (MVI) has a 6-3 record including 3-0 in a home tournament on April 11, beating Rice Lake (WI) 13-5, North/Tartan 17-3 and Spring Lake Park 8-2. Prior to that, MVI had wins over East Ridge 11-10 and Cretin-Derham Hall 10-6, and losses to Forest Lake 11-1 and Park 10-0. Maria Walsh went 5-for-5 (four runs, two RBI's) against East Ridge. In

their last three outings, the Mustangs beat Spring Lake Park (SLP) 8-2 and Roseville 2-0 and lost to Woodbury 5-1. Against SLP, Kara Cmiel threw a two-hitter, Jaycie Helmer had two hits, three runs and two RBI's and Walsh was 3-for-4. Kate Tretter blanked Roseville on two hits. Gillian Hanson hit a solo homer and was 2-for-3. Helmer, in the leadoff spot, is hitting .600 (18-for-30) with 10 runs and six RBI's.

TENNIS

Mounds View has posted 7-0 wins over Cretin-Derham Hall, Roseville Area, Minnetonka and White Bear Lake. A scheduled duel with Edina on Friday was called off due to cold weather. The singles lineup has been Soren Swenson, Max Daigle, Anders Swenson and Hans Musembi. The doubles lineup has been Sidharth Sharma/Johann Raheja, Aaron Raheja/Prana Puligundla and Laken Barkel/Chris Hermes.

Washburn 2-0, lost Eastview 2-1, lost Rosemount 2-1 and beat Park 3-0. They are 6-3 overall.


GIRLS LACROSSE

Mounds View opened with a 13-6 win over Moorhead on April 11, on a 230-mile road trip. Katie Koch netted four goals and assisted on three. The Mustangs lost to Eastview 15-5 and beat Irondale 15-6. Scoring leaders (goals-assists-points) are Koch 6-4-10, Allie Atwood 5-4-9, Chesney Herlofsky 4-3-7 and Brooke Whitehill 4-1-5. Goalie Mia Brosnahan has a .471 save percentage.

GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD

Mounds View hosted a meet for Suburban East Conference teams on April 16. The Mustangs won six events. Adela Peterson won the 1600 (5:22) with Leah Marchek third (5:31). Linnea Ousdigian won the 3200 (11:12). Allison Richter won 100 hurdles (14.43) and 300 hurdles (44.41) and was third in triple jump (34-5 1/2). The Mustangs won the 4x200 (1:49.08) and 4x400 (3:59.97). Lucia Biaseck was second in pole vault (10-0). Dalphine Wilson was second in long jump (16-1) and triple jump (34-8). Team scoring was not kept.

Bruce Strand




ATHLETE OF THE WEEK


Max Daigle

Mounds View Boys Tennis
April 21, 2026

Max Daigle, Mounds View tennis senior, is a key cog in a strong Mustangs singles lineup. In their first four matches, all 7-0 team wins, Daigle won twice at No. 2 and twice at No. 3, taking 48 of 57 games. Daigle is a returning all-conference player. As a junior he teamed with Anders Swenson to place fourth in the state in doubles. He played singles most of the year with a total 27-6 record.




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Arts and CULTURE

2026

EMERGING ARTIST: ELI MURPHY

BY LOGAN GION
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

White Bear Lake Area High School Theater's production of "Dear Evan Hansen" holds the distinction of being the first in the area to stage the show's teen version. It also marks the school's first spring musical in over a decade. For the show's star, Director Braylon Lane needed someone seasoned and dependable. Enter Eli Murphy, a White Bear senior and PSEO student at University of Northwestern St. Paul, who has participated in 24 shows since first grade.

Murphy started acting in shows at Lincoln Elementary, then branched out to Children's Performing Arts, playing Kristoff in "Frozen Jr." and Buddy in "Elf The Musical." In eighth grade, Murphy was SpongeBob SquarePants in White Bear's middle school musical, a role he considers a turning point.

"I guess that was my first big role, and



Eli Murphy

CONTRIBUTED

I didn't know too much," Murphy said. "I just watched the proshot [professionally

recorded live musical] of Ethan Slater doing his performance and piggybacked off of what he was doing." After that role, Murphy began putting more of himself into his roles.

Playing Evan Hansen, however, revealed to Murphy a new hurdle: Putting too much of oneself into a character. "Sometimes you're super similar to this character, but there's still a fine line you have to draw," Murphy described. "You can incorporate yourself into this character, but you also have to make sure that it's separate." To ensure this happens, Murphy focused on the differences between himself and his character. "We do have some similarities. Like, he has mental health issues, and I have ADHD and dyslexia. That's a similarity that I have a connection to," Murphy explained. "But I think that's a good spot where I can draw a line. I don't have to go too far into immersing myself with the character." Still, Murphy feels that inhabiting his

character has given him a different perspective. "This is the most serious show I've done," he stated. "I can understand why [Evan's] feeling this way ... a lot more than I would have in the past."

Going forward, Murphy plans to join a new theater community at University of Northwestern, St. Paul this autumn. "I've done two shows with them so far ..." Murphy stated, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," that was just this December, and then I was just recently in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," which was my first Shakespeare show."

Even after 24 shows, Murphy keeps finding new and deeper experiences. By bringing a better understanding of his characters to his performances, Murphy believes he better understands himself. Murphy remarked, "I think theater helps me show people who I am more. Theater, to me, it's a family, for sure. It's such a welcoming community."

CENTURY COLLEGE BRINGS THE LAUGHS ON WITH 'NOISES OFF'

BY LOGAN GION
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

"Noises Off," a play which the New York Post once called "the funniest farce ever written," is coming to Century College this weekend. Director Paul Aberasturi explained that Century's theater program is staging the show for two reasons. First, the show is funny. "Because of everything in our world ... people sometimes don't want to have to think about social and moralistic issues when they go to the theater. They like to go to theater because people love to laugh," Aberasturi commented. "That is something that has helped throughout time."

Just because a show is funny, though, doesn't mean it is easy. "Noises Off" requires precise rhythm and slapstick so advanced Aberasturi brought in a stunt coordinator. "In this play, when I have characters flying over the couch backward or falling headfirst and rolling, I said, 'Okay, let's get this done right,'" Aberasturi said.

Performances are another area Aberasturi carefully calibrated. Today's actors, who have been raised on television and movies, are not used to performing to the back row of a theater. For farce especially, cast members' actions have to be even more larger than life. "We don't want to be too big because the audiences are going to think we're overacting," Aberasturi explained. "You've got to be honest and sincere, but you've got

to be exaggerated times 10, and every single moment is that life-or-death situation."

The gravity with which the actors treat the situations in which they find themselves adds to the absurdity. "Noises Off" is simply a play about putting on a play. The three acts of the show are simply the same one-act play, "Nothing On," repeated three times. In Act 1, the audience views the show-within-the-show's dress rehearsal. Then, in Act 2, the crew turns the set 180 degrees. "The set is reversed, and the audience gets to see what's happening from behind the scenes," Aberasturi revealed. "Act 2 is so physical and so funny. There's so much going on because of madcap character relationships and mishaps." Finally, in Act 3, the set is turned back, and the audience sees the show again near the end of its fictional run.

All of this technical craftsmanship is possible because of Century College's newly remodeled theater, which held its grand opening last November.

The second reason, then, Century College is staging "Noises Off," is to show the community at large the extent of its theater program's capabilities. Just because a play is light does not mean its artisans should be taken lightly.

Century College presents "Noises Off," April 17-26 at Century College Performing & Visual Arts Theatre West Campus, 3401 East County Line N., White Bear Lake. For tickets, visit century.edu/campus-life/fine-performing-arts/theatre.

CALENDAR

'HADESTOWN: TEEN EDITION'

Location: Chautauqua Fine Arts Center, 8000 75th St. N., Mahtomedi
Dates: 7 p.m. April 23-April 25; 1 p.m. April 26

Details: The teen version of the 2019 Tony winner for Best Musical comes to the Mahtomedi High School stage. This retelling of the Orpheus and Eurydice Greek myth is a jazz-inflected folk opera that delivers a deeply resonant and defiantly hopeful theatrical experience. "Hadestown" invites audiences on a hell-raising journey to the underworld and back.

'MATILDA JR.'

Location: Central Middle School Community Auditorium, 4857 Bloom Ave., White Bear Lake
Dates: 7 p.m. April 23-24; 1 p.m. April 25

Details: Rebellion is high in Matilda Jr. This story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have audiences rooting for the "revolting children" who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson. Packed with high-energy dance numbers and catchy songs, Matilda Jr. is a joyous girl-power romp.

'ONCE UPON A MATTRESS'

Location: Hanifl Performing Arts Center, 4941 Long Ave., White Bear Lake
Dates: April 24- May 17

Details: The classic fairy tale "The Princess and the Pea" gets a hilarious twist in this raucous and romantic musical comedy. Packed with catchy tunes, laugh-out-loud moments, and a cast of colorful characters, 'Once Upon a Mattress' is a rockin' musical adventure.

'HEART 4 ART'

Location: White Bear Center for the Arts, 4971 Long Ave., White Bear Lake
Dates: 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 7
Details: WBCA's annual fundraising event, "Heart 4 Art," is an inspiring celebration designed to connect and empower our creative community.

CHILDREN'S PERFORMING ARTS ANNOUNCES NEW SEASON, NEW WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

BY LOGAN GION
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Twenty dollars buys an actor a costume at Children's Performing Arts (CPA), but a young performer who participates in a well-made show learns confidence, socialization and teamwork—skills that last a lifetime and help young people become dependable members of the community. Illustrating this positive domino effect is the goal of "It Starts with You," CPA's spring giving campaign.

"We're hoping to be able to raise sustaining funds for CPA. We're hoping to get some recurring donors. We're hoping to build more community," stated CPA Production and Operations Manager Laura Long. The two-month campaign is set to kick off at 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 19, during CPA's season

announcement. The event will also feature performances from members of CPA's student leadership committee as well as details of a special event at the campaign's close in June.

For Long, this campaign is about offering students accessibility and opportunity. Since COVID, CPA has steadily rebuilt its foundation and structure. Now, its looking to include children in its programs whose families cannot pay the full membership fee. "You can be a sustaining donor that helps provide everything for CPA, or you can just help us buy a costume or help us provide a teaching artist for a class," Long described.

While students who take classes or participate in shows at CPA learn performance skills, Long reported that children often describe CPA as a place where they feel they belong. "It's a place where you can build friendships and

where you can learn skills," Long said. "But not only acting skills, but really life skills, social skills ... when you are an actor in a show, it forces you to see a perspective of a totally different person when you're playing a character."

Finally, Long believes that sense of belonging and friendship allows CPA's students to learn teamwork. "Some kids do multiple shows, so they're working with multiple, different groups of people. It's helping them in their schools. It's helping them if they go to church. It's helping them if they are trying to get a job—how to cohesively create something."

Children's Performing Arts' 2026-2027 Season Announcement Party is from 3-4:30 p.m. Saturday, April 19, at Hanifl Performing Arts Center, 4941 Long Ave., White Bear Lake. Visit childrensperformingartsmn.org for more details.

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY, all real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll free: 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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Part time 6-12 hours/week Entry level position

Experience with indesign, illustrator and photoshop preferred

Main responsibilities include ad design and newspaper layout

Send resume to artmanager@presspubs.com

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April through November

We are a seasonal construction business located in Shoreview but moving to a new building this summer in Columbus on Lake Drive near 35W. 30-40 hours per week.

Job Duties include:

- customer service, phone and email -scheduling notification and processing -invoicing -online permit applications -online gopher notification -website and social media updates -marketing assistance

Text or Call Erik 651-755-5256 or apply at www.asphaltmn.com Older applicants encouraged

Pet Services

Apr - Nov Duties include: Customer service, phone, email scheduling notification and processing, invoicing, online permit applications, online gopher notification, website and social media updates, marketing assistance.

Text or Call Erik 651-755-5256 or apply at www.asphaltmn.com

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The Newspaper shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of the advertisement. The Newspaper shall not be liable or responsible for any error in any advertisement except to give the Advertiser credit for so much of the space occupied by the advertisement as is materially affected by the error; credit shall be by refund or republication of the advertisement at the election of the Newspaper. Such credit shall not be given for more than one incorrect insertion unless the Publisher is notified in writing of the error before the repetition of the insertion. When the Advertiser wishes to correct or change copy submitted as a "proof," the Newspaper shall not be liable for the changes or corrections unless they are received by the Newspaper within a reasonable length of time before the deadline for publication. If an advertisement is requested to run after copy deadline, the Newspaper will not honor an adjustment request if an error occurs. No specific page or position shall be guaranteed. The Advertiser or Agency shall indemnify the Newspaper for any attorney's fees incurred in defending against claims, pay any judgments against the Newspaper, and pay associated expenses and losses that are caused by the publication of any advertisement submitted by or published at the direction of the Advertiser or Agency, including claims for libel, copyright infringement, and invasion of privacy.

PUBLIC NOTICES - PUBLIC NOTICES - PUBLIC NOTICES

**CITY OF SHOREVIEW, MN
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
2026 WATER MAIN REHABILITATION
CITY PROJECT NO. 26-11
SEH NO. SHORE 190447**

Notice is hereby given that Online Bids will be received at Shoreview City Hall - Council Chambers, 4600 Victoria Street, Shoreview Minnesota, electronically through BidVAULT until 10:00 AM, Wednesday, May 13, 2026, for the furnishing of all labor and material for the construction of the 2026 Water Main Rehabilitation project. At which time, two or more designated officers or agents of the City of Shoreview will publicly open and read the bids.

Estimated major quantities for the Work include:

Item Description	Unit	Est Qty
TEMPORARY WATER SERVICE	LS	1
WATERMAIN FITTINGS	LB	3692
LINING PIT 10' X 20'	EA	12
6" CIPP WATER MAIN LINING	LF	2564
8" CIPP WATER MAIN LINING	LF	3167
6" DUCTILE IRON PIPE CL 52 WATERMAIN	LF	383
8" DUCTILE IRON PIPE CL 52 WATERMAIN	LF	263
6" GATE BOX AND VALVE	EA	19
8" GATE BOX AND VALVE	EA	8
REINSTATE SERVICE CONNECTION	EA	79

The Bidding Documents may be seen at the Issuing Office of SEH located at 10650 Red Circle Drive, Suite 500, Minnetonka, MN 55343, Brian Hare (PM), bhare@sehinc.com, 612.255.4040. All planholders and bidders must register and download all project related items from the city's Connex page: mn-ci-shoreview.app.rvision.com for a fee of \$25.

Bids shall be completed according to the Bidding Documents prepared by SEH dated April 15, 2026. Bids will only be accepted electronically, from contractors listed as a planholder on the city's Connex site.

Bid security in the amount of 5 percent of the Bid must accompany each Bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

A Contractor responding to these Bidding Documents must submit to the City/Owner a signed statement under oath by an owner or officer verifying compliance with each of the minimum criteria in Minnesota Statutes, section 16C.285, subdivision 3.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein and to award the Contract in the best interests of the City. It is expected that the city council will consider the bids at their meeting on May 18, 2026.

By Order of the City Council
/s/ Brad Martens, City Manager
City of Shoreview, Minnesota

Published two times in the Shoreview Press on April 21 and May 5, 2026.

**MOUNDS VIEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MOUNDS VIEW SCHOOL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY
MARCH 10, 2026**

Meetings take place at the District Center in Shoreview (4570 Victoria Street N). Complete minutes available upon request at the District Center.

Summer operations projects

Darin Johnson, executive director of school management, provided an update on upcoming summer operations projects across the District. Major projects include completion of installing geothermal wells at Pinewood Elementary, as well as remodeling the library and adjacent classrooms and bathrooms. The Mounds View High School science wing will be updated, and the infield of the baseball field will be turfed. In the future, auxiliary turf fields will be added at both high schools. Another major project includes replacing all fluorescent lights with LED lighting in all buildings. Annual District-wide upkeep will also take place and will include interior painting, concrete repair and replacement, sealcoating and restriping parking lots, flooring projects,

and replacing and repairing doors and windows. Johnson also thanked the custodians and buildings and grounds teams for their dedication to their work on all District buildings.

DOP Goal Update: Student Information Systems

Executive director of curriculum and instruction Angie Peschel, director of technology John Perry and director of research, assessment and evaluation Mary Stobb gave an update on the District Operational Plan goal of updating student information systems. Mounds View Public Schools was informed last spring that the current student reporting system was going to be discontinued. An overview of the selection of the new vendor was presented, as well as a demonstration of the new system. Click here to view the presentation.

Thank you

The Board accepted with appreciation gifts from Susan Toews, Vanguard Charitable, Andrew and Katie Douglass, Kari Treichel, Medtronic – Amanda Arnold, Miriam Zachary, Cameron Smith, Valentine Hills PTO, Cross of Glory Lutheran Church, Gary Ackert, Swagata Banerjee, Boston Scientific Blackbaud Yourcause, Sally Brown, Carley Foundry – Jordan Carley, Centennial United Methodist Church Roseville – Church and Society, Churchill St., Culvers of St. Anthony (Sweet Cream Enterprises) – Diane Sparks and staff, Erin Derubeis, Kip and Judy Hauser, Frederick Kaiser, Rachel Koehn, Jeffrey Kueng, Sally and Daniel Larson, Keith Loewen, Jennifer Marrone, Tim and Dana Masek, David Mutschelknaus, Pilgrim House and Michael Servetus Unitarian Fellowship – Fred Green, Quanex Foundation, James Demay and Channing Riggs, Philip Slotvig, Maggie Snyder, Jennifer and Jason Sprain, Stephan Family Giving Fund – John and Lori Stephan, Valentine Hills Elementary – Melisa Rivera, students and staff, William Witcraft, Charles Young and Mary Zaudtke.

A look ahead

April 2, 6 p.m., work session
April 7, 7 p.m., regular meeting (6:30 p.m. comments to the Board)
Published one time in the Shoreview Press on April 21, 2026.



Reader's Choice 2026 BEST OF THE PRESS CONTEST



Get ready readers!
You can start nominating soon.
April 29 - May 17

2026 Contest Categories

Arts & Entertainment

- Art Class
- Celebration/Festival
- Local Band/Musician
- Local Singer/Vocalist
- Outdoor Event

Eating & Drinking

- Appetizer Selection
- Bar
- BBQ Ribs
- Beer Selection at a Bar
- Beer Selection at Liquor Store
- Bloody Mary
- Brat/Hot Dog
- Breakfast
- Brewery
- Burritos
- Cocktail at a Bar/Restaurant
- Cheese Curds
- Chicken
- Chicken Wings
- Coffee
- Deli
- Fajitas
- Fast Food
- Fish Fry
- French Fries
- Hamburger
- Happy Hour
- Ice Cream Cone
- Italian Restaurant
- Lasagna
- Lunch
- Mocktail at a Bar/Restaurant
- Meal for the Money
- Outdoor Dining
- Pie
- Pizza
- Restaurant
- Salad
- Seafood

- Soup
- Spirits at a Liquor Store
- Steak Dinner
- Sub/Sandwich
- Tacos
- Walleye Dinner
- Wine at a Bar/Restaurant
- Wine Selection at a Liquor Store

Health & Fitness

- Assisted Living
- Acupuncturist
- Audiologist
- Chiropractic Care
- Chiropractor
- Clinic
- Cosmetic Dentist
- Dentist
- Dermatology
- Esthetician
- Eye Doctor
- Gym
- Healthcare Facility
- Health Food Store
- Hospice Care
- Massage Therapist
- Mental Health Service
- Orthodontics
- Orthopedic Clinic
- Orthopedic Doctor/Surgeon
- Pediatric Dentist
- Pharmacist
- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapy Clinic
- Retirement Facility/Independent Living
- Senior Care Facility

Local

- Apple Orchard
- Curbside Pickup
- Elementary School

- High School
- Middle School
- New Business
- Place To Work, Large (>50 Employees)
- Place To Work, Small (<50 Employees)
- Teacher K-5
- Teacher 6-12
- Wedding Venue Indoors
- Wedding Venue Outdoors

Services

- Accounting Firm
- Air Duct Cleaning Service
- Auto Body
- Auto Repair
- Bank
- Bartender (Include First/Last Name/Place Of Work)
- Car Wash
- Childcare
- Credit Union
- Customer Service From A Local Business
- Dog Groomer
- Dog Trainer
- Electrician
- Exterior Painting Service
- Financial Planner
- Funeral Home
- Gas Station
- Hair Stylist (Include First/Last Name/Place Of Work)
- Hair Salon
- Heating/Air Conditioning Company
- Hotel
- Insurance Agent
- Insurance Company
- Jeweler
- Landscape Company
- Lawn Care Service
- Lawyer
- Mechanic

- Mortgage Company
- Oil Change
- Paint Store
- Pet Sitter/Boarding
- Plumber
- Realtor
- Remodeler
- Rental Business
- Roofer
- Self Storage
- Server (Include First/Last Name/Place Of Work)
- Spa
- Tax Preparer
- Tire Shop
- Tree Service
- Veterinary Clinic
- Veterinary Clinic - Emergency
- Water Treatment Service

Shopping

- Clothing Store
- Dispensary
- Flooring/Carpet Store
- Florist
- Gift Shop
- Greenhouse/Nursery
- Grocery Store
- Hardware Store
- Home Furnishing Décor
- Liquor Store
- Specialty Shop
- Vintage/Thrift Store

Sports & Recreation

- Bowling Alley
- Dance Studio
- Golf Course
- Ice Arena/Rink

**Nominate at presspubs.com/bestof
April 29 - May 17**

SHOREVIEW CITY COUNCIL SNIPPETS

- The city of Shoreview and the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office (RCSO) will enter into an agreement for supplemental law enforcement services following council approval. The city annually contracts with RCSO for supplemental water patrol services for certain lakes in Shoreview. The supplemental service includes up to 192 hours of lake patrol between Memorial Day and Labor Day, with emphasis on weekends and holidays. The total, not to exceed cost of this additional service is \$9,600, which is the same amount as the 2024 and 2025 agreements.

- The council approved a grant agreement with the Rice Creek Watershed District to construct the 2026 Stormwater Improvement Project and the Target Pond Improvement Project. The stormwater improvement project, located on Milton Street and Randy Avenue, will replace portions of the existing asphalt with pervious pavers. Because these streets drain into Island Lake, allowing stormwater to infiltrate into the ground, the pavers will help improve the lake's water quality. The project is intended to continue to reduce the amount of phosphorus entering Island Lake, as it currently has a set total maximum daily load for phosphorus. The pond improvement project will install an iron-enhanced filtration system in a city-owned pond east of Lexington Avenue. This system will provide additional water treatment before stormwater reaches Valentine Lake, which will help improve water quality and support efforts to remove the lake from the impaired waters list. In addition, the council approved a proposal from Kimley-Horn and Associates for professional engineering services to complete the final design and plan preparation for the pond improvements. The Rice Creek Watershed District Board reviewed and approved both projects, awarding \$75,000 in funding for each.

- Valley Paving will be responsible for the 2026 Street Rehabilitation Project after the council accepted its

bid of approximately \$2.45 million. The city will also enter into a construction contract with Valley Paving after Mayor Sue Denkinger and City Manager Brad Martens authorized the contract. The street work will include the rehabilitation of roadways in various neighborhoods; trail improvements; retaining wall replacement; minor storm, water and sanitary sewer repairs; upgrading pedestrian ramps to meet ADA standards; and parking lots. The project also includes parking lot, trail and utility improvements at Commons Park.

- The council has agreed to opt in to, and support, the Ramsey County Economic Development Agency. The county board recently took action to formally establish an economic development authority so it can begin the process of implementing new business programs.

- The council reviewed and provided feedback on a proposed planned unit development (PUD) concept stage application for a commercial infill project at 3570 Lexington Ave. N. The proposal involves platting approximately 0.25 acres of the existing property to allow for the construction of an 810-square-foot drive-through retail building on a portion of the current parking lot (see "Drive-through coffee shop proposed on Lexington Avenue," Shoreview Press, March 24). The council expressed concerns about the level of traffic a drive-through restaurant or coffee shop would produce, access points to the site and the number of parking spaces currently proposed.

- The council approved a preliminary plat, PUD-development stage and adopted a comprehensive plan amendment, submitted by Christian Brothers Automotive, for the property at 1090 Gramsie Road to be turned into a Christian Brothers Automotive Service and Repair facility.

- Mayor Sue Denkinger announced the Cities for Safe and Stable Communities Organization, of which the city is a member, is working toward


securing financial relief for rental properties and businesses. The organization was formed in response to the increased strain on local government operations, public safety resources and community trust resulting from Operation Metro Surge. (See "Shoreview joins Cities for Safe and Stable Communities," Shoreview Press, Feb. 24).

- Denkinger also announced there will be a grand opening for the new

Bobby Theisen Park in May and residents should keep an eye out for more information about the event. The redesigned park will feature a new park building, pickleball courts and more.

The next Shoreview City Council meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Monday, May 4, in council chambers.

Madeline Dolby




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