



News & Views

September 29, 2017

The City of New Hope's Employee Newsletter

Golfers:

Megan Albert
 Jeff Alger
 Dan Barron
 Doug Bistodeau
 Bob Branwell
 Aaron Chirpich
 Pat Cunningham
 Kathi Hemken
 Rich Johnson
 Andrew Kramer
 Dave Lemke
 Valerie Leone
 Kirk McDonald
 Kay Myers
 Robbie Myers
 Jim Muellner
 Susan Rader
 Jeff Sargent
 Mark Severson
 Aaron Thelen
 Bernie Weber

Organizers:

Jill Smisek
 Penny Spitzer
 Aaron Thelen

Helpers:

Walker Crawford
 John Elder
 Eve Lomaistro
 Jessi Weber

Employee Golf Outing and Picnic

Thanks to **Penny Spitzer**, **Jill Smisek**, and **Aaron Thelen**, 29 employees enjoyed a round of best ball scramble golf at the beautiful New Hope Golf Course; and/or a picnic lunch of pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, potato salad, chips, and cookies; and a variety of great prizes, after work on Thursday September 21, 2017. It was a beautiful evening, near 80°, with clear skies and a light breeze.

Everyone was a winner of a door prize ranging from a fun hat to flowers and everything in between. Golf winners are listed below.

Closest to the pin:

#1 Aaron Chirpich
 #3 Doug Bistodeau
 #8 Doug Bistodeau

Longest putt:

#2 Kirk McDonald
 #4 Bernie Weber
 #6 Bob Bramwell
 #7 Rich Johnson
 #9 Aaron Thelen

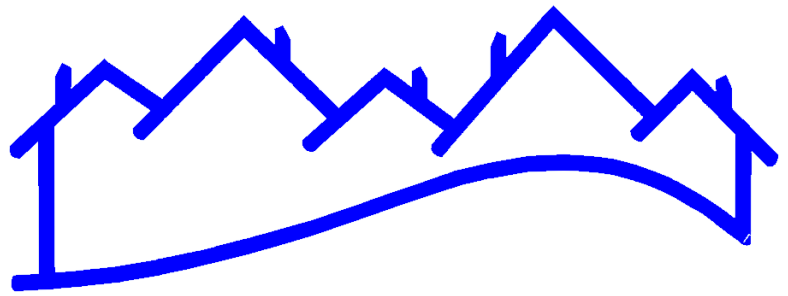
Low Gross Team:

Kathi Hemken
 Rich Johnson
 Valerie Leone
 Kirk McDonald
 Susan Rader



More photos on page 6

Staff Stuff



Staff Changes

- ❖ **Jessi Weber** was named Administrative Specialist in the Community Development department, effective September 4, 2017. Congratulations, Jessi!
- ❖ **Brandon Bell** was named Administrative Specialist in Public Works, also effective September 4, 2017. Congratulations, Brandon!
- ❖ An internal recruitment was held to fill the now vacant Office Specialist position in Community Development with no applications submitted.
- ❖ The city posted the Office Specialist position externally with a deadline of Monday, September 25, 2017, at noon; 46 applications were received, of which 5 were disqualified for being incomplete. The remaining 41 were scored and staff interviews will be held on October 3.
- ❖ An internal recruitment was held to fill the Police Office Supervisor position resulting in two applicants. Interviews were held on September 26 & 28.
- ❖ **Jeana Allen-Hatcher** has been appointed to the Police Office Supervisor position, effective October 2, 2017.
- ❖ The city will soon post the vacancy internally.



Diapers Still Needed

There is still time to donate diapers during Diaper Need Awareness in New Hope.

Donations of diapers will be gratefully accepted as long as the playpen is in the lobby.

Donation receipts are available (hanging on the playpen).

Coming Up...



October 7 Last Farmers Market for this year
October 14 City Day
October 14 Waffle Breakfast at West Metro
October 18 Wacky Wednesday
October 27 Prayer Breakfast
November 3 thru 17 Open Enrollment for 2018 benefits
November 8 City Offices Clean up Day
November 10 City Holiday
November 23 & 24 Thanksgiving Holiday
November 29 Last Wellness Event for 2017
(details on page 8)

City Day Returns

City Day, originally planned for June 3 but cancelled due to expected inclement weather, has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 14, and coincides with the West Metro Fire Rescue open house.

This is an opportunity for city council and staff to interact with residents and for residents to learn more about the city.

Vehicles and Equipment on Display:

- ◇ Heavy equipment from Public Works
- ◇ Police squad car
- ◇ SWAT van
- ◇ West Metro Fire-Rescue trucks
- ◇ Three Rivers Parks "GoVan"
- ◇ CCX Media Television production van

Booths:

- ◇ New Hope Business Networking Group
- ◇ Concepts for the proposed new police station and city hall
- ◇ New Hope's Comprehensive Plan
- ◇ How to help protect local water quality
- ◇ Information about home loans available through Center for Energy and Environment
- ◇ Several vendors from the Farmers Market

Activities:

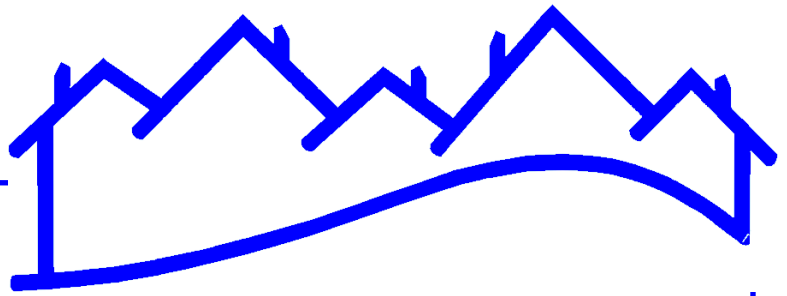
- ◇ Kiddie fire obstacle course, ongoing
- ◇ Police Department tour at 9:45 a.m.
- ◇ Technical Rescue Demo with the new Tower at 10:30 a.m.
- ◇ Three Rivers puppet shows at 9:45 and 10:45 a.m.
- ◇ Live burn demo at 10 a.m.
- ◇ Tech rescue demo at 10:30 a.m.
- ◇ Police K-9 demo at 11 a.m.
- ◇ Auto extrication demo at 11:30 a.m.

Special Event:

Waffle Breakfast at West Metro \$8.00

- ◇ All you can eat
- ◇ Free for kids 5 and under
- ◇ 8 a.m. to noon
- ◇ Dad's Belgian Waffles
- ◇ Flavored Syrups
- ◇ Whipped Cream
- ◇ Sausage
- ◇ Coffee
- ◇ Juice

Hot Topics



Possible New Police Station and City Hall:

- ❖ Representatives from Wold Architects are currently working on the construction documents phase of the project, which will be presented to the council at the October 16 work session.
- ❖ Meetings have recently been held with Wold, LOGIS, Solution Builders, and CCX Media to discuss equipment needs for council chambers and conference rooms. An RFP process will be undertaken for a building security system.
- ❖ The council started the process of issuing general obligation bonds for the project at the September 25 council meeting.

Talkin' Trash:

- ❖ The city received 1,284 surveys regarding organized trash collection.
- ❖ 48.9% strongly opposed or opposed changing to an organized system
- ❖ 42.7% strongly favored or favored an organized system
- ❖ 8.3% were undecided
- ❖ City Council continued the discussion at the September work session and at the September 25 council meeting decided to continue researching before making a decision.



New City Website:

- ❖ The website committee, made up of representatives from each department, continues to meet and develop the new website. This is not a website update, it is a completely new site.
- ❖ Target completion is the end of the year.



Some goals of the new website are:

- ❖ Simplify and Modernize
 - User friendly
 - No more than three clicks to destination
 - Interactive
 - Robust mobile platform
 - Language translation



2018 Budget:

- ❖ The city manager and AEM presented the preliminary 2018 budget to the Council on September 11.
- ❖ The dollar amount of the general fund budget is a 1.3% increase over 2017, and the tax levy is a 4.5% increase over 2017, both lower than the previous two years.
- ❖ The budget is based on the assumption that the outdoor swimming pool will not be operational next year.
- ❖ Department heads will be reviewing their budgets with the Council during September and October.



Alatus Apartments Project

- ❖ Groundbreaking took place September 21, 2017
- ❖ Construction next to the city golf course is progressing according to plan.
- ❖ Driving of pilings is nearing completion; footings and foundation will follow.
- ❖ Footings and foundation are each expected to take about two months to complete.



Thanks, Miguel

Miguel Robles, K-9 Officer, was thanked by the City of Hopkins Chief of Police for his and K-9 partner Kody's assist after a tragic homicide in Hopkins.

Chief Johnson recognized Miguel and Kody for their exemplary service to Hopkins. He also noted the value of coordination and partnership between Hopkins and New Hope which provides exceptional service to both communities.

Thanks, Miguel and Kody, for your assistance in this situation and for representing New Hope PD so well!



Kids Say Thank You to the Police Department

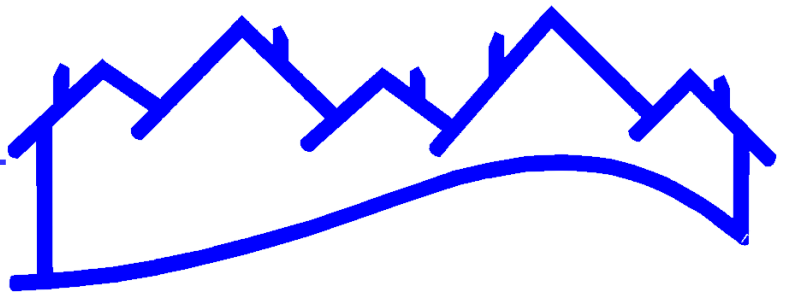
The Carlsons, a New Hope mom and her children, stopped by the police department the week after Officer William Mathews, the Wayzata police officer who was killed, to show they support the police.

Tim Fournier, Police Chief, met the mom and the kids and accepted the home made sign which is now on display in the police department.

Thanks, Carlsons!

Thanks from News & Views

The News & Views staff thanks all the readers who named N&V their favorite New Hope employee newsletter in the imaginary "Favorite Employee Newsletter" survey. News & Views received the highest scores ever in this first-never employee newsletter survey.



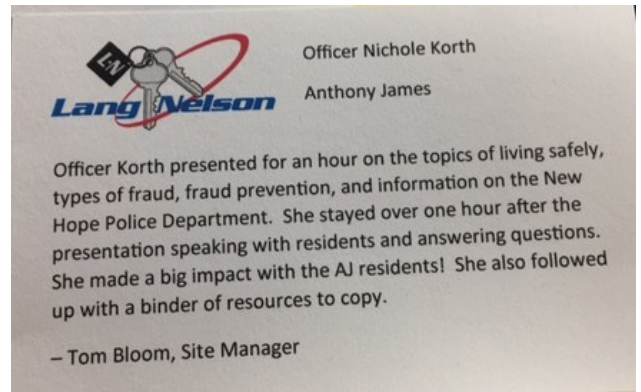
Bragging Rights

Kirk McDonald and **Jeff Sargent** continued their dominance against Eric Piper and Eric Hanson in the annual bean bag toss played at the Wellness "Picnic in the Park" last month.

Kirk and Jeff have made a joint statement, "Better luck next time!"

Congratulations, Nichole!

Police Officer **Nichole Korth** received an award from Anthony James, a 55+ multi-housing property managed by Lang Nelson. Site manager Tom Bloom nominated her for the award and Lang Nelson granted it. Here is the nomination:



Nice job, Nichole!

Thanks for Your Donations

Thanks to all who participated, the September 20 Wacky Wednesday brought in \$90 for NEAR, bringing the 2017 dollar total to \$822. The food bank can do more with cash than individuals can and they appreciate every dollar donated.

In addition to cash, any new, non-perishable, unopened, non-expired food is also appreciated and the city has collected 273 pounds of food in 2017. A collection bin is located in the city hall lobby.

The next Wacky Wednesday is scheduled for October 18. For a \$5 donation, non-uniform staff can wear jeans that day. All proceeds go to NEAR.



Bus Tour

City Bus Tour

On Tuesday, September 19, staff took the Council and commissioners on a bus tour of current city projects. The tour went from one end of the city to the other and included a box lunch along the way.

- ❖ Thanks to **Jeff Alger** for coordinating the route, and putting the packet together.
- ❖ Thanks to **Valerie Leone** for coordinating the guests, managing the RSVPs and organizing the lunch.
- ❖ Thanks to **Aaron Chirpich, Jeff Alger, Megan Albert, Susan Radar, and Jeff Sargent** for speaking about each destination along the route.
- ❖ Thanks to **Penny Spitzer** for hiring the bus company.
- ❖ Special thanks to **Kirk McDonald** for demonstrating some new playground equipment.

Attendees appreciated seeing the projects and being updated on the progress of each.



News & Views thanks
Jeff Sargent and Jeff
Alger for the photos.



City of New Hope Commissioner Bus Tour

Tuesday, September 19, 2017





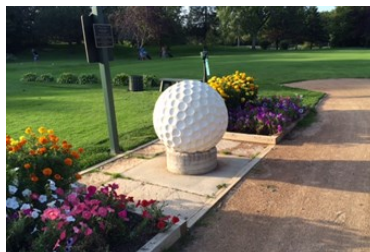
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More Golf Photos



Clockwise From Top Left:
Best Prize
Low Gross Team
PW Team
Golf Course Team
Youngest Winner
Popular Beverage Cart
PW Team, too
CD/P&R Team*
Helpers

*Also known as the
JA team; note the two Js
wore dark shirts and the two
As wore turquoise.



Understanding Medicare

A Wellness Lunch & Learn Presentation

Leif Peterson, Account Executive and Medicare Expert from Arthur J. Gallagher, the city's insurance agent, clarified some of the complicated aspects of Medicare and how to best work with it.

He covered these and other points:

- What are the different parts of Medicare?
- When I get close to age 65, what do I need to do?
- Can I delay Medicare Part A and/or B if I keep my coverage at work?
- Can I continue to contribute to my HSA if I enroll in Medicare?
- How much does Medicare cost?

Leif explained that most people will want additional medical insurance to cover the 50% of health care costs that Medicare does not cover. He explained the different types of plans that are available.

Leif also talked about the complicated prescription coverage which is required by Medicare. One must have 'creditable' prescription coverage when they reach age 65 or a penalty is assessed.

Leif has worked within the insurance and financial services industry for 15 years. He is known to be able to give detailed guidance on various options with Medicare and the health insurance exchange marketplace.

Prior to joining Arthur J. Gallagher, Leif worked as a financial advisor, specializing in all aspects of individual financial planning, including insurance, asset management and retirement income planning.

Leif stressed that he is available to talk to anyone who has a question. Feel free to contact him if you have the need.

Leif Peterson
952-345-2302
Leif_peterson@ajg.com

Several of the 20 attendees commented after the event that the information was very helpful. With such a complicated process, it is good to hear what an expert has to say.





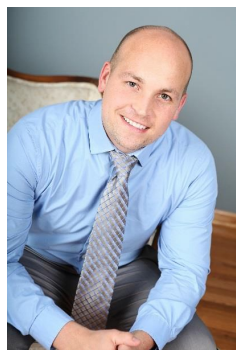
Next event:

- ❖ **Combatting Stress and the Importance of Sleep**
- ❖ **Wednesday, November 29, 11:30 a.m.**
- ❖ **Parks & Rec Conference Room**
- ❖ **Hy-Vee Boxed Lunch Available for \$5.00**

Robin Wellness Center of Robbinsdale returns with another important aspect of Wellness, the combination of stress and sleep. Dr. Matt Freudenthal, the owner and operator of Robin Wellness Center, will discuss the following points.

- ❖ Stress and Sleep are not separate entities. Both can be conducive to the other.
- ❖ The detriments of piling on the stress day after day, week after week, and the effects it can have on your job performance, focus, and overall moods.
- ❖ Sleep; why we need it, what happens in the body if you don't get it, and how to regain it.

Dr. Freudenthal wants to get us thinking about stress and sleep as it pertains to our health and the long term affects these issues can have on our bodies. He will prompt us to take action sooner rather than later to keep us at our most optimal health!



Dr. Matt Freudenthal graduated from Northwestern Health Sciences University in November of 2010 with his Doctorate of Chiropractic. He began working at the largest wellness clinic in the south suburbs in Minneapolis, quickly becoming the senior associate. In 2014, he purchased Robin Wellness Center and has completed extensive work in various techniques including Gonstead, AK, Activator, Motion Palpation and more.

His mission is to help individuals within our community to restore their God-given abilities to heal which exists in each and every one of us.

“It is no longer good enough to just prevent disease. In order to flourish now and in the future, we must begin teaching our patients to create health instead of waiting for health to come to them.” – Dr. Matt