

Also in this Issue:

- ❖ Employees of the Quarter
- ❖ Four Spotlights
- ❖ Wellness Calendar
- ❖ And more!

News & Views

January 31, 2017

The City of New Hope's Employee Newsletter

Police Commendations Awarded



Above: Sergeant **Dave Johnson** and Captain **Scott Crocker** are honored for apprehending a repeat robbery suspect.

At the January 9 city council meeting, New Hope Director of Police, **Tim Fournier**, presented police personnel and citizens with commendations for their actions related to seven police incidents that occurred over the past year.



Above: Officers **Ben Harty**, **Mike TenEyck**, **David Friskney**, Crystal Sergeant **Tracie Lee-Faust**, and Captain **Scott Crocker** receive commendations for the excellent job they did responding to, and processing, a very fast moving shooting incident resulting in the arrest of two suspects.



Above: **Andrew Nickelson**, Community Service Officer, is awarded for his observations and quick thinking resulting in the arrest of an intoxicated driver who was also wanted for a hit and run accident.

Citizens Commendations went to **Mark Hefferan** and **Holly Hornberg** for providing aid and CPR to a drowning disabled man who was not breathing, thereby saving his life; and to **Adam Livingston** for rescuing two special needs residents from an apartment fire.



Left: Officer **David Friskney** receives a commendation for saving a victim of cardiac arrest by performing CPR. Officer **Justin Reuter** also received a commendation for the same event.

News & Events



Chili Feed

Come one, come all, to the annual Chili Feed sponsored by the City Hall Employee Club. Taste a variety of chili concoctions and vote for your favorite. The winner's name will be added to the coveted ;>) Chili Feed trophy and will receive bragging rights until next year.

The event, on **February 8**, is free for City Hall Employee Club members and non-members who cook, and only \$5 for everyone else. Ingredients will be reimbursed by submitting a receipt. The menu includes toppings, homemade bread, crackers, and cookies.

RSVP with your \$5 to Eve by January 31.



Coming Up...

February 7 State of the City
February 8 Chili Feed
February 17 Management Retreat
February 20 President's Day



Mayor and Council Members Sworn In

Mayor **Kathi Hemken**, Council Member **Andy Hoffe**, and Council Member **Eric Lammle** ran unopposed in the November election and were officially reelected.

Mayor Hemken and Council Member Lammle were elected to their third terms. Council Member Hoffe is beginning his fourth term.

All three took the oath of office at the January 9 council meeting, administered by City Clerk Valerie Leone.

Vehicles Wanted

Do you know of any vehicles that would add interest to the annual Vehicle Fair?

Staff is seeking vehicles from local businesses and community organizations to participate in this year's Vehicle Fair on Saturday, May 13, at Crystal Community Center from 10 a.m. to noon. The event attendance typically ranges from 500 to 1000 people and is a great marketing opportunity for those who participate.

Send your suggestions to Sarah Hansen in P&R by March 1.



Recruiting Update

- ❖ **Jessi Weber** started as the Office Specialist in Community Development on January 5. See her spotlight on page 6.
- ❖ **Brad Kallio, Dan Fitzmaurice, and Matthew Collier** have joined the New Hope Police Department, bringing the department to a full complement of officers. Brad and Dan started on January 9 and Matthew on January 18. See their spotlights on pages 7, 8, and 9.
- ❖ The city recruited internally for Director of Public Works and received one application. However, two are required to complete an internal process.
- ❖ The city will now proceed with an external recruitment for Director of Public Works. An ad will run in the February 2 SunPost with a closing date of Monday, February 13 at noon.
- ❖ Staff is planning a recruitment process to fill the administrative specialist position in the police department.

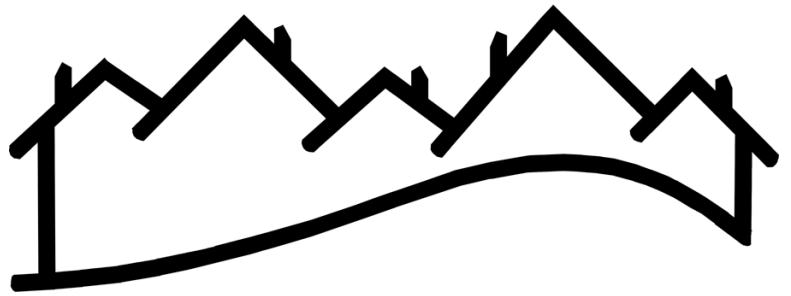
Update on Potential New Police Station and City Hall Facility

At its January 9 meeting the city council approved contracts with Wold Architects and Stantec Engineering to continue the police facility/city hall planning and design process. In addition, two committees have been formed to address master planning for the outdoor pool and Civic Center Park, in conjunction with the design phase of the new police department and city hall.

A pool committee will look at the current site features, learn what features are included in other area pools, discuss the budget, and determine wants and needs for a new facility.

A park committee will review the park's current amenities, the amenities located at other parks within the city, the budget, and will identify wants and needs for Civic Center Park.

In addition to the committee input, several open houses and other resident events will gather thoughts from the general public.



3 More Stuff...

Looking for a Form? Or other City Info?

Try 'connect2', the city's Intranet, where you will find a wealth of information. You may have seen parts of it during open enrollment, but there are many additional items of interest on the site.

Benefits Column

- ❖ Details of city benefits

Forms Column

- ❖ Absence Request Form
- ❖ City Calendar 2017
- ❖ Deferred Comp Change Form
- ❖ Direct Deposit Authorization Form (to change or add a financial institution)
- ❖ Employee Information Update Form (new address, new name, and/or new phone number)
- ❖ Employee of the Quarter Nomination Form
- ❖ Employee of the Year Nomination Form
- ❖ Employee Phone List
- ❖ Expense Reimbursement Form 2017
- ❖ Purchase Order Form
- ❖ Voluntary Unpaid Leave Request Form
- ❖ W-4 Form, Federal 2017
- ❖ W-4 Form, State 2017

Resources Column

- ❖ News & Views
- ❖ Wellness Newsletters
- ❖ SunPost Link
- ❖ Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program
- ❖ Style Manual
- ❖ Policies/Programs/Guidelines

If you have any suggestions of helpful items to add or ideas to rearrange items to make the site easier to use, please let Eve know.

You can reach connect2 at any time, from any computer with Internet access:

Go to www.connect2mybenefits.com

User ID is some form of **NewHope** (upper or lower case, all one word or two words, depending on your PC)

Password is **connect2**

Looking for your City Contribution on your Pay Advice???

All income - regular pay, holiday pay, personal leave, sick leave, vacation leave, comp time - is listed on the top left portion of your pay advice. In that same section there is a code for your city contribution that starts with CC, for City Contribution, followed by your coverage - S for single, S+1 for Employee plus one, etc.; followed by your benefit code - FT PL for full-time on personal leave, VS for vacation sick, etc.

Benefit deductions are included in the top right portion of the pay advice below taxes. Your medical coverage starts with HDHP (High Deductible Health Plan) followed by the plan you selected - A, B, or C - followed by the coverage - S for single, S+1 for Employee plus one, F for family.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Eve or Rich.

What is the State of the City?



On Tuesday, February 7, starting at 7:30 a.m., the mayor and city manager will present the State of the City to members of Twin Cities West Chamber of Commerce, owners and employees of the local business community, interested residents, and visitors from other cities.

City staff will show accomplishments of 2016 activities and provide an overview of 2017 projects.

The State of the City is reported to the public every year. The presentation will be posted on the city website after the event.

Thank
&
Congrats!



Fournier Honored

Tim Fournier, Director of Police, was thanked by the Hennepin County Chiefs of Police Association for serving as president of the group.

Tim's term started in January 2016 and on January 5, 2017, he was given a plaque stating,

"In appreciation of Your Outstanding Leadership and Dedication as our President". That says it all!

Great job, Tim!

Annual Food Drive

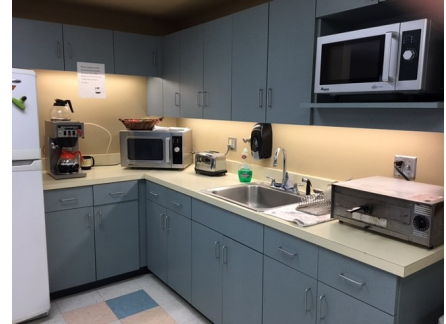
Thanks to all who donated to the ongoing food drive in 2016. The total donations for the year were 987 pounds of food and \$1,832 in cash.



The addition of monthly Wacky Wednesdays brought individual staff donations of \$5.00 or more and allowed employees to dress down on that day. Wacky Wednesdays provided \$1,150 of the total above.

The city also collected food from both staff and residents for the holidays. As during the year, all food and cash collected were given to NEAR.

Thanks again to everyone for this very needed and appreciated help.



City Hall Lunch Room

Yes, that photo above is really the City Hall Lunch Room after it was thoroughly cleaned by **Walker Crawford** with help from **Valerie Leone**.

Everyone was asked to remove or label their items and anything not identified was given away or tossed. Then, the real work started. Walker cleaned the kitchen area as it has never been cleaned since the turn of the century! He even cleaned the space above the cabinets.

So next time you are in the lunch room, you can appreciate how nice it looks. Now, it's our turn to keep it up.

Thanks, Walker and Val, for making such a big difference!!



Change is Coming to the New Hope Website

The city has contracted with Civiclive to design a new city website. The last major update was in 2009.

This time around, the website will be built from the bottom up. Rather than take current content and tweak it, new content will be compiled. To help with this huge task, each department has a representative who will serve on the redesign committee and develop content for their area.

Jerry Beck, communications coordinator, and **Rich Johnson**, director of HR & admin, are the champions for this much needed task.



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Employees of the Quarter

Valerie Leone, city clerk, and **Walker Crawford**, administrative specialist, were selected as the employees of the fourth quarter of 2016 for all the time and effort they put into the recent election cycle. The election process has always been tedious but this year there was a triple whammy - it was a very contentious election, voters were passionate about voting, and the law had been changed so people could vote absentee without needing to have a reason. The flood gates really opened and at times there was a line from the front desk all the way back to Parks & Rec. Val and Walker had a part-time person helping, too, and brought in election judges for a while, just to try and keep up.

Walker started with the city in April so this was his first go-round with elections. There are a lot of details in the election process and he learned quickly. He became the go-to person to answer questions as Val was doing lots of the behind-the-scenes things that are required and time consuming.

Between the two of them, Val and Walker kept rearranging the city hall lobby to accommodate as many voters as possible as quickly as possible. At first, everyone just went to the front counter. Then, a table was put in the lobby for filling out the required form to request an absentee ballot. Later, the table was enlarged, and close to the deadline for absentee voting, the council chambers were used to fill out forms. The three voting booths that they started with morphed into as many as would fit in the lobby. Through it all, Walker and Val were upbeat and courteous to everyone, making it a pleasant experience even for those who had to wait awhile to vote. In the end, more than 3,000 absentee ballots were submitted in New Hope, almost a fourth of the registered voters in the city, and many more than in the past.

Valerie has handled elections as long as she has been city clerk (close to 28 years) and this was the most stressful election season she has ever experienced. For Walker, he was happy that he was able to learn his primary job before the election process started so he could focus on the details of elections as needed.

Thanks to you both, for another stellar performance! It is this type of customer service that serves our residents so well. And, they respond positively, even if they have to wait.

Best of all, the election is over for now and presidential elections are only once every four years. After this year, the 'mid-term' elections in 2018 will be a snap!

Congratulations, Val and Walker! An honor well deserved.

Nominees for Employee of the Quarter

Jeff Alger, community development assistant, was nominated for the many hours he put into the Holiday Train which stopped in New Hope for the first time. Jeff was the champion of the event and even if this could be considered part of his job, it was a huge event, the first time ever, and Jeff put together a plan that will work well into the future.

Preparations included coordinating sponsors, securing donations from various companies, coordinating with The Food Group, Hy-Vee, NHPD, WMFRD, the city of Crystal, and various residents to ensure an exciting and safe event. The Holiday Train raised approximately \$6,000 and nearly 3,700 pounds of food that The Food Group will distribute to local food banks, which is the goal of Canadian Pacific, owner of the Holiday Train.

Approximately 1,500 people attended the event, in very cold weather, and cheered when the train arrived. The event was considered a huge success which will most likely mean that the Holiday Train will stop in New Hope next year and in years to come.

No detail was missed and every detail worked well. Great job, Jeff!!

Susan Rader, director of Parks & Recreation, was nominated for her great leadership and the ways she has gone above and beyond for her department and the city.

In addition to leading a large department that ranges from gymnastics for tots, to day trips for seniors and includes an arena, a golf course, and a pool in addition to the 20 beautiful city parks and the programming for them, Susan also personally handled the dance program, the largest of all. She also responded to citizen inquiries and concerns, prepared grant requests, assisted with the Holiday Train, and performed her many day-to-day tasks.

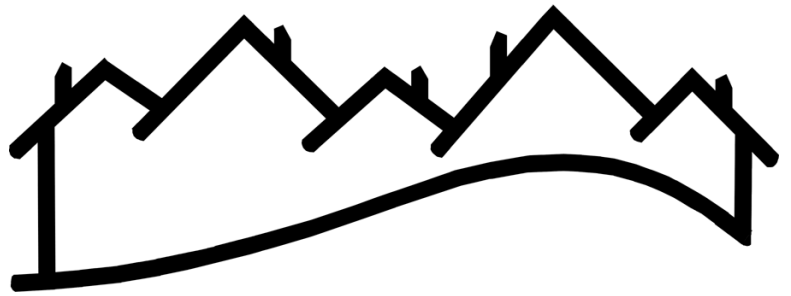
Thanks, Susan, for all you do!

Art Sorenson, maintenance worker, was nominated for his suggestion to use concrete to patch water breaks instead of asphalt. Although this may seem like a simple thing, it made a big difference in the efficiency and permanency of water break repairs. The process saves time and material, too.

Thanks, Art, for that 'aha' moment, and its very positive results!

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Spotlight On...



Jessica (Jessi) Weber started as the Community Development Office Specialist on January 5, 2017. She comes to us with five years of admin experience at a law firm and a lot of enthusiasm for public sector work.

Jessi grew up on a vegetable farm in Delano and remembers the freshness of just-picked veggies and how good they tasted. Stemming from her roots, Jessi plants a garden every year with both veggies and flowers.

Jessi met Rob, who later became her husband, online. They found many common interests such as hunting, kayaking, and the outdoors in general. They were married in 2014 and now have a one-year-old daughter, Emma, who is described as very outgoing/smiley/happy/stubborn. Certainly, she keeps her parents hopping!

Jessi describes Rob as one who always has to be busy (does that sound like Emma?). He is an avid hunter and gets a deer almost every year. Last year he got an elk and they still have a freezer full of venison. Jessi is more of a homebody and enjoys reading and crafts. However, since the arrival of Emma, Jessi hasn't read a book all the way through or spent much time on hobbies. However, she will be reading "The Cat in the Hat" from cover to cover soon!

Both Jessi and Rob enjoy their family cabins, Jessi's in Barnes, WI, and Rob's in Aitkin, MN. They visited Cancun on their honeymoon, and another winter took a cruise from New Orleans to the Bahamas and Key West. A highlight in Key West was eating alligator. It tasted good! Both were fun trips, especially the cruise, and she would take another if the opportunity arose.

Jessi owned a motorcycle and loved it until she was in an accident in 2008 and the bike was totaled. She was wearing safety gear and had only minor injuries but the accident took away the fun factor.

Welcome to the city, Jessi. You won't need to ride a motorcycle and you will probably find willing hands to relieve you of any excess fresh veggies (and/or venison) you might have left over next summer! Keep us in mind.

The Roving Reporter



Spotlight On...



Bradley "Brad" Kallio joined the city as a police officer on January 9, 2017 after serving seven years as a police officer with the Dallas, Texas PD. But, don't let a move from Texas to Minnesota surprise you - Brad grew up in Wisconsin and went to Menominee High School, so it is like coming home for him. He attended the University of Idaho where he earned a degree in Physical Education. However, at the time, it was hard to find a job in education so he turned to his long time dream of becoming a police officer, one he had as a child. After completing his Law Enforcement Certificate, Dallas was hiring, so he went there. It was a good move. Not only did he find that he loved being a police officer, he also met the woman who later became his wife, Christine.

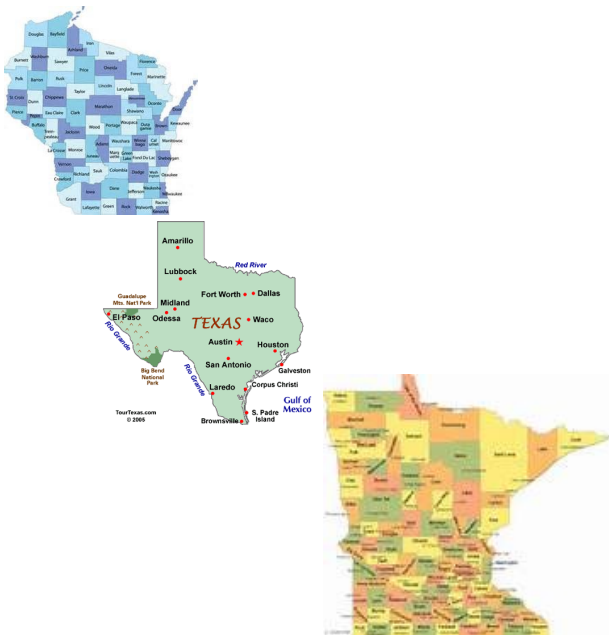
Christine and Brad met at an "Old 97's" outdoor concert where they were both working. Christine was working part time with a magazine, the Dallas Observer. Brad was there as an officer. They both enjoyed music and concerts and eventually they got together. They married four years ago. Now, they have three-year-old twin boys, Carson and Logan, who keep their parents doubly alert. The boys are a big part of the reason why the Kallios wanted to move back to this area and be closer to family. The Kallio grandparents are very happy that they will be closer to the twins.

Brad has an older sister, Kari, who is a teacher in Elk Mound, Wisconsin. She and her husband Jeremy have two girls, a nine-year-old and a five-year-old. Growing up, Brad's family liked camping, nearby road trips, and spending time at their family cabin near Hayward, WI. Both he and his sister were involved with sports and loved the outdoors. Mom and Dad still live in Menomonie where they are retired.

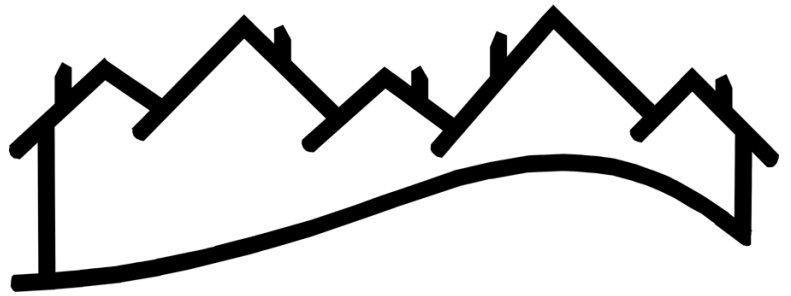
Asked about hobbies, Brad shared his love for music, sports, and movies, especially Star Wars. Of course, with three-year-old twins and having just made a major move, there isn't a lot of time for hobbies. He and Christine spend any free time with the boys and Lucy, a half Beagle, half Jack Russell who is nine years old. Lucy chases squirrels and loves walks.

Welcome, Brad! New Hope is a bit smaller than Dallas, and not as far out as Star Wars, but the city has a lot to offer. We hope you will enjoy all of it and, May the Force be With You!

The Roving Reporter



Spotlight On...



Daniel “Dan” Fitzmaurice (pronounced Fitz-morris) joined the New Hope Police Department on January 9, 2017 after five years with the Air Force and two years as a detention deputy with Hennepin County.

Dan served with distinction in the United States Air Force Security Forces and was deployed in and out of every country with American boots on the ground. His team ferried equipment and passengers to each base. He enjoyed being in the Air Force but felt that civilian life would be more conducive to a strong family life. He met Stephenie, who would later become his wife, just three months before he deployed. They met online and later realized that they had met casually three years earlier in Mountain Home, Idaho, where he was stationed. He proposed in the airport upon returning home and they were married seven months later.

Stephenie has an 8-year old daughter, Alexis, and together they have a 17-month-old daughter, Layla, described as a ‘wild child’ who runs, jumps, and seems to never slow down. Dan was born in Connecticut and Stephenie is originally from Minnesota. They settled down in Minnesota where Alexis lives after they were married. Stephenie is the bar manager at Biffs in Spring Lake Park.

While looking for a police job in Minnesota, Dan worked as a private eye, a bouncer, and an armed security guard. He liked being a detention deputy but prefers being outside. His love of police work started with his dad who is a detective in Connecticut and he is looking forward to being ‘on the streets’ in New Hope.

Dan has a ‘goofy’ male Sheepdog named Jax. Jax is said to have all the hair in the family! He chases dust/bugs/hair/lasers and just about anything that moves.

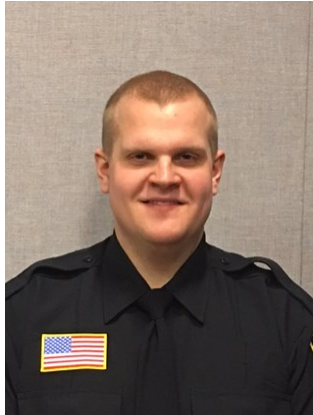
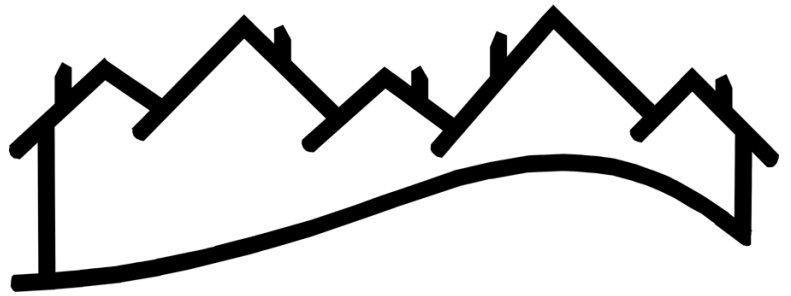
Dan has been to Oahu where he was deeply impressed with Pearl Harbor but was not so enthralled with Honolulu or Waikiki Beach. He admitted he likes Karaoke although he says he is not so good at it. He also doesn’t have much time for it now. Occasionally he and Stephenie play Rummy 500 but most of their time is spent chasing Layla and Jax.



Welcome to New Hope, Dan. You will have plenty of opportunity to be outdoors, during and after work. Enjoy!

The Roving Reporter

Spotlight On...



Matthew “Matt” Collier started with the city on January 18, 2017. He was born and raised right here in New Hope and attended Robbinsdale Spanish Immersion Elementary, Robbinsdale Middle School, and Cooper High. He went to the University of North Dakota where he earned his BS in Criminal Justice and completed police skills at Alexandria Tech. He spent about a year in Grand Forks, North Dakota as a county juvenile corrections officer. He also has two years of customer service experience with Target. Matt is delighted to be ‘back home’ as a police officer in the city where he grew up!

Matt has always loved sports and played soccer as a kid. He was a double athlete in high school, serving as the captain of both the football and lacrosse teams. He also played bass in the orchestra. His parents have lived in New Hope for many years. His dad is a retired financial analyst and his mom is also a financial analyst, still working in the field.

The family enjoyed summer road trips to national parks such as Yellowstone, Custer, Glacier, and others. They also visited Mexico. Their favorite trips were to Disney World where they have a timeshare and continue to visit at least once a year. If the opportunity arose, Matt would like to visit Europe or other exotic places.

Matt enjoys the outdoors, especially on his bicycle. One of his favorite places to ride are the Elm Creek Trails. Another hobby is ‘putting things together’ such as a book shelf, or other items. He says he loved Legos as a kid and the fun of ‘putting things together’ has stayed with him. He can also fix just about anything, a very handy talent! He also enjoys cooking and can follow a recipe or make it up as he goes along. Either way, it tastes good when it is done.

Matt has been dating Kelsey for three years. They met at college in North Dakota and she is currently completing her double major in psychology and nursing. She wants to become a psychological nurse and work with mental health patients. She plans to move to Minnesota after graduating.

Bienvenidos to the city, Matt! New Hope may not be considered exotic, but it is a great place to live and work. And you will probably be able to use your fluency in Spanish, too.

The Roving Reporter





City of New Hope

Wellness 2017

Biometric Screening

- ❖ So far, 51 people have had their biometrics screened at Hy-Vee, with more to come
- ❖ Individual appointments can be made going forward by calling Eve
- ❖ Those who complete the screen will receive a reward

Biometric Screening Reward

Completers have the choice of the following:

- ❖ A \$50 Dick's Sporting Goods gift card
- ❖ A \$60 Whole Foods gift card (Whole Foods is giving an additional \$10; the city is paying \$50)
- ❖ Those who do not already have a Garmin can request one; there are three left and they are on a first come, first served basis
- ❖ Rewards will be available towards the end of February

Wellness is a GOOD thing!





City of New Hope

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Wellness 2017 Plans

Next event:

- ❖ Lunch & Learn
- ❖ Wednesday, March 22, 11:30 a.m.
- ❖ Topic: “The Many Looks of Caregiving” presented by St. Therese

Tentative Schedule of 2017 Events

- ❖ May 24 Lunch & Learn - speaker on weight loss struggles
- ❖ June 24 Community Health Fair in conjunction with North Memorial, held at West Metro Fire Rescue District, possible tie in with the Farmers Market
- ❖ July 26 Lunch & Learn, “Name that Veggie” presented by Hy-Vee
- ❖ August 23 Summer Picnic and Games
- ❖ September 27 Healthy Potluck and Medicare expert to speak
- ❖ November 29 Lunch & Learn - presentation on stress reduction

Details of each event will follow in future News & Views.

Wellness is a GOOD thing!

