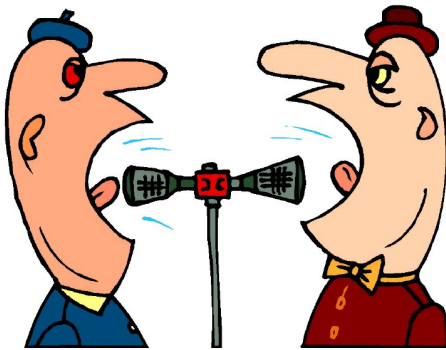


News & Views

April 28, 2017

The City of New Hope's Employee Newsletter

Let's Talk TRASH!



NO, not
THAT
kind of trash,
THIS
kind of trash.



T is for Telephone survey.

In 2015, a professional city-wide telephone survey of 400 New Hope residents indicated that 51% were in favor of a single hauler, 38% preferred to leave it up to each home owner, and 13% were undecided.



R is for Residents.

In the last few years, a number of residents have requested a change to a single hauler for the city, especially to cut down on the early morning noise in their area.

A is to Ask for feedback and Listen to it.

A listening session will be held for residents on August 7 and a survey will be made available to gather input from the community before Council discusses organized garbage collection again.



S is for Study.

Although the majority of Council members have not supported a single hauler in the past, recently they directed staff to take another look at the issue. Council is in no hurry to make a decision and encourages residents to learn more about the issue. An educational flyer will be designed and made available over the summer at various public events such as City Day, the Farmer's Market, and National Night Out.

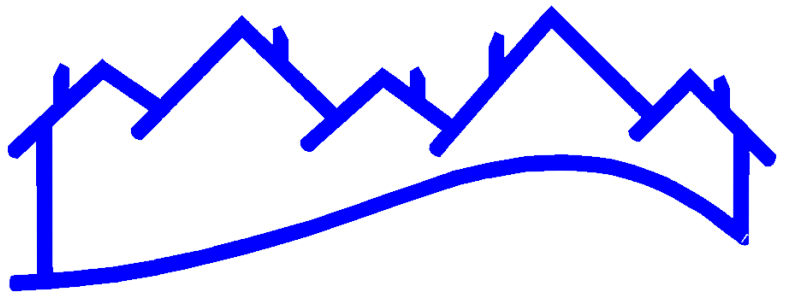


H is for Haulers.

There are seven haulers who currently have routes in the city of New Hope. This can take a toll on city streets, create additional traffic, increase the noise in many neighborhoods, and spread additional emissions.



Coming and Going...



So Long for a While

John Blasiak, Streets and Parks Supervisor in Public Works, will be retiring this year. He will leave for vacation on May 4, but he will be back June 28 until July 6. Then, he officially retires.

John started with the city on June 18, 1990, as a Maintenance Worker and worked in Parks until he was named Supervisor of Streets and Parks on October 11, 1999.

John will be going to the Bahamas in May, to enjoy some leisure time before coming back for that last push to retirement.

Enjoy, John!! We'll see you again in July.

New Supervisor

Andrew Kramer has been named the Streets and Parks Maintenance Supervisor to replace John Blasiak who is retiring.

Andrew has been with the city since January 2010 and has served in Streets and Parks as a Maintenance Worker. He started as the supervisor on April 17.

Congratulations, Andrew!!

Recruiting Update

- ❖ The city received 34 applications for the new Crime Analyst and Prevention Specialist in the police department. The 28 qualified applications are being scored this week and the first interview is scheduled for May 2.
- ❖ The city is currently recruiting for Operations Manager in Public Works. The positions closes at noon on Monday, May 1st.
- ❖ The city will soon start the recruitment process to hire a Maintenance Worker.
- ❖ Backgrounds for full-time CSO final candidates are being completed.

Lunch Plans

It's time to send in your RSVP for back-to-back lunch events in May.



MAY 11

Thursday, May 11, is the annual **Staff Appreciation BBQ** given for city staff by the Management Team. It will be held at the city golf course.

Staff who have a city email account have received an email with 'voting buttons' where you can choose your lunch time and meat choice. Those without email received a paper invitation with RSVP details.

All need to **reply to Eve by next Friday, May 5th.**



MAY 12

Friday, May 12, is the **Traci Mann Wellness presentation of 'Diets Don't Work' and 'Willpower is a Myth'.**

The event will be held at West Metro, starting at 11:30 a.m.

Send your lunch menu and \$5 to Eve by next Thursday, May 4th.

3 Staff Stuff



Charity Basketball Event

The annual Ballin' in Dakota County Charity Basketball Tournament was held April 8, to raise money for families of fallen police officers. New Hope was represented by School Resource Officer **Jared Kuyper**, Police Sergeant **Tim Hoyt**, and New Hope Explorer **Tryston Hoyt**. The team's name is Air Supply, created by Tim Hoyt.

The team also included a Crystal officer and Explorer, an Anoka County Deputy Sheriff, and two officers from Minnetonka.

The event raised more than \$6,500! Great job, guys!!



Lots of Upcoming Events

May 1 thru 28	Step To It Challenge
May 3	Bike Rodeo
May 11	Employee Appreciation Lunch
May 12	Lunch & Learn with Traci Mann, Ph.D.
May 13	Vehicle Fair
May 29	City Holiday
June 3	City Day
June 10	Pool Opens
June 17	Farmers Market Starts
June 24	Healthy Living Fair
July 4	City Holiday
July 14 thru 16	Duk Duk Daze
August 1	National Night Out
August 4	Water Day

Dorothy Mary Park Clean-up

Employees of the city of New Hope adopted Dorothy Mary Park several years ago and cleans the park regularly.

The most recent clean-up was April 18. See photos below.

Thanks to all who participated!!



Thank & Congrats!

Thank You Note From a Resident

The following note was sent to New Hope Police Officer Daniel Fitzmaurice, and typifies the excellent service our police deliver to residents.

Dear Officer Fitzmaurice,
I felt compelled to take the time to say Thank You for a couple of reasons. First because I was terrified when you stopped me, a routine stop. However as a black woman we have been conditioned to expect the worse. I actually prayed, "Lord Please Don't let me die." However when I watched you get out of the car your stance was relaxed and you did not have any aggression. When you walked to my car and peeped into my window I knew I was OK and it would be routine.

But never did I expect the icing on the cupcake (ok, it's corny) to be just receiving a warning and not a citation. I do appreciate it. But even more so I appreciate your restoring my faith in Police Officers.

Sincerely.

Thanks to all our police officers for the fine work each of you provide to the city!



Ongoing Food Drive

The ongoing food drive with donations going to NEAR has collected 115 pounds of food and \$347 so far in 2017. All donations of unopened, new, non-perishable foods are appreciated.

Many thanks to all who donate food and/or participate in Wacky Wednesdays each month by donating \$5 to wear jeans that day. The next Wacky Wednesday is 5/24.

Thanks to all for your contributions!

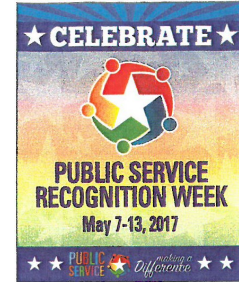


Thanks for Planning Commission Service

The New Hope City Council recognized Steve Svendsen for 21 years of volunteer service on the New Hope Planning Commission at its meeting on April 10.

During his tenure, Svendsen served as chair of the Planning Commission for six years and chair of the Design and Review sub-committee for 18 years. He has provided the Design and Review sub-committee a significant amount of institutional and historical knowledge, and helped many applicants refine their proposals so that they moved forward to the full Planning Commission with solid applications.

Thanks, Steve, for all you gave to the city and the residents through the Planning Commission! You are much appreciated.



A Time to Celebrate Ourselves!

Public Service Recognition Week has been celebrated the first full week of May since 1985, to honor the women and men who serve our nation as government employees.

You can read more about it online:
<http://publicservicerecognitionweek.org/>

Thumbs Up to Penny and Jill



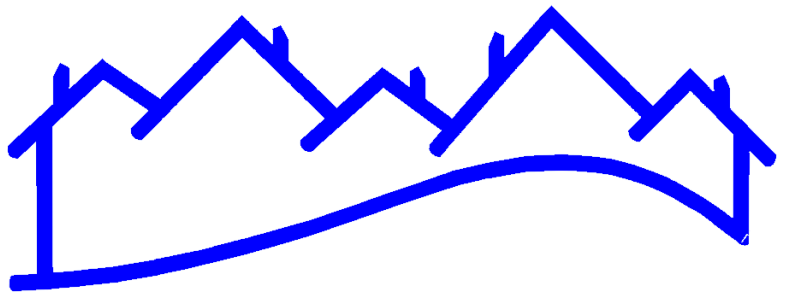
Penny Spitzer, admin specialist, and **Jill Smisek**, office specialist, led the Parks and Recreation department through a smooth and successful rollout of a new process to take registrations for their many programs.

Ray Jozwiak, of LOGIS, commented at the LOGIS board meeting how well prepared the New Hope staff was due to the extra study and training done by Penny and Jill.

They sought out additional videos and spent extra time to learn all they could to prepare for the big day. Due to their diligence, the rollout went exceptionally well.

Thanks, Penny and Jill, for going the extra mile, and making it an easy transition to a not-so-easy process! Your efforts are much appreciated.





5

Employee of the Quarter

Congratulations to **Jessi Weber**, office specialist in community development, for being named the Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2017.

Jessi was nominated for taking on additional duties when the admin specialist position in community development was vacated. According to her nominators, Jessi, who has been with the city less than three months, has “seamlessly taken over the duties of the Administrative Specialist” while continuing to learn her position and helping to train in a new Office Specialist, all at the same time. These additional duties were not assigned to Jessi but she took it upon herself to learn them so the department would not suffer during the staff shortage. They include constant customer service for rental license procedures and scheduling inspections and Jessi is known for conducting that business in a friendly manner. She has also started cleaning up old files and closing those that are past the completion date. She is an eager learner and seems to enjoy the challenge of learning new tasks in order to help the city.

But, enough about work. Jessi has a busy life outside work, too. She is married, the mother of a one-year old, and has little down time for herself. However, she and two friends are planning a “Waterfall Weekend”, a trip to Duluth and then north to Grand Portage to visit several waterfalls. The trip will include photos and hiking, as well as time to relax without household chores for a couple days. Her husband has his own to-do list for a fun weekend. Daughter Emma will spend the time with a very happy grandma.

Speaking of grandma, those who have had the biggest influence on Jessi are the women in her life, especially her two grandmothers. Both have accomplished so much in their lives...preserving food from gardens, raising families, working on farms, and they are very talented in many skills such as sewing, crocheting, knitting, and other crafty-type things that were more a necessity than a hobby.

Jessi was brought up on a farm in Delano and has two siblings. She has fond memories of the three of them going ‘cow fishing’ (that is not a typo). They would go to the upper level of the barn and tie some hay on twine. Then they would dangle the twine down around the cows who would eventually nibble on the hay. Jessi says it is a fond memory of her childhood. Perhaps it is for the cows, too!

Jessi received a \$100 Visa gift card and although she is happy to have some additional money for diapers, she might keep a few dollars for herself. Then again, maybe not.

Congratulations, Jessi, and thanks for going above and beyond expectations by taking on additional responsibilities to help keep the city moving forward smoothly.

The Roving Reporter

Nominees receive a
\$15.00 gift card

Carol Gass, Accounting Technician, was nominated for scanning hundreds of documents to the network and creating indexes to make them easy to find and access. Although it is the finance department’s responsibility to manage these documents, Carol went above and beyond by disposing of many documents no longer needed and did it all in addition to her regular responsibilities and the extra preparation needed for the auditors.

Thanks, Carol, for your continued excellence in quietly doing extra tasks, and doing them in a very helpful way. You are appreciated!

6 Walk or Bike, as you Like



Sign up Online at:
Steptoit.org

Our worksite group is:
**New Hope (Mayor, Council,
Staff & Commissions)**

Dates:
May 1 to May 28

See Sarah Hansen in P&R
for more details.



Bike Rodeo

The Annual Bike Rodeo is coming up on May 3 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Golden Valley City Hall. The Rodeo is for kids and families to get ready for the biking season by checking out their bike and helmet, and navigating their bike through a safety skills course supervised by police personnel and volunteers.

Youth ages 15 and under, who complete the safety course, are eligible for door prizes which will be given out at 7:30 p.m. You must be present to win.

The Bike Rodeo is cosponsored by City of New Hope, City of Golden Valley, City of Crystal, Three Rivers Park District, West Metro Fire Rescue, New Hope Crime Prevention Fund, Safe Kids, and Penn Cycle & Fitness. Refreshments will be provided by West Metro VFW Post #7051.

Join the Step To It Challenge

Just think of it: **fresh air**, **exercise**, and a **fun challenge**, all rolled up into a one month-long event. The city of New Hope will compete as a worksite and you can be part of it.

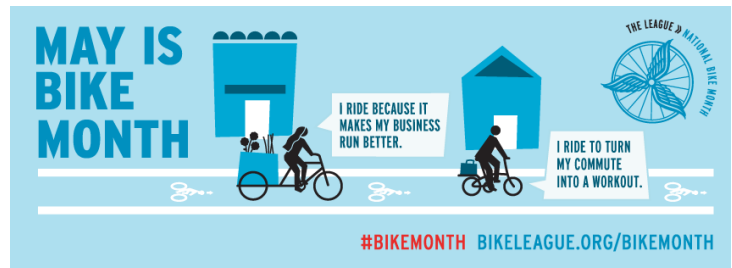
You don't even need to walk—other types of exercise count, too, such as bicycling, cleaning your house, vacuuming, washing your car, gardening, dancing, yoga, Zumba, etc. A conversion chart is available to capture other activities.

And, there are **great prizes!!** You could win a pair of Twins tickets just by joining Sarah Hansen for a 15-minute walk to **kick off the competition on Monday, May 1st, at noon in front of city hall**. At the end of the walk, you can put your name in the hat for Twins tickets. During the month, additional Twins tickets will be awarded. In addition, T-shirts, flashers, and lanyards are available at Parks & Rec, for those who sign up.

Organizations are recognized for the highest average steps logged per participant and the highest percentage of employee participation. There are individual prizes, too.

Track online for the month, weekly, or daily, or whenever it is best for you. Those employees with a Garmin Fitness Tracker will find their daily steps on their Garmin and need only enter that number online. No calculations needed.

So, Step To It, everyone, get a little exercise and help the city win this challenge!



May is National Bike Month

May is National Bike Month, sponsored by the League of American Bicyclists and celebrated in communities from coast to coast. Established in 1956, National Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling—and encourage more folks to give biking a try.

- ☀ **National Bike to Work Week is May 15 to 19**
- ☀ **Bike to Work Day is May 19**

Whether you bike to work or just for fun; ride to save money or to save time; pump those pedals to preserve your health or help the environment; or simply to explore your community and get fresh air, National Bike Month is an opportunity to celebrate the unique power of the bicycle and the many reasons we ride. Biking is also counted in the Step To It challenge!

See www.bikeleague.org/bikemonth for more information.



Staff Appreciation BBQ

Given for City Staff
by the
Management Team

Thursday, May 11, 2017
11:30 a.m. or 12:15 p.m.

New Hope Golf Course

MENU

Burger or Chicken Breast

All the trimmings
Beans
Chips

Salad
Dessert
Beverage

RSVP to Eve by May 5



City of New Hope

Next event:

- ❖ Traci Mann presentation
- ❖ Friday, May 12, 11:30 a.m., at West Metro
- ❖ Topic: Diets Don't Work and Willpower is a Myth

About the Speaker

Traci Mann, Ph.D. is a Professor of Social and Health Psychology at the University of Minnesota. Her research aims to identify and understand the behaviors associated with eating regulation and body image as well as the process of self-control during health behavior changes. Traci is principal investigator of the Health and Eating Laboratory, which uses diverse research methods to study interesting topics such as increasing food consumption in NASA astronauts, increasing vegetable intake in elementary school children, and the ability of foods to reduce social and physical pain.

Traci is an engaging presenter and she will discuss her findings in a lighthearted way while making important points about weight.

This is one you don't want to miss!
Send your lunch order and \$5 to Eve by May 4th.

Wellness is a GOOD thing!





City of New Hope



First Ever Healthy Living Fair

On **Saturday, June 24**, West Metro Fire Station will be the location for the first ever Healthy Living Fair in New Hope.

- ❖ **FREE admission**
- ❖ **FREE screenings**
- ❖ **FREE door prizes**
- ❖ **FREE demonstrations**
- ❖ **FREE samples**
- ❖ **FREE snacks**
- ❖ **FREE information about healthy living.**

Everyone is invited! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors.

Hours are 9 a.m. to noon.

See You There!