

# minnetonka memo

A Newsletter from the City of Minnetonka  
January 2014

## Enjoy a wide variety of winter events for all ages in Minnetonka

**V**olunteer your youth for their contributions to the community, find out how to tackle that remodeling project at your home and get out and enjoy the cold weather! You can do all these things and more at the following January and February activities.

### Ice Skating Lessons

#### Start January 7

Sign up for winter skating lessons with the Minnetonka Ice Arena's All-Season Skating School. The lesson program is endorsed by the Ice Skating Institute and offers instruction for skaters ages 3 and up, including adults. New this year: introduction to hockey skating. Call (952) 939-8310 or visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) for class information and registration materials. The 12-week session begins January 7. Register now — space is limited.

### Citizen Academy

#### Enroll by January 10

If you want to learn more about your city and have the opportunity to meet city staff, register for the 2014 Minnetonka Citizen Academy.

The free program takes place over six Tuesday sessions: January 28, February 4, 11, 18 & 25, and March 4, 6:30 – 9 p.m., at Minnetonka City Hall. Hear from the various city departments including police, fire, administration, community development, engineering, public works, recreation, legal and finance.

The program hasn't been held since 2012, so don't miss your chance to participate!

Graduates of the program — those who attend four or more sessions — receive special city council recognition. To enroll, email Jacque Larson, community relations manager, at [jl Larson@eminnetonka.com](mailto:jl Larson@eminnetonka.com) or call (952) 939-8207. Please provide your name, address, phone number and email address. Registration deadline is January 10.

### Family Fire Day

#### January 18, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

The Minnetonka Fire Department's "What If?" public educators invite you to Family Fire Day Saturday, January 18, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Minnetonka Fire Station 1, 14550 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. Enjoy a tour of the fire station



and see a firefighter dressed in full fire gear. The 20-foot inflatable slide will be ready for fun, and Sparky the fire safety dog will be on hand for photos. Program is free. Call (952) 939-8331 for more information.

### Caring Youth Awards

#### Nominations due February 3

If you know a young person in grades 7 through 12 who shows an ongoing awareness of others through volunteering or other activities, consider nominating him or her for a 2014 Caring Youth Award.

Each year the cities of Minnetonka, Hopkins and Golden Valley, the Hopkins and Minnetonka school districts and the Glen Lake Optimists host a Caring Youth Recognition event to honor the contributions of caring young people.

The 2014 event is set for Thursday, March 20, at 7 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka.

To qualify for the award, a Caring Youth must meet at least one of the following criteria: live in Minnetonka, Hopkins or Golden Valley; attend school in Hopkins or Minnetonka; and/or volunteer (unpaid and not as a requirement for a class or co-curricular program) in Minnetonka, Hopkins, or Golden Valley.

Young people may only be nominated by the organization they are serving. For more information, including nominations guidelines and forms, visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) or

call Jacque Larson, community relations manager, at (952) 939-8207. Nominations may also be submitted online at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). Nominations for the 2014 Caring Youth awards are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday, February 3.



Winter events continued on page 3.

## Temporary appointment named to Ward 4 city council seat

**I**n City Council appointed former Minnetonka Mayor Tim Bergstedt to temporarily fill the Ward 4 council seat, held since 2007 by James Hiller.

Hiller has been unable to attend city council meetings since August 2013 due to a medical issue. He requested that the city council make a temporary appointment to the Ward 4 council seat until he is able to resume his duties. Hiller was first elected to the Minnetonka

City Council Ward 4 seat in 2007 and was re-elected in 2011 to a term ending January 2016.

Bergstedt served as mayor of Minnetonka from 1990 – 1994 and as Ward 4 councilmember from 1986 – 1990. He will be sworn in at the January 6 meeting of the Minnetonka City Council, and will serve as Ward 4 council member until Hiller is able to resume his duties, or until the end of the Ward 4 term, whichever is first. ☺

# Flashpoints

## From the Minnetonka Fire Department



**I**s the temperature at which combustible materials can burst into flame. The flashpoints in this quarterly feature, however, are not so volatile — rather, they are the initiatives and events that serve as the catalyst for the excellent service provided every day by the Minnetonka Fire Department to city residents and businesses. For more information about any of these items, call the fire department at (952) 939-8598.

### Fire response

Rough mid-November, the fire department responded to about 1,500 calls for service. This included 651 medical calls; 226 lift assists; 219 fire alarm calls; 46 fire calls; 74 good intent calls; 72 mutual aid requests from other cities; 65 rescue calls such as vehicle extrications, searches and elevator/escalator entrapments; 92 hazardous conditions calls, such as power lines down and electrical equipment issues; 43 natural gas leaks; and 23 service calls for smoke removal or unauthorized burning.



Mutual aid call in Chanhassen

### School programs

In fall, paid-on-call firefighters and public educators Sara Ahlquist and Jim Lundeen gave 73 presentations to nearly 1,900 students in every elementary school in Minnetonka, and presented kitchen safety classes to the family and consumer sciences (FACS) classes at Hopkins North and Hopkins West junior high schools.



### Adopt a hydrant

Year round, fire hydrants stand ready to assist firefighters in stopping a fire. Unfortunately, some see them as an eyesore and, during the warmer months, try to cover them with foliage or other

landscaping. In the winter, hydrants may be left buried under the snow.

The city of Minnetonka has approximately 7,000 hydrants, located about 500 feet apart throughout the city. Please adopt a hydrant near your home or business, and be sure it's kept clear of snow, foliage and other obstructions all year long. Thank you for your help.



Mutual aid call in Edina

### Fireplace safety

The Minnetonka Fire Department responds to many fires every year that are caused by fireplaces. Be sure to keep your fire in the fireplace with these helpful safety tips.

- Chimneys should be swept and inspected by a professional at least once per year.
- Open the flue before you start the fire. Leave it open until fire is completely out.
- Place ashes in a metal container with a lid. Never use plastic or paper. Embers can stay hot enough to start a fire for as long as two weeks after the fire has stopped burning.
- Store ashes away from buildings, including houses, garages and sheds.

### Winter safety

Stay safe this winter by following a few simple guidelines.

- Stay aware of the latest weather forecasts. Notify friends and/or relatives of your travel plans.
- Winterize your vehicle with appropriate tires, fully charged battery, full windshield wiper fluid reservoir, etc. Keep gas tank at least half full.
- Stock your car with a shovel, jumper

cables, a bag of sand or salt, basic tools, blankets or sleeping bags, a tow cable or chain, a flashlight, a first aid kit and extra clothing.

- Know the signs of hypothermia and frostbite, and seek medical attention when symptoms are present.
- When outside during storms or extreme cold, dress in layered clothing, stay hydrated, stay dry and avoid overexertion.
- Use caution when shoveling snow. It's hard work and can induce a heart attack.
- Stay off thin ice. It takes at least four inches of clear ice to support an adult — and there's no such thing as 100% safe ice.
- Avoid alcohol when snowmobiling. Most snowmobile deaths are alcohol related. Take a snowmobile course offered by the Minnesota DNR or check with your snowmobile dealer for safety courses.
- Turn off portable heating devices when you're away from home or when you go to bed at night. Have a working, UL-listed smoke alarm on every level of your home, and in every bedroom.
- Carbon monoxide (CO) is most likely to accumulate inside homes during the winter. Check heating systems and ensure your home has proper ventilation. Install a UL-listed CO detector with alarm within 10 feet of every sleeping room. In multi-family dwellings, place CO detectors between 15 and 25 feet from fuel-fired equipment. Detectors with digital readouts are highly recommended.
- Keep at least three feet of space between any heating or cooking equipment and anything that can burn. Keep children and loose clothing away from heating or cooking equipment. ☺



Mutual aid call in Chanhassen

## Winter events in Minnetonka continued from page 1

### Kids' Fest

**February 9, 12 – 3:30 p.m.**

Don't miss Kids' Fest, set for Sunday, February 9, from 12 – 3:30 p.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center and Ice Arena and the Williston Fitness Center. Enjoy dog sled rides, bingo with prizes, magic shows, face painting, ice sculpture demonstrations, s'mores by the fire, crafts, entertainment, open swimming, open batting cages, open skating and more. For a complete schedule of activities, see the February *Minnetonka Memo*.

### State of the City

**February 12, 7:30 – 9 a.m.**

You're invited to the 2014 State of the City Address by Mayor Terry Schneider Wednesday, February 12, from 7:30 – 9 a.m. at the Minnetonka Community Center, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka. A continental breakfast will be served. Please RSVP by February 3 to Karen Telega at [ktelega@eminnetonka.com](mailto:ktelega@eminnetonka.com) or (952) 939-8211.

### Outdoor ice skating

**Open through Feb. 17**

Skating rinks with warming houses are available through February 17 (weather permitting) at 14 parks in Minnetonka and Hopkins. For a complete list of locations, as well as days and times rinks are open, visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).

### Home Remodeling Fair

**February 23,  
10:30 a.m. –  
3:30 p.m.**

A free Home Remodeling Fair featuring more than 75 contractor exhibits, seminars and an "Ask the Pro" booth is set for Sunday, February 23, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Eisenhower Community Center, 1001 Highway 7, Hopkins. More information will be in the February *Minnetonka Memo*, or visit [www.homeremodelingfair.com](http://www.homeremodelingfair.com).



### Ski Glen Lake Golf Course

**rough March 7**

The city of Minnetonka partners with the Three Rivers Park District and Hennepin County to provide a cross country ski trail each winter at the Glen Lake Golf Course. Snow isn't made at this location, so the planned dates for the course are weather dependent. Ski trails are not lit. The golf center will be open for ski rental, concession sales and restrooms. Ski trails and golf center will be open Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A season or daily pass is required for use of the Glen Lake trail, and all passes may be purchased on site. Three Rivers Park District season passes will be honored at the

Glen Lake location. For more information, or to purchase a ski pass, call Minnetonka Recreation Services at (952) 939-8203, the Glen Lake Golf Course at (763) 694-7824 or visit [www.threeriversparkdistrict.org](http://www.threeriversparkdistrict.org)

## Boards, commissions applications due

**I** Minnetonka's city government, consider applying for current openings on the Economic Development Advisory Commission or Planning Commission.

Applicants must have a desire to serve their community in a volunteer capacity and be willing to contribute the number of hours necessary for the particular group to which they are applying. Applicants are interviewed by the city council and appointed by the mayor.

To apply, complete the application at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). Completed applications may be saved electronically and emailed to Karen Telega at [ktelega@eminnetonka.com](mailto:ktelega@eminnetonka.com). Or, print out your completed application and mail it to City of Minnetonka, Attn: Karen Telega, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, MN 55345.

Applications should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than January 3. For more information, visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).

## Beat cabin fever with these science, art classes for kids of all ages

**L** activities? Show cabin fever who's boss with these fun classes for kids! To register or for more information call (952) 939-8203 or see the online recreation brochure at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).

All classes are held at the Glen Lake Activity Center, 14350 Excelsior Blvd., Minnetonka.

### Science Explorers

#### Great Reactions

**January 20, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Discover the fascinating world of chemistry! Experiment with mixtures that are foamy, soapy and slimy while investigating the differences between chemical reactions and physical changes. Dress accordingly; this is a hands-on class that can get messy! Grades K – 5. Cost: \$18. Course #31638

#### Dynamite Dinosaurs

**Wednesdays, January 23 – February 13,  
9:30 – 11 a.m.**

Enter the Science Explorers' time machine and journey back to a world where dinosaurs ruled the earth! Become a paleontologist for the day with hands-on experiments and studying fossils. Ages 3.5 – 6 years. Cost: \$54. Course #31639

### Kidcreate Studio

#### Big & Messy Art Class

**Wednesdays, Jan. 8 – 29, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.**

Let your little artist explore the messier side of art in a big way. Participants will paint, sculpt, scribble and giggle their way to discovering a grander scale of art. Children must be accompanied by caregiver. Ages 18 mos – 6 yrs. Cost: \$54. Course #31627

#### Fancy Nancy's Posh Puppy Class

**January 20, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Enjoy the book *Fancy Nancy* and the *Posh Puppy* by Jane O'Connor, then create Nancy's posh puppy Frenchie as a watercolor painting. Please pack a peanut- and tree-nut-free snack and drink for your child. Ages 3 – 6 yrs. Cost: \$30. Course #31632

#### You are Yoda Class

**January 20, 1 – 4 p.m.**

Create the coolest project ever and create a painting that will transform you into Yoda! Please pack a peanut- and tree-nut-free snack and drink for your child. Ages 4 – 9 yrs. Cost: \$30. Course #31633

### Kindermusik

For a list of all Kindermusik courses, see the recreation brochure online at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).



## MAM presents February concerts

**T** Minnetonka (MAM) is celebrating 40 years of making music and partnership with the city of Minnetonka. MAM offers the opportunity for music lovers of all ages and abilities to participate in choral and instrumental ensembles and to enjoy free concerts throughout the year.

Formed in 1974, MAM's original ensemble — the Minnetonka Symphony Orchestra (MSO) — performs ten concerts each season from September through June. Four of those concerts focus on introducing children to classical music.

As an additional effort to promote classical music to students, MAM created the Young Artist Competition for high school juniors and seniors. Attend two concerts in February featuring the winner of this competition, along with the MSO.

### Sunday, February 16, 3–5 p.m.

Wayzata Community Church  
125 Wayzata Blvd., Wayzata

### Sunday, February 23, 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Minnetonka United Methodist Church  
17611 Lake St. Ext., Minnetonka

The MSO currently has openings in all string sections, and interested players are encouraged to audition. For audition and rehearsal information, or for more information about concerts, email [mamoffice@musicassociation.org](mailto:mamoffice@musicassociation.org) or visit [www.musicassociation.org](http://www.musicassociation.org).



## Streetlight or electricity out?

**I** should be reported to Xcel Energy. Call 1-800-960-6235 or visit [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com) for an online reporting form.

If your power is out, or you have an electrical emergency, report it by calling the Xcel Energy Electric Outage number at 1-800-895-1999.

Contact information for outages at the various utilities is available at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).

## Sign up for picnic shelters starting Jan. 6

**T** activities at a Minnetonka or Hopkins park? Picnic shelter reservation requests will be accepted starting January 6. A permit and fee is required to reserve a park picnic shelter for groups of 25 people or more.

Minnetonka picnic shelters are available at Lone Lake, Gro Tonka and Shady

Oak parks. Hopkins picnic shelters are at Burnes, Valley and Central parks.

For complete details about reserving a park picnic shelter, and for an application, visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) or call (952) 939-8390.

## Free program can help your small business

**D** starting a new business or expanding an existing one? Are you a small business owner looking for some technical assistance? The Minnetonka Open to Business program provides free one-on-one assistance from expert staff, customized to meet the needs of small business owners and operators. Clients receive help in planning and organizing business ventures, financial

management, marketing and regulatory compliance. Additionally, a small business loan fund can help entrepreneurs access the capital they need to grow their business.

The Minnetonka Open to Business program is provided in collaboration with the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD). Call Rob Smolund, MCCD, at (612) 789-7337, ext. 11 for more information.

## Yellow Ribbon meeting is January 16

**T**he Yellow Ribbon coalition, which includes Minnetonka, Hopkins, Eden Prairie and Edina, will host a meeting on Thursday, January 16, from 7–9 p.m. at Hopkins City Hall, 1010 1st St S, Hopkins. The meeting will start with a short presentation by a representative of Employer Support for Guard and Reserve (ESGR), focusing on employment for Guard and Reserve members and their families who are looking for work or thinking about changing jobs. Visit [www.esgr.mil/minnesota](http://www.esgr.mil/minnesota) for more information.

The remainder of the meeting will focus on the work of the Yellow Ribbon coalition. The meeting is open to all community members, civic organizations and businesses in the four cities. New volunteers and participants are always welcome.

The Southwest Twin Cities Beyond the Yellow Ribbon coalition earned Yellow Ribbon designation for its four member cities in October 2013.

The coalition continues to work to fulfill the expectations outlined in their action plan. For more information visit [www.swtcbeyondtheyellowribbon.org](http://www.swtcbeyondtheyellowribbon.org).



## Beyond the Yellow Ribbon

### Sign up for ePrevent for safety tips and more

**W**ant safety tips and information about programs and events offered by the Minnetonka Police Department?

Sign up for ePrevent emails by visiting [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). Subscriber information is confidential and will be used for ePrevent services only.

## Special events and programs

### Travelogue to Southeast Asia: Pt II

**Monday, January 6, 10:30 a.m.**

Minnetonka resident Fred Leverentz will continue to share his experiences traveling to Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia.

**Cost:** \$2 due Friday, January 3.  
**Course #32126**

### Winter Picnic

**ursday, January 9, 12 p.m.**

Join us for an indoor winter picnic with a hot dog bar, potato salad and dessert. Enjoy the musical stylings of Patsy Cline by performer Ardyce Elayne.

**Cost:** \$7 due Monday, January 6.  
**Course #32110**

### Traveling Naturalist: Wild Cats

**Monday, January 13, 1 p.m.**

Melanie Shipman, who has served as an environmental educator for the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge and is currently co-director of the Audobon Center of the North Woods, gives a presentation about Minnesota and Alaska's wild cats.

**Cost:** \$2 due ursday, January 9.  
**Course #32111**

### International Folk Dance

**Tuesday, January 14, 1 p.m.**

Come alone or with friends — no partners needed to enjoy line dances from countries around the world such as Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, Israel and more! Lift your spirits and raise your heart rate in the company of others. Wear comfortable shoes.

**Cost:** \$2 due Friday, January 10.  
**Course #32112**

### Travelogue to Antarctic

**Wednesday, January 15, 1 p.m.**

Lynn Jacobs will share her experiences traveling to the Antarctic.

**Cost:** \$2 due Monday, January 13.  
**Course #32127**

### Lunch and a Movie: "Oz the Great and Powerful"

**Friday, January 17, 12 p.m.**

In this Wizard of Oz prequel, circus magician Oscar Diggs is magically transported to the Land of Oz, where he deals with three witches and uses his illusionist skills and resourcefulness to become the wizard the residents have been hoping for.

**Menu:** Soup sampler, bread and dessert.

**Cost:** \$5 due Wednesday, January 15.  
**Course #32113**

### Community Connections

**Monday, January 27, 10:15 a.m.**

In partnership with the Lake Minnetonka Senior Care Providers, Minnetonka Senior Services offers Community Connections. January's topic is balance and fall prevention, presented by Dr. Eva Norman from Live Your Life Physical Therapy. RSVP by Wednesday, January 22.

**Course #32114**

### Travelogue to Iceland

**ursday, January 30, 1 p.m.**

Explore Iceland, a country with a mesmerizing history, geology and geography, settled by rugged Vikings, with ongoing volcanic activity, a massive genealogical study, lively cultural and arts scene, wonderful people and great food.

**Cost:** \$2 due Tuesday, January 28.  
**Course #32128**

### Historical Travelogue: Part I

**Wednesday, February 5, 10:30 a.m.**

Military historian and teacher Dan Hartmann returns with a historical travelogue on the American Civil War: Fort Sumter to Gettysburg. A light lunch will be served following the presentation.

**Cost:** \$2 for presentation; \$6 for presentation & lunch. Due Monday, February 3.  
**Course #32129**

### James Shaw Program

**ursday, February 6, 10:30 a.m.**

Come enjoy the musical talents of pianist James Shaw.

**Cost:** \$2 due Tuesday, February 4.  
**Course #32130**

### Traveling Naturalist: Otters

**Monday, February 10, 1 p.m.**

Melanie Shipman will give a presentation on the facts and stories about river and sea otter history.

**Cost:** \$2 due ursday, February 6.  
**Course #32131**

### Calling All Chocoholics

**Wednesday, February 12, 1 p.m.**

February is celebration of chocolate month and February 12th is Chocolate Day! Indulge in the history of the cacao bean and chocolate consumption at this program. A tasting of chocolates covered in the program will held following the presentation.

**Cost:** \$2 due Monday, February 10.  
**Course #32132**

### Historical Travelogue: Part II

**Wednesday, February 19, 10:30 a.m.**

Part II will cover the American Civil War: Vicksburg to the Surrender of the South. A light lunch will be served following the presentation.

**Cost:** \$2 for presentation; \$6 for presentation & lunch. Due Friday, February 14.  
**Course #32133**

### Winter Hike to Jidana

**Wed., February 19, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Enjoy a scenic winter hike to Jidana Park from the Minnetonka Community Center. Hike along Minnehaha Creek to Deer Island and roast hot dogs over the campfire, with hot coffee, snacks and dessert.

**Cost:** \$5 due Friday, February 14.  
**Course #31584**

## Classes

### Beginning & Intermediate Yoga

#### Nancy Holasek

These gentle yoga classes are geared toward the older adult, with lots of stretching and warm-ups. The yoga postures help increase flexibility. Guided breath-work and visualization help to release, relax, and restore the body, and calm the mind. **Please bring a yoga mat or towel to class.**

#### Chair-Supported Yoga ★★

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

Most of the class takes place while seated on a chair.

- Tuesday, January 7–28 \$20  
(Course #31553)
- Thursday, January 9–30 \$20  
(Course #31555)

#### Intermediate Yoga Class ★★

11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

This class includes standing and balance postures. Students should have the ability to get down to and up from the floor for postures completed while on the belly or backside of the body.

- Tuesday, January 7–28 \$20  
(Course #31556)
- Thursday, January 9–30 \$20  
(Course #31558)

### Evening Yoga

#### Nancy Holasek

Wednesdays, January 8–29, \$20

Evening yoga classes have the same descriptions as the daytime classes.

- Chair Yoga, 6:15 p.m. ★★  
(Course #31554)
- Intermediate Yoga, 7:30 p.m. ★★★  
(Course #31557)

### Zumba Gold Demo ★★

#### Jan Gamble

Monday, January 6, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Join Jan for a free Zumba Gold demonstration. Zumba Gold offers a complete body workout while learning the basic steps to salsa, meringue, cha-cha and other rhythms. No dance experience is necessary. Comfortable clothing and workout shoes are recommended. Bring water; you will sweat!

- Free (Course #32134)

### Zumba Gold ★★★

#### Jan Gamble

1–2 p.m., \$18

Zumba Gold offers a complete body workout while learning the basic steps to salsa, meringue, cha-cha and other rhythms. No dance experience is necessary. Comfortable clothing and workout shoes are recommended. Bring water; you will sweat!

#### Mondays

- January 6 – February 10 No class 1/20  
(Course #31587)

#### Wednesdays

- January 8 – February 12 (Course #31588)

### British History

#### Terry Kubista

ursdays, January 9–30, 1–3 p.m.

January's class will focus on the Windsor Castle. Visit four of the highlights of a trip around England. From the home of Elizabeth, the Queen, journey to the home of Emily Brontë.

- \$25 (Course #31580)

### Canadian History & Life 101: Examining Its Political System

#### Dick Sadler

Wednesdays, January 8 – March 5,  
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

This is a beginner's class: historical and biographical perspective will be gained from the Canadian Broadcasting Corp's DVD series, Canada, a People's History; the pursuits and culture of the people will be explored through various texts. His class meets every other Wednesday.

- \$25 (Course #31583)

### Oil Painting

#### Marcella Nordseth

Fridays, January 10 – February 28,  
1–3:30 p.m.

Learn about composition, how to look at objects and how to mix colors. Bring supplies you have to the first class. For intermediate to advanced level students. Supply list will be provided in class.

- \$56 (Course #31578)

### Tai Chi Chih

#### Monica Campbell

Mondays, January 13 – March 24, \$40

Tai Chi Chih is a series of 19 easy-to-learn movements and one pose. This moving meditation may improve balance and flexibility, reduce stress, increase energy and more. No class January 20 & February 17.

- Beginner ★★ (Course #31571)  
10–11 a.m.
- Intermediate ★★★ (Course #31572)  
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

### Writing Down Your Life Stories

#### Larry Wade

Tuesdays, January 14 – February 11,  
1–2 p.m.

Work with author and teacher, Larry Wade. The focus of the class will be on improving writing skills; building trust and support in a creative environment and sharing ideas/materials related to life stories. Participants will have an opportunity to contribute a story to a book that will be bound for class members.

- \$30 (Course #32135)

### Tai Chi ★★★

#### Ron Erdman-Luntz

ursdays, 6–7 p.m., \$48

The slow circular movements of Tai Chi help to improve balance and relaxation. Come learn the Tai Chi short form, these wonderful movements have many health benefits and are fun to learn! **Prerequisite:** Able to walk comfortably for an hour. Wear comfortable clothes and athletic shoes.

- January 23 – February 27  
(Course #31575)

### Navigating Medicare

Tuesday, January 28, 6:30–9 p.m.

Thinking of getting ready to retire? Family member or caregiver to someone who has Medicare coverages? Already have Medicare and just want to know more about it?

Topics covered include Medicare Parts A, B and D. The class is an educational opportunity and not a sales pitch; it is offered in cooperation with Senior Community Services (SCS), a non-profit agency. Anyone can attend.

**Cost:** \$10 due Friday, January 24.

**Course #31591**



# Classes & Trips

## British History

### Terry Kubista

**ursdays, February 6 – 27, 1 – 3 p.m.**

February's class will focus on the Isle of Man. Visit the Isle of Man, a small island in the Irish Sea which has a strange and fascinating past. Join the tour as we explore the island and its history.

- \$25 (Course #31581)

## Values & Planning for a Successful Painting

### Sandra Muzzy

**Wednesday, February 19, 1 – 3:30 p.m.**

A busy session has been planned to help the watercolorist have a few decision-making tools at hand to improve the final outcome of their painting. Before jumping right into painting we need to slow down and make a few decisions. This helps ensure a more satisfactory outcome. Discuss the importance of thumbnails, composition and values. Sandra Muzzy will demonstrate how to approach a value painting.

- \$35 (Course #32136)

## Landmark Center Tour ★ ★ ★

**Wednesday, January 29**

A docent will reveal past and present features of the magnificent Landmark Center. Enjoy a home-style lunch at Anita's. Following lunch, visit the History Center to tour the exhibit of "American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition."

### Course #32115

- **Cost:** \$52 includes tours, lunch, transportation & escort.
- **Pick-up time:** 9:15 a.m.
- **Estimated return time:** 3:45 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, Jan. 10



## Glass Blowing Tour ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Wednesday, February 12**

Descend into the Glow Hole at building number 10 within the artisans industrial park. Experience a glass blowing demonstration as artisans create wonderful pieces. Artisans' works are available to purchase at the gift shop. Enjoy a half sandwich, cup of soup, cookie and beverage for lunch at Hell's Kitchen. This tour requires participants to travel up and down stairs. Please wear comfortable and stable footwear for this trip.

### Course #32116

- **Cost:** \$58 includes tour, lunch, transportation & escort.
- **Pick-up time:** 10 a.m.
- **Estimated return time:** 2:30 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, January 17

## Historic Theatre Tour ★ ★ ★

**Monday, March 31**

Enjoy lunch at Capital Grille. The Hennepin Theatre Trust includes the State, Orpheum and Pantages theatres. Experience a behind-the-scenes tour of one of these historic theatres.

### Course #32117

- **Cost:** \$58 includes tour, lunch, transportation & escort.
- **Pick-up time:** 10:15 a.m.
- **Estimated return time:** 3:15 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, February 28

## Tapestry Tour ★ ★ ★

**ursday, April 10**

A docent will present the tapestry on display at the Plymouth Congregational Church. Have lunch at Jax Cafe. Tour the Basilica of St. Mary.

### Course #32118

- **Cost:** \$58 includes tours, lunch, transportation & escort.
- **Pick-up time:** 9:30 a.m.
- **Estimated return time:** 3:30 p.m.
- **Registration deadline:** Friday, March 21

## Extended trips

For a further information and a full list of extended trip offerings and brochures, call Senior Community Services at (952) 541-1019 or visit [www.seniorcommunity.org](http://www.seniorcommunity.org) and click on programs and go to senior tours.

### Texas (February 3 – 17)

Cost: \$2,000 per person, double occupancy.

### Valentines Mystery (February 14 – 15)

Cost: \$250 per person, double occupancy.

### Florida (February 18 – March 6)

Cost: \$2,650 per person, double occupancy.

### Arizona (February 19 – March 6)

Cost: \$2,250 per person, double occupancy.

### Florida Fly-In (Feb. 22 – March 3)

Cost: \$2,200 per person, double occupancy.

## Defensive Driving Classes

Please call the MN Highway Safety Center toll free at 1-888-234-1294, Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to register, or visit [www.mnsafetycenter.org](http://www.mnsafetycenter.org) for all defensive driving classes. Four-hour renewal courses cost \$20. Eight-hour courses cost \$24 and are offered two times per year. Pay the instructor at the time of the class with a check or exact cash. Checks payable to MN Highway Safety Center. Save 10% on your car insurance by taking these classes!

### Day course (four-hour renewal)

- Tuesday, January 7, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

### Evening course (four-hour renewal)

- Thursday, January 23, 5:30 – 9:30 p.m.

## Activity level scale

The following scale is an approximate guide of the activity level and physical ability required for a class or trip.

### Activity scale

- ★ — Passive
- ★★ — Moderate
- ★★★ — Active
- ★★★★ — Brisk
- ★★★★★ — Vigorous

## Registration

### Ways to register

- **Walk-in**  
Pay with cash, check or credit card (Visa, Discover & MasterCard)
- **Mail-in**  
Send registrations to Minnetonka Senior Services, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, MN 55345. Include your name, address, phone number and the name of the program, class or trip.
- **By phone**  
Registrations are accepted at (952) 939-8393, with a credit card.
- **Online**  
For more information, call the center at (952) 939-8393.

### Cancellation information

- **Class cancellations**  
Requires at least two business days prior to the start date of the class. Some classes may be cancelled due to insufficient enrollment.
- **Trip cancellations**  
Requires cancelling prior to the registration deadline. If a cancellation is made after the payment deadline, the participant is refunded/credited everything but \$5 (administration fee) only if a replacement is found.

### Trip registration

Participant can register up to four spaces on a trip. Trips are subject to change. If change occurs, participants will be notified.

## Contact us...

### Minnetonka Senior Services

(952) 939-8393

14600 Minnetonka Blvd.  
Minnetonka, MN 55345

**Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

### Senior Services & Activities Manager

**Steve Pieh**

(952) 939-8366

[spieh@eminnetonka.com](mailto:spieh@eminnetonka.com)

### Senior & General Programs Manager

**Nicole Gorman**

(952) 939-8369

[ngorman@eminnetonka.com](mailto:ngorman@eminnetonka.com)

### Secretary

**Kathy Kline**

(952) 939-8393

[kkline@eminnetonka.com](mailto:kkline@eminnetonka.com)

## Interest groups

For more information on these groups and a calendar of events, please visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) or stop by the center.

### Bird Club

**Friday, January 3, 10 a.m.**

Featured Speaker: Larry Wade

Topic: Tracking along Minnehaha Creek

### Parkinson's Support Group

**Tuesday, January 7, 4 p.m.**

### Book Club

**Thursday, January 16, 1 p.m.**

*The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman

### Great Books

**Tuesday, January 28, 7:15 p.m.**

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

### Garden Club

*Will not be meeting during the month of January. Next meeting will be held February 10 on native plants.*

### Nature, Novels & Non-fiction

*Will reconvene in May of 2014. Watch for book and activity listings in the April Script.*

## Services

### Over 50 & 60

**Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 9 a.m.**

Annual Fee: \$12 (Course #32119)

### Blood Pressure Screenings

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays; 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays**

**9:30 – 11:30 a.m.**

### Happy Feet

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

To schedule or cancel an appointment, call (763) 560-5136. Cost: \$35.

### Weekly E-mail Updates

To receive weekly e-mail updates on center happenings, send your e-mail address to [spieh@eminnetonka.com](mailto:spieh@eminnetonka.com).

### Income Tax Help Available

Please call senior services at (952) 939-8393 to schedule an appointment starting January 2.

- Mondays & Thursdays, February 6 – April 14.
- Appointment times available include: 12:30, 1:45 & 3 p.m.

**Our mission:** To develop and promote programs and services in our community to meet the diverse needs of those 55+.

### Senior Community Services

Services listed below are provided by Senior Community Services, a local non-profit.

- **CareNextion**  
Free, easy-to-use online tool and complimentary phone service for caregivers and their families. For more information visit [www.carenextion.org](http://www.carenextion.org) or call (612) 770-7005.
- **Senior outreach**  
Available by appointment on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month. Contact Marian Danielson at (952) 939-8393 or [m.danielson@seniorcommunity.org](mailto:m.danielson@seniorcommunity.org)
- **Health insurance counseling**  
Available by appointment on the 1st & 3rd Mondays of the month.
- **H.O.M.E.**  
Household and Outside Maintenance for Elderly (H.O.M.E.) is available for Minnetonka residents 60+. For more information call (952) 939-8363.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Center Closed in Observance of New Year's Day</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Chess 12:00 Billiards 1:00 Duplicate Bridge 6:00</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Happy Feet 9:00 Blood Pressure 9:30 Bird Club 10:00 Computer 10:00 Billiards 1:00</p>
<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Art Drop In 9:00 Travelogue to SE Asia 10:30 Zumba Gold Demo 11:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Rummikub 1:00 Billiards 2:00</p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>Defensive Driving 9:00 Yoga 9:45 Poker Club 10:00 Craft Committee 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Bingo 12:45 Tale Spinners 1:00 Billiards 1:00 Parkinson's Support 4:00</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Blood Pressure 9:30 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Canadian History 10:00 Chorale 10:15 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 2:00 Yoga 6:15 500 Cards 6:30 Int. Yoga 7:30</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>Yoga 9:45 Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Winter Party 12:00 Chess 12:00 British History 1:00 Bunco 1:00 Billiards 1:00 Duplicate Bridge 6:00</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Happy Feet 9:00 Computer 10:00 Billiards 1:00 Oil Painting 1:00</p>
<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Art Drop In 9:00 Tonka Tale Tellers 10:00 Ham Radio 10:00 Tai Chi Chih 10:00/11:30 Traveling Naturalist 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Hand &amp; Foot 1:00 Health Insurance 1:00 Billiards 2:00</p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Yoga 9:45 500 Cards 10:00 Advisory Board 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Bingo 12:45 International Folk Dance 1:00 Writing Life Stories 1:00 Tale Spinners 1:00 Billiards 3:00 Senior Outreach 1:00</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Chorale 10:15 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Travelogue to Antarctic 1:00 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 2:00 Yoga 6:15 Int. Yoga 7:30</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>Yoga 9:45 Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Chess 12:00 Book Club 1:00 British History 1:00 Billiards 1:00 Duplicate Bridge 6:00</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Happy Feet 9:00 Blood Pressure 9:30 Computer 10:00 Lunch &amp; Movie 12:00 Billiards 1:00 Oil Painting 1:00</p>
<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>Center Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Yoga 9:45 Poker 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Bingo 12:45 Writing Life Stories 1:00 Tale Spinners 1:00 Billiards 1:00 Single Mingle Club Mtg @ e Depot in Hopkins 1:30</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Canadian History 10:00 Chorale 10:15 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 2:00 Yoga 6:15 500 Cards 6:30 Int. Yoga 7:30</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Yoga 9:45 Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Chess 12:00 Bunco 1:00 British History 1:00 Billiards 1:00 Defensive Driving 5:30 Duplicate Bridge 6:00 Tai Chi w/Ron 6:00</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Happy Feet 9:00 Computer 10:00 Billiards 1:00 Oil Painting 1:00</p>
<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Art Drop In 9:00 Tai Chi Chih 10:00/11:30 Comm. Connections 10:15 Zumba Gold 1:00 Hand &amp; Foot 1:00 Health Insurance 1:00 Billiards 2:00 Health Insurance 6:00</p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>Yoga 9:45 500 Cards 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Bingo 12:45 Writing Life Stories 1:00 Tale Spinners 1:00 Billiards 1:00 Senior Outreach 1:00 Navigating Medicare 6:30 Great Books 7:15</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Landmark Center Tour 9:15 Mah Jongg Group 10:00 Chorale 10:15 A.A./Al-Anon 10:30 Social Bridge 12:45 Zumba Gold 1:00 Billiards 2:00 Yoga 6:15 Int. Yoga 7:30</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Yoga 9:45 Carvers 10:00 Cribbage 10:00 Scribblers 10:00 Int. Yoga 11:00 Chess 12:00 Travelogue to Iceland 1:00 British History 1:00 Billiards 1:00 Duplicate Bridge 6:00 Tai Chi w/Ron 6:00</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Exercise 9:00 Computer 10:00 Billiards 1:00 Oil Painting 1:00</p>

Group	Meeting day	Information
Advisory Board	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 10 a.m.	
AA/AI-Anon	Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.	All ages welcome. New members welcome.
Billiards	Every afternoon - time varies	See calendar page for times.
Bingo	Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m.	
Bird Club	1 <sup>st</sup> Friday of the month at 10 a.m.	January 3–Larry Wade, Naturalist. Topic: Tracking along the Minnehaha Creek.
Book Club	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.	January 16– <i>The Light Between Oceans</i> by M.L. Stedman
Social Bridge	Wednesdays at 12:45 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> place and grand slam prizes awarded.
Bunco	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 1 p.m.	Don't know how to play? They will teach you.
Duplicate Bridge	Thursdays at 6 p.m.	Partners needed.
Card Games	Mondays at 1 p.m.	Rummycube & Hand and Foot, alternating Mondays. See calendar page for game dates.
Chess	Thursdays at 12 p.m.	If you have general knowledge of chess, join us.
Chorale	Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m.	New members welcome.
Computer Interests	Fridays at 10 a.m. Website: <a href="http://mscig.wordpress.com">mscig.wordpress.com</a>	This group examines topics of interest. Experience ranges from beginner to expert.
Craft Committee	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 10 a.m.	
Cribbage	Thursdays at 10 a.m.	Bring your cribbage boards and a deck of cards.
500 Card Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 10 a.m.	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
Mtka Community Garden Club	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday at 1 p.m.	Garden Club will not be meeting in January. Next meeting will be held February 10 on native plants. New members welcome!
Great Books	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 7:15 p.m.	January 28– <i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i> by Betty Smith
Ham Radio	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday at 10 a.m.	New members welcome.
The Landing Shop	Open for holiday hours starting Monday, December 2. Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with extended hours on Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.	The Landing Shop is located at 11280 Wayzata Blvd. Phone (763) 591-4868. The Landing shop sells handmade items crafted by Minnetonka residents 55+.
Mah Jongg	Wednesdays at 10 a.m.	New members welcome.
Parkinson's Support	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday at 4 p.m.	January 7–Topic: Exercise.
Pickleball	Monday-Friday, times vary.	Indoor play available at Williston. For more information call (952) 939-8370.
Poker	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 10 a.m.	Join us for a good game of poker.
Scribblers	Thursdays at 10 a.m.	Attention all writers (amateur to professional), if you enjoy writing poems, storytelling, fiction or short stories come join us and share your work with fellow writers. New members welcome!
Single Mingle Club	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. at The Depot	Various events scheduled monthly. Stop by the center to pick up a listing of events. New members welcome.
Tonka Tale Tellers	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday at 10 a.m.	This group travels to elementary schools within the area to tell and animate stories.
Tale Spinners	Tuesdays at 1 p.m.	This group offers rapport and support for seniors interested in writing memoirs, fiction, etc.
Wood Carvers	Thursdays at 10 a.m.	Group members work independently but also share ideas with one another.

# Municipal utility fee adjustments effective January 1

**I** Council adjusted municipal utility (water, sewer, recycling, and storm water) fees effective January 1, 2014. Fees for water, sewer and storm were last raised by a modest amount a year ago, but recycling fees have not changed for ten years. Changes to the fees are as follows:

- Water rates were increased to \$2 per 1,000 gallons and the sewer rates were increased to \$1.59 per 1,000 gallons, in order to keep pace with system costs and to cover expensive infrastructure maintenance.
- The sewer base fee was increased to \$44.94 per quarter to cover fixed costs of the system, including costly capital replacement and repairs in roadways.
- The recycling fee was raised to \$3.50 per month to offset significantly reduced revenue from the sale of recycled materials.
- Storm water fees increased by three percent (\$0.54 per quarter), to cover the costs of the city's storm water system infrastructure and federally mandated testing, reporting and improvements related to water quality and runoff.

One of the primary goals of the water and sewer fee structures is to ensure that every customer benefits by their own conservation of water and sewer use. All customers share in the fixed costs of the system through the base fee and simply pay for what they use. The tiered water rate structure remains in place in order to encourage water conservation. The adjacent table shows the rate changes for 2014.

All other account fees, late payment, state of Minnesota testing fees, and meter maintenance fees remain the same. ∞

## Online utility billing

**N** your municipal utility bills online, either one time or on a recurring basis, using a credit card or bank account withdrawal.

To sign up, grab your latest bill and visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). Click on the online utility billing logo and follow the instruction. Questions? Call (952) 939-8200. ∞

Rate changes	Rate per 1,000 gallons	
	Old	New
<b>Residential water rate</b>		
<b>Tier 1 (0 – 18,000 gallons)</b>	\$1.89	\$2.00
<b>Tier 2 (18,001 – 40,000 gallons)</b>	\$2.16	\$2.29
<b>Tier 3 (40,001 – 70,000 gallons)</b>	\$2.72	\$2.88
<b>Tier 4 (70,001+ gallons)</b>	\$3.77	\$4.00
<b>Sewer rate</b>		
<b>Base fee</b>	\$42.00/quarter	\$44.94/quarter
<b>Special class base fee*</b>	\$15.50/quarter	\$16.59/quarter
<b>Commercial/industrial water</b>		
<b>Base rate</b>	\$1.81	\$2.00
<b>Summer surcharge (May – September)</b>	\$2.06	\$2.28
<b>Commercial/industrial sprinkler accounts</b>		
<b>Sprinkler I (0 – 75,000 gallons)</b>	\$2.16	\$2.29
<b>Sprinkler II (75,001 – 175,000)</b>	\$2.72	\$2.88
<b>Sprinkler III (175,001+ gallons)</b>	\$3.77	\$4.00
<b>Stormwater</b>		
<b>Open space, undeveloped (acre/month)</b>	\$2.67	\$2.75
<b>Single family, 2–3 family, residential (unit/mo)</b>	\$5.93	\$6.11
<b>Churches, schools, government (acre/month)</b>	\$16.01	\$16.49
<b>Apartment, condos (acre/month)</b>	\$17.79	\$18.32
<b>Commercial, industrial (acre/month)</b>	\$44.83	\$46.18

\* Discontinued for new entrants into program.

## Don't flush those single-use wipes

**O**ne wipe has become ubiquitous, marketed for a variety of household chores and personal care uses. Many of these items are labeled “flushable,” so people do just that, thinking it's better for the environment to dispose of these items via the toilet versus the landfill.

However, “flushable” doesn't mean these items won't clog the sewer system. They may disappear down your toilet but once in the sewer system they can cause havoc. Sewer pipes and lift stations can frequently become clogged with these items, requiring workers to clean up the clog to get the sewer working again. In the worst-case scenario, clumps of wipes can cause sewer backups into homes — which could be your home.

So next time you use a single-use sheet product, be sure to put it in the trash and not the toilet. The Minnetonka sewer system thanks you. ∞



A Minnetonka sewer lift pump clogged with “flushable” wipes.



## Thank you to Minnetonka's 2013 natural resources volunteers

**T** Minnetonka Public Works thanks the volunteers who contributed many hours in 2013 to help with more than 100 habitat restoration and water quality projects.

### Group natural resource projects

- **Minneapolis Marriot Southwest** employees removed invasive species in Green Circle Park.
- **Minnetonka High School Senior Serve** students pulled garlic mustard and installed tree protection fencing in Reich Park.
- **Hopkins High School American Legion Baseball** team members assisted with habitat restoration, pulling garlic mustard and cutting buckthorn in the Civic Center woods at Minnehaha Place.
- **US Bank and Ridgedale** employees pulled garlic mustard in Purgatory Park.
- **Minnetonka Community Ed Quest Kids** pulled garlic mustard, motherwort and Japanese hedge parsley at Victoria-Evergreen Park.
- **Minnetonka Whole Foods** (*below*) employees built a small fence enclosure for direct-seedling acorns and other tree seeds, dead-headed purple loosestrife and released native plants from buckthorn on the trail in the Civic Center woods at Minnehaha Place.



*Volunteers from Whole Foods*

- **Chanhassen High School Student Today Leaders Forever** members removed bitter nightshade, purple loosestrife and buckthorn in Minnetonka Mills Park.
- **Cub Scout Pack 290 (Gatewood School)** bagged stickseed weeds, planted acorns and cut buckthorn at Lake Rose Park.

- **Minnetonka Middle School West** students pulled motherwort and stacked pre-cut buckthorn in Purgatory Park.
- **Cargill Cares Twin Cities Council** members cut and stump-treated buckthorn and installed plant protection spirals on native plants at Headwaters Park.
- **Holdridge Road** neighbors removed buckthorn from five city outlots on Holdridge Road and near Linner Park.

### Individual volunteers

Special thanks to the following individuals who reported more than 35 hours of volunteering in 2013.

- **Bill and Renate Sperber** contributed the most hours of all restoration volunteers in 2013. See article on p. 10.
- **the Randall Neal Family** finished its eighth year of Adopt-a-Spot habitat work in Kinsel Park. They contributed more than 100 hours in 2013, including dormant tree pruning, weed control and Arbor Day planting.
- **Boy Scout Lucca Mancilio** completed his Eagle Scout Project in Kelly Park by making multiple improvements to the "library oak" area.
- **Boy Scout Andrew Hirl** (*below*) completed his Eagle Scout Project at Reich Park by constructing a deer "exclosure" to be used as a seedling nursery.



*Eagle Scout Andrew Hirl*

### Want to help?

**W** Volunteers and groups are needed from March through November to assist with native habitat restoration on city land. The greatest need is in May and June for pulling garlic mustard for eight weeks, but many other opportunities are available. For more information call (952) 988-8423. ☺

- **Larry Wade** controlled buckthorn and garlic mustard in Jidana Park and adopted a knoll of oaks.
- **Gary Kerber** finished his fourth season as an Adopt-a-Spot volunteer in Big Willow Park, singlehandedly pulling all the garlic mustard and dead-heading the burdock in a large section of the park south of Minnehaha Creek.
- **Jim Coleman**, a Minneapolis resident and master naturalist, continues to donate his time as the Lone Lake Park garlic mustard control leader on most spring Wednesday evenings. He expanded his assistance in 2013 to release native plants and control buckthorn.
- **Heather and Brent Holm** continue their ongoing Adopt-a-Spot work in Lake Rose Park by working independently to organize and lead neighborhood volunteers. In 2013 they pulled garlic mustard and weeds, caged seedling trees and shrubs to protect them from deer, and worked with new Adopt-a-Spot volunteer **Leonard Mignearey** and neighborhood mentor **Kris O'Reilly** to identify native plants and control buckthorn.
- **Sandy and Tracy McCartney** donated and planted 14 black walnut and eight red oak tree seedlings in Big Willow Park near Plymouth Road.
- **John Ziegenhagen** and **Susan Goll** undertook Adopt-a-Spot buckthorn control on a city outlot.

Additional thanks to volunteers **John Riggle**, **Bruce Gefvert**, and **Peggy Kvam** for their invasive species control work in multiple parks. ☺

## Get ready for the annual spring tree sale

**M** sold to residents since the city started its tree sale program in 2007. Have you participated yet? If not, you're missing out on a great opportunity to plant a diversity of trees in your yard!

While emerald ash borer (EAB) has not yet been found in Minnetonka, the city is planning for its inevitable arrival. Annual pesticide treatments are available to help prevent EAB from killing select trees, but most homeowners should also begin planting new trees. This is especially true if you have lots of ash trees in your yard and not many other tree species.

The city's annual tree sale program allows residents to pre-order and pre-pay for up to two trees per property owner, with a tree pick-up day in early spring. More than ten different species will be offered, ranging in height from three to seven feet at the time of purchase.

Look for an order form and list of available tree species in the February *Minnetonka Memo*. More information about each tree species will be available at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).

Can't wait for February? Attend a tree sale preview presentation January 14 (see sidebar). Quantities are limited and some species sell out quickly, so send your order as early as possible!

If your homeowner's association would like to order trees through the city's tree sale program, please contact the city forester at (952) 988-8421 by February 3 to discuss your plans and receive authorization to place an order. The city reserves the right to modify association orders to ensure species diversity and fair distribution of tree species. For questions call (952) 988-8400 or visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).

### Sneak preview Jan. 14

**L** figure out what tree would do best in your yard before the February *Minnetonka Memo* tree sale order form hits your mailbox! You'll also learn some expert tips to ensure your tree thrives. **Tree orders will not be accepted at the presentation.**

Attend the sneak preview Tuesday, January 14, from 5:30 – 7 p.m. in the Shady Oak Room at Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard. Space is limited to 36, so please RSVP to Minnetonka Public Works at (952) 988-8400 or register online at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com).

## Disposing of your Christmas tree

**N** Christmas tree now that the holidays are over? Check with your residential refuse hauler for pick up and recycling of your tree. Haulers have specific times or limited days they collect trees from customers. For information, check the last bill you received or call your hauler. There may be a fee for pickup, depending on the company and your level of service.



*Photo Contest: Barbara Bren, "Moon Over Shady Oak Lake"*

Trees will be accepted at the city of Minnetonka's winter pruning and brush drop-off, open all five Saturdays in March, 7 a.m. – 3 p.m., at Minnetonka Public Works, 11522 Minnetonka Boulevard. In the meantime, put the tree in a snowdrift in your yard as a refuge for birds.

## Sperbers donate hundreds of volunteer hours to Purgatory Park

**B** Minnetonka and enjoyed Purgatory Park for 40 years. In 2010, they decided to give back to the park by getting involved in the city's Adopt-a-Spot program, where a volunteer can work independently on city land after some instruction by the city's restoration specialist.

Bill and Renate took on a project in the northeast corner of the main trail loop. Their assignment was to "release" the cherries, dogwoods, nannyberries, raspberries and uncommon downy arrowwoods from the invasive buckthorn and Asian honeysuckle. Once they got started, the Sperbers worked in the space several days a week for many weeks.

Renate is a horticulturist who loves to identify native plants as she works. She specializes in finding the uncommon ones and clears around them first. Bill says they like working on habitat restoration because it gives them a sense of accomplishment

when they look back at their project area the following season and see how the native species start to flourish.

Once Bill and Renate completed their first assignment, they expanded their restoration efforts to other areas of the park. Now each season starts in late winter when they prune cherry black-knot disease from the twigs and stems of choke cherry shrubs. Without this pruning, many of the shrubs would become distorted and decline. In spring, they spend eight weeks feverishly pulling garlic mustard. Then they take a short break before starting to cut female buckthorn in July.

Bill and Renate Sperber are standout volunteers who have gone far beyond what is expected of any volunteer. Each year, their hours increased: first 73, then 108. In 2012 they more than doubled their hours to 225 and it nearly wore them out.

However, as of November 22, their 2013 hours were 347 and counting.

All users of Purgatory Park's trail users benefit from their labor, and natural resources stand can't thank them enough for their contributions!



*Bill and Renate Sperber have donated more than 750 hours toward habitat restoration from 2010 to 2013.*

# minnetonka memo

January 2014



PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CITY OF MINNETONKA

A publication of the city of Minnetonka  
14600 Minnetonka Boulevard, Minnetonka, MN 55345 • (952) 939-8200  
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday

<b>Mayor</b> Terry Schneider.....(952) 939-8389 ..... Home: (952) 934-9529 .....tschneider@eminnetonka.com	<b>Council</b> <i>At Large:</i> Dick Allendorf... (952) 933-6231 dallendorf@eminnetonka.com ..... Patty Acomb... (952) 807-8635 pacomb@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 1:</i> Bob Ellingson .... (952) 931-3065 bellingson@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 2:</i> Tony Wagner..... (952) 512-1817 twagner@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 3:</i> Brad Wiersum.... (612) 723-3907 bwiersum@eminnetonka.com <i>Ward 4:</i> Tim Bergstedt .... (952) 934-1769 tbergstedt@eminnetonka.com
<b>City Manager</b> Geraldyn Barone.....(952) 939-8200	<b>Minnetonka Mike</b> ..... (952) 939-8586 mike@eminnetonka.com
<b>Newsletter Editor</b> Jacque Larson.....(952) 939-8200	<b>POLICE-FIRE: Emergency</b> ..... 9-1-1
<b>E-mail:</b> ..... comments@eminnetonka.com	<b>Non-emergency</b> .....(952) 939-8500 or 9-1-1
<b>Internet:</b> .....www.eminnetonka.com	

ECRWSS  
POSTAL PATRON

## Calendar

City of  
Minnetonka

January  
2014

Call (952) 939-8200  
for meeting  
locations.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	Call (952) 939-8200 for meeting locations.
			1	2	3	4	1 New Year's Day, city offices closed
	5	6	7	8	9	10	16 Economic Development Advisory Commission, 6 p.m.
						11	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day, city offices closed
	12	13	14	15	16	17	23 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.
						18	27 City Council, 6:30 p.m.
	19	20	21	22	23	24	28 Citizen Academy, 6:30 p.m.
						25	
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

All meetings listed above are open to the public. Meeting dates and times are subject to change — please check [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) for the latest information.

Minnetonka City Council and Planning Commission meetings are broadcast live on cable channel 16, and replays are available Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.; Fridays and Saturdays at noon, or anytime via videostream at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). Agendas for council meetings are available on the city's website by the Friday afternoon prior to the meeting, and planning commission agendas are available by the Monday prior to the meeting.

## Staying informed about city projects

**T** applications for projects that require planning commission and/or city council approval. Information on these, as well as many other city projects, is regularly updated on the city's website. If you'd like to stay informed, visit "MyMinnetonka" at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) — click on "MyMinnetonka" under "Top Picks." Through MyMinnetonka, you can learn about new projects in the city; provide online feedback on projects during their approval process, and receive email updates on projects. Planning commission meeting agendas are posted by the Monday prior to the meeting. Visit [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com) for information. ~

## 2014 official newspaper selected

**T** selected as Minnetonka's official newspaper for 2014. It will publish the city's legal notices, ordinance titles and summaries, and other official information. Legal notices and full ordinances are also available at [www.eminnetonka.com](http://www.eminnetonka.com). The newspaper is published weekly on Tuesdays and is available for pickup at many public locations, including Minnetonka City Hall, 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard. ~

## Follow us on Twitter

**F** (@MinnetonkaMN) for snow removal tweets and updates during winter snowstorms. This is the best place to get timely updates on what the city has planned for snow removal and where we are in the snow removal process during large-scale snow events. As an added bonus, you'll receive tweets about city news, events and updates. ~



The paper in this newsletter was manufactured with electricity in the form of renewable energy (wind, hydro, and biogas).

