

PARK PAGES

A THRIVING COMMUNITY INSPIRING PRIDE WHERE OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR ALL



NEWS ABOUT THE BROOKLYN PARK COMMUNITY

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016

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Save the DATES!

OCT 4 BPPD offers free safety and burglary-prevention workshops beginning October 4!

OCT 15 Ever-popular Brooklyn Park Fire Department Open House



At City's Inaugural "Get to Know Me" Event BROOKLYN PARK SENIOR AND TEEN SHARE AND UNITE

There is a profound beauty that can be found at the heart of a good story. Perhaps it stems from an innate ability to transcend time and penetrate the hearts of those who dare to listen, oftentimes leaving listeners inspired, motivated, challenged, touched or entertained. But sadly, if that's all you see, you've been blinded to their true beauty, which comes from knowing that stories are not just told, but lived.

Every day in Brooklyn Park, more than 80,000 residents put their pens to the pages as their stories are brought to life. Each one unique, a sort of fingerprint to their existence. Together, they make up our story.

On Thursday, June 23, at a monthly community engagement gathering, two Brooklyn Park residents gave community members a taste of the kind of stories our City has to offer. Separated by what some might consider a lifetime, **91-year-old Charlotte "Char" Tommerdahl** and **19-year-old Ederick Bettie** headlined the inaugural "BP Get to Know Me" event.

"It's the first time we're doing this event," said Sandy'Ci Moua, community liaison. "It's not just about presentations, dry information or facts,



91-year-old Charlotte "Char" Tommerdahl and 19-year-old Ederick Bettie share their stories



City's Inaugural "Get to Know Me" Event continued on page 3...

Spotlight on our NATURAL RESOURCES

Flood Plain Regulations **WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) oversees the Federal Flood Plain Regulations across the nation. They have recently updated the flood insurance rate maps (FIRMS) for Brooklyn Park as well as completed the Hennepin County Flood Insurance Study. Both of these will become effective on November 4, 2016.

As a result, the City of Brooklyn Park is required to update our floodplain regulations consistent with the federal regulations in order to continue participation in the flood insurance program.

We will be finalizing language for the local ordinance and anticipate the following schedule:

SEP 26 September 26, 2016 City Council First reading of ordinance

OCT 10 October 10, 2016 City Council Second reading of ordinance

You can find more information at: www.fema.gov/information-property-owners.



Central Voting District Slated for FALL CURBSIDE CLEANUP!

Curbside Cleanup will be held in the Central Voting District this fall. Central Voting District residents should watch their mail for a postcard with details of what you can/cannot put on the curb and your date of collection. To learn more, use the city's interactive map at www.brooklynpark.org/recycling-events/.

Brooklyn Park 
Unique. Unified. Undiscovered.

City Contacts AT A GLANCE

City of Brooklyn Park, 763-424-8000
www.brooklynpark.org

Mayor Jeffrey Lunde, 763-493-8010
jeffrey.lunde@brooklynpark.org

City Manager Jay Stroebel, 763-493-8002
jay.stroebel@brooklynpark.org

EAST DISTRICT

Terry Parks, 763-493-8097
terry.parks@brooklynpark.org

Peter Crema, 763-493-8146
peter.crema@brooklynpark.org

CENTRAL DISTRICT

Rich Gates, 763-493-8372
rich.gates@brooklynpark.org

Mike Trepanier, 763-493-8040
mike.trepanier@brooklynpark.org

WEST DISTRICT

Vacant,
To be filled in the 2016 General Election

Bob Mata, 763-315-8442
bob.mata@brooklynpark.org

NEWSPAPER OF RECORD

Residents interested in receiving the *Brooklyn Park Sun Post* or those who are having delivery problems should contact the paper's circulation department directly at 952-392-6860. Messages should include a delivery address and return phone number. Please note the paper cannot be delivered north of 101st Avenue and distribution is limited in apartments, townhomes and condos.

PARK PAGES is produced by Brooklyn Park city staff, published every other month and distributed to residences and businesses. Editor Mary Tan, Communications Coordinator mary.tan@brooklynpark.org

Official meeting schedules and additional City department contacts can be found easily at: www.brooklynpark.org



Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/brooklynparkmn



Follow us on Twitter
[@BrooklynPark](https://twitter.com/BrooklynPark)

Election Update...the 2016 GENERAL ELECTION IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

On Election Day, the polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Council Member Candidates

Central District

James Jackson and Mark Mata

East District

Reva Chamblis and Lisa Jacobson

West District

Amy S. Hanson and Susan Pha

Vote Early (Absentee Voting)

Do you want to avoid the long lines at your polling place on Election Day? Then vote early! Voters in Minnesota may choose to vote before Election Day by absentee ballot without

providing a reason. You can vote by mail, or you can vote early in person, starting Friday, September 23, 2016.



Early Voting LOCATION & HOURS!

Water Treatment Facility Office

5100 Edinbrook Terrace

September 23 through November 7
from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. *Note: hours for Saturday, November 5 are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

Tales from Tim's RECYCLIN' BIN!

Are You Going to Eat THAT?

Ninety percent of us throw away food too soon. I'm not talking about that chip you dropped and was on the floor past the five-second rule. I'm talking about food that's fine to eat, but we throw it out anyway.

Here are some scenarios of why I used to throw out good food:

- That "Best By" date on the milk jug says yesterday. And I thought that if I drank the milk I'd get some weird disease that I read about somewhere on the internet
- Yesterday when I was grabbing an orange out of the fridge, I bumped an apple and it got a bruise. Today I saw the bruise and thought that the whole apple had gone bad

Now I'll make a bread pudding with the milk. I cut off the bruise and eat the rest of the apple. There are lots of simple things you can do to put your food where it belongs—on the dinner table, not in the trash can.

A family of four loses \$1500 a year on wasted food. Imagine what you could do with that money you could save! I don't have space here for all the things you can do. So visit this handy website—www.savethefood.com—which has details on these food-saving topics:

- Plan meals ahead of time
- Eat your leftovers
- Become a food-storage pro

And, here's a site from England that has more tips and tasty recipes to use up all those leftover items in the fridge www.lovefoodhatewaste.com.

Remember, it's reduce waste first, reuse next and then recycle—and by the way, over-ripe bananas make the best banana bread!

Until next time, continue reducing my friends.



Tim



Continued from cover...

City's Inaugural **"GET TO KNOW ME" EVENT**

but it's really about the stories people share about their lives."

It was a night of exactly that: storytelling. In a living room style interview, Char and Bettie shared two drastically different stories about their journeys, both of which landed them in Brooklyn Park.

"I've lived in Brooklyn Park for 64 years," said Char, a witness to our city's humble beginnings. "When [my husband and I] moved here there was nothing north of 85th Avenue North. It was all farmland and wooded area, so we had to do all of our shopping in downtown Minneapolis, quite far for a loaf of bread."

At that time, though, everything was different. The couple paid \$600 for 1.25 acres of land, built their home with their bare hands and paid taxes to Brooklyn Township, which later became Brooklyn Park.

Today, our city's landscape looks far different. "I have banking, the post office and the supermarket close," said Char. "Everything I need." As a result of the continued development, today's youth have an abundance of resources at their fingertips.

"I've lived in Brooklyn Park since 2008. It continues to amaze me," said Ederick Bettie, a second-generation Liberian immigrant and relatively recent high school graduate who's proud to call himself a resident. "I really like the opportunities afforded to us compared to other cities."

Bettie, who is a filmmaker, has taken full advantage of the opportunities he speaks of. In fact, he uses the local access television studios of Northwest Community Television to create a video series called "As My World Turns."

"The purpose of the show is to serve as a channel of hope and inspiration to those who are going through [things]," said Bettie, "and to bring the community together." Bettie understands how tough it is to be a teen in Brooklyn Park, especially when it comes to challenges such as peer pressure and bullying. Bettie hopes to tell the stories of young people so more caring adults will perhaps show more empathy when a young person is in distress.

While the stories of the senior and the teen vary widely, it is a direct reflection of the different experiences, cultures and people who make up our community. Brooklyn Park has continued to change since Char first built her home in our city, and one thing remains the same; we will continue writing our unique stories.



National Night Out 2016 **UNITING NEIGHBORS AND COMMUNITY**

August 2 was a day that so many Brooklyn Park residents looked forward to! This year, thousands of neighbors took to their lawns, sidewalks and streets to celebrate National Night Out. Almost 100 city staff members, including police officers, firefighters and street workers, visited roughly 200 parties. It was also the final National Night Out for the Police Department's Crime Prevention Coordinator Gerry Gibbs, who has planned the city's yearly event for the past 14 years. She will be retiring in December.

West District City Council Member John Jordan has tendered his resignation



City Council Member

JOHN JORDAN HONORED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

John Jordan, West District representative on the City Council since January 2013, has resigned from his seat. The Brooklyn Park resident has been a long-time city volunteer, beginning in 1998 with his appointment to the Citizen Long-range Improvement Committee. Jordan served on various committees throughout the years, including the Planning Commission, Tater Daze Committee and the Brooklyn Park Mayor's Prayer Breakfast Committee. With his support during his time on the Council, 3,000 jobs were created at diverse businesses such as Olympus Technologies, PrairieCare, Pertix, Nilfisk, Carmax and many others.

The seat will remain vacant until the General Election in November. It is expected that the winner of that seat will be appointed to fill the remainder of the term.





The Brooklyn Park 2025 Steering Committee is made up of residents, council members, and city staff.

Brooklyn Park 2025 Take the survey!

We need your feedback so we can make Brooklyn Park 2025 the best community plan possible.

Take the survey online or fill it out and send it in.

[www.brooklynpark.org/
openforum](http://www.brooklynpark.org/openforum)

We need your feedback!

Brooklyn Park 2025 Community Draft Plan

We're creating a new community-wide plan called *Brooklyn Park 2025* with goals we want to work toward for the next 9 to 10 years. This summer, nearly 1,000 community members shared what their goals are for Brooklyn Park and what they want the city to be like by the year 2025. That input was turned into this draft plan—**tell us what you think!**

By the year 2025, we want to see...

(1) A united and welcoming community, strengthened by our diversity.

What it will look like:

- Connected neighbors understand and celebrate our unique cultures.
- Brooklyn Park is unified with a strong positive identity and image.
- Our community's activities and services are inclusive, multi-cultural, and accessible.
- We have community spaces and events for diverse (age, race, culture) communities to gather.
- Residents of every age contribute to our community.

How do you feel about this goal? (circle your answer)

- Yes, sounds good to me.
- I have concerns.
- I don't agree with it. Let's not include it.

What concerns do you have?

By the year 2025, we want to see...

(2) Beautiful spaces and quality infrastructure make Brooklyn Park a unique destination.

What it will look like:

- Modern transportation options (drive, ride, walk, bike) connect people to education, jobs, and recreation.
- Recreation and park amenities inspire activity for all ages and interests.
- A vibrant music, arts, food, entertainment and cultural

scene showcases our rich diversity for residents and visitors.

- Attractive key corridors, corners, and city centers create destinations that meet community needs.
- Quality and well-maintained housing for all ages and incomes integrated throughout the community.

How do you feel about this goal? (circle your answer)

- Yes, sounds good to me.
- I have concerns.
- I don't agree with it. Let's not include it.

What concerns do you have?

By the year 2025, we want to see...

(3) A balanced economic environment where businesses and people thrive.

What it will look like:

- People of all ages and backgrounds enjoy financial stability.
- Residents and visitors support an abundance of retail stores, restaurants, and entertainment venues.
- Our business environment inspires private investment and job growth.
- Businesses of various types, sizes and specialties start, stay and grow here. (e.g. local networks and resources support businesses)
- We are a leader in sustainability, benefiting our environment, community, and economy.

How do you feel about this goal? (circle your answer)

- Yes, sounds good to me.
- I have concerns.
- I don't agree with it. Let's not include it.

What concerns do you have?

Continue survey on next page.



By the year 2025, we want to see...

(4) People of all ages have what they need to feel healthy and safe.

What it will look like:

- Neighborhoods are empowered and supported by strengthened positive relationships with police.
- Youth are engaged in positive and quality experiences.
- Aging adults have services and amenities to thrive and age in place.
- Everyone has access to healthy food options.
- People have access to quality medical and emergency care.

How do you feel about this goal? (circle your answer)

- Yes, sounds good to me.
- I have concerns.
- I don't agree with it. Let's not include it.

What concerns do you have?

By the year 2025, we want to see...

(5) Partnerships that increase racial and economic equity help residents and neighborhoods prosper.

What it will look like:

- Each resident has access to the training and support needed to get and keep a living wage job. (e.g. Job skills training, childcare)
- Each student graduates high school with a pathway to college or career. (e.g. Pre-k, rec programs, BrookLynk)
- Aging neighborhoods and commercial centers are revitalized through continuous investment.
- The community provides necessary services and supports for those experiencing challenges (homelessness, hunger, and mental illness).

How do you feel about this goal? (circle your answer)

- Yes, sounds good to me.
- I have concerns.
- I don't agree with it. Let's not include it.

What concerns do you have?



By the year 2025, we want to see...

(6) Effective and engaging government recognized as a leader.

What it will look like:

- The City provides quality services at a reasonable cost.
- Elected officials, commissions, and city staff reflect the diversity of the community and are culturally competent.
- City information is clear, accessible, and delivered in ways that meet the community's needs.
- City laws are understandable, relevant, and equitably enforced to help neighborhoods flourish.
- The City is well-managed and recognized as a great place to work.

How do you feel about this goal? (circle your answer)

- Yes, sounds good to me.
- I have concerns.
- I don't agree with it. Let's not include it.

What concerns do you have?

Overall impressions

Overall, what goals are missing, if any?

Optional questions

We want to make sure we're doing a good job of reaching out to and representing the voices of all of our community members in this survey.

How would you describe your nationality?

How would you describe your ethnic/racial background?

Next steps

Thank you for taking this survey! Your feedback will help the steering committee shape the final draft of the community plan to present to City Council for approval in January. Check online to see the final plan in January 2017:

www.brooklynpark.org/bp2025

Return this survey

Mail or drop off this survey to: Community Engagement, Brooklyn Park City Hall, 5200 85th Ave. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55443.

To be included in a drawing for prizes, make sure to include a return address on your envelope.

Questions?

Contact Kaela Dickens, 763-493-8159, bp2025@brooklynpark.org





The kids are back in school...it's just a great time to **GETUP&GO!**

For a complete guide on all recreation programs going on, pick up a copy of the fall issue of *GetUp&Go* at the Community Activity Center, located at 5600 85th Ave. N. or pick one up at City Hall, located at 5200 85th Ave. N. You can also go online at www.brooklynpark.org to sign up for programs or get more details. Youth scholarships are available!

Fall Recreational Opportunities & Events **FOR ALL!**

KEEPING KIDS SAFE AND HAVING FUN AFTER SCHOOL!

KIDZONE After School Program
September 26 through December 11

Monday through Friday,
from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m.
Zanewood Recreation Center
7100 Zane Ave. N.
\$100/Resident \$106/Non-Resident
Kids (grades K-5) engage in sports, arts and crafts, team games, cool science projects, learn about the outdoors, discover new games that don't involve electronics and develop new friendships! Snacks are provided, Scholarships available.
Call 763-315-8444 or go to:
www.brooklynpark.org/registration.



SEP 26

DEC 11

ADULTS ON THE MOVE

Discover Travel with Brooklyn Park Recreation and Parks

Wednesday, September 28,
from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Community Activity Center,
5600 85th Ave. N. (Senior Lounge)
Free!

SEP 28

Interested in traveling abroad or going to the east coast? How about a ten-day trip to Scotland or the islands of New England? Join us for a special presentation from Collette Travel about these two exciting tours coming in the Fall of 2017. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to Pat Busch at 763-493-8254 or email: pat.busch@brooklynpark.org.

Senior Day Trips

Don't have that much time? How about a day trip? Here are some of the fun places we're going to visit:

OCT 27

Geritol Frolics: Brainerd in the Fall

Thursday, October 27,
from 9:15 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Fee: \$72

NOV 17

Christmas at Mayowood

Thursday, November 17,
from 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Fee: \$60

DEC 1

A Merry Mankato

Thursday, December 1,
from 11:45 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Fee: \$70



Ring in the New Year!

Mamma Mia! 2-Day Motor Tour to Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin
December 31 to January 1, 2017
Fee: \$425 per person (dbl room) or \$495 per person (single room)

For more information see your fall *GetUp&Go* brochure. To register visit www.brooklynpark.org/registration.

DEC 31



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Concert: Empower Phebe Hospital

Sunday, October 9, at 5 p.m.
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church,
7217 W. Broadway
Free Will Offering
A concert featuring Liberian artists to benefit Phebe Hospital in Liberia. The hospital provides medical care to more than 450,000 rural Liberian residents, but doctors and nurses are challenged by daily blackouts due to damage of electrical grids in the civil war. Proceeds will help provide a reliable solar energy solution.

OCT 9

Hops for Hunger and Homelessness

Saturday, October 15, from 2 to 5 p.m.
St. Vincent DePaul, 9100 93rd Ave. N.
The Brooklyn Park Rotary Club is hosting a Beer Fest to benefit the community. Tickets are \$35.

OCT 15

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/RotaryBPMN.

Brooklyn Park Mayor's Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, October 27, from 7 to 9 a.m.
Community Activity Center,
5600 85th Ave. N.

OCT 27

\$25 per person/sponsorships available
Join us for a delicious (plated) breakfast at the Community Activity Center featuring Dr. Curtiss DeYoung as he speaks about coming together for racial and economic justice, reconciliation and cultural diversity.

For more information go to: www.bpmayorsprayerbreakfast.com.

FALL PUBLIC SAFETY EVENTS

FREE Fall Workshops at the Police Department

All workshops are held at the Brooklyn Park Police Department North Precinct, located at 5400 85th Ave.N. Enter through the training room door. To register call Terry Dehmer at 763-493-8277 or email him at terry.dehmer@brooklynpark.org.



Safety in Public Places Workshop

Tuesday, October 4,
from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Ways to survive an armed intruder in a public place.

OCT 4

Burglary Prevention Workshop

Thursday, October 17,
from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Tips on making your home more burglar resistant.

OCT 17

Fire Department Open House!

Saturday, October 15,
from Noon to 3 p.m.
Central Fire Station, 5700 85th Ave. N.
Meet your local firefighters, tour the station, try on gear, spray the fire hoses, play Bingo, games, crafts, and much more!

OCT 15



Turn Halloween Pumpkins INTO COMPOST!

What does your pumpkin turn into after midnight? How about changing it into valuable compost!

Pumpkins can be placed in your backyard compost bin. If you don't have a bin, use the free drop-off container in Central Park across the street from Brooklyn Park's Operations & Maintenance facility, 8300 Noble Ave N. between October 31 and November 6. Please remove candles, candle wax and decorations before disposal. The compost will be used to make soil and landscapes healthy.

See your ad alongside these great local businesses at Marketplace Partners @the City
 Become a Marketplace advertising partner @the City: Contact Mark Bauer at 612-201-3988 or via email at mtbauer@comcast.net



Brooklyn Park Community Activity Center



Make
your event
memorable.

763-493-8333

www.brooklynpark.org/weddings

5600 85th Avenue North • Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

Outdoor ceremony space

Seating for up to 330

Exclusive catering

A/V equipment



MAKE THIS SCHOOL YEAR GREATER THAN LAST YEAR!

A new school year brings a fresh start—and Mathnasium is here to help set the stage for success!

Together, we can make this school year **greater than** last year!

*National PTA does not endorse any commercial entity, product, or service. No endorsement is implied by Mathnasium. To learn more about this relationship, visit pta.org/sponsors.



Math Help and Enrichment



FREE TRIAL

See center for details.

Test Prep

Homework Help

(763) 269-6969

9724 Schreiber Terrace N, Brooklyn Park

mathnasium.com/champlinpark

13720 83rd Way N, Maple Grove

mathnasium.com/maplegrove

FACT:

There are multiple ways to teach a child how to solve a math problem.

BALANCED LEARNING® WAY:

We love the ones that factor in a love for learning.

SEE BALANCED LEARNING IN ACTION. CALL FOR A TOUR TODAY!

Infants – Private Kindergarten & After School

Primrose School of Champlin Park

10051 Xenia Ave North | Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

763.494.5500 | PrimroseChamplinPark.com



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Summer Blossom WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

The Summer Blossom Program highlights attractive gardens and landscaping in Brooklyn Park and recognizes residents and businesses that strive to improve the city's landscape. Nominations were received from gardeners, neighbors or friends from May 27 through July 6. The judges were impressed with the many wonderful gardens that were nominated!

At the September 12 City Council meeting, grand winners in single family, townhome, neighborhood and commercial categories each received a \$250 gift card and an engraved Summer Blossom paver. First place single family winners each received an engraved Summer Blossom paver.

The 2016 winners are:

Single Family Grand (District 3)

Carol Carli, 8625 Girard Ave. N.

First Place District 1

Grant & Paula Mitchell, 6325 Rhode Island Ave. N.

First Place District 2

Jeff Kline, 8272 Brandywine Parkway

First Place District 4

Leslie Burkhalter, 10625 Brunswick Ave. N.

Grand Townhome

Tony & Pat Bianco, 3711 Ladyslipper Lane

Grand Neighborhood Garden

Impatiens Lane Gardeners, 3710 Impatiens Lane

Grand Commercial

Mississippi Gardens, 9500 West River Road

Photographs of the gardens can be found at the City's website: www.brooklynpark.org/summer-blossom.

Save the Date! SPECIAL MATERIALS DROP-OFF DAY!



Saturday, October 8, from 8 a.m to 3 p.m.
Operations & Maintenance Facility,
8300 Noble Ave

Not everything that's recyclable can go in your curbside cart. That's why we hold two Drop-Off Days each year. Some items such as scrap metal and used oil are accepted for free, while there's a small charge for other items such as electronics and carpet. For a complete list of what's accepted and fees visit www.brooklynpark.org/recycling-events/.

Keep Leaves out of the Street... KEEP ALGAE GROWTH DOWN!

Beautiful as the fall leaves are, they mean lots of yard work for homeowners. One option for reducing your workload is to use a mulching lawn mower to mulch leaves into your yard. It is less time intensive than raking and the shredded leaves act as a natural fertilizer during the fall.

While you are tending to your yard, take a moment to sweep or rake leaves and branches out of the street in front of your house. Left in the street, they can clog storm drains, contributing to localized flooding. If leaves go down the storm drain into nearby lakes, rivers and streams, they become a major source of phosphorus, the nutrient that allows algae to bloom in the summer.

It's illegal to put leaves in your garbage or recycling carts. Instead, dispose of leaves by composting them in your backyard, dropping them off for free at the Maple Grove Yard Waste Site (at Highway 81 and Maple Grove Parkway), or by arranging a special pick up with your garbage hauler.

