

August 2020

Park Pages



**North Hennepin
Community College**

A member of Minnesota State
Newsletter

inside!

In this issue:

Brooklyn Park 2025

Resources and Growth Guide

BrookLynk Graduates

Page 1

Working Together

Brooklyn Park 

Page 6

**Mask mandate
statement from
Recreation and Parks**

Working Together

Working Together

In March, Brooklyn Park residents began to feel the full impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. As businesses began to close, it left many residents out of work and concerned about how to provide for themselves and their families. In Brooklyn Park, non-profit organizations stepped in to support the growing needs of our community. Many organizations provided food, cleaning supplies, assisted residents with unemployment applications, and connected people with important services.



Recognizing the growing need and the great work of local organizations, the City Council approved a \$30,000 Non-profit Emergency Funds grant on March 23. Five organizations were awarded funding: **Avenues for Youth, Community Emergency Assistance Program (CEAP), Minnesota African Task Force Against Ebola (MATFAE), Organization for Liberians in Minnesota (OLM) and West African Family & Community Services.** All five worked to distribute direct goods to Brooklyn Park residents.

Organization for Liberians in Minnesota(OLM)



OLM provided varied services such as culturally specific food and supply distribution and rental support. With the Non-profit Emergency Funds grant, they prepared and delivered over 200 food packages to the homes and apartment buildings of senior residents in the city. Together, all five organizations provided expanded services to over 2,000 people across the city. COVID-19 has touched the lives of everyone in some way but there is no doubt the services and supplies provided through these non-profit organizations helped ease the burden for families and individuals in the Brooklyn Park community.

Thank you to the many organizations supporting Brooklyn Park residents – your services are part of what make us a city inspiring pride where opportunities exist for all!

CAPI USA

CAPI's mission is to guide refugees and immigrants in the journey toward self-determination and social equality. They want the community to know about two key initiatives.

Fresh Food Friday – August 14 and 28, September 11 and 25 and October 9 from 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. Check-in begins at 12:30 p.m. CAPI USA 5930 Brooklyn Blvd, Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

Free online Nursing Assistant Training – Orientation begins August 4. If you are interested, contact Mameneh George at 612-767-3695 or mameneh.george@capiusa.org



Working Together

The African Career, Education, and Resource Inc. (ACER)

The African Career, Education, and Resource Inc. (ACER) is an issue-based organization working to uplift and amplify the African Diaspora to build power for systemic change and advance racial and economic equity in our community. ACER is currently working on a Get Out the Vote Campaign and advocating for a full count Census 2020.

ACER is also collecting donations (non-perishable food items, hygiene products, baby supplies, household cleaning products, etc.) for a Community Service Day on August 15. This event will have a distribution center for what is collected, an opportunity for Black and other POC vendors to share their products, and an open mic to provide space for BIPOC voices from our community to be heard.

Donations can be dropped off at the ACER office: 6800 78th Avenue, Suite 101, Brooklyn Park and more details for the Community Service Day (as well as voter registration and information for filling out the census) can be found on their website at [ACERinc.org](https://www.ACERinc.org) or their Facebook page @ACERFair.



North Hennepin Community College (NHCC)

[The Association of American Colleges and Universities](#) selected North Hennepin Community College (NHCC) and its partnership with the City of Brooklyn Park to participate in their [Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation \(TRHT\)](#) Institute June 16-19, 2020. The selection partners us to maximize equitable community building through racial healing using the TRHT framework, a methodology designed to guide the development of purposeful action that dismantles racial hierarchies and structural barriers, both within the campus and local community. Institutions and their community partners were selected based on their demonstrated commitment to racial equity.

NHCC is hosting a Virtual Community Racial Healing Circle on August 19 from 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Rooted in indigenous tradition, this compassion-based methodology provides opportunity to share experiences, emphasizes active listening, and being open to differing perspectives. The goal is to promote human understanding, leading toward racial healing and racial equity.

To maintain the integrity of the circle, participants are asked to sign up only if able to attend the entirety of the session. To sign up for the virtual healing circle, email diversity@nhcc.edu with your first and last name, type Racial Healing in the subject line. Registrants will be emailed zoom access information the night before.

Resources and Growth Guide

Brooklyn Park is a city rich in racial and cultural diversity.

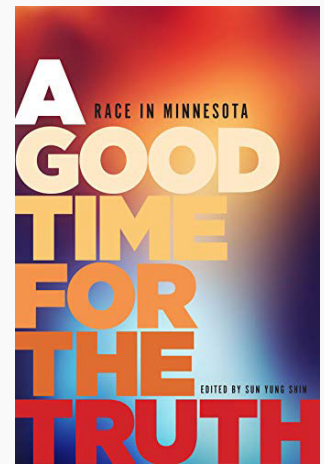
This diversity helps make us a vibrant and thriving community. [As a united community](#), we invite all residents to grow and learn more about various cultures, beliefs, and life experiences of our neighbors. Below are some resources to help you along your journey:

One Book One Minnesota

One Book One Minnesota is a new statewide book club that invites Minnesotans to read a common title and come together virtually to enjoy, reflect and discuss. The current book is *A Good Time for the Truth*, edited by Sun Yung Shin (Minnesota Historical Society Press). [Read the book for free from the Hennepin County Library!](#)

A Good Time for the Truth - edited by Sun Yung Shin

In this provocative book, sixteen of Minnesota's best writers provide a range of perspectives on what it is like to live as a person of color in Minnesota. They give readers a splendid gift: the gift of touching another human being's inner reality, behind masks and veils and politeness. They bring us generously into experiences that we must understand if we are to come together in real relationships. Minnesota communities struggle with some of the nation's worst racial disparities. As its authors confront and consider the realities that lie beneath the numbers, this book provides an important tool to those who want to be part of closing those gaps.



Who we are

With a population of more than 80,000 people, Brooklyn Park is the sixth-largest city in Minnesota and the fourth largest in the metropolitan area. We are a community that believes our residents are our strongest asset and the key to making Brooklyn Park thrive and prosper.

[Learn more about Brooklyn Park >](#)

During the month of July, the City Council, in partnership with the Human Rights Commission, held three listening sessions to get feedback from the community about Police Reform and Racial Justice in Brooklyn Park. There is a virtual listening session scheduled for August 18; sign up here.

[Sign up for the listening session here >](#)

Resources and Growth Guide

This month's frequently used words and terms

Police Reform - police reform aims to transform the values, culture, policies and practices of police organizations.
[Learn more about police reform \(Wikipedia\) >](#)

Racial Justice - The systematic fair treatment of people of all races, resulting in equitable opportunities and outcomes for all. Racial justice—or racial equity—goes beyond “anti-racism.” It is not just the absence of discrimination and inequities, but also the presence of deliberate systems and supports to achieve and sustain racial equity through proactive and preventative measures.

Intercultural competence - the ability to relate and communicate effectively when individuals involved in the interaction do not share the same culture, ethnicity, language, or other common experiences.
[Learn more about Intercultural competence \(TED Talk\) >](#)

BIPOC - Black, Indigenous, People of Color.
[Learn more about BIPOC \(Reader's Digest\) >](#)

Brooklyn Park 2025 Update

Have you ever wondered about how your city tracks success? In Brooklyn Park, our community came up with a plan for the future of Brooklyn Park.

We built this plan after hearing from nearly 1,000 community members both in person and online. In early 2017, our City Council officially adopted the Brooklyn Park 2025 community plan. This plan is now the blueprint to define clear goals and priorities that will guide our community's efforts over the next decade. As part of this, we use data, which we call Community Indicators, to track our work.

Community Indicators help us answer the question: “Are we there yet?” These are big picture measures that reflect the realities our diverse communities experience in our city. Though the outcomes of these metrics are beyond any single agency's control, they help guide our work in Brooklyn Park to advance the Brooklyn Park 2025 goals.

Quick facts about Community Indicators:

- Broad measures of community health and wellbeing
- Measures that reflect our BP 2025 goals
- Developed through a community driven engagement process

[Click here to see the progress of our community indicators.](#)



Cities United / Step Up to the Mic!

Wednesday, August 26, 3 p.m.–5 p.m.

Step Up to the Mic!

Wednesday, August 26, 3 – 5 p.m., FREE

The Cities United Step Up to the Mic challenge is an opportunity for young people to showcase their skills virtually in three categories: 1- Rap, 2- Singing, 3- Poetry. There is a \$100 prize for each category winner. Plus, there are other prizes like Godfather's Pizza certificates and experiences on local radio stations and podcasts.

Contestants are asked to submit a video no longer than 90 seconds by August 19 at 11:59 p.m.

To become a contestant, to be given an access to the challenge and for info on upcoming challenges, email Antonio Smith at antonio.smith@brooklynpark.org or text 763-498-1799.



Minnesota Mask Mandate

On July 25, Governor Walz announced that Minnesotans are required to wear masks in indoor businesses and public spaces to slow the spread of COVID-19.

When in direct customer contact, recreation program staff will wear a mask for our safety and yours. Based on the Governor's Executive Order, masks are required when inside City facilities and strongly encouraged while participating outdoors.

Masks are required to be worn at programs when 6' of social distancing is not possible. Participants will be notified of specific protocols and guidelines.

If you or a family member is not able to wear a mask due to a disability or other special need, contact Erin Johnson at 763-315-8462 or email Erin.Johnson@BrooklynPark.org.

Recreation and Parks

Community Activity Center – 5600 85th Ave N

Follow us on Facebook!

Check out these specialty social media pages

[Recreation and Parks](#) Main recreation Facebook page

[Adults on the Move](#) Dedicated to adults age 55+

[Brooklyn Park Nature Preschool](#) For enrolled families

[Brooklyn Park Dance](#) Dance program announcements

[Brooklyn Park Summer Camps](#) Up-to-date info and reach participants

[Brookland Golf Park](#) Course updates and special offers

[Edinburgh USA](#) Course updates and golf services

[Historic Eidem Farm](#) Virtual activities and history

[Zanewood Rec Center](#) Programs and announcements

Brooklyn Park Adult Opportunities!



Register Now!

Register by phone, online or in person at the Community Activity Center:

5600 85th Ave N, Brooklyn Park
763-493-8333
www.brooklynpark.org/registration

Hatha Yoga

Bring your own mat, yoga block, sweat towel and water bottle.

Community Activity Center
Tuesday, August 4 – September 1
5:00 p.m.–5:45 p.m.
\$45/\$54.....#149102.45

Community Activity Center
Tuesday, August 4 – September 1
6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.
\$45/\$54.....#149102.46

Caregivers Presentation by the Alzheimer's Association of MN

See full presentation descriptions online.

All presentations will be held through an online virtual link that will be emailed ahead of time.

Register with Brooklyn Park or by calling the Alzheimer's Association at 1-800-272-3900

Effective Communication Strategies

Tuesday, August 11, 6:30 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
Free.....#146001.44

[Sign up online!](#)

Understanding & Responding to Dementia-Related Behaviors

Tuesday, August 18, 6:30 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
Free.....#146001.45

[Sign up online!](#)

Planning Your Move Workshop

An online Zoom meeting link will be emailed to you.

Learn about getting ready to sell your house and make the next move.

Find out how the current pandemic has impacted the market.

Thursday, August 13, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.
Free.....#146001.42



Recreation and Parks

Community Activity Center – 5600 85th Ave N

Summer Recreation Programs!

The August recreation schedule is now available

Summer recreation programs are now available.

[Click here to view program offerings!](#)

Register online or with the Community Activity Center front desk by phone 763-493-8333 or in person 5600 85th Ave N.

Due to Covid-19 guidelines evolving, the August recreation schedule will be released in mid-July.



CURRENTLY ENROLLING
for the 2020–21 School Year

Classes begin on September 8. For more information on our school, please visit us at [facebook.com/BrooklynParkNaturePreschool](https://www.facebook.com/BrooklynParkNaturePreschool) at: www.brooklynpark.org/nature-preschool or email: Sheri.Gulenchyn@brooklynpark.org



BROOKLYN PARK
**NATURE
PRESCHOOL**



Brooklyn Park Youth Sports

August recreation schedule now available

The Brooklyn Park Athletic Association, BPAA for short, is an athletic association that provides a variety of sport opportunities for kids of all ages.

Is your kid in interested in baseball, basketball, football, lacrosse, soccer, fast or slow pitch softball? BPAA has you covered!

[Click here for more information about all their sports offerings.](#)



Historic
Eidem Farm

Nurturing our Roots and Growing our Future

Celebrate Brooklyn Park by contributing to a community cookbook

COOKING WITH SPUD



"Celebrating our rich potato history and unique community"

Coming soon!

Get your very own "Cooking with Spud" cookbook!

**Copies will be available for purchase in August
and can be purchased online,
at the Brooklyn Park Farmer's Market,
and at other community events this fall.**



Historic
Eidem Farm

4345 101st Avenue N
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443
www.historiceidemfarm.org

Brooklyn Park

Celebrate!

Brooklyn Park

Celebrate Brooklyn Park

Summer Events & Experiences

SUMMER SERIES

Due to COVID-19 social distancing and gathering guidelines, most of the Celebrate Brooklyn Park summer series events have been canceled for 2020. We are happy to still offer Music on the Lawn and Drive in Movies. These events will follow current Stay Safe MN and Minnesota Department of Health gathering guidance. Please respect social distancing of at least 6 feet between family groups. Within the phase 3 guidelines, we can allow for 250 people to attend each event. Masks are strongly recommended.

Please take the at-home Health Screening before attending any event and use restrooms at home.

DRIVE IN MOVIES

Community Activity Center West parking lot
5600 85th Ave N

Movies begin at Dusk

COOL RUNNINGS

DAY	ALL AGES	TIME	FEE	REGISTRATION#
Thurs	August 6	Dusk	Free	Ticket

HOMeward BOUND

DAY	ALL AGES	TIME	FEE	REGISTRATION#
Thurs	August 27	Dusk	Free	Ticket

SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2

DAY	ALL AGES	TIME	FEE	REGISTRATION#
Friday	October 2	Dusk	Free	Ticket

- Each household should be in a separate car; carpooling does not comply with social distancing.
- Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, fever, etc.) should not attend—no matter what.
- Attendees must remain in the vehicles they arrived in.
- Vehicles will be parked every-other parking space; follow direction from event staff.
- Families and individuals may not walk to the movie or participate outside of vehicles.
- Follow the traffic flow plan for how vehicles enter and exit the event.
- Entrance for movies will be off of 85th Ave; exit will be on to Edinbrook Terrace.
- Parking will begin at 8 pm. FM station for listening to the movie will be shared at entrance to parking lot on night of the movie.

**EVENTS ARE FREE BUT
A TICKET MUST BE RESERVED
by 5:30 PM on the day of the event!**

Call 763-493-8333, stop in at the
Community Activity Center at 5600 85th Ave N
or go online (URL below) to get your ticket(s)

MUSIC ON THE LAWN

TUESDAYS — FREE

Enjoy an evening concert!
All attendees must bring their own
chair or blanket. Social distancing will
be required between family groups

Concerts begin at 7 PM



Community Activity
Center Front Lawn
5600 85th Avenue N
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

BACKYARD BAND

DAY	ALL AGES	TIME	FEE	REGISTRATION#
Tues	August 11	7:00 PM	Free	Ticket

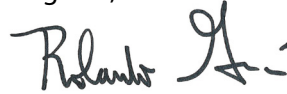
NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In this together

We're just weeks away from the start of fall semester. I want to assure you that we're doing everything we can to ensure a safe return to classes, which will be delivered mostly online/hybrid with limited face-to-face instruction. NHCC's Pandemic Task Force is also developing a reintegration plan to return to campus when it is safe to do so, leveraging guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the Minnesota Department of Health, and federal OSHA standards. Visit www.nhcc.edu/covid19 to view updates and access resources. At the same time, we are also very mindful that our community is still healing after the death of George Floyd. NHCC is committed to racial equity, and stands in solidarity with the campus and the community. We invite you to learn about our work, and

join in the conversation. For more information, please visit www.nhcc.edu/solidarity.

Regards,



Dr. Rolando García



NHCC in solidarity



North Hennepin Community College stands firm against racism and all forms of human oppression. We recognize the fullness of human value and reinforce to you our commitment to racial healing and upholding anti-racism practices. So what does this look like in action? Here's a Q&A with Associate Vice President of Equity & Inclusion Dr. Eda Watts.

What was the Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) Institute the college attended?

NHCC was fortunate to be one of 35 post-secondary institutions in the country selected by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) to participate in training held June 16-19 to learn how to dismantle racial hierarchies and build equitable communities.

What are some of the outcomes of the TRHT training?

We have developed a lot of great opportunities for employees, students and the greater community to start the work of racial healing. A few examples include the *Brave Space Reading Group* for employees to engage in discussion, broaden awareness, and learn how to take actionable steps toward racial equity. The first book will be *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. We recently launched *C.O.R.E.* (Conversations on Race and Equity), an opportunity for students to engage in critical dialogue on issues relevant to race, equity and advocacy. I'm also

really excited about *racial healing circles*, a centerpiece of the TRHT framework. Rooted in Indigenous tradition, this compassion-based platform provides opportunity for sharing lived truths, emphasizes active listening, and being open to differing perspectives.



You're invited to a virtual Community Racial Healing Circle*

Wednesday, August 19, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Free & open to the community! Advance registration required by August 18. RSVP to reserve your spot at www.nhcc.edu/solidarity.

*This methodology focuses on sharing experiences. For the integrity of our circle, sign up only if you can attend the entirety of the session.

NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE



We'll be ready for you this fall semester.

- NHCC will offer mostly online/hybrid courses with limited face-to-face instruction.
- Tuition is frozen for fall semester. Students will pay the same tuition rate from spring 2020 semester.
- We're waiving the application fee to apply to NHCC now through August 17.

Free course to help improve online learning skills.

Nervous about distance learning, or just need to freshen online skills? Register today for FYE 1990: Special Topics - Effective Student Learning. This free, four-week, one-credit course is designed to help students succeed with online learning and the college experience, including communicating with instructors, note taking, test taking, and getting involved. Sections start August 27 (morning) and August 28 (evenings). Learn more and register at www.nhcc.edu/fall.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will campus be open, and what safety precautions will be in place?

At this time, campus access is limited to employees and students. Most classes will be online, with a small number on campus. NHCC's Pandemic Task Force is developing a plan for returning to campus. Visit www.nhcc.edu/covid19 to stay informed.

What if I don't have access to technology to take online courses?

NHCC will work with students to offer loaner laptops and/or connect students with community resources including Minnesota Computers for Schools, PCs for People, and Refurble. In addition, NHCC students can access computer labs on campus, and free Wi-Fi from NHCC parking lots. Students who have their own computing device are able to connect to our computers on campus by using the LabStats remote access tool.

What services can I access remotely?

Students will have access to all services remotely, including academic advising, access services, admissions, counseling, library, and more. In addition, students may access the food cupboard during campus open hours. For more information, visit www.nhcc.edu/covid19/covid19studentservices.

What if I need technical help?

The NHCC Help Desk is available to students during campus hours. Minnesota State also offers student help every day including evening hours and weekends. For more information, visit www.nhcc.edu/covid19/covid19studentresources.

If I take classes at NHCC, will my credits transfer?

As a regionally accredited college, most institutions accept our college-level credits with a passing grade. If you would like to make sure a course will transfer before registering, please contact Admissions at admission@nhcc.edu or 763-424-0724.

Important Dates

Application Deadline	August 17
Fall Semester Starts	August 24
Free Online Course Starts	August 27, 28

Start your future today and apply for free at www.nhcc.edu/apply. Questions? Contact Admissions at 763-424-0724 or admission@nhcc.edu.



• • BrookLynk Graduates

Congratulations Class of 2020!

BrookLynk, a youth employment program in Brooklyn Center and Brooklyn Park, is recognizing this year's graduating interns. As a youth program, we aim to be youth centered by continuously promoting our interns who have graduated high school. We want to recognize their hard work and efforts throughout the school year despite of COVID-19. We are proud of our interns who have consistently showcased their skills, potential, and leadership qualities. Here is a spotlight on some of our hardworking graduates!

Victoria Ogunbanwo •

High School: Champlin Park High School

Grad Year: 2020

Did COVID-19 impact your school year? How?

I was excited to graduate and end the semester with a blast. I was getting ready for prom and preparing to celebrate with my friends. But then everything changed.

Opportunities that came from COVID-19

Having a new job and being able to still meet new people despite everything that was going on. I also got to connect with my college professor which was is exciting.

Future Plans

Looking forward to starting college and exploring new things that comes with being a college student.

Advice to other seniors

Know where you want to go and make a plan. Also, it is important to use the resources you have, especially if you are looking forward to going to college. Since I was a PSEO student, take as many summer classes as you can, it will help you to gather enough credits in a short period.



• BrookLynk Graduates

Sumei Vang •

High School: Champlin Park High School

Grad Year: 2020

Did COVID-19 impact your school year? How?

I can say that COVID-19 affected me in a good way, I say this because it has challenged me to be more of an independent learner rather than depending on my teachers to show me the way all the time. With the education being held online, I could learn at my own pace, so I thought it was really good.

Opportunities that came from COVID-19

I was able to build stronger relationships with my teachers during my online classes. Going to Champlin Park, it was a really big school, so with online learning, I was able to bond with my teachers individually. Aside from academics, it gave me the opportunity to be more attuned with the environment outside.

Future Plans

Of course, starting college, but in the near future, I want to give back to the community in any way possible. Therefore, if I can give through volunteering or donating, I would love to continue doing that. Currently, it's hard to do those things so once it settles down, I'd definitely volunteer more. Hopefully, when I get my college education, I do more than that.

Advice to other seniors

Cherish every moment. Not to be cheesy but appreciate every day because I didn't know that Thursday would be my last at school. It all happened so fast, so give effort in all that you do. Being a senior this year, I was involved with many programs, so it was sad to let go. This year, we missed prom, so I encourage for people to be involved in as many events, programs, and extra curriculars.



• BrookLynk Graduates

Sophie Khan •

High School: Osseo Senior High

Grad Year: 2020

Did COVID-19 impact your school year? How?

Covid-19 impacted my school year in good ways and bad. I personally was not the strongest online learner, however, it taught me what my learning style. I was looking forward to getting all dolled up for prom and walking the stage to receive my diploma. I still enjoyed driving up to Osseo seeing all my teachers and friends during our drive-in graduation.

Opportunities that came from COVID-19

I would also say that working as an intern for Brooklyn Park with Rec on the Go and Arts has been a great opportunity! I have worked with amazing people that have push me closer to achieving my goals. I have gotten many opportunities to build my confidence and to make my voice heard even when it feels impossible.

Future Plans

I will be studying at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. I will be majoring in Physiology and minoring in Gender, Sexuality and Woman's health on the path of being a Physicians Assistant. My end up goal is to have my very own birth center where women from all backgrounds are welcomed.

Advice to other seniors

Start looking for scholarships in the beginning of your senior year. By doing so your less stressed near graduation time. Some of the best scholarships are due near the Fall and Wintertime. Take advantage of PSEO classes because they are free college classes that you can get credit for which will give you a head start on your classes for your undergrad years. Last tip, apply for Brooklynk it is a free program dedicated to empower us youth and connects you with an internship related to your interest in life looking forward to going to college. Since I was a PSEO student, take as many summer classes as you can, it will help you to gather enough credits in a short period.



• BrookLynk Graduates

Caesarine Lewis •

High School: Champlin Park High School

Grad Year: 2020

Did COVID-19 impact your school year? How?

I feel as though the events of COVID-19 senior experience short. I was looking forward to graduating and attending prom. Nevertheless, it was fun to drive through my school grounds and walking while they said our names. That was fun. Schoolwork was fine, but a bit frustrating since it was online and communication was difficult. Also, with being inside, you realize how much time you have, and you don't know what to do with that time. I had to find different things to keep me busy other than schoolwork.



Opportunities that came from COVID-19

I feel that there were a lot of opportunities for myself. For example, I was able to sit back, write a script, and think about myself mentally. This might not quite be an opportunity, but during the time we were in quarantine, I was able to relax and think about my life. I could also reminisce about the people I care about, like my teachers. For example, I took the time to write thank-you notes to all my high school teachers, which made me happy.

Future Plans

I am looking forward to going to college out of state. I can't wait to explore college life, learn about a new state, and exploring new cities. I'm also looking forward to building myself in my career because I want to be an ER doctor, so I'll be majoring in Biology. I like science and math, so I think it'll go well.

Advice to other seniors

My advice for incoming seniors is to start applying for college in August or earlier. Once September hits, you won't know what to do, so apply early. Also, have essays ready or at least have a template that can be adjusted for each college you apply to. Don't slack off because colleges will look at your grades, so do your best to keep up with your grades to get scholarships. Lastly, make your senior year your best year. Although it will be hard, try your best to stay involved and get to know your teachers. This is good for recommendation letters.

Environmental Health



Good Choices for Clean Water

Do you live near an “impaired water”? Every two years the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) creates a list of impaired waters that do not meet standards for water quality. Water quality standards define how much of a pollutant—like bacteria or excess nutrients—can be in the water before it is too polluted for fish and other animals, and even swimming or boating. If a lake or stream ends up on the impaired waters list, also known as the Section 303(d) list, it means that the waterbody may no longer be safe for its designated use, which could be drinking water, swimming, or fishing.

If you live on or near an impaired water, there are practices you can implement at home to help these local waters by limiting fertilizer use and monitoring lawn watering activities. You might also consider going native. Contact the Shingle Creek

Watershed Management Commission for ideas to reduce your impact to local lakes, rivers, and wetlands by creating a raingarden, native garden, or stabilizing your stream bank or lakeshore. Cost share funds may be available for practices that improve water quality. Give them a call to find out more at 763-553-1144.

Healthy yards help to reduce pollution runoff and improve habitat for birds, bees, and butterflies. Try some of these best practices at home to help promote a healthy yard and clean water in our community.

Brooklyn Park FARMERS MARKET



Fresh
Locally Grown
or Created

Community Activity Center
West Parking Lot
5600 85th Ave N

www.brooklynpark.org/farmersmarket

Wednesdays
June 24 thru
October 7, 2020

From 2 to 6:30 PM
One person/family; masks please
763-493-8333

jake.patten@brooklynpark.org

Click on the icons below to connect with us!



brooklynpark.org



/brooklynparkmn



/user/brooklynparkmn



@brooklynpark



/cityofbrooklynpark



brooklynpark.org/subscribe



nextdoor.com



COVID and Cartons: how the pandemic effects paper recycling

by Tim Pratt

I bet you didn't know that when there was that big run on toilet paper right before the Stay at Home order it had an impact on the recycling world. For most of us after our recycling cart is emptied, we stop thinking about the stuff we put in it. That's why it may be a surprise to learn that milk cartons and juice boxes along with shredded paper get turned into toilet paper and facial tissues.

Milk cartons, juice boxes and shredded mail are high quality paper,

but their fibers are too short to make new sheet paper. However, short fibers are great for making soft items such as toilet paper and tissues.

And that brings me back to the great toilet paper shortage. Recyclers couldn't provide enough cartons and shreds to meet the tissue mills' demand. Especially since the amount of shredded paper from businesses plummeted.

So, keep putting those milk cartons, broth containers and juice boxes in your recycling cart. We prefer

you shred paper at a public event such as the Special Materials Drop-Off Day coming up on October 10. That paper goes right to the tissue mill. Shredded paper in your cart is too small to effectively collect. If you need to use your cart, put the shredded paper in a paper bag, staple or tape it shut, and write "Shredded Paper" on the outside.

Until next time my friends help manufacturers by getting them what they need – your recycling.

Tim Pratt, Recycling Manager
Operations and Maintenance



Your Brooklyn Park City Council

[Click to visit our webpage](#) for information regarding City Council meetings and contact information for City Council members.

From left to right: Terry Parks, Lisa Jacobson, Mark Mata, Susan Pha, Mayor Jeffrey Lunde, Wynfred Russell, Tonja West-Hafner