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2020 Summer Blossom

Grand Prize Winner

(cover photo)

Brooklyn Park M

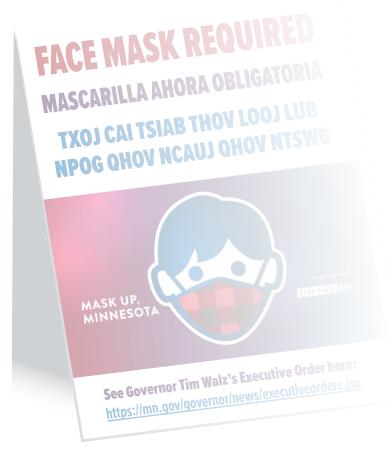


Brooklyn Park CARES

Plan for disbursement of Federal COVID-19 relief

The COVID-19 pandemic has swept across the United States, causing unprecedented health and economic impacts across the country. Governments have responded by creating relief programs and designing innovative responses to a growing challenge. In March, the federal government passed the \$2.2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide financial support to people, businesses and cities. Governor Walz and legislative leaders have distributed \$841 million of the state's allocation of the Coronavirus Relief Fund to cities across the state to address the impacts of the pandemic.

With its \$6.15 million allocation, the City of Brooklyn Park has created a spending plan that responds to community needs, invests in strategic community projects and reimburses the city for the additional costs incurred by the pandemic. The City is spending the funds in three main areas.



- 1) COVID-19 Community Relief Grant Program (approximately \$2.7 million). This program opened applications from September 1–15 for residents, businesses, non-profit organizations and schools in Brooklyn Park. The application was open for additional COVID-related needs including childcare or teleworking capabilities or distributing food or public health supplies across the city. Approximately \$5 million in applications were received and are being carefully considered to comply with stringent federal requirements for the use of CARES funds. This program is one of several across the country that addresses direct individual needs, making the City of Brooklyn Park an innovative leader in finding creative ways to support the city though this crisis. The money is expected to be distributed to the community in October.
- \$1 million). These investments (approximately \$1 million). These investments are specific cityled responses designed to address community needs that non-profit organizations and other city partners has identified because of COVID-19. Some examples include a mobile health unit, a program to expand internet access, back to work and school kits, youth and family online engagement, community face coverings and senior outreach strategies.
- 3) Reimbursement for current and future city spending due to COVID-19 (approximately \$2.5 million). These funds will go to recover some of the additional city spending needs created by the pandemic. Examples of city spending that is eligible for these funds include increased public safety and public health precautions, creating programs to respond to the crisis and additional costs such as building teleworking capabilities and safety plans for employees.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

You can raise awareness by changing your front porch light to purple

The Brooklyn Park's Human Rights Commission (HRC) is shining a light and raising awareness about Domestic Violence. The HRC and the city declare October Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Brooklyn Park Police Department have a Domestic Violence Prevention Coordinator who helps residents who are Domestic Violence victims. Shellie Enright helps with any safety concerns which includes coordinating extra patrol and in-person follow-up. Enright says trials are stressful for victims so she accompanies them at every trial and court appearance. She also helps encourage them to give testimony in court in front of their abuser.

"With Domestic Violence situations people may not want to be involved. They may not want to intervene. They think it's none of their business," said Enright. "But one thing that's important to note, is that there are other ways you can support victims through the process. You simply ask them, 'hey, are you okay?', or check-in with them from time to time."

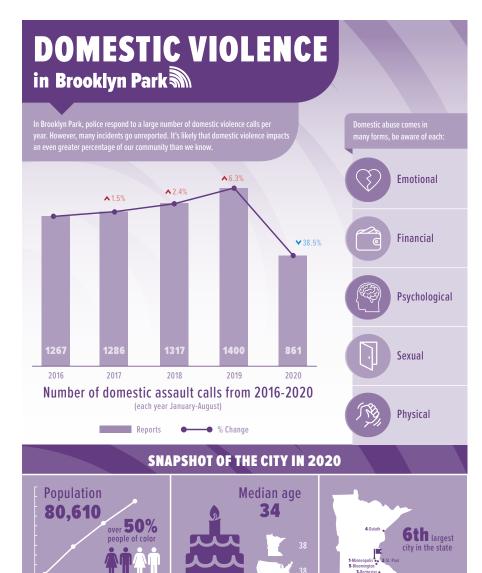
In Brooklyn Park, Enright says we have seen a decrease in domestic violence reports. See statistics below.

Enright says even with a decrease in reports this year, does not mean that domestic violence is not happening.

"What could be happening is that there is less reporting with COVID-19 and the uncertainty of COVID-19 and everything going on. There's high stress in everybody's household, said Enright. "There are victims that may be quarantining with their abusers and may be too afraid to call."

In October, you can help raise awareness by changing your front porch light to purple. Pick up a purple lightbulb at the Community Activity Center, then send a picture to communications@ brooklynpark.org and we'll include you in a social media post on our city Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

Click the link below to view an interview with Shellie Enright on YouTube:



COVID-19 Support Programs

COVID-19 Response Programs in Brooklyn Park

The COVID-19 pandemic has left no one untouched. From individuals to families, to small businesses, or large organizations, the effects of the outbreak and the efforts to slow and stop the spread has changed the way we all live our lives. Along with helping to provide resources to residents, City staff has worked with Federal, State, County, and organizational partners to provide information and resources to help businesses weather this storm.

Information sharing

The City is connected partners at all levels of government. This often means we know about Federal, State, and County programs available to help businesses. In order to get the most up to date information to businesses about available resources the City has worked diligently to update the COVID-19 resource page on the City's website. Along with an up to date website, businesses signed up to receive City news have been receiving weekly emails that detail funding programs, webinars, advertising opportunities and more. The goal is to provide updated, accurate, and timely information to busy business owners and operators.

Join us at the 7th Annual Community Forum on Race

Thursday, October 22, 6:30 PM On Zoom

This year we will be hosting a virtual Racial Healing Circle. Rooted in indigenous tradition, this facilitation style provides an opportunity for sharing lived truths, and emphasizes active listening and being open to differing perspectives. The goal is to promote understanding, empathy and racial healing. More details will be available soon on the City's website calendar, but save the date now! This event is being put on in partnership with District 279 Osseo Area School District, City of Maple Grove and North Hennepin Community College.

Technical assistance

Businesses have been asked to apply for A LOT of programs. From the Federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), to the State's Small Business Emergency Assistance Loan (SBAEL), and more it is easy for even the most seasoned professional to get confused. The City partnered with two local organizations; African Career Education Resources Inc (ACER) and the Liberian Business Association (LIBA) to provide free technical assistance to businesses and residents as they apply for programs meant to ease the financial burden of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Providing Resources

The City also worked to provide assistance to businesses in the form of forgivable loans and grants. The first was the City's Small Business Emergency Deferred Loan (SBEDL). The program, offered through the Brooklyn Park Development Corporation (BPDC) gave businesses the opportunity to apply for up to \$5,000 in a zero percent interest forgivable loan to cover emergency expenses. The City was able to help more than 70 businesses in the community. With the help of ACER and LIBA, more than half of the businesses that received funds were women, person of color, or immigrant owned, a population of businesses that traditionally has difficulty accessing financing.

Currently, the City is working to provide grant funding to eligible businesses through the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) act. The program will provide up to \$15,000 to each eligible business to cover expenses and losses incurred because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Summer Blossom Awards

Summer Blossom Winners Recognized

This was the 21st year of the **Summer Blossom Garden & Landscape Recognition Program**. The purpose of the program is to highlight attractive gardens and landscaping in Brooklyn Park and recognize citizens and businesses that strive to improve the city's landscape. Nominations were received from gardeners, neighbors or friends from May 25 through July 6, 2020.

At the September 14 City Council Meeting, Grand Winners in Single Family, Townhome and Neighborhood categories each received a \$250 VISA gift card and an engraved Summer Blossom Paver. First Place Single Family winners also received an engraved Summer Blossom paver.



2020 Grand Prize Winners Patricia Canby and John Bruhn

The 2020 winners were:

Single Family: Grand—District 1

First Place—District 2

First Place—District 3

First Place—District 4

Grand Townhome

Grand Neighborhood

6217 Sunny Lane

7805 Emerson Ave. N.

1217 83rd Ave. N.

9143 Ashley Terrace

3824 Impatiens Lane N.

Willows of Aspen **Impatiens Lane**

John Bruhn & Patricia Canby

Pam Kessler

Jerry & Nancy Knoth

Terry & Linda Menge

Rob LeNeau

Jeannine Kline

View photographs of the gardens at the City's website: https://www.brooklynpark.org/summer-blossom

Adult Recreation Opportunities

Join us for adult programs this Fall! See more programs and details in the September/October GetUp&Go online

Parking Lot Bingo

Join us on Tuesdays at 1 PM to play 5 games of BINGO in the safety of your car! BINGO will be called through an FM transmitter. Paper BINGO cards will be distributed, bring your own marker, dauber or pen and tune in to your FM. Central Park, 8440 Regent Ave N

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE
Tues	thru Oct 27	1-2 PM	Free

Click here to learn more about adult recreation programs.

Medicare 101

Understand your Medicare options at a FREE educational seminar: Medicare 101, hosted by Guy Milbert, AAA Long-Term Care & Health Specialist. Register two (2) business days prior to the presentation. Online Zoom link will be emailed

DAY	DATE	TIME	ACTIV#
Thur	Oct 15	6-7 PM	144002.72



Planning Your Move Workshop

If you're thinking about selling your home, it's never too soon to learn about home values, timing your move, market statistics and how realtors market your home as well as finding your next home. Also, find out what to do with all your treasures as you downsize and prepare for the physical move. This workshop is guaranteed to get you inspired and organized.

Community Activity Center, Grand Rm 1

DAY	DATE	TIME	ACTIV #
Thur	Oct 22	10-11:30 AM	144002.71

Snow Emergency Policies

Don't get towed when it snows

With winter around the corner, we can expect snow. Keep in mind that on-street parking is not allowed when there is an accumulation of **2 or more inches** of snow or when a snow emergency is declared.

Back in 2018, the city implemented a Snow Emergency Parking Ordinance.

The ordinance allows the city to declare a snow emergency when snow, sleet, ice or snow drifts have created dangerous road and travel conditions.

When a snow emergency is called, vehicles may not park on city streets until the full width of the street has been plowed.

Vehicles need to be off the city streets so crews can clear the streets quickly allowing fire trucks, ambulances, school buses, and police vehicles to get to where they need to go safely.

Vehicles left on city streets after a snow emergency is called can get a ticket (citation) and be towed to an impound lot. The owner of the vehicle is responsible for all fees associated with snow emergency citation, towing and storing operations.

Once a street is plowed from curb to curb, a car can park on the street.



Stay informed of snow emergencies

Email or text: Go to www.brooklynpark.org/subscribe and subscribe to snow emergency notifications to get an email or text message when a snow emergency is called.

Online at the City's website: www.brooklynpark.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/brooklynparkmn

Local TV and radio: Local radio and TV stations will be notified when a snow emergency is declared in Brooklyn Park, but the stations do not guarantee the announcement will be broadcast.

Where to park

If you do not have access to off-street parking during a snow emergency, you may park your vehicle at an approved snow emergency parking lot for up to 24 hours after a snow emergency is called. Vehicles left at an approved snow emergency parking lot for more than 24 hours will be considered abandoned vehicles and may be ticketed and towed. Find a map of locations at: www.brooklynpark.org/snow

Snow or no snow, overnight parking is not allowed

Regardless of weather conditions, from October 15 to April 15 vehicles parked on city streets between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m. can be ticketed and towed.

Year-round, vehicles cannot park:

- On a sidewalk
- On the street for more than 24 hours
- Within 20 feet of a mailbox, Monday through Saturday, 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Within 10 feet of a fire hydrant
- In front of a driveway
- Across the street from a driveway

Proposed Speed Limit Policy

Residents are enouraged to share their opinions

In 2019, the MN State Legislature passed legislation allowing local communities to set speed limits on City-owned roadways. Previously, all speed limits were set by the State, either by statute or by analyzing the travel speeds with a speed study. Before a city can designate local speed limits, they first must approve a speed limit policy that provides a framework for addressing speed limits on all City controlled roads. Brooklyn Park's City Council directed staff to begin the process of developing a draft speed limit policy.

The policy will include a review of the City's recent crash and speed history, national speed



The draft policy is expected to be presented to the City Council in October for discussion and in November for possible approval. Stay tuned for more information to come regarding this topic. As with any policy change, we encourage residents to contact the Mayor and their Council Members to share their opinions.



Pumpkin Disposal

What happens to your pumpkin after midnight? How about changing it into valuable compost*?

Did you know 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 the Operations & Maintenance facility, 8300 Noble Avenue N., November 1 – November 8.

*Please remove all candles, candle wax and decorations before disposal.



Special materials drop-off day

Here's your chance to recycle items that can't go in your recycling cart like: mattresses, electronics, batteries and more.

Location:

Brooklyn Park's Operations & Maintenance facility 8300 Noble Avenue N.

Date:

Saturday, October 10, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

*Fees may be charged for some items. There will also be free paper shredding.

We have new restrictions in place to be able to offer this program safely. For more information including a complete list of what is accepted visit www.brooklynpark.org/recycling-events or call 763-493-8006.

Fire Prevention



October 4–10 is Fire Prevention Week 2020

The theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen"

Did you know unattended/accidental cooking fires are the #1 cause of fires in Brooklyn Park? Unattended cooking fires are also the #1 cause of fires nationwide. Tragically, these fires are completely avoidable, yet they lead to multiple fatalities and millions of dollars in damage each year in the U.S.

Since 2018, over 40% of fires in Brooklyn Park involved cooking. The good news is these types of fires can be avoided by following a few simple guidelines:

Pay attention whenever you're cooking or grilling. Remember the phrase "Focus on the food"

Paying attention when cooking will not only help prevent accidental cooking fires but can also prevent food from getting burned, grease from getting too hot, water from boiling over in a pot, and hopefully lead to more delicious meals!

Never start cooking if you are tired or under the influence of drugs or medications which make you sleepy

It's hard to pay attention to what's cooking if you're asleep. If you are hungry when sleepy, consider ordering delivery from a local business or eating something that doesn't require cooking.

Don't store or place combustible materials too close to stovetops

Whether you have a gas or electric stovetop, radiant heat from the burners can start things on fire such as towels, food packaging, even kitchen utensils

Never put water on a grease fire

When you add water to a grease fire it can expand up to 1,600 times in size! Instead of putting water on the fire, use a cooking lid or baking sheet to cover the pot and smother the fire.

Call 9-1-1 for any cooking fire

Even if the fire is out, we will use equipment and tools to ensure fire did not extend to the cabinets, walls, or other objects around the cooking appliance/grill.

Want to learn more about how you can stay fire safe while cooking? Go to <u>fpw.org</u> for interactive games for kids, videos, and other kitchen fire safety resources!

Historic Eidem Farm

A Cookbook for the Community — all about potatoes!

Once upon a time... in Brooklyn Park, there were potato farms — everywhere. In 1914, this area was the largest potato shipping point in the United States. The big red barn you see on 85th Avenue (the Tessman's) was one of the farms that made Brooklyn Park famous as the largest supplier of potatoes in North America in the 1950's and 60's. How appropriate that Brooklyn Park now is home to so many cultures that also use potatoes in their cooking. Potatoes can be used for everything... breakfast, lunch, appetizers, soups, dinner, desserts, even beverages! What a perfect ingredient to focus on for a cookbook, especially a cookbook about a heritage like Brooklyn Park's... filled with both cultural diversity — and potatoes!

Let's get creative

So, how do YOU use potatoes? This cookbook will have some basic information about different types of potatoes and how to use them (some are more moist and better for salads, others are dry and better for baking or frying) plus there will be some tried and true tips for best preparation methods like how to make the best mashed potatoes, and more! The recipes, however, will hopefully demonstrate how diverse (like Brooklyn Park!) the potato is.

Do you have a recipe made with potatoes? Do you know someone who has a great recipe made with potatoes?... it can be any kind of potato including sweet potatoes! Please consider submitting your recipe, and encourage others as well! There is more information on the city website (link below) where you can learn more and submit recipes.

Recreation and Parks

RIVER PARK IS CLOSED

River Park is closed for construction. The boat launch will remain open until further notice.



We apologize for the

inconvenience. Contractors are using large equipment as part of the redevelopment/construction project and for your own safety, we are asking residents to not enter the park this includes the park restrooms and shelter. For more information on the River Park project visit the City website.

Check out the **GetUp&Go**September/October edition online now

We are so excited to be offering fun, new and modified programs and events this Fall!

Included in this issue are:

- Ice Skating Lessons
- Brooklyn Park Dance
- Swim Lessons
- Youth Sports
- Painting in the Park
- Special Events
- So much more!



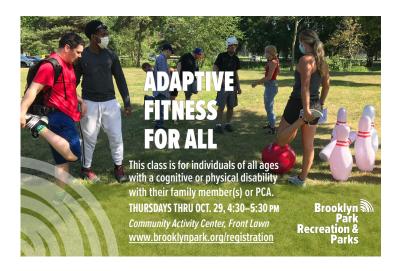
There are 3 ways to register for programs and events:

- 1. Online at www.brooklynpark.org/registration
- 2. In-person at the Community Activity Center, 5600 85th Ave. N.
- 3. Over the phone by calling 763-493-8333



Adaptive recreation programming and events during COVID-19

The City of Brooklyn Park has been partnered with Reach for Resources for over 20 years to provide recreation activities and services for individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities. The COVID-10 pandemic has changed the way we offer programs and events. Learn about the modifications and new, creative programs being offered to keep individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities healthy and engaged while participating in a safe, inclusive environment. Click here to watch video and learn more.



Recreation and Parks

Painting in the Park

If you enjoy painting or have wanted to learn, now is the time! Sign up for the class that interests you! Step by step instruction and all supplies are provided. Bring a water bottle and wear a paint shirt! Min 5 / Max 12. Instructor: Wanda with Creative Painting Minnesota. Registration deadline 2 days prior to class date. Youth under 11, parent needs to stay on site, sign up for class or assist the child. Class fee is per person.

White Harvest "Welcome" (on wood)

Adults (15+) CAC Grand Room 3

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	ACTIVITY#
Wed	Oct 7	6-8 РМ	\$34/\$40	142002.75

4-Ft. "Welcome" sign (on wood)

Adults (15+) CAC Grand Room 3

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	ACTIVITY#
Wed	Oct 14	6-8 РМ	\$34/\$40	142002.76

Grateful Pumpkins (on canvas)

Ages 4 + (bring your child or grandchild). Class fee is per person. CAC Grand Room 3

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	ACTIVITY #
Fri	Oct 16	9–10:30 ам	\$13/\$18	<u>171005.74</u>

Welcome GRAT EFUL Games Grant Grants

Unicorn Fun (on canvas)

Ages 4 + (bring your child or grandchild). Class fee is per person. CAC Grand Room 3

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	ACTIVITY#
Tues	Oct 20	4:30-6 рм	\$15/\$20	SOLD OUT

"Looking up" fall tree (5.5"x 16" wood)

Adults & Teens (12+) CAC Grand Room 3

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	ACTIVITY#
Wed	Oct 21	6-8 РМ	\$34/\$40	142002.77

Pumpkins (2) silhouettes (on canvas)

Ages 4 + (bring your child or grandchild). Class fee is per person. CAC Grand Room 3

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	ACTIVITY#
Wed	Oct 28	5-6 РМ	\$19/\$24	171005.76

Upcoming Community Events

Have a "Spooktacular" time on Halloween Saturday, October 31, 2 – 5 p.m.

Walk through a social-distance path at Zanewood Recreation Center where kids will gather goodies along the way. Spooktacular is for all youth, up to age 14 who must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please wear a mask and dress for the weather.

Reserve your tickets for 30-minute timeslots, beginning at 2:00 p.m., by calling 763-493-8333 or register online: www.brooklynpark.org/registration. You also can visit the Events page to see other activities happening.

Check out the **Events Page** for more Halloween Fun!

Pumpkins Parking Lot BINGO
Hocus Pocus Drive in Movie



Election Guide: November 3, 2020

Council Member Candidates

Here are your Council Member candidates on the November 3, 2020 General Election Ballot:

- Central District Christian Eriksen and Boyd Morson
- East District Lisa Jacobson and Ben Osemenam
- West District Susan Pha and Henry Momanyi

Polling places are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

Vote Early (Absentee Voting)

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 18. If you have any questions call the city clerk at 763-493-8180.

Click here to apply for an absentee ballot online at or download a copy of the application.

Location and Hours

- September 18 November 2, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Saturday, October 31, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers 5200 85th Ave. N

Serve as an Election Judge

Interested in serving as an Election Judge at the polling places for the November 3 election? You will receive an hourly wage and training. Individuals may be absent from a place of work after giving an employer at least 20 days written notice for the purpose of serving as an election judge without penalty. If you are eligible to vote and can read, write, and speak English, and you are not a candidate in the election or closely related to a candidate, you can be an election judge. Bilingual judges are needed at the polling places. The City of Brooklyn Park is an equal opportunity employer.

If you are interested, please call 763-493-8119 or click the button for more information.



NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Inspiring equity, justice & community

NHCC is continuing the work of the Truth, Racial Healing, & Transformation Institute through performance and art. We invite you on this journey, Stages of Equity, launching this month. Did you know students who engage in theatre activities and classes across all colleges in the U.S. are taught by 98% white faculty? Pair that with the fact that nearly half our student population and that of Brooklyn Park residents are people of color. As leaders and educa-

tors, we need to look like the people we serve. I invite you to learn more and participate in this journey with us.

Regards,

Dr. Rolando García



Welcome to the Fine & Performing Arts Season



NHCC's Fine & Performing Arts Department is excited to bring you another incredible season of art, music, and theatre with a few twists. Due to COVID-19, all galleries and performances will be shared online, not in person. And, we'll be launching Stages of Equity, a collection of work through a collaboration with talented guest artists. We need the arts now more than ever, to help us rest, heal, and continue the important work of dismantling racism. Here's a Q&A with Kathy Hendrickson (left), Interim Dean of Performing & Fine Arts.

What was the inspiration behind Stages of Equity?

Stages of Equity is by, for, and about the students who did not see themselves represented in their own art locally or nationally. They knew the arts at NHCC could be a conductor for a broader, braver conversation about race and equity. I grew up in a racist household and hate was always a part of the conversation. This juxtaposition of hate-speak/action coupled with sincere love from my parents was something I could never reconcile. The people of color and their allies in my life are now and always have been the light in the dark reality that is the complexity of who I am. Giving voice to the narrative of who we are at NHCC and increasing artists of color on campus is a first step.

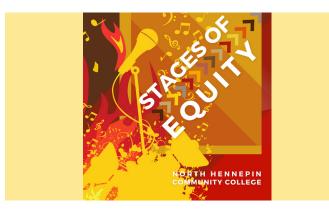
What do you hope Stages of Equity inspires?

I hope the program inspires truth and healing and an object about which we can start conversations. It is what art has done through the ages, gives us the opportunity, the permission to discuss its content on somewhat equal terms as audience. I also want to give opportunity to artists of color to show their work, be given a seat at the table and to be heard. I want NHCC to be a haven for artists of color from ALL disciplines, for students to study art through a global lens and a safe space for these discussions, now and in perpetuity.

How can the community get involved?

Watch all of our events for free at **www.nhccfinearts.org**. Guest artists include **Willis Gilliard**, photographer, and award-winning Latinx theatre artist **Irma Mayorga**. We will also be working with composers and musicians of color throughout the season.

Lastly, there will be a call for submissions in February and March for the first annual Stages of Equity Festival (April 30 - May 2, 2021). Stay tuned for details. In the meantime, contact me with any questions at **Kathy.Hendrickson@nhcc.edu**.



See a list of events on the next page

NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Fall Fine Arts Events – www.nhccfinearts.org

ART

October 1-30: Transform, vinyl assemblage on board, Moira Bateman, Virtual Opening October 1 **November 5-December 10:** Divine Animal, Willis Gilliard Photography Exhibition*, Virtual Opening November 5

MUSIC

October 14: The Princess and the Frog & Masked Singer Competition*

November 2: Lead with Love: A Justice Choir Song Share & Forum

December 7: Keep Calm & Choir On Live, Guest Artist Panel*

December 14: Orchestra Concert **December 15:** Jazz Ensemble **December 16:** Concert Band

THEATRE

October 23-31: The Wellstone Project

November 14-December 19: Siddhartha: A podcast series released Saturdays

*Stages of Equity

Congratulations Rosa!



Rosa, a student pursuing an Associate of Arts degree with an emphasis in film, was awarded the Brooklyn Park Rotary Foundation scholarship in the amount of \$1,500 for the 2020-2021 academic year. She aspires to be a film director. "As a child, I've always been passionate about the making of films, because movies give out a theme to which we can relate. It can be about love, happiness, death, and more. Most importantly, movies can positively impact someone's life, like me, motivating me – a Chicana in America – to become a movie director. Thanks to this scholarship I can pursue my education, and give back to my community by supporting them or inspiring them in films."

Program Spotlight

Paralegal earns top 3 honors & only community college for best Paralegal Program

Learn more about our program with Program Director & Instructor Mary Fenske (right).





NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE



October is College Knowledge Month

College Knowledge Month spans the month of October and provides students of all ages with the tools and preparation to pursue a college education.

- Apply for free between October 1-31 at nhcc.edu/apply
- RSVP for one or more events today at nhcc.edu/collegeknowledge

Virtual Info Sessions: Mondays 3pm, Tuesdays 3:30pm, and Fridays 10am Virtual Application Lab: October 7 @ 10am and October 28 @ 2pm Sesión virtual de información en español: October 14 @ 5pm

High School Virtual Visit Day: October 15 @ 1pm

PSEO Info Session: October 21 @ 3pm

Adult Learner Info Session: October 29 @ 5pm

Graduates with college degrees earn more money

- Associate degree grads earn nearly 20% more than high school graduates*
- Bachelor's degree grads earn nearly 70% more than high school graduates*

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019

Ease into college with free course



Nervous about starting college? This free, four-week, one-credit course will help you succeed in online learning and the college experience, including communicating with instructors, note taking, test taking, and getting involved.

Learn more at nhcc.edu/fall.

"I am 57 years old and I work as a Special Education Assistant. Each day, I help students with emotional and behavioral disorders. I wanted to do more for my students and in order to do that, I need to have a degree. I took the Special Topics course because I was totally scared to go back to school. This will be my first time going to college. This class gave me the confidence I needed to get going. It showed me what the expectations were and how to plan for my journey. The course made me feel like I can do this and it also gave me the tools to do so. It was the instructor, (Lisa LaMere) that really made me feel that I could do it. She was the greatest!"

— Kimberly Anderson (left)











Click on the icons below to connect with us!



Bring on the Bags

by Tim Pratt

COVID-19 has changed our recycling practices in numerous ways. But one thing that hasn't changed – manufacturers continue to need your recyclables. You might not have guessed that there's still a demand for plastic bags since many grocery stores paused their take back programs in March.

Shopping, bread, water softener and other plastic bags typically get turned into plastic lumber.

Trex, one of the country's largest manufacturers of plastic lumber, has been saying for months that it still needs your bags. And, now that new

information shows that it's okay for stores to accept bags as long as they follow safety procedures, we're seeing more stores re-institute their drop offs. As always, you can drop off plastic bags at the Hennepin County Drop-Off Facility at 8100 Jefferson Highway.

Never put loose plastic bags in your recycling cart. They get tangled around the machinery at the sorting facility and ultimately end up in the trash. Also, never put your recycling in plastic bags. Those bags get thrown in the trash unopened. We don't want to risk injuring a worker

if they opened a bag that may contain, shall we say, unsavory material.

I would be remiss if I didn't remind you that it's better to reduce than to recycle. So, whenever possible, use a reusable shopping bag. Until next time, reduce your bag use and recycle the rest my friends. Second, reducing food waste is the third most impactful way we can limit global climate change. According to research by *Project Drawdown*, it's fifteen times more impactful than recycling our bottles, cans and paper.

Tim Pratt, Recycling ManagerBrooklyn Park 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. Tonia West-Hafner