

Special election for Brooklyn Park mayor

At the April 13 Special Primary Election, candidates Lisa Jacobson and Hollies Winston received the most votes and therefore will be on the August 10 Special Election ballot.

August 10 — Special Election Day
The polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Where do I vote?
To find out where you vote on Election Day, please visit: pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/

Early voting
In person early voting begins June 25 at City Hall in the Council Chambers, 5200 85th Ave N., from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. through August 9. On Saturday August 7, in person early voting will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

How to get an absentee application
You can download a copy of the absentee ballot application at brooklynpark.org/elections/voting/#early-voting or call 763-493-8119 or 763-493-8180 and have it mailed to you.

Once completed and signed, return your absentee ballot application as soon as possible to Hennepin County at:
300 South 6th Street MC 012, Minneapolis, MN 55487-0012
or email it to hc.vote@hennepin.us

Polling place changes for August 10

If you voted at Birch Grove Elementary School during the April 13 Special Primary Election, due to interior renovations at the school, your new polling place will be Brooklyn Middle School, at 7377 Noble Ave N.
If you voted at Fair Oak Elementary School during the April 13 Special Primary Election, due to interior renovations at the school, your new polling place will be North View Middle School, at 5869 69th Ave N.

2021 Special Elections Calendar

June 25	Absentee ballot voting begins for the Special Election
July 20	Last day for voters to pre-register for the Special Election
August 3	Direct-balling period begins (voters can submit ballots in the ballot counter)
August 7	There will be extended absentee voting hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
August 9	In-person absentee voting for the Special Primary Election closes at 5 p.m.
August 10	Special Election Day

For any questions, please contact City Clerk Devin Montero at 763-493-8180 or email devin.montero@brooklynpark.org

Have an idea for a project or event to improve your neighborhood?

The city of Brooklyn Park offers grants encouraging community members to get to know their fellow neighbors, build relationships and work together to help make their neighborhoods united, healthy and thriving. Along with providing funding of up to \$250 for your event, the city gives you access to resources including meeting spaces, event promotion, a pop-up tent, technical assistance with planning and more!

Residents can also borrow recycling and/or organics recycling containers for outside events. This is part of the city's effort to promote environmentally friendly practices and provide greener options to our residents.

Reserve containers and check out our recycling programs at brooklynpark.org/recycle/eventrecycling.

On Saturday May 1, residents and volunteers came together for a Community Unity and Clean Up Day. The group collected nearly 1,000 pounds of trash, planted flowers and made connections with youth in the area of 63rd and Zane. The event was a huge success in building pride and unity in the Lakeland Park Neighborhood. Organizers utilized the Neighborhood Activity Fund and various local sponsors to put on the event.

Improve your community or bring your idea for a project to life by applying for a grant. To view details and fund requirements, go to: brooklynpark.org/neighborhood-activity-fund

Questions? Contact Claudia Diggs, neighborhood relations specialist, at claudia.diggs@brooklynpark.org or by calling 763-493-8106.

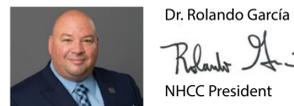
Is your home address odd or even?

Lawn sprinkling restrictions: Odd/even lawn sprinkling restrictions are in effect until September 30. If you live at an even numbered address water on even days, odd number addresses can water on odd numbered days. The most effective time to water is before 10 a.m. Upgrade your irrigation system controller to one that is WaterSense rated. These systems will save you so much money on your water bill that they'll pay for themselves in as little as 12 months. Plus, you can get a \$100 rebate from the city. Rebate information is on the city's website at brooklynpark.org/housing/water-rebate/.

NORTH HENNEPIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Welcome back to campus

This fall, we're excited to invite more employees and students back to campus, delivering half our classes via in person and hybrid, in addition to online. Students will also be able to access resources and services in person Monday through Friday, and participate in events. While we are eager to put plans in motion for an exceptional on-campus experience for our students, we recognize and understand some members of our campus community may feel anxious. Rest assured that the health and safety of the campus community remains our top priority, and we'll continue to follow the guidelines outlined by the Minnesota Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control Prevention, including social distancing. If you're considering registering for fall semester, there's still time. Take the steps outlined below and reach out to our friendly and knowledgeable Admissions Representatives. Hope to see you on campus!



Dr. Rolando Garcia
NHCC President

Program Spotlight

BUSINESS



"My favorite thing about the Business program at NHCC was all the guest speakers. From real people's testimonies, I realized what I would like to do, and it was so inspiring!"
— NHCC Business Alumni Kia

Our **Business Transfer Pathway** has many benefits. Students engage in hands-on projects, prepare for careers, and can transfer credits to universities.

- Accredited degree transfers to all 7 Minnesota State Universities and many private universities.
- Day, evening and online classes to accommodate busy schedules.
- Our experienced faculty know the field of business, many who are still practicing.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE



"My favorite thing about the Criminal Justice program was how they taught the fundamentals of law. NHCC has a very friendly campus, the instructors are knowledgeable and there are many people willing to help you." — NHCC Criminal Justice Alumni Tony

A **Criminal Justice** degree has many benefits and prepares you for a variety of careers, including corrections, security, or probation officer.

- Our flexible program features experienced faculty who are experts in their field.
- Graduates have opportunities to engage and help their communities, solid pay and job growth.
- Students can seamlessly transfer to a 4-year program, or move into the workforce.

FINE ARTS



"Being a student in North Hennepin's Fine Arts program opened so many doors for me! In the theater department I met three of my best friends, I met two of my mentors and because of the people there who supported me, I graduated. Without NHCC none of that would've happened." — NHCC Fine Arts Alumni Roy

Students get immersed in creative and diverse opportunities, including Stages of Equity Festival featuring artist-of-color-led projects that address racial equity, racial awareness, and inclusivity.

- Learn from stellar faculty and renowned working artists to prepare you for your first job in the arts.
- Participate in award-winning programming, including the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.
- Experience a variety of arts including music, theatre, studio and performing arts, and graphic design.

Steps you can take now for fall semester

If you're planning to attend NHCC this fall semester, here's some helpful steps and deadlines to take now.

July

- Schedule a virtual appointment with an Admissions Representative at www.nhcc.edu/visit and we'll waive your application fee.
- Apply for admission at www.nhcc.edu/apply
- Apply for financial aid (FAFSA) or MN Dream Act at www.nhcc.edu/financialaid
- Take placement tests at www.nhcc.edu/testing

August

- Complete orientation and register for classes at www.nhcc.edu/orientation
- Purchase textbooks from NHCC's bookstore at www.nhcc.edu/bookstore
- Review your financial aid award and pay for tuition at www.nhcc.edu/tuition
- First day of fall semester August 23

Contact Admissions for more information at 763-424-0724, admission@nhcc.edu, or book a virtual appointment at nhcc.edu/visit.

Creating Hole-in-One Excitement at Golf Classic



Thank you to all the golfers, volunteers, and event sponsors who participated in the NHCC President's Cup Golf Classic on June 21. Also, thanks to Edinburg USA Golf Course for helping coordinate this fundraiser.

Because of you, NHCC students will feel the same excitement when they open their scholarship award letter as a golfer hitting a hole-in-one. You give our students confidence and a brighter future.

The NHCC Foundation looks forward to seeing you next year!



Equal Opportunity Educator and Employer. To receive this information in an alternative format, call 763-493-0555 (Voice) or via the Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529.

Park Pages



In this issue:
Park improvements nearing completion
Neighborhood connections

Edinburgh USA receives a big honor

Recently, Edinburgh USA was voted "Course of the Year," in 2020 by the Midwest Golf Course Owners Association (MWGCOA), an active chapter of the National Golf Course Owners Association.

"It's an honor to be recognized by people within the industry," said Director of Golf Don Berry. "Every course had a great year last year, and it's really nice to be recognized by your peers."

The golf course was also recognized by the National Recreation and Parks Association for their success during the COVID-19 pandemic. When COVID-19 forced golf courses and parks to pause activities in the spring of

2020, it also put staff members into a holding pattern and kept residents from accessing many outdoor amenities. As more information became available about the virus and how to safely engage in outdoor activities, the decision was made by Brooklyn Park to reopen the trails and golf courses in mid-April.

The community responded favorably. More people than ever took to the trails, and the city's golf courses saw a surge of activity with nearly 30% more rounds of golf played in 2020 than in 2019. The increase in public play helped offset the loss of corporate outings and reduced golf shop sales.

BROOKLYN PARK CITY COUNCIL

EAST DISTRICT



LISA JACOBSON
763-493-8146 voicemail
lisa.jacobson@brooklynpark.org
(Elected through 2024)

CENTRAL DISTRICT



BOYD MORSON
763-493-8040 voicemail
boyd.morson@brooklynpark.org
(Elected through 2024)

WEST DISTRICT



SUSAN PHA
763-315-8496 voicemail
susan.pha@brooklynpark.org
(Elected through 2024)



TERRY PARKS
763-493-8097 voicemail
terry.parks@brooklynpark.org
(Elected through 2022)



TONJA WEST-HAFNER
MAYOR PRO TEM
763-493-8372 voicemail
tonja.west-hafner@brooklynpark.org
(Elected through 2022)



WYNFRED RUSSELL
763-315-8442 voicemail
wynfred.russell@brooklynpark.org
(Elected through 2022)



Tales from Tim's Recycling Bin

Brooklyn Park favorite places FEATURED PHOTO

Bigger is not always better

Recently, one of our park maintenance staff asked me what to do with some worn out plastic playground equipment. It had those familiar chasing arrows with the number in the middle — a symbol that leads many people to believe that the item is recyclable, even though it's not. That symbol is not a government standard. It's something the plastics industry invented years ago to denote the base resin used to make the item. Base is the key word, base as where you start from. While the playground equipment was stamped with a #2 like the #2 molded into a laundry detergent jug — these #2s are not equal. Outdoor equipment has added UV protectants so that sunlight would't cause it to degrade. Those added chemicals mean that you can't melt it with the laundry detergent jug.

Manufacturers who buy our recycling to use in their new products and packaging want basic, homogenous material. They are set up to recycle products or packaging made with few ingredients such as a water bottle or laundry detergent jug. Once items get additives or other components manufacturers can't use them. When it comes to recycling plastics stick to the basics: bottles, jugs, cups and containers. Do not put bulky plastic items such as toys, chairs, hangers or laundry baskets in your cart. Instead, like we did with the playground equipment, put them in the trash. Until next time, keep your plastic recycling basic not bulky my friends.

Tim Pratt, Recycling Manager
Operations and Maintenance



Mississippi River from the Coon Rapids Dam by Neala Yang, featured photographer

Where is your favorite place in Brooklyn Park?

You could be featured in the next issue of Park Pages! Share a photo of your favorite place in Brooklyn Park and post it on the city Facebook page or email: communications@brooklynpark.org



STAY CONNECTED: brooklynpark.org, @brooklynpark, #brooklynpark, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter

Edinburgh USA receives big honor *(continued)*

"What's great about golf are the benefits it offers," said Operations Manager Andy Wiese. "It's an activity the whole family can enjoy together, it's great exercise and it allows you to spend time outdoors."

MWGCOA, a professional association comprised of golf course owners and operators from Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota will hold an award ceremony set to take place Tuesday, July 6 at Edinburgh USA.

Edinburgh USA is a public course owned and operated by the city of Brooklyn Park. It is one of only two courses in Minnesota designed by world renowned architect, Robert Trent Jones II, who also designed Chambers Bay, site of the 2015 U.S. Open. The golf course opened in 1987 under rave reviews and later that year was named by Golf Digest as the "2nd best new public course in America". The 18-hole championship course has hosted seven LPGA Tour events and the U.S.G.A. Public Links Championship, and

has been recognized by multiple golf publications in their best golf courses lists. In 2014, the Robert Trent Jones II design firm came back and completed a renovation; all new bunkers, much more playable fairway landing areas and chipping areas around the greens, three brand new greens and four new tee boxes. The Course also has a clubhouse overlooking the golf course. D'Amico manages the catering service and the restaurant, The Brooklyn. The golf course is a great place to enjoy a casual dinner, host an elegant wedding reception, plan a special event, have a corporate meeting or organize a golf outing for business or pleasure.



PARK IMPROVEMENTS NEARING COMPLETION >>

Park building additions at Willowstone Park and Northwoods Park are nearing completion. Expansion of these popular summer day-camp locations began in September of 2020. The goal of the project was to create additional program and storage space, improve building functionality and provide a storm shelter space for inclement weather during programming. American Liberty Construction, the general contractor for this project, wrapped up the construction in May and the new park buildings are ready for use this summer. Central Park and River Park have new kitchen buildings available to rent for a small fee. Kitchens and the picnic shelter can be rented by calling 763-493-8333.

As part of the community engagement and planning for the Park Bond Reinvestment Projects, the community identified three parks as priorities with goals for redevelopment as follows:

- **Hartkopf Park** — create multi-purpose field space in place of existing ballfields, expand the parking lot, add a bathroom near tennis courts and playground, add a basketball court, add trails within the park, install trail lighting for use on loop walking trails within the park, and replace the existing playground.

Grand re-opening of River Park

Enjoy a ribbon-cutting ceremony and free family-friendly activities from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 31 to celebrate the re-opening of River Park. There will be food trucks, fishing and kayaking clinics, Rec on the Go and much more!

New features of the park include:

- New shelter/restroom buildings on the south end of the park
- Stormwater management improvements
- Shoreline restoration
- Trail improvements with lighting
- Natural resource improvements to the north prairie area
- Canoe and kayak launch on north end of park
- Scenic overlook



The planning for this project involved extensive community engagement for over 18 months. Key agency partners are the Minnesota DNR, the National Park Service, Shingle Creek and West Mississippi Watershed District, Army Corp of Engineers, Friends of the Mississippi and Three Rivers Park District. The architect is WSB and construction contractor is Rosti Construction. Construction started in April 2020 and will be complete in July 2021. Funding for River Park's enhancements came from the OSLAD (Open Space Land Acquisition and Development) fund.

When asked why this location was chosen for the project, Recreation and Parks Director Jody Yungers said, "River Park is the only park within our 60-park system that is located on the banks of the Mississippi River. This made it the ideal place to create more intentional natural connections to the rivers and highlight its natural beauty while enhancing outdoor recreation opportunities within the park."

Changes are coming to Mississippi Gateway Regional Park!

Soon residents will be able to enjoy a new park that will be a year-round connection for all to celebrate the Mississippi River and the great outdoors. In 2017, Brooklyn Park community members partnered with Three Rivers Park District to collaboratively develop a joint Master Plan for Mississippi Gateway Regional Park, formerly Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park.

The plans will combine Mississippi Gateway Regional Park and the Environmental Nature Area in Brooklyn Park into a redeveloped park. The master plan process proposed new park features that will make the park a more inviting, welcoming and vibrant place for everyone to discover nature and the river itself. New paved trails and parking lots have already been completed and additional park features will be added over the next few years. These features include a new Mississippi Gateway Center, tree canopy walk, nature play areas, learning labs, improvements to trails, fishing, picnicking, archery and more.

Construction is planned to start as early as 2022. Learn more by visiting threeriversparks.org/location/mississippi-gateway-regional-park to sign up for project updates.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND PROGRAMS >>

Neighborhood Connections

To make Brooklyn Park an empowered and resilient community, we need active and engaged neighbors!

By creating awareness, fostering connections, strengthening neighborhood bonds, encouraging collaboration, and celebrating the diversity of our city, together we work toward achieving Brooklyn Park's vision for a thriving community inspiring pride, where opportunities exist for all.

Check out the programs listed below and connect with Claudia Diggs, neighborhood relations specialist to learn how you can be a part of it. You can also invite her to speak with your Homeowners Association or neighborhood group to discover what matters to you.

She can help with all things neighborhood related!

Citywide Garage Sales — Sep 23-25

Registration for sales open the week of July 23
brooklynpark.org/event/city-wide-garage-sale/

Annually the city of Brooklyn Park hosts a Citywide Garage Sale. Meet your neighbors and score some deals at the Citywide Garage Sales!

Register your garage sale to be included in our online, printed and mobile garage sale maps. Plus, get an official lawn sign and visibility through the city website and social media!

New Connect

brooklynpark.org/volunteer/connect-new-neighbors/

New Connect is an exciting program where you can help welcome new residents to Brooklyn Park with a bag filled with community and city information, free gifts and coupons for free items or services from local businesses! New Connect started in October 2012 and we welcome approximately 280 new residents per month.

Neighborhood Activity Fund

brooklynpark.org/neighborhoods/neighborhood-activity-fund/

Residents play a key role in improving the quality of life in their neighborhoods. Brooklyn Park is offering funds to support and encourage our community members to get to know their fellow neighbors, build relationships and work together to make their neighborhoods united, healthy and thriving.

Anyone with an idea for a project or event to improve their neighborhood should consider applying for this fund. The city is specifically looking for projects that focus on livability, building relationships and collaboration.

Pick Up Your Neighborhood

brooklynpark.org/neighborhoods/pick-up-your-neighborhood/

The Pick Up Your Neighborhood program helps keep Brooklyn Park beautiful. Helpers will pick up litter in a selected area as often as they'd like and report how many pounds they have disposed of. That's it!

Please join us if you are:

- Passionate about keeping the Earth free of litter
- Enthusiastic about having beautiful spaces in your neighborhood
- Looking for a flexible and fun community experience

Now is the perfect time to start a new effort in your neighborhood; enlist a group of neighbors, friends or family to help Pick Up Your Neighborhood!

Brooklyn Park Community Assembly: Disability Summit

Thursday, July 22, 6-7:30pm

Virtual Event — MS Teams

Calling all Brooklyn Park residents living with disabilities and their caretakers and allies! Join us to:

- Celebrate the 31st anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Learn about the City's recent efforts to improve accessibility and share your concerns and priorities.
- Hear a panel of community members share their experiences.

Attend in person at the Community Activity Center or online via Zoom. Registration is not required but encouraged for planning purposes: brooklynpark.org/bpca-july

ASL interpretation and live captioning provided. If you or someone you know needs language interpretation or an accommodation to participate, please contact: Josie Shardlow at **763-493-8388** or josie.shardlow@brooklynpark.org.

Neighborhood organizing

Contact Claudia for ideas, tools and tips to create a more connected neighborhood. Meet your neighbors, find out what they're interested in and start making connections!

Be a part of it

- Develop your leadership, professional and social skills
- Increase your cultural intelligence
- Help identify the needs of your neighborhood and be a part of the solution
- Promote a positive image of the city
- Build a sense of unity and pride in your Brooklyn Park neighborhood

Contact

Claudia Diggs, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

Phone: 763-493-8106

Email: claudia.diggs@brooklynpark.org



Host a block party!

Get to know your neighbors and make your neighborhood more safe

National Night Out is an annual event designed to strengthen communities. We encourage neighbors to build stronger relationships with each other and the Brooklyn Park Police.

Goals

- Increase crime prevention awareness
- Build support and participation in local anti-crime programs
- Send a message that your neighborhood is organized and wants to stay safe

Register your party

2021 registration will open on June 1, 2021. You'll be able to pick up a goodie bag for your party at scheduled times in July and have a chance for a visit from police, fire or other officials. To register, visit www.brooklynpark.org/nno

celebrate!
Brooklyn Park

Celebrate Brooklyn Park 2021 Events & Experiences

SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
		6 Music on the Lawn	7 Farmers Market	8 Concerts at the Farm	9 Summer Splash @ZW	
	12 Family Fun at Plaza Park	13 Music on the Lawn	14 Farmers Market		16 "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" @ NHCC	17
		20 Music on the Lawn	21 Farmers Market	22 Concert at the Farm		
		27 Music on the Lawn	28 Farmers Market		30 Kick-off to National Night Out	31 Spud's River Run River Park Grand Opening

SU	M	TU	W	TH	F	SA
		3 National Night Out Fireworks	4 Farmers Market	5 Concert at the Farm		
		10 Music on the Lawn	11 Farmers Market		13 History Day Drive in Movie	14 Tater Daze Events
		17 Music on the Lawn	18 Farmers Market	19 Concert at the Farm	20 School Supply BINGO	
	23 Family Fun at Plaza Park		25 Farmers Market			

Concerts

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 p.m.

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy an evening concert! Concerts are Tuesdays on the CAC front lawn and Thursdays at Historic Eidem Farm.

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

July 16-17

Watch a musical LIVE at North Hennepin Community College, July 16 at 6 p.m. or July 17 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Free tickets are available at brooklynpark.org/registration, or call 763-493-8333.

Farmers Market

Wednesdays, July 7-October 13, 2-6:15 p.m.

Purchase fresh, locally grown produce and hand-crafted goods in the CAC West parking lot!

Brooklyn Park's Night Out & Movie

Friday, July 30, 7-9 p.m. (activities/food); 9:15 p.m. (Movie)

Kick off National Night Out at Central Park with free activities and a Movie in the Park (*Trolls World Tour*) for the whole family! Bring a blanket or chair.

Spud's River Run

Saturday, July 31

Enjoy a morning run at Mississippi Gateway Regional Park! 5K at 8:30 a.m. Ages 5 and under at 9:30 a.m., 3/4 mile at 9:45 a.m. Pre-register at brooklynpark.org/registration or call 763-493-8333.

River Park Grand Re-Opening

Saturday, July 31, 12-3 p.m.

River Park is back with new features! Check out the new buildings, lighted trails, scenic overlook and more. Food trucks and activities for all ages!

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 3, 8-9 p.m. (music/food); 9:15 p.m. (fireworks)

Enjoy your neighborhood parties followed by a party at Noble Sports Park! There will be music, food trucks and fireworks!

Tater Daze: Brooklyn Park History Day

August 13, 2-7 p.m.

Visit the Historic Eidem Farm to learn about the agricultural history of Brooklyn Park through tours, displays and demonstrations!

Tater Daze: Drive-In Movie

August 13, 8:45 p.m.

Remember the *Titans* will be shown in the Community Activity Center West parking lot (enter off of 85th).

Tater Daze: Community Celebration

August 14, 1-8 p.m.

Bring your family and friends to the Community Activity Center to celebrate 56 years of the Tater Daze festival! Entertainment stage, food vendors, marketplace and activities for all ages.

School Supply Bingo

Friday, August 20, 5 p.m.

Win school supplies and have fun at the same time! Join us at Zanewood Recreation Center.