



BRYN MAWR BUGLE

Published by the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association

April 2025

Bryn Mawr Festival of Garage Sales

The annual garage sale weekend is May 3rd and 4th. Register your garage sale at bmna.org or scan the QR code to register. The fee is \$20. Registration begins April 7th and ends on April 29th. This fee covers expenses for the portable restrooms, printing and advertising. Your garage sale will be listed on our map and have a brief description of items for sale. The map will also include the location of restrooms and food trucks.




Save the date!

**2025 BMNA Annual Meeting
Board Elections & Pot Luck Dinner
Wednesday, May 14, 6-7:45 pm**



Red Cross Blood Drive April 18th



The Bryn Mawr Neighborhood is sponsoring the second Red Cross blood drive of the year on Friday, April 18th at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Sign up to donate at redcross.org. The blood runs from 12-5.

**2025 Board Elections at BMNA
Annual Meeting
Wednesday, May 14th
at Bryn Mawr School**



Board Positions Up for Election:

Vice President, Treasurer,
Representatives for
Areas 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9

Join the BMNA Board!

You can serve on the BMNA board if you live in the neighborhood or if you're a business owner in the neighborhood. Neighborhood boards are important local forces for change. They make investments and decisions about your community.

Duties include:

- Attend monthly board meetings 6:30-8:30 PM on the second Wednesday of the month.
 - Attend neighborhood events (Harvest Dinner, Saturnalia, Annual Meeting, Ice Cream Social etc.)
 - Attend important neighborhood meetings, i.e. light rail, safety, neighborhood revitalization meetings
 - Deliver welcome packets to new neighbors
 - Assist in the annual membership drive by encouraging your neighbors to join the BMNA
 - Identify the concerns of the residents of your area and bring these to the Board of Directors.
 - Communicate and act as liaison with residents of your area
- More than one rep can be elected for each area. Joining the Board and working with someone already elected in your Area as a

co-rep is a great way to learn the job. Vice President, Treasurer, and Representatives for Areas 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 (see the map at the back of the *Bugle*) are all up for re-election this year and we are accepting nominations. Terms are for two years. Other ways to get involved include volunteering at events, delivering the *Bugle*, or joining a committee (Schools, Garden, Traffic and Safety, Communications, Racial Justice).

Why you should run for the board?

Serving on your neighborhood organization board is a great way to get to know your neighbors and help guide projects and programs that will make your neighborhood better place to live, work or visit.

If you're still deciding if you want to serve on your neighborhood board:

- Contact your area rep, coordinator or board members
- Ask questions to understand board member expectations and responsibilities

Attend our April meeting online or in person to get a better feel for what the Board does

- Volunteer at neighborhood events and get to know other volunteers and community members

See the BMNA Area map on page 11 of this *Bugle* to see which Area you live in. Email vice.president@bmna.org for more information.

2025 BMNA Events

Winter Fest
Thursday, March 27th

Red Cross Blood Drive
Friday, April 18th

Festival of Garage Sales
Saturday, May 3rd

Annual Meeting & Pot Luck Dinner
Wednesday, May 14th

Red Cross Blood Drive
Friday, June 13th

Ice Cream Social
Thursday, July 24th

Member Night
September 25th

Sip & Stroll
Thursday, October 9th

Harvest Dinner
Thursday, November 20th

Saturnalia
Saturday, December 13th



BMNA Reporter

BRYN MAWR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 12, 2025
6:30- 8:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting

Board and Staff

- Brian Treece - President
- Addie Arnold - Vice President
- Karen Soderberg -Treasurer
- Jessica Wiley - Secretary
- Liv Nielsen - Area 1 Co-Rep
- Sue Verrett - Area 2 Co -Rep
- Allison Batzli- Area 3 Co-Rep *OL*
- Beth Franzen - Area 4 Co-Rep
- Alec Werning - Area 4 Co-Rep
- Colleen Dhennin - Area 5 Co-Rep
- Beth Turnbull - Area 5 Co-Rep
- Katy Kessler -Area 5 Co-Rep
- Haven Stephens -Area 6 Co-Rep
- Drew Quirk- Area 6 Co-Rep
- Stephen Harvey - Area 7 Co-Rep
- Carol Chapman - Area 9 Co-Rep *OL*
- Michael Scott - Area 9 Co-Rep
- Joanne Michalec - Emeritus
- Chris Etz - Emeritus
- Jay Peterson - Emeritus
- Barry Schade - Emeritus
- JoEllyn Jolstad - Bugle Editor

Guests:

- Shanese Watts, City of Mpls *OL*
- Ethan Knight, Our Streets
- Mary Ann Carpenter - Area 9
- Benjamin Lester - Area 7
- Mark Dhennin - Area 5
- Max Litin - Area 4
- Neil Trembley - Area 3
- Dave Gammell
- OL - online*

Call to Order at 6:33 PM.

Agenda approved.
Minutes from February 12, 2025, approved.

Community Commission on Police Oversight Presentation - Shanese

Watts, City of Minneapolis

Watts is administrative assistant to the Community Commission on Police Oversight (CPCO) committee located in the Department of Civil Rights. Currently three open seats on the 15-member Board. Looking for additional members. March 16 deadline. More positions open later this spring. Volunteer position, receive a stipend for attending meetings and training. Mandated reforms are monitored, accountability measures reviewed, community engagement and transparency provided. Commissioners review cases, attend training and conferences, shape the future of public safety in Minneapolis. Bryn Mawr resident Carolyn Bastick sits on the CPCP. Video shared with Board members, can be viewed on the public website. minneapolismn.gov/government/boards-and-commissions/ccpo/

Request for BMNA to sign letter of support for I-94 At-Grade Continued Study

BMNA Active Transportation (AT) Committee. AT Committee is asking BMNA to support an additional letter being sent to Governor Walz and Commissioner Daubengerger at MNDOT related to the Rethinking I-94 project. A BMNA memo supporting this option was sent last month. Ethan Knight from Our Streets was present to discuss the issue and answer questions. MNDOT has recommended that the at-grade option not move forward for further study. MNDOT's reasons include safety concerns, increasing travel times, air quality along residential areas that travel will be diverted to. MNDOTS specific reasons can be accessed at <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/19b7f2c1d493403a802589a0844157d1/page/Alternatives-Not-Moving-Forward>, scroll to at-grade option. Our Streets wants a further look at the pollution data, suggesting that MNDOT model for determining pollution is outdated and inaccurate.

Board members asked for input into the letter. Alec Werning will collect feedback and forward to Ethan Knight. Discussion moved to April Board Meeting.

City of Minneapolis -Councilmember Katie Cashman

No in-person report this month. Read updates from Cashman at minneapolismn.gov/ward7

Crime Prevention Specialist Report

No crimes reported from Shannon McDonnough this month. Discussion about discrepancy between neighbors' knowledge of crimes and information from McDonnough and the police crime website. Haven Stephens is working on getting answers about reporting crimes. Board and neighbors can view crime stats at minneapolismn.gov/resident-services/public-safety/police-public-safety/crime-maps-dashboards/crime-locations-map/

Treasurer Report- Karen Soderberg

Our finances are in good shape. Communications and Development Coordinator Report - Lynda Shaheen. Membership letters mailed with QR code, improved responses. Will co-sponsor city council candidate forums with the League of Women Voters. Park Board continues to investigate vandalized trees at Cedar Lake. March 14 tree lottery deadline. New BMNA website will go live after Winterfest. Annual city report for Neighborhood Network Fund/Equitable Engagement Fund submitted (NNF/EEF).

Event Coordinator Report - Patty Wycoff

WinterFest planning in full swing. Bigger silent auction than last year, over 25 sponsors. Ticket sales crucial. Sign up to volunteer on SignUpGenius.

Bugle Report - JoEllyn Jolstad

The 20th is the deadline for articles/ads. Questions about garage sale and registrations. Registration has been online.

Committee Reports

- Schools -Colleen Dhennin**
Online ordering for plant sales at brynmawrpta.org. beginning April 1 Budget process starting, will include all students this year. Four additional teaching positions, school counselor and another special ed teacher for Bryn Mawr Elementary. Class sizes will stay under 30. Bill proposed at state legislature to limit class sizes. Auditions for Anwatin musical coming up, Moana JR.
- Active Transportation- Josh Nichols. Alec Werning reported**
Met with Katie Jones and Frank Hornstein. Pedestrian improvements to get to light rail. Activity planned to Walk to WinterFest and back. April ride. BM Elementary received a grant of \$45,000 for planning for Safe Routes To School.
- Racial Justice - Steve Harvey**

Bryn Mawr Board members attended Harrison's 40th anniversary event. New housing complex being proposed for the Pennwood Market site at Glenwood and Penn. Matrix Development, LLC, proposing two buildings, 87 subsidized apartments. Includes small space for a market, not large enough for a grocery store. Design is similar to the building on Penn and Plymouth. Neighborhood meetings take place in April.

Parks - Chris Etz/Barry Schade
Park Board Rep Elizabeth Shaffer running for city council. Trees were illegally chopped down on west side of Cedar Lake.

Gardens - Drew Quirk.
April 19 clean up event scheduled for downtown gardens.

Finance - Jessica Wiley
City required Neighborhood Network Fund/Equitable Engagement Fund (NNF/EEF) report submitted on March 1. The report requires info on yearly volunteer and staff hours, meetings and events held, communication activities, outreach efforts to underrepresented groups, and progress on stated quantitative goals. Still working on goal of getting a Board Rep for Area 8. Highlight articulated was collaboration between Racial Justice and Active Transportation Committees and local business SRF to screen two films documenting bicycling achievements by African Americans during the 1890's. Will present full report and move for Board approval on April 8.

Communications - Jay Peterson
Website pages completed, links in. Beautiful pictures selected representing the neighborhood. Will be asking committee chairs to edit their pages. Launch date after WinterFest.

Community Projects - Jessica Wiley
Deadline for submitting an idea was February 28. Six suggestions made, five completed the Google application. Committee will meet April 2 to choose projects for funding.

Façade Grant - Addie Arnold
Addie was contacted by Gab Yunis, tattoo artist, moving into the old Greenhouse site.

Other Standing Reports

SWLRT Update. Barry Schade
Virtual tours available on the website. youtube.com/watch?v=1EdVo9SgcAA
Bike trail completed across the tracks at the station.

Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:
Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Upcoming Events:
Thursday, March 27, WinterFest

The BMNA invites and encourages participation by every resident to each program, service and event organized by the BMNA. Should you require an accommodation in order for you to fully participate, or if you require this document in a different format, please let us know by contacting our neighborhood coordinator at organizer@BMNA.org at least five days before our event.

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Out & About

Gear up for more Active Transportation events each month and stay tuned by following @activetransit.brynmawr on Instagram or send us an email at activetransitbrynmawr@googlegroups.com to learn more.

April Piecycle Ride

Join the Bryn Mawr Active Transportation Committee for our first bike ride of the season, in collaboration with MPLS Piecycle Club (www.pie.bike), to Rustica in Uptown. We'll meet at the Bassett Creek Playground (on Chestnut and Thomas) at 2 and roll out at 2:15 on Saturday, April 26th (rain date Sunday, April 27th). We plan to ride around Bryn Mawr and its neighboring lakes and then enjoy pastries and drinks at Rustica in Uptown (W. Lake Street). The ride is family friendly, and riders of all skills and paces are welcome.



Community Collaboration Yields Planning Grant Success

Bryn Mawr Elementary, Anwatin Middle School, and the Active Transportation Committee Secure MnDOT Grant

We are delighted to announce an exciting development in our community. The collaborative efforts between the Active Transportation Committee and Bryn Mawr Elementary School have borne fruit, as we have successfully secured a planning grant from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). This grant, a testament to our shared dedication and hard work, will serve as a catalyst for enhancing the safety and accessibility of transportation routes for our children and residents alike. By fostering a safer and more connected community, we aim to encourage more active forms of transportation such as walking and bicycling. We hope that you will join us in this process to share your ideas, thoughts, and goals!

The Power of Collaboration

This achievement underscores the power of collaboration. The Active Transportation Committee, composed of dedicated volunteers and advocates, has worked tirelessly to promote sustainable and safe transportation options within our neighborhood. Their expertise, combined with the proactive involvement of Bryn Mawr Elementary School and Anwatin Middle School, has ensured a focused and effective approach to securing this grant.

We would like to extend a sincere and hearty "THANK YOU!" to Regina Jackson, Jenny Bordon, and the Principals, Kevin Oldenburg, and Nathan Hampton at Bryn Mawr elementary and Anwatin middle school, respectively! This process could not have been successful without their invaluable contributions and support!

Bryn Mawr Elementary and Anwatin Middle Schools have been instrumental in this endeavor. Recognizing the importance of safe routes for students, the schools have actively participated in planning and advoca-

cy efforts. Their commitment to the well-being and safety of the children has been a driving force in this initiative. We look forward to meeting interested parents, students and anyone wanting to work together!

Looking Ahead

With the MnDOT planning grant in hand, our next steps involve comprehensive community engagement. We will conduct thorough assessments of current transportation routes, identify areas of improvement, and gather input from residents to ensure that our plans align with the needs and aspirations of our community.

As we begin this important process, we NEED your input! We encourage all interested community members, students, and parents to join us in this exciting journey. Your insights and participation are invaluable as we work together to create a safer and more vibrant neighborhood. Stay tuned for upcoming meetings and workshops where you can share your ideas and feedback! If you would like to stay in the loop and receive notifications of meetings and workshop opportunities, please contact us.

A Bright Future for Our Neighborhood

The receipt of this planning grant is just the beginning. It symbolizes our collective commitment to fostering a community where active transportation is not only encouraged but also safe and accessible, and pleasant for everyone. We thank the Minnesota Department of Transportation for their support and look forward to transforming our vision into reality.

Together, we can pave the way for a brighter, healthier, and more connected future for our neighborhood. Let's keep the momentum going and make a lasting impact for generations to come.

To learn more about the MnDOT safe routes to schools grant program, please visit: dot.state.mn.us/saferoutes/grants-funding.html

Protect our Pollinators!

Do not rake your leaves yet. With the early warmup, some people may want to tidy and rake up their yards. But pollinators nest in the broken stems of plants and overwinter in leaf piles. To protect them, please do not rake any leaves or clean up your yard until temperatures are consistently above 50 degrees.



MINNEAPOLIS NATURE PRESCHOOL

APRIL 24, 2:30-5:00PM

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Bryn Mawr Recycling Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday
Area 1	April 7 April 21	
Areas 4W, 5W, 6, 7, 8, 9	April 14 April 28	
Areas 2, 3, 4E, 5E		April 15 April 19

Use it up, wear it out, make it do, do without. Recycle.



Out & About

Bryn Mawr Moms on the Search for Good Food

Bar Brava
1914 North Washington Ave
Minneapolis

For over 20 years our book club has been on the hunt to find interesting restaurants and unique dishes. The Covid years threw a wrench in our dining out and have had a lasting effect on the Minneapolis restaurant scene in the time since — restaurants closed or days open and hours cut back. But the past few years have brought back fun excursions. A few of the restaurants we've chosen include Chloe by Vincent, EaTo, SideBar at Surdyks, Nightengale, Union Hmong Kitchen, and Pinoli.

This past Friday we had a reservation at Bar Brava on North Washington, a most unlikely spot for a restaurant, but only 10 minutes from Bryn Mawr with easy parking. They bill themselves as a wine bar so we shouldn't have been surprised that there were no cocktails to start with. Our wait staff brought us three bottles of wine to taste, all quite lovely, and we chose a "pétillant naturel" chardonnay, Folie by Gassac, that was light and refreshing.

Bar Brava's menu changes frequently, sometimes focusing on torsk dishes and potato dumplings. We chose four dishes to share. The Patatas Bravas were crispy with a not too spicy tomato sauce and garlic aioli. We loved the Smoked Trout Dip with lightly toasted bread. The dip included caraway crème fraiche, hard-boiled egg, pickled mustard, cucumber salad, dill, chives, and roe, which was not listed as an ingredient and was a pleasant surprise. The Schnitzel was tasty, but we wanted the sauerkraut to be warm.

Our last shared plate was the Beef Bourguignon entrée that can be ordered in whatever amount you want, so we asked for three servings. It was plenty for our group of five. Served with celery root and potato puree with turnips and parsnips, and sourdough. It was good, although we wished a bit more wine flavor came through. The bread was homemade, hearty and delicious.

Our waiter was knowledgeable and attentive. She seemed to love her job. It's a small place so reservations are suggested for larger parties. We sat in a corner, and it was easy to talk, although for a brief amount of time there was a large, noisy group dressed in costumes having appetizers next to us. We were well-fed and taken care of.

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Pup of the Month

By Carter Casmaer

Welcome to 'Pup of the Month', where we showcase Bryn Mawr's goodest dogs! This month we have the distinct pleasure of introducing Luna, the professor emeritus of Bryn Mawr's dogs! She has been bestowed this title given she has lived her entire life in Bryn Mawr and, come June 30th, will celebrate her 16th birthday!

Luna was part of a litter of puppies whose lives started long ago on the Iron Range of Minnesota. It was on Christmas Day of 2009 that her humans brought her into their family and she's been living the good life ever since.

Luna flies the flag of a Husky but she is much more than that as she shares genes with Rottweilers, German Shepherds and English Springer Spaniels. She has a striking appearance with a coat that turns brindle in the warmer months and as the cold settles in shifts to become more white and gray. This is complemented by her blue eyes and white eyelashes. She has the voice of an Alto and be assured, she uses it.

As a Cancer she thoroughly embodies their reputation as the 'caretaker of the zodiac'. Her humans noticed right away that she is a gentle, empathetic



soul who is loyal to her family and has a very strong sense of home. She's quick to deliver kisses and put her head in your lap if she senses her humans are upset or sees them cry. She's been the big sister to three cats and it's not unheard of for her to relinquish the warm spot she's made on her dog bed to her current feline housemate just to be nice.

In the summer months you can find Luna jumping off docks, swimming in our lakes and trying to bite the small waves that roll in on Lake Harriet and Cedar Lake. In the winter she'll lay outside in the snow, face buried, for long stretches and let loose a very specific double bark that she uses only to

let her humans know she's ready to come back inside.

Meeting the exercise needs of a husky in the city can be tough but Luna's humans have used a combination of hour long walks (at 5 am!), long hikes in the woods and including her in the occasional 5K training regimen. Luna would compliment this, particularly in her younger years, by play sessions with the cats in her orbit and regularly getting the "zoomies" and sprinting around the house upon returning from her outdoor adventures.

Apart from the time that she ate two pounds of sirloin off a counter-top Luna has a remarkable lack of motivation when it comes to food. She's able to distinguish between 12 of her toys by name. You can often find her relaxing on the cool tile of the bathroom floor.

Luna's walks aren't as long as they used to be. After all, she's not the young pup that she once was. Even huskies get tired. However Luna wants you to know that as her life has grown longer it has also grown sweeter and she really appreciates how dedicated her humans are to giving her such a loving home. Luna knows that it's hard to watch the people you love grow old, and it's even harder to imagine a life without them. She told me that as we all ponder our shared, inescapable fate we

should remain acutely aware of how much of a gift we've been given to have simply existed. To live to see twenty, let alone thirty, is almost unimaginable in her eyes. She hopes that we all remain kind to ourselves as we age, and that we remember to extend the same grace and support she's received to our two and four legged companions going before us.

Keep sending outstanding pups to [brynmawrpupofthemonth@gmail.com!](mailto:brynmawrpupofthemonth@gmail.com)

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"Jocelyn has been wonderful for our anxious little dog. She does excellent grooming, is flexible and very reasonably priced! Highly recommended" -Jenny Carlson

BRYN MAWR MARKET THANKS YOU

PHOTO OF STEVE AND DOUG, MARCH 2024

Steve and Carol Ann purchased Bryn Mawr Market last March 2024. We appreciate your continued support!

YEAR IN REVIEW

- Raised employee wages
- Increased number of local products we carry
- Removed the lottery (we know, this one has mixed reception)
- Commissioned interior mural by neighborhood artist, Rebecca Wynia
- Replaced freon-freezer with energy efficient freezers
- Updated electrical outlets
- Cleared out basement for more community space (coming soon!)

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Annie Child
eachild@cbburnet.com
612-819-8785

Susan Stryker
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612-839-6360





Gardens

Spring is here!

And with it, a return of the Gardening column, courtesy of your neighborhood garden committee. Whether you are planning a major landscaping project, starting your vegetable or flower patch, making your boulevard a little more interesting (more on that below), or simply enjoying the wonderful gardens that dot our hamlet on a block-by-block basis, we hope you find peace, joy, and wonder out and about this year. As we kick off preparations for the new season, we're always looking for help. Some things you can do to get involved:

- Lend a hand during a garden workday (3rd Saturdays of each month, look for our signs!)
- Attend a garden committee meeting (2nd Monday of each month, 7:30pm at the Bryn Mawr Church)
- Pick a weed - any time you pass one of our triangle gardens, if you see a plant out of place, grab it by the base and pull!
- If you're looking for a little more responsibility, we are also looking for:
 - Garden "stewards": folks who can take the lead on maintenance activities for individual gardens. We have openings to steward the Laurel Triangle and Newton Triangle this year.
 - Outreach coordinator: someone to spread gardening news and hap-



penings through our web and social channels and drive engagement in our activities

Reach out to Drew at drew.quirk@bmna.org to learn more!

Thanks for considering, and we look forward to seeing you out and about, shovels in hand!

Earth Day Clean-up Event April 19

For our first monthly workday event, we will focus on cleaning up our downtown Bryn Mawr boulevard gardens and planters in preparation for Garage Sale weekend. Last year, we filled over 30 yard waste bags in a little under 2 hours. Bring your gloves and your favorite rake, and expect fun conversation, some light exercise, and morning treats. Meet near the bus stop in front of Cuppa Java at 10am.

— Gardens

continued on page 8

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Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association Calendar - April 2025

All meetings are open - everyone is welcome. Neighbors are urged to attend and participate in meetings and activities of special interest to them. Meetings are held at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church unless otherwise noted.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
Minneapolis Public Schools Spring Break - March 31-April 4						
6	7 Yard Waste Collection Begins Bryn Mawr Festival of Garage Sales Registration begins	8	9 BMNA Monthly meeting 6:30pm Bryn Mawr Church, 6:30pm & Google Meet. Joining link posted on BMNA.org.	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 Red Cross blood 12-5 at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Sign up to donate at redcross.org .	19 Garden Committee Cleanup Minneapolis Park Board Earth Day Cleanup
20 Submissions due for next Bugle. Drop in the Bugle Box at the Market or email bugle@bmna.org	21	22	23	24 MN Nature Preschool Earth Day Celebration	25	26
27	28	29 Last Day to Register your Sale for the Bryn Mawr Festival of Garage Sales	30	May 1	May 2	May 3 BMNA Festival of Garage Sales

— **BMNA Gardens**
continued from page 7

A Quick Note on Bud Break

We've been having springlike days that encourage strolling in one's yard to see how your landscape has fared this past winter. You may notice swollen buds at the tips of your trees and shrubs. When will these buds transform into leaves? What are the triggers that make that happen? Here is what experts tell us.

There are three factors that come into play.

The first is winter chilling. Woody plants in our climate need a period of cold weather between autumn, when they shed their old leaves, and spring, when they grow their new set of leaves. Think of this as equivalent to humans needing deep sleep at night, as a rest...as a reset, so we can tackle with energy what we need to do next.

Oddly, plants can sometimes be fooled by unusual temperature fluctuations. Last fall some of us experienced a second flush of lilac blossoms after there had been a cool down and then a return to warmer temperatures. Plants can misread temperature cues and react as though it were spring. (Unusually timed re-blooms can also be a sign that plants are under stress from drought or disease.)

The second factor is the rate at which warmer temperatures arrive. A slow, gradual warming will somewhat delay bud break. In turn, a more rapid onset of warmer temperatures can hasten bud break.

The third factor is the most influential factor and the one that is a constant. It is called photoperiod, which is a fancy term for day length.

This shift occurs regardless of temperature variation from year to year or changes due to climate change. Spring brings more hours of sunlight per day. Days are longer. This factor is constant year after year and always has the same influence on when our trees and shrubs begin to unfold their foliage for the coming summer. The newly emerging leaves need the added sunlight for photosynthesis and growth.

In our climate one of the first plants to experience bud break is the elderberry. You can look for these spindly native understory shrubs as you walk through the woods. They unfurl their new leaves very early, revealing too, their nascent cluster of flower buds. Their bud break is so early that their new leaves sometimes get nipped by a late frost. But elderberries can recover and put out another set of leaves if need be. I have a couple elderberries in my yard, and I am thrilled and encouraged when I see their first tiny leaves emerging. I know then that spring is just around the corner. Hooray!

- *Kathy Ripke*

Boulevard Gardens—Revisited

Last fall I wrote a column on boulevard gardening in the September *Bugle*. You'll find it on page 9 of that issue if you care to go back and re-read it. The *Bugle* archives are online at bmna.org.

Most of that article is still valid, but the City Council and Mayor Frey have just made some changes to the city ordinance that you may want to know about.

Some of the spelled-out changes are more restrictive, but logical. It is unlawful to plant thorny, spiky plants on boulevards. (Roses and raspberries seem to be excluded from this

rule.) And you cannot plant noxious weeds or plants that would sting or cause blistering skin (think nettles or poison ivy). This just makes sense.

There is also prohibition from paving over boulevards with cement or asphalt. Another logical rule. There are utilities under there. Permanent paving would make them inaccessible. Also, any plantings in the boulevard other than turf need to have breaks every 15' for pedestrian access. These cut-through pathways should be at least 3 feet wide.

Other changes in the rules make things more lenient. What is acceptable to plant has broadened. Food plants are now legal. Raised beds are now allowed, and don't need to be permitted. (More on permits in a minute). Keep in mind that the city can still dig up your boulevard any time it needs to. And they are not responsible for replacing anything that is disturbed, damaged or killed. So even though you are allowed to have raised beds, please thoroughly think through whether placing them in a boulevard is smart. Will it be a nightmare if the city needs to get to your gas, water or sewer lines? Or if visitors or neighbors need to open doors and exit vehicles while parked against your curb, will they be able to do that? Think twice about planting that ungodly expensive intersectional peony you bought into your boulevard if having it dug up in the future will break your heart. Use your head and realize that just because something is allowed does not automatically make it a good idea.

Height restrictions have loosened too, but only in unusual situations. For most of us with normal sized city lots, the rules stay the same. Within 40 feet of an intersection, or within 10 feet of an alley or driveway, or within 3 feet of any fixed object, including fire hydrants and trees, plants must be no taller than 18". This is to keep sight lines clear. All vegetation must be maintained so it doesn't encroach on, or overhang the curb, street or pathways. However, if you are the rare person who has a really long boulevard (so that nearness to corners and driveways and trees and fire hydrants doesn't make this impossible) you can now grow very tall plants in the boulevard. Sunflowers were what was given as an



example. Although allowed, this seems to me counter to public safety concerns, potentially creating a visual barrier that could spell trouble. And remember, really tall plants are prone to flopping in wind and rain.

Okay, now for the permitting rules. These are the things that require a permit to install on your boulevard: irrigation systems, planter walls, garden edging, fences and "like structures." Rain gardens also need permitting. Permits are obtained through the city's Public Works Department and range in price from \$50 to \$75 dollars.

There are other details in the newly revised ordinance. What I've written here is my attempt at summarizing the changes in Minneapolis' boulevard rules. Please look online to read for yourself the revised ordinance in its entirety. Especially if you are just about to begin gardening on your boulevard. If you have established boulevard gardens, rest easy. At the public meeting I attended concerning the rule changes, reassurance was made that if you've not had issues or complaints about what you are doing in your boulevard, you likely needn't be concerned with the changes. But if your boulevard gardens are not in compliance and your neighbors voice concerns, take their concerns to heart. If your plantings are too tall, or tend to be floppy and therefore blocking paths, consider trimming them back and propping them up. We all want to be good neighbors.

Having beautiful, productive streetscapes which are serviceable and safe seems to be everyone's goal. Spring is on its way. So let the gardening fun begin, be it on your boulevard or elsewhere!

- *Kathy Ripke*

The Minneapolis Audubon Society December Meeting
Friday, April 11th, 1:00 pm
PUFFINS, WHALES AND WONDERS OF ICELAND.
Presentation by Carrol Henderson, retired DNR Non-game Wildlife Specialist. It is hard to adequately describe Carrol Henderson's contributions to wildlife conservation, wildlife awareness, and species recovery in Minnesota.
The Minneapolis Audubon Society meets monthly from September to May on the second Friday of each month. The meeting is at Bryant Square Community Center, 3100 Bryant Ave So. The lecture is free and there is free parking.



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Nature Play Group at Wirth Park Pavilion

Get those inquisitive minds and bodies exploring nature and socializing with peers! Learn and grow together with your little one while exploring and having fun outside with other children and their grownups. Each day offers opportunities for observing, following curiosity, and sensory investigation during this outdoor exploration time! This is an Adult/Child interactive program for children ages 18 months to 5 years old..

Program will take place in the natural spaces around the Pavilion at Theodore Wirth Regional Park. The play group will take place on Wednesdays from 10:30am-11:30am from April 9th to May 28th. Register at Minneapolis Park Board website

Earth Day Cleanup

Saturday, April 19, 2-6 pm
Various Sites in Minneapolis

The Earth Day Clean-Up has become the largest community service project in Minneapolis and takes place at more than 40 clean-up sites throughout the city. Since 2008, more than 23,000 residents have removed more than 165,000 pounds of garbage from parks and waterways. Learn more at www.minneapolisparcs.org/earthday. The Earth Day Clean-Up has become the largest community service project in Minneapolis and takes place at more than 40 clean-up sites throughout the city. Since 2008, more than 23,000 residents have removed more than 165,000 pounds of garbage.

If you you're interested in joining the list of prospective volunteer site

coordinators for 2025, please e-mail Brian Gjerde (earthday@minneapolisparcs.org).

Spring Family Night

Harrison Rec Center
April 24 5:30-7:30 PM

Come as a family to enjoy spring activities together at the rec center! Play kickball, enjoy double dutch, decorate a cookie, paint rocks and more! Fun for the whole family! Register at Minneapolis Parks website.

The Next Generation of Parks Event Series Presents:

Belonging in the Outdoors: documentary film screening and panel discussion

Join us as we explore the great outdoors and experience the transformative power of nature and environmental leadership for youth in Minnesota.

6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 17
Minneapolis Institute of Art,
Tickets: Always Free

The program will feature a screening of the documentary film *Belonging*, created by Danami-Maurice Champion and produced by BairStories, which follows high school and college students through the program as they navigate personal and interpersonal growth in the outdoors. There will be an engaging audience Q & A with Ana Munro, program facilitator, Danami-Maurice Champion, film creator, Hannah Anema, DNR Mentor, Tim Pharis, DNR Mentor, and program participants moderated by MPR News host, Stephanie Curtis.

Devastating Tree Vandalism at Cedar Lake: A Community in Mourning

Felony Vandalism Results in the Loss of Six Mature Trees Valued Over \$60,000

By Steve Kotvis, Area 1

Those passing along Cedar Lake Parkway at Franklin Avenue West in Brwn Mawr may sense something different. Something missing. For those not as familiar with the area, the signs posted make the point. Between February 26-27, about a half dozen mature park trees were cut down in the dark of night.

An act of a felony vandalism to public property estimated at more than \$60,000, these trees were some 30 years old and were an integral part of Cedar Lake Park's unique natural experience. This seemingly selfish act is a devastating blow to the natural beauty and ecological balance maintained by the Cedar Lake Park Association and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board and its volunteer Park Stewards. Two local Park Stewards were the first to report the offense to the Park Board's Forestry Department.

Among the lost trees were three magnificent Burr Oaks, along with three other high-quality species. The presence of these trees not only enhanced the aesthetic appeal of the park but also played a vital role in supporting local wildlife and providing a serene escape for residents and visitors.

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has swiftly initiated a thorough investigation into this senseless act of vandalism. Efforts include the involvement of the park police, who are taking the lead in the investigation, as well as the Communications team who initiated online communications, on-site signage aimed at gathering information from the public, actively responding to inquiries from local media to raise awareness and encourage community vigilance.

The destruction of these trees is not just a loss of greenery but a blow to the community's spirit and its commitment to preserving the natural environment. As the investigation continues, the park board is also exploring options for replanting and restoration, though it acknowledges that the loss of such mature trees cannot be easily rectified.

This incident serves as a stark reminder of the vulnerability of our

natural resources and the need for collective vigilance. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board remains steadfast in its mission to protect and enhance the city's natural spaces, ensuring that such an act of vandalism does not go unpunished or unnoticed.

In the meantime, community members are encouraged to honor the memory of the lost trees by participating in local conservation efforts and supporting initiatives aimed at preserving the natural habitats of Minneapolis. The hope is that, with collective effort and resilience, the community can recover and continue to nurture nature that makes Minneapolis so special.

Anyone with any information regarding the vandalism is urged to contact the park police immediately. The community's cooperation and solidarity are essential in addressing this grievous crime and preventing future acts of environmental destruction.

MPRB Seeks Information about Tree Vandalism at Cedar Lake

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board is asking for the public's help in identifying the person(s) who vandalized and illegally cut down trees near Cedar Lake Road and West Franklin Ave in Minneapolis, near Cedar Point Beach. The vandalism occurred next to the walking/biking paths.

Sometime between Wednesday, Feb. 26 and Thursday, Feb. 27, a person or persons illegally cut down approximately five healthy and maturing burr and basswood trees from this area using a chainsaw. Other trees in the area were also damaged during the incident.

If you saw anyone using a chainsaw, cutting down trees or any other potentially related suspicious behavior on Wednesday, Feb. 26 to Thursday, Feb. 27 or have any information on the illegal actions, please contact Investigator John Archer with the Minneapolis Park Police at 612-230-6550 between 8 am and 4 pm Monday-Friday.



- April 1, 1993 My notes: "First robin, Hawthorne and Queen". Those were the years before any robins spent the winter here so this seemed like an important sign of spring. As thrushes, they are good singers and often heard before you can spot them.
- April 12, 2025 Full moon, the Dakota Magaokada Wi or goose-laying moon.
- April 13, 1976 High 78°. Went to the Twins Opening Day game at Met Stadium. Got sunburned.
- April 15, 1996 Deer ate front-yard tulips. Apparently they don't like daffodils, which may be safer bulbs to plant in Bryn Mawr.
- April 26, 1984 Tornado touch-down at Apache Plaza north of St Paul.
- April 21, 1980 Windy and hot. Prairie fires threaten Motley and Staples along Hwy 10. Not enough moisture for grass to get going after the snow melted.

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Youth & Schools

PTA Plant Sale

PTA Plant Sale Preorder: April 1-21
Preorder Plant Pick-up: Thurs, May 1st
The much loved Bryn Mawr PTA plant sale is underway. Plants can be ordered online from April 1-21 at the Bryn Mawr elementary school website. Details and QR code on page 11. All questions or concerns can be directed to plantsale@brynmawrpta.org.

Seeking Bryn Mawr School Library Volunteers

Opportunity 1:
Help Reshelve Books
Monday mornings,
anytime between 7 - 9AM

Opportunity 2:
Help to do inventory, dust bookshelves and get the library ready to close up for the summer.
April, May and June

Contact Our school's amazing Library Media Specialist, Ms. Thomson
Heather.Thomson@mpls.k12.mn.us
to signup.

Reading Success!

Thanks to all of the neighbors who are Reading Buddies at Bryn Mawr Elementary. The program has been so successful that our school is moving to phase two, "Heart Word Helpers". In this phase, volunteers read and play games with small groups of first graders. If you can help our young readers continue moving ahead, contact Regina Jackson at Regina.jackson@mpls.k12.mn.us
Thanks for considering!

Every Meal Volunteers

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in conjunction with Every Meal distributes weekend food bags to kids in need at Bryn Mawr Elementary School. Weekends can be a challenging time for kids who benefit from the free breakfast and lunch the school provides during the week. Every Friday at 11:30 we need 4 volunteers to spend up to an hour placing food bags in student's backpacks. The bags weigh between 3-5 pounds and are prepacked and stored on dollies that can be rolled through the school. Volunteers sign in at the school office in front (252 Upton Ave S) at 11:30 am. More information and videos can be found at everymeal.org. The sign up sheet can be found at www.brynmawrchurch.org or contact Lynda Shaheen, lynda.shaheen@gmail.com

Contact Information For Our Community Schools

(note schools are closed for summer break until late August)
Bryn Mawr Elementary (PreK-5)
252 Upton Avenue South
612-668-2500
brynmawr.mpschools.org
Anwatin Middle School (6-8)
International Baccalaureate
256 Upton Avenue South
612-668-2450
anwatin.mpschools.org
Anwatin Community Education
612-668-2470
ce.mpschools.org
North High School (9-12)
1500 James Ave. North
612.668.1700
north.mpschools.org



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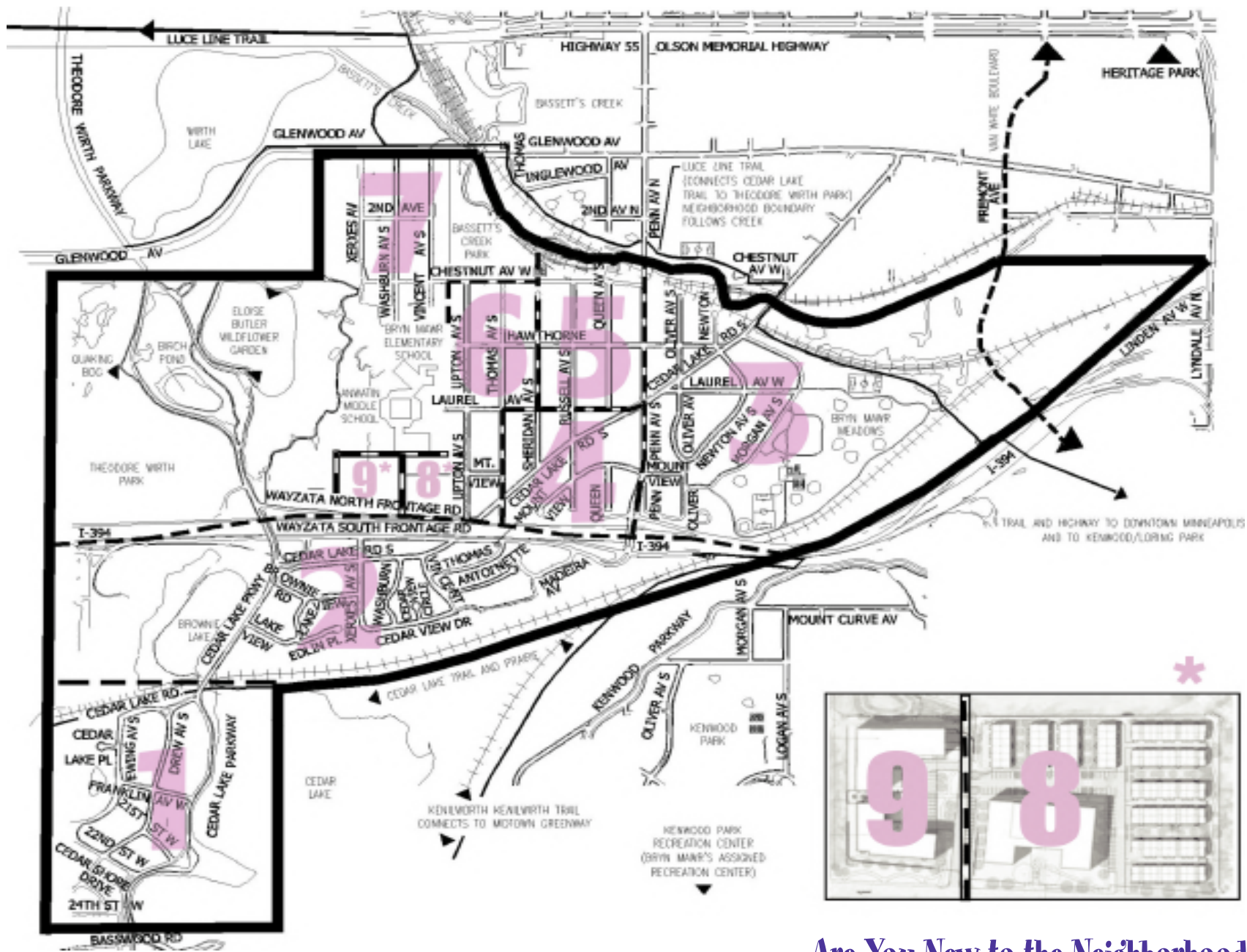
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The Bryn Mawr Bugle is an open-forum newspaper published by the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association. Content is based entirely on volunteer submissions which may be emailed to bugle@bmna.org. Articles will be printed at the discretion of the Editor. The Bryn Mawr Bugle is published every month except January. Distribution is free to Bryn Mawr residents; copies are also available at the Bryn Mawr Market, Bryn Mawr Mobil and Cuppa Java. Opinion articles represent the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association or the Editor of the Bugle. Submissions may be edited for length without altering the letter writer's message. Under the law, writers, like journalists, may not commit libel, be obscene, reveal names of juveniles accused of crime, invade personal space, or incite to riot.

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A reminder that in addition to being delivered to your doorstep, the Bryn Mawr Bugle is available online at bmna.org. Click on the Bugle logo on the home page to read the current edition or go under the 'Bugle' tab to see past editions and to learn more about advertising rates and submission deadlines.

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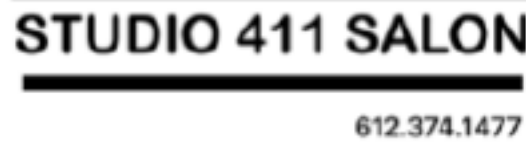
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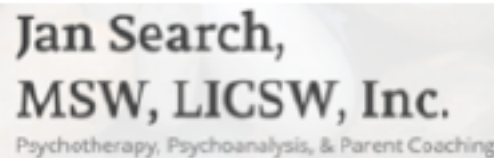
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