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City News

www.ci.maple-lake.mn.us

WINTER 2015

38th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade



Saturday, March 14th, 2015
1:30 p.m. Downtown Maple Lake
 Line up starts at 12:30 p.m.



Contact Irene Hudek 612-270-8586 or Deb Geyen 320-980-3144

- * **Annual Craft Sale** - Saturday, March 14th Maple Lake Elementary Gymnasium 9am - 2pm
Contact Betty Gordon 320-963-5351
- * **Irish Scamper** - Saturday, March 14th Registration 9am - 5K Race at 11am More information available online at www.raceberryjam.com/scamper.html. Registration forms can be picked up in person at the Maple Lake High School office as well.
- * **Coronation** - Maple Lake High School Gymnasium following parade at approximately 4:30pm

During the day - The Maple Lake Lion's Club will be serving Mulligan Stew and other refreshments at the American Legion Club. Other civic organizations, restaurants and businesses will be offering St. Patrick's Day specials too!



2015 Irish Pre-Party

Saturday, March 7th, 2015

5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Watch the Maple Lake Messenger for more information



You may sign up for our Round-Up Program to

help with the downtown beautification program. The total of your utility bill would automatically be rounded up to the next even dollar amount. This total yearly donation would run between \$.12 to \$11.88. You must either call us or sign up on our web site.

Welcome to our newest Council Member

Todd Jude joins the Maple Lake city council as our newest member. Todd is a lifetime resident of Maple Lake. He has served our community as a volunteer firefighter/EMT for the past 4 years. Todd is dedicated to helping Maple Lake grow, generating new business and attracting people to the community. Anyone interested in contacting Todd may do so by emailing him at todd.jude@ci.maple-lake.mn.us.



City of Maple Lake

10 Maple Ave S
 PO Box 757
 Maple Lake, MN 55358
 320-963-3611

Office Hours:
 M-Th 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Fri 7 a.m. to 11 a.m.

E-Mail: cityhall@ci.maple-lake.mn.us
 Website: www.ci.maple-lake.mn.us

Elected Officials

- Lynn Kissock, Mayor320-963-3611
mayor@ci.maple-lake.mn.us
- Deb Geyen, Councilmember320-963-3890
deb.geyen@ci.maple-lake.mn.us
- Todd Jude, Councilmember 763-999-1654
todd.jude@ci.maple-lake.mn.us
- Bart Lauer, Councilmember320-963-5063
bart.lauer@ci.maple-lake.mn.us
- John Northenscold, Councilmember320-963-5520
john.northenscold@ci.maple-lake.mn.us

Important Numbers

- Police/Fire Emergency.....911
- After-hours water, sewer, street
 and snowplowing emergency.....320-963-3738
- Public Works Department.....320-963-3738
- Maple Lake Wine & Spirits.....320-963-3715
- Advanced Disposal.....888-251-8919
- Center Point Energy.....800-245-2377
- Wright Hennepin Electric.....763-477-3000
- Xcel Energy.....800-895-4999
- Charter Communications.....888-438-2427

Billing Information

On January 1, 2015, an increase of \$0.10/thousand for water use in our tier billing system was implemented, and the sewer base rate was raised from \$6.00 to \$7.00



A big thank you to the Sherburne Wright Cable Commission for providing the City of Maple Lake with state of the art equipment and investing time and talent into recording our Council meetings and St Patrick's Day parade!

Sewer Reminders

Having a sewer line back-up into your basement is **NEVER** a good thing. History tells us that, more often than not, sewer back-ups are caused by people flushing items into the sewer that create blockage.

- **DO NOT** pour grease or oil down the drains. Grease such as cooking oils, tallow, bacon grease, etc. will harden in the lines and on the float switches, causing pumps not to work.
- **DO NOT** flush non-biodegradable items down the drains. Items such as cigarette butts, dental floss, Q-tips, disposable diapers, sanitary napkins, tampons or condoms can clog the pump and pipes.
- **DO NOT** flush rigid or gritty materials down the drains, such as cat litter, coffee grounds, chicken bones, egg shells, fish scales, etc. Limit the materials you put through a garbage disposal to edible food products only.
- **DO NOT** pour flammable or volatile liquids down the drains, such as gas, waste oil, and thinners. It is illegal to dispose of these items in the sewer.
- **DO NOT** pour household chemicals down the drains, such as paint, pesticides, herbicides, strong cleaning products, or other toxic chemicals.

These items cause problems that are very costly to taxpayers to repair. Please check the packaging for proper means of disposal.

Remember: "Disposable" does **NOT** mean "flushable".

Winter Street and Sidewalk Etiquette

Just a few reminders; the winter parking ordinance is in effect through April 1st. Parking on city streets is prohibited between the hours of 2 a.m. and 7 a.m. daily. If there is a snowfall after 7 a.m., parking is also prohibited until streets are plowed curb to curb. Also be aware that residents are asked to clear the snow from sidewalks and fire hydrants within 24 hours following a snowfall.



A message from the Mayor

2014 was a great year for Maple Lake. We saw continued growth in businesses, new FBO, and so much more. 2015 will be even more exciting with the year-long celebration of the 125th anniversary of the founding of Maple Lake.

On January 2nd I was sworn in for my second term as Mayor of Maple Lake. It gave me a chance to reflect on my first two years in office. With the help of the council we have been making great strides in getting the city on track and ready for the future. Some of the steps we have taken are to review the budget and make sure we plan properly and invest in maintaining our infrastructure which includes not only the streets but also the people we employ to make the city work smoothly.

This past year was the last year in office for Shar Dirks. She devoted many years to the city and we all thank her for that. She had to step down this summer for health reasons and is missed during our meetings. Todd Jude was elected to take her place. It is good to have someone with a young family on council to bring a different perspective to the group.

A lot of work has gone in to selecting areas for industrial expansion and after meetings with DEED (Department of Employment and Economic Development), Jo Faust (our Economic Development Consultant) and others we are moving forward with final site selection and feasibility studies. The investment in industrial land will create more jobs, increase the tax base and help to draw more families to the area. It is a large investment in our future and one I feel we have taken the time to explore thoroughly.

The Dollar General store has been open for a few months now and is seeing a lot of business. It is so handy to have access to amenities other than just the most basic of groceries. If you haven't been in yet, go check it out.

Other ways the city is seeing growth is with the addition of an FBO (Fixed Base Operations) operator at the airport. Jason Erickson of Ascend Aviation will be offering flying lessons, renting airplanes and has plans to reopen the seaplane base. We are excited for these new developments as the airport helps bring both commerce and tourism dollars to the area.

We have entered the planning phase of the Highway 55 beautification project. MnDOT is providing funding for design and plant materials to make the highway corridor more appealing. We are looking for volunteers to help with the design and to roll up sleeves this summer and plant a few shrubs and trees. Please contact city hall if you are interested in volunteering for the design committee.

This past year Wright County Commissioners decided to stop funding public transportation. As a result a group of mayors picked up the mantle and Maple Lake joined them this summer creating WCAT – Wright County Area Transit. WCAT became a member of the Trailblazer transit organization and we are seeing much improved transit offerings around the county than we have seen in many years. I was selected as Vice Chair of the WCAT board and serve as a representative on the Trailblazer board. Trailblazer is public transit for everyone – for trips to the store, to work or to visit family. They also offer great rates for daycares to transport kids to activities. Contact Trailblazer at 888-743-3828 or at www.trailblazertransit.com for more information and rates.

We are entering the busy time of the year for activities around Maple Lake. The 40th Annual Fishing Derby is on January 31, with a lot of events for families and good cold ice fishing fun. That is followed quickly by the 38th Annual St. Patrick's Day celebration. Ambassador candidates are just beginning their candidacy and will be attending events around the community leading up to coronation after the parade.

More important than those events is the year-long celebration of the 125th anniversary of the founding of Maple Lake. The big 125th celebration will be held on June 6th, so mark your calendars and keep an eye out for more information. If you want to be part of the party planning, please contact LeeAnn Yager at city hall.

Thank you for the support shown during the election, I again promise to do what is best for the community as a whole. I am excited about the possibilities for this great community in the coming years and look forward to meeting more of you at the upcoming events. Happy Anniversary Maple Lake!

Experience Maple Lake's Wine Club



Our next Wine Tasting is at 7p.m. Tuesday, February 3rd at The Maple Lake Legion in Maple Lake.

Membership offers you the opportunity to taste a variety of wines from around the world. An annual 2 person membership is only \$25, which entitles you to free admittance to all wine tasting events (excluding dinners) and 15% off all wine purchases.

Not sure if you want to be a member? For \$5.00 you can attend the Wine Tasting event. If you decide to join, the \$5.00 will be applied to your new membership.

Visit our website at www.mlwine-spirits.com

Highway 55 Beautification Project

The Community Roadside Landscape Partnership Program offers communities technical and financial assistance to install and maintain landscape plantings on eligible state highway rights-of-way. Through partnerships, MnDOT has fostered more than 350 roadside landscaping improvement projects in communities throughout the State.

Maple Lake is participating in this project and **YOUR help is needed**. All plantings and designs are provided at no cost by MnDOT, but the digging and planting is done by volunteers. Our project is in the design phase and we are starting our search for volunteers.

Please contact City Hall at **320-963-3611** to be added to our list of volunteers.

125th City Celebration

Your ideas and assistance are needed!

Volunteers are needed to help plan a fun-filled event to celebrate Maple Lake's 125th year.

The date of the celebration is scheduled for June 6, 2015. The planning stage has begun, please join us in creating an amazing day filled with fun & exciting events for everyone.

Please contact City Hall at **320-963-3611** for more information or to be on the committee.

Calendar of Events

January 31	Maple Lake Ice Fishing Derby
February 14	Valentines Day
February 16	Presidents Day — Offices Closed
March 7	2015 Irish Pre-Party
March 8	Daylight Savings Time begins
March 14	Spring Chamber Craft Sale
March 14	38th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 29	Maple Lake Lions Easter Candy Scramble

Online Billing And Statements



Busy? Pay your bill online.

The City offers an online bill payment service. Simply log on to our website at:

www.ci.maple-lake.mn.us

click on the "Online Payments" tab, then "Utility Payments" and you can make a one-time payment or set up recurring payments.

- Pay by major credit card
- Checking./savings withdrawal
- Avoid late penalties: Posts the day you make the payment
- Be good to the environment

We also offer convenient, environmentally friendly, online statements. Just click on the "View Bill" icon to register to get your bills electronically.

Payment Processing Powered by

