

## COL HTS TO BORROW \$7 MILLION FOR LIBRARY PROJECT City Council approves 4-1

June 23 was a long night for the Columbia Heights City Council as it had three meetings back to back that ran a total of four and a half hours. At the last meeting, the council predictably approved bonding for up to \$7 million towards the construction of a new city library. Voting against the borrowing was city councilor Bruce Nawrocki.

The earlier meetings, the EDA and the council "work session," were held off-camera in the tiny city hall conference room where about two dozen people had to jam themselves in like college kids testing the limits of a telephone booth. Library architects presented dollar figures and drawings that staff apparently chose not to discuss at the televised meeting, even though councilor Tami Diehm suggested doing just that.

For years, city officials have chosen to operate a city-funded library rather than joining the county library system. A 2010 report by the state's Legislative Auditor found city-run libraries are more costly to each city taxpayer, compared to other taxpayers' contributions to county or regional library systems.

A 4/5ths vote was required to pass the bond issue. Twenty-one people spoke during the required public hearing. Many were people who have been involved in the library project in one way or another. All seating provided in the council chambers was taken. A basket of pin buttons for the taking that said "Yes! A New Library" was in the room for those who wanted to show support. Some library staff were also in the audience.

Among the proponents' points: now is the time to build a new library to take advantage of low interest rates and lower construction costs which will inevitably go up over time; that a new library would be a key draw to keeping residents in the city and attracting new ones; without new investment in the city, there will only be more auto parts and discount stores. There are frequent complaints about such businesses at these meetings.

Catherine Vesley, of the Library Board, Charter Commission and again a candidate for city council this year, lobbed another volley against a referendum. She reaffirmed points made by Mayor Gary Peterson, that elected officials are there to make decisions and having citizens vote on trivial matters "will result in paralysis". Vesley assured the project "has been studied thoroughly."

Heights resident Lee Stout contended none of the candidates in the last council race said "if you elect me, I'll make sure you get a new library." Stout listed the newer city projects that taxpayers are paying for now, and said he believes the library expenditure should be put on the ballot. He referenced the bridge on Central at 49th as "the bridge to nowhere", reminding the audience, "we're paying for all this stuff." Later in the meeting councilman Bobby Williams repeated his recollections of his last campaign for office, saying that only a handful of citizens told him they would not support spending for a new library.

Stout also argued that the former Burger King location on Central Avenue (immediately south of the Heights Theatre parking lot) would be difficult to enter driving from the north, and felt that putting the building at 47th and Central near the Grand Central Lofts made more sense. He said it would be more convenient to young people as the library would be close to the schools. (The area was once considered as a possible library location).

Other speakers brought up specific inadequacies of the present library building. The lack of handicapped access and the tiny bathrooms were high on the list.

"The bathrooms are smaller than the outhouse at my cabin!", brought chuckles from the audience.

Tom Howard said "we are addicted to debt" and wondered if there was a way to raise more money privately and borrow less. To this, the pro-library crowd practically laughed Mr. Howard off the stage and would have brought out the shepherd's hook if he had gone on any further.

Greg Sloat, a candidate for city council and a member of the city's charter commission, is also for a referendum.

"Calling for a referendum from the get-go would have bolstered the sense of openness and legitimacy of the project," he said. This was one of the few times that a city resident has questioned the approach taken by city hall and the pro-library faction to get approval for the project with a minimum of effort and make it look like there was a public process. (The beginnings of the effort were described in the April 26, 2012 edition of the *Anoka County Record*).

Former city manager Malcolm Watson, who is a long-time member of the county's Board of Equalization, appeared again to go over some of the financial implications of the borrowing. He had asked city finance director Joseph Kloiber how much debt the city is carrying now. The answer was \$35 million. Watson said the property valuation of the city is \$954 million. He reminded the audience that the \$35 million and the library bonds would be "a lien on all of our properties." He said he was disappointed to learn that updating the old library would be as costly as building new.

Watson's words have been deliberate and carefully chosen in his recent council meeting appearances.

### Observations from the Field Bryan Olson



## Retired Army Specialist Receives Blaine Home After Service in Afghanistan

On Thursday, June 26, retired U.S. Army Specialist Jason Smith, a veteran who served from 2009 through 2012 including a tour of duty in Afghanistan, received a newly renovated mortgage-free home. Specialist Smith was injured while on missions in Afghanistan in 2011 when the vehicle he was riding in hit two Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

"I am so grateful to Homes4WoundedHeroes, AT&T and Chase for this wonderful home and mentorship support," said Specialist Smith. "We are excited to be a part of the Blaine community and are looking forward to raising our family in Minnesota."

The home was provided by Chase Bank through the Homes4WoundedHeroes program. The program is also supported by AT&T through a \$100,000 contribution to a three-year family and financial mentorship program that helps home recipients across the country.



Specialist Jason Smith and family with other well-wishers that included Sen. Alice Johnson (far left), County Commissioner Robyn West and Rep. Tim Sanders

Blaine Mayor Tom Ryan officially welcomed Specialist Smith to the community and presented a city proclamation honoring him for his military service and his sacrifices for our country. "The City of Blaine is honored and proud to welcome Specialist Smith and his family to our community," said Mayor Ryan, a wounded U.S. Army veteran who served during the Vietnam War. "This program is a great way to honor the sacrifices of our wounded veterans and help them transition back to civilian life."

Specialist Smith was also presented with a letter and American Flag flown over the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. from U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar. He said in a Facebook posting, "Awesome day, I was pretty sure nothing will top it... Being honored with the flag flown over Fallujah, Iraq and a flag flown over the capitol was a bonus I was not ready for."

State Senator Alice Johnson, State Rep. Tim Sanders, members of the Blaine City Council, and veterans from the American Legion and VFW were also on hand to honor Specialist Smith.

"Our country owes a debt of gratitude to our troops that can never be repaid," said Senator Johnson. "This program is a great way to give back to our troops by providing wounded veterans with a place to call home as they readjust to civilian life after their military service."

"Each and every day, our military men and women make extraordinary sacrifices to protect our nation and our freedoms," said Rep. Sanders. "It is great to see companies like AT&T and Chase Bank joining

**ARMY VETERAN GIVEN HOME**

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## ELK RIVER ISD 728 LEVY QUESTIONS TO BE ON GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

The Elk River ISD 728 School Board voted unanimously at its June 23 meeting to put two levy questions on the general election ballot this November, something that is rarely seen in even year elections.

Two levy questions, one for hiring more teachers, reducing class sizes and technology improvements, and the other for constructing building additions and security improvements, will be asking for a combined total of \$104 million.

A news release on the school district's website says that a small portion of the bonding would be paid with state taxpayer dollars. The school board's meeting packet as posted on the district's website did not include any information about the levy questions.

**BORROWING FOR LIBRARY PROJECT APPROVED BY CH COUNCIL** cont. on page 4

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**Vote for Otto and maintain excellence**

To the Editor,  
I'm voting for DFL-endorsed Rebecca Otto in the August 12 primary. Otto, a two-term constitutional officer, is the only Democrat ever to be re-elected Minnesota State Auditor.

Otto is nationally respected for her work in government auditing.

In fact, Otto is the most nationally-recognized State Auditor in Minnesota's history. She was elected president of the National State Auditors Association by her peers. Rebecca is also a winner of the National Excellence in Accountability Award.

Unfortunately, Rebecca is being challenged by a wealthy opponent who has failed in two prior statewide campaigns, for Governor and for Attorney General, who clearly doesn't understand the job, and who is mischaracterizing her record.

We need to maintain excellence in the office of State Auditor. We need to support Rebecca Otto and spread the word to vote Otto in the primary on August 12!

Gary D. Gross  
Ham Lake

**"Branding" at taxpayer expense: How you perceive their city is important to officials**

by Tom Steward — *Watchdog Minnesota / watchdog.org*

If you brand it, will they come?

The clients may not be on the Fortune 500 list, but PR firms find more local governments want to build a "brand," distinguishing themselves from other communities to attract businesses and residents.

Minnesota cities from Eden Prairie to Austin and Faribault to Anoka, along with several more in between, have bought into the "community branding" craze.

Brooklyn Park recently committed \$150,000 to retain Carmichael Lynch Spong — a creative agency better known for hyping Harley-Davidson motorcycles than suburbs — to revamp what officials consider an undeserved bad rap from outsiders.

"Crime rate is at a 20-year low in Brooklyn Park. A recent survey of residents shows a large majority of you love living here. And businesses are moving their corporate campuses to our city in greater numbers. Despite all of this positive news, perceptions don't align with reality, especially among those living and working outside Brooklyn Park," states a promotional blurb on the city website.

Nearby Columbia Heights voted to embark on its own public relations makeover, awarding a \$30,000 contract to a Minneapolis boutique firm to "rebrand" its dated image. While no Tony the Tiger or Geico gecko will likely emerge from the process, the campaign will involve local focus groups in developing a distinctive city logo, tagline and video, among other things.

"We really want to focus on highlighting some of the things we're already doing and updating our branding, our website, our logo, our social media outreach, our forms for the city, things like that," said Joseph Hogeboom, community development director for Columbia Heights.

While corporations spend millions on branding and advertising campaigns, cities budget far less to become the local government equivalent of Frosted Flakes, Twinkies or Ikea. Still, marketing campaigns generally supported with taxpayer money from economic development budgets often bring questions and concerns.

"I would be willing to bet that one of the recommendations that will come from the initial study will be to expand the program and spend more," said Bruce Nawrocki, the sole City Council member to oppose rebranding. "But even the \$30,000, I kind of question what we're getting for it."

In considering a similar proposal, the city of Monticello's economic development staff noted that "71 (percent) of site selectors choose a location for their next business based off of brand and image ... But what is Monticello's brand? What is Monticello's image? What do people say about Monticello 'behind our back?' What image do we portray to the 'outside' world?"

Some council members had another question: Why can't city staff promote Monticello's name and image rather than pay \$30,000 to a consultant unfamiliar with the community? City officials ultimately rejected the marketing plan in 2012, amid concerns that "some of these cities that have done these projects haven't necessarily benefited that greatly from introducing a new image," according to council minutes.

So does "Powered by Nature" bring a Twin Cities community to mind?

"There's so many ways to take this brand. It's we're powered by the people, we're powered by the nature of the parks around us because we have 44 parks, so we're very outdoorsy," said RaeAnn Gardner, communications coordinator for the city of Elk River.

"Powered by Nature" began appearing on Elk River's water towers, signs, website and city communications three years ago. City leaders believe the

**"BRANDING": SELLING A CITY AND ITS GOVERNMENT** *continued on page 3*

**U.S. Supreme Court rules against compulsory daycare unionization**

Some very encouraging news came Monday from the U.S. Supreme Court in a case called *Harris v. Quinn*. The high court ruled that homecare workers in Illinois are not public employees and therefore cannot be compelled to join a public employee union.

Last fall, a federal appeals court had put Minnesota's childcare unionization law on hold until this case was settled. With it now decided, it is very likely the federal courts in Minnesota will rule the law is unconstitutional for childcare providers.

Currently, a lawsuit called *Parrish v. Dayton* filed by a childcare provider is before a Minnesota federal appellate court. With the ruling in *Harris v. Quinn* now the law of the land, we anticipate we'll have a ruling soon that will overturn the childcare unionization law.

This ruling is welcome news for Minnesota moms and dads who already pay some of the highest childcare costs in the nation. Furthermore, childcare providers — primarily female small business owners — can breathe a sigh of relief knowing it's likely that they won't be forced to join a union and raise prices or turn away children in need of care.

Once we hear from the federal court in Minnesota, I will be sure to update you.

**Unpacking the session . . .**

Over the weeks since the legislature adjourned, I've been talking to residents of our district about the work we completed. I mailed my legislative report to everyone in our district, but the space limitations of a mailed piece prevent me from giving as much detail as I'd like on some of the important work we completed. Over the next few weeks, I'll continue to "unpack the session." The last update focused on education, this one focuses on jobs and the Women's Economic Security Act.

Jobs and economic development

After passing a structurally balanced budget in 2013, we returned to the Capitol with a \$1.2 billion budget surplus in 2014. Our economy had improved and, on paper, Minnesota had recovered all the jobs we lost during the recession. But the economic recovery wasn't being felt by everyone. There were still people looking for work, families were still getting by with a little less, and there were still communities looking for ways to bring new jobs to their area.

That's why the Legislature made investing in job creation a top priority. We invested \$100 million on job creation efforts in 2013, and made a critical down payment on statewide broadband internet expansion. In 2013 and 2014 we passed Capitol Investment bills to provide funding for local infrastructure projects -- like community college buildings and local roads and bridges -- in communities across the state.

Investing in Job Creation

The 2013 Jobs Bill invested \$54 million in the Minnesota Investment Fund and the Job Creation Fund to provide financial incentives which are used to recruit out-of-state companies to open businesses in Minnesota and to help existing Minnesota businesses to hire new employees.

Cutting Business Taxes

Last year, the Legislature enacted the largest business tax cut in state history, reducing taxes by \$350 million for

Minnesota businesses by lowering Unemployment Insurance payments.

Investing in Job Training

We invested in customized job training and workforce development programs like FastTRAC and Twin Cities Rise. These programs are set up to give workers the training they need to get back to work. Through partnerships with local Minnesota State College and University campuses and organizations, these training programs are customized to meet the needs of the businesses in their areas.

Investing in our Infrastructure

It is estimated that the Capitol Investment bills will create more than 30,000 jobs statewide — putting people to work building and repairing roads, bridges, and schools in communities across Minnesota.

Equal Pay for Equal Work

The Legislature took another step toward gender equality in the workplace when it passed the Women's Economic Security Act, or "WESA." WESA included provisions on pay equity, accommodations for working pregnant women, the right to take longer unpaid leave when children join our families, and the right to use our earned sick time to care for family members, in addition to ourselves.

I'm pleased that the Legislature was able to make investments in proven job creation programs and that we took another step forward on gender equity in the workplace.

If you have any questions about the 2013-2014 legislative session, please do not hesitate to contact me. In the next few weeks I will continue to "unpack the session" in additional updates.



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**COMPUTER CLASSES FOR JOB SEEKERS AT ANOKA COUNTY'S RUM RIVER LIBRARY**

Free, 2-hour classes. Register by calling 763-576-4695 or see the [anokacountylibrary.org](http://anokacountylibrary.org) website.

CLASS	DATE	TIME
Word, Part 1	Mon., July 14	5:45 PM
Word, Part 2	Wed., July 16	5:45 PM
Make the Most of Google Docs	Sat., July 19	10:30 AM
Excel, Part 1	Mon., July 21	5:45 PM
Excel, Part 2	Wed., July 23	5:45 PM
Google Tools	Sat., July 26	10:30 AM
PowerPoint	Tues., July 29	5:45 PM



# Anoka County Watchdog

Always on the lookout for governmental waste, fraud, and abuse in Anoka County

## GOVERNMENT SPENDS TO LOBBY GOVERNMENT

Would you believe that government spends money to hire lobbyists to lobby government?

Of course you would. After years of Mark Dayton and Barack Obama, nothing surprises taxpayers anymore.

Especially when there is an army of government lawyers out there who do nothing but sue other levels of government, who are in turn represented by their own army of government lawyers.

As loyal readers know, the Minnesota State Auditor releases a report each year that documents what government spends on lobbying activities to lobby other units of government.

Readers should know, however, that this report only captures a small segment of this government-to-government lobbying.

The Auditor's report is limited to what local units of government spend to lobby the state of Minnesota.

It does not capture what these local units of government spend to lobby the federal government or what the state spends to lobby the federal government.

In any case, the report does a good job informing taxpayers of exactly what their local units of government are spending to lobby the state for goodies.

In 2013, local units of government spent just over \$8 million in taxpayer dollars to either directly employ lobbyists (staff and/or private lobbyists) or pay dues to organizations (e.g. the League of Minnesota Cities) that lobby the state.

Of the \$8 million, about half was spent hiring lobbyists and the other half was spent on dues paid to organizations that lobby the state.

Compared to 2012, \$260,000 more was spent in 2013 on these lobbying activities.

So who are the big spenders? Here is the top 10 list of spenders on lobbyists:

**City of Minneapolis:** \$306,953

**Hennepin County:** \$244,543

**Western MN Municipal Power Agency:** \$206,390 (whoever they are)

**City of Saint Paul:** \$157,936

**Ramsey County:** \$151,143

**Metropolitan Airports Commission:** \$148,853

**Minneapolis Parks and Rec Board:** \$138,000

**Saint Louis County:** \$112,195

**Anoka County:** \$111,544

**MN Sports Facilities Commission:** \$108,276

Of course, the question is begged as to why cities and counties can't simply use existing staff and elected officials to lobby.

For the Watchdog, headquartered in Anoka County, it is especially disappointing to see our home county continue to remain in the top 10, even after many Watchdogs have worked so hard to install a taxpayer-friendly board.

The board could start by eliminating its hired gun lobbyists and rely instead on the in-house lobbying staff already on the payroll.

Anoka County is one of only 10 local units of

government in the entire state that employs both in-house lobbyists and contract lobbyists.

Let us hope that the 2014 report finds the home of the Watchdog missing from this ignoble list.

## BIG GOVERNMENT IS BIG GOVERNMENT

The latest Liberal Media attack on the Tea Party concerns a narrative that Tea Party members of Congress are "anti-business" and thus so extreme that even traditional GOP allies are being alienated by their radical agenda.

The latest chapter of this narrative concerns the Export-Import Bank (EX-IM), an entity that essentially provides taxpayer subsidies and guarantees for private, for-profit corporations that are rent seeking for their export activities.

House Republicans are poised to let the bank's charter expire later this year, which has caused

the Liberal Media and rent seeking corporations to lose their minds over the prospect of government actually shrinking, even if by just a microscopic amount.

The simple yet powerful reality is that the concept of being "pro-business" is becoming seriously disconnected from the concept of being "pro-Capitalism."

In other words, many corporate interests are less and less for free enterprise and more and more in favor of Big Government.

The media and many politicians are confusing the two.

It isn't free enterprise when big banks seek more regulations to strangle community banks and credit unions.

It isn't free enterprise when "green" energy companies seek regulations to subsidize themselves and to drive coal out of business.

An unholy alliance of Big Business and Big Government exists for their mutual benefit.

Big corporations seek laws and regulations that fence out or hobble competitors while Big Government enjoys the growth and empowerment that puts the central government in control of market activity.

Of course, all of this is bad for the economy and our prosperity.

An overbearing regulatory state stifles economic growth and protects market sectors from the competition and constant change that defines a dynamic and growing economy.

The status quo reigns supreme, even if the status quo no longer provides the best product at the best price.

Related to that point, when status quo prevails, the innovation and improvements that define a dynamic economy are suppressed.

Often, small businesses that are new market entrants are the ones that drive this process.

It's often the guy who is operating from his kitchen table who brings the next Big Idea to market and brings prosperity to the next level.

When that guy is prevented from entering the market, he is denied his opportunity to make a buck. On the other side, the existing guys are relieved from the obligation to build a better mouse trap because the competition has been conveniently excluded from the market by governmental barriers.

This state of affairs is extremely dangerous.

Innovation has been the cornerstone of American economic growth and is arguably the most important reason why we have the largest and most prosperous economy on the face of the planet.

Killing innovation and competition is a recipe for economic stagnation, right Mr. President?

Thus, the rhetoric of Big Business about the need for politicians to be "pro-business" is really nothing but code speak for special breaks unavailable to their competition, which lacks the resources to hire lobbyists, make political contributions and otherwise influence government.

The Tea Party members in Congress who are saying no to the "pro-business" line are saying YES to free markets, free enterprise, and capitalism.

Big Business interests who are in cahoots with Big Government are asking for trouble.

They are like the lamb that gets invited to dinner with the wolves and asks "what's for dinner?"

## MORE MARK DAYTON BUFFOONERY

Last week, we received an email from the Mark Dayton campaign that began:

*Friends,*

*Did you hear? The Koch brothers and their right-wing agenda of tax breaks for corporations are coming to Minnesota!*

Really?

We didn't know the Koch Brothers built a football stadium for the Wilf's football business.

We didn't know the Koch Brothers provided a bunch of tax breaks to the NFL to bring the Super Bowl here.

We didn't know it was the Koch Brothers who engaged in secret negotiations to provide a raft of tax breaks to Baxter Medical.

We didn't the Koch Brothers were a part of the negotiations to give all those tax breaks to the Mayo Clinic.

What a joke. The Democrats are absolutely shameless in their hypocrisy.

Whether its blasting Stewart Mills for being wealthy or blaming the Koch Brothers for exercising their rights to political speech, the Democrats have zero credibility.

Here's one difference, however. The Koch Brothers and Stewart Mills earned their wealth. The other guy is a trust fund baby who has never created a job in his life. And the same goes for his ex-wife, who is the queen of buying elections here in Minnesota.

Hey, Dayton. Your campaign called. They need money for another email. Time to sell another piece of art.

*The Anoka County Watchdog is a place where concerned taxpayers can find fact-supported information and other resources about governmental waste and abuse in Anoka County. My intent is to provide you, the taxpayer, with the information you need to hold your local politicians accountable.*

*Visit my website and sign up for our free weekly e-mail update at: [www.AnokaCountyWatchdog.com](http://www.AnokaCountyWatchdog.com) or contact me personally at [harold@anokacountywatchdog.com](mailto:harold@anokacountywatchdog.com).*

*Sincerely,*

*Harold E. Hamilton, owner.*

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

## "BRANDING": SELLING A CITY AND ITS GOVERNMENT *continued from page 2*

\$37,500 campaign made a difference, but it's difficult to quantify. A highlight was the Hockey Day Minnesota 2014 celebration, which incorporated the brand into a regionally televised event.

"One of the goals was to push this out in the community and for them to embrace it, too, the brand, for it's not just to be a city brand but a community brand," said Gardner. "So we have several businesses that have picked it up and used it in their marketing materials and then combining it with some of our featured events downtown."

Yet campaigns can backfire, even one evoking a locally produced iconic brand like Spam. The city of Austin's new "Talent Packed" tagline and logo reminiscent of a can of Spam provoked a local backlash and scathing editorial this spring in the *Austin Daily Herald*.

"The logo project cost about \$60,000, but it's unclear how much of that money went to Haberman and firms outside Austin. We agree with the logo in believing Austin is 'talent packed.' That's why the money should have stayed in Austin," stated the editorial.

Rebranding also hit the wall in Mounds View. After receiving more than 100 suggested taglines, Mounds View officials in 2009 settled on "See for Yourself." The suggested slogan, however, rubbed many residents the wrong way, according to news reports. The City Council postponed adoption of the new tagline, so the old slogan — "Pride, Progress, Partnerships" — remains today.

Contact Tom Steward at [tsteward@watchdog.org](mailto:tsteward@watchdog.org)

*Editor's Note: the Anoka County Record featured its own report on the Columbia Heights EDA's "branding" campaign in its June 5, 2014 edition.*

**BORROWING FOR LIBRARY PROJECT APPROVED BY COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL** *continued from page 1*

At this meeting he reiterated that the council should be cautious. He turned toward the audience, “when you have a large group at a council meeting, be careful that you don’t play to the audience.”

Watson recounted that in 1964 while he was city manager, he proposed building storm sewers in the city. “The crowd was so big we had to have the meeting in the fieldhouse.”



Architect's vision for the library if it were built on the “Burger King site” on Central Avenue.

“The people at that meeting suggested hanging me by my thumbs for even suggesting such a thing,” said Watson, and the following year, after there had been spring flooding and “the city was underwater,” those same people complained that the storm sewers hadn’t been built.

Watson’s presentations are often tinged with local history, as are some of Nawrocki’s stories. Watson identified himself as one who came through the Depression (as did Nawrocki) and “we didn’t know any better than to not spend money unless you had it.” He said the library was built in 1960 at a cost of \$145,000 and the city had saved the money for it. A house was purchased for \$9,000 and was demolished for the library site. Often Watson’s and Nawrocki’s comments at meetings reveal their roots, which explains how they came to respect the public dollar. This seems lost on younger generations and those who are on the attack (see *Anoka County Record*, Oct. 24, 2013).

City councilor Donna Schmitt’s contribution to the discussion was to verify with finance director Kloiber that the cost of the debt service to the city would be in the area of \$412,000 annually, and that amount would be included in the city’s budget. He answered in the affirmative.

A little puzzling was the point councilor Tami Diehm tried to make by citing a newspaper article that reported Hennepin County’s plans to build a \$23 million, 38,000-square foot library in Brooklyn Park on six acres. She said that her city is not planning anything that extravagant. Apparently the point was Columbia Heights is being prudent with a \$13 million and 22,000-square foot project.

Only the bonding figure keeps being repeated in public, but all one has to do is add it up and the project’s cost approaches \$13 million.

The bonding is approved for up to \$7 million; officials have said they believe the amount that will actually be borrowed will be around \$6.5 million. The interest on the 20-year note will be \$2.5 million. City staff has said they have found \$2.3 million in various piggy banks that can be raided to pay for equipping the new library and other costs. There is also the unknown — the favored location of the new library is on city-owned land that has a history of pollution and contaminated soil. The \$800,000 cost to acquire the land ten years ago is another item that should be included in the library’s total costs. The current library’s annual budget is around \$800,000. Undoubtedly this will be increased when a new building is opened.

**Economic Development Authority votes to leave townhome development agreement as is**

The city’s EDA, comprised of the five city council members plus two citizens, Marlaine Szurek and Gerald Herringer, took up a proposal that it first grappled with in February.

Habitat for Humanity had requested amending the development contract the EDA made for senior housing in the Park View townhome development near Huset Park. A vacant piece of land within the development has been eyed by the Habitat organization as a spot for 16 additional units. A bank owns the property and wants to sell, but Habitat would need the EDA to amend its development contract, which originally called for 80 units of senior rental housing. The senior housing component never saw fruition. Bank representatives at the June 23 meeting said they have not been able to find developers willing to build senior housing in Columbia Heights, mainly because the income levels of the city’s seniors preclude their ability to pay the kind of rental rates a developer would want.

Habitat’s units would be owner-occupied however Habitat representative Chad Dipman has said at meetings that the organization’s rules allow owners to rent to family members.

The issue was discussed at greater length at the June 2 EDA meeting, however the vote was taken June 23. Four members voted to keep the development contract intact and not make changes. The majority still has hopes that either market-rate or senior housing will some time occupy the 1 1/3 acre parcel at Jefferson St. and Huset Parkway.

The three who voted to make changes that would have allowed the Habitat

proposal to move forward were city councilors Schmitt, Diehm and Mayor Peterson.

Over the course of the two meetings, it was said that Habitat has built 27 homes in the city; Szurek made comment that the city has more than its fair share of affordable housing and that market-rate and senior co-op housing needs to be a higher priority in the city; and councilor Bruce Nawrocki took that a step further by being blunt, “I was a supporter of the Habitat program early on — they said that residents of the city would move into that housing, but they came from outside the city.” He said, “I no longer support the program.”

Counterpoints were made that people do not always get to choose who their neighbors will be.

Habitat held a meeting with the owners of the townhomes in May but was not met with open arms. Nawrocki asked Habitat’s Chad Dipman about the reaction. Dipman said, “Only opposition shows up at meetings.”

The development has 227 market-rate units, a few of which are in foreclosure. When the project was to be built, the EDA specified that only 5% of the units could be rented out by the owners.

A number of homeowners spoke at the June 2 EDA meeting. They were concerned about the ability to sell their homes. Many said they felt that to allow subsidized housing in the development (even if it were paying market-rate taxes) would hinder sales of their own homes. They contended that certain buyers would be turned off when they learned that subsidized Habitat homes were next door. Mayor Peterson’s responses to the concerns were along the lines of wanting to admonish anyone who had such negative and discriminatory thoughts. The owners tried to impress upon the EDA that their concerns were simply a reality of life, that they did not harbor elitist thoughts.

After the June 23 vote against changing the development contract to allow for other types of housing, Peterson stated to his fellow EDA members, “I can’t help but feel this is a vote against Habitat for Humanity.”

Over the course of the last two EDA meetings, townhome owner representatives said their association may explore purchasing the property.

**Northeaster newspaper enters the library debate; publisher against referendum**

The *Northeaster*, a small Minneapolis newspaper that reaches into Columbia Heights has stepped into the library debate.

In the June 18th edition, publisher Margo Ashmore’s editorial said, in part, “It’s perhaps unheard-of for a newspaper to take a stand against something that would measure the will of the people. That’s the problem, is it really the will of the people? These days, there are companies that can be hired to defeat referendums.”

Ashmore also said that well-intentioned volunteers “...are no match for professionals whose scare tactics work against truth. It’s not assumed that the detractors of funding a new library would stoop this low, but it’s a possibility. The issue has been in the air for decades already.”

We agree with Ms. Ashmore. It’s unheard-of that a newspaper would be in favor of keeping a person from voting. The city charter allows citizens, by petition, to put a city council decision to a vote of the people in what is called a “reverse referendum” — in other words, undoing a council decision. Perhaps this provision should be stricken from the city charter? It’s more than ironic to note that Catherine Vesley, after giving strong anti-referendum speeches at public meetings, got herself appointed to the Columbia Heights Charter Commission.

A charter is supposed to protect and empower citizens, not take anything away from them.

Ms. Ashmore’s logic seems flawed to us because both sides of any ballot question, both sides of a race for elected office, have equal opportunity to spend money promoting their viewpoints.

The “companies” she complains about that are hired to promote ballot questions are often hired by the government side. Look at dozens of examples of school districts that have done this to get levies passed. Some are in court right now after having been accused of illegally using taxpayer funds for such self-serving campaigning. In these situations, it’s the citizens groups that are outgunned, outspent. All we can gather from Ashmore’s opinion is that perhaps we should quit having elections altogether because someone may get the upper hand in a campaign by spending more.

Ashmore’s editorial also didn’t mention that Columbia Heights had a special election in 1998. The city council approved a zoning change to allow the construction of the new Bobby & Steve’s Auto World. A petition was circulated to reverse the council decision. A Star Tribune article at the time reported that owner Bobby Williams spent \$60,000 to promote a favorable vote. Did he “stoop too low”? No, he had the resources to fund a victorious campaign. The petitioners had none. We don’t recall the *Northeaster* complaining that Williams spent money.

Is it a better policy not to allow people to vote, not to allow people to petition, not to allow questions to be put on the election ballot? We do not think so.

# ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF CRIME REPORT

## ANDOVER

### Burglaries

June 17 — 157xx Dakota St NW – unsecure detached garage; XM radio plate

### Thefts & Damage to Property

June 14 — 150xx Raven St NW – American flag stolen  
June 15 — 3210 Bunker Lake Blvd NW – broken vehicle window; purse  
June 16 — 1851 Bunker Lake Blvd NW – unsecure vehicle; cigarettes  
June 17 — 7xx 140 Ln NW – 3 bicycles stolen from yard  
June 17 — 21xx 137 Ln NW – unsecure vehicle; phone charger  
June 17 — 160xx Valley Dr NW – vehicle stolen from the location  
June 17 — 158xx Dakota St NW – unsecure vehicle; phone charger  
June 17 — 158xx Dakota St NW – unsecure vehicle; gone through  
June 19 — 25xx 138 Ave NW – license plate stolen off vehicle  
June 19 — 29xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – unsecure vehicle; purse  
June 21 — 11xx 138 Ave NW – unsecure vehicle; galaxy tablet, cell phone charger  
June 23 — 21xx 149 Ave NW – unsecure vehicle; wallet, purse  
June 23 — 15200 Tower Dr NW – portable toilet set on fire  
June 24 — 22xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – broken vehicle window; cd's  
June 24 — 141xx Drake St NW – unsecure vehicle; GPS, phone charger  
June 25 — 18xx Bunker Lake Blvd NW – unsecure vehicle; cell phone  
June 25 — 138xx Nightingale St NW – mail stolen from the mailbox

### Arrests

June 14 — 157 Ave NW/7 Ave NW – 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance; a deputy stopped a driver for having a rear brake light out. During the search of the vehicle narcotics were located. The male was arrested.  
June 14 — 133xx Martin St NW – House Fire; deputies responded to a house fire at the location. Andover Fire Department extinguished the fire. No one was injured.  
June 15 — 157 Ave NW/Round Lake Blvd NW – 4th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance; a deputy stopped a driver for an inoperable license plate light. During the search of the vehicle a large amount of narcotics were located. The male was arrested.  
June 17 — 140xx Crosstown Blvd NW – Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a boyfriend/girlfriend domestic. The male was arrested.  
June 17 — 157xx Dakota St NW – 3rd Degree Attempted Burglary, Possession of Stolen Property; deputies responded to a home owner out with a female who was found going through his garage. It was determined that the female was attempting to burglarize his garage and was also involved in stealing from numerous vehicles in the area. The female was arrested.  
June 21 — 38xx 172 Ave NW – House Fire; deputies responded to house fire at the location. Andover Fire Department with assistance from other agencies extinguished the fire. No one was injured.  
June 24 — Crosstown Blvd NW/141 Ln NW – 4th Degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for failing to signal a turn. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. (.108)  
June 24 — 7 Ave NW/165 Ave NW – DWI, Criminal Vehicular Operations; deputies responded to a single vehicle personal injury crash at the location. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted. The male was arrested. (.236)  
June 26 — 13300 Block of Swallow St NW – 3rd Degree DWI; deputies responded to a vehicle in the road blocking traffic. Upon arriving the deputies had to awake the driver who appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The female was arrested. (.34)

## COLUMBUS

### Thefts & Damage to Property

June 13 — 140xx West Freeway Dr NE – construction site; galvanized steel, tools  
June 23 — 14200 block of West Freeway Dr NE — construction box broken into; tools  
June 25 — 145xx Lake Dr NE – copper wire stolen from a construction site

### Arrests

June 15 — I35 NE/Lake Dr NE – 3rd Degree DWI; deputies responded to a property damage crash at the location. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. (.168)  
June 23 — 92xx Lake Dr NE – 5th Degree Possession

of a Controlled Substance, Warrant Arrest; a deputy stopped a driver for equipment violations. During the search of the vehicle narcotics were located. The male also had a confirmed felony warrant out of Anoka County. The male was arrested.

## EAST BETHEL

### Thefts & Damage to Property

June 13 — 210xx Durant St NE – new home construction; copper wire  
**Arrests**  
June 15 — 2xx Ivy St NE – 5th Degree Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a male/female domestic. The male was arrested.  
June 19 — 39xx 191 Ave NE – 5th Degree Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a mother/daughter domestic. Both females were arrested.  
June 20 — 28xx 185 Ln NE – 5th Degree Domestic Assault; deputies responded to an assault between patient and personal care attendant. The male patient was arrested.  
June 21 — Viking Blvd NE/Rochester St NE – a deputy stopped a driver for poor driving conduct. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. (.20)  
June 21 — 2700 Block of Klondike Dr NE – DWI, Criminal Vehicular Operations; deputies responded to a single vehicle personal injury accident; driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The female was arrested. (.11)  
June 22 — Viking Blvd NE/Vickers St NE – 4th Degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for poor driving conduct. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. (.11)  
June 22 — Klondike Dr NE/Polk St NE – 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance; a deputy stopped a driver for expired tabs, break light out and poor driving conduct. The deputy learned that the male passenger had a confirmed warrant. Narcotics were located during the search of the male and in the vehicle. The male was arrested.  
June 26 — 16xx 214 Ave NW – 5th Degree Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a husband/wife domestic. The male was arrested.

## HAM LAKE

### Thefts & Damage to Property

June 16 — 172 Hwy 65 NE – business; vehicle stolen from the lot at the location  
June 17 — 40xx Heather Dr NE – license plate stolen off a vehicle  
June 19 — 18xx 169 Ave NW – vandalism to a house; motor oil tossed all over it  
June 19 — 20xx South Ham Lake Dr NE – Canoe and gas can stolen from the location  
June 22 — 178xx Oakland Dr NE – unsecure vehicle; backpack  
June 25 — 168xx Hasting St NE – damage to mailbox  
June 25 — 171xx Nassau St NE – damage to mailbox  
June 25 — 19xx 171 Ave NE – damage to mailbox  
June 25 — 18xx 171 Ave NW – stolen mailbox  
June 25 — 170xx Eveleth St NW – stolen mailbox  
June 25 — 170xx Eveleth St NW – solar lawn lights stolen from the location  
June 25 — 14xx Constance Blvd NE – business; counterfeit \$100 dollar bill used

### Arrests/Incidents

June 14 — 20xx S Ham Lake Dr NE – DWI; deputies responded to a property damage crash at the location. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested.  
June 14 — 15400 Hwy 65 NE – Felony Strangulation, 5th Degr. Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a boyfriend/girlfriend domestic. The male left the scene prior to deputy's arrival. A pick up and hold was put out for the male.  
June 15 — 2xx 169 Ave NE - 5th Degree Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a husband/wife domestic. The male and female were both arrested.  
June 17 — Crosstown Blvd NE/Baltimore St NE – DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for a signal violation. The male appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The male was arrested. (.324)  
June 21 — 1xx 172 Ave NE — House Fire; deputies responded to a garage on fire at the location. Ham Lake Fire Department with assistance from other agencies extinguished the fire. No one was injured.  
June 22 — Johnson St NE/Bunker Lake Blvd NE – Cancelled-IPS; a deputy stopped a driver for expired tabs and poor driving conduct. The driver did not have a valid driver's license. The female was arrested.  
June 23 — 155xx Austin St NE – 1st Degree Burglary; deputies responded to a report of a stolen ATV from an attached garage. The deputies followed the ATV tracks and located the suspects. Two males were arrested.  
June 24 — 12xx Lombardy Dr NE — Domestic Assault;

deputies responded to a brother/sister domestic. The female was arrested.

June 26 — Bunker Lake Blvd NE/Jefferson St NE – 4th Degree DWI; a deputy stopped a driver for not wearing a seat belt. The driver appeared intoxicated. Field sobriety tests were conducted and failed. The female was arrested.

## LINWOOD TOWNSHIP

### Thefts & Damage to Property

June 17 — 224xx East Martin Lake Dr NE – broken vehicle window; nothing of value was stolen  
June 20 — 69xx 231 Ln NE – vehicle drove through the lawn causing damage

### Arrests/Incidents

June 25 — 217xx Viking Blvd NW – Domestic Assault; deputies responded to a boyfriend/girlfriend domestic. Both the male and female were arrested.

## NOWTHEN

### Arrests/Incidents

June 25 — 207xx St Francis Blvd NW – House Fire; Extinguished by the Ramsey Fire Department. No one was injured.

## OAK GROVE

### Thefts & Damage to Property

June 20 — 218xx Cottonwood St NW – driveway reflectors broken  
June 26 — 39xx 224 Ave NW – broken rear vehicle window; nothing of value was stolen

### Arrests/Incidents

June 22 — 13xx 193 Ln NW – 3rd Degree Burglary, 3rd Degree Theft; deputies responded to an interrupted burglary; the vehicle was located. Two males were arrested.  
June 26 — 223xx Tulip St NW – Burglary; deputies responded to a burglary at the location. The suspects left distinct tire tracks and impressions in the dirt driveway. The deputies followed the track and located the suspects. Two males were arrested.

## SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORTS SCAM ATTEMPTS

Scam victims in Ham Lake and Andover reported these incidents to the Anoka County Sheriff's office: Two victims received an e-mail from a man in North Carolina soliciting information about Paul White, a Ham Lake resident and recent Powerball sweepstakes winner. After an exchange of e-mails, the scammer talked the victims into sending him copies of their driver's licenses, which could lead to identity theft. No money was involved.

The routine of another busy telephone scammer, identifying himself as an IRS employee, is to make threats of arrest and placing liens against property if his demands for money are not met.

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**PUBLICATION SCHEDULE**

JULY 2014					AUGUST 2014					
	1	2	3	4	5				1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	14	15	16	17
27	28	29	30	31			18	19	20	21
							22	23	24	25
							26	27	28	29
							30	31		

**CITY OF HAM LAKE  
NOTICE OF CANDIDATE FILINGS FOR OFFICE**

The candidate filing period will be open between Tuesday, July 29, 2014, and Tuesday, August 12, 2014, during office hours. All candidate filings must be received by Tuesday, August 12, 2014, 4:30 PM.

Candidate filings for the following offices are to be filed at Administration, City of Ham Lake, 15544 Central Ave NE, Ham Lake, MN, 55304-5609.

- Mayor
- City Council Member at Large, 2 seats

Denise Webster, City Clerk

(Published July 3, 2014 Anoka County Record)

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS  
OAK GROVE 217TH AVENUE  
CITY OF OAK GROVE  
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

The City of Oak Grove will receive sealed bids at the City Hall, located at 19900 Nightingale Street NW, Oak Grove, Minnesota 55011-9204 for the construction of Oak Grove 217th Avenue until 2:00 p.m., July 14, 2014. All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time.

The work for which bids are asked includes the following: The work generally consists of rural and urban street reconstruction with bituminous paving, concrete flat-work, culverts, and associated work. The work includes the following approximate quantities for construction:

Common Excavation	3,500 CY
Remove Bituminous Pavement	1,600 SY
Aggregate Base Class 5	4,500 TON
Bituminous Pavement (All Mixes)	2,300 TON
Concrete Paving	60 SY
Concrete Curb and Gutter	1,600 LF
CS and RC Pipe Culverts	300 LF
Seeding	1.5 AC
4" Solid Line Epoxy Paint	8,000 LF

The BIDDING DOCUMENTS may be examined at the offices of MSA Professional Services, Inc., St. Paul and the City of Oak Grove. Planholders list will be updated interactively on our web address at <http://www.msa-ps.com> under Bidding.

Copies of the BIDDING DOCUMENTS are available at [www.questcdn.com](http://www.questcdn.com). You may download the digital plan documents for \$25 by inputting Quest eBidDoc #3382999 on the website's Project Search page. Please contact QuestCDN.com at 952-233-1632 or [info@questcdn.com](mailto:info@questcdn.com) for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with the digital project information.

No proposal will be accepted unless accompanied by a certified check or bid bond equal to at least 5% of the amount bid, payable to the OWNER as a guarantee that, if the bid is accepted, the bidder will execute and file the proper contract and bond within 15 days after the award of the contract. The certified check or bid bond will be returned to the bidder as soon as the contract is signed, and if after 15 days the bidder shall fail to do so, the certified check or bid bond shall be forfeited to the OWNER as liquidated damages.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

The minimum wages to be paid on the project shall be in accordance with the wage rate scale established by State wage rates.

OWNER reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.

Published by the authority of the City of Oak Grove.

CONSULTING ENGINEER:  
MSA Professional Services, Inc.  
60 Plato Blvd East, Suite 140  
St. Paul, MN 55107-1835  
Chuck Schwartz, P.E.  
(612) 548-3141

(Published June 19, 2014 and July 3, 2014 Anoka County Record)

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
CITY OF HAM LAKE  
COUNTY OF ANOKA  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

TAKE NOTICE, that pursuant to the requirements of Minnesota Law, a public hearing shall be held before the Ham Lake Planning Commission on Monday, July 14, 2014 at 6:01 p.m. at the City Hall located at 15544 Central Avenue NE for the purpose of considering the application of Eldon Hentges to rezone a parcel of land from R-A (Rural Residential) to R-1 (Single Family Residential) such land situated in the City of Ham Lake, Anoka County, Minnesota and which is described as follows to wit:

The South 246.00 feet of the North 446.00 feet of the West 350.00 feet of the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 32 North, Range 23 West, Anoka County, Minnesota

At such hearing both written and oral comments will be heard.

DATED: July 3, 2014

Dawnette M. Shimek  
Building and Zoning Clerk  
City of Ham Lake

(Published July 3, 2014 Anoka County Record)

**Town Hall Meeting with Your Legislators  
Rep. Jerry Newton, Rep. Mark Uglem and  
Coon Rapids elected officials  
TUESDAY JULY 8th, 7 PM at  
Coon Rapids City Hall, 11155 Robinson Dr.**

**OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE  
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME  
MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333**

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

**Bliss Botanicals**

2. Principal Place of Business:  
**8231 158th Avenue NW, Ramsey MN 55303**

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:  
**Stephanie Madsen, 8231 158th Avenue NW, Ramsey MN 55303**

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: June 20, 2014, # 766574700029

/s/Stephanie Madsen

(Published July 3, 2014 & July 17, 2014 Anoka County Record)

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1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

**Northwest lawn and snow**

2. Principal Place of Business:  
**5293 143rd Avenue NW, Ramsey MN 55303**

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:  
**Jeffrey Michael Spiess, 5293 143rd Avenue NW, Ramsey MN 55303**

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: June 26, 2014, # 767373800028

/s/Jeffrey Michael Spiess

(Published July 3, 2014 & July 17, 2014 Anoka County Record)

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MINNESOTA STATUTES, CHAPTER 333**

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1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

**Retreat**

2. Principal Place of Business:  
**1301 Oakwood Dr., Anoka MN 55303**

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:  
**Youngblood Construction, LLC, 1301 Oakwood Dr., Anoka MN 55303**

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: June 4, 2014, # 764195500024

/s/Jennifer Pekula

(Published July 3, 2014 & July 17, 2014 Anoka County Record)

**GOVERNMENT MEETINGS CALENDAR**

**HAM LAKE**

Ham Lake City Hall  
15544 Central Ave NE  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
Ph: 763-434-9555  
[www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us](http://www.ci.ham-lake.mn.us)  
Hours: M-Th 7 AM - 4:30 PM  
Fri: 7 AM-12 NOON

**Mon. July 7 & 21**  
City Council, 6 pm

**Mon. July 14 & 28**  
Planning Comm., 6 pm  
**Wed. July 16**  
Park & Tree Comm., 6 pm

**OAK GROVE**

Oak Grove City Hall  
19900 Nightingale St. NW  
Oak Grove, MN 55011  
Ph: 763-404-7000  
[www.ci.oak-grove.mn.us](http://www.ci.oak-grove.mn.us)

**2nd and last Mondays**  
City Council, 7 pm  
**3rd Wednesday**  
Parks Comm., 6:30 pm  
**3rd Thursday**  
Planning Comm., 7 pm

**North Metro TV  
Cable Commission**

Ham Lake, Blaine, Spring Lake Park, Lino Lakes, Lexington, Centerville, Circle Pines  
**Wed. July 16**  
Cable Commission., 6 pm,  
Spring Lake Park City Hall,  
1301 81st Ave NE

**ANOKA CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT**

1318 McKay Dr NE #300  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
Ph.: (763) 434-2030  
**Mon. July 21**  
Board of Supervisors, 5 pm

**QCTV Cable Commission**

Ramsey, Andover, Champlin, Anoka  
**Thurs. July 17**  
Cable Commission, 11 am,  
Anoka City Hall

**LOCAL DELIVERY & RELAY DRIVERS**

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\$750 GUARANTEE WEEKLY  
\$250 QTRLY SAFETY/ATTENDANCE BONUS**

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- \*To be willing & able to unload freight

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Please email resume to  
[b.kriel@callcpc.com](mailto:b.kriel@callcpc.com) or call 800-914-3755



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1. List the exact assumed name under which the business is or will be conducted:

**Exquisite Cleaning**

2. Principal Place of Business:  
**1004 45th Ave. NE, Columbia Heights MN 55421**

3. List the name and complete street address of all persons conducting business under the above Assumed Name, OR if an entity, provide the legal corporate, LLC, or Limited Partnership name and registered office address:  
**Brenji Enterprises LLC, 1004 45th Ave. NE, Columbia Heights MN 55421**

4. I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

FILED: June 10, 2014, # 702595600021

/s/ Brenda Noemi Flores Aguilar

(Published June 19, 2014 & July 3, 2014 Anoka County Record)

**ARMY VETERAN GIVEN HOME IN BLAINE**

*continued from page 1*

together with organizations like the Military Warriors Support Foundation to provide the support our troops need and deserve when they return home."

"The men and women of the U.S. military make tremendous sacrifices for our country. This gift is a way for us to not only give back to our veterans, but also help them achieve financial stability and success as they transition back into civilian life," said Paul Weirtz, president of AT&T Minnesota and a United States Marine Corps veteran. "As a veteran, it is an honor to celebrate this gift alongside Homes4WoundedHeroes, a program that works tirelessly to support those who have suffered severe injuries in service to our country."

Veterans wounded in action during any American conflict qualify for MWSF's Homes4WoundedHeroes program, founded in 2007. The program awards mortgage-free homes to wounded heroes injured during combat in service to our country. Various MWSF partners around the county provide the funding for the homes.

For more information on MWSF and all of their programs, please visit: <http://www.MilitaryWarriors.org>



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**HELP WANTED**

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COLUMBIA HEIGHTS JAMBOREE PARADE  
JUNE 27, 2014

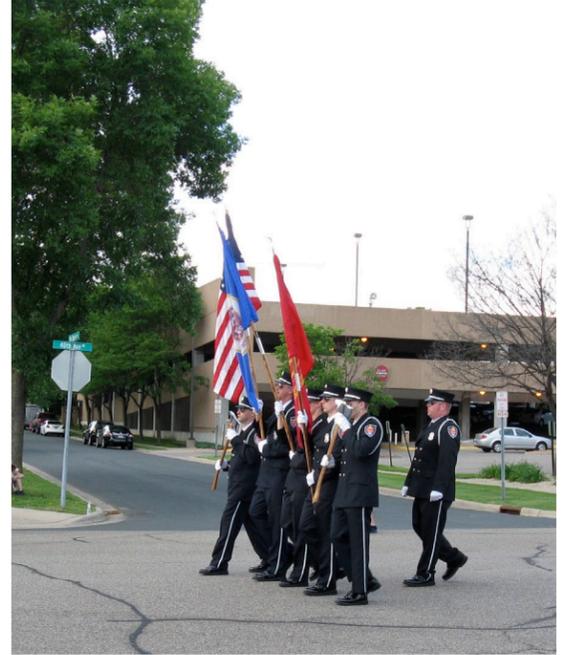


**Top Left:** Parade crew of Marty Seifert, candidate for Governor  
**Below:** Captain Jack Sparrow, candidate for U.S. Senate  
**Below:** John Murzyn, candidate for Col Hts City Council  
**Below:** Tami Diehm, city councilor, passes out candy  
**Top Right:** Campaign float for Tim Utz, candidate for State Rep.  
**Below:** Catherine Vesley, candidate for Col Hts City Council  
**Below:** Bruce Nawrocki, city councilor  
**Below:** Donna Schmitt, city councilor

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS JAMBOREE PARADE  
JUNE 27, 2014



(Left): Rep. Carolyn Laine



Nice to see the Columbia Heights elitists didn't keep the discount stores out of the parade



Doug Daggett, candidate for U.S. Congress, 5th District

