

The Finlander Forum

Newsletter of Crystal Bay Township and the community
of Finland Minnesota 9th edition July 2016

Blue Cross Blue Shield Center for Prevention Funds Temporary Tennis Court Fixes, Multiple Uses and Community Evaluation

The Tennis Court at the Clair Nelson Center was installed in 1975-76, and has fallen into disrepair more recently due to lack of funds to maintain it adequately over the years. There are times when we wonder if the space would be better as something else, and yet, we often get feedback from folks who like to use it to play tennis, despite the cracks (and trees!).

With that in mind, we applied to and received funding from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Center for Prevention to do an Active Places Demonstration Project. The Project will allow temporary repairs to the tennis court as well as staff time to devote to a community-wide reimagining and evaluation of the space, especially as a space that would allow multiple activities.

What this means is, if you are interested in using the tennis court for any reason, please contact us! Some of the proposed uses are pickleball, basketball, skateboarding, and of course, tennis. We would like to talk to anyone interested in these activities, and any that we haven't thought of yet. We will also have some equipment available to try out, so if you have ever wanted to try playing tennis, pickleball or skateboarding but didn't have a place to do it or the funds to invest in equipment, now is your chance!



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tion of other clubs or groups if people are interested! There will be a small shed onsite that will house the equipment, and all equipment must be put away when folks are done with it, so that when the next group comes to use the space, it will be ready.

All of this will allow us to gauge whether it is a good idea to do more than a temporary fix and what redoing the court for multiple uses would look like. This project will help temporarily repair our aging infrastructure and, at the same time, illustrate how small changes to our surroundings make it easier for people to be physically active. And, by giving people opportunities to experience their neighborhood in a new way, this project also aims to build support and momentum for more permanent, long-term changes within our community. **Please contact us at 218-353-0300 or email honor@friendsoffinland.org**

Find out more information at:

<http://friendsoffinland.org/tenniscourtproject2016/>



Marc Smith pressure washing the cracks on the tennis court in preparation for patching

In particular, we will be facilitating the creation of a Youth Skateboard Club to work out the rules and promote the space as one of the few paved spaces in the Finland area for skateboarding. Helmets and wristguards will be required and there will be signage to that effect. But the space will still be available for other activities as well, and we are open to the crea-

This is a publication created in partnership between Crystal Bay Township and Friends of the Finland Community. If you do not wish to receive future copies of this newsletter, please call 218-353-0300 and request that your name and address be taken off of our mailing list. We also send out a monthly email newsletter. If you would like to be added to our email list, please email honor@friendsoffinland.org. Thanks for reading!

Crystal Bay Township Tidbits

Important Election News!

Crystal Bay Township is now a Mail Ballot Precinct! All registered voters will receive a ballot along with instructions in the mail in plenty of time to cast your votes!

If you are not a registered voter, you have three choices.

1. Register online at www.co.lake.mn.us/businesses/voting_and_elections.php
2. Register in person at the Lake County Courthouse, or
3. Register and vote on Election Day right at the courthouse.

Upcoming dates: August 2 - 16 Candidate Filing Period. All Town Board Members will be up for Election:

- Clerk / present - Deb Johansen 4 yr term
- Treasurer / present - Lise Abazs 2 yr term
- Supervisor A / present - Pam Melby 4 yr term
- Supervisor B / present - David Abazs 2 yr term
- Supervisor C / present - Paul Hartshorn 2 yr term

August 9th. -- Primary Election

November 8th -- General Election

Any questions, feel free to call Deb at 353-7730 or attend a Town Board meeting at 7pm on the third Tuesday of the month at the Clair Nelson Center.

CRYSTAL BAY TOWNSHIP & LAKE COUNTY COMMERCIAL BUILDING IMPROVEMENT LOAN PROGRAM

The Commercial Building Improvement Loan (CBIL) Program is a revolving loan fund, managed by Crystal Bay Township, that is primarily intended to help building owners and leaseholders improve the appearance and function of their existing buildings. Secondary purposes of the Program include: the removal of blight, to increase the vitality and competitiveness of small businesses, and to help your business grow.

Eligible Improvements:

- ◆ Building renovations and remodeling
- ◆ Building construction and expansion
- ◆ Energy efficiency improvements
- ◆ Handicap accessibility
- ◆ Signage

3% INTEREST RATE

3-20 YEARS

CONTACT CRYSTAL BAY TOWNSHIP
CLERK DEB JOHANSEN - 218-353-7730

Pudgy's PSAs

Call Pudgy and let him know if a township road needs his help.

220-9242

Watch out for the grader and large equipment since I will be working on several Crystal Bay Township Roads this summer.

Summer Community Calendar - at the Clair Nelson Center

July

5th - LOTS - Learning Opportunities through Stories - 11am
 7th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 12th - LOTS - Learning Opportunities through Stories - 11am
 14th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 16-17th - Fireman's Wooden Bat Tournament - all weekend
 19th - LOTS - Learning Opportunities through Stories - 11am
 19th - Crystal Bay Township Regular Meeting - 7pm
 21st - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 26th - LOTS - Learning Opportunities through Stories - 11am
 28th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 31st - Community Potluck - 5pm social hour, 6pm dinner, games afterwards

August

4th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 11th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 16th - Crystal Bay Township Regular Meeting - 7pm
 18th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 25th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 28th - Community Potluck - 5pm social hour, 6pm dinner, games afterwards

September

1st - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 8th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 9-10th - Superior Trail Race
 15th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 17th - Harvest Booya Fest and Car Show
 20th - Crystal Bay Township Regular Meeting - 7pm
 22nd - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm
 25th - Community Potluck - 5pm social hour, 6pm dinner, games afterwards
 29th - Finland Farmers Market - 5pm - 6:30pm

October

6th - Last Finland Farmers Market of the Season - 5pm - 6:30pm
 15th - Paella Fundraiser Dinner - More info coming soon!
 18th - Crystal Bay Township Regular Meeting - 7pm
 30th - Community Potluck - 5pm social hour, 6pm dinner, games afterwards

November

5th - Booya Bazaar
 15th - Crystal Bay Township Regular Meeting - 7pm
 24th - Community Thanksgiving
 27th - Community Potluck - 5pm social hour, 6pm dinner, games afterwards

Regular Weekly Activities

Mondays: Alcoholics Anonymous - 7:30-8:30 pm & Floor Hockey 6-8pm

Tuesdays: Tuesday Talents Craft Group 8:30am-4pm & Open Basketball 6:30-8:30pm All Ages

Wednesdays: Yoga for Chronic Pain 2-3pm (\$15 per session) & Painting Group - 7-9pm

Thursdays: Youth Open Gym Night 6-9pm

Fridays: Tech Support 1-4pm

Sundays: Zion Lutheran Church 12pm Service

All events and activities are free unless otherwise noted.

A big thanks to the Organic Consumers Association (OCA) and Wolf Ridge ELC for help with printing

this newsletter! OCA has donated printing and other help many, many times in the past few years, and Wolf Ridge has saved us in a number of printing emergencies!



Thanks again from all of us here at Friends of the Finland Community and the Clair Nelson Center!



CLAIR NELSON COMMUNITY CENTER
(FINLAND RECREATION FACILITIES)

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Dragonfly Report from Camp Finland by Kurt Mead

I have had the great pleasure of teaching Camp Finland kids about dragonflies and damselflies for the last three summers. Unfortunately, it's usually been cold and rainy and we don't find many dragonflies to chase. This summer, although windy, it was warm and sunny and the kids got to chase lots of fast-flying insects.

Lake County has a list of known dragonflies and damselflies that runs close to 100 species. Many of these are pretty common and are species that I would expect to find around here, but some of them pretty uncommon, ranging to quite rare.

The kids found a lot of dragonflies, this year, and what blew my mind is that they were mostly finding the species that I have on my uncommon to rare list! The dominant damselfly that the campers were catching was a species that has only been found one other time in Lake County. For a while it seemed that every other kid who had caught something had captured one of the "rare" Aurora Damsels.

Another really exciting dragonfly they found was the Ski-tailed Emerald. The last time that this species had been reported in Lake County was in 1920! It's a species that I have expected to run across in our area, but it has so far eluded me.

Reports of these finds will be included in a national database, a few specimens will be donated to the University of Minnesota Insect Collection in St. Paul, and both will add important information about these species in Minnesota. Although it looked like fun and games, Camp Finland kids did real science!

For the full Dragonfly Report, go to: <http://friendsoffinland.org/dragonfly-report-camp-finland-2016/>



Camp was amazing again this year!
For more on Camp Finland 2016, please check out www.friendsoffinland.org/camp-finland-2016/ for thank yous, photos and more!