

Teacher finalist

Finalist for Teacher of the Year is a Hopkins Alternative Program educator.
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Plenty of goals

Armstrong girls lacrosse wins twice last week to move to 5-2 overall.
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CRYSTAL / ROBBINSDALE / NEW HOPE / GOLDEN VALLEY

Thursday, May 13, 2021



Lucy takes a right

(SUN PHOTOS BY ALAINA ROOKER)

Robbinsdale Community Engagement Officer Nichole Saba explains how bicyclists signal a right turn to 3-year-old Lucy Krueger at the May 6 Bike Rodeo, which took place in the Crystal Community Center Parking lot. Participants received a complimentary helmet fitting, navigated two levels of bicycle courses and entered a drawing to win a new bike. **More photos on page 11.**

Home inventory drought leaves scant options for buyers

Available homes cut in half compared to one year ago

By **KRISTEN MILLER**
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In the market for buying or selling a home? Experts in the field share how the current climate has created a perfect storm resulting in fewer options for buyers and above-market sales for sellers.

According to new market data from the Minneapolis Area Realtors and the Saint Paul Area Association of Realtors, the median price of a home in the 16-county Twin Cities metro area increased 10.3% from last March to a record high of \$327,500.

Prices were driven in part by a lack of supply and the demand is growing faster than the supply.

The number of homes for sale at the end of March was half of what was available a year ago. That's an 18-year low and amounts to 0.9 months of supply. A balanced market typically has four to six months of supply.

Market times shrank 37.7% to 38 days and multiple offers are commonplace, the report stated.

"Demand is still growing faster than supply," according to Tracy Baglio, president of the Saint Paul Area Association of Realtors. "With less than one month of supply, buyers must be patient

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North Memorial Hospital garners support for funding request

Robbinsdale Hospital seeking community grant to renovate rooms

By **ALAINA ROOKER**
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North Memorial Health Hospital in Robbinsdale is seeking \$1 million in community project funding from the federal government. On request from the Level 1 Trauma Center hospital, the Robbinsdale City Council agreed to sign a letter to U.S. Senators Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith urging support of the funding request. Other local leaders have followed suit, asking senators to grant funds to the hospital.

The letter, which was proffered by the hospital, states that the funding would be used to "modify protocols, upgrade equipment, and modify indoor air flows in existing patients rooms, core administrative space and in waiting room to accommodate negative air pressure." The control of air pressure would better isolate patients with COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

The council voted unanimously to sign the letter.

Councilmember Tyler Kline said he was happy to support the funding request because the

hospital "is a big part of our community."

"If we can have any impact on securing funding to help them through this ongoing year of COVID, I'm happy to help," Kline said.

Though the hospital has been busy, seeing a daily average of 182 patients in the emergency department the past three years, not all patients are able to pay for their care. In the letter, the hospital reports that the

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(PHOTO BY ALAINA ROOKER)

North Memorial Health Hospital in Robbinsdale. The Robbinsdale City Council has agreed to sign a letter urging support for federal funding to the hospital.

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