

Winterlude

Crystal Parks and Rec is piloting a family-friendly, seasonal celebration at Valley Place Park. **Page 8**



Clutch in OT

Armstrong girls basketball team comes back in final minute, besting Spring Lake Park in overtime. **Page 21**

CRYSTAL / ROBBINSDALE / NEW HOPE / GOLDEN VALLEY

Thursday, Feb. 3, 2022

Purrfect neighbors coming to New Hope



(SUN PHOTO BY SETH ROWE)

Jessica Burge, a Richfield resident who owns The Cafe Meow, pets the tabby cat Cyrus at the Minneapolis coffeeshop and cat lounge. The business is expanding to New Hope this spring. **Story on page 6.**

Robbinsdale councilmember offers statement after drunk driving arrest

Kline caused crash, fled police

By **ALAINA ROOKER**
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Robbinsdale City Councilmember Kline took to social media Jan. 26 to address his role in a drunk driving incident Jan. 24 in the northwest suburbs just after midnight.

“On January 24 I made several horrible decisions that led to my arrest on DUI and Fleeing charges,” Kline wrote. “I feel immense shame and regret for my actions. I put many

people in danger and I am so incredibly sorry. I am lucky that I didn’t seriously hurt anyone and I am truly lucky to be alive.”

According to a Hennepin County criminal complaint, the 38-year-old allegedly caused a traffic crash, attempted to evade capture by police, and was ultimately arrested by police in Crystal. He was charged with two counts of driving under the influence

See **Arrest**, Page 3

Wintry start for Golden Valley compost program results in delays

In first few weeks, about 30% of residents opt to participate

By **ALAINA ROOKER**
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The new organics recycling program in Golden Valley has been challenged in its first few weeks of collection.

Resident Pam Lott said those that put carts out Thursday night in her Theodore Wirth-area neighborhood, for the

program’s very first citywide pickup Jan. 7, ended up wheeling their food scraps right back up the driveway Friday night.

Week two “was not much better,” Lott said, though her cart was emptied some time after the 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. window.

Many other residents have taken to community pages on social media to share their con-

fusion over repeated missed pickups with the city’s new program.

All cities with 10,000 or more residents in Hennepin County were required to offer an organics recycling program by Jan. 1, 2022. Golden Valley just made the deadline, completing cart delivery to every home in the city that first day of the year.

Residents pay \$68 annually for the service. While there is no ability to “opt out” of the program, residents can request their 35-gallon organics bin be removed from their homes as long as they continue to pay the fee.

Not meeting expectations

Republic Services manages Golden Valley’s traditional and organics recycling programs.

Republic’s municipal services manager, Matt Herman, said the initial issues with organics were related to the difficulty of beginning a new service in a “difficult time of year.”

Herman said although he believed staff was “doing a good job,” he agreed the first few collections hadn’t met personal company expectations.

See **Organics**, Page 3

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Arrest

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and one count of fleeing a police officer in a motor vehicle.

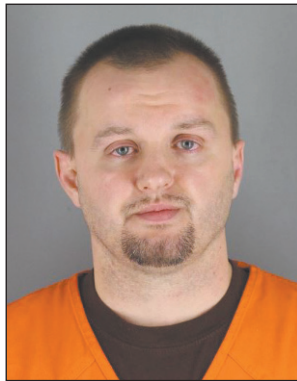
Kline wrote that the event led him to admit “a serious addiction” and that he was in the process of enrolling in a six-week program with the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation.

“I want and need to be better for my family, friends, and community,” Kline concluded. “I want to be open about this situation because I take my responsibility as a parent, friend, and public servant seriously.”

The arrest

Details of Kline’s Monday arrest include several police evasions and wrong-way driving along Highway 100.

According to the complaint, police responded to a report of a vehicle crash caused by a Dodge Grand Caravan traveling the wrong way on northbound Highway 101 near Brooklyn Boulevard in Brooklyn Center. The Caravan reportedly left



Tyler Kline

the crash scene, and was later identified by a Crystal officer after its driver attempted to re-enter the highway using a northbound exit lane to France Avenue North.

The officer attempted to stop the vehicle which was again traveling in the wrong direction by activating squad lights and blocking the vehicle. The complaint alleged that Kline “made eye contact with the officer, drove around the squad car, and fled.”

Police attempted two additional maneuvers to stop the vehicle as it exited the highway via County Road 81, and eventually succeeded when a squad car drove directly into Kline’s vehicle.

Kline refused to exit his vehicle and he was physically removed by officers. Officers on scene observed that Kline “smelled strongly of a consumed alcoholic beverage, had watery, bloodshot eyes, and had poor balance.”

He was arrested, taken to the New Hope Police Department, and found to have a blood alcohol concentration of 0.20.

Absence from council

Kline was absent from the Robbinsdale City Council work session and special meeting Jan. 25.

Kline began his first term representing Ward 1 on the Robbinsdale City Council in 2021. During his campaign, Kline said he worked in constituent service and outreach to Robbinsdale and surrounding areas at the Minnesota Senate, where he has served as a legislative assistant to Sen. Ann Rest (DFL-New Hope) since 2016. According to Rest’s contact page on the Minnesota Senate website, Kline remained her assistant after the election.

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Organics

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Herman said the company aimed to never miss a pick-up.

Eric Eckman, the Golden Valley’s environmental resources supervisor, said some level of difficulties with the new program had been anticipated by the city as well.

“The city knew coming into this, with a new program like this and rolling it out in the winter, that there would be some bumps along the way,” Eckman said.

Eckman reported that participation in the new program was nearing 30% as of the Jan. 21 collection. Of the 7,000 homes given carts at the beginning of the month, 5,500 have kept them, or 78%.

Weather was a dominant factor for the last few weeks. Herman said there were homes unable to be serviced Jan. 14 because crews couldn’t safely enter the area due to snow. On that day, Republic Services received about 70 calls and emails reporting a missed pick-up, which is

about 1% of the total service area. For the Jan. 21 pick-up, the number grew to 2%.

Other reasons for delays include operational challenges. Herman said staffing issues in general were a nationwide issue in nearly every field, and the recycling and waste disposal industry was no exception.

“It’s the condition our business is in right now,” he said.

Coming into the Jan. 28 collection, Herman said his staff had “a great plan in place,” but noted he didn’t know “what the weather was going to do.”

A call for convenience

Lott doesn’t dislike the concept of organics recycling; She estimates she’s been leaving out certified compostable bags filled with food scraps for her garbage hauler, Randy’s Sanitation, since Minneapolis started offering organics recycling free to its residents in 2016.

Her previous hauler let her place organics bags at the top of her existing 30-gallon garbage bin, which was picked up by the same truck. Lott liked

that the program came “full circle” by returning compost-rich mulch to customers on request.

Her concern with the city program is in the details. She finds the additional cart onerous and the additional garbage truck used exclusively for organics pick-ups “inefficient.”

Her husband, Fritz, added that he was duly disappointed. A phone call to Republic to discuss the problem had been returned by a “snarky” customer service representative, he said, and he didn’t see many of his neighbors putting out carts.

“Recycling only works for the majority if it is simple and convenient,” Pam Lott wrote in an email. “Unfortunately, this program is neither.”

Eckman said the city continued to “try to provide our best customer service to our residents” in lieu of problems, but said he was “pleased” with results thus far. He looked forward to growing participation in the program.

Those experiencing missed pickups are encouraged to call 763-972-3335.

*Paid advertisement



Finally a local Doctor is helping cancer survivors live lives free from the pain and constant suffering of peripheral neuropathy

Irreversible is not a word you want to hear from your Doctor, but it's a common one if you've been diagnosed with Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy. Elliot S of Wayzata survived testicular cancer only to be living life in constant pain. He felt as though he were walking on pins and needles, becoming weaker and weaker every day. "I was beginning to be worried that one day I would be wheelchair bound."

Nearly half of patients who undergo chemotherapy will develop Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy or CIPN.

Chemotherapy meds travel throughout the body and attack cancer cells; sadly they can also cause severe damage to healthy nerves. CIPN can begin within weeks of starting treatment and can worsen as treatment continues. A high number of really unfortunate people will be forced to endure the symptoms associated with CIPN for months, or even years after they've completed chemo.

When asked how CIPN was affecting his quality of life he responded, "It was difficult to even walk up and down stairs and do things we usually take for granted."

The most common symptoms include:

- Pain, tingling, burning, weakness, numbness in arms, hands, legs or feet
- Sudden, sharp, stabbing or shocking pain sensations
- Clumsiness and trouble using hands to pick up objects or fasten clothing
- Loss of balance and falling

For some, the nerves recover over time. For most, the nerve damage is 'irreversible.' Elliot had been told just that by a series of Doctors and specialists. Essentially they could fix the cancer but couldn't fix the damage done by the drugs used to cure his cancer.

Then Elliot made a call to Dr Christopher Johnson of Everybody Healing Center. Dr Johnson is using the time-tested science of acupuncture and a technology originally developed by NASA that assists in increasing blood flow and expediting recovery and healing to treat this debilitating disease.

After a series of treatments Elliot was taking stairs with stride! "We have a lake house and it's up stairs. This morning I walked right down the stairs and got in the car," Elliot shared.

"I remember thinking 'that's becoming mighty easy for me,' I didn't have to hold on to the hand rail or anything! It's life changing to have this mobility back!"

Again and again, we meet with patients who were once diagnosed as 'untreatable' or 'incurable' but after receiving Dr Johnson's treatments, patients are now living lives free from pain and suffering. For over 5 years he has been reversing the effects of Peripheral Neuropathy, including those caused by diabetes without invasive surgeries that come with uncomfortable side effects.

If you've recently beat cancer only to find that you're living your life in constant pain and discomfort or you're struggling with the same symptoms as a result of either Idiopathic Neuropathy or Diabetic Neuropathy, Dr Johnson and the incredible team at Everybody Healing Center can help!

Dr Johnson is once again accepting new patients but only for a limited time. These spots fill up fast and will be available on a first call, first serve basis. So call **(612)567-2270** now to schedule a consultation.

Visit www.everybodyhealing.com to learn more and take advantage of their new patient offer

Call **(612)567-2270**