

A photograph of a man, Enoch Nah, smiling and standing in a library. He is wearing a light blue polo shirt with horizontal stripes. The background shows bookshelves and a person reading in the distance.

# ANOKA COUNTY NEWS

Volume 1-2015

## **HIS SECOND HOME:**

Enoch Nah finds new skills, new friends,  
and a new life in Anoka County

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**Anoka County**  
MINNESOTA

Respectful. Innovative. Fiscally Responsible

## Now serving... you!



You may be surprised to learn that county government plays a key role in many, many aspects of everyday life. Highway crews battle snow and sleet to keep county roads cleared and safe for travel. Deputies from the Sheriff's Office investigate crimes and enforce laws to protect our communities and keep them secure. Social services staff protect the most vulnerable among us: newborns and senior citizens, individuals suffering from mental illness, and families needing temporary financial support.

...

People who need a job turn to the county's Job Training Center for tips on writing a resume and help filling out employment applications. County parks give all of us a place to hike, swim, fish, or simply enjoy fresh air and sunshine. County libraries hold the key to an amazing world of books, music, films, and more.

...

County personnel conduct elections, renew our auto license tabs, and answer emergency 911 calls. They prosecute criminals, find shelter for the homeless, and help us safely dispose of household chemicals we no longer need. They collect property taxes, inspect restaurants, manage public health emergencies, and help veterans sign up for the benefits they've earned.

...

For the convenience of residents, county facilities are located at sites across the county. Even easier, more and more county business can be completed online at [anokacounty.us](http://anokacounty.us). Check us out online or in person; we're here to serve!



# Working with people to improve lives

The **HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION** is the largest sector of Anoka County government, serving a large and diverse population, from newborns to senior citizens. Following is a sampling of Anoka County programs that serve people in need.

**The Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program** provides nutrition services, education, and health screening services for income eligible pregnant, breast-feeding, and postpartum women and infants and children up to age 5. Call 763-422-7055 to schedule a WIC appointment.

Having a baby and have questions about what to expect before and after delivery? The **Family Health Public Health Nursing** program offers home visits at no charge to help you have a healthier pregnancy and baby. Call 763-422-6970 to schedule a visit.

Are you a caregiver for an older or disabled adult? The **Family Care-giver Connection** offers caregiver

support groups, education, counseling and opportunities for group respite. Call 763-422-6960 or go to [anokacounty.us/caregivers](http://anokacounty.us/caregivers) for more information.

Looking for ways you and your family can stay active? **GoAnokaCounty.org** is an online resource containing quick links to parks, playgrounds, dog parks, and places to swim, skate, ski, and sled. In addition, the site offers information on nutrition, tobacco prevention, and other tips on healthy living.

Anoka County's **Job Training Center (JTC)**, located in the Blaine Human Service Center, offers a wide range of job search and career exploration services for

youth, laid off workers, seniors, and unemployed and under-employed adults. A state-of-the-art resource room gives job seekers access to computers, fax and copy machines, employment counselors, and onsite job recruiters. Learn more at [anokacounty.us/jtc](http://anokacounty.us/jtc) or call 763-783-4800.

A JTC specialized training program aimed at low income adults recently received the MN Dept. of Human Services Commissioner of Excellence award. Clients in the "FastTRAC Healthcare Pathways" program gain skills and obtain a Nursing Assistant Credential, along with college credits. Clients receive career advice and coaching, support services, and tuition assistance and graduate with skills in a



high-demand field. The program is a partnership of Metro North Adult Basic Education, Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Anoka Technical College, and the JTC.

Anoka County offers **low cost vaccinations** for uninsured or under-insured children age 18 or younger, and vaccines for uninsured or under-insured adults. Vaccination clinics are held monthly at the Blaine Human Service Center and the Anoka County Government Center. Schedules are available in Arabic, Hmong, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Vietnamese, and English. Call 763-422-6970 to make an appointment. Learn more at [anokacounty.us/immunizations](http://anokacounty.us/immunizations).

With severe weather season just

ahead, now is a good time to review your family's emergency plan. **Public Health Emergency Preparedness** recommends you build an emergency kit of food, water, and other supplies to take care of your family for at least three days and have an emergency plan in place so your loved ones know where to go and what to do in an emergency. Go to [ready.gov/make-a-plan](http://ready.gov/make-a-plan) for help developing your family's emergency plan.

Staff from **Environmental Services** work to protect public health by inspecting and regulating food and lodging establishments, public swimming pools, body art services, and more. They also provide information on food safety, ground-

water protection, indoor air quality, mold, radon, and more. For more information, call 763-422-7063.

The **Economic Assistance Department** administers programs that provide financial, medical, food, and other types of assistance to individuals and families in need. Call 763-422-7200 for more information.

The **Child Foster Care Program** works to find loving foster homes for children of all ages. Foster families are given support and training to help them provide a safe, nurturing environment for children. For more information, go to [anokacounty.us/childfostercare](http://anokacounty.us/childfostercare) or call 763-422-7144.



Trained volunteers are available to help senior citizens and people with disabilities apply for their homeowners/renters Minnesota property tax refund/Form M1PR. (See below for dates and locations. Please attend a session in the district where you live.)

You will need to provide:

- Federal Form 1040 (if you filed one) **OR** records showing your

2014 total household income

- Homeowners: Copy of your 2015 real estate tax statements
- Renters: Certificate of Rent Paid (CRP)

The State of Minnesota will mail tax credit refund checks to renters in mid-August and to homeowners in late September.

LOCATION	DATE	TIME	COMMISSIONER DISTRICT
Andover Senior Center 1685 Crosstown Blvd. NW	April 30	9 AM-12 PM	District 1: Matt Look District 2: Julie Braastad District 5: Mike Gamache
Anoka County Government Center 2100 3rd Ave., Room 715, Anoka	May 15	1 PM-4:30 PM	District 1: Matt Look District 7: Scott Schulte
St. Francis City Hall 23340 Cree St.	May 6	1 PM-3 PM	District 1: Matt Look
Ramsey Municipal Center 7550 Sunwood Dr NW	May 12	1:30 PM-3:30 PM	District 1: Matt Look
Ham Lake Senior Center 15544 Central Ave NE	June 2	9 AM-12 PM	District 2: Julie Braastad
East Bethel City Hall 2241 221st Ave NE	May 27	10 AM-12 PM	District 2: Julie Braastad
Mary Ann Young Senior Center 9150 Central Ave NE, Blaine	May 5	8:30 AM-12 PM	District 3: Robyn West District 6: Rhonda Sivarajah
Spring Lake Park Community Center 1301 81st Ave NE	May 11	9 AM-11 AM	District 3: Robyn West
Fridley City Hall 6431 University Ave	April 22	9 AM-11 AM	District 4: Jim Kordiak
Parkview Villa High Rise 965 40th Ave, Columbia Heights	April 23	1 PM-3:30 PM	District 4: Jim Kordiak
Comm. Kordiak's Office 3948 Central Ave NE Columbia Heights	April 20 April 27 May 4	9 AM-12 PM 9 AM-12 PM 9 AM-12 PM	District 4: Jim Kordiak
Coon Rapids Senior Center 11155 Robinson Dr NW	June 3 May 20	8 AM-12 PM 12 PM-4 PM	District 5: Mike Gamache District 7: Scott Schulte
Circle Pines City Hall 200 Civic Heights Circle	April 29	1 PM-4 PM	District 6: Rhonda Sivarajah
Lino Lakes City Hall 600 Town Center Parkway	May 21	1:30 PM-3:30 PM	District 6: Rhonda Sivarajah
Linwood Senior Center 22817 Typo Creek Drive NE, Stacy	May 28	9:30 AM-11:30 AM	District 6: Rhonda Sivarajah

# GETTING YOU THERE

## New Armstrong Blvd./Hwy. 10 interchange underway

Reconstruction of the Armstrong Blvd./Hwy. 10 interchange in Ramsey is underway. Design work and right-of-way acquisition is being finalized and construction is scheduled to begin this spring. The estimated completion date is fall 2015.

The City of Ramsey held an event in December to acknowledge the efforts of city, county, state, and federal project partners. Anoka County Commissioner Matt Look, whose district includes Ramsey, credits the partnership of many agencies with getting the long-awaited project off the ground. "We are using nine different funding sources to deliver this project," he said. "That alone is a notable accomplishment."

Learn more at [highway10andarmstrong.com](http://highway10andarmstrong.com).



From left: U.S. Representative Tom Emmer, Governor Mark Dayton, MnDOT Commissioner Charles Zelle, U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, former U.S. Representative Michele Bachmann, Ramsey Mayor Sarah Strommen, and Anoka County Commissioner Matt Look.

## Hwy. 65 express bus service

Ridership on the new Route 865 express bus service to downtown Minneapolis along Hwy. 65 has exceeded ridership estimates, according to Anoka County Commissioner Julie Braastad. "Commuters love the comfort and convenience of this new service," she said. Route 865 is a joint effort of Anoka County and Metro Transit. It may continue as part of the Metro Transit system if there continues to be sufficient ridership. Learn more at [metrotransit.org](http://metrotransit.org) or [commute-solutions.org](http://commute-solutions.org).



## Treated salt keeps roads safe for motorists

Last year's harsh winter drove up both the demand and the price of road salt. Even so, when this winter's first significant "snow event" occurred in November, the Anoka County Highway Department was ready with a plentiful supply of treated road salt stockpiled in salt garages throughout the county.


Listen as Highway Supervisor Jim Christenson discusses how road salt is mixed with food byproducts to make a "sweet" mix that's keeping county roads clear. Go to [youtube.com/anokacountymn](http://youtube.com/anokacountymn).



IT'S THE WARGO NATURE CENTER

# YEAR OF THE BIRD

ANOKA COUNTY PARKS IS HIGHLIGHTING BIRDS AND BIRD WATCHING IN 2015. WE INVITE YOU TO DISCOVER THE WONDERFUL ACTIVITY OF BIRDING. AN EXPERIENCED BIRDER WILL GUIDE YOU THROUGH ONE OF ANOKA COUNTY'S BEAUTIFUL PARKS. ENJOY SEEING AND/OR HEARING 20-60 SPECIES OF BIRDS ON EACH WALK. A CHECKLIST OF MINNESOTA BIRDS AND A MAP OF EACH AREA WILL BE PROVIDED. ALL AGES AND BIRDING ABILITIES ARE WELCOME. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 651-429-8007.

 Like us on Facebook, Anoka County Birding

## BIG DAY EVENT

**SATURDAY, MAY 16**

**ONGOING ACTIVITIES ALL DAY**

Who's up for a BIG DAY? Join us for any or all of our birding programs as we see how many bird species we can observe in one day in Anoka County. There will be several bird hikes offered in the morning, afternoon, and evening in several parks in Anoka County. We will be gathering at Coon Rapids Dam East between noon and 3 p.m. to tally bird observations, family activities, and birding informational sessions including binocular instruction, bird I.D., bird crafts, how to attract birds to your yard, and much more. Novice bird watchers are encouraged to join us and binoculars will be available for use. All bird programs are free this day! Call 651-429-8007 for more information.



**WARGO**  
— Est. 1993 —  
**NATURE CENTER**

# SUMMER CAMPS 2015



Wargo Nature Center Summer Day Camps are all about exploring our world, having fun, and getting dirty outside! This summer we are offering brand new day camps for children pre-K through 7th grade. We even have camps for grandparents! Small groups allow us to provide individual attention to each child. Hands on activities and great resources let participants explore the natural world around them. Day camps are held in beautiful Anoka County parks that offer ecologically diverse forest, meadow, and wetland habitats. Our naturalists are college graduates and professional educators who are experienced working with kids in the outdoors. They are also certified in First Aid, CPR and AED. Nature is our guide and we look forward to sharing an amazing world of wonder with your child!

### REGISTER EARLY & SAVE!

Register by May 1, 2015 and save \$5 per participant on Preschool camps and Grandparent camps and \$10 on School-Aged camps. Register online or call 651-429-8007. Discounts will reflect at checkout.

*Discount does not apply to Adventures With Tom and Huck Camp. Offer Expires: May 1, 2015*

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR ALL DAY CAMPS. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 651-429-8007 OR REGISTER ONLINE AT ANOKACOUNTYPARKS.COM

## FREE EVENTS FOR EVERYONE

**April 25**

12:30-3 p.m.  
Wargo Nature Center  
FREE

### Family Earth Day Celebration +

Join us for a family Earth Day celebration complete with entertainment and light refreshments. Learn about Wargo's native gardens and bees and make your own earth art project to take home. Visit the Earth Day Fair, where local organizations provide information and businesses will showcase earth-friendly products.

### Earth Day Clean-up

Help us control invasive species and beautify Wargo Nature Center from 10 a.m. to noon. Please call 651-429-8007 to sign up.

**May 02**

9 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Coon Rapids Dam  
Regional Park  
FREE

### Kids Fishing Clinic

This free event is a great way for kids and families to learn how to fish, learn about water safety, and enjoy a free lunch. All participants and chaperones will receive a hot dog and chip lunch, and kids can pick up a goody bag of fishing related gear! All equipment is provided and pre-registration is not required. We hope to see you there!

# 24/7 access to county services

More and more residents are choosing to go online when doing business with Anoka County. The county's website was redesigned recently to add enhanced navigation features and customer-focused search tools that make it easier to find information, whether you're using a desktop computer, tablet, smartphone, or other mobile device.

Are wedding bells in your future? Apply for a marriage license online at [anokacounty.us/marriage](http://anokacounty.us/marriage).

Planning an overnight campout in a county park? Reserve and prepay for your spot online. Narrow your choices by

amenities: a sunny or shady location, near a bathroom, with water hook-up, etc. Book your spot at [anokacounty.us/camping](http://anokacounty.us/camping).

Interested in a career at Anoka County? Search job openings and fill out an application at [anokacounty.us/jobs](http://anokacounty.us/jobs).

Looking for a licensed daycare provider? The online child care locator allows you to narrow your search by your home or work address or even your child's school. Go to [anokacounty.us/childcare](http://anokacounty.us/childcare).

Stay informed about meetings, news, and special events happen-

ing at Anoka County, from emergency road closures to agendas for upcoming public meetings. Sign up for alerts at [anokacounty.us/stayinformed](http://anokacounty.us/stayinformed).

Taking a trip overseas and need a passport? Save time and schedule an appointment to apply for a passport. Go to [anokacounty.us/passport](http://anokacounty.us/passport).

Find information about property or pay your property taxes online at [anokacounty.us/propertytax](http://anokacounty.us/propertytax).

Find these and more ways to do business with Anoka County online at [anokacounty.us](http://anokacounty.us).

## Masterful Gardening

### Horticultural tips and advice from U of M Extension, Anoka County

The University of Minnesota Extension, Anoka County, is an invaluable resource for gardeners of all skill and experience levels. Are your delphiniums drooping? Is your sand cherry stunted? Are aphids

overtaking the asters? U of M Extension and its corps of volunteer Master Gardeners is here to help! Get answers to all your horticultural questions with the following services offered by U of M Extension, Anoka County:

- Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinics held at the Bunker Hills Activities Center every Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. mid-May through August. Identify that mystery plant growing in the flower bed and get help diagnosing common insect and disease problems;
- The statewide Arbo-retum Yard and Garden phone line at 612-301-7590;

"Ask a Master Gardener" booths at community events, fairs, farmers' markets, and garden centers.

U of M Extension, Anoka County, also sponsors a 4-H Youth Development program open to young people from kindergarten through one year past high school. For more information about 4-H, call 763-755-1280 or email [fergu029@umn.edu](mailto:fergu029@umn.edu).

Visit [anokacounty.us/Extension](http://anokacounty.us/Extension) for more information.

*U of M Extension, Anoka County, is a partnership between Anoka County, the University of Minnesota, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.*

## IT'S FITZ!

### Veteran Services PTSD therapy dog

It's hard to miss the newest "staff member" in the Anoka County Veteran Services Department. Fitz, a post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) therapy dog, is owned by County Veteran Services Officer (CVSO) Tony



CVSO Tony Tengwall and Fitz

Tengwall and accompanies him to work each day. From his usual spot in front of receptionist Kellie Anderson's desk, Fitz greets visiting veterans with a welcoming tail wag. He's made fast friends with staff and clients alike, said Veteran Services Director John Kriesel. "Fitz is a very calming presence in the office," he said. "He seems to know when veterans are feeling stressed and tends to stick close to them during their visit."

The Veteran Services Office has four CVSOs

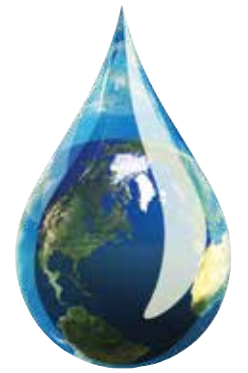
plus Director Kriesel working to ensure veterans receive all the benefits they've earned. "Our CVSOs are highly trained and have a thorough understanding of the often confusing Veterans Administration rules and regulations," Kriesel said. Learn more about services offered by Veteran Services at [anokacounty.us/veterans](http://anokacounty.us/veterans) or call 763-323-5290 or email [veterans@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:veterans@co.anoka.mn.us).

## Test your home for radon

Radon is a colorless, odorless radioactive gas that seeps up from the earth. Long-term exposure to radon can lead to lung cancer. In fact, radon is the number one cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. Radon is present everywhere, but the greatest risk of exposure is indoors, especially in your home. In Minnesota, two in five homes have radon levels

that pose a significant health risk. Homes with radon can be old or new, well-sealed or drafty, with or without a basement.

Testing your home for radon is easy and inexpensive. Anoka County has residential radon test kits available for \$5. To obtain a kit, go to [anokacounty.us/radon](http://anokacounty.us/radon) or call 763-323-5722 for more information.



## Loans for well & septic fix-ups

Low interest loans are available to eligible property owners to repair or replace private well and septic systems under a program offered by Anoka County Community Development and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Best Management Practices Program (AgBMP). The program funds projects that prevent or reduce water pollution. In Anoka County, eligible projects include repairing or replacing failed or failing septic systems and/or private wells and sealing wells that are no longer in use.

The AgBMP loan program provides financing at below market interest rates. Property owners who are current on their mortgage payments and property taxes are encouraged to apply. Loans will be repaid via a special assessment on the property tax statement through Anoka County.

For more information or to obtain a loan application, call 763-323-5722 or go to [anokacounty.us/cd](http://anokacounty.us/cd).

## Free Rx drug card

County residents who pay out-of-pocket for prescription drugs can expect to save 10-70 percent under a discount drug program offered through a partnership of Anoka County and Pro-Act, a pharmacy benefit management company. The program also features discounts on vision, hearing, LASIK, and dental services. Learn more at [ProActRxSavings.com](http://ProActRxSavings.com) or call 1-877-776-2285.

# WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER

by Anoka County Sheriff James Stuart

Like many of you, I have found myself concerned by events unfolding across our nation in recent months. Specifically, it troubles me when I see individuals inspiring division between our citizenry and those who have sworn an oath to serve and protect those same citizens.

I have had the opportunity over the course of my career to meet and work with law enforcement professionals from across our great nation. I can tell you with confidence that the vast majority of our peacekeepers are honest, caring men and women of character. They are mothers, fathers, daughters, and sons who have willingly raised their hand and sworn an oath to serve others. They have also sworn to protect others, even if

Having said that, I acknowledge that of the 800,000 law enforcement officers in our nation, there are some who do not deserve to wear the badge. As long as humans are involved in this process, there will be unacceptable behavior and deficiencies involving character. Those individuals must be held accountable and driven out of this honorable profession.

Within law enforcement, we have sought to improve hiring and training standards, improve accountability and transparency, and ultimately, ensure that we hold ourselves to a higher standard in service to our communities. However, we all own a portion of the systemic breakdown we're currently seeing in some areas. As a society, we

can support our protectors by understanding they desire to serve and protect each and every one of us, without malice. We ought not support

video games for our kids that reward killing cops. We should consider what message we are sending when music videos portray police officer executions, or Hollywood movies make light of shooting a protector. We should

not entertain those who seek to create division by spreading hate.

We need to consider the long-term ramifications of systematically dehumanizing and demonizing those who have willingly chosen to accept a calling to serve us. My concern is that in the long run, the good-hearted people will no longer desire the responsibility if their service is spat upon – literally! The future of law enforcement **WILL** have a direct impact on the future of America and we must work together to ensure this intertwined path serves our citizens well.

We are fortunate to live in a region where we have a long history of positive interactions with law enforcement. Similarly, I am privileged to serve as the sheriff of a county in which the law enforcement community works well together, cares about our citizens, and strives to serve as ambassadors where we are able. The Sheriff's Office provides a wide variety of services to every single community within Anoka County and we will continue to serve our citizens with honor. I pray that our citizens will join us as we seek to embrace positive relationships and interactions so that Anoka County continues to set the example for others to follow. Whether we share success stories or failures in the future, we are in this together.

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it means they may need to lay down their own life to do so. It is not an easy job, and I am very appreciative of every one of our nation's peacekeepers who walk the line on our home front to maintain civility.



## "Moo-velous" Library fun

April is the month of *Moo!* at Anoka County Library!

Kick off the month by enjoying a free *Moo!* Trunk Show event at Northtown Library in Blaine on Tuesday, April 7, at 1 p.m or 6:30 p.m.


Hear author David LaRoche and illustrator Mike Wohnoutka interview Cow, the star of their book *Moo!*, about her travels. There'll be a puppet show retelling of *Moo!* followed by original music, dancing, and a group storytelling and drawing activity. Don't miss this moo-velous opportunity! (*This 45-minute program is suitable for children age 0-6. All children attending receive a free copy of Moo!*)

The fun continues throughout April with cow scavenger hunts, special storytimes, and *Moo!* activities at various Library locations. *Moo!* take-home play kits and Cow's vacation scrapbooks

will be available to check out from all libraries. Go to [anokacountylibrary.org](http://anokacountylibrary.org) for details.

End the month with a Celebration of *Moo!* at Rum River Library on Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Enjoy music, dancing, storytelling, a life-sized game of *Moo!*, cow puppet theater, *Moo!* storywalk, and more.

*Once Upon a Reader* is a statewide early literacy initiative that launched in 2014. Each year, communities will be united through programming based on a book with a Minnesota connection. *Once Upon a Reader* is brought to you by the Council of Regional Public Library System Administrators and funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment. For more information visit [onceuponareader.org](http://onceuponareader.org).



Summer reading fun is just around the corner! Sign up for Bookawocky starting on June 1. Stop by your local library or visit [bookawocky.org](http://bookawocky.org) for more details.

## A WELCOME HOME

Liberia native Enoch Nah calls the Crooked Lake Library his home. It is where he learned how to use a computer and got help finding a job. It is where he found caring volunteers and staff who were eager to help him make the sometimes difficult transition to his new home in Minnesota.

Introduced to the library by his pastor, Nah found comfort in books. "At the time I came here, I was confused..."



and I knew books would keep me up," he said. "They gave me courage." Soon after getting his library card, Nah approached library staff about learning how to use a computer. "In Africa, only the elite have the chance (to learn the computer)," he said. "This is the first thing I wanted to do in America."

Library volunteer Kathie Kelly began working with Nah and within a few weeks he was navigating the web with ease. "Now I can read news articles about my country and around the world. I can prepare a resume in order to get a job," Nah said.

He advises everyone, especially people new to the U.S., to take advantage of all the library has to offer. "The library is a resource center for everything in America I want to know," he said. "(It) is my first home."

Hear more from Enoch Nah at [youtube.com/anokacountymn](https://www.youtube.com/anokacountymn).

## Victim Witness Specialists Focus on Service

by Anoka County Attorney Tony Palumbo

Although crime rates have been dropping significantly for the past two decades, research tells us that 2 percent of Americans will become victims of crime. These terrible events happen unexpectedly and typically leave victims unprepared for the criminal justice process that follows. Enter the Anoka County Attorney's Office Victim Witness Program, a team of highly trained staff that assists victims and witnesses in the aftermath of serious crime.

felony-level crimes. Our specialists walk victims and witnesses through the process of finding justice in their case.

Crime victims are guaranteed certain rights under Minnesota state law. These rights include notification, participation in prosecution, protection from harm, and the right to apply for financial assistance. Victim witness specialists work with crime victims and witnesses to make sure these rights are known, understood, and protected.

Crime costs victims mental anguish but often financial distress as well. Victim witness specialists can help victims of violent crime apply for aid through the

state's Crime Victims Reparations Board. This program funds medical/dental bills, mental health counseling, and even lost wages due to victimization. Understanding that crime victims sometimes face significant costs, our Victim Witness Program staff can help victims get

their crime-related bills covered.

Experiencing or witnessing crime can leave people with a mix of emotions: grief, depression,



and even anger. Victim witness specialists are available to listen and can provide referrals to appropriate services. Victims and witnesses may sometimes also feel fearful for their safety. Our staff works with them on safety planning and can help with requests for no-contact orders, protection orders, and harassment/restraining orders.

Being involved in a crime can be frightening and overwhelming, but you don't have to face it alone. The victim witness specialists are here to guide you through the

process and help find the resources needed to attempt to repair the damage done.

For more information, contact Emily Krech, Victim Witness Program supervisor, at 763-323-5549.

### BEING INVOLVED IN A CRIME CAN BE FRIGHTENING AND OVERWHELMING, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO FACE IT ALONE.

The program was formalized in the 1970s in order to ensure that victims and witnesses were not left behind by the criminal justice system. Today, the unit is comprised of seven staff members who provide supportive services and assistance to victims and witnesses in

## KEEPING IT GREEN

Anoka County Integrated Waste Management is committed to promoting the 3 Rs – **reduce, reuse and recycle** – in our communities.

Anoka County Integrated Waste Management (IWM) develops and manages programs that promote waste reduction, reuse, and recycling; resource recovery; and safe, environmentally sound ways to dispose of yard and tree waste, household hazardous waste, and problem materials.

### RECYCLING

Anoka County provides a recycling and disposal directory to identify options for residents to recycle or dispose of household items. Find it at [anokacounty.us/recyclingdirectory](http://anokacounty.us/recyclingdirectory).

Do you know a recycling super star? An individual, group, or organization exceptionally committed to reducing, reusing, recycling, and/or composting? Nominate them for an Anoka County Recycling Champion award! Call 763-323-5730 or email [recycle@co.anoka.mn.us](mailto:recycle@co.anoka.mn.us).

### RECYCLING FOR BUSINESSES & SCHOOLS

Anoka County provides assistance to businesses and schools at no charge to help them identify ways to prevent and reduce waste and recycle more.

### COMPOSTING

Anoka County contracts with a vendor to operate the Bunker Hills compost site in Coon Rapids and the Rice Creek Chain of Lakes compost site in Lino Lakes. Both sites offer low cost options for residents to dispose of yard and tree waste. For more information, go to [anokacounty.us/yardwaste](http://anokacounty.us/yardwaste).

### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Anoka County contracts with a vendor to operate the Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste Facility in Blaine. Safely dispose of household products that are corrosive, flammable, combustible, or poisonous. Go to [anokacounty.us/hhw](http://anokacounty.us/hhw) for directions, hours of operation, and examples of products accepted at the site.

Learn more at [anokacounty.us/recycle](http://anokacounty.us/recycle) or call 763-323-5730.



See how Anoka County is keeping it green at [youtube.com/anokacountymn](http://youtube.com/anokacountymn). Click on the Reduce-Reuse-Recycle playlist.



[facebook.com/AnokaCoRecycle](http://facebook.com/AnokaCoRecycle)



[pinterest.com/AnokaCoRecycle](http://pinterest.com/AnokaCoRecycle)



[twitter.com/AnokaCoRecycles](http://twitter.com/AnokaCoRecycles)

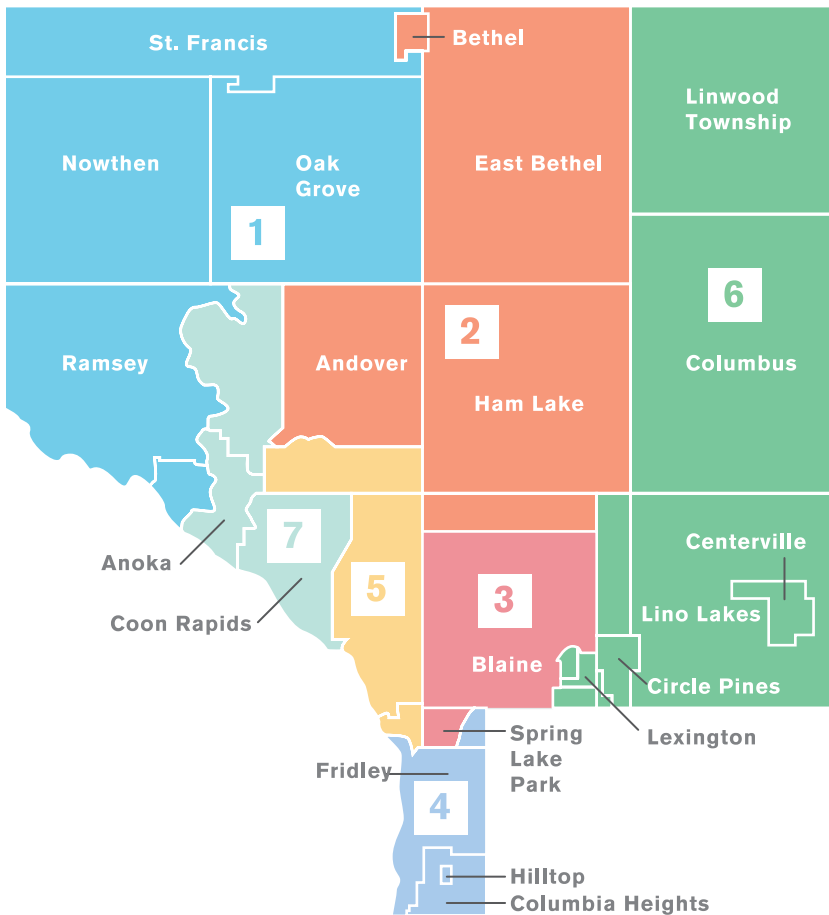




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## ANOKA COUNTY LEADERSHIP

763-323-5700



*Matt Look*  
DISTRICT 1



*Julie Braastad*  
DISTRICT 2



*Robyn West*  
DISTRICT 3



*Jim Kordiak*  
DISTRICT 4



*Mike Gamache*  
DISTRICT 5



*Rhonda Sivarajah*  
DISTRICT 6



*Scott Schulte*  
DISTRICT 7



*James Stuart*  
COUNTY SHERIFF



*Tony Palumbo*  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

County board meetings are generally held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 9:30 a.m. in Room 705 of the Anoka County Government Center in Anoka. Watch board meetings live at [anokacounty.us](http://anokacounty.us).

Anoka County News is produced by Anoka County Public Information, Martha Weaver, Manager, 763-323-5744  
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