

# Naperville Connected

## **Local Student Artwork Beautifies the City**

A hearty thank you to all students who participated in a "Call for Teen Artists" initiative that took place in the spring, with special congratulations to the six teen artists whose artwork was selected:

- Avani Aggarwal Neuqua Valley High School
- Jumana Janoowalla Neuqua Valley High School
- Soha Javaid Neuqua Valley High School
- Olivia Mancha Neuqua Valley High School
- Annie O'Boyle Neuqua Valley High School
- Alice Wang Naperville Central High School

Naperville high school students submitted artwork to beautify City streetlight controller boxes through this initiative. Naperville ArtForum members chose the final designs from 30 submitted entries. The selected artwork will be installed this summer on boxes near Naperville North and Naperville Central high schools.

Each design evokes a unique vision. For example, Wang's design depicts Naperville's natural scenery, Mancha's art features a 1930s "rubber hose" cartoon style, and Janoowalla depicts hot air balloons to symbolize "adventure and new perspectives."

When asked what motivated them to participate, the students mentioned the significance of sharing their art with the community.

"I love being creative...and I hope that other people will be inspired by my art. Art and creativity are [a part of] human nature — you don't have to be 'good' for your creations to have value," O'Boyle said.

They also expressed gratitude for the creative opportunities the City offers and its appreciation for the arts.

Javaid said, "I think it's important to take any opportunity that knocks on your door. This project was especially interesting to me because it allowed me to engage with my community through art."

Maps of the impacted streetlight controller box locations are available at bit.ly/nchs\_art and bit.ly/nnhs\_art.



A collage showcasing snapshots of the designs. Pictured clockwise from top left is artwork submitted by: Jumana Janoowalla, Soha Javaid, Olivia Mancha, Annie O'Boyle, Alice Wang and Avani Aggarwal.

# Create a Native Landscape: Conservation@Home

The Conservation Foundation's Conservation@Home program offers residents advice and ideas to help eliminate chemical use, incorporate earth-friendly landscaping and create native gardens. Due to the success of last year's partnership, the City will again cover the cost of the program's on-site consultation and certification fees for a limited number of participants on a first-come, first-served basis.

Here's how it works:

- If you're interested, fill out the Conservation@Home interest form at bit.ly/conservation-at-home. No other documentation is needed!
- An expert from The Conservation Foundation will visit your property and offer personalized advice on plants, maintenance practices, and design elements that boost biodiversity and aid in stormwater management.
- If you meet the criteria, your property will earn a certification, and you'll receive a sign to showcase your eco-friendly status. Join the many homeowners who have incorporated native plants into their landscapes to create beautiful outdoor spaces, invite birds and butterflies to their yards, and reduce their use of water, fertilizers and pesticides. To sign up for the program or to learn more, visit bit.ly/conservation-at-home.

# Free Event & Movie Night for National Night Out

The City of Naperville and the Fry Family YMCA are teaming up to kick off National Night Out with a free community event and outdoor movie night on Monday, Aug. 4.

Stop by the Fry Family YMCA, 2120 W. 95th St., for free family fun starting at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy activities for all ages including a magic show, bounce house, police touch-a-truck and giveaways. Food will be available for purchase from food trucks, and free popcorn will be provided during the movie while supplies last.

A family-friendly movie will begin at sunset. Bring blankets or chairs to enjoy the film. All are welcome to attend!

For more information, visit naperville.il.us/nno.

## **Enroll to Become a "Smart Driver"**

The Naperville Police Department, in partnership with AARP, offers a "Smart Driver" classroom course designed for drivers aged 50 and older. The curriculum covers driving strategies for mature drivers, understanding the effects of aging on driving, identifying common crash situations, information about vehicle accessories, an overview of local traffic hazards, and a Rules of the Road update.

Classes are scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 3, and Thursday, Sept. 4, at the Naperville Police Department, 1350 Aurora Ave. There is a \$25 fee for the course (\$20 for AARP members), payable by check on the first day of class. Register by Monday, Aug. 11, at naperville.il.us/ aarpsmartdriver or by calling 630-420-8479.

# A Safer Naper: Preventing Vehicle Burglaries/Thefts

This month, the Naperville Police Department is *locked in* on protecting your vehicle and its contents. Some 77% of vehicle burglaries in 2024 involved unlocked vehicles, making **locking** your vehicle the easiest and most impactful step you can take to protect your belongings!

Here are a few more tips:

#### What to Do:

- Always lock your doors.
- Close car windows and sunroofs.
- Park in a well-lit area.
- Place any property out of sight before you arrive.
- Unload your valuables immediately when you return home.
   What to Avoid:
- Leaving your purse or wallet in your car or possessions out in plain view.
- Hiding possessions under the seats; it is the first place burglars check for stored items.
- Covering items left on the seat or floorboard. Blankets and articles of clothing are clues to thieves that valuables may be hidden underneath.
- Leaving any important documents in your car that contain your personal information.
- Hiding a spare key in your car. Thieves know where to look!
   Learn more crime prevention tips and tricks at naperville.il.us/asafernaper.

Animal Control Tip. Pet owners are encouraged to never leave animals in their cars, regardless of the weather conditions. According to the City's Municipal Code (10-4-16), it is unlawful within City limits to leave any animal in a vehicle where the temperature inside the vehicle is 80 degrees Fahrenheit or higher or colder than 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

## Monthly Memory Cafés Foster Connection

Did you know that Naperville is an official Dementia Friendly City? Dementia Friendly America defines a dementia friendly community as being "informed, safe and respectful of individuals living with dementia, their families and caregivers and provides supportive options that foster quality of life."

The Naperville Senior Task Force and Dementia Friendly Naperville sponsor two monthly Memory Cafés. A Memory Café is a social gathering for people living with dementia and their care partners to connect with others. Activities at these free events vary and may include education, music, games and arts.

Here are the two cafés offered monthly:

## First Tuesday of Each Month

I to 2:30 p.m. at the Fort Hill Activity Center, 20 Fort Hill Dr. **Second Tuesday of Each Month** 

2 to 3:30 p.m. at the 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr. To register, email DementiaFriendlyNaperville+info@gmail.com or call 630-710-7502. Walk-ins are welcome. To learn more about Dementia Friendly America, visit dfamerica.org.

Read Connected Online for the Most Current Issue. Printed newsletters are distributed with the City's utility bills, which are mailed throughout the month. If you'd like to receive newsletter content earlier, visit naperville.il.us/connected. The latest issue is posted online around the first of each month.

**GOVERNMENT MEETINGS:** Meeting locations and directions for listening and participating are noted on each upcoming meeting's agenda. Please refer to the Government Meetings calendar at naperville. il.us or scan the QR code below to access the calendar directly, as well



as for information about any changes or meeting cancelations. Watch City Council, Planning and Zoning Commission and Transportation Advisory Board meetings on WCNC (Astound – Ch. 6, AT&T U-verse – Ch. 99, or Comcast – Ch. 10) or stream at naperville.legistar.com/Calendar.

## Plan and Prepare: Severe Weather Safety Tips

Severe weather season is here and it can strike with little warning and bring life-threatening consequences. Use these tips from the Naperville Fire Department to stay alert, have a plan, and be ready to act. Your safety, and the safety of your loved ones, may depend on it.

#### **Be Informed**

Awareness is your first line of defense. Monitor local forecasts closely, especially during storm season. Use reliable sources like the National Weather Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio, trusted weather apps, or local news stations to receive real-time updates and emergency alerts.

Also, understand severe weather terminology. According to the National Weather Service, a tornado watch means a tornado is possible, while a tornado warning means a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar.

### Make an Emergency Plan

Every household should have a clear emergency plan. Identify a safe location in your home, ideally a basement, storm shelter, or a small interior room with no windows. Make sure everyone knows where to go and what to do. Practice the plan regularly, especially if you live in an area prone to tornadoes.

## **Build an Emergency Kit**

A well-prepared emergency kit is crucial. Stock it with:

- Bottled water and non-perishable food.
- Flashlights and extra batteries.
- First aid supplies and necessary medications.
- Important documents in waterproof containers.
- Phone chargers, blankets, and a whistle for signaling help.
- Personalize your kit based on your family's specific needs.

#### **Protect Your Home**

Minimize potential damage by securing outdoor furniture and other items that could become dangerous in high winds. Trim trees and remove dead branches that could fall during a storm. If you live in a high-risk area, consider installing storm shutters or impact-resistant windows for added protection.

#### Stay Safe After the Storm

Even after the storm has passed, dangers may remain. Continue monitoring weather updates and stay indoors until officials declare it safe.

Keep in mind that the City of Naperville does not have an allclear siren. If you hear the tornado siren during the storm, severe weather is still moving through the area.

Once the storm is over, be cautious of hazards like downed power lines, flooded roads, and structural damage. Check in on neighbors and report any emergencies promptly.

Official City Website: naperville.il.us

Naper Notify: napernotify.com

Meetings: naperville.legistar.com/Calendar

Help Center: Click Help Center at naperville.il.us Facebook: facebook.com/NapervillelL

X: x.com/NapervillelL

YouTube: youtube.com/OfficialNapervilleIL

eNews: naperville.il.us/enews

Naperville Connected Editor: 630-420-6093

General City Phone Number: 630-420-6111 Office of the Mayor: 630-420-6018 Office of the City Council: 630-548-2983

City Manager's Office: 630-420-6031 Emergency Ambulance, Fire and Police: 911

Non-Emergency Police: 630-420-6666 Non-Emergency Fire: 630-305-5900 Electric, Street Light, Water & Sewer

Problems: 630-420-6060

WCNC Government Access TV:

Astound – Ch. 6, Comcast – Ch. 10, AT&T U-verse – Ch. 99

Mayor: Scott A. Wehrli

**City Council:** Mary Gibson, Ian Holzhauer, Patrick Kelly, Allison Longenbaugh, Josh McBroom, Ashfaq Syed,

Dr. Benjamin M. White and Nate Wilson

City Manager: Doug Krieger