

The City of Vadnais Heights

800 East County Road E
Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

Open Monday–Friday: 8am–4:30pm

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Building Official

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Non-emergency 651-484-3366

Animal Control

Information 651-653-6404



Foundation's future is in your hands

By Hank Tessier, Foundation President

I'm sure many of you will be surprised to learn that Vadnais Heights has a community foundation. It assists a multitude of worthwhile projects, has improved many lives, and strengthens our entire community. However, interest earnings from the bond reserves that have supported the Foundation will end in 2009. If it is to remain a dynamic force, funding will need to come from the community. On behalf of the board, I ask for your support.

First, I offer you a little history. In 1979, when I was Mayor of Vadnais Heights, the City approved a \$35,000,000 housing bond issue for Good Value Homes to provide less-than-market-rate mortgages for 550 dwelling units in the Greenhaven neighborhood. The City's Finance Advisor, Peter Popovich, and I felt that City residents, in general, should get something back for issuing the housing bond — thus, the Riverwood Housing Foundation was born. In 1998, the name was changed to the Vadnais Heights Community Foundation.

The Foundation's initial board of directors consisted of Good Value Homes' Frank Voth, Popovich, and myself, and we determined that its purpose was to combat community deterioration, further community improvements, and transact lawful business as allowed under the Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act.

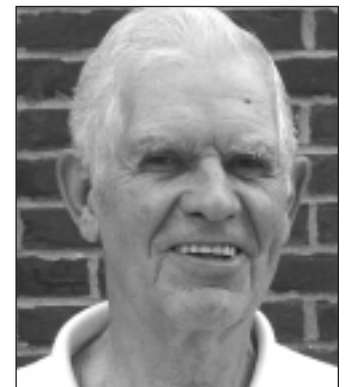
When interest began to generate from the bond fund, many valuable community projects were made possible and paid for by the Foundation. These include:

- Housing improvements, and a low-interest business loan program;
- Opportunities for challenged youth, and playground improvements at Vadnais Elementary School and Community Park;
- Equipment for the Fire and Sheriff's Departments;
- Community planning, and funding for communications such as graphic arts and the City's *News & Views* newspaper column;
- Special City events such as Heritage Days, and funding for Lake Area Transit.

While the initial expectations of the Foundation's founders have been fulfilled, there is much hope for the future. In particular, we plan to expand upon housing rehab programs. But, we can't do it without your support. Please make a donation to the Vadnais Heights Community Foundation today; send your checks to: Community Foundation, 800 East County Road E, Vadnais Heights, MN 55127.

I invite you to contact me with questions and comments: Hank Tessier, 651-490-0319; mayortessier@msn.com. Thank you!

Other Foundation board members include: Vice President James Speckmann, Secretary/Treasurer Gerald Urban, Bill Sandison (president of Community National Bank), and Sheldon Jensen (president of the Vadnais Heights Economic Development Corporation).



Hank Tessier,
Foundation President