New Attraction Opens at Centennial Lakes Park
Scottish Links Putting Green Offers Infinite Challenges

BY KAITLIN GAULT

Visitors can try out a new attraction when they visit Centennial Lakes Park.

The Scottish Links Putting Green first originated more than 3,697 miles from Edina in the United Kingdom. Now, residents have the opportunity to harness the spirit of tradition and play this new, unique amenity right in their backyard.

With nine holes spread across 12,000 square feet of heavily undulated bent grass green, it is a dream scenario for those seeking a unique putting challenge. It features an infinite number of layouts and a variety of configurations, creating a game that keeps players on their toes. The existing 18-hole putting course consists of separate defined lengths and widths – not as varied of an experience as the Scottish Links.

“It’s a fun but challenging outdoor activity that can be done in a short time period,” said Centennial Lakes Park General Manager Tom Shirley. “This addition gives Edina residents and visitors another recreational amenity and also gives us a space that can accommodate our larger corporate groups, allowing them to keep their entire work team together while putting and lawn bowling.”

The idea to create the Scottish Links surfaced after noticing a large portion of the lawn games area was being underutilized. In 2019, croquet generated $3,800 in revenues and lawn bowling $5,500. By contrast, the putting course generated $240,000. Recognizing an opportunity to make a positive change, the City set out to find the perfect attraction that would enhance part of the underperforming space while keeping the rest of the area open for lawn bowling.

After the idea was set in motion, the Scottish Links were built in-house, saving a substantial amount of money and costing less than $10,000. That decision helped cut expenses, including cutting off the existing bent grass sod, adding greens soil and then re-using the bent grass sod. Centennial Lakes Maintenance Supervisor Dave Knudsen built the links from July through September 2019 with help from part-time staff.

The Scottish Links Putting Green takes the traditional practice green to the next level. The style of putting green is not just new to Centennial Lakes Park; it will debut as one of the first of its kind in Minnesota.

“These courses are popping up throughout the country, primarily at resorts and regulation golf courses, but there are not many in Minnesota,” said Shirley.

Do not let the challenge and mystery of the Scottish Links intimidate you. It uses typical putting rules, and those 8 and older are welcome to play. A standard game takes around 30 minutes to play. Cost is $5 per person.

Centennial Lakes Park is located at 7499 France Ave. S. For more information, visit CentennialLakesPark.com or call 952-833-9580.
Development Tracker

The City of Edina Development Tracker includes reconstruction or new construction projects that have been completed in the past six months, are currently under construction, have filed a formal application to the City or have been substantially approved.
**Hawthorne Place**  
**Location:** 5109 W. 49th St.  
**Developer:** Great Oaks Development and TE Miller Development  
**Status:** Completed  
A 12-unit condominium building has been completed. The development, which also includes five detached villas, includes two apartment buildings and a house previously on the site.

**Our Lady of Grace expansion**  
**Location:** 5051 Eden Ave.  
**Status:** Under Construction  
Expansion and improvements to be done in phases include a new priest residence, new activity center, expansion of the school and parish gathering space, and remodeling areas of existing buildings.

**The Lorient**  
**Location:** 4500 France Ave.  
**Developer:** Orion Investments, LLC  
**Status:** Under Construction  
Vacant buildings were razed and are being replaced with a four-story, 45-unit luxury apartment building with 6,500 square feet of restaurant and retail space. The shell building is nearly complete with occupancy scheduled to begin in late summer 2020. The City denied a request to expand the restaurant seating from 35 to 100.

**The Millennium at Southdale**  
**Location:** 6550 Xerxes Ave. and 3250 W. 66th St.  
**Developer:** Luxe Residential  
**Status:** Under Construction  
This development project is being built in two phases. The previous office building at 3250 W. 66th St. is being replaced with a six-story, 227-unit apartment building. In a future phase of development, the office building at 6550 Xerxes Ave. will also be razed and a five-story, 148-unit apartment building will be built. The project includes underground and surface parking.

**Shoppes at Estelle on France**  
**Location:** 6950 France Ave.  
**Developer:** Luigi Bernardi & Edward Farr Architects  
**Status:** Under Construction  
The office building was razed and will be replaced with a new 10,000-square-foot retail building.

**Bower Apartments**  
**(Previously known as Promenade Residences)**  
**Location:** 2650 Hazelton Road  
**Developer:** Greystar  
**Status:** Under Construction  
The new building will be 18 stories with 185 dwelling units and underground parking. It features a variety of unit sizes, including "micro" units.

**Edina Flats**  
**Location:** 4416 Valley View Road  
**Developer:** McGlynn Partners and City Homes  
**Status:** Under Construction  
The project includes 18 luxury condominiums across five buildings that are each two or three stories. All buildings will have elevator access and indoor parking. The buildings are nearly complete.

**Amundson Flats**  
**Location:** 7075 Amundson Ave.  
**Developer:** MFW Properties  
**Status:** Under Construction  
The vacant dry-cleaning facility has been razed and is being replaced with a new four-story building that features 62 units of affordable workforce housing. Parking will be underground. Construction is expected to begin this fall.

**Edina Self Storage**  
**Location:** 7725 Washington Ave.  
**Developer:** Ebert Development  
**Status:** Under Construction  
The existing light industrial building will be remodeled and expanded to 113,690 square feet to serve as a self-storage facility.

**Edison Village**  
**Location:** 7075 Amundson Ave.  
**Developer:** MFW Properties  
**Status:** Under Construction  
A 201-unit apartment building has been razed and will be replaced with a new four-story building that includes 180 units of affordable workforce housing. Parking will be underground.

**Valley View Apartments**  
**Location:** 4425 Valley View Road  
**Developer:** DJR Architects  
**Status:** Approved  
The existing one-story day care building will be razed and replaced with a three-story, 21-unit market rate apartment building with 32 underground parking stalls.

**Project at 6600-6800 France**  
**Location:** 6600-6800 France Ave. S.  
**Developer:** Southdale Office Partners and project team (McGough, HGA, Kimley-Horn and Cushman/Wakefield)  
**Status:** Approved  
The 22-acre parcel would be redeveloped with a 10-story office building, a four-story medical building, a 13-story apartment building, 25,000 square feet of ground floor retail and restaurants and three above-ground parking structures up to five decks high. The proposal, which would require rezoning, includes surrounding sidewalks, storefronts on France and elements of the Southdale Area Development Principles.

**The Sound on 76th**  
**Location:** 4100 W. 76th St.  
**Developer:** The Sound on 76th Limited Partnership; AEON is the sole member of the General Partnership  
**Status:** Approved  
A vacant building will be razed and replaced with a new four-story apartment building that features 70 units of affordable workforce housing. One-, two- and three-bedroom units will all be priced below market rates and made available to qualified tenants. Resident parking will be underground. The City has preserved and restored notable artwork to commemorate the former Flyte Time recording studio that had been located on the site.

View the DEVELOPMENT & CONSTRUCTION TRACKER online at bit.ly/LearnAboutProjects

For more information, visit bit.ly/LearnAboutProjects or contact the Community Development Department Planning Division at 952-826-0369.
Council Limits Hours of Outdoor Construction

Large Builders Prohibited from Working Sundays or Holidays

It may be a little quieter in Edina on Sundays and holidays.

To increase peace and quiet in local neighborhoods, the City Council last month approved an ordinance amendment restricting the permissible hours of outdoor construction.

Building permits are now issued in two classes – small projects with a valuation of less than $25,000 and larger projects, often completed under the management of professional construction contractors.

Construction had been allowed 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Under the new ordinance, projects with a building permit value of $25,000 or less can be completed 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends and holidays. For the larger-scale projects, permissible construction hours are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays. Construction is not allowed Sundays or holidays.

Restricting the hours will likely lengthen the timeline of construction projects in Edina. However, Council Members said they believe the benefit of the change is that it provides residents a break from the constant din of construction noise.

In other business last month, the Council:

• Formally adopted the 2018 Comprehensive Plan update. City staff and community members began work on the plan in 2016. Over the years, more than 180 meetings were held, including regular work sessions of the Planning Commission’s Comprehensive Plan Task Force, large-group public meetings, smaller community meetings, and listening sessions. The City Council approved the Comprehensive Plan in December 2019 and the Metropolitan Council approved it in late June after requesting a handful of changes.

• Approved a zoning ordinance amendment to allow breweries, taprooms, wineries, distilleries, cocktail rooms and brewpubs in the Planned Office District-2, or POD-2, zoning district. Eric Anderson made the request on behalf of a company considering locating a distillery at 7201 Metro Blvd.

• Granted a conditional-use permit with variances for a redevelopment of 4425 Valley View Road. DJR Architects plans to raze the existing one-story daycare building on the site and construct a new three-story, 21-unit market-rate apartment with 32 underground parking stalls.

• Reviewed a sketch plan of a proposed redevelopment of 6600-6800 France Ave. Southdale Office Partners are contemplating a mixed-use redevelopment of the 22-acre site, which is currently a 1970s-era office park. Council Members provided non-binding feedback on the developer’s initial ideas.

The Edina City Council will next meet 7 p.m. Sept. 1 and 15. For more information, visit EdinaMN.gov.

City of Edina Goals

Look for the budget goal icons throughout this publication to read stories about how the City is working to meet these goals.

Strong Foundation: Maintain physical assets and infrastructure.

Reliable Service: Maintain service levels that best meet the needs of the community.

Livable City: Plan for connected and sustainable development.

Better Together: Foster an inclusive and engaged community.