



#### MAPLE PLAIN AND KWIK TRIP BREAK GROUND!

Each year, on the first Saturday of June, the Orono Rotary hosts the Party in the Park at Veterans Memorial Park in Maple Plain. A portion of the funds raised are donated to the City of Maple Plain for future improvements at Veterans Memorial Park. On September 22nd, the Orono Rotary made this year's donation official. President Paul Affeldt and Treasurer Dave Shaughnessy from the Orono Rotary presented the City Council with a donation of \$12,000.



# ORONO ROTARY DONATES TO PARK IMPROVEMENTS

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### **MAYOR'S MESSAGE**

In the wake of recent tragedies, school shootings, political violence, and the growing tide of hateful and divisive rhetoric, our hearts are heavy, and fear is widespread. Yet I believe that even in heartbreak, there is power. Broken hearts can be a catalyst for healing and transformation, one person and one act of kindness at a time.

Now more than ever, we must step away from our screens and engage in courageous, face-to-face conversations, especially with those whose views differ from our own. No one should live in fear because of their beliefs. As your Mayor, I don't take sides. I strive to embrace change, listen deeply, and understand diverse perspectives, and I can continue to do that while remaining true to my core values.

We've come together through heartbreak and hardship before, and I believe we can do it again. In times of tragedy, we've shown what it means to be united, offering support, extending grace, and standing shoulder to shoulder. I encourage each of you to tap into that same compassion and empathy that I know lives within all of us. It's in those moments of connection that understanding begins.

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Let us not allow today's challenges to divide us further. May our compassion be as natural and visible as our strength.

Together, we are better.

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske



# ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 4

Voter registration is available at the Clerk's Office during regular business hours. To register to vote you must be 18 years old, or citizens who are 17 years old and will turn 18 on or before the date of the next General or Consolidated Election, are qualified to vote, and you must be a resident of your precinct 30 days prior to Election Day.

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#### **MAYOR**

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