



# OCTOBER UPDATE

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE TWIN CITIES

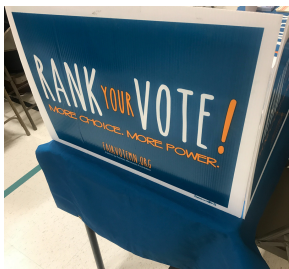


## YOUTH-LED MAYORAL CANDIDATE FORUM



The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities teamed up with Sprockets St. Paul to host a forum for candidates running for Saint Paul Mayor. The forum was held on October 5, 2017 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club.

“A city plays a large role in supporting the success of its young people, and our next mayor will make important decisions about investment in the youth who make up over a third of Saint Paul’s population. Sprockets is excited to help bring more young voices to the mayoral election and focus on issues that are important to youth through this forum,” said Erik Skold, Sprockets director.



Anaa Jibicho, one of the youth on the planning team, shared a call to action for his peers: “Amid the current political commotions, youth, amongst others, might feel as if they are voiceless, hopeless, and perpetually paid no attention to. But the truth is, we’re the next generation of civic leaders. We owe it ourselves to take part in decisions that will affect us down the line. We need to come together...to find an effective approach to the fundamental disconnect between youth and our representatives.”



At the forum, the mayoral candidates had the opportunity to answer questions about issues that matter to our Twin Cities Youth, and got to share their visions for youth success in Saint Paul. Eight mayoral candidates were in attendance at the forum: Dai Thao, Elizabeth Dickinson, Melvin Carter, Pat Harris, Tim Holden, Tom Goldstein, Trahern Crews, and Barnabas Joshua Yshua.

The forum planning team was made up of youth and youth workers from organizations across Saint Paul who are interested in social justice and civic engagement. The organizations they represent include the Saint Paul Youth Commission, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities, Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES), CommonBond Communities, Saint Paul Public Schools Student Engagement and Advancement Board, and the YWCA Saint Paul.

"There's an unwritten set of expectations for youth to be complacent with the political or social environment they are born into," said la Vang, youth planning team member. "But youth are very much capable of having a voice and leading their own future because we will be the future doctors, scientists, lawyers, technicians, educators and artists. Youth are the future and we have a voice."





BEACONS LEADERSHIP CAMP

Two weeks ago, Keystone Leaders from our Patrick Henry Beacon Boys & Girls Club facilitated a Leadership Camp for 240 Minneapolis youth in grades 3-8 at our Voyageur Camp! The Keystone Leaders at Patrick Henry Beacon are called the “Big Homies,” and have been meeting every single week since September to plan for this camp retreat. These are the leaders we look up to!



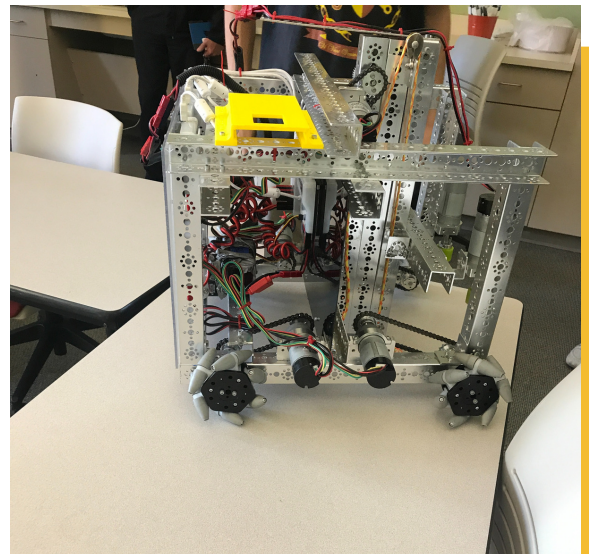
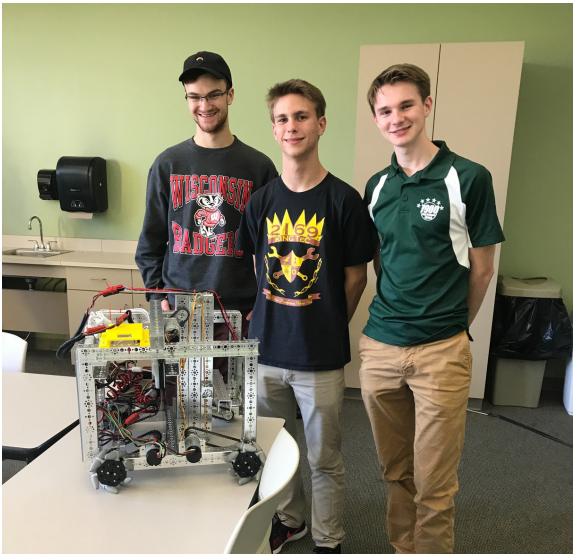


## AL LENZMEIER WEST SIDE CLUB - READING TENTS



A new school year is in full swing, and so is our Literacy Program! Check out these photos of some of our Literacy Program members at our Al Lenzmeier West Side Boys & Girls Club, who borrowed some tents from our Voyageur Camp to have some quiet spaces to read independently!

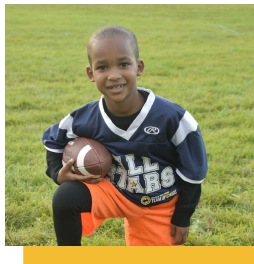
## MT. AIRY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB - ROBOTICS PROGRAM



The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities are committed to expanding our STEM programming for our members in 2018. Our Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club recently partnered with the Prior Lake High School Robotics Team to start a first year pilot program with our Club members. Our Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club members will be meeting twice a week to participate in the FIRST Tec Challenge from FIRST robotics, where teams have several months to produce a functioning robot, which they then present at challenges with other teams across the state of Minnesota!



JERRY GAMBLE FLAG FOOTBALL TEAM



EAST SIDE SPFFL PLAYOFFS

Our East Side Boys & Girls Club's Branch Director wrote the following update about East Side's SPFFL playoffs!

"Another season is in the books as we finished our 2017 campaign with the SPFFL playoffs at the East Side Boys & Girls Club. The results are as follows...3rd place went to the Al Lenzmeier West Side Boys & Girls Club, 2nd place went to the East Side Boys & Girls Club and your new SPFFL Champions are...the Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club!

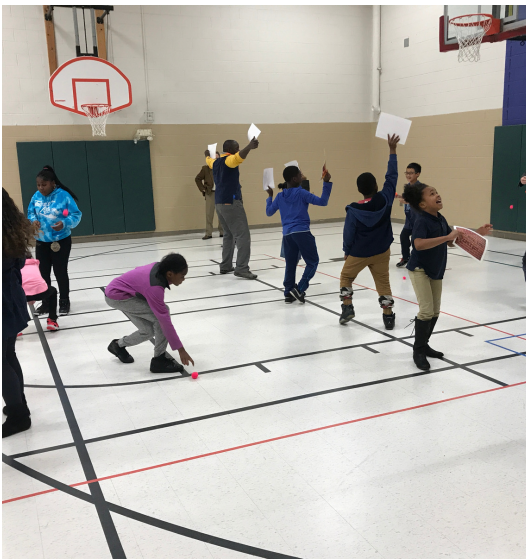
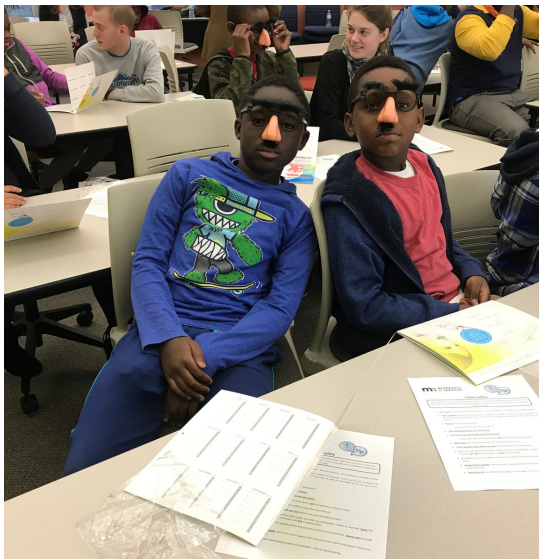
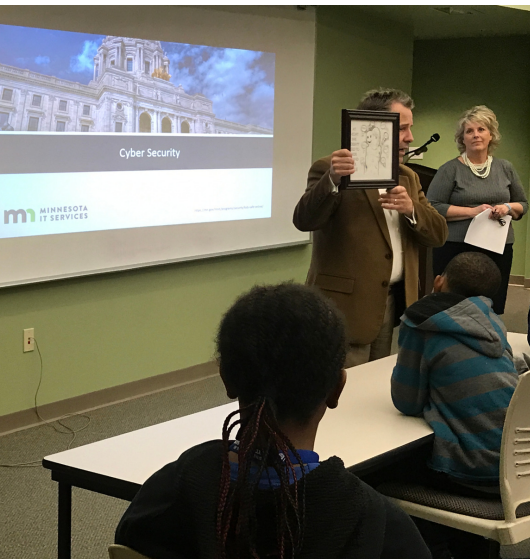
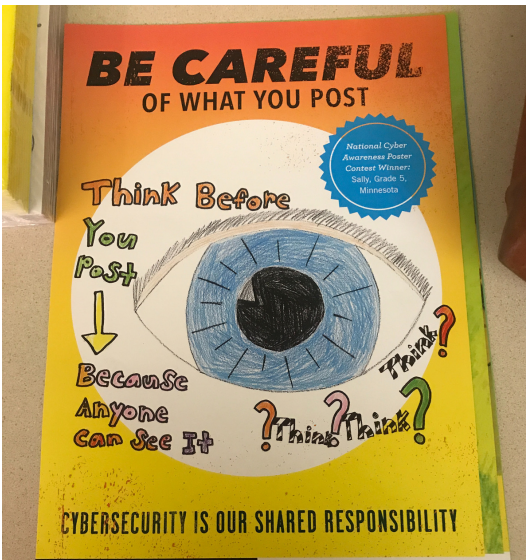
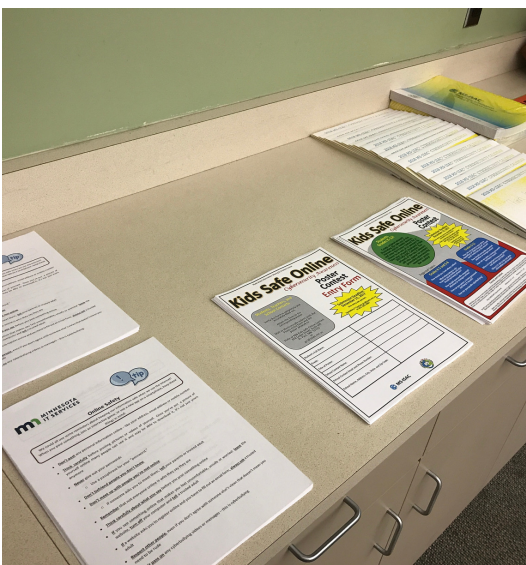
Congratulations to our teams for a great season! Special thanks to Buffalo Wild Wings for supporting our league, to our site volunteers (Barry, Brook, teen referees and many more), to our parents at all three clubs that attended/traveled to games, and our coaches Demetrius, Rudy and Max. Your hard work, patience and dedication is truly appreciated by everyone involved...Thank you!





MT. AIRY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB - CYBER SECURITY

Thank you so much to Minnesota IT Services and the Minnesota Department of Education Deputy Commissioner for coming to our Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club to speak with members in grades 3-8 about the importance of cyber security and staying safe online! Our members had so much fun with the interactive activities, and learned a lot about cyber security!





LITERACY PROGRAM

During the month of October, we have been busy with the Literacy Program across all Club sites. Education Specialists have been focused on getting all K-3rd grade members assessed in reading using the FastBridge online assessment tool. So far, we have 259 K-3rd grade members assessed!

In addition to this, Educational Specialists have been running literacy stations in their program area that are focused on reinforcing reading skills in three specific areas: phonemic awareness, word recognition/vocabulary, and reading/comprehension skills. Stations are created around member interest, engagement and movement.

Starting in November, members who qualify for our Foundational Reading Program will be invited to be part of our additional reading pull out classes. These will meet Monday through Thursday for 35 minutes with a member to teacher ratio of 8:1. Education Specialists have had the opportunity to meet once a week for two hours to share best practices and focus on professional development in the areas of direct instruction, lesson planning and social and emotional learning.

