

County selected for U of M's Resilient Communities Project

The University of Minnesota's Resilient Communities Project (RCP) announced last month that Ramsey County and Scott County have been selected as its community partners for the 2018-2019 academic year. Due to both finalists' strong proposals, it marks the first time in its six-year history the program will assist two partners in a given year.

"We are very excited to partner with the University of Minnesota to undertake research that will help advance our long-range 2040 comprehensive plan," said Scott County Planning Manager Brad Davis. "The timing is perfect. Looking at all of the community feedback and input gathered over the past two years as part of the 2040 planning process, we have identified some important research and analysis topics to move forward, and now we can match those research needs with University students, faculty, and coursework. This is a unique opportunity to move right from plan creation into plan implementation with all of the great University resources at our side ready to assist."

RCP, housed within the U of M's Center for Urban and Regional Affairs, seeks to connect students' innovation, ingenuity, and fresh perspectives with local government agencies to learn about their needs, conduct research, and develop solutions. In the coming months, staff will define the scope and purpose of individual projects before matching them with courses offered at the University.

"We're very excited about our upcoming collaborations with Scott and Ramsey Counties," said RCP's Director Mike Greco. "Each community brings

to the table a unique set of issues and projects. Working with staff, residents, and other partners in these communities will provide U of M students with incredible experiential learning opportunities, while increasing each county's capacity to remain resilient in the face of rapid economic, social, and environmental changes."

Scott County's proposal identified 14 potential projects, including investigating self-serve libraries, planting edible landscapes, diversifying agricultural production, managing hazardous waste, improving early childhood education, fostering employer-assisted housing, increasing participation in rental-assistance programs, planning for autonomous vehicles, promoting active living, and investigating the cost of services in rural areas.

"This partnership will allow us to examine policy, project, and program initiatives identified by our community in a well-defined and collaborative way," said Scott County Board Chair Tom Wolf. Beginning in September, the University and counties will collaborate on more than a dozen multidisciplinary projects to advance resilience and sustainability.

Once paired, counties can enhance their capacity to address complex issues by gaining access to thousands of hours of research from hundreds of students and faculty in a wide range of programs and disciplines—from architecture, planning and engineering, to business, environmental sciences and the humanities. Students will present their findings and recommendations at the conclusion of the semester.

Be on alert for scams as new Medicare cards arrive

New Medicare cards are coming soon, and here's what you need to know about your new card, -- and how to avoid related scams.

In April 2018, Medicare began mailing new cards to everyone who gets Medicare benefits. Why? To help protect your identity, Medicare is removing Social Security numbers from Medicare cards. Instead, the new cards will have a unique Medicare number. This will happen automatically; you don't need to do anything or pay anyone to get your new card.

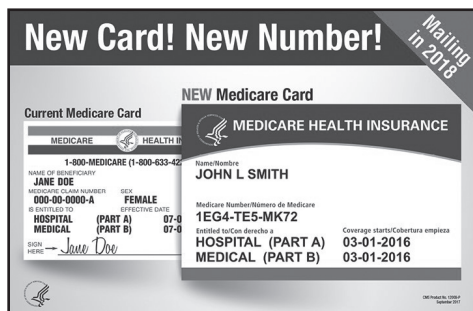
Medicare will mail your card, at no cost, to the address you have on file with the Social Security Administration. If you need to update your official mailing address, visit the Social Security website at <https://www.ssa.gov> or call 1-800-772-1213. When you get your new card, your Medicare coverage and benefits will stay the same.

If your sister who lives in another state gets her card before you, don't worry. The cards will be mailed in waves to various parts of the country from April 2018 until April 2019. So, your card may arrive at a different time than hers.

When you get your new card, be sure to destroy your old card, and **don't just toss it in the trash. Shred it.** If you have a separate Medicare Advantage card, keep that because you'll still need it for treatment.

As the new Medicare cards start being mailed, be on the lookout for Medicare scams. Here are some tips:

- **Don't pay for your new card.** It's yours for free. If anyone calls and says you need to pay for it, it's a scam.
- **Don't give personal information to get your card.** If someone calls



New Medicare cards will no longer include Social Security numbers.

claiming to be from Medicare, asking for your Social Security number or bank information, it's a scam. Hang up. Medicare will never ask you to give personal information to get your new number and card.

- **Guard your card.** When you get your new card, safeguard it like you would any other health insurance or credit card. While removing the Social Security number cuts down on many types of identity theft, you'll still want to protect your new card because identity thieves could use it to get medical services.

For more information about changes to your Medicare card, go to go.medicare.gov/newcard. And if you're a victim of a scam, **report it to the FTC.**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Shawna Faith Thompson, U of MN Extension Financial Capability Educator, at (952) 492-5383 or shawnaft@umn.edu.

Source: Lisa Weintraub Schifferle; Attorney, FTC, Division of Consumer and Business Education; Mar. 6, 2018

Safety SCENE

By Luke Hennen
Scott County Sheriff



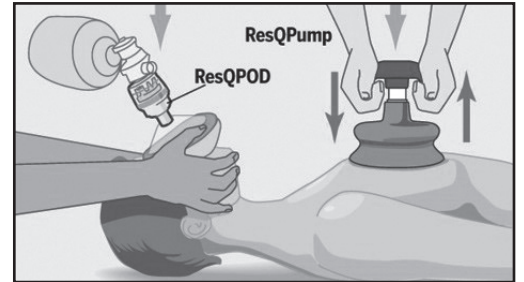
Donations help provide training, technology, equipment, services

As modern policing continues to become more complex, I recognize the Sheriff's Office's increasing needs in training, technology, equipment, and specialized services are often beyond the scope of the County budget. Private donations have become indispensable, helping us to acquire the ever-more sophisticated tools needed to respond to incidents and emergency situations more effectively.

To supplement funding and strengthen relationships with the community, the Sheriff's Office gratefully accepts community-based funding from private donors, including individuals, small businesses, and corporations, who support our mission through volunteerism, cash donations, and in-kind services and products. These community partnerships allow the Sheriff's Office access to innovative technology and services that further our ability to serve Scott County's public safety and community needs, while minimizing the burden on taxpayers.

Recently, the Sheriff's Office received two important donations that have allowed us to provide superior service to citizens of Scott County: The donation of **ResQCPR Systems** and the purchase and training of our **new K-9 Deputy.**

Early last year, the Sheriff's Office was chosen by Allina Health Emergency Medical Services to be the recipient of 17 CPR devices called ResQ CPR Systems (an approximate \$22,000 value). The devices and related training to use them was funded by the Saints Foundation, the fundraising organization for St. Francis Regional Medical Center and St. Gertrude's Health and Rehabilitation Center. The ResQCPR System is the only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) device



Seventeen ResQCPR Systems and training to use them was donated to the Sheriff's Department last year.

system approved by the FDA to improve the likelihood of survival in adults who have experienced non-traumatic sudden cardiac arrest. These devices are in our squad cars and have already been utilized successfully in three different instances in Scott County involving cardiac arrest.

In February of this year, the Sheriff's Office received a \$17,000 donation from R&D Batteries in Burnsville to fund the purchase and training expenses of a new K-9 Deputy, a two-year-old purebred Belgian Malinois named Floyd. This generous donation has relieved budgeting challenges that our office would normally face for the purchase of a specialized service. Deputy Floyd is currently undergoing 12 weeks of specialized obedience training and is scheduled to graduate at the end of May. He replaces K-9 Deputy Bojar who retired earlier this year.



Deputy Nate Olson with new K-9 Deputy Floyd

Through collaboration with our community partners, I strive to provide the highest level of service to all who visit, live, and work in Scott County. I am extremely grateful for the generosity of our community. Gracious acts like these from local businesses, organizations, and individuals show law enforcement they have the community's trust, and help provide our deputies with the tools they need to succeed.

Play Ball
Sports in Scott County

**Exhibit Opens
9-27-2018**

**SCOTT
COUNTY
history.org**
at the Stans Museum

952-445-0378