Spring/Summer 2014

The Citizen

Hewlett-Packard Company

Volume 3, Issue 4

Welcome to The Citizen

In an effort to create a stronger connection with community members, the City of Pine City publishes this newsletter, called *The Citizen*. We hope you enjoy this issue. Every community member is important to the continued growth and success of Pine City. It is important that everyone is made aware of the events and activities mentioned in each newsletter as they will allow us all to work together to sustain this wonderful city.

Weigh in on options for City Hall, CIP: Join a task force

Did you know that the City leases space for City Hall presently? That lease expires in 2018. Do you wish to have input on the future of City Hall? All options are on the table. Should the City build a new City Hall, continue to lease space from Pine County, purchase the Pine Government Center from Pine County, or purchase a portion of the Pine Government Center (such as a common interest community)?



What other options should the City pursue? The City is hoping residents become engaged in these discussions early on and is setting up a task force for interested citizens. The first meeting will be held June 25 beginning at 5 p.m. to work to develop a plan for City Hall offices, considering all alternatives.

Also, the City is looking for people to join a task force to make recommendations to the Council about capital improvement projects (CIP). The first meeting will be held on July 30 beginning at 5 p.m. The task force will review the capital improvement plan and help prioritize the five-year future capital

improvement expenses. No need to RSVP for either meeting. Simply come with your ideas. Questions can be directed to City Administrator Holly Wilson at (320) 629-2575, ext. 101.

PINE COUNTY

Community Development News: CSAH 8 Update

County State-Aid Highway (CSAH) 8 is a road that serves Pine City Township and the City of Pine City. The approximately seven-mile (11 km) road begins at the intersection of Ravine Road (CR 117) and St. Croix Road (CR 118), heads west into Pine City on St. Croix Road, then on St. Croix Road SE, heads north on 2nd Street SE, heads west on 3rd Avenue SE, and terminates at Main Street (CR 61).

This year and next, Pine County will be reconstructing CSAH 8 in Pine City (3rd Avenue SE and 2nd Street SE). As part of the improvements, the City of Pine City will be replacing the existing sanitary sewer and water mains in the project area. The City's portion of the improvements will also include the reconstruction of 7th Avenue SE, east of 2nd Street SE, along with sidewalk and curb improvements on 5th Street SE. Contact City Hall with questions.

For more on what's going on in Pine City, please turn to page 2 in The Citizen.

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Phone and Hours

- Reach City Hall by calling (320) 629-2575.
- Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except holidays.



Parks and Recreation



▶2014 Play Ball! Minnesota

A Play Ball! Minnesota Youth Clinic will be returning to Pine City on June 13, 2014, at the Pine City High School Athletic Fields (rain location: Pine City National Guard Armory). It is free for kids six-to-16 and is presented by the Twins Community Fund and Great River Energy. Details are as follows:

2 p.m. – Ages six-to-nine
 3:30 p.m. – Ages 10-16

▶2014 Summer Recreation

Summer Recreation, a.k.a. Summer Rec, starts Monday, June 9. To sign up a child, visit:

pcsummerrec.weebly.com



▶Swimming Lessons

Registration for swimming lessons will start Friday, May 16, 2014 at Field Day. Then, starting on Monday, May 19, students can be registered at City Hall from 8 a.m.—4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Forms can be found on the city website.

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TIMES	SESSION 1 Monday July	7- Friday July	/ 11	
11:00-12:00pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
12:00-1:00pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
1:30-2:30pm	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4.1
2:30-3:30pm	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 5
3:30-4:30pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 4.2
5:00 -6:00pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 6.1
6:00-7:00 pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3

TIMES	SESSION 2 Monday July 21- Friday July 25			
11am to noon	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
12:00-1:00pm	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4.1
1:30-2:30 pm	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4.2
2:30-3:30pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 5
4-5pm	Preschool	Level 2	Level 3	Level 6.2
5-6pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
2-5pm	Jr. Lifeguard			

TIMES	SESSION 3 Monday August 4-Friday August 8			
11 am to noon	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
12:30-1:30pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 3	Level 5
1:30-2:30pm	Preschool	Level 2	Level 4.1	Level 6.2
3-4pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
4-5pm	Preschool	Level 1	Level 3	Level 4.2



Public Works Department Reminders and Updates

▶ Prohibited Flushing Items

As a reminder, please only flush toilet paper down the drain. All other items should not be flushed. Many items in the store are listed as flushable, however, those items still plug the sewer lines and could cause backups into your house or someone else's.

▶ Hydrant Flushing

All City of Pine City Utilities Customers please note that the City of Pine City will be flushing hydrants on June 1, 2014 thru June 30, 2014. If you have seen crews in your area, we recommend that you do not wash a load of white clothes until you have

washed a load of darks first. If you happen to wash whites and they look yellow you can get Iron Out stain remover from your local hardware stores.

►Sump Pumps and Roof Leaders

With the wet Spring the City has experienced high volumes of water in the sanitary system. This could be due to sump pumps and roof leaders hooked up directly to the sanitary system.

Dogs

All dogs that live within the city limits of the City of Pine City need to be licensed at City Hall. Bring proof of vaccination when you license them. The city also requires that animals are on a leash if they are not confined to the

owner's property. If you want to see the complete ordinance on Animal Control, see Chapter 5 on the City of Pine City Web site.

Also, if your dog has gone missing, it is a good idea to contact City Hall to see if it could have possibly been impounded.

Reminder

It's spring/summer. Let's spruce up our yards, keep them maintained, and make Pine City look fabulous!

To reach Public Works, call (320) 629-6474 or email Public Works Supervisor Maury Montbriand at: mmontbriand@pinecitygov.com.

Fire Marshal: Grill Safely!

when the grills are stoked for warm-weather barbeques. While that can be a very enjoyable experience, there are also risks involved. Here are some grill safety tips:

It's that time of year

Charcoal Grill Safety Tips

- Never burn charcoal inside of homes, vehicles, tents, or campers.
- Charcoal should never be used indoors, even if ventilation is provided.
- Since charcoal produces carbon mon-

oxide (CO) until the charcoal is completely extinguished, do not store the grill indoors with freshly used coals.

Gas Grill Safety Tips

- Check the tubes that lead into the burner for any blockage from insects, spiders, or food grease. Use a pipe cleaner or wire to clear blockage and push it through the main part of the burner.
- Check grill hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes and leaks. Makes sure there are no sharp bends in the hose

or tubing.

- Move gas hoses as far away as possible from hot surfaces and dripping hot grease. If you can't move the hoses, install a heat shield to protect them.
- Replace scratched or nicked connectors, which can eventually leak gas.
- If you detect a gas leak, immediately turn off the gas at the tank and don't attempt to light the grill until the leak is fixed. Continued Pg. 3

Visit us online at pinecity.govoffice.com

Retirement after 30-plus years

National award given to City staffer



Christine "Chris" Bloomquist worked as a clerk for the City of Pine City for over 30 years.

Over the years, Chris' job changed a lot, much to do with technological advances. There was one computer in all of City Hall when she started on October 19, 1983.

A lot of personnel have changed in her time working for the city well. There were three mayors, four public works directors, and 12 city administrators in the time she worked for the city.

She was hired on as a deputy city clerk, became clerk, and then assistant city administrator in her later years. Her starting wage was \$5.00 an hour.

Related to the farm, she and her husband were inventors of a product for livestock intended to create an audible sound to aid in the controlled movement of animals, suited for farmers, ranchers, auctioneers, and anyone who loads or moves livestock.

Chris has always had a passion to do the right thing for the City of Pine City and to do a good job. She said she is looking forward to devoting more time to the farm and garden (and be able to keep up on weeding), as well as enjoying her many nieces, nephews and their children, music, crafts, and community activities.

Photo by Noah Sikkink.



Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading Program Kickoff: Cock-a-Doodle Zoo

Thursday, June 5 at 10 a.m. | Pine City Elementary Auditorium

Help kick-off the Summer Reading Program with a bang by joining the Pine City Public Library for "Cock-a-Doodle Zoo." Meet and learn about domestic and exotic animals--species, diets, environment, survival and more! This program is funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

This won't be your last chance for furry encounters, however, as the theme is "Paws to Read". There are a range of exciting programs and activities in store for children, teens, and families from June 3 - August 9--and prizes, including Kindle Fires and gift cards to local businesses! Special guests will join in from the Lake Superior Zoo, Ambitious Pines 4-H Group, Department of Natural Resources, Pine City Animal Hospital, Pine City Garden Club, and the Frog Guy. Stop by the library at 300 5th St SE to find out more details and sign up!



Community Development Director Nathan Johnson received a national planning award Monday, April 25 in Atlanta, Georgia, at the National Planner's Conference.

He was given the Carol Thomas Award For An Outstanding Small Town and Rural Planner, given to an individual in public service, academia or the private sector that has

made an outstanding contribution to planning in their community.

Pictured is the chair of the Small Town and Rural Planners Division of the American Planning Association, Chad Nabity, of Grand Island, Nebraska, congratulating Johnson.

Photo by Dale Powers.

Grill safety tips (cont.)

- Keep lit cigarettes, matches, or open flames away from leaking grill.
- Never use a grill indoors. Use the grill at least 10 feet away from any building. Do not use the grill in a garage, carport, porch, or under a surface that can catch fire.
- When lighting the grill, keep the top open. If the grill does not light in the first several attempts, wait five minutes to allow gas to dissipate.
- Never attempt to repair the tank valve or the appliance yourself. See an LP gas dealer or a qualified appliance repair person.
- Use caution when storing LP gas containers. Keep containers upright. Never store a spare gas container under or near the grill. Never store a full container indoors.
 Never store or use flammable liquids near the grill.
- To avoid incidents while transporting LP containers, consumers should transport the container in a secure, upright position. Never keep a filled container in a hot car or car trunk. Heat will cause the gas pressure to increase, causing the relief valve to open and allowing gas to escape.
- CPSC worked with the industry to develop a new voluntary standard to prevent LP gas leaks. Grills meeting this standard will shut themselves off if a gas leak occurs.

Thanks to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission for these tips. To contact Fire Marshal David Hill, please call (320) 629-2575, ext. 110 or email dhill@pinecitygov.com.

Pine City becomes a GreenStep City



The Pine City City Council committed the City to becoming a GreenStep City, a voluntary, three-year program started by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA).

Zach Borich, a former Pine City High School student, now enrolled at the University of Minnesota-Duluth (UMD), has been helping Pine City achieve the status. At UMD, he is seeking an Environmental Sustainability major, and double minor in Geographic Information Science and Geography, respectively.

As a GreenStep City, Pine City must implement at least 12 of the MPCA's 28 identified environmental best practices. Categories include: buildings and lighting, transportation, environmental management, economic and community development, and land use. Fortunately, the city didn't start from scratch, as it had already begun implementing some of the best practices before the council even made it official.

"GreenStep best practices will result in multiple benefits for Pine City, and the continuous work with these best practices will help make our city more sustainable," said Borich.

To become involved in the Green-Step process, contact Community Development Director/ Planner Nathan Johnson at (320)



629-2575, ext. 105. For more information about GreenStep, visit: http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us.

Photo courtesy of Zach Borich.

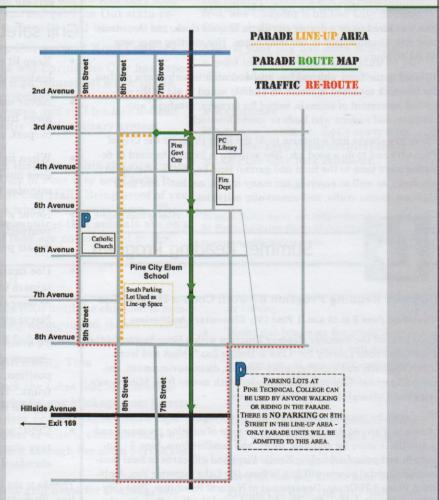
Chamber Corner: Pine County Fair Parade to be rerouted



As a part of the County Road 8 project, the Pine County Fair Parade will be re-routed this year, and perhaps next. (*Please see more info on the County Road 8 project on Pg. 1*).

This year's parade route will run the opposite direction on Main Street, commencing at 3rd Avenue and heading south. The staging area will be along 8th Street SW, from 3rd Avenue SW to 8th Avenue SW; and from 3rd Avenue SW from 8th Street to Main Street. There will be additional staging in the South elementary school parking lot.

There will be no parade around the town square at Robinson Park this year. Please plan accordingly. Contact Becky Schueller at the Pine City Area Chamber of Commerce with any questions, or to reserve a unit in the parade, at (320) 322-2020 or email: info@pinecitychamber.com.



Mercury Reduction-It just makes cents!

Reducing source emissions of mercury before it reaches your local wastewater treatment facility is the easiest way to reduce mercury impacts on your community. Participate and take charge of environmental stewardship in your community by being an active participant in mercury reduction, and by encouraging you friends and family in the community to also be a responsible water user.

Reducing your dependence on technologies that require mercury can greatly help reduce accidental discharge of mercury into your wastewater treatment system. Be an aware consumer and look out for:

► Batteries

Many alkaline batteries have already moved away from using mercury, and many states have banned mercury-containing batteries. Ensure your alkaline batteries are mercuryfree, and always dispose of your batteries at recycling facilities or battery recycling drop locations.

► Fluorescent Light Bulbs

Mercury is an excellent conductor, and is an essential component in many fluorescent light bulbs. Minnesota regulates the disposal of fluorescent light bulbs, so it is important to responsibly dispose of your waste bulbs. Care should be taken in cleaning up broken bulbs, and remember to never rinse the contents of your bulbs down the drain.

► House Paint

Historically mercury was used as red and orange pigments, as well as to prevent mildew accumulation on latex paints. Both of these uses have been discontinued in the United States, but paint manufactured prior to 1990 may still contain mercury. Properly

dispose of all waste paints at disposal and recycling facilities, and never pour excess paint down your drains.

Mercury is a particularly heavy substance and can easily settle in the bottom of pipes and in drain traps. Once there it can contaminate wastewater for many years. Responsibly using and disposing of mercury containing items can prevent many years of expensive clean-up in the future. We hope that you will take this opportunity to become part of the mercury solution in your community.

► Additional Resources

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District Mercury Reduction Handout:

http://www.wlssd.com/
WLSSD_Blueprint_Mercury_Reduction.pdf.p
df

Pine Technical College opens Pine Innovation Center



Compelled by what's been erected along the main drag through town?

Pine City has a new business incubator and it's location is superb at the corner of the busiest two cross streets in Pine City, Main Street and County Road 7 (Hillside Avenue).

According to a fact sheet put out by Pine Technical College, business incubators are meant to nurture the development of entrepreneurial companies, helping them survive and grow during the start-up and expansion periods, when they are most vulnerable. These programs provide their client companies with business support services and resources tailored to young and growing firms. The most common goals of incubation programs are creating jobs in a community, enhancing a community's entrepreneurial climate, retaining businesses in a community, building or accelerating growth in a local industry, and diversifying local economies.

Incubators are a combination of a physical facility and the services provided. Often the rent is reduced for the first one-to-three years of occupancy for a business locating in the incubator, and the services initially are either free or at a reduced price.

There are over 1,400 incubators in North America, and the strategy originated in the late 1970s.

M FEST 2

Pine City, MN

UNE 26 - 29

320.322.4040 WWW.PINECITYCHAMBER.COM Find us on Facebook

Monday - Friday... Listen Live for clues at 8:10am on 'Jesse in the Morning' WCMP FM Five medallions will be hidden, one each day of the week... Winner drawn on Saturday will receive a \$500 cash prize!

Thursday, June 26

Miss Pine City Candidate Bingo - Pine City High School - 6:30pm

Friday, June 27

Art in the Park - Robinson Park, Downtown Pine City - 6:30pm

Saturday, June 28

--- All events at Pine County Fairgrounds unless otherwise noted ---

4-H Dog PDC Hosts Pancake Breakfast in the 4-H Building - 7:30am to 11:00am 6th Annual Freedom Fest Triathlon - Begins at 8am at Westside Park/City Beach Advance Registration

* * * Beer Gardens & Food Vendors Opening at 9 AM * * *

Cross Lake Association, PC Youth Hockey, Pokegama Lake Association & Wrestling Booster Club

Pine Classic Cruiser Car Club 21st Annual Car Show - 9am to 3pm

Antique Tractor Show - 9am to 3pm

Dunk Tank Hosted by Dragon Hockey Boosters - 9am to 9pm

"Legendary Locals of Pine City" Book Signing with Nathan Johnson - 10am to 1pm

Bean Bag Tournaments Hosted by House of Help - 10am, 2pm, or 5pm

BINGO Hosted by PHASE - 11am to 3pm

Children's Activities Begin at 11am

Fit4Fun Games Hosted by Fairview Health Services ** Train Rides with Pine City Lions National Guard Obstacle Course & Rock Wall ** Crazy Hair with the Pine City Ambassadors

Minnesota State Patrol Helicopter Landing at 12pm

Money Scramble at 1pm ** Prize Drawings at 2pm

Pine City's Amazing Race - Begins at 2pm at the Pine County Fairgrounds Advance Registration

STREET DANCE & FIREWORKS

Featuring 5 'til Sunrise Band from 7pm to 11pm

Community Fireworks Display by Hollywood Pyrotechnics at Dusk, Approximately 10pm

Sunday, June 29

Solid Rock/Praise in the Park - Robinson Park, Downtown Pine City - 1pm to 6pm Pine City Ambassador Coronation - Pine City Auditorium - 7pm

Gold Sponsors: Pine City Area Chamber of Commerce, City of Pine City, CenturyLink, Cross Lake Association & Fairview Lakes Medical Center, Fairview Clinics Pine City

Silver Sponsors: FirstLight Health System, Frandsen Bank & Trust, S.E.H Engineering, Stearns Bank, MN Energy Resources, Hinckley/Pine City Flames Snowmobile Club, Pine Insurance Agency, Pokegama Lake Assn, & VFW Post 4258

Bronze Sponsors: Currie, Pangerl & Associates, Greater MN Credit Union, Knights of Columbus, Northwoods Bank, Pine Area Lions, Swanson Funeral Chapel, US Bank & VFW Auxiliary Post 4258

Prizes & Services Donated by: Walmart Pine City Store, Pine City/Hinckley Garbage Service, Pine City Pioneer, Pine County Fair Board & Pine City Public Works Crew

Rush Line Open Houses Scheduled

Work on the newest study for transitway improvements in the Rush Line Corridor is underway.

Two open houses are scheduled to seek input from community members and businesses on the transit needs of the corridor and the proposed routes:

- ▶ Interstate 35E/35 from Union Depot in downtown St. Paul to Forest Lake.
- ► On the Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority (RCRRA) right-of-way from Union Depot to White Bear Lake.

Open houses are drop-in with no formal presentation. Project staff will be available to answer questions.

Wednesday, May 28

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Maplewood Library, 3025 Southlawn Drive, Maplewood

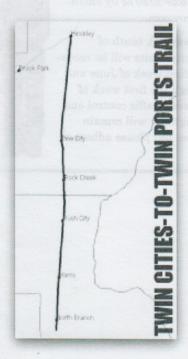
Thursday, May 29

4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Forest Lake Transit Center, 19955 Forest Road N., Forest Lake



The Rush Line Corridor is a transit-way corridor extending 80 miles from Hinckley to Union Depot in downtown St. Paul. The Pre-Project Development (PPD) Study builds upon previous work and is focused on analyzing bus and rail alternatives between Forest Lake and Union Depot.

The study will identify one mode and one alignment for adoption as the corridor's Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA). The PPD Study is a joint local and regional planning effort conducted by the Rush Line Corridor Task Force and led by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority.



Twin Cities-to-Twin Ports Trail Project Resumes

Does the nicer weather have you anxious to get outdoors, biking or walking?

Pine City will soon have a wonderful new trail resource in a portion of what's dubbed the "Twin Cities-to-Twin Ports Trail", which will eventually connect the Twin Cities area with Duluth.

Trail progress and coordination meetings resumed on Thursday, May 15.

The project is expected to be completed by mid-July and ready for use by the public in August.

The remainder of May, the contractors will continue excavation, and begin work on a retaining wall, curb and gutter and some paving. Seed and mulch work will begin in mid-June as well as the base course and wear course on the paving. Johnson Street SE is expected to be paved in mid-June as well.

Contact Nathan Johnson, Community Development Director, with questions or at (320) 629-2575, ext. 105 or email njohnson@pinecitygov.com.

Get \$1,000 for recruiting a business to Pine City!

Know of a business prospect currently located outside of Pine City that you can help relocate to within the municipal limits of Pine City; one that has been in business for at least one year and will employ at least two full-time equivalents?

The City may have a \$1,000 check with your name on it as a thank you for your work to bring new business to Pine City and for your interest in economic development! Restrictions apply*.

Contact Nathan

Johnson, Community Development Director, for details at (320) 629-2575, ext. 105 or email njohnson@pinecitygov.com.

PINE CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
315 MAIN ST S STE 100
PINE CITY, MN 55063

O5/23/2014

DATE

ORDEROF
YOU????????

One Thousand Dollars and 00/100

One Thousand Dollars and 00/100

STFARNS
BANK NA PINE CITY, MN
FOR Business Recruitment Contest

1:09345666683765209191074552615745882

*Members of the City EDA, Planning Commission, Council, City Staff, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director and Board of Directors, and their spouses, domestic partners, and relatives are excluded from this incentive offer. This incentive is not applicable to home occupations.

Mark Your Calendars!

Did You Know?

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June		a lamid of
3rd	Noon .	Chamber of Commerce Board
4th	6:30 p.m.	Regular City Council
24th	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission
25th	8:30 a.m.	Economic Development Authority
	6:30 p.m.	Regular City Council
July		
1st	Noon	Chamber of Commerce Board
2nd	6:30 p.m.	Regular City Council
4th	All Day	Offices Closed—Independence Day
22nd	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission
23rd	8:30 a.m.	Economic Development Authority
30th	6:30 p.m.	Regular City Council
August		
5th	Noon	Chamber of Commerce Board
6th	6:30 p.m.	Regular City Council
26th	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission
27th	8:30 a.m.	Economic Development Authority
	6:30 p.m.	Regular City Council

Please notice that not every meeting or event taking place is listed here! For updated meeting information, check the City and Chamber Web sites:

City ▶ pinecity.govoffice.com

Chamber ▶ pinecitychamber.com

- ♦ A "Complaint Form" is downloadable on the City's Website for citizens to present an issue or concern to City Staff that pertains to an ordinance violation. Whether you've witnessed a junk automobile, tall grass or another violation, the City would like to hear about it.
- ♦ The "Open Forum for Citizen Input" is an opportunity for citizens to present an issue or concern to the City Council that is not on the agenda for a regular meeting. Anyone is welcome to attend Council meetings and participate in the open forum.
- ♦ The City recently adopted a new Parks Use Policy, available on the City's Web site. Parks now require reservations for event use. Please contact Parks and Recreation Director, Lara Smetana, with questions at (320) 629-2020 or by emailing lsmetana@pinecitygov.com.
- ♦ Main Street (Old Highway 61), south of Hillside Avenue to the city limits will be reconstructed beginning the first week of June and is expected to run through the first week of August. Expect short-term traffic control and access changes. The highway will remain open during construction, but please adhere to construction signage.



The Citizen

A publication for the people of Pine City.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.