

# OUR neighborhood

Evanston-Northwestern  
Community News  
Summer 2018

NEWS



## Ready to Work

A few months after attending a job-readiness workshop at Northwestern, Evanston resident Gabrielle Walker-Aguilar was sitting at her new desk at Evanston's Walker Elementary School. It's a lovely new position, says Walker-Aguilar, who's now the school's head secretary. "Northwestern really helped me improve my résumé and talking points in my interview."

The workshop was one of two recent events, hosted by the University's Offices of Neighborhood and Community Relations and Human Resources, to advance Northwestern's commitment to inclusion and opportunity and attracting local talent. While the University is Evanston's largest employer, local residents sometimes find it daunting to apply for jobs on campus.

"We're such a big anchor in Evanston, so having good neighborhood relations is very important," says Caroline Onagan, director of talent acquisition for Northwestern. "We have to make sure we're open and accessible to members of the community who are interested in working here."

The two free events focused on expanding employment opportunities for local residents by taking Northwestern to them, introducing the University and explaining the application process. At the job-readiness workshop in December, Northwestern recruiters provided community members with résumé critiques and shared job-search and interview tips.

The workshop also prepared attendees for the second event, a career fair in March where they could learn about employment opportunities at the University.

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## WARD PROFILE: FIRST WARD

Evanston's First Ward is home to a diverse population of all ages.

Located between Milburn and Dempster Streets, the ward includes housing for Northwestern students as well as families and senior citizens.

Adding character to the ward are historic residential neighborhoods, the beautiful lakefront, and a lively downtown featuring the former Varsity Theater building, the recently renovated Fountain Square, and a wealth of fun restaurants and unique shops.

Pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly, the First Ward has something for everyone.

Judy Fiske has been First Ward alderman since 2009. Find more information at [www.evanston1stward.org](http://www.evanston1stward.org).

## Community Clean-Up



### CONNECT WITH US

Our email newsletter includes a monthly Northwestern events calendar. Email Shayla Butler at [shayla.butler@northwestern.edu](mailto:shayla.butler@northwestern.edu) to sign up.

Do you have a business or non-profit in Evanston? We can help increase your visibility, facilitate connections to the Northwestern community, and find student volunteers.

For details, visit [northwestern.edu/communityrelations](http://northwestern.edu/communityrelations) or contact Neighborhood and Community Relations executive director Alan Anderson at [alan.anderson@northwestern.edu](mailto:alan.anderson@northwestern.edu) or 847-467-5762.

This April, sustainNU held a variety of Earth Month events to show how Northwestern is working to become more sustainable and how the community can join those efforts.

Thirteen events touched on all the areas of focus in the University's strategic sustainability plan, according to Stephanie Folk, sustainability communications manager for sustainNU. One event saw 15 members of the Graduate Student Association participating in a clean-up event at the Clark Street Beach bird sanctuary just south of campus. Volunteers removed invasive weeds in preparation for spring planting.

"The Northwestern volunteers were so energetic and helpful," says Julie Dorfman, a member of the Evanston North Shore Bird Club. "They were quick learners, and their help was greatly appreciated."

Close to 700 people participated in Northwestern's Earth Month programs. A walking tour of the Evanston campus showcased its

sustainable features, such as LEED-certified buildings and storm-water retention for irrigating gardens. Bike 2 Campus Week events provided cyclists with tire pumping and minor fixes from a mechanic.

Northwestern also received the 2018 Energy Star Partner of the Year Award for the University's efforts to reduce campus energy consumption and educate students, faculty, and staff about sustainability, including efforts to track energy usage and measure progress in reducing consumption.

Northwestern is the first university in more than a decade to receive the award and just the fourth university to be recognized. According to University leadership, the award is especially important for organizations like Northwestern, whose mission includes preparing the scientists, engineers, policymakers, and citizens who will take on the challenges of resource conservation and climate change.

**TO LEARN MORE** about sustainNU, visit [northwestern.edu/sustainability](http://northwestern.edu/sustainability).

## A Jump-Start on Learning

Two afternoons a week, Northwestern students lead young children in lessons at Evanston's Creative Play Preschool at the Robert Crown Community Center.

The children are part of Jumpstart, a national early education organization that helps preschoolers from low-income neighborhoods develop language and literacy skills.

This is the ninth year of Northwestern's Jumpstart program, where a team of 40 undergraduates dedicates 300 hours of service per year to delivering research-based language, literacy, and social-emotional development curriculum to children in Evanston and Rogers Park.



“Something I love about Jumpstart at Northwestern is that our students are all studying different things,” says Micaela Moran, the University’s Jumpstart coordinator. “Some are studying premed, and a lot are School of Education and Social Policy students, but there’s a pretty broad spectrum. It really adds a richness to the program.”

In addition to teaching two-hour sessions twice a week, students help out in the classroom, supporting children and helping teachers with activities.

“The greatest thing about Jumpstart is its emphasis on direct service and the ability to build connections and relationships throughout the year, not only with your amazing classroom children but also with their wonderful and supportive teachers and loving families,” says Angelina Strohbach, a Jumpstart tutor.

The Northwestern tutors “are very interactive, and they put a lot of thought into their activities,” says Tiffany Caston, preschool program coordinator at Robert Crown. “They really build relationships with the students and their families.”

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**TO LEARN MORE** about the Jumpstart program, email Micaela Moran at [micaela.moran@northwestern.edu](mailto:micaela.moran@northwestern.edu).



## Career Fair

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Northwestern partnered with Evanston's Cradle to Career to promote the fair. "We have a lot of unemployed and under-employed people in the community," says Kimberly Holmes-Ross, the organization's community engagement coordinator. At the fair, "there was a lot of one-on-one with Northwestern HR representatives, who were very helpful and attentive."

The goal was to meet job seekers' individual needs. "Whether it was to understand more about how to navigate University employment or if they just wanted general career advice, we gave them that," Onagan says. "We started our conversations by asking what they hoped to get out of the fair.

"It was important to give people a chance to talk to us about different paths to working here," she adds, "and to give them access to people who may be able to promote their candidacies."

Evanstonian Jennifer Weatherspoon found the fair a great experience. "They gave us very good information about how to get employed with Northwestern," she says. "I learned a little bit more about the people from the HR department and how they planned to link the Evanston community to employment at Northwestern."

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**TO LEARN MORE** about career opportunities at Northwestern, visit [northwestern.edu/hr/careers](http://northwestern.edu/hr/careers).

### STAFF PROFILE: ERIC CHIN

As the new commander of police services for University Police, Eric Chin oversees police operations on the Evanston campus, including patrol, investigations, and professional standards.



department but also within the University and Evanston as a whole.

"Our officers serve as ambassadors as well as public safety officials," he adds. "We are ingrained in the community, and we work very hard to establish trust by maintaining high expectations."

"This is a great campus, great students, great faculty and staff, and it's a great community to serve," Chin told the *Daily Northwestern*. "It's been a very warm welcome—not just from within the police

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**TO LEARN MORE**, about safety and security at Northwestern, visit [northwestern.edu/safety-security](http://northwestern.edu/safety-security).

### EVENTS

#### COMMUNITY PICNIC SATURDAY, JULY 21 3–6 P.M.

Norris University Center, East Lawn.  
Join us for free food and entertainment for the whole family at our third annual community picnic, open to the public.

#### RUN FOR WALK SUNDAY, JULY 29 7:30 A.M.

Choose a 4.1-mile run through Evanston, a 5K walk, a youth mile, or the kids' race—and finish on the 50-yard line at Ryan Field! Registration includes a ticket to a home football game against Duke or Akron. Register at [nusports.com](http://nusports.com).



#### MOANA AT RYAN FIELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 2 7 P.M.

Bring the whole family to a free movie night! The film, rated PG, follows an adventurous teenager on a daring mission to save her family. Along the way, Moana fulfills the ancient quest of her ancestors and discovers her own identity.