Heights Recreation WINTER 2014/2015 Happenings Columbia Heights

MAYOR'S TASTE OF COLUMBIA HEIGHTS HOLIDAY KICK-OFF

Friday, November 21st 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. John P. Murzyn Hall - 530 Mill St.

Sample foods from our local restaurants! FREE wine and beer tasting from the CH Liquor Stores, Full cash bar provided by the Lion's Club, Music from The Chico Chavez Trio, Traveling Accordionist Joe Macko, the Skipdilly band. Prizes and Silent Auction. Free admission. \$2 per ticket per food sample. Questions call 763-706-3733. Proceeds will go toward the CH Activity Fund, the restaurants and CH youth activities.

HYLANDER CENTER City Fitness Facility - 1300 49th Ave.

WHAT: The exercise room contains 2 treadmills, 3 elliptical machines and various weight machines. Open gym, when not in use for programming, for basketball, volleyball & dodgeball.

WHO: Adults & Youth, Residents/Non-Residents

WHEN: Monday - Friday 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Mondays - Thursdays 6:00 - 8:30 p.m. Saturdays 9:00 - 12:00 p.m. Sundays 11:30 - 2:30 p.m. *Closed if hosting a tournament and on holidays Calendar available at www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

WHERE: Hylander Center - East Door #38 1300 49th Avenue, located on the North side of the swimming pool at the CH High School.

PARKING: Directly across 49th Ave. there are designated marked stalls for Hylander Center users.

COST: \$1 Daily drop in \$10 monthly pass for adult Residents \$20 monthly pass for adult Non-Residents Local Restaurants Basha Mediteranean Wood Grill Karta Thai Sarna's Classic Grill Yafa Grill & Pizzeria Royal Orchid Miller's Corner Bar & Grill Tasty Pizza Kevin Lindee Chocolatier Latin Kitchen Adelita's Panderia Bakery







FREE - Youth After School Supervised Open Gym

Mondays: Columbia Academy 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. *School Photo ID required.

Thursdays: CH High School

3:30 - 5:30 p.m. *School Photo ID required.

This is an opportunity to keep youth active and give them an alternative activity after school. Questions contact Recreation 763-706-3730.



ONLINE REGISTRATION www.chreconline.org WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING? Check out our City website: www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

Like us on Facebook: Facebook.com/ColumbiaHeightsRecreation/MurzynHall

Recreation Information

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C.H. Recreation Department 530 Mill Street N.E. John P. Murzyn Hall 763-706-3730

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The office will be closed on November 11, 27, 28, December 24 & 25, 2014, January 1, 19 & February 16, 2015

Recreation Hotline

To better serve the residents of Columbia Heights, the Recreation Department maintains an information and weather phone line. Call (763) 706-3737 anytime, twenty-four hours a day, for a recorded message regarding recreation programs and activities. In the event of inclement weather, facility closure and program cancellation information will also be presented. A decision will not be made for evening programs until 4:30 p.m. Call our information line at (763) 706-3737.





<u>Columbia Heights Recreation</u> <u>Mission Statement</u> The mission of the Columbia Heights Recreation Department is to provide recreational and service opportunities for all ages.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Online: www.chreconline.org. In person or via mail at Columbia Heights Recreation, John P. Murzyn Hall, 530 Mill Street N.E., Columbia Heights, MN 55421. Drop box after hours is on the east side of building. You may also register over the phone for most activities with a Discover, Visa or Master Card payment by calling 763-706-3730.

•Please fill out a separate registration form for each participant.

•Please make checks payable to: City of Columbia Heights.

•Confirmation: Assume registration is confirmed. You will be notified only if the class is canceled or already filled.

Participants Scholarship:

Apply at the office for assistance if unable to pay for an activity. The scholarship will cover 75% of the program fee (maximum discount is \$25); the remaining 25 percent needs to be covered by the participant's parent or guardian. Please bring a copy of your Federal income tax or school district free lunch form for verification. Only one scholarship per child per newsletter.



John P. Murzyn Hall Rental Information

John P. Murzyn Hall (JPM), operated by the Recreation Dept., is available for rental by the general public during non-programmed times. Reserve JPM for wedding receptions, meetings, parties, banquets, etc.



Our facility offers a spacious banquet hall that comfortably accommodates groups of up to 375 people. Several meeting rooms are also available for rentals. See more photos of Murzyn Hall on our website at: www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us.

We invite you to tour our facility or call 763-706-3737 for the Murzyn Hall information line. Reservations may be made Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. at 763-706-3734, or in person at the Recreation Office located in Murzyn Hall.



Recreation Information

PARK RESERVATIONS

The City of Columbia Heights has established a Park Reservation Fee. Reservations will begin on the first business day of each year. A permit must be filled out at the Recreation Office located at John P. Murzyn Hall, 530 Mill Street. The Fees are as follows: **Residents:** \$40 + tax **Non-Residents:** \$60 + tax **Large Groups** 100 people or more: \$100 + tax

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT WAGON

The Neighborhood Event Wagon is for residents of Columbia Heights to use. It will be delivered and picked up by the Recreation Department. Reservations will begin on the first business day of each year. **Reservation Fee:** \$35 + tax

Photos: Sullivan Lake Park & Huset Park West



Make reservations at the Recreation Department 530 Mill Street or by calling 763-706-3730. Payment is required at time of reservation.



Park & Recreation Commission

Chair: David Payne Commission Members: Sean Clerkin, Jr., Tom Greenhalgh, Stan Hoium, Kevin McDonald, & Marsha Stroik Council Representative: Gary Peterson

Photo Policy:

Photographs and videos are periodically taken of participants while they are engaged in programs, special events, or enjoying the parks. Please be aware that these photos may appear in the local newspapers, on local cable television, and/or Recreation Department publications.

9th Annual CH Sister Cities International Young Artist/Author Showcase

We are searching for local students 13-18 years of age to participate in the 2015 Young Artist Showcase. This year's theme is "*Connecting Communities For Peace and Prosperity*". Local winners will receive prizes and first place winners will have the opportunity to move on to the national level. Last year's local first place

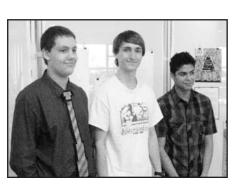


winners; artist Lorryn Scott, poetry Jose Perales, who received \$100 and their work moved on to the national level.

2015 Art Exhibition at Murzyn Hall Wed., April 22 at 7:00 p.m. (local judging)

Student Artists & Authors ages 13-18 are eligible and encouraged to be apart of this very special event open to the public as an Art Exhibition at Murzyn Hall. Winners for the Artist and Author Competitions will be announced at the exhibition.

For detailed information, please call the Recreation Dept. at (763) 706-3733





Youth School Release Trips

*Register online at www.chreconline.org

Spring Break Trips Stay tuned for exciting Spring Break Trips March 30th-April 6th.

Wild Chutes Snow Tubing @ Wild Mountain Friday, December 26



Wild Chutes Snow Tubing offers several lanes of fun including one lane set-up for double wide chains! It's great fun! Come on out and play! It's fun, it's easy, and much better than sliding in your backyard. Imagine the thrill of cruising down one of our specially formulated tubing lanes alone or with a group of friends and then effortlessly getting to the top of the hill on our conveyor lift. You just stand on it with your tube and allow it to do all of the work to pull you to the top of the mountain. No experience or special equipment is needed. Just hop in your snow tube and enjoy the ride! Bring bag lunch or money for concessions. Dress for the weather! Min 25/ Max 50. Registration deadline Dec. 19.

Who: 4th-9th grade When: Friday, December 26 Drop off & Pick up, Murzyn Hall Drop-off: 9:45 am Bus leaves: 10:00 am Pick-up: 3:45 pm – Fee: \$10 Activity # 2407-14

Skiing @ Wild Mountain Monday, December 29

Have you been thinking how much fun it would be to learn how to ski, but just haven't had the chance? Learn to ski with the help from Wild Mountain ski instructor professionals. This special offer includes your lift ticket, ski equipment rental and required lesson for only \$15!

If you already know how to ski or snowboard you must test out with an instructor. Come along and experience the different level slopes with your friends at Wild Mountain. Bring a bag lunch along or money for concessions. Dress for the weather. Reg deadline Dec. 22. Min 25/Max 50.

Who: 4th-8th grade

When: Monday, December 29Drop off & Pick up at Murzyn HallDrop-off:9:15 amBus leaves:9:30 amPick-up:3:30 pmFees:\$15 lift ticket, equipment, and lesson included!Activity # 2409-14



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ZERO GRAVITY & A MOVIE Tuesday, December 30

We will go to Wynnsong Theaters for a PG rated movie. Bring your own money for concessions if you wish. * **Bring a Bag Lunch to eat on the bus.**

Zero Gravity (Moundsview location) Trampoline Park-A destination for FUN! From 1:00-3:00 you can defy gravity, jump, bounce off walls, do somersaults in the air, flip into a foam pit and play dodge ball like never before. Reg deadline Dec. 23. Min 25/Max 50

Who: 4th-9th gradeWhen: Tuesday, December 30Drop off & Pick up at Murzyn HallDrop-Off: 10:00 amBus Leaves: 10:15 amFee: \$15Activity # 2408-W14



Pick-up: 3:20 pm

Enrichment



New Year's Eve Party

Let's spend the afternoon together celebrating the new year - 2015! We will have a Dance Party, a Snow Sculpture Contest, play Guitar Hero, get a Temporary Tattoo, and watch a Movie, Costume Photo's, Food, Games...Don't miss out...tell your friends! Min 20 /Max 40.

Who: 4th - 8th grade

When: Wednesday, December 31 Time: 1:00-4:00 p.m.Where: Meet in the Youth Lounge lower level of Murzyn HallFee: \$5 Activity # 2600-14

*Register for programs online at <u>www.chreconline.org</u>



TNT (Teens N Togetherness) 6th - 9th Gr

Youth Lounge NOW Open at Murzyn Hall!!! Bring your friends to hang out after school for free time. Max of 20 students. Open during holiday break! A staff person will begin a student pickup at CA in the City white van each week starting on Nov. 18 from 3:15-3:25 pm.

Who: 6th - 9th gradeWhen: Every Tuesday, Closed Nov. 11Time: 3:30 - 5:30 pm - Students must sign in by 4:00Where: Murzyn Hall Youth LoungeFee: FREE



Ice Skating Youth in 2nd -8th Grades

Join Sam & Erick Rolstad on Saturday afternoons for 5 weeks, January 3 - 31 at Ostrander Park for ice skating lessons, with hot cocoa and marshmallows in the warming house.

ALL SESSIONS: When: Saturdays, Jan. 3 - 31 Where: Ostrander Park

Who: 2nd - 5th gradersWhat: Beginning Ice SkatingTime: 1:00-2:00 pmFee: \$15Activity # 1214-15

Who: 6th - 8th graders What: Skating Club - Open Skate Time: 2:00-3:00 pm 7 Fee: \$15 Activity # 1215-15



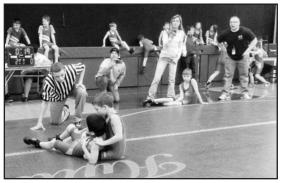
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Youth Athletics

WRESTLING

The CH Youth Wrestling program is gearing up for another season and would like YOU to join in on the fun and success! This program is for new and experienced wrestlers. Learn basic wrestling techniques such as takedowns, throws, and pinning combinations. Members compete in team events and are afforded other opportunities to compete individually in tournaments throughout the season. Please contact the Recreation office if you would be willing to help volunteer coaches.





When: November 11 – March
Practices Tuesdays & Thursdays, possible meets on Saturdays
Time: 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Fee: \$40 (\$45 after Oct. 31) & \$40 uniform deposit
Held at the CH High School Wrestling Room.
•Youth Program Grades 2-5 Activity # 1600-14

•Middle School Grades 6-8 Activity # 1601-14

*Register for programs online at <u>www.chreconline.org</u>

Martial Arts

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Instructor, Dan Malone, has been in Tae Kwon Do for 20 years and teaching for about 15 years. He's a 4th dan (degree) black belt in Tae Kwon Do and a 3rd dan (degree) black belt in Hapkido.

Little Tigers Martial Arts for Kids ages 3-6

Learn basic kicks, punches and strikes through a variety of exercises and fun games. Develop coordination & flexibility with peers. Promoting focus, discipline and respect. This class is a great personal tool to carry into future.

Who: Youth Ages 3 - 6 years oldMin 8/Max 20Time: 5:30 - 6:00 pmWhere: Edgemoor Rm, lower level Murzyn Hall

When: Winter Session I: Thursdays, Nov. 13 - Dec. 11 *No Class Nov. 28 Activity # 2234-W14 Fee: \$30

When: Winter Session II: Thursdays, January 29 - February 19 Activity # 2237-W15 Fee: \$30

Tae Kwon Do Ages 6 & up

This Martial Arts program teaches participants (beginner to advanced) the skills of Tae Kwon Do along with its historical perspective. Participants learn self-defense, kicks, stances and Tae Kwon Do Hyung (form Chon Ji). Students will be trained for belt certification testing. In addition to the registration fee, participants are expected to purchase a uniform from the instructor and pay for belt registration fee. Min 8/Max 20



Who: Ages 6 years old & up Where: Edgemoor Room, lower level Murzyn Hall

When: Winter Session I: Thursda	ays, Nov. 6 - Dec. 18 *No Cl	asses Nov. 28	
Level 1: Beginner-White belt	Time: 6:00 - 6:45 pm	Fee: \$40	Activity # 2235-W14
Level 2: Orange belt & higher	Time: 6:45 - 7:30 pm	Fee: \$40	Activity # 2236-W14
When: Winter Session II: Thurse	days, January 22 - February	26	
Level 1: Beginner-White belt	Time: 6:00 - 6:45 pm	Fee: \$40	Activity # 2238-W15
Level 2: Orange belt & higher	Time: 6:45 - 7:30 pm	Fee: \$40	Activity # 2239-W15

Jr. Hylander Basketball League Boys and Girls, Grades 3 - 6

This league will focus on fun, instruction, skill development and organized games. 3rd & 4th Girls games will be on Saturdays in Fridley; 3rd & 4th Boys games are to be determined; 5th & 6th Girls Saturdays @ Immaculate Conception School; 5th & 6th Boys Sundays @ Immaculate. *Over previous years this has been the game schedule, but is subject to change*. Registrants may be shifted to even out teams. Max of 10 per team.



When: November - February. Practice schedule to be determine. Weekend morning games may be added.

Fee: \$45 Where: City Gym at Hylander Center Activity # & location: *NEED COACHES

Boys Grades 3-4 Schedule TBD Activity #1530-14 Boys Grades 5-6 Schedule TBD Activity #1533-14 Girls Grades 3-4 Schedule TBD Activity #1523-14 Girls Grades 5-6 Schedule TBD Activity #1526-14

A Great Gift Idea for Heights fans!

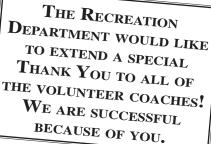
FOR SALE! Heights Athletics Sweatshirts Youth & Adult Sizes - \$20 available at the Recreation Office













Sports Sampler for Kids



This is a great opportunity for younger kids to get active this winter! Sam & Cassi will give an introduction to sporting activities such as baseball/softball, basketball, soccer, football, kickball, volleyball, frisbee golf, track & field, parachute, bowling, hula hoops, jump ropes, hopscotch, four square, throwing and catching. Min 10/Max 25

Who: Boys & Girls, 4 years - Kindergarten
Glitter Bugs: Tuesdays, Jan. 27 - Feb. 24
Time: 6:30-7:30 pm
Where: Valley View Elementary Gym
Fee: \$15 Activity # 1100-W15

Who: Boys & Girls, 1st - 3rd Grade
Dyno-Hites: Tuesdays, Jan. 27 - Feb. 24
Time: 7:30-8:30 pm
Where: Valley View Elementary Gym
Fee: \$15 Activity # 1101-W15

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Youth Enrichment



GYMNASTICS

Jolene Miske is the Head Gymnastics Coach at Columbia Heights High School. She started out

as a gymnast and now coaches preschool through high school age students. Class Rules - Attire: leotard or tank top and fitted athletic shorts, Hair neatly pulled back. Please, No gum or street shoes/socks. Parents are to wait in the waiting area. Parents will be able to watch the First and Last Class! 8 weeks.

Where: Wednesday classes are held in the Edgemoor Room, lower level Murzyn Hall

Friday classes will be help at Columbia Heights High School in the gymnastics room on the stage in the main gym

When: Wednesdays Jan. 7 - Feb. 25/ Fridays Jan. 9 - Feb. 27

WEDNESDAY SESSIONS January 7- February 25 **Sessions at Murzyn Hall

Mommy & Me 18 mo. - 2 1/2 Year Olds | 30 Min Class | 4:00-4:30 Wednesdays | Fee: \$35 |Activity # 1199-W15 This class is a great starter class for children not ready to leave mom's side. We will start to develop lead up skills that will stay with them for the rest of their life. Besides learning what gymnastics is about your child will also work on important developmental milestones like listening, taking turns, communicating, and cooperative play. The next level will have harder skills that are more complex and the pace of the class will also increase.

Mighty Tykes 3/4 Year Olds | 30 Min Class | 4:30-5:00 Wednesdays | Fee: \$35 | Activity # 1200-W15

This class will start to develop lead up skills that will stay with them for the rest of their life. Besides gymnastics your child will also work on important developmental milestones like listening, taking turns, communicating, and cooperative play. From here, the next level will have harder skills that are more complex and the pace of the class will also increase.

<u>Mighty Bees (No Experience) Ages 5-8</u> | 45 Min Class | 5:00-5:45 Wednesdays | Fee: \$40 |Activity # 1201-W15 This class starts to build on the skills already learned in the previous levels. If you are just starting, the first couple classes take a while until the routine is established. Once in the class the kids are moving the entire time, taking turns, and developing the skills needed to transition into the girls programs that awaits them once they are 5 or in kindergarten.

FRIDAY SESSIONS January 9 – February 27 *ALL Friday sessions held at the CH High School gymnastics rm

Shooting Stars (lvl 1) Ages around 5-8 | 45 Min Class | 4:30-5:15 Fridays | Fee: \$40 |Activity # 1202-W15 This class will start to build the foundation for the rest of the skills to come. Most skills are either with spot, or on the equipment that will aid them somehow. In class the pace is fun but challenging. Starting cartwheels, support on the bars, and the beginnings of walking certain ways and jump on the balance beams. From here the skills will get a little more demanding, and the quality will increase! In gymnastics you can start here and go anywhere!

Springers (lvl 2) Ages around 5-9 | 45 Min Class | 5:15-6:00 Fridays | Fee: \$40 |Activity # 1203-W15

This class will build on the basic skills from the Shooting Stars class. Some older kids that are more coordinated may start here. In this class the kids will learn the following skills without assistance or the use of mats to aid them before they can move up. Forward and backward rolls on floor, small handstand and cartwheels, pulling over and under on the bars. Rolls and cartwheels on low/floor beams, and run and hurdling into beginner vaults. From here the skills will get more complex and these basics are crucial to achieve success in the next levels.

Leapers (lvl 3) Ages around 6-10 | 60 Min Class | 6:00-7:00 Fridays | Fee: \$40 |Activity # 1204-W15

This class will start with more advanced skills that without some prior gymnastics experience may be to challenging to some kids. In the class, the kids will further improve their abilities and work on some of the following skills: handstands, front to back cartwheels, rolls with straight arms and legs, backhip circles and underswings on bars, cartwheel and easy jumps on beam, and running into rolls and handstand on vault. With the class lasting 60 minutes the kids will go to 2 events and end with general strengthening to help improve the quality and ease of the skills.



Athletics



Miss Renee Barnett, from the 'nMotion Dance Center in Fridley, will be teaching the winter dance session. Renee has been dancing for 16 years. She will focus on ballet and tumbling for the younger groups and the older groups will do ballet and jazz. Students will learn the fundamentals, proper technique, and floor exercises, along with a dance to perform on the last class for families!

Please have students wear comfortable clothes (i.e. leotard, tights, sweatpants, yoga pants, shorts, tanks, t-shirts etc.) no jeans, hair pulled back, socks or ballet shoes, bring a water bottle. Parents will wait outside of the classroom, except for our last class, which will be a showcase of all the students have learned.

All classes are held at John P. Murzyn Hall, downstairs in the Edgemoor room.

CLASS Schedules - \$40 per class

Mondays January 5 - March 9 (no class Jan 19 & Feb 16) \$40

Who: Preschool 3 & 4 years old **When:** Mon. 5:00 - 5:45 **Activity** # 1210-W15 Min 5/Max 10

 Who: 1st & 2nd grades

 When: Mon. 6:30 - 7:30

 Activity # 1212-W15
 Min 5/Max 15

Who: 5 years old & Kindergarten When: Mon. 5:45 - 6:30 Activity # 1211-W15 Min 5/Max 10

Who: 3rd - 5th grades **When:** Mon. 7:30 - 8:30 **Activity** # 1213-W15 Min 5/Max 15





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Adult Athletics & Enrichment

Stompin' At The Hall 55 years & older

Increase your energy! Improve your flexibility and circulation through walking, stretching, and exercising at a level that is safe for you. Bring a mat or blanket for floor exercises. Choose one or two sessions. Men & women welcome. Beginners class will learn the routines before joining the regular classes. Classes held at Murzyn Hall.

Mondays

Date: Jan. 12 - March 23 *No Class 1/17, 2/16 Time: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Activity # 8202-W15 Cost: \$24.75 - 9 classes

<u>Thursdays</u>

Jan. 15 - March 26 No Class 3/19 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. # 8204-W15 \$27.50 - 10 classes



*<u>Tuesday</u> - <u>Beginner</u> Begins Jan. 13 - eventually joins one of the other days

joins one of the other days 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. # 8201 \$27.50 - 10 classes



Total Body Conditioning

Tone your muscles with this Total Body Workout taught by Donna, AFAA certified group fitness instructor & personal trainer. Improve posture, balance and core strength through a variety of body conditioning exercises and stretching for flexibility. We will lunge, squat, and sculpt in a motivating atmosphere. All fitness



levels are encouraged. This is your workout and you are encouraged to work at your level while pushing yourself just a little more each time. Bring a set of 2 lbs and/or 5 lbs weights, a bottle of water, a yoga mat or towel, and tennis shoes. Minimum 8 students.

Who: Adults, all ages & skill levels
When: Wednesdays
Dec. 3, 10, 17, Jan. 7, 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4
Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Where: Edgemoor Rm, lower level Murzyn Hall
Fee: \$40 Activity # 5101-W15

ADULT Aerobic Dance

These classes are for adults interested in motivated workouts involving low impact dance steps. Enjoy this vigorous and fun exercise class that will help you get and stay in shape. Class uses low impact dance steps. Bring a mat or blanket for floor exercises. Class is held at Murzyn Hall, Main Hall, Min 8/Max 25

	<u>Tuesdays</u>
Date:	Jan. 13 - March 24
	No class 2/17
Time:	7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Activity	# 8206-W15
Costs:	\$27.50 - 10 classes

Thursdays

Jan. 15 - March 26 No class 3/5 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. # 8207-W15 \$27.50 - 10 classes





Crochet Class

Do you love to crochet? Would you like to improve your skills, get some new ideas, or just set aside some weekly time to focus on your hobby? Then this class is for you! This is a fun social group that loves to crochet! Bring your own projects.



We will share patterns and ideas while working together to solve problems and learn new skills. The winter sessions will focus on the intermediate to advanced skill levels.

Who: Ages 16 & overTime: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.Where: Keyes Rm, upper level Murzyn Hall

Fall session: Thursdays, Nov. 6 - Dec. 18, There'sstill room please join us!*No Class Nov. 28Fee: \$10Activity # 2654-W14

Winter Session: Thursdays, Jan 8 - Feb 26Fee: \$10Activity # 2653-W15

Mail or Bring to: Columbia Heights Recreation, 530 Mill Street N.E., Columbia Heights, MN 55421 ph: 763-706-3730 PARTICIPANT INFORMATION *Use a separate form for each participant* Please print & complete all information

Participant Last Name:	me:		First Name:	le:	
Grade:	Birthdate:	Male or Female:	male: Email Address:		
Address:			tv:	State:	Zip:
Parent/Guardian:			Home Phone:	Work Phone:	
Additional Info/Special Needs:	cial Needs:		Cell Phone:		
Emergency Name & Phone #:	à Phone #:		School:		
)		ACTIVITY /	FIVITY / PROGRAM INFORMATION	NO	
Activ	Activity Name	7	Activity Location	Activity #	Fee
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2.					
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		*Make Checks pa	*Make Checks payable to "City of Columbia Heights"	" Total Due =	
DATA PRIVACY A and attorney. and to o	DATA PRIVACY ADVISORY: By signing below, I and attorney. and to others connected with the progra	below, I understand	DATA PRIVACY ADVISORY: By signing below, I understand that this information will only be made available to program staff, the City's insurer and attorney, and to others connected with the program for the purposes of administering the activity and providing me with the notice of scheduling	ade available to program s and providing me with th	taff, the City's insurer
changes.					0
I, The Undersigned of Columbia Heights	I , The Undersigned , participant, do hereby agree to of Columbia Heights harmless from and against any	gree to participate inst any and all liabi	participate in the aforementioned activity(ies), and I further agree to indemnify, and hold the City and all liability for any injury which may be suffered by the aforementioned individual(s) arising	und I further agree to inder fered by the aforemention	nnify, and hold the City ed individual(s) arising
out of, or in any way	out of, or in any way connected with, participation in this activity. Parent/Guardian or Ad	ation in this activity rent/Guardian or A	cipation in this activity. Parent/Guardian or Adult Participant Signature:		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	JSE ONLY				
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REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Check #

Uniform Deposit (if needed) Cash

Notes:

12 Adult & Senior Citizen Information

SENIOR CENTER

The CH Senior Center, (lower level of Murzyn Hall, 530 Mill Street NE.) provides educational, social and recreational programs to those 55 years and older in the community. The center is open Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is handicapped accessible. For more information call 763-706-3735.

"500" Club



Our '500' club meets on Wednesdays beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Senior Center. This is for anyone who enjoys playing in a

more structured setting. Participants play until noon and contribute 25 cents per time for coffee and dessert. If you would like to give it a try, please

Bridge

stop by.

the game.





A senior bridge group meets on Mondays, 9:30 a.m. -12:00 noon in the Senior Center. If you are interested in playing, please call 763-706-3735 for more information. You do not need a partner, as you will be paired that day. You must be familiar with the rules of

Trips and Outings

Enjoy the exciting sights and sounds of the metro and surrounding areas. Theaters, concerts, luncheons, tours and special places of interest will be visited. If you are interested in being on our mailing list, please call 763-706-3730 to leave your name and address.

Senior Outreach

The Senior Outreach Program (ACCAP) for Columbia Heights provides assistance to senior and disabled adults throughout Anoka County. Helping people find resources in the community to help enable them to remain independent. Did you know that there are programs to help subsidize your energy bills, prescription discount programs, food assistance, free insurance counseling, "Store to Door" grocery shopping and legal aid assistance that comes to local senior centers? Senior outreach workers can come to your home and assist you with access to these programs. For more information call Karen F., Senior Outreach Worker for Columbia Heights at 763-783-4741.

Senior Highlights

This monthly newsletter informs seniors of the programs, classes & special events being offered at the center. Available at the Senior Center, Recreation Office, CH Public Library, City Hall and senior housing facilities.

Golden Age Club

The Golden Age Club is a social group that meets the first and third Thursday of every month at Murzyn Hall from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Coffee and dessert are provided and you may bring a bag lunch if you desire. Yearly membership fee = \$20.

<u>Footcare for Seniors</u>

"Happy Feet Footcare, Inc." will be providing foot care for seniors at the CH Senior Center the first & third Wednesday of the month from 9:00 a.m. - noon. To make an appointment you must call 763-560-5136.

The cost is \$32 per visit and payment is due at the time of service. "Happy Feet" nurses specialize in routine foot care for seniors and diabetic feet. They work on corns, calluses, thick or curled toenails and ingrown nails if they are not well advanced. A foot soak and massage are provided with each visit. Remember you must schedule an appointment.



CHORES & MORE

This is for persons over 60 or disabled adults. If you need assistance with various household services including house cleaning, lawn raking, snow removal and minor repairs, please call 763-502-5151 Monday through Friday. There is a sliding fee for these services.

BLOOD PRESSURE

Blood Pressure is checked free of charge on the second Friday of every month in the Senior Center from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Provided by the CH Fire Dept.



*Inscripción en línea al www.chreconline.org. Las Inscripciones son aceptadas en persona o a través de correo regular dirigido a Columbia Heights Recreation, John P. Murzyn Hall, 530 Mill Street N.E., Columbia Heights, MN 55421. Puede pagar en efectivo o con cheque. La caja de correos para depositarlo después de las horas de atención esta localizado en la parte este del edificio. También puede inscribirse a través del teléfono llamando al 763-706-3730, y puede pagar con tarjeta de crédito: Discover, Visa, o Master Card.

Los Participantes de la beca: Aplique en nuestra oficina para la ayuda si es que no puede pagar una de las actividades. La beca cubrirá el 75% del costo del programa (descuento máximo es de \$25); el 25% restante tiene que ser cubierto por los padres del participante o tutor. Por favor traiga una copia de la declaración de impuestos Federal o la carta de verificación de que su hijo(a) recibe almuerzo gratuito en el Distrito Escolar. Solo una beca por niño(a) por cada carta informativa. *Esta iniciativa se financia en parte con una subvención del Departamento de Educación de MN usando fondos federales, 21st Century Community Learning Centers.

Heights Columbia Columbia Heights

WINTER 2014 (News and information a

News and information about your neighbors and your city.

Police officers will begin wearing cameras in 2015

The Columbia Heights Police Department has been testing body cameras manufactured by Taser Corporation for the past year to evaluate their usefulness and reliability in capturing information and evidence.

The cameras are about the size of a small cellular phone or pager, and are affixed to the front of an officer's uniform.

The police department began to evaluate cameras worn by officers because of the benefits, which include improved evidence collection, increased transparency and accountability, and the ability to protect officers and the city from potential claims without merit. Another factor is that the current recording system used in squad cars by patrol officers is reaching the end of its useful life and would have required replacement in 2015.

After researching a number of options for cameras, data storage, and software, a decision was made to fully deploy body-worn cameras in 2015 so that each patrol officer will be issued his/her own camera for use on the street.

"This technology will not only allow our officers to more effectively collect evidence, but it will also be at a significantly reduced cost when compared to how much it would have cost to replace the current squad-based recording systems," said Chief Scott Nadeau.

The police department invites anyone would like to learn more about ways that technology is being used by officers to attend upcoming open houses, city park events, or Coffee With a Cop sessions. Discover how the police department is using technology to make Columbia Heights even safer.

Police department expands outreach and partnerships

The year 2014 has been another year where the Columbia Heights Police Department has connected with the community in a number of ways. Department efforts continue to be aimed at building relationships with community members and strategic stakeholders to make Columbia Heights a safer and more connected community.

Partnership opportunities include:

Neighborhood Watch - Police partnering with blocks in our city to facilitate the exchange of information, allow neighbors to discuss important issues in their neighcontinued on page 9 COUNTER A HERE OF COUNTER A HE



Mayor invites entire community to free holiday season kick-off

Join Mayor Gary Peterson for his annual Taste of Columbia Heights and get the holiday season off to a good start! He invites the whole community to join the festivities on Friday, Nov. 21, from 6 to 10 p.m. at Murzyn Hall, 530 Mill Street NE.

"Stop by for a few minutes or stay the whole night," he said. "It's a wonderful community event with delicious food and live music."

Admission is free. The only cost is \$2 for each food item you sample from a variety of local restaurants.

In addition there will be free beer and wine tastings from the Columbia Heights Liquor Stores and a cash bar run by the Columbia Heights Lions Club. There will also be prizes and a silent auction.

Music will be provided by the Chico Chavez Trio, Traveling Accordionist Joe Macko and the band "Skipdilly." Proceeds will go to the Columbia Heights Activity Fund to benefit youth activities.

Peterson would like to see attendance at the event mirror the rich diversity of the community. "Whether you just moved to Heights, have lived here all your life, or anything in between, please join in the fun," he said. More information is available at (763) 706-3733.

Residential Customer 55421

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www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

2

Understanding your city of Columbia Heights utility services

The City of Columbia Heights provides water, sewer and refuse services to residents and businesses. Sewer services include both sanitary sewage disposal and storm water management. Refuse services include the hauling and disposal of garbage, yard waste, recycling and appliances. Unlike utility companies that are owned by stockholders, such as Xcel Energy and Centerpoint Energy, city-owned utilities do not build a profit into the utility rates you pay. Instead, a city-owned utility is operated on behalf of residents and it only charges the amount required to provide the service.

For many residents, their quarterly bill for these services is a significant portion of their household budget. When considering the cost of these services, it is important to understand the differences in how these services are billed in Columbia Heights, as compared to some other cities, and to also understand the main challenges affecting the cost of these services.

Differences in billing practices can make it difficult to make a quick "apples-to-apples" comparison with other cities. For example, some cities bill residents monthly for utility services instead of quarterly. Obviously, monthly billing doesn't reduce the cost of the services; it usually increases administrative costs. It may however, contribute to a perception of the larger quarterly bill costing more.

Other billing differences between communities reflect whether certain charges are paid with the city utility bill or are paid in other ways. For example, in the City of Columbia Heights, the cost to repair and improve the main portions of the water and sewer systems is included in the water and sewer rates charged on the utility bill. In some other cities, residents pay for these utility system costs, also known as infrastructure costs, with a separate special assessment included on their property tax bill, similar to an assessment for a street improvement.

In addition, many suburban cities do not include refuse services on their city utility bill. In those cities, residents contract with private haulers individually and pay the hauler directly. When a city negotiates with haulers for a single city-wide contract however, it routinely obtains a lower price for residents than residents can obtain individually. Since most refuse collection in Columbia Heights must be done through narrow alleys, it would also be very burdensome to have garbage trucks from multiple companies collecting on the same block.

The three main challenges affecting the cost of water and sewer services in the City of Columbia Heights include an aging infrastructure, monopoly pricing from both major suppliers, and significant government mandates for storm water improvements to reduce water pollution.

Aging pipes

There are 71 miles of water main in Columbia Heights. Most of the pipe was installed from 1913 through 1970. The service life of water main is 70 to 100 years. The older water main has reached the end of its service life, and the amount of pipe reaching the end of its service life will continue to accelerate in the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the amount of water main pipe lined or reconstructed annually has increased in recent years, and will need to continue at these levels. In addition, the water tower is due to be reconditioned in 2015 at a cost of \$600,000. This will extend the life of the tower another twenty years. The City has issued \$550,000 in bonds to finance the water tower project which will be repaid over ten years with water utility revenues.

There are 59 miles of sanitary sewer main in Columbia Heights. This was also installed between the late 1920s and the mid-1960s in three foot lengths of clay pipe. The pipe is no longer watertight at the joints and at the service connections. This allows roots and groundwater to protrude into the system, causing blockages and surcharges in the pipe. If the pipe is in good condition, and has not settled, it can be lined to extend the life of the pipe well into the future. The City currently budgets to line about one mile of this pipe per year.

Monopoly pricing

All metro area cities are required to contract with the Metropolitan Council for sanitary sewage disposal. Under that agreement, the City's sanitary sewer fund is penalized for the amount of storm water that enters (through inflow and infiltration) into the sanitary sewer. Keeping the storm water out avoids the need for the Metropolitan Council to build an impossibly larger sewage treatment plant, a plant that everyone in the metro area would have to to pay for, if it could even be built. Currently, the Columbia Heights' sanitary sewer fund is penalized \$125,000 per year for the storm water entering the aging sanitary sewer. Under the terms of the agreement, in lieu of paying this annual penalty to the Metropolitan Council, the sewer fund can instead spend an equal amount on improvements that reduce inflow and infiltration into the sanitary sewer. Historically, the Columbia Heights City Council has opted to make these improvements instead of paying the penalty. One past example of this is the city-wide sump pump program.

The price charged by the Metropolitan Council for sanitary sewage disposal is set by the Metropolitan Council. This disposal charge is the largest expense of the sanitary sewer fund, making up 54% of what residents pay for sanitary sewer. Columbia Heights purchases its water supply from the City of Minneapolis. There are very limited options for other water sources, so the City of Minneapolis largely dictates what price it will charge. This water purchase is the largest expense of the water fund, making up 41% of the amount residents pay for water service. Over the last ten years, these two suppliers have had to address increased demands on their own aging infrastructure. As a result, the wholesale price they charge to Columbia Heights has increased over that period of time at nearly twice the rate of inflation, as measured by the consumer price index.

Government mandates

The City's storm sewer system was originally developed for flood control. It was passive infrastructure with minimal operating costs. New requirements over the last decade, from the federal government, the State of Minnesota, and local watershed districts, have greatly increased the scope and costs of the City's storm sewer activities. These requirements mandate extensive

Meet Your Neighbor: Gretchen Nelson

Although Gretchen Nelson lives in Fridley, she's also felt a connection to Columbia Heights over the years.

She and husband Ron found a house in Fridley 28 years ago which they liked because it was so close to North Park Elementary School in the Columbia Heights School District.

"We had three kids and both worked, North Park was convenient and we heard good things about it so we bought the house," said Nelson.

She became an active volunteer at the school, in Scouts and with the Columbia Heights Athletic



Gretchen Nelson and Bella enjoy walks in Kordiak Park.

Boosters as she supported the activities her children were involved in.

"My parents volunteered so I grew up with the idea that's what you do when you are part of a community," she said. "It was second nature to me."

When you volunteer, you feel more a part of the community, make new friends and keep up with what's going on in your community, she said.

"I've gotten so much out of volunteering," said Nelson, "It's been personally rewarding to see projects through to completion, learn and grow from what you doing and have the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping out and making a difference."

Most recently, she's become one of six members of the new Columbia Heights Public Arts Commission. Created to encourage and promote the arts to enrich the lives of residents and visitors to the community, the commission serves in an advisory capacity the Columbia Heights Mayor and City Council. The membership of the commission is a good mix of new and long-time residents who all share a passion for the arts, she said.

Family: Husband Ron and three grown children (Jared, Kim and Chad) and three

grandchildren. The couple cares for two of the grandkids a couple days a week.

Hobbies: She was an art major in college and enjoys drawing, pottery and jewelry making. Something new is decorating bowling balls with paint, beads and even rocks. She loves to read, especially mysteries.

Favorite Heights Hangouts: The parks — especially Kordiak Park. The Savers store where she finds deals on art supplies and books. Asia Chow Mein for the beef and broccoli, chicken fried rice and chow mein. "My Mom from Fargo always wants to go there when she is visiting us."

Key dates in the process to develop city budget for 2015

Important steps that remain in the process of creating the 2015 city budget include:

Nov. 24, 2014

Taxpayers receive, by mail, a notice from Anoka County showing the 2015 property tax proposed for their property.

Dec. 8, 2014, Council Meeting

A public hearing is held on the 2015 budget and tax levy. Following the hearing, the budget and the final version of the tax levy are adopted by the City Council. The final version of the tax levy cannot exceed the proposed tax levy approved at the September meeting.

Dec. 9, 2014

A copy of the resolution approved at the Dec, 8 public hearing, adopting the 2015 budget and final tax levy, will be available on the City's website at www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us.

February 2015

Bound copies of the 2015 adopted budget book will be available for reading at the Columbia Heights Public Library. This document provides well over 200 pages of budget information, including graphic presentations, detail by department and function, and comparisons of various multi-year historical trends. This document will also be available in electronic format on the City's website.

On-going

In addition to the opportunities listed above, community members can submit comments on the 2015 budget through the City's Facebook page, or by contacting their city council members directly. An essential element in the annual budget process is input from community members regarding the level of city services desired.

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY

820 40th Ave. NE

Reference/Information: (763) 706-3690 Renewal: (763) 717-3261 Fax: (763) 706-3691 TDD: (763) 706-3692 (Hearing impaired only)

www.anoka.lib.mn.us www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us Cable Channel 19

"Like" us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/ColumbiaHeightsPublicLibrary

Library Hours

Monday – Wednesday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday: CLOSED

Library Closed

Wednesday-Thursday, Dec. 24-25 – Christmas break Thursday, Jan. 1 - New Year's Day Monday, Jan. 19 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, Feb. 16 - Presidents Day



Library fundraiser at Historic Heights Theater

Sunday, Dec. 14, 1 p.m. Save the date! The Library Foundation has planned the annual Holiday Movie and Music Fundraiser at the Heights Theater, 3951 Central Ave. NE. The movie to be shown is Alfred Hitchcock's "The Man Who Knew Too Much."

Tickets of \$10 each are available at the door. Cash or check only, please.

Library Book Club

Wednesdays, Jan. 28, Feb. 25, 10 a.m.

Drop in for a discussion of a favorite book or become a regular member of the library's Book Club, which meets at 10 a.m. on the last Wednesday of each month. Call (763) 706-3690 for upcoming book titles.

Nonfiction Book Club: What are you reading now?

Fridays, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, 2 p.m.

Bring along a nonfiction book that you are currently reading or recently finished, and share your thoughts and recommendations with the group. Meet other interested readers and get ideas for new titles to add to your reading list. Mark your calendar for the third Friday of each month!

Senior surf

Wednesdays, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, 9:30-11:30 a.m.



Get hands-on computer experience with help from representatives of the Senior LinkAge Line. Register for one session online or call (763) 706-3690.

Winter Jackets adult reading programs

Friday, Jan. 2 to Saturday, Feb. 28

Escape the cold by curling up with a great read! Tell us what you liked best about your book and you might even win a prize. Watch for more details in January.

Winter Jackets author visits Meet the birdchick!

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2 p.m.

Don't miss this visit by Sharon "Birdchick" Stitelor, author of "1001 Secrets Every Birder Should Know." Sharon describes herself as, "a field trip leader, birding consultant, humorous keynote speaker, bird field technician, bird bander and writer." Register online or call (763) 706-3690. Walk-ins welcome.



WWI history buffs unite!

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m. Local author and historian John D. Cox will discuss "America in WWI." John and his wife Barbara recently visited America's battlefields in France, including Belleau Wood, the Meuse-Argonne Offensive of 1918, and the site of the Lost Battalion. They laid a wreath for a fallen ancestor at Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in Romagnes,



the largest American Cemetery outside of the United States. Cox also visited Verdun and the crash site of the infamous "Red Baron," Manfred von Richthofen.

Local author Colin Mustful and "Grace at Spirit Lake"

Wednesday, Jan. 28, 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendar for this special visit with Minnesota author and historian Colin Mustful, who writes a unique cross-genre of historical fiction and narrative nonfiction. "Grace at Spirit Lake" tells the story of the people and events of the Spirit Lake Mas-



sacre of 1857. This lesser known tragedy is often regarded as the critical event which foreshadowed the U.S.-Dakota conflict of 1862. Register online or call (763) 706-3690. Walk-ins welcome.

Honoring Choices[®] MINNESOTA An initiative of the Twin Cities Medical Society.

Honoring Choices Minnesota

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 6:30 p.m.

If your life were to change and you could not speak for yourself, who would you want making medical decisions for you? How would that person know what to do? Honoring Choices helps people learn about ways to plan for the unexpected by talking with their loved ones and completing the right documents. Register online or call Barb at (763) 706-3690.

Children's Programs

LEGO Club

Second Thursday of each month

Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Do you love all things LEGO? Join us after school for a LEGO building program. We'll provide the LEGO bricks, you bring the imagination. For grades K-8. Registration not required.

Book Warms

Dec. 29 to Feb. 27

Escape from the cold by curling up with a great read! Book Warms is the winter reading program for children and teens. At registration, each participant receives a BINGO card. Turn in your completed BINGO card for a prize. This nine-week program is open to children, birth-grade 12.



Make & Take Tuesdays

Tuesdays, Dec. 30 to Feb. 24, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Each Tuesday during Book Warms Winter Reading Program, stop by the library to make an art project! This is an informal, drop-in craft program that will take place immediately after storytime. Registration not required.

Noon New Year's Eve Party

Wednesday, Dec. 31, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Ring in the year 2015 a bit early at the library! On New Year's Eve, we will count down to 12 (noon) with stories, crafts, games and an apple juice toast. For the whole family. Registration not required.

Drop Everything and Read Day

Friday, Jan. 2, 2 to 3 p.m.

Moms, dads, grandparents, kids and teens: start the year off right! Families are encouraged to set aside 30 minutes for reading for pleasure at the library. Afterward, sip some hot cocoa and learn tips to make reading together a family priority every day.

Storytime @ the Library

Jan. 12 to Feb. 24 Join us for songs, books, rhymes and fun! No registration required.

Toddler storytime

(Geared toward ages 18 months to 3 years) *Mondays, 10:30 to 10:50 a.m.*

Preschool storytime

(Geared toward ages 3 to 5) *Tuesdays, 10:30 to 11 a.m.*

Youth Read Down

Jan. 2 to Jan. 30

Need help paying down those overdue fines? During the month of January, the library will forgive \$1 of fines for every 15 minutes you spend reading at the library. For ages 17 and younger.

Pajama Time Family Book Nights

Jan. 13: "Throwback Night: Books Mom and Dad Liked When They Were Kids"

Feb. 10: "Mo Willems Night"

6 to 6:30 p.m. craft, 6:30 to 7 p.m. storytime

Snuggle up and listen to some wonderful books before bedtime. Wear your pajamas and bring a stuffed animal if you'd like. This special evening program is for children of all ages and their families.

Superhero Academy

Friday, Jan. 23, 2 to 4 p.m.

Calling all heroes! Transform yourself into a superhero with accessories and feats of strength for both body and mind. For grades K-5. Registration required.

Teen Programs

Holiday Crafts

Saturday, Dec. 13, 12 to 2 p.m.

Low on cash this holiday season? Feeling crafty? Make homemade gifts for family, friends and pets. For grades 5-12. Registration required.

Books & Bites

Thursday, Jan. 22, 4 to 5 p.m.

Do you like to read? Find out about the best books you haven't read. We will chat about books, drink hot cocoa, and eat snacks. Bring a book you'd like to share. For grades 5-12. No registration required.

Anti-Valentine's Day Party

Friday, Feb. 13, 3:30-5 p.m. Not feeling the love this Valentine's Day? Celebrate your aversion to romance with food, crafts and games at the library. For grades 5-12. No registration required.

Join the Teen Advisory Board (TAB)

TAB is a group of teens who participate in the functioning of the library. This is also a forum to have your opinions heard. Membership is open to grades 6 through 12. See Children's Librarian Bethany for more information. The group meets on the first Monday of each month from 4 to 5 p.m., Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2.

Police department office hours

The Columbia Heights Police Department office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The telephone number is (**763**) **706-8100**. The office is located in the Public Safety building, **825 41st Avenue**



NE. The police department is closed on weekends and holidays. A telephone is located inside

the entry doors that can be used after hours to request assistance.



For general information, activities, ordinances, and services, visit www.chpolice.com, find us on Facebook.com/chpolice, and follow us at twitter.com/ colhgtspolice.

Keep financial safety in mind this holiday season

With the holiday season quickly approaching, the Columbia Heights Police Department would like to remind residents about credit card and fraud safety. This time of year, CHPD sees an increase in thefts, and also fraudulent purchases with

thieves using other peoples' credit and debit cards.



Police offer these safety tips:

- Keep track of your cards (and cash), both in and out of your wallets and purses.
- Check your statements for suspicious purchases or activity.
- Ensure that websites are secure when shopping online.
- Consider fraud protection.

The holiday season also sees an increase in scams, both online and over the phone. If you receive a phone call or email stating you have won a large amount of money, a lavish trip or other high-valued items, please be aware that it could be a scam. Many scammers get people to put money on gift cards or send thousands of dollars to an address . Please be aware that these are scams aimed at stealing money from you or your family.

"Another important thing to remember this holiday season is do not leave valuables — including recently purchased presents — in your vehicle," said Police Chief Scott Nadeau. "Also, please remember to lock your vehicle."

The Columbia Heights Police Department works hard to ensure the safety of residents along with their property. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the police department at (763) 706-8100.

Spotlight: Officer Joe Pikala

Officer Joe Pikala started with the Columbia Heights Police Department as a community service officer in 2007 and was hired as a police officer in 2008. He is involved in many activities within the police department including Neighborhood Watch and Teen Academy.

Pikala was raised in Woodbury, MN. He attended Dakota County Technical College and completed his Bachelors of Criminal Justice degree



Joe Pikala

from Colorado Technical College. Pikala and his wife Amanda are expecting their first child, a baby girl, in November. Pikala enjoys spending time with his family and is looking forward to the new adventure of being a parent and all that entails.

When asked what he enjoys most about working for the Columbia Heights Police Department, Pikala said, "I enjoy working with everyone...I love the people I work with within the police department and also the people we work with in the community."

Pikala is known for his love of cars. He especially enjoys working on old cars and his current collector is a second generation Camaro. He also enjoys spending time at his family lake place along with bonfires, good movies and good food.

Winter parking restrictions began Nov. 1

Winter parking enforcement began on Nov. 1 and continue through March 31. During that time period, no vehicle or trailer may be parked or left unattended on any public road or parkway within the City of Columbia Heights at any time between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. without a parking permit issued by the Columbia Heights Police Department. A permit may only be issued under certain conditions. Please contact the Columbia Heights Police Department for further information.

Be aware of city's open ignition ordinance

With dropping air temperatures, many people are tempted to start their vehicles and leave them running to warm up unattended, with the keys in the ignition. This is a violation of the city's Open Ignition Ordinance, and increases auto thefts in the city. A vehicle cannot be left unattended within the city — whether on public or private property — without first locking the ignition and removing the key from the vehicle.

YOUR ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS





Gary Peterson

Tami Diehm





efforts to prevent water pollution from storm water runoff into lakes

sewer fund have doubled from approximately \$100,000 to approxi-

and rivers. Over the last ten years, annual operating costs of the storm

mately \$200,000 per year. Much of this increase reflects staff and con-

sultant time to plan for and comply with the clean water requirements.

Over the same period of time, equipment and infrastructure owned by the storm sewer fund has increased from \$1.1 million to \$1.7 million.

Over the next two years, the City expects to complete an additional \$2.1

million in construction to rehabilitate storm sewer pipes and ponds.

Approximately half of this will be paid with grants from other govern-

remaining cost. Those bonds will be repaid over ten years with storm

ments. The City has issued \$740,000 in bonds to finance a portion of the



Bruce Nawrocki

Donna Schmitt

Utilities, continued from page 2

Bobby Williams

The Mayor and City Council members are your elected representatives. City Council meetings take place at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in the council chambers at city hall. Meetings are broadcast live on Channel 16 and are rebroadcast on other days.

For more information, including agendas and minutes, go to www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us.

Gary Peterson, Mayor (763) 788-7517 (c) (612) 978-9858 Gary.Peterson@ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

Tami Diehm, Council Member (763) 574-2122 Tami.Ericson-Diehm@ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

Bruce Nawrocki, Council Member (763) 571-1311 Bruce.Nawrocki@ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

Donna Schmitt, Council Member (763) 634-1356 Donna.Schmitt@ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

Bobby Williams, Council Member (763) 788-1113 (c) (612) 414-3981 Robert.Williams@ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

22 sewer utility revenues.
 US Capital improvement plan
 1311 To plan for these many challenges in the utility funds, the City has prepared a five-year capital improvement plan. The City has also contracted with an engineering consultant to project the results of

contracted with an engineering consultant to project the results of all utility activities over the next five years. Based on these studies, the city council will establish the utility rates for water, sewer, and refuse services for the next several years. At this time however, there are no future rate changes approved, and the city council is not expected to take up the issue of utility rates until sometime in 2015.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police/Fire/Medical Response 911 If you cannot complete your call using 911..... (763) 427-1212 CITY OFFICES (763) 706-3600 TTY/TDD...... (763) 706-3692 Mayor & City Council ... (763) 706-3607 City Clerk...... (763) 706-3611 City Manager..... (763) 706-3610 Personnel-General (763) 706-3606 Personnel-Job line (763) 706-3616 Assessing...... (763) 706-3700 Garbage/Refuse Pick-up/Recycling (Veolia ES)..... (763) 225-8705 Utility Billing...... (763) 706-3640 Public Works Dept. (763) 706-3700 Engineering/Maintenance Operations

Fire Dept. Administration & Information/ Emergency Management
Police Administration & Information Records & Info., Patrol, Investigations (763) 706-8100 Crime Prevention
Community Development (763) 706-3670 Comm. Dev. Director (763) 706-3675

City Planner (763) 706-3673

Parkview Villa (763) 706-3800 Bldg. Permits/
Licenses (763) 706-3678
Recreation Dept (763) 706-3730
Recreation Director (763) 706-3732
Senior Programs (763) 706-3735
Athletics Coordinator (763) 706-3733
CHASE & Youth Enrichment
Coordinator (763) 706-3733
24-Hour Info. Line-Murzyn
Hall info., Cancellations,
Directions
Murzyn Hall Rental (763) 706-3734
Hall After Hours
Thai Aiter Hours
Columbia Heights
Public Library (763) 706-3690
U.S. Post Office, 940 44th Ave. N.E800-275-8777
940 4401 AVE. N.E800-275-8777

FIRE DEPARTMENT

825 41st Ave. NE,

Columbia Heights, MN 55421

fire@ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

Non-Emergency......(763) 706-8150

EmergencyCall 9-1-1

Fax.....(763) 706-8151

Housing Maintenance Inspections(763) 706-8156

fireinspections@ci.columbia-heights.mn.us

Access to the Fire Department during city business hours is through the main lobby. During evenings and weekends, staff members can be accessed by ringing the night bell outside the Fire Department service door by the overhead garage doors. Fire Department information can be found at www.ci.columbia-heights. mn.us under the fire department heading.

Test your smoke alarm batteries

Smoke alarms save lives. Make the most of them with these safety tips:

 Install a smoke detector in every bedroom, outside every sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.



- Test every smoke detector once a month by pushing the test button.
- Replace the batteries in smoke alarms at least once a year.
- Replace smoke alarms with a 10-year battery or hard-wired alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner.
- Replace the alarm if cooking fumes or steam are setting it off too frequently. Consider an alarm that has a hush button which makes the alarm less sensitive for a short period of time, instead of deactivating the smoke alarm all together.
- If you have a hard-wired smoke alarm, make sure it is installed by a trained electrician.
- Utilize a smoke alarm with strobe lights or vibrations if a person in your home is deaf or hard of hearing.

Clothes dryers need attention

Keep these clothes dryer safety tips in mind:

- Keep your clothes dryer free of lint. Clean out your lint filter before and after every load of clothes. Use a vacuum or a lint brush to thoroughly clean underneath and behind your dryer about once a month. Vacuum your dryer's motor area several times a year.
- Inspect your outside dryer vent twice a year. Clean out any accumulated lint and dust. Turn on your dryer to make sure that the exhaust air is escaping normally.
- Leave clearance space between the back of your dryer and the wall. Pressing your dryer directly up against the wall crushes the vent tubing, which reduces airflow and causes lint to build up.
- Use the right type of ducting material. Flexible foil or plastic ducting materials can become kinked or crushed, which leads to lint building up and possibly igniting. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission suggests replacing any foil or plastic ducts with rigid or semi-rigid metal ducting material.
- Keep the area surrounding your dryer clutter-free. The heat from your dryer might cause a spark and ignite clothing, boxes or other flammable items placed in close proximity to your clothes dryer.

Practice holiday fire safety at home

Here are some tips for keeping your family safe during the upcoming holiday season:

- Place holiday decorations well away from heat sources and water your Christmas tree every day.
- Do not burn holiday wrappings in a fireplace because that can cause chimney fires.
- Pay attention to cooking. If a pan is on fire, cover it with a lid—not water, which spreads fire..
- Turn off and unplug lights and decorations before going to bed or leaving your house.
- Buy electrical decorations that have been approved by a national testing laboratory and don't overload outlets.
- Check wastebaskets and furniture for smoldering cigarettes, after holiday parties.

Fire hydrants and winter weather

Minnesotans know that the coming of winter also means SNOW! The Columbia Heights Fire Department asks residents to take a little time to shovel out a two-to-three foot area around fire hydrants. In a critical fire emergency, lives can be saved if hydrants are kept clear.

Clearing sidewalks is neighborly and also the law



Keeping sidewalks clear of ice and snow is the nice thing to do for winter walkers, parents pushing strollers, people using wheelchairs and also rescue services.

It's also the law.

Columbia Heights Ordinance (Section 8.203) requires that property owners remove all snow and ice from public sidewalks within 24 hours after the snow or other precipitation has stopped falling. The failure to shovel sidewalks can result in a fine.

Questions or concerns please contact the Columbia Heights Fire Department Inspection Office at (763) 706-8156.



Free blood pressure checks

The Columbia Heights Fire Department offers free blood pressure checks every day from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the station, located at

825 41st Ave. NE. Please remember that any time you have an emergency, dial 9-1-1.

FIRE DEPARTMENT / SISTER CITY



Fire Department hosts open house

The Columbia Heights Fire Department hosted an open house in September for National Fire Prevention Week which had a theme of "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives!"

Apply for grants from the Mississippi Watershed group

The Mississippi Watershed Management Organization's (MWMO) Stewardship Fund Grants support community-led projects and education efforts that meet one of more of the following:

Develop partnerships with community organizations,

Protect or improve the quality of water, habitat and natural resources, and

Build community understanding, knowledge and initiative related to water, habitat and natural resource issues and solutions.

Groups that may apply for grants include non-profit organizations, units of government, schools, officially recognized neighborhood groups, business and professional associations, individuals, homeowner associations and private businesses. Find out more about these grants, eligibility, and the application process on the MWMO's website at www.mwmo.org

Police outreach, continued from page 1

borhood, and get to know each other so we can work together in crime prevention. In 2014, over 30 neighborhood blocks were added to this important partnership.

National Night Out - On the first Tuesday of August each year, residents come together as a community to meet with neighbors and unite to talk about how we can work together for better, safer neighborhoods. Every year we see an increase in neighborhoods getting involved in this fun and important evening.

HeartSafe Communities Initiative - The CHPD has been partnering with the Columbia Heights Fire Department to host a free one-hour training to explain and certify community members in the use of "hands-only CPR" and the use of automated external defibrillators (AEDs). The goal is to ensure that community members are properly trained to provide assistance in emergencies.

Coffee With a Cop - Started in 2013, this initiative is an informal "meet and greet" to facilitate dialogue and build relationships between police and community members. The events take place at local businesses, and free beverages and often treats are provided. Those who attend say they enjoy this informational exchange and the ability to inform officers of what concerns or feedback they may have about safety and policing in the community.

In addition to these activities, the police department continues to promote community policing by holding information sessions and dialogues with area civic groups, churches, and in venues such as the police department's annual community picnic. For more information on how to partner with the police department, check out www.facebook.com/chpolice or contact Community Policing Coordinator Maggie Titus at (763) 706-8128 or at Maggie.Titus@ ci.columbia-heights.mn.us.

"Working together we will continue our positive momentum and make Columbia Heights a better connected and safer community," said Titus.

Sister City group celebrates Polish heritage month in many ways

October is traditionally dedicated to Polish American Heritage. Columbia Heights observes this with various activities sponsored by the Columbia Heights Public Library, Columbia Heights city officials and members of the Columbia Heights Sister Cities International (SCI) organization.

Mayor Gary Peterson read a special Proclamation for Polish American Heritage Month at the city council meeting on Oct. 13 with several SCI members present.

Special events celebrating Polish culture and traditions were presented at the library, coordinated by Director of Adult Services Barbara Kondrick, who is a SCI member. Several SCI members wore their national outfits and assisted with various activities for youngsters and adults. "Mosaica" musicians also entertained the patrons. Member Frania Jensen donated the book "Poland" by James L. Michener as a raffle door prize. "General" Edward and Ceil Sikorski arranged a display of Polish posters at the library.

A fundraiser for SCI humanitarian projects took place on Oct. 26 at Murzyn Hall. The generous sponsorship of SCI Member,

Jeff Bahe (Bobby & Steve's AutoWorld), his family and team members, provided a delicious lasagna dinner. SCI members coordinated the Silent Auction and boutiques with Dorothy Penate as volunteer chairperson. Musical entertainment was provided by Wade and Mary Lou Fradenburgh's country and old time favorites. Lions Club members staffed the bar service.

The theme for the Young Artists' and Authors' Showcase for 2015 is: "Connecting Communities for Peace and Prosperity." Students (ages 13 to 18) are encouraged to participate in this stellar local and national program. Columbia Heights students have earned several national awards in recent years.

Three SCI members have volunteered in Poland recently at their own expense for extended periods. Gregory Logacz dedicated two months to teaching English by assisting teachers in schools in Lomianki, Poland -- the Sister City of Columbia Heights. Mary Jerde shared professional nursing skills for several weeks in children's homes/shelters in Lomianki and other cities in Poland. Eric Strand spent this past summer teaching English at an academy in Nowa Ruta, Poland.

Third quarter recycling goal is 90% achieved



Thanks to Columbia Heights residents, a total of 1,215 tons of materials were recycled this year, as of Sept. 30, including 19 tons from the multi-city recycling event in July. This is notable, although it is 10% less than anticipated for the third quarter. The Anoka County SCORE (Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment) goal for

Columbia Heights increased to 1,818 tons for 2014. The good news is that each household only needs to recycle 71 pounds each month to get back on track. Keep in mind, diverting the 1,215 tons of reusable material from the trash saved the City's Refuse fund over \$71,000 in trash disposal fees.

Keep our water pipes from freezing

During extreme frost conditions it is possible for homeowners to experience issues with frozen water service lines. If the water line freezes, you will be without water. Property owners are responsible for the water service line from the meter in the house to the main out in the street. Thawing frozen service lines and plumbing can be costly. Frost is pushed lower into the ground as the weather warms up, so the risk of frozen service lines can continue until March or April.

Here are some steps to keep water lines from freezing:

Check the water temperature: An indicator of an impending water service line freeze up is colder than normal water temperature. Allow "cold" water to run from the faucet until it is cold and then check the temperature with a small indoor/outdoor, meat, or other thermometer that registers at least 32 degrees. The water temperature should be around 45 degrees. If the temperature drops below 40 degrees, you could have an impending freeze up.

If needed, let the water run: You can help prevent your line from freezing by letting a faucet that has a supply pipe running along an outside wall drip or run at a pencil size stream throughout the day and night. You do not need a strong flow, just enough to keep the water flowing. Flowing water freezes slower than standing water in a pipe. The extra cost on your water bill can be considered as insurance to avoid the inconvenience and costly expense of correcting a frozen service line.

Do not turn your heat down during windy cold days: The cooling down period allows the cold to penetrate walls before it comes

the cold to penetrate walls before it comes into your house. The pipes are exposed to this cold air.

Leave cabinet doors under sinks that face outside walls open: These areas are not generally heated but do receive the cold air coming in through walls. This will help prevent frozen water supply and waste piping.

If possible, insulate walls where piping runs.

Keep garage doors closed when not in use. These walls are not always insulated as well as outside walls.

Shut off water to outside faucets. Leaking outside faucets and piping to them are caused by freezing over the winter.

Have someone check on your house when you go out of town: Total house freeze ups that require major repair result from homes where the heat goes out and the temperature in the house drops below 32 degrees.

Take garbage home; don't leave it on the ice

People often say, "Just throw it away." But where is away? Typically, trash ends up in landfills or incinerators. But when you are ice fishing, make sure "away" doesn't mean throwing trash on the frozen lake.

Every year there is a huge problem with ice fishing enthusiasts leaving their garbage on the frozen lake. As the lake thaws, "away" becomes the bottom of the lake. Not only is the trash unsightly, it harms the lakes' ecosystems.

During the course of a day on the ice certain items accumulate including wrappers, cans, plastics and other trash. Please bring a garbage bag to take these items home with you and recycle what you can, so there is less to send to the landfill.

Remember, if you love to ice fish, it's in your best interest take care of the lake or there might not be fish around to bite next year.

* * * * * * WINTER INFORMATION * * * * * *

Reminders for residents as winter approaches

Winter is coming our way. As we prepare for the season of ice and snow, please keep these important reminders in mind:

- Shovel or blow snow onto private property. It is in violation of city ordinance to place snow from your property into the street.
- Maintain the public sidewalks in the city right-of-way in front of your property, as required by city ordinance.
- Do not place your garbage cans in city streets on trash pickup day. Instead, keep them behind the curb.
- Ensure your garbage and recycling collection spot is cleared of snow and ice (as much as possible) before the truck operator arrives to empty the containers.

Make way for snow plows

Please make way for snowplow operators engaged in snow removal or ice control on city streets. These vehicles are equipped with a flashing, oscillating or rotating amber light. Operators have the discretion to disregard traffic laws when in their judgment it is safe to do so.

Parking regulations

Do not park on the street until after it has been plowed. Parking restrictions in Columbia Heights are as follows:

- No parking on city streets from 2 to 6 a.m. from Nov. 1 to March 31.
- No parking on city streets after a 3" snowfall until the street is plowed curb-to-curb.
- No parking on city streets for longer than six hours.
- All parking permits are subject to suspension for snow removal or other emergencies.

To improve street maintenance operations and avoid expensive damage to the garbage container, please set garbage carts behind the curb at the end of the driveway, not out in the street.

REFUSE, RECYCLING AND YARD WASTE

Advanced Disposal Services, Inc.

(formerly Veolia ES)

Customer Service Phone: (763) 225-8705 E-mail: columbiaheights-ads@advanceddisposal.com Website: www.advanceddisposal.com/mn/saint-paul/ saint-paul-collection/guideline/columbia-heights-mn

Anoka County Integrated Waste Management

Phone: (763) 323-5730 Website: www.anokacounty.us/355/ Integrated-Waste-Management

City Refuse/Recycling website

www.ci.columbia-heights.mn.us/index.aspx?nid=223 Public Works Department Phone: (763) 706-3700

Holiday Schedule

Veterans Day, Nov. 11: No delay in service Thanksgiving, Nov. 27: Thursday and Friday delayed by one day Christmas, Dec. 25: Thursday and Friday delayed by one day New Year's Day, Jan. 1: Thursday and Friday delayed by one day Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 19: No delay in service Presidents Day, Feb. 16: No delay in service

Recycling

- Plastic bottles, jugs and tubs #1-7 now accepted.
- Single-sort recycling collection is every other week. Please check the Advanced Disposal Services website or call (763) 225-8705 for your collection day.
- Please do not place recycling materials in plastic bags; dump the items loosely in the cart or use paper bags. Plastic bags cause problems with the sorting system at the processing plant.
- Rinse out cans, bottles and jars.

Yard Waste

- Last collection day Nov. 29 or sooner if snow cover.
- Bag (ASTMD6400 compostable only) or bundle branches.
- Place on the street curb.
- Anoka County yard/tree waste site (763) 767-7964.
- Yard waste carts are available to residents. Order by calling (763) 706-3700.

Computers/Electronics Disposal

Electronics must be properly disposed of due to the hazardous nature of the material. Please call Advanced Disposal Services at (763) 225-8705 to schedule a pickup. A flat \$5.00 collection fee will be charged. Items must come from the property. You may also drop items off at various disposal sites, which may charge a fee.

Approved sites are listed on the county and state web pages:

- www.anokacounty.us/1653/Search-the-Recycling-and-Disposal-Direct. Use "electronics" in the search box.
- www.pca.state.mn.us

Bulk Collection

To ensure timely pickup of bulky items such as furniture and mattresses, please call (763) 225-8705 to arrange for collection. Items must have come from the property.

Appliance Disposal

Call Advanced Disposal Services at (763) 225-8705 to arrange for a pickup at your home. Remove doors from freezers and refrigerators. Each property is offered one free appliance pickup per calendar year.

Anoka County Household Hazardous Waste Facility (763) 323-5730

It is illegal to dispose of hazardous waste in the garbage. This includes such items as aerosol cans that have contents remaining, antifreeze, driveway sealer, gasoline and other fuels, mercury, liquid paint, paint stripper, paint thinner, pesticides, varnish, wood preservatives and other household products that are corrosive, flammable, combustible or poisonous. Take these items to the Anoka County HHW facility located at 3230 101st Ave. NE in Blaine. There is no charge for disposal of these items at the facility. For more information, visit: www.anokacounty.us/369/ Household-Hazardous-Waste-Facility

Columbia Heights Recycling/Drop Off Center for area residents and businesses

- Madison St. and 38th Place NE
- Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Closed holiday weekends.

Items accepted:

PaperCansOil filtersCardboardTiresUsed oilGlass bottlesScrap metaFluorescent bulbsHousehold batteries

Cardboard Antifreeze Scrap metal Plastics

NO garbage, NO hazardous materials, NO furniture NO appliances, NO trash, NO lumber, NO electronics

Tires: Cannot be taken with trash. Leave old tires at the store when purchasing new ones. Residents may bring four car or light truck tires per year. MUST be off the rims.

Used motor oil and oil filters: Accepted only during hours Recycling Center is open for non-business purposes only.

Christmas trees will be collected in January



Collection of Christmas trees will begin Monday, Jan. 5, and end Friday, Jan. 16, on the same day as garbage service. Please make sure your tree is free of lights, decorations, tinsel, etc. Place the tree on the street curb where it is visible to the truck driver.

RECYCLING TIP:

Did you know the refuse company will always take more recyclable materials, even when the cart is full? Continue your recycling routine by using paper bags and/or a recycling box and place next to the recycling cart on collection day.

Please tell us about your recycling success

Why do you think it is important to recycle? Does your household recycle on a regular basis? Have you developed a good system for recycling? We'd like to share recycling stories in future newsletters, so please call Sue at (763) 706-3700. A household recycling basket will be offered to those whose stories are published.

TOP VALU LIQUOR

TOP VALU STORE I: (763) 706-3819 • TOP VALU STORE II: (763) 706-3813 • HEIGHTS LIQUOR (763) 706-3790

