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SEE FLIP SIDE FOR RECREATION PROGRAMS

TWIN CITIES MN Permit No. 30308 U.S. Postage PAID PRSRT STD City of Columbia Heights 590 40th Ave., N.E. Columbia Heights, MN 55421 763-706-3600

Happy One Hundredth, Heights!

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The City of Columbia Heights is celebrating 100 years in 2021! The City will be turning 100 on July 21, 2021. We have lots of fun events in the works! Our centennial celebration events include, but are not limited to:

- Centennial Birthday Party
- Coloring Page Contest
- Movie Nights at McKenna Park
- Roaring '20s Dance Event
- Snow Sculpture Contest
- SnowBLAST Event
- Columbia Heights Trivia Night
- Tree Planting Ceremony
- Heritage Street-fest

The City of Columbia Heights is set to celebrate its centennial on July 21, 2021.

Throughout the year, residents are encouraged to share their stories in person and online, take part in volunteer opportunities, and attend community events. Visit Heights100. com to view historical items, read the Bootstrap Book, and see the schedule of events.

Columbia Heights was officially incorporated as a city in the summer of 1921.

Help Tell Our Story

We're looking for longtime residents to help tell the story of Columbia Heights. A lot has changed over the years and we need our residents' help to bring Columbia Heights history to life. Email wrottler@columbiaheightsmn.gov for more info. Or call 763-706-3614.

NOTE: Due to COVID-19, event plans and schedules are subject to change on short notice.

Sponsorship Opportunities

Your business or organization has an opportunity to take part in the centennial by sponsoring a banner along Central Ave. The banners will be on display for six months. In addition to the banners, you'll receive recognition at 100 year events and on the City's website. Proceeds from this project will go toward helping fund 100 year events.

Please contact Will Rottler (763-706-3614 or wrottler@columbiaheightsmn.gov) for more information on this and other sponsorship opportunities.

Columbia Heights residents, businesses and organizations can also get involved by donating historical items for preservation, volunteering at or hosting community events, or suggesting ideas for the centennial celebration or for the 100th anniversary quilt.

To submit ideas, please contact Will Rottler (763-706-3614 or at wrottler@ columbiaheightsmn.gov).



Order Your Columbia Heights 2021 Calendar Now



Want to get an early jump on your holiday shopping? The Columbia Heights 2021 100th Anniversary Calendar is on sale for \$10, and all proceeds go to fund 100th anniversary activities and events in the upcoming year. To order a calendar, please email Will Rottler at wrottler@ columbiaheightsmn.gov. Calendars can be picked up at City Hall, or delivered (upon request).



YESTERDAY & Today

Columbia Heights, MN, 100th Anniversary Commemorative Calendar



Photo by Todd Kewatt

Photo by Susan Plettner

Photo by Mackenzie Krzmarzick

Photo by Steven Nodgaard



Photo by Leah Mahoney



Photo by Matt Markham



Photo by Steven Nodgaard



Photo by Steven Nodgaard



Photo by Marie & Keith Photography



Photo by Dave Rudolph





Photo by City of Columbia Heights Staff

The photos in this Commemorative Calendar were selected anonymously by six judges from a group of 65 photos submitted to the 100th Anniversary Calendar Photo Contest. The judges scored the photos on a 50-point scale based on five criteria: City Representation, Overall Aesthetic, Technical Proficiency, Subject Matter and Originality, and Calendar Appropriateness. Thank you to our judges: Margo Ashmore, publisher of the Northeaster Newspaper (mynortheaster.com); Paige Kieffer, reporter with Life Newspaper (hometownsource.com); Wendy Maybury, professional photographer (luxarmory.com); Linda Maylish, Columbia Heights art teacher; Craig VanDerSchaegen, professional photographer (craigvanders.com); and Dennis Zerwas Jr, professional photographer (dzpics.com). This Calendar also includes historical photos stretching back 100 years. Proceeds for this calendar go to fund 100th anniversary events, activities, and celebrations.

Pat Sowada Named 2020 Outstanding Citizen

Sowada Received Four Nominations, Won Award Posthumously

If you've ever attended a Coffee With a Cop gathering or a library fundraiser, or a Sister Cities meeting, or any number of volunteer events within the City, you've probably rubbed elbows with Patricia Ann Sowada.

"Pat represented community spirit at its finest," wrote Becky Loader, former library director, in her Outstanding Citizen nomination form.

Pat, who died Oct 2 at the age of 77, spent decades actively involved in the community. She received four posthumous nominations for 2020 Outstanding Citizen Award this fall. The nominations were submitted by Renee Dougherty, Columbia Heights Library Director, Catherine Vesley, Library Board Chair, Dolores Strand, Sister Cities Committee Co-Chair, and Loader.

Pat was appointed to the Columbia Heights Library Board in June of 1989. She was a member at-large from 1989-94, vice chair from 1995-2008, and vice chair again from April 2019 on. She was chair of the board from 2009 to 2019.

"She was a good listener, a vocal advocate for literacy, and a believer in the power of libraries to build literacy in learners of all ages," wrote Dougherty in her nomination submission. "She carefully considered citizen suggestions, consulted staff for advice, and always sought to negotiate a middle



Top: Pat with the Columbia Heights Library Board, 2019. Bottom left: Pat at a Coffee With a Cop event at the Columbia Heights VFW. Bottom right: Pat with Renee Dougherty and Karen Olson at the 2019 Library Foundation Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser.

way amidst conflicting opinions. Her response was always, 'Yes! How can we get this done?'''

Pat was also the membership chairperson for the Columbia Heights Sister Cities Committee. Over the years, Pat made a point to attend as many City events as she could. She almost never missed a monthly Coffee With a Cop gathering. She helped out annually at the Library Foun-



dation's Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser. She once worked as a clerk at the City's Top Valu Liquor. And she used to be an elementary school teacher at Highland Elementary.

We don't have room to list all the many ways Pat was

involved, but here are a few more highlights as listed in her nomination forms: Pat crocheted and knitted hats and robes for U of M children's cancer patients. She taught elementary school kids how to knit in after-school hours. She coordinated the exchange of greeting cards with Highland and Lomianki students for 20 years. She was an active member of Immaculate Conception parish and active with Holy Cross Church in North Prairie as music director and organist. She donated pumpkins every year to the Fire Safety Open House. She helped with Heights garden beautification. She decorated and rode on the Library's 90th anniversary parade float. And so much more.

The Outstanding Citizen Award recognizes residents who have selflessly contributed their time and effort to helping people, the environment, and the City community, particularly those who have not otherwise been publicly recognized. Pat was named 2020 Outstanding Citizen with approval from Mayor Donna Schmitt. The City is accepting nominations for 2021.

Read Down Your Fines

February is your chance to read down your library fines! For every 15 minutes you spend reading, \$1 will be removed from your fines. Some restrictions apply. See a library staff member for details. Feb 1-28. All ages.

Get daily updates on Columbia Heights happenings by following us on Facebook @Columbiaheightsmn

Find our daily newsfeed at columbiaheightsmn.gov For questions about this newsletter, call 763-706-3615

Library Open With Restrictions, Programs Available

Below is a <u>small sampling</u> of upcoming activities at the library. For a full list, visit www.anokacounty.us/events. <u>Call</u> <u>763-706-3690 to register or if you have questions</u>. Check in often for schedule changes. For in-person activities, face coverings and social distancing are required. For online programs, you will need an internet-enabled device.

Adult Programs

New Year Meditation

Wed, Jan 6: 7 pm, online A 30-minute meditation workshop with Nirav Sheth. Registration required.

Anishinaabe Bead Arts

Wed, Jan 13: 6 pm, online Learn how patterns and colors can reflect tribal and family affiliations as you create your own beaded work of art. Please pick up bead kits at the library 1 week before the program date. Program will be presented via Zoom. Funded by the MN Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Registration required.

Lovely Luminations

Thu, Feb 4: 6 pm, online Spark your creativity with artist Jeanette

Kids and Teens

Stay-at-Home Storytime

Mondays, Jan 11-Feb 22, 10:30 am Designed to promote school readiness in 2 to 5 year olds. Stay tuned each week for an activity idea that will extend the day's learning. Online.

Story Strolls

Dec 15-16: Huset Park West; Jan 12-13: Sullivan; Feb 16-17: LaBelle Park Large story pages will be placed throughout featured parks. Strolls will be up at 10 am the first day and taken down at 4 pm the following day.

Virtual LEGO Challenge

Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10 Check in online to get the monthly challenge. Share your creations with us @ColumbiaHeightsPublicLibrary on

Facebook. Tag us with #LEGOCHPL.

Dickinson. Create a festive luminary for Valentine's Day using recycled glass and Modge Podge. Learn different techniques. Add a light source and illuminate a special walkway or centerpiece. Please pick up kits at the library 1 week prior. Presented virtually via Zoom. Funded by the MN Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Registration required.

Poems in the Parks

Large signboards featuring nature-inspired poems will be placed along park trails. Watch the library's events calendar for dates and locations.

Take and Make Crafts

Stop by and take a craft, or call and we'll set one aside for you. New crafts each month. Supplies are limited.

Super Circuits*

Tue, Dec 29, 1-2 pm, online A virtual, kit-based program. Experiment with the components of simple circuits: power, loads, and switches while constructing and wiring a motor-powered fan. Registrants need to pick up their supplies at the library before the program. Zoom instructions and link will be sent after registration. For Grades 3-6. Registration required.

Chilly Clay Animals

Tue, Jan 19, 1-2:30 pm, online Sculpt arctic and South Pole animals using oven-safe clay. Learn how to prep, shape and form different styles of animals, and receive instructions on how to bake your animals at home. Ages 6+. Registration required. Registrants need to pick up their clay kits at Columbia Heights Public Library before the program starts. Funded by the MN Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Library Book Club Online

10 am: Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 17 Registration required.

Resilience Book Club

6 pm: Jan 21, Feb 18 Let's cultivate resilience and optimism through an online book discussion. Registration required.

Winter Reading Is for Everyone!



This year, the library's Winter Reading program is for all ages! Book review forms are

available at the library or on the library website. Children and teens will earn a prize book for their first review. Adults can earn chances to win weekly prizes. Everyone can win a chance at the grand prize: Barnes and Noble gift cards! Winter Reads runs from Jan 11 to Feb 27.

Grab and Go Discovery Kits*

January and February Pick up a monthly activity kit at the library with projects for children of all ages. Register for your kit today. Available for ages birth-K, grades 1-5, and grades 6+.

Neon Felted Rainbows

Fri, Jan 29, 1-2:30 pm, online Using neon hues of loose wool roving and a special needle, learn to compress fibers to create a fabric rainbow. Then attach a pin to embellish your favorite bag or outfit! Ages 10+. Registration required. Please note that this program uses a sharp needle. Registrants need to pick up their project kits at Columbia Heights Public Library before the program starts. Funded by the MN Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

*This program is partially funded with a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education using federal funding, CFDA 84.287, Every Student Succeeds Act, Title IV B-21 Century Community Learning Centers. The content of this program does not necessarily represent the policy of the federal Department of Education or the Minnesota Department of Education.

Library Hours Mon-Wed, 1 to 7 pm Thu-Fri, 11 am to 4 pm Sat, 11 am to 3 pm **Library Closures** Dec 24-25 • Jan 1 • Jan 18 • Feb 15

3939 Central Ave NE • (763) 706-3690

www.columbiaheightsmn.gov Cable Channel 19 Facebook: @ColumbiaHeightsPublicLibrary

City Hall, Apartment Complex Mixed-Use Development at Central and 40th Under Way After Bank Building Razed

This fall, the City of Columbia Heights sold the land it owned at Central and 40th to the City's development partner Alatus. Alatus hired Doran Construction to build a mixed-use development project that includes 266 apartments, a café space, and a new City Hall at 3989 Central Ave. Construction began in November shortly after the old bank building on the lot was demolished. It's expected to take approximately 20 months to complete.

Initial construction work will be focused on excavation, utilities, and foundation preparation. Pile driving is expected to take 3-4 weeks. As the project progresses, the City plans to share additional updates.

More Details and Background

The Columbia Heights City Council voted 5-0 in September, 2019, to authorize the establishment of a new, 20,000 square-foot City Hall as part of a vertical mixeduse development at 3989 Central Ave. The City Hall will be owned by the City, like a condo, though it will be part of a larger private development. The City has partnered with the Leo A Daly LLC architecture firm to help design the facility.

Locating a new City Hall within the Alatus development has the potential to save the City more than \$6 million when compared to the preferred stand-alone option that had been considered near Murzyn Hall on Huset Park West. City officials conducted a public hearing detailing the two sites in the fall of 2019.

Plans to build a new City Hall have been brewing for several years. The condition of the existing building is such that necessary renovations were expected to cost upwards of \$6-8 million over the next decade.

For preliminary site plans, cost-comparisons, condition reports, and further details, visit www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/newcityhall



Above: Artist rendering of the new 3989 mixed-use development. Below left: Demolition of the old bank building. Below right: Ribbon cutting on new construction site, Nov 12.





Section Spotlight Section

2020 General Election Results

More than 11,380 residents in Columbia Heights voted in the 2020 general election on Tue, Nov 3, about 89% of the City's total registered voters. That's roughly 10% higher than the state average, which is itself the highest voter turnout in the nation. For the City of Columbia Heights, Amáda Márquez Simula won the mayoral race, while Connie Buesgens (incumbent) and Kay "Kt" Jacobs were the top two vote-getters for the two at-large City Council seats. They'll be joining sitting council members Nick Novitsky and John Murzyn Jr. Incumbent Mayor Donna Schmitt did not seek reelection. For more election results, go here https://electionresults.sos.state. mn.us/

judge will be with you in 15 vinutes or less

Councilmember terms are four years beginning Jan 4, 2021, and ending Jan 6, 2025. The term for mayor is two years, ending Jan 2, 2023.

About the City Council

The City of Columbia Heights is governed by a five-member council, consisting of a mayor and four councilmembers elected at-large. The mayor serves a two-year term, with councilmembers serving staggered, four-year terms. Elections are held in November of even-numbered years.

The City of Columbia Heights is a charter city. The City Charter determines the procedures of city government in accordance with state statutes and the Minnesota State Constitution. Under this charter, the City has adopted the council-manager form of government. The City Council appoints the City Manager, who is the chief administrative officer for the City. The City Council meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers. For questions, contact City Clerk Nicole Tingley at 763-706-3611.

IMPORTANT CITY CONTACTS

| CITY OFFICES(763) 706-3600 Administration(763) 706-3610 | |
|--|--|
| Public Works Dept(763) 706-3700 | |
| Garbage/Refuse Pick-up/ | |
| Recycling (Waste | |
| Management) | |
| Utility Billing(763) 706-3640 | |
| | |
| Fire Dept. Administration & Information/ | |
| Emergency | |
| Management (763) 706-8150 | |
| Fire Chief | |

| Police | (763) 706-8100 |
|---|----------------|
| Community | |
| Development | (763) 706-3670 |
| Bldg. Permits/ | |
| Licenses | (763) 706-3678 |
| 24-Hour Info. Line-Murzyn H Cancellations, | |
| Directions | (763) 706-3737 |
| Murzyn Hall Rental | (763) 706-3734 |
| Library | (763) 706-3690 |

| Mayor Donna Schmitt(763) 706-3607 |
|---------------------------------------|
| Councilmember Buesgens (763) 788-5072 |
| Councilmember Murzyn(763) 781-4983 |
| Councilmember Novitsky(612) 760-4463 |
| Councilmember Williams(763) 788-1113 |
| |
| City Newsletter editor (763) 706-3615 |
| |
| Emergency911 |
| |

MORE INFO AT:

www.columbiaheightsmn.gov

REMINDER: Street Parking Restrictions In Effect Nov 1—March 31, 2—6 am daily





Letting Cars Run Unattended Encourages Auto Theft and Violates City Ordinance

Columbia Heights, along with the rest of the metro area, has seen a recent increase in vehicle thefts.

While it's tempting to warm up your vehicle during the colder months by leaving it running unattended with the keys in the ignition, residents should know that not only is this a violation of the City's open ignition ordinance, it's also one of the most likely ways to have your car stolen.

Remote start features may be used, since the ignition remains locked and there is no key in the vehicle.

Getting into a cold car is no fun, but having your car stolen or receiving a citation is worse. Please don't leave your car running with the keys in the ignition.

Cyber Security Is More Important Than Ever In 2020

With many of us working or schooling from home, it's more important than ever to pay attention to your security online. Here are a few quick tips to keep in mind when it comes to keeping yourself safe online:

Think Before You Click—What may look exactly like an email from a friend, or from Amazon or Apple, can be a trick. Never click on a link in an email unless you're <u>positive</u> it's from a safe source.

Use Secured Networks-Don't send information over a non-secured network, like a coffee shop wi-fi. Those kinds of connections leave your computer vulnerable to hackers.

Make Passwords Complex—The strength of your password is often the only thing between a crook and your private data and financial records. Make your passwords complex, with letters, numbers, and symbols, and not something that can be easily guessed, like a birth date.

Change Passwords Frequently and Don't Reuse—If crooks crack one password, they will then try it on other platforms. In other words, if you use the same password across different accounts and crooks crack one, they've cracked them all.

Backup Files Often and Keep Software Updated-

Keep backups of your files on drives that are offline and back up files often. Keep all your hardware updated with the most current security updates and patches.

There are several credible sources to find information on this topic, and here are a few we recommend:

National Cyber Security Alliance: https://staysafeonline. org/ The Internet Crime Compliant Center: https:// www.ic3.gov/ FBI Tips: www.fbi.gov. And the Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Agency: https://www.cisa.gov/

Call 911

In Anoka County, 911 is used for all calls for police assistance, whether that call is for an emergency or a non-emergency. Dispatchers are trained to prioritize calls, so don't hesitate to use 911. In emergency situations where you are not able to speak with a dispatcher, Minnesota has "Text to 911." Texting should only be used when individuals are unable to make a voice call.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Columbia Heights Police Department office is open Mon-Fri, 8 am to 4:30 pm. The telephone number is (763) 706-8100. Call 911 in an emergency. The office is located in the Public Safety building, 825 41st Avenue NE. The police department offices are 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.





Snow Removal Is a Community Effort

Keeping our sidewalks free of ice and snow is the neighborly thing to do.... and it's the law.

Together, we are all responsible for keeping Columbia Heights safe and comfortable for winter walking. For yourself, your neighbors and people pushing strollers or using wheelchairs, please do your part.

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 ceased to fall. Failure to shovel your sidewalk will result in a City contractor expense to you, the property owner, for shoveling it.

Please shovel or blow snow onto private property. It's against City Ordinance to put snow in the street. If you have an elderly neighbor who's incapable of shoveling, please consider volunteering to shovel their sidewalks and steps for them. Finally, 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. Don't put containers in the street.

Consider the Fire Hydrant

Fire hydrants can get buried during a snowstorm, which means firefighters responding to a call have to take extra time to shovel them out before they can actually fight a fire. You can save them vital moments by shoveling out the fire hydrants on your block after a storm. It will make you and your neighborhood safer.

CodeRED[®] COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION ENROLLMENT Sign up to receive emergency text alerts at columbiaheightsmn.gov/alerts

FIRE DEPARTMENT

825 41st Ave NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421 fire@columbiaheightsmn.gov

Be up to date on activities and regular safety reminders of the Columbia Heights Fire Department by following us on Facebook @columbiaheightsfire.



WINTER WEATHER REMINDERS

Snow Plows and Winter Parking

- 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 if they judge it is safe to do so.
 - After a snowfall of 3 or more inches, no parking on the street is permitted until it has been plowed from curb-to-curb.
 - Columbia Heights winter parking rules went into effect Nov 1. Each year, from Nov 1 to March 31, no vehicle or trailer may be parked on any public road between 2-6 am without a parking permit issued by the Columbia Heights Police Department. This is to ensure vehicles do not get in the way of snowplows and deicers and that roads are always clear enough for fire trucks, ambulances, and other emergency vehicles.
- Permits to park overnight between Nov 1 and March 31 are issued under certain conditions. The permit form is available at the Police Department, 825 41st Ave NE, or you can find it online here: www.columbiaheightsmn. gov/winterparking. Residents in need of a temporary parking permit should come to the police department during normal business hours. Please call 763-706-8100 for more information. Note: Snowfall of three and a half inches or more supersedes parking permits.

Frozen Pipes

 To keep your water pipes from freezing and bursting on extremely cold days, leave cabinet doors open under sinks that face outside walls, schedule someone to check on your house when you go out of town, insulate walls where piping runs if possible, do not turn your heat down during windy cold days, run cold water and make sure its temperature is above 40 degrees, and on the coldest days, allow a steady, pencil-width stream of water to continually run from faucets that have a supply pipe along an outside wall.

Heights Wins Sustainable City Award from League of Minnesota Cities

Luke Fischer, deputy director of the League of Minnesota Cities, presented the City of Columbia Heights with the 2020 Sustainable City Award at the Oct

26 City Council meeting. The City received an award and check for \$1,000. The Sustainable City Award is given each year by LMC to a single city that has implemented a project, program, or initiative that helps the city achieve its sustainability goals through implementation of one or more of the GreenStep Cities' 29 best practices.



In 2018, the City of Columbia Heights expanded its curbside yard-waste pick-up program to include food scraps, food-soiled paper, and other household compost, and to go year-round. Prior to this, the City had organized collection for curbside yard waste weekly, April-November, for more than 30 years. The program's expansion was well received by residents, as more than 1,000 households signed up for curbside yard-waste/organics pick-up during the first year the expanded program was offered. Trash disposal was reduced by 500 tons, saving the City \$37,500. Additionally, general recycling increased by 5%.

Currently, the City has more than 1,360 compost carts on the street covering 21% of refuse-serviced properties, and that number continues to rise. The service is \$2.52 per month, charged to your quarterly City utility bill. Email Public Works at publicworks@columbiaheightsmn.gov to order a compost cart.



Go Green for the Holidays

The holidays are a wonderful time of year, but they can also generate a lot of preventable waste. Below are just a few suggestions for going greener this holiday season.

Cleaning Is a Recycling Opportunity

The holidays can be a mess to clean up after, but getting rid of all that clutter is a great opportunity to use the recycling options provided by the City of Columbia Heights and local donation drop spots. Call (763) 706-3700 for more info or to request a recycling packet.

Shed Some Light

Holiday string lights are a beautiful decoration during the dark days of winter. When your current string lights burn out, you can bring them to the Columbia Heights Recycling/Drop Off Center (see below).

Consider the Christmas Tree

Citywide Christmas tree pickup will begin Mon, Jan 4, and continue through Fri, Jan 15. Residents must call 1-888-960-0008 to schedule the pickup. Don't buy a flocked or painted tree as they can't be composted. Bring artificial trees you want to get rid of to the recycling center (see below). Remove all lights and decorations before disposal.

Columbia Heights Recycling/Drop Off

- Dumpster for cardboard and extra recycling carts available
- Open Sat, 9 am to 1 pm, closed holiday weekends
- Madison Street and 38th Place NE

Anoka County Compost Sites

Anoka County has two compost sites that accept tree waste (for branches over 4"), yard waste, and Christmas trees. Please note that a fee may be charged. Visit this link for more info: https://www.anokacounty.us/359/Compost-Sites. Christmas tree pickup will begin Mon, Jan 4, and continue through Fri, Jan 15. Residents must call 1-888-960-0008 to schedule the pickup. Bring artificial trees you want to get rid of to the recycling center.

Simple Ways to Go Green at a Holiday Party or Gathering

- Only serve food and beverages in washable or recyclable containers.
- Use decorations that can be reused in future years, and limit or don't use balloons.
- Provide recycling bins for cans, bottles, and other recyclables that may be produced at your event. Simply roll out your cart from your home or borrow event recycling bins from Anoka County (763) 324-3400. Extra recyclables can be brought to the Recycling Center.
- Use tableware made with recycled content.
- If not using washable dishes, consider using compostable products with a BPI logo. Call 763-706-3700 to order a City compost cart.
- Find more resources and tips about preventing food waste at savethefood.com

Refuse Holiday Schedule

- Thanksgiving Day, Nov 26 Service delayed Thursday and Friday.
- Christmas Day, Dec 25 Service delayed Friday
- New Year's Day, Jan 1 Service delayed Friday
- Martin Luther King Jr Day, Jan 18 No delay
- Presidents' Day, Feb 15 No delay

Anoka County Recycling & Resource Solutions (763) 324-3400 www.anokacounty.us/recycle

Refuse Service Levels and Rates www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/refuserates

Waste Management

Customer Service Phone: 1-888-960-0008 www.wm.com/us/customer-support

City Refuse/Recycling website www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/refuseandrecycling Public Works Department Phone: (763) 706-3700

Proposed 2021 Budget, Share of Property Tax

The proposed 2021 City budget is available for review online at www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/budget. This budget was used by Anoka County to prepare the Notice of Proposed Property Taxes mailed to each property owner in November. Opportunity to comment on this budget continues through the final public meeting for it Dec 14, 7 pm, at Columbia Heights City Hall. The property tax increase proposed by the 2021 budget provides for inflation on existing services, plus the recommendations from a 2019 independent study to add one additional community service officer and one additional police officer over existing staff levels. For 2021, the tax subsidy provided by the Metro Area Fiscal Disparities program will be reduced by 4.1% under that program's distribution formula in state law. A reduction in this subsidy increases the share of the total City taxes paid by local property owners. These factors combine to an average increase of 7.9% in the proposed City property taxes paid by local property owners in 2021.



COVID-19 Safety Reminders: Three Simple Tips From the CDC

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there are three main things people can do to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN: Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

AVOID CLOSE CONTACT: Inside your home, avoid close contact with people who are sick and maintain 6 feet between the person who is sick and other household members. Outside your home, put six feet of distance between yourself and

people who don't live in your household. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. Avoid large gatherings.

WEAR A FACE COVERING: Wear a mask in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

Useful Links for More Information

www.anokacounty.us/coronavirus www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus www.columbiaheightsmn.gov/covid

FEB 6 CITY SERVICES EXPO & TOWN HALL COLUMBIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM, 11 AM-1 PM

NOTE: Due to potential COVID-19 complications, events may be postponed or moved online on short notice. Come visit with representatives from Columbia Heights City Hall, Public Works, Recreation, Library, Police and Fire, get your questions answered and learn about some of the great things happening at the City of Columbia Heights. Got questions about the new City Hall? The Comprehensive Plan? Business development? The City Council will be there to answer questions from the audience during a town hall presentation at noon. Check columbiaheightsmn.gov for updates.