



Chaska City Hall Bulletin

"The Best Small Town in Minnesota"

Chaska City Hall

www.chaskamn.com

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WHAT HAPPENED?

On Saturday, November 13th, the City of Chaska experienced a heavy, wet 10" snowfall causing numerous power outages across the Twin Cities. In many locations, snow-caked tree branches snapped off and took power lines down with them. Xcel Energy had 70,000 customers without power on Saturday and Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative had 5,000 customers without power. In many of our surrounding cities, residents were without power from 24-60 hours, with some service not restored until late Monday afternoon.

Chaska was very fortunate and only had four reported outages. The largest one affected approximately 2500 residents along Hundertmark Road in the Clover Ridge neighborhood. This outage occurred when icy lilac bushes pulled down communication cables along Bavaria Road and Hundertmark Drive and snapped the pole midway down. While electricity was not actually lost when the pole snapped, the electric circuit did have to be opened for approximately 20 minutes to clear the bushes from the line. Three smaller outages affected about 80 other residents around town. However, all electrical power was restored by 6:30 Saturday evening.

The City of Chaska would like to thank the outstanding crew we have in our Electric Department. It is very rare to have such a reliable electric service, from the standpoint of few outages with short durations. This is due both to an outstanding crew that responds quickly to problems and also to having well built and maintained electrical lines.

While no electrical system is immune to a large outage, these events can certainly be minimized by careful attention to maintenance, keeping obstructions cleared from power lines, and having a crew that is able to respond quickly. The City of Chaska is very proud of the work the Electric Department performed this past weekend and this also emphasizes some of the benefits of having our own electric utility.



Public Works Snow Stats:

10" of snow on 11-13-10

19 employees plowed a total of 137 hours

48 tons of salt/sand used

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

The City of Chaska would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and joyous Thanksgiving holiday. Although 2010 has been a tough year across our nation, with many economic challenges facing our country, we continue to have reasons to be thankful in Chaska. We have family, friends, and neighbors who make this a great community in which to live.



In observance of the holiday, City offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26th. Regular office hours will begin on Monday, the 29th. The Community Center will be closed on Thanksgiving Day but will have regular hours Friday through Sunday. Any utility emergencies during this time should be directed to 952-448-4335. Happy Thanksgiving!

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Love INC will be hosting a free Thanksgiving Community Meal at St. John's Lutheran Church and School located at 4th and Oak Streets in Chaska on Thanksgiving Day from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. There is absolutely no cost for the dinner and transportation is also available if needed. For more information, call 952-448-2433.



CHASKA COMMUNITY CENTER ACTIVITIES

Santa's Mailbox

Santa Claus will have a special mailbox at the CCC. Boys and girls can drop off their letters in Santa's colorful mailbox November 29–December 3. Santa's helpers will pick up letters and deliver them straight to the North Pole. Please include the full name and address of each sender so Santa and his elves can reply to each letter.



Santa Visits The CCC

Friday, December 3

A Chaska Fire Truck will deliver Santa to the CCC front door, and Santa will visit from 4:30–6:30 pm. Refreshments will be served and crafts will be available. Don't forget to bring your camera! Free musical entertainment by Chaska Music Studios and live reindeers provided by The Mustard Seed.

4th Annual Hometown Holiday

Saturday, December 4

Chaska's historic downtown will celebrate with daylong events. Merchants will offer shopping enticements, hospitality and good cheer, and the chance to win a valuable shopping spree. Horse drawn wagon rides accompanied by a guide from Chaska's Historical Society will be touring the town. Carolers, Santa and his helpers and reindeer will greet visitors. The day's events will culminate in the traditional tree lighting ceremony sponsored by the City's Human Rights Commission beginning at 6:00 pm. A coloring contest held during November will determine the lucky winners who will light the tree in City Square Park. This will be a truly sparkling evening event!

(Continued on Page 3)

A Family Christmas in Chaska!

On Sunday, December 19 the City of Chaska will be working in partnership with St. John’s Lutheran Church and the Active Older Adults for Christ to host an old fashioned family event focused on Christmas and the birth of Jesus Christ. Whether you can come for the whole afternoon or any part of it we would love to see your family!

When: Sunday, December 19th
Where: The Lodge at the CCC
Time: 4:00 to 6:00 pm

Hot Apple Cider -
Christmas Cookies -
Children’s Story Time -
Christmas Music, &
Live Animals on
display, including camels and a donkey.
Christmas Carols & Horse Drawn
Carriage Rides offered from 4:30 to
5:30 pm.



Cost: FREE! A donation of your choosing to the Honey Bear will be accepted.

Special Christmas Happening!



Back by popular demand is the St. John’s Live Nativity Performance on the CCC stage on Nov. 19th starting at 6:00 pm.

Free seats are limited. First come first served. The live nativity will also once again be presented outdoors at St. John’s at Fourth and Walnut Street in Chaska starting at 7:30 pm.

FOOD SHELF DONATIONS

Chaska Police Department is collecting food donations through Dec. 23rd for the local food shelf. Items can be dropped off at the PD or call if you live or work in town and an officer will pick them up.



COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECTS COMPLETED

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Over 70 boxes were stuffed and sent to Operation Christmas Child out of The Lodge at the CCC. The program was coordinated by AOA’s for Christ and assisted by staff. Volunteers will also be going down to the Operation Christmas Child warehouse in Bloomington to assist. The program sends shoeboxes with toys/gifts to children who would otherwise go without.



OVER 100 POTLUCK PARTICIPANTS

Over 100 Active Older Adults gathered at The Lodge to celebrate Thanksgiving. The event was of the potluck variety with many pies and cakes among the food offerings. Head chefs for cooking the 70+ pounds of turkey were Kathy Skinner and Joan Seedorf. Mention has been made of a future cooking show on Chaska cable TV!



THANKSGIVING FACTS & TRIVIA

The Pilgrims arrived in North America in December 1620. By the fall of 1621 only half of the pilgrims had survived. Those survivors decided to have a thanksgiving feast.

The first Thanksgiving feast lasted 3 days and included about 90 Wampanoag Indians and their Chief, Massasoit, who had taught the Pilgrims how to cultivate the land.

The drink that the Puritans brought with them on the Mayflower was beer.

The actual day of Thanksgiving varied until President Franklin D. Roosevelt restored it to the 4th Thursday in November in 1939 to make the Christmas shopping season longer and stimulate the economy.

Ben Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national bird of the US, but Thomas Jefferson opposed him. It is believed that Franklin then named the male turkey as “Tom” to spite Jefferson.

