



Chaska City Hall Bulletin

"The Best Small Town in Minnesota"

Chaska City Hall

www.chaskamn.com

Council Members:

Mayor – Mark Windschitt

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Ward I – Gino Businaro

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Ward III – Christopher Schulz

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Ward IV – Rick Ford

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MEMORIAL DAY EVENTS

If you are staying in town over the Memorial Day weekend, don't miss your chance to honor our Veterans. Members of the Chaska American Legion and Chaska VFW will be honoring our fallen veterans with a short ceremony and rifle salute at each of our local cemeteries on Monday, May 31st. The schedule is as follows:

East Union – 7:30 am

St. Nicholas in Carver – 7:45 am

Mt. Hope in Carver – 8:00 am

Guardian Angels in Chaska – 8:15 am

Moravian in Chaska – 9:00 am

City of Chaska Cemetery – 9:15 am

St. John's in Chaska – 9:30 am



A small parade will begin at 10:00 am, winding its way from the front of the old junior high Coop on 4th Street, around to 5th Street and in front of Talheim, and back up 4th Street to City Square Park along Walnut Street. A ceremony and speeches by local guests of honor and youth will then take place at City Square Park.

Please note that all government offices will also be closed on Memorial Day. Have a safe and pleasant holiday!

ROAD PROJECTS



For those people driving through downtown Chaska over the past couple of days, you may have noticed that work has begun on the Highway 41 Project. This project will include the installation of a signal at Second Street and the addition of a landscaped median through the downtown. Work has already started to replace all of the pedestrian ramps at the major intersections of the cross streets with Highway 41. This is occurring to make each of the intersections compliant with ADA standards. It will soon be easier for people with disabilities to make the transition from the sidewalk to the street.

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Additionally, residents will notice some landscaping work in preparation for the utilities needed for installation of the signal at Second Street. It is expected that the signal will be installed about the middle of June, and fully operational by July. Upon completion, this will limit full access to Second, Fourth, and Sixth Streets, which will have signals. First, Third, and Fifth Streets will have right in, right out only access. This will help improve safety through the downtown area.

Following the installation of the signal, the landscape median will be installed down Highway 41 south of old Highway 212 to the Minnesota River bridge. The landscape will match the streetscape currently in place, including large flower pots and banner poles. The entire project should be completed by the beginning of August.

Residents may have also noticed utility work beginning at the intersection of Hundertmark Road and Highway 41. This project will include the full reconstruction of Hundertmark Road from Highway 41 to the Cortina Woods neighborhood to the east. Dual left hand turn lanes will be included, a signal at the entrance to SuperAmerica and the new 212 Medical Center, as well as enhanced trail connections. Upon completion, the current traffic issues should be greatly reduced. The full intersection will be closed after the completion of school to finish the work. Access will remain to SuperAmerica but residents living to the east of the gas station will need to access Hundertmark Road from the north at Pioneer Trail.



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A full overlay of Hundertmark Road is also planned from the Cortina neighborhoods north and east to Pioneer Trail, providing a completely new road surface from Pioneer Trail to Highway 41.

Although these projects will cause some minor traffic inconvenience during the summer, we are confident the completed projects will be a great enhancement to moving traffic in the future. Questions about these projects may be directed to Matt Podhradsky, the City Administrator, at 952-448-9200.

**STATE
LEGISLATURE
FINISHES WORK
CITY FAIRS OK**



Just over a week ago, the Minnesota State Legislature wrapped up their work for the 2010 Session dealing with significant budget deficits. The State anticipated that one of the areas they could utilize to help address the budget deficit, was the Local Government Aid (LGA) provided to cities and counties help defray property taxes needed to provide local services.

In 2003 the City of Chaska received just over \$1 million in LGA. That amount had dropped to \$50,000 by 2008. While it was planned that the City of Chaska would receive over \$300,000 in 2009-2010 in LGA, with over \$100,000 additional to go toward the Market Value Homestead Credit Program to help reduce owners' property tax, the liability, the City had speculated that this was an unreliable source of funds.

During the process of developing the 2010 Budget, the City of Chaska planned for no Local Government Aid dollars and no Market (Continued on Page 3)

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Value Homestead Credit dollars coming from the allocation of the State. At the end of the Legislative Session, the Legislature did tap into those planned allocations. However, the City of Chaska's LGA dropped from \$50,000 to approximately \$31,000. This will allow us to end the year better than originally budgeted.

While this is relatively good news for the City, this issue has continued to be a challenge for all cities, as we have seen substantial decreases over the past decade in the amount allotted from the State to help support local services. This has put a downward pressure on local governments to be able to fill those gaps, necessitating the reduction of services or finding other sources of revenue. Although, Chaska has found ways to fill these gaps and still maintain a high level of services and a low property tax per capita, this issue will continue to be a challenge into the future. We do not expect that allocations of LGA will come back to cities from the State in the near future.

Questions about the results of the 2010 Legislative sessions or the impact on local government, may be directed to the City Administrator at 952-448-9200.

ELECTION INFORMATION

The 2-year position of Mayor, and Ward 1 and 3 Councilperson positions (four-year terms) will be open for election at the General Election on November 2, 2010.



These positions are non-partisan and they do not appear on the Primary ballot. Filing runs August 3-17, 2010. Campaign packets and applications may be picked up at Chaska City Hall beginning the first of June.

To qualify for candidacy, you must be eligible to vote, 21 years of age upon assuming office the first of January 2011, and a resident of the City for 30 days prior to the General Election.

Contact Margo Steffel, Chaska City Election Coordinator at 952-227-7511 or msteffel@chaskamn.com for more information.

BIKE RIDE OPPORTUNITY



Mark your calendar for the 5th Annual Tour de Tonka Bike Ride, a community building event coordinated by

Minnetonka Community Education on Saturday, August 7th. This is a RIDE, not a RACE that begins at the Minnetonka High School at 7:30 am. Same day registration begins at 5:45 am and includes a T-shirt, entertainment, and many wonderful rest stops full of great treats.

This year the 65 and 100-mile rides will travel through Chaska. Riders will be traveling south on Bavaria Road, turning east on Pioneer Trail and then turning north on Powers Boulevard. There will be a rest stop at McKnight Park running from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.

For more information call Ellen at 952-401-6842.

City Meetings at Chaska City Hall
Chaska City Council
Monday, June 7th at 7:00 pm

Chaska Planning Commission
Wednesday, June 9th at 7:00 pm
Go to www.chaskamn.com for agendas.



CHASKA COMMUNITY CENTER ACTIVITIES

LITTLE RASCALS CAMP

Ages 2 and 3

Join us in the upper gym for pint-sized super silly fun. We will strike up the band, have story time, and pull out the sports equipment. Big fun for little ones!



Date: June 1 – 3

Time: 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Place: CCC Upper Gym

Cost: \$40Member/ \$52 Non-Member

YOUTH SPORTSMAN DAY

Here's an opportunity for youth, ages 10 to 17, to try their hand at shooting a muzzle loader, shot gun, rifle, and archery equipment under the watchful guidance of gun safety instructors. A free lunch will be provided to all participants. Parents are welcome to attend and observe. This program is sponsored by volunteers with the National Wild Turkey Federation.

Date: Saturday, June 5

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Where:

Marsh

Lake Hunting Preserve

Cost: FREE



FOOT AND NAIL CARE FOR AOA'S by Comfort Foot Care

Let's get your feet looking GREAT! Meet with Shelly Rapp, trained foot and nail care specialist. Shelly provides gentle, yet effective, nursing foot-care services, including: foot health assessments, toe and fingernail trimming and upkeep, corn and callous management, and foot massage. Call The Lodge to register.

Date: Fridays: April 2

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Place: The Lodge

Cost: \$30



Shelly L. Rapp, RN-Certified Foot Care Nurse

DON'T FORGET TO MAKE TIME FOR FISHING

Go online to www.LGFChaska.org to see the schedule to register for Let's Go Fishing boating events. We launch from Howard's Point Marina, Shorewood, only a short 8 miles from the front door of the Community Center to your fun filled afternoon on Lake Minnetonka! Come fish or just enjoy the ride.

The Public Works Department hung approximately 60 flower baskets from the lampposts in Chaska yesterday.

