

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS



Weekly Newsletter:
3/27/23 - 3/31/23

2077 Larpenteur Avenue West, Falcon Heights, Minnesota 55113
| 651-792-7600 | <https://www.falconheights.org/>

Ruggles Pathway Update

The City Council hosted a public hearing on March 22nd to consider a vacation of a right-of-way easement for a pathway that connects Pascal and Holton Streets along Ruggles. The City received a petition from adjacent homeowners requesting the vacation. Following the public hearing, the City Council voted 2-3 in approval of the vacation request. The request required a 4/5th vote in support, so the vacation was not approved. The City Council directed staff and city engineers to include options in the 2023 Pavement Management Program (PMP) bid to include quotes for various paving options of the pathway. A final decision on paving the pathway has not been made by the City Council.

Center for Values-Based Initiatives Law Enforcement Contract Analysis

The City partnered with the Center for Values-Based Initiatives (CVBI) to assist with reviewing our contract for law enforcement services. CVBI conducted a series of focus groups with residents and a random survey of 100 households to gather public opinion on satisfaction with our contracted law enforcement services provider. CVBI then analyzed our contract, 911 call data, and nearby communities contract for services. The full study results have been approved and are available on the city website [here](#).

City Council Approves Notice of Intent to Not Renew Ramsey County Sheriff's Office Contract for 2024

Following the report of the CVBI study at the March 22nd City Council regular meeting, the City Council directed the City Administrator to send notice to the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office of our intent to not renew our law enforcement services agreement for 2024. This notice is due nine months prior to the term end, which is December 31, 2023. As per our contract for law enforcement services, in the event the City does not find an alternative law enforcement partner prior to our term end, the City will revert back to the Sheriff's office. The City will work with our consultant over the coming months to continue to explore the City's options for a long-term law enforcement contract.

Planning Commission -Public Hearing-

PROPOSED COFFEE DRIVE-THROUGH AT AMBER UNION

The Planning Commission will host a public hearing in the City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, March 28th at 7:00 p.m. to consider the application of Buhl Larpenteur West LLC to amend City Code to allow drive-through facilities for eating establishments as part of a Planned Unit Development (PUD), and to amend the existing Amber Union PUD. The full proposed amendments and plans are available [here](#) or on our website at <https://www.falconheights.org/home/showpublisheddocument/3820>

Next City Council Meeting

The next Falcon Heights City Council workshop meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5 at 6:30 pm.

The next Falcon Heights City Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12 at 7 pm.

State Fair Policies and Procedures Review Task Force

The City of Falcon Heights is establishing a task force to review the city policies and procedures regarding the Minnesota State Fair and fairground events.

[If you are interested in participating, please fill out the interest form here.](#)

Join a City Commission!

The following commission is currently accepting applications:

- Planning Commission (2 vacancies)
- Community Engagement Commission (1 vacancy)

If you are passionate about the City of Falcon Heights and want to make a positive impact on your community please apply today!

More information can be found [here](#).

WE'RE HIRING! **-Summer Program Coordinator-**

The City is currently hiring for a Summer Program Coordinator. The position will be responsible for planning, organizing, and coordinating a variety of recreational programs for children (ages 3-13) in an outdoor setting.

The position will also help hire and train other summer programming staff. The ideal candidate will be able to work with no direct supervision, excel in leading group activities, have experience working with children and have a background in Parks and Recreation or Elementary Education.

If this sounds like you, we highly encourage you to apply! The position will close on Monday, April 9th at 4:30 pm.

Please visit [our website](#) to view the entire job description and review the application requirements.

2023 Property Taxes

Ramsey County will be mailing property tax statements and valuation notices soon. The market value listed on the valuation notice will be used to determine the property taxes you owe in 2024.

If you believe there is an error, now is the time to appeal or question the value by contacting the Assessor's Office at 651-266-2131.

Learn more:

ramseycounty.us/PropertyTaxNotice

Summer Program Registration is Open!

The Falcon Heights Parks and Recreation Department offers a variety of summer programs for children. Registration is now open and runs through May 29. For more information, please visit our [website](#).

Questions about programming or summer employment opportunities can be directed to Kelly Nelson at 651-792-7617 or kelly.nelson@falconheights.org.



Spring Together - May 20

The City will host a Spring Together event on Saturday, May 20th from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at Curtiss Field. Meet your neighbors and enjoy free ice cream and family fun! More details to come, but please save the date. We hope to see you there!



City Hall Programming

REGISTER
NOW

Tae Kwon Do

Register for Tae Kwon Do sessions!

Tae Kwon Do Basic and Intermediate/Advanced sessions will be held on Tuesdays, running March 28-May 2.

Cardio Kickboxing classes will be held on Thursdays, running March 30 - May 4. All classes are held in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

Classes are instructed by Joshua Jordan, a 2nd-degree black belt. These classes help develop self-defense skills, mental strength, focus, self-confidence, physical health and flexibility.

For more information and to register, click this link:

<https://www.falconheights.org/residents/tkd-information>



Yoga

Register for drop-in yoga classes today!

Classes run every Monday from March 13 - May 22 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

Classes are instructed by Shaila Cunningham, who has over 20 years of experience and was certified in 2001 in residence at Kripalu. Appropriate for healthy beginners or for those wanting to explore "deeper practices," classes will combine classical yoga with best practices, served up with a side of humor. Shaila serves as instructor for North Oaks and Midland Hills Golf Clubs and offers additional classes at YogaHotDish locations.

For more information and to register, click this link:

<https://www.falconheights.org/residents/parks-recreation/yoga>



City Hall Programming (continued)

NEW! **Yoga for Golf Guys!**

YOGA FOR GOLF GUYS is a 90-min workshop to get you ready for the course openings!

Cost: \$30 (6-12 participants)
Date: Monday, April 24, 6:15 - 7:45 pm,
Falcon Heights City Hall
Instructor: Shaila Cunningham of
YogaHotDish.

Shaila teaches at Midland Hills and North Oaks Golf Clubs, as well as the Cities of Arden Hills and Falcon Heights (Mondays 4:30 pm). Shaila received her Yoga teaching certificate from The Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health, Stockbridge, MA, 2001.

You know you should do yoga. You've heard the hype: how it can make your spine healthier, reduce swing flaws, relieve back pain, and improve the "inner game."

So, if you're a regular guy who wants to do some yoga to help your game without risking throwing out your back or damaging your joints, you're in the right place!

In fact, about 50% of golfers have back pain. What do you suppose the most highly researched benefit of yoga is? Yep, reduced back pain!

Show up w/ a mat (if you have one) and a sense of humor.

Look at it this way: the less flexible your body or focused your mind, the more you have to gain!

For more information and to register, click this link:

[Yoga for Golf Guys | Falcon Heights, MN](#)

Community Garden

Due to popular demand, all Community Garden plots have already been filled for the 2023 season.

Questions? Please contact Kelly Nelson at kelly.nelson@falconheights.org or 651-792-7600.

Ramsey County Library has one remaining Zoom class in their series to teach the basics of growing vegetable gardens. See below.

Introduction to Vegetable Gardening - Online Class

Thursday, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Virtual-Via Zoom

March 30: Caring for the garden

Presented by Ramsey County Master Gardeners. [Register today.](#)



State Fairgrounds Events

GSTA Rod & Custom Spectacular Car Show - April 1 - 2, 2023

DESCRIPTION:

65th Annual Rod & Custom Spectacular Car Show

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

ADMISSION:

Adults (16 and over): \$16

Children (6-15): \$5

Children (5 and younger): Free

Discount coupons available on GSTA website.

For more information, [click here!](#)

Unless noted, event parking will be on the fairgrounds in lots and on streets surrounding the event venue.

- Fairgrounds access: Information on guidelines and restrictions regarding fairgrounds access, especially for pedestrians and bikers, will be updated here:
<https://www.mnstatefair.org/fairgrounds-access/>

[For more information on MN State Fairgrounds events click here.](#)



AARP Foundation Tax-Aide

Thank you for reserving your free tax preparation help with AARP Tax-Aide volunteers at City Hall. We are unable to take more appointments at this time.

To find other AARP Tax-Aide locations, please visit their website [here](#).



The Raptor Center

Baby raptor season at The Raptor Center has begun!

While the first baby of the spring season is typically a great horned owl, the TRC was surprised to welcome a Northern saw-whet owl. Compared to great horned owls, the population of northern saw-whet owls nesting in the metro area is relatively small. Each spring/summer, the TRC sees an influx of more than 250 young raptors in need. To learn more about TRC, visit their website [here](#).



Ramsey County Conversations: Environmental Service Center

DESCRIPTION:

Get a first look at preliminary plans for Ramsey County's new Environmental Service Center (ESC) to be built in Roseville, and share your feedback to help shape the facility. The ESC will make it easier for residents to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Date:

April 4, 2023 from 12:00 to 1:30 PM

Location:

Held virtually, via Zoom

Click to join Zoom!

Meeting ID: 947 2317 1430

One tap mobile: 16513728299

For more information about the proposed Environmental Service Center, [click here](#)

Ramsey County All Abilities 2050 Transportation Plan

Ramsey County is currently undertaking public engagement for the All Abilities 2050 Transportation Plan, which will help guide transportation investment for the next 27 years, and they are interested in hearing from the Falcon Heights community.

This project will take place over the next year, including an upcoming community conversation around existing experience in navigating around Ramsey County.

The upcoming online community conversation:

March 28 from 6-7pm

No registration is required. Join the conversation via this link:

<https://www.ramseycounty.us/content/all-abilities-2050-transportation-plan-virtual-community-meeting>



Declutter Chemicals for FREE!

Sprucing up your home should include properly cleaning out of unwanted chemicals. Don't wait to declutter. Check for potentially hazardous items from under-the-sink, storage closets and garage. Keep what you would use in the next year and put everything else in a box to bring to one of Ramsey County's household hazardous waste collection sites.

Ramsey County's household hazardous waste collection sites are your one-stop drop-off for most products labeled caution, warning, danger or poison. Residents can bring automotive fluids, batteries (all types), cell phones, cleaners, fluorescent lights, paint, pesticides, propane tanks and more for free.

Ramsey County has a year-round collection site in Saint Paul and a mobile collection that moves to a different community each month from April through October. Find hours, directions and the full list of items accepted at [RamseyRecycles.com/HHW](https://www.ramseyrecycles.com/HHW). Or call the Ramsey County Recycling & Disposal hotline at 651-633-EASY (3279), answered 24/7.



Food Scraps for Compost!

Looking to do something good for the environment? Participate in Ramsey County's free food scraps collection program. You'll reduce your trash and put wasted food to better use. There is a collection site located at City Hall (2077 Larpenteur Ave. W.). The food scraps are processed into compost at an industrial compost facility and used in gardening and landscaping projects. All types of food waste are accepted, including meat, bones and dairy.

Collecting food scraps is easy! Just follow these three steps:

1. Get equipped: Find a container to collect food scraps. Pick up a free compostable bag at the collection site.
2. Collect food scraps: Line your container with the compostable bag and fill it with food scraps.
3. Drop them off: When your compostable bag is full, drop it off at the collection site. Pick up a new bag at the site.

To learn more, watch this short [video](#) and visit Ramsey County's [food scraps webpage](#).



Saint Anthony Park Area Seniors - Ceramics Workshop

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Try your hand at creating abstract sculptures out of clay!

St. Anthony Park Area Seniors (SAPAS) is sponsoring a 5-week workshop at The Makery in St. Anthony Park's Milton Square (2230 Carter Ave., Suite 7) at no charge to you.

Under the direction of Makery owner, Anna Gaseitsiwe, participants will learn how to use carving tools and glaze to create their own designs.

The workshop will run Thursdays April 20 - May 18 from 2:00-3:30 pm.

Prospective participants should be aware that accessing The Makery requires negotiating about 10 stairs. Masking and social distancing are required.

Priority will be given to seniors residing in the SAPAS service area (Falcon Heights west of Cleveland Avenue). We will keep a waiting list.

To register or for more information, contact SAPAS at 651-642-9052 or sc@sapaseniors.org

- Caregiver Community Gathering -

The St. Anthony Park Caregiver Community Gathering is a caring peer group that will meet monthly in person for a time to share ideas and concerns, learn, practice self-care, and develop a community of care in a safe space. The session will conclude with breathing, stretching and meditation exercises.

The group is led by Katharine Tondra (SAPAS program director) and Jean Bendt (St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church parish nurse). The breathing and meditation exercises will be led by Niza Hanany, the chair yoga leader from St. Anthony Park Area Seniors.

The group meets on the fourth Monday of every month from 11:00 am - noon in the Fireside Room at St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church (2323 Como Ave.). The next meeting is Monday, March 27.

Participants need to be masked and practicing social distancing.

Please direct any questions to Katharine Tondra at office@sapaseniors.org or Jean Bendt at jean@saplch.org.

The group is co-sponsored by St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church and St. Anthony Park Area Seniors.

Como Falcon Heights Block Nurse Program

WE NEED YOU!



Como Park/Falcon Heights Living at Home Block Nurse Program is looking for volunteers of all types – friendly visitors, driving seniors to doctor appointments, chore support, grocery delivery, dog walkers and more.

Make a difference in the lives of our neighborhood seniors! Even one hour will help greatly.

Call 651.642.1127 to let us know what and when you can help. We're stronger together!



Neal Kwong Award 2023

-Now Taking Applications-

Neal Kwong was a Falcon Heights resident who tragically passed away at the age of fifteen. He was an outstanding member of our community. In his memory, the City established the Neal Kwong Award to recognize young people, ages 12 to 19, who display leadership and volunteerism in Falcon Heights. Nominees must live in or volunteer in Falcon Heights. Parents are encouraged to support their youth by nominating them or by helping neighbors and friends willing to nominate them.

Nominations for the 2023 Award are due no later than Friday, April 28th at 4:30 pm.

The award recipient(s) will be recognized at a Falcon Heights City Council meeting, in this newsletter, and on a plaque in the lobby of City Hall.

For more information on the award and for a link to the application, please visit <https://www.falconheights.org/residents/neal-kwong-award>





City of Falcon Heights

TOM ABOUT THE TOWN!



WHERE DO YOU SEE HIM AROUND?

When the turkey isn't admiring his own reflection, he's looking for signs of spring. Send your picture of the turkey to mail@falconheights.org for your chance to be featured in next week's newsletter!

Additional Community Resources:

Online BIPOC Support Groups

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has coordinated various online support groups to help BIPOC. Please click [here](#) for more information.



Blood Pressure Clinics

Sponsored By Como Park/Falcon Heights Block Nurse Program



Love your heart! Take advantage of these **free** Blood Pressure Clinics.



1st & 3rd Mondays from
2pm-3:30pm at Arbor Pointe
Apartments

2nd & 4th Mondays from
2pm-3:30pm at Falcon Heights
City Hall

Ramsey County

Rent Assistance:



Are you a renter who has fallen behind on rent due to COVID-19? Click [here](#) for more information that could help!

Food Assistance:



There are many meal and food assistance programs that are available in Ramsey County.

Visit the Ramsey County website for information regarding food resource guides, programming, emergency support and more! Use the interactive map to find resources near you, including delivery services, free dining and meal sites.

Protection & Crisis:



There are protection & crisis resources available that are provided by Ramsey County. Click [here](#) for more information regarding protection and crisis resources.

Follow us on Social Media!



#FalconHeights #TheCityThatSoars

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