

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS



Weekly Newsletter:
4/10/23 - 4/14/23

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

Public Works Director Retires

Public Works Director, Tim Pittman, a longtime employee of the City, officially retired on Friday, April 7. Pittman has been employed by the City of Falcon Heights since December of 2006. Prior to his hire, the City outsourced many services to private contractors. Pittman's ingenuity and skillset allowed more tasks to be completed in-house, which has saved the taxpayers of Falcon Heights significantly over the past 16 years. He has gone above and beyond as a public servant to the City of Falcon Heights and the City has tremendous gratitude for his contributions. Happy Retirement, Tim!

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.

[Notice](#)

Proposed Coffee Drive-Through at Amber Union Update

The Planning Commission hosted a public hearing on March 28th to consider the application of Buhl Larpenteur West LLC. The applicant requested consideration of changing 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 Planning Commission voted to reject the petitioner's application and the requested amendments to code. The City Council will now consider whether to uphold or reject the Commission's recommendations at an upcoming regular City Council meeting. The full proposed amendments and plans are available [here](https://www.falconheights.org/home/showpublisheddocument/3820) or on our website at <https://www.falconheights.org/home/showpublisheddocument/3820>

Join a City Commission!

The following commission is currently accepting applications:

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

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](#).

Next City Council Meeting

The next Falcon Heights City Council regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12 at 7:00 pm.

Consent Agenda:

- City License(s)
- Appointment of Colin Callahan to Interim Public Works Director
- Assistant to the City Administrator Kelly Nelson - Six-Month Employee Step Adjustment
- Resignation of Danny Locke from the Community Engagement Commission
- Amber Union TBRA - Amended Subordination Agreement

Policy Items:

- Contract with Center for Values-Based Initiatives for Law Enforcement Contract Consulting Services

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.](#)

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.

WE'RE HIRING!
-Seasonal Recreation Staff-

The City of Falcon Heights is seeking candidates for the temporary/seasonal positions of Seasonal Recreation Staff. These positions will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of summer programming for children (ages 3-13) in an outdoor setting. The ideal candidates will be energetic, reliable, and have experience in coaching or working with children.

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

**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](#)

State Fairgrounds Events

Kickoff to Summer - Tickets on Sale Now!

DESCRIPTION:

Spring has sprung (finally), and summer is just around the corner! The popular slice-of-the-fair Kickoff to Summer event returns for the third year! Get together with your family and friends to hang out with food, brews, music, shopping and fun stuff to do at the beautiful and iconic State Fairgrounds - in May!

- More vendors than ever before - 50+ booths in all!
- Three stages with free music and entertainment
- So much fun stuff to do - pickleball, mini golf, skateboard lessons, free guided historical walking tours, Giant Slide rides, free Trivia Mafia and yard games
- Food donation collection in partnership with Cub to support Second Harvest Heartland
- Free parking
- And more!

To make this event experience extra special, attendance is limited each day. When you purchase your tickets, select a day to attend: Tickets are \$12.50 each.

- Thursday, May 25: 4-9 p.m.
- Friday, May 26: 4-9 p.m.
- Saturday, May 27: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Sunday, May 28: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Save \$3 on tickets when you buy in advance!

Minnesota Recycling Works

Have you ever questioned if recycling is worth it? Short answer: yes. Beyond saving energy and protecting natural resources, recycling also supports vital industries.

Recycling is the process of collecting materials that would otherwise be thrown away and turning them into new products. Our cans, bottles and paper are dropped off at a local facility where people and machines sort the recycling into material types which are sent to many different companies:

- Paper and cardboard are made into newspapers, toilet paper rolls and cereal boxes at five paper mills in Minnesota.
- Cartons like juice boxes are sent to a company in Wisconsin that makes a material for new paper products.
- Aluminum cans get turned into new cans, wire, siding and more at plants in the South.
- Steel cans like those used for soup are made into steel beams in Chicago.
- Plastic bottles with a number 1 like water and soda bottles are shipped to other states to be made into new bottles, deli food containers and carpet.
- Plastic containers with a number 2 like milk jugs are transformed into low-maintenance lumber by companies like Avon Plastics in Paynesville. They are also made into more bottles or irrigation tubing for farmers.
- Cottage cheese and other plastic tubs with a number 5 are used to create food containers, car parts, paint cans and more by companies in other states.
- Glass bottles and jars are sorted by color in Saint Paul. Clear glass goes to Anchor Glass in Shakopee to make condiment bottles. Brown glass is sent to Illinois to make beer bottles.

•Stick to the basics: Recycle the items listed above.

•Keep it loose: Empty recycling into your bin - no plastic bags.

•Check with your recycling hauler or Ramsey County (RamseyRecycles.com/AtoZ or 651-633-3279) for everything else.

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](#).



St. Anthony Park Area Seniors - 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, April 24.

The group is offered at no charge and is available to everyone regardless of age or residency. No registration is required. Newcomers are always welcome.

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@sapl.org.

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

Gibbs Farm Pathway Gala

Save the Date!

Tuesday, September 12th at 5:30 PM

Wabasha Street Caves

\$150 per person

\$250 per person for VIP Experience

The Pathway Gala is an annual fundraising event to support the one-of-a-kind educational programs at Gibbs Farm.

As the Twin Cities' premiere historic site dedicated to youth education, Gibbs Farm is known for its vibrant and unique field trips that strengthen students' understanding of the past. Gibbs Farm's hands-on, participatory learning model helps students immerse themselves in the history of Minnesota's earliest inhabitants. Each year, 15,000 students attend in-person field trips at Gibbs Farm, participating in programming that enriches their education both academically and socially, helping them to recall facts at a higher rate, increase critical thinking skills, and broaden their understanding of history and culture to increase empathy.

Watch for more information on registration and tickets soon!



Pathways to Dakota & Pioneer Life
Experience | Understand | Grow

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!



Como BNP
(651) 642-1127

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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