



Chaska City Hall Bulletin

"The Best Small Town in Minnesota"

Chaska City Hall

www.chaskamn.com

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COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

At the Monday, February 7th Council meeting, the City Administrator presented a presentation of the major accomplishments that have occurred since the third Commitment to Community Task Report was adopted by the City in December 2009. The Task Force was created to look at ways to enhance the City's small town sense of community through pro-active steps. The group met throughout 2009 and consisted of 15 members from across the community. They focused on four categories of community: pride, identity, opportunities, and involvement. This was the third Commitment to Community Task Force. The first groups met in 1990 and 2001.

Some of the accomplishments that have occurred in the community from previous Task Force recommendations include:

- ✓ Theatre and Arts Addition to the Community Center
- ✓ Arts in Public Places
- ✓ Livery Stable Renovation and History Center
- ✓ The Lodge addition at the Community Center
- ✓ Neighborhood Block Party Wagon
- ✓ WiFi/Chaska.net
- ✓ Chaska Today
- ✓ Chaska Heritage Preservation Commission



Through the course of 2009 the Commitment to Community Task Force performed a significant amount of research and brainstorming to determine the most immediate needs to build on our sense of community in Chaska. Five recommendations were made by the 2009 Task Force. They were:

- Active Community Engagement
- Downtown
- Parks and Recreation
- Community Celebrations
- Marketing and Communication

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Some of the programs resulting from these five recommendations this year are:

- ✓ Let's Go Fishing,
- ✓ Diversity Educational Programming
- ✓ Addition of a Youth Member to the Downtown Master Planning Process
- ✓ Downtown Master Plan,
- ✓ Highway 41 Safety/Aesthetic Improvement
- ✓ Re-establishment of Street Reconstruction Program
- ✓ Athletic Park Master Plan
- ✓ Expansion of Multi-Cultural Holiday Celebration
- ✓ Return of the Homecoming Parade and Celebration to the Downtown
- ✓ Addition of Communications Coordinator to City Staff
- ✓ Replacement of Cable TV Equipment and Studio
- ✓ Updated Town Course Website



If you are interested in seeing the full report, please visit the City website at www.chaskamn.com.



An Open House to review the Downtown Master Plan will be held on Wednesday, February 16th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the Community Room of the Chaska Community Center.

Representatives of the Task Force, Hoisington Koehler, and City Staff will be present to show the plans and take public input. It is the hope of the City that as many residents as possible will attend the Open House, as it is a great opportunity to provide feedback and comments directly back into the planning process for the final Downtown Master Plan to be completed in the spring.

If you are unable to attend the Open House, the draft Master Plan will be placed on the City website in the next couple of weeks or you may contact Kevin Ringwald, Community Development Director, at 952-448-9200.

BULLY FOR YOU!



The Town Hall held on Saturday, February 5th was a tremendous success. Thank you to the 200 people who attended and to those who organized the event. A lot of information was provided, many voices were heard, and much was learned. We are not finished! Indeed, we have just started. The following upcoming events offer more information and steps that can be taken to prevent bullying:

International STAND UP to Bullying Day
Friday - February 25th
www.standupday.com

On February 25th, wear the pink shirt you received at the Town Hall meeting. If you did not get a shirt at the Town Hall, Chaska Middle School West will have some available

for purchase (\$10.00) for staff and students. You may also learn more about Stand Up Day, and order shirts by going to www.standupday.com.

Twenty two hundred schools, workplaces, and organizations, and 25 different countries will be representing more than a million people on Stand Up Day.

You can send a loud, non-confrontational message of resistance to bullies. The pink shirt identifies you to victims, as a source of support and willingness to help. And it draws attention to the effects of bullying and makes a collective statement.

Saturday – March 19th
11 AM – Chaska Library
1 PM Chanhassen Library

Featured Storyteller: Danielle Daniel

Many students encounter bullying in one form or another – they struggle with being called names, being picked on, being excluded, and sometimes are even physically harmed. The Carver County Library’s storytelling program, “Connecting through Stories”, uses stories to help empower students. Storytelling is a powerful medium. Through stories, students witness pain and hurt caused by the actions of aggressive behavior. They also meet characters who stand up for themselves, and characters who support each other. Save the date on your calendar now!



Welcome to all the new and “old” Commissioners on the City Boards.
Thank you for your service!

Planning Commission
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month at City Hall at 7:00 pm.
 Mike Huang Jean Personius
 Chad Hewitt Alex Young (Chairperson)
 LeAnne Ashley Dan Keyport
 Troy Miller Michael Broback (ViceChair)
 Tom Hughes

Park & Recreation Board
Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at the CCC at 7:00 pm.
 Tom Skoogman Moe Maloney
 Nicholas Mason Jonathan Grau
 Jack Spizale Nate Bostrom (Chair)
 Patricia Wittrock Bob Wittman
 Sean Olsen

Human Rights Commission
Meets the 4th Thursday of the month at City Hall – 6:30 pm
 Laxmi Govindan Trisha Leck
 Barbara Colhapp Molly Koivumaki
 Tracey Pass Alan Beck
 Adela Pollock Taylor Hubbard (ViceChair)
 Libby Fairchild (Chairperson)

Heritage Preservation Commission
Meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at City Hall at 7:00 pm.
 Mark Kalscheuer Joyce Bohn
 Steve Hermann Debbie Boe (Chairperson)
 Frank Lisa Steve Mueller (ViceChair)
 Patricia Merker John Varone





**COMMUNITY CENTER
ACTIVITIES**

Tot Time Adventures

Ages 2 to 6 years

A parent and child class filled with crafts, games, story time, snacks and more! Each theme includes leisure activities for parents and children to share. Programs generally last one hour. Fees are per child, parents free. Pre-registration is required; space is limited. Our Saturday, February 19th adventure is:



A Day with Dr. Seuss

Time: 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Cost: \$5.00 Member;
\$6.50 Non-Member

Join us for fun activities around the theme of Dr. Seuss. You are sure to have a great time. Don't miss the special visit from the "Cat in the Hat."

Twist and Tumble Gymnastics Program

Ages 2 and up

Join us in this fun, preschool gymnastics program in a kid friendly atmosphere! Play games, sing songs, and learn gymnastics skills on our kid-sized equipment.

Our trained and experienced coaches will keep classes exciting and fast paced while your child learns on the uneven bars, vault, balance beam, trampoline, mats and more! For more information and registration visit www.chaskacommunitycenter.com

Questions regarding the program or class placement can be directed to

Martha Althaus, Gymnastics Coordinator at (952) 448-5633 ext. 7757.

American Red Cross Learn to Swim Program

Registration Starts:

- Monday, February 14 for Members
- Monday, February 21 for Non-Members

Lessons are held March 14-May 14



All classes meet once a week for eight weeks.

Learn to Swim at the Chaska Community Center! Our caring and dedicated instructors have been trained in the American Red Cross curriculum. You and your child will enjoy developing swimming and water safety skills in our positive learning environment. For questions about our Learn-to-Swim program, including level placement, please call the Aquatics Coordinator at (952) 227-7746.

For class times and availability go to www.chaskacommunitycenter.com.

Registration is currently open on-line at and at the front desk at the Chaska Community Center.

Movie Matinee

Join us the third Friday of each month at 1 pm for a special showing of newer releases and old classics. Popcorn provided. February 18th *The Notebook* will be showing.

